



Clausen City Park Enhancements

Clausen City Park is set amongst majestic spruce trees that were planted when the park was founded. Many residents commented on the trees at the assessment meetings stating they were a godsend to the community. The park's name is in honor of Claus Laurits Clausen, a Lutheran pastor who founded St. Ansgar in 1853. The park is a special place for many residents and one community member even said she usually visits it multiple times a day with her kids during the summer.

The committee was eager to discuss what they love about Clausen City Park and what improvements are needed to make this park even more enjoyable. The park lacks accessible sidewalks to its various features that include a shelter, gazebo, restrooms, and play equipment. The wood chip mulch under the play equipment washes away during rain events. The design team is proposing using local limestone ledgerstone to replace the earth berm along with a 12" pea gravel safety surface. The stone retaining wall and pea gravel system would allow the play surface to drain and eliminate the mulch problem. The limestone blocks would also create seating and natural play opportunities.



Section A showing the proposed elevation changes within the playground. Limestone ledgerstone retaining walls and pea gravel mulch allow the water to penetrate and seep through both slowing down the water and still allowing flow to the northwest corner of the park.



Proposed limestone ledgerstone retaining walls and playground equipment in Clausen Park

St. Ansgar

Clausen City Park Enhancements

Landscape Architects and Intern: Craig Ritland, PLA, FASLA, Samantha Price, PLA, RITLAND+KUIPER Landscape Architects and Jake Spitz, Iowa State University
 Iowa Department of Transportation Trees Forever ISU Landscape Architecture Extension ISU Extension Community and Economic Development Summer 2016