

A map of proposed trails connecting Marquette and McGregor, Iowa including the Ports of Discovery Trail along the Mississippi River.

Connecting Two Cities

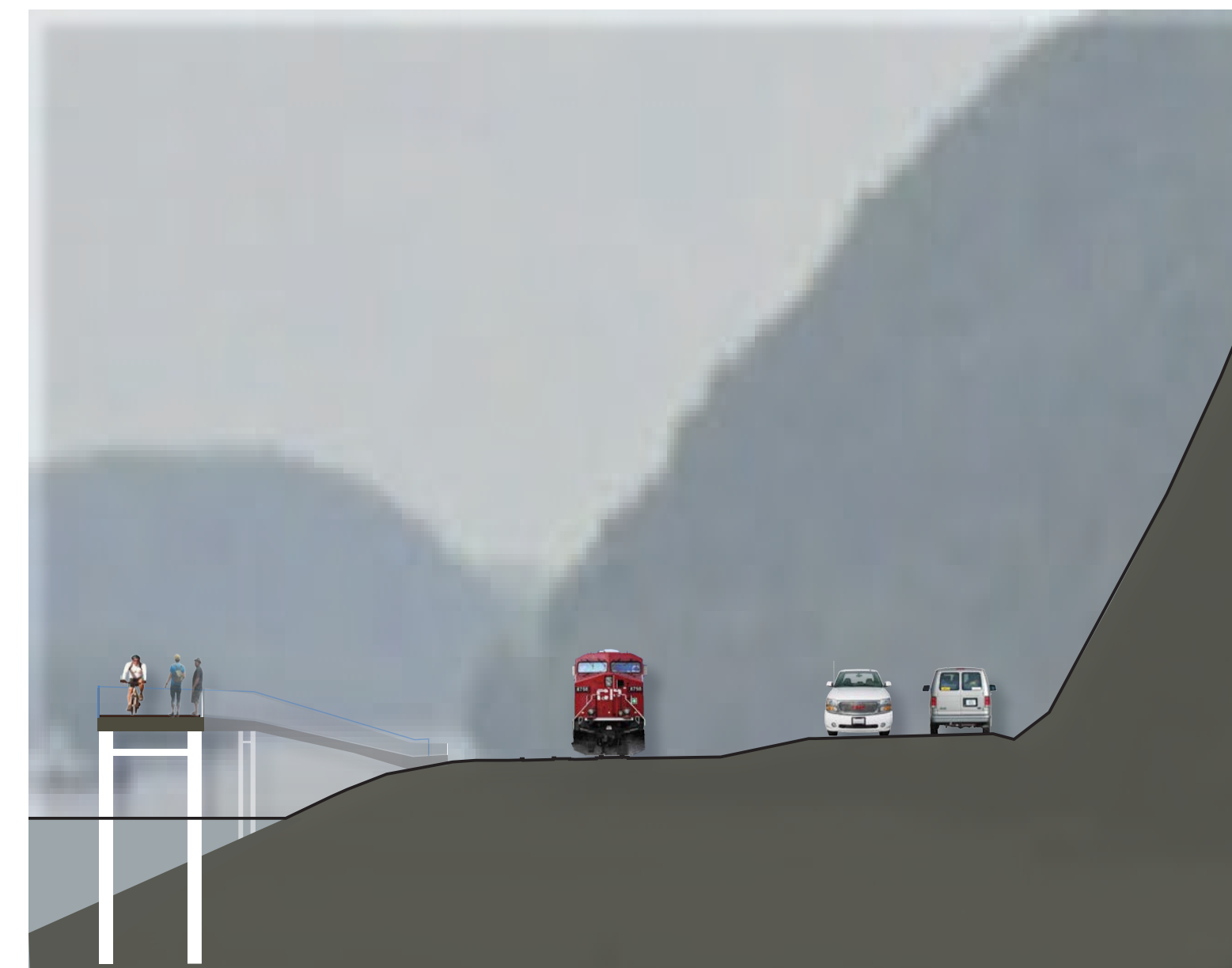
The Ports of Discovery Trail is a long-sought-after riverside connection between Marquette and McGregor that builds on work completed in previous studies. Proposed improvements in both towns include all-season trails that act as the backbone to connect Marquette’s downtown to McGregor and further south to Pikes Peak State Park. The Driftless Area Wetland Centre and Bloody Run County Park are connected using rescued historic bridges, an existing culvert, and the relocated casino pedestrian bridge. Residents and visitors alike are able to safely cross existing railroad tracks, highways, and Bloody Run Creek. A network of trails, trailheads, bike lanes and signage crisscrosses wooded areas surrounding both towns, enhancing the active transportation and recreation opportunities for residents and visitors.



Trail on side of existing gravel road. Example looking up Highway 76 from the north edge of McGregor’s Riverfront Park.



Trail cantilevered over the riverbank. Example looking north of U.S. Fish and Wildlife Center.



The trail, supported by pilings, connects to the shoreline trail. Example looking south at Marquette city limits.



Looking north along Great River Road, the wildlife center is situated perfectly as a trailhead that allows accessibility to the riverbank and to the cliffside trail.

Marquette and McGregor

Connecting Two Cities

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