

### Wayfinding Signage

A town's identity evokes a sense of community pride. By creating cohesive signage, a town's identity can be made unique and a community's sense of place can be strengthened. Humboldt's existing signage uses engraved limestone to welcome both residents and guests into the community. Despite the newest entry signs, a family of signs has not yet been created to connect trails, parks, and the downtown business district. The steering committee identified a variety of signage options that can help bridge these areas together. These options include signage that showcases trail routes, information kiosks, vehicular wayfinding, and light pole mounted signs/banners.

Pictured above are each of these options. The trail, downtown kiosk, and entry monument concepts incorporate limestone materials to match the new community entry signs near Highway 169 and Highway 3. The first option includes a trail map, which features the Three Rivers Trail, the

Cottonwood Trail and the various other trail routes/connections around town. In the second option, a downtown directory is portrayed to inform pedestrians of business, park, and trail locations near Sumner Avenue. The third sign reading "Welcome to Humboldt Downtown" replaces existing directional signage along Highway 169 and Highway 3. All options incorporate metal sign blades, which point motorists, cyclists, and pedestrians in the right direction. Signage mounted to light poles also incorporate metallic elements that are used as a frame to hold double-sided banners. The banner frame reflects the form of the proposed limestone signage to make a cohesive family of signs. The left banner can be used for seasonal interests and event promotion, while the right banner will display the town name and logo. Metal wayfinding signs mounted to light poles can be placed as needed; these signs represent Humboldt's river and streets to form an artful canvas for the directional blades.



# Design Team

LA: Dylan Jones, PLA, LEED GA Intern: Hannah Schmitz

Iowa State University | Trees Forever | Iowa Department of Transportation





Proposed Gateway Sign



Proposed Sign Along Three Rivers Trail



Proposed Kiosk Downtown

# Humboldt Wayfinding Signage

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## Wayfinding

Wayfinding signage is used to help orient both residents and visitors in the community from where they are to where they want to go. This signage works best when the information displayed is both clear and consistent. Correlating materials and themes on each piece also helps establish a community's identity.

Four types of wayfinding features have been designed to help guide people to key areas in town, such as the Three Rivers Trail, Gotch Park Trail, Joe Reasoner Dam, various parks, and downtown Humboldt. The signs are made of limestone, concrete, and metal materials to create a cohesive theme. They can be found near highways to lead vehicles downtown, near trail entries to guide cyclists and on-foot traffic, and downtown along street corners and on light poles to orient residents and visitors around Humboldt. The top left image portrays the proposed "Welcome to Humboldt" sign. It is located on the corner of Highway 169 and 3rd Avenue. Another sign of this type is located at the intersection of Highway 3 and 5th Street. Evergreen shrubs and perennial plantings are proposed to mask the concrete footing on the bottom of the sign. The top right image depicts the trail entry sign for the Three Rivers Trail near Sumner Ave. Here you can see the height in proportion to the biker; this sign stands 6.5 feet tall at its highest point. The final rendering showcases Sumner Avenue's proposed downtown kiosk. This kiosk will be placed at the intersection of Sumner Avenue and 5th Street off of the sidewalk, within a biocell, on a concrete base. It is strategically placed here to guide trail users through downtown and to highlight the proposed trail connection directly south via 5th Street. All wayfinding options bring a pleasing sense of scale to the streets and trails they inhabit and improve one's ability to navigate Humboldt.