Key Recommendations
Traverse City’s Waterfront Plan
“Your Bay, Your Say”

Presented by: JJR & Wade Trim
This Evening’s Agenda:

Welcome and Introductions

Presentation

• Summary of previous work session and results
• Preferred Concept Plan and Recommendations
• Funding Sources

Next Steps
Summary of Concept Alternatives Work Session

**Overall Likes:**
- Fishing pier at mouth of Boardman River
- Fish cleaning station near marina
- Open lawn on waterfront, flexible space for Cherry Festival
- Places where kids can play
- Improved rear facades for Front Street buildings
- Open views
- Expansion of Clinch Marina
- Improved pedestrian access at Barlow Street on the east

**Dislikes:**
- Major buildings on the waterfront

**Additional Comments:**
- Ferry to Power Island
- More restrooms
Alternative 1 – “The Big Move”

**Likes:**
- Grandview Parkway below grade
- New ‘land bridge’ over Parkway
- Expanded beachfront east and west
- Location of amphitheater in Clinch Park
- Public art locations

**Dislikes:**
- Large buildings on the waterfront
- Private infill on public land
- Proposed parking deck on riverfront
Alternative 2 – “String of Pearls”

**Likes:**
- Widened pedestrian tunnel if Grandview is not buried
- Closing Cass Street for wider pedestrian tunnel
- Re-use of the zoo train
- Kid’s water play plaza

**Dislikes:**
- Proposed Roundabouts
- Location of skating rink
- Too many restaurants, private uses on public land
Alternative 3 – “The Green Scheme”

Likes:
• Shift of Grandview Parkway
• Moving TART trail to waterfront side
• Electric shuttle bus
• Greening the river, whitewater kayaking
• Adding bridges across river
• Underwater viewing chamber

Dislikes:
• Removing Bay Street
• Street closures / cul-de-sacs
• ‘Great Lakes Center’ building proposed on the waterfront
Key Recommendations of the Plan

1. Connect the downtown and neighborhoods to the waterfront
2. Create a new Central Park, a “town square” on the water
3. Promote mixed use infill to reinforce the edges of the park
4. Provide a variety of activities and public spaces along the waterfront
5. Respect the natural beauty and ecological integrity of the bay and Boardman River
1. Connect the downtown and neighborhoods to the waterfront

* Continuous pedestrian and bicycle connections
* Connect across Grandview Parkway
* Promote transit
1. Connect the downtown and neighborhoods to the waterfront

Continuous access along waterfront:

- Bay Street
- Grandview Parkway
- Grandview median
- Continuous sidewalk
- New crosswalks

TART trail
1. Connect downtown and the neighborhoods to the waterfront
1. Connect downtown and the neighborhoods to the waterfront

Crossings and connections
1. Connect downtown and the neighborhoods to the waterfront

Crossings and connections

Proposed crosswalk and identification

- crosswalk
- traffic calming striping
- lighting at approach
- yield to pedestrians sign
- 25 mph speed limit
1. Connect downtown and the neighborhoods to the waterfront

Downtown crossings and transit
1. Connect downtown and the neighborhoods to the waterfront
1. Connect downtown and the neighborhoods to the waterfront

- Gateway art opportunities
- East End crossings and connections
2. Create a new Central Park, a “town square” on the water

* Consolidate open space
* Promote public uses
* Keep flexibility
2. Create a new Central Park, a “town square” on the water
2. Create a new Central Park, a “town square” on the water

Flexible space for special events

Public art opportunities
2. Create a new Central Park, a “town square” on the water

Keep seasonal market on the river  Year round market or other future public use
2. Create a new Central Park, a “town square” on the water

- Amphitheater and artesian pond
- New concessions, equipment rental
- Relocated train route
- Children’s water play plaza
- Fish cleaning station
3. Promote mixed use infill to reinforce the edges of the park

* Provide economic development, new uses
* Create new ‘front door’ on the waterfront
* Reinforce vibrant small town quality
3. Promote mixed use infill to reinforce the edges of the park
3. Promote mixed use infill to reinforce the edges of the park
3. Promote mixed use infill to reinforce the edges of the park

'Back door' facing waterfront, 2007

Infill behind Front Street blocks
Shared street concept – ‘Woonerf’
Vegetated bioswale at river’s edge
3. Promote mixed use infill to reinforce the edges of the park

Active uses fronting river

New infill, adaptive re-use of rear facades

Example ‘Woonerf’
4. Provide a variety of activities and public spaces throughout the waterfront

* expand beaches
* new beach house & pavilions
* kayaking/canoeing downtown
* underwater viewing chamber
* more fishing
4. Provide a variety of activities and public spaces throughout the waterfront
4. Provide a variety of activities and public spaces throughout the waterfront

- Beach expansion
- Consistent design - beach entries
- Waterfront Pavilions
4. Provide a variety of activities and public spaces throughout the waterfront
4. Provide a variety of activities and public spaces throughout the waterfront

- New footbridges, boardwalks along Boardman
- Whitewater kayaking
- Underwater viewing chamber
- New kayak launches
5. Respect the natural beauty and ecological integrity of the bay and Boardman River

*open views
*landscape character
*sustainable design
*stormwater management
5. Respect the natural beauty and ecological integrity of the bay and Boardman River

- Foredune landscape character
- Riparian edge restoration
- Stormwater treatment
5. Respect the natural beauty and ecological integrity of the bay and Boardman River

*Gateway art opportunities*

*Gateway sculptural landform*
Funding Guidelines:

- **Create Excitement**
  - Identify a Champion
  - Develop Marketing Materials
  - Reach Out-Get Regional Buy In

- **Take the Show on the Road**
  - Local Projects Coordination Workshop
  - Develop Partners
  - Identify Short-term projects to design and implement immediately
  - Pursue Private/Non-profit Funding (build a base)

- **Make the Most of Local Match**
  - Market the Plan
  - Identify financially responsible grantees
  - Approach large funding institutions for design and implementation of large-scale projects

- **Dig Deep for Dollars**
  - Sponsor a Funder’s Workshop
  - Promote Plan to State funders
  - Develop Funder Partnership
  - Pursue Private Funding from individuals and corporations

- **Potential Funders Identified**
  - Seventeen local sources
  - Fifteen state and federal sources
  - Twelve regional and national private non-profit sources
Next Steps:

- Community adoption of Preferred Concept Plan
- Coordinate with ongoing initiatives in the City
- Organize funding and advancement efforts
- Establish phasing, priorities, and implementation strategy
- Refine Preferred Master Plan
- Conduct technical studies (traffic, costs, permitting, etc.)
- Coordinate with partner agencies (MDOT, USACE, etc.)
- Develop schematic design plan(s)
- Prepare funding/grant applications
Comments