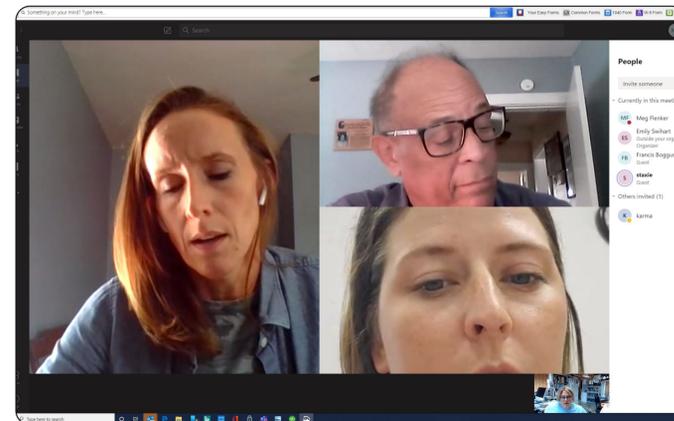




Residents participating in the TAB workshops were separated into five different user types: 1) Actives, 2) Older Adults, 3) Youth, 4) Parents, and 5) Steering Committee. In this photo, "Actives" participants discuss what they view as the transportation assets and barriers around Lost Nation and how they should be addressed.



Engaging all age groups is a key component of the community visioning process. Here the "youth" focus group provides input as to what transportation assets and barriers exist as well as to what transportation enhancements they would like to see in Lost Nation.



Once the COVID-19 pandemic hit in March 2020, traditional face-to-face meetings and collaboration went virtual. Using software such as MSOffice 365 Teams, GoToMeeting, and Zoom, the design process phase proceeded unfettered.



Lost Nation community members were able to view preliminary concepts in mid July, first at the Rustic Days weekend celebration, then the following week at the city library and online at the Lost Nation Community Visioning website. Paper and online surveys were available during this time for community input and suggestions to the designs.

Program Overview

The city of Lost Nation is one of 10 communities selected to participate in the 2020 Iowa's Living Roadways Community Visioning Program.

The program, which selects communities through a competitive application process, provides professional planning and design assistance along transportation corridors to small Iowa communities (less than 10,000 residents).

Visioning Program Goals:

- Develop a conceptual plan and implementation strategies alongside local community residents.
- Enhance the natural, cultural and visual resources existing within communities.
- Assist local communities in using external funds as leverage for transportation corridor enhancement.

Each visioning community works through a planning process consisting of four phases of concept development:

1. Program initiation
2. Needs assessment and goal setting
3. Development of a concept plan
4. Implementation and sustained action

Each visioning community is represented by a steering committee of local residents and stakeholders who take part in a series of meetings that are facilitated by field coordinators from Trees Forever.

Iowa State University's Landscape Architecture Department and Extension and Outreach, of which the Community Visioning program is part, manages the design team and the Community Visioning program, as well as organizes the initial focus groups and transportation assets and behaviors workshop (TAB) with design interns and ISU staff. Iowa State University, along with Trees Forever and the Iowa Department of Transportation, select private sector Professional Landscape Architects (PLA) to be part of the design team and work with the various communities in creating their "community vision" and transportation enhancement plan.

Iowa State University processes the information collected from the focus groups and provides the data to the steering committee and design team for their use in developing community centered transportation enhancements based on the needs and desires expressed by residents participating in the focus groups, surveys, and public design workshop.

The Community Visioning program is sponsored by the Iowa Department of Transportation.

Community Goals

The Lost Nation steering committee identified a number of goals and priority areas during the visioning process. These goals and priorities were reflective of what the community members identified during their participation in the TAB workshops in February 2020 (see Boards 3a-3c).

- ▶ Enhance the downtown streetscape to attract businesses and patrons
- ▶ Expand the existing trail into a looped trail network that is part of a regional trail system
- ▶ Improve pedestrian experience by:
 - Adding lighting to poorly lit walking routes
 - Repairing/replacing existing sidewalks that are uneven, missing sections, and/or are not ADA compliant
 - Constructing a pedestrian bridge to link the residents and RV campground in Gilmore Rustic Park with park amenities
 - Providing site amenities such as bike racks, benches, trash receptacles, water fountains, and dog stations.
- ▶ Create more outdoor opportunities for residents
 - Downtown Pocket Park
 - Community Garden
 - Playground equipment for different age groups

Capturing the Lost Nation Vision

Based on the needs and desires of the local residents, as well as a detailed inventory of community resources, the design team developed transportation-based community improvement project concepts, which are illustrated in the following set of presentation boards:

1. Program Overview
2. Bioregional Assessments
3. Transportation Assets and Barriers Assessment
4. Transportation Inventory
5. Goal Setting
6. Concept Plan Overview
7. Connectivity & Lighting Plan
8. Gilroy Rustic Park
9. Trails & Sidewalks
10. Main Street & Downtown
11. Downtown & Pocket Park
12. Community Garden
13. Implementation

Lost Nation Program Overview

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Iowa State University | Trees Forever | Iowa Department of Transportation

