



June 7, 2021: The design team leads the steering committee in a discussion during the program planning and goal setting meeting



July 24, 2021: Community members review preliminary concepts and provide their input during the design workshop that was held during the Princeton Fireman's Breakfast



July 24, 2021: Group photo of the Princeton community visioning steering committee with the design team after the design workshop ended



July 23, 2021 through July 29, 2021: Tactical urbanism was used in Princeton by creating a milk crate sculpture that integrated archways and seating areas. This sculpture was set up on the Mississippi River riverfront in the area of a proposed pocket park and provided additional seating during the annual Princeton Days festival

## Program Overview

The city of Princeton is one of 10 communities selected to participate in the 2021 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 Department of Landscape Architecture and ISU Extension and Outreach, of which Community Visioning is part, manage the visioning process and the design team. In addition, ISU project staff and interns conduct a bioregional assessment and public input sessions, including transportation assets and barriers (TAB) focus groups, and a random-sample survey. 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 surveys 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 the public design workshop.

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

## Community Goals

The steering committee identified a number of goals and priority areas during the visioning process. These goals and priorities were reflective of what residents identified during their participation in the TAB workshops as well as during random sampling (see boards 3a, 3b and 4a through 4g).

- ▶ Designate pedestrian crossings along Highway 67 at Lost Grove Road, Clay St. and Chestnut St. to improve accessibility, connectivity and safety to River Drive and the riverfront
- ▶ Upgrade the River Drive streetscape to enhance aesthetics, improve the quality of life for residents, and stimulate economic growth
- ▶ Strengthen community identity, improve safety and connectivity through implementation of a unified way-finding signage system
- ▶ Improve the condition of existing infrastructure, including inaccessible and deteriorating sidewalks
- ▶ Implement strategies to reduce the amount of storm water runoff and improve water quality
- ▶ Create a complete sidewalk system that is in good condition, accessible, safe, and is well lit along primary walking corridors
- ▶ Expand recreational opportunities for all ages through the creation of a trail system throughout Princeton and as part of the MRT

Refer to board 6, "Goal Setting," for further details related to the community goals noted above.

## Capturing the Princeton 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. Random-Sample Survey
5. Transportation Inventory
6. Goal Setting
7. Concept Plan Overview
8. Signage & Lighting Styles
9. Entryway Signage
10. Accessibility & Connectivity
11. Gateway to Riverfront
12. River Drive Enhancements 1
13. River Drive Enhancements 2
14. Hwy. 67 Corridor
15. Implementation

# Princeton Program Overview

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