

# Community Visioning Program Overview

Sumner is one of ten communities selected to participate in the 2019 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 (populations of fewer than 10,000).

Goals for the Visioning Program include:

- Developing a conceptual plan and implementation strategies with local communities
- Enhancing the natural, cultural, and visual resources of communities
- Assisting 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:

- Program initiation
- Needs assessment and goal setting
- Development of a concept plan
- 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 organizes design teams of professional landscape architects, design interns, and ISU faculty and staff. The program is sponsored by the Iowa Department of Transportation.

# Community Themes & Goals

The Sumner visioning committee identified a number of themes and goals during the visioning process, which are included below:

## Trails

- Connect parks
- Circle the town
- Connect to trails outside of town
- Establish trailheads

## River

- Celebrate and promote as community feature
- Revise park programming to accommodate recurrent flooding
- Promote water trail designation
- Highlight as a recreational destination

## Natural Areas

- Promote and celebrate the natural resources
- Connect new City Park to existing destinations
- Address floodplain on city's south side
- Accommodate all users, ages, abilities, and mobility levels

## Safety

- Enhance street crossings for pedestrians and bicyclists
- Improve and add sidewalks
- Stricter standards/ordinance enforcement for sidewalk maintenance

- Hwy 93/Intersection visibility improvement
- ADA access improvements: curb cuts, crossing lights, etc

SUMMER 2019

1

## Identity Projects

- Street bumpouts for Hwy 93/Downtown
- Establish trailhead/way-finding signage
- Safe school routes for bicycles and pedestrians
- Street and signage improvements
- Extension of N Walnut Street to Thirteenth Street and location for new ball parks

## Capturing the Vision

Based on the needs and desires of the local residents, as well as a detailed inventory of community resources, the design team developed a conceptual transportation enhancement plan. This plan, as well as the inventory information, is illustrated in the following set of presentation boards.

1. Program Overview
- 2 a-g. Bioregional Assessment
- 3 a-c. Transportation Assets and Barriers Assessment
4. Transportation Inventory
- 5 a-b. Concept 1 Immediate Goals-Hwy 93 DOT Improvements, School/Safe Routes, Trailheads, and Pocket Park
- 6 a-b. Concept 2 Short-term Goals-Downtown-Library Loop, River Routes, Trail, and Bridge Replacements
- 7 a-b. Concept 3 Mid-range Goals-Trail Loop Connect to North Woods Trail, and Union/Maple Street Sidewalks
- 8 a-b. Concept 4 Long-term Goals-Inter Town Rails to Trails Connection
9. Overall Concept Plan



# Sumner Program Overview

## Design Team

Landscape Architect: Steve Ford/Designer: Michael LeClere  
Intern: Peiming Chen

Iowa State University | Trees Forever | Iowa Department of Transportation

