

**DOWNTOWN DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY
LOWER BOARDMAN RIVER LEADERSHIP TEAM**

Wednesday, July 17, 2019

5:30 p.m.

400 Boardman Avenue, Lower Level Cafeteria, Traverse City, MI 49684

www.dda.downtowntc.com

Information and minutes are available from the DDA CEO, 303 East State Street, Suite C, Traverse City, MI 49684, (231) 922-2050. If you are planning to attend the meeting and are handicapped requiring special assistance; please notify the DDA CEO as soon as possible.

1. Approval of May 15 and June 3, 2019 Minutes
2. Review of Next Steps and Public Input Received
3. Public Comment
4. Adjournment

Any interested person or group may address the Leadership Team on any agenda item when recognized by the presiding officer or upon request of any Leadership Team member. Also, any interested person or group may address the Leadership Team on any matter of concerning the Lower Boardman River not on the Agenda during the agenda item designated Public Comment. The comment of any member of the public or any special interest group may be limited in time. Such limitation shall not be less than three minutes unless otherwise explained by the presiding officer, subject to appeal by the Leadership Team.

Office of the Downtown Development Authority, 303 E. State Street, Traverse City, MI 49684 (231) 922-2050

**DOWNTOWN DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY
LOWER BOARDMAN RIVER LEADERSHIP TEAM
Wednesday, May 15, 2019, 5:30 p.m.
400 Boardman Avenue, Lower Level Cafeteria
Traverse City, MI 49684
dda.downtowntc.com**

Co-Chair Jay called the meeting to order at 5:31 p.m.

Present: Harry Burkholder, Elise Crafts, Christine Crissman (via phone), Jean Derenzy, Frank Dituri, Tim Ervin, Brett Fessell, Jennifer Jay, Deni Scrudato, Russ Soyring, Mike Vickery

Absent: Michele Howard, Rick Korndorfer

DDA Staff: Colleen Paveglio

1. Meeting Minutes: **The meeting minutes from April 17, 2019 were approved as amended upon motion by Crafts, seconded by Dituri. Motion carried unanimously.**
2. SmithGroup Public Engagement Review
 - a. Public Engagement Review
 - i. Burkholder: Vision & Values, Working Vision Statement, and Plan Assumptions
 1. Burkholder to provide edits to Paveglio
 2. Paveglio to provide updated Public Engagement Plan to the Team for feedback on Vision & Values, Plan Assumptions, and Vision Statements
 - b. One Page Review
 - i. Staff to finalize housekeeping edits i.e. map, url, Leadership Team, etc.
 - ii. Use of One Page: Handed out and utilized digitally
 - iii. Map
 - iv. Edits
 1. Third bullet: How do you use it?
 2. Second bullet: What do you value about the Lower Boardman, using consistently throughout document
 - v. Two versions need to be provided, one saying join us for launch, one that does not
 - vi. Take our online survey
 - c. Survey Review
 - i. Comments
 1. Photo elimination due to the context of taking a survey
 2. Move item 5 to the very end
 3. 7, 8, and 9 are the questions that we want feedback the most should be required

4. Question 7, sentence 2 - strike
 5. Review responses and update survey if need be
 6. Bullet elements are prompts, not questions
 - i. Few considerations, and shorten the bullets
 - ii. Can the prompts be visual?
 7. Directing comments toward the individual taking the survey, use of you and we
 - i. For example, 7: What are your priorities? And then bullets
 - ii. To be edited throughout document
 8. Process for themes and analyzing the data
 - i. Is there a place for images, telling a story (could be implemented with story boarding)
 9. Time and location with Kick Off will need to be updated and then a version without that information
- d. Previous Plan Summary Review
- i. None at this time
 - ii. Staff to provide to The Team for review and seek feedback
3. Public Engagement Kick-Off
- a. Event Review
 - i. June 12th, 4:30 to 6:30 pm in Farmers Market Lot B
 - ii. Visuals draft provided by May 24th
 - iii. Welcome, next steps, then stations
 - iv. Here's What We Heard...report provided after event
 - v. Add: Tell a Story area with video
 1. Provide 1 or 2 questions
 - vi. History: 4 slides
 - vii. Current efforts: FishPass (virtual fly through video), Riverwalk
 - viii. Include in intro: Other places that have transformed their rivers, SmithGroup say a few words
 - ix. Staff to work with SmithGroup on Draft Power Point
 - x. Screen needs riser
 - xi. Station Addition: Add Dituri to Values, Fessell to bring guest to share station, Scudato would prefer to be placed on the Access Station, Howard on Habitat
 1. A question posed at each station
 2. 10 minutes per station
 3. encourage visits to all stations
 - b. Stakeholder Engagement & Community Meeting Review
 - i. To be provided Review of River Trail Signage
 - c. Universal accessibility should be a consideration moving forward
4. Marketing Meeting Review

5. Next Steps
 - a. Schedule meeting for Monday, June 3rd
6. Public Comment
 - a. Tom White, 2150 Gibbs Rd., inquired on the location of the initiative and specific priorities
7. Board Comments
 - a. Scrudato: One Pager, mouth to lake to the mouth of river
8. Adjournment. The meeting officially adjourned at 7:04 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Colleen Paveglio

The Traverse City Downtown Development Authority does not discriminate on the basis of disability in the admission or access to, or treatment or employment in, its programs or activities. The DDA CEO has been designated to coordinate compliance with the non-discrimination requirements contained in Section 35.107 of the Department of Justice regulations. Information concerning the provisions of the Americans with Disabilities Act, and the rights provided thereunder, are available from the DDA office.

**DOWNTOWN DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY
LOWER BOARDMAN RIVER LEADERSHIP TEAM
Monday, June 3, 2019, 3 p.m.
400 Boardman Avenue, Lower Level Cafeteria
Traverse City, MI 49684
dda.downtowntc.com**

Co-Chair Jay called the meeting to order at 3:00 p.m.

Present: Harry Burkholder, Elise Crafts, Christine Crissman (departed @ 4:14 p.m.), Jean Derenzy, Frank Dituri, Brett Fessell, Michele Howard, Jennifer Jay, Rick Korndorfer (departed @ 3:46 p.m.), Deni Scrudato, Mike Vickery

Absent: Tim Ervin, Russ Soyring

DDA Staff: Colleen Paveglio

1. Overview of June 12th Kick-Off Meeting
2. Public Comment
 1. Mark McKeller, Brook Trout Association, inquired about the Vision and Values.
3. Adjournment. The meeting officially adjourned at 4:25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Colleen Paveglio

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Downtown Development Authority
303 E. State Street
Traverse City, MI 49684
jean@downtowntc.com
231-922-2050

Memorandum

To: Lower Boardman River Leadership Team

From: Jean Derenzy, DDA CEO

Date: July 14, 2019

SUBJECT: Update and next steps

Continued Stakeholder Engagement: Tim Ervin, Bob Doyle and I are continuing with stakeholder meetings which, of course, are open to all Team members. As a reminder, meetings are scheduled for:

Wednesday, July 24:

9-11 a.m. Recreation Groups
1:30 – 3:30pm Community Development, Business Focused Organizations & Other Groups

Thursday, July 25:

9:00am – 11:00am Business and Property Owners
12:00pm to 2:00pm Sustainability Groups

I have suggested that Neighborhood Organizations/Associations be engaged in two ways, one by sending out invitations to each President to pass information to their neighbors to encourage participation in evening meetings to be scheduled, and schedule pop-up meetings in parks in each of the Associations and invite residents to stop in for input. Suggestions are requested for other approaches.

Another date is being scheduled for a meeting with Tribal leaders. Brett Fessell is taking the lead in organizing this meeting. When the date is selected communication will be sent to the Team, as all are invited to participate.

Kick-off Comments: Attached are the responses received from the June 12th kick-off. Comments are provided by each station. SmithGroup is working on providing an overview of survey's received, as well as providing similarities of responses received.

Maintenance: As part of the overall scope for SmithGroup is to create a maintenance plan for the Lower Boardman. This point is only provided to remind the Team of this requirement and need by the DDA. SmithGroup has been involved in establishing a long-term management and maintenance district.

Unified Plan / Timeline: Team member Michael Vickery, along with Bob Doyle, Tim Ervin and I discussed a Lower Boardman Riparian District. The District would be from Boardman Lake to West Bay, including everything within the setbacks that are established by laws, codes, rules regulations, etc.

A timeline will be provided at our meeting of when the draft will be ready and to ensure the Lower Boardman River Team is capturing all engagement opportunities.

PROJECT	Lower Boardman River Unifying Plan	MEETING NO.	1
PROJECT NO.	11510.000	MEETING DATE	6/12/2019
PROJECT LOCATION	Traverse City, Michigan	MEETING TIME	6 pm
SUBJECT	Public Engagement Workshop	MEETING LOCATION	Farmer's Market
PREPARED BY	Doyle/McFarland		

ATTENDEES

COMPANY

Traverse City DDA

LBR Leadership Team

SmithGroup/Limnotech Team

Community Members

The purpose of the public engagement workshop was to provide the public with an understanding of the project and to solicit input into the direction of the project early in the planning process.

The meeting began with a brief presentation that described the project intent, how this planning effort relates to past work on the Boardman River, the community's shared values for the river, the history and potential for the river, how the community can guide the future of the river corridor, and how everyone can be involved in creating a new vision for the river.

After the presentation, workshop participants visited six stations where information was available related to learn, and provide input about, the specific topics being addressed by the study. The station topics included:

- A. Public Engagement Process and Existing Plans
- B. Visions and Values
- C. River Conditions and Habitat
- D. Access, Open Space and Recreation
- E. History and Culture
- F. Planning, Land Use, and Development

Members of the Lower Boardman River Leadership Team (Leadership Team) were available at each station to review the materials provided on the boards, and to solicit input from community members on the topic. For most stations, the input was provided through the recording of comments and discussions by the Leadership Team, and through direct comments recorded by participants on sticky notes.

The comments have been organized for each of the six stations into several categories, including

1. Project-specific ideas for improvements
2. Policy-ideas related to the land development and use policies which guide change along the river
3. Best Practice- Ideas related to the engineering, planning and design best practices that are known or anticipated to improve the river.
4. Value/Other-guiding themes for the river corridor.

Specific comments and input recorded at the public engagement workshop include:

- A. Public Engagement Process and Existing Plans
This station focused on gaining input on how the public would like to be involved in the LBR study as the project moves forward. Also included at this station was a series of images related to planning

studies completed in the last several years which provide excellent background into the river corridor and ideas for improvements.

Comments regarding Engagement include:

- Engage Boardman Collaborative
- Present to schools
- This event is too overwhelming. Would be nice to arrange for more intimate, smaller groups. In homes or similar to the tree event at the library
- No charrettes
- Have we engaged the homeless population along the river?

Since this was the first station many visited, and number of the comments received here are relevant to the overall project as well as topics of the other stations.

1. Project

- Remove the fallen tree and big one just south of 8th St. bridge one west side logs fallen
- Landscaped walkways
- Temporary pop-up civic park in one of the parking lots between the buildings and river
- Too much in the space. Pick XXX and spread it out
- Not enough bridges for people on foot
- Too many pedestrian bridges
- More public art, like the river guardian sculpture
- We need more safe places for pedestrians to cross between the river and West Bay. More traffic calming measures too
- Boardwalk walking trail along river that go under the bridges
- 8th St. underpass needs maintaining and drainage and lights
- Add railing to north side of boardwalk at uptown
- Get those hideous cement blocks on riverbank near Wadsworth in Hannah park
- New foot bridge across river at Hannah park. We of CAN don't want that
- Stop all alcohol on Boardman – parties are obnoxious, litter too much
- Interactive art along river
- Too much in small space with proposed fish pass
- Pedestrian bridge, please
- No hardening of river shoreline

2. Policy

- More building setbacks
- Control over usage i.e. kayaks, trash, overgrown vegetation
- No more “uptowns”
- Need large setbacks along Boardman River
- Restrict pints and paddles
- No building on floodplain
- No booze on the river
- Remove invasive planting and protect the river
- Parking “D” boat launch to Boardman remove the seasonal, blue kite – there 4 or 5 miles – remove and “red flag” put up. Remove and put beach in the area
- No more development on the river
- Don't let staff (planning) rewrite the public input like they did on 8th St., the tree ordinance, etc.
- No more development, walkways, etc.
- Incorporate night sky friendly lighting, where needed
- Glass on the rivers is an issue. Drinking is okay

3. Best Practice

- Model of how river mouth changed over the years
- No “hardening”

- Increase riparian buffer zones
4. Value/Other
- What's the ROI for municipality with these investments?
 - Please keep a natural feel to the links
 - Instagram stories for updates
 - Involve residents as well as businesses
 - Alerts about key decisions BEFORE they are made
 - Guided kayak tour
 - Public comment sessions
 - We should ask the homeless what they need to access affordable housing in order to move off the river bank
 - Social media updates more
 - Events targeted towards the younger generation
 - Hold periodic "town halls" to inform public on process and solicit input/feedback

B. Visions and Values

At this station the participants were asked to review the list of guiding values established by the Leadership Team and indicate their preferences for the values they supported, or did not support. The Guiding Values, and the number of preference votes they received, are as follows, in descending order of supporting votes received:

- *Reflect the City's commitment to the River as a public resource and asset to be passed to residents and visitors in perpetuity. (14 positive votes)*
- *Make nature-based stormwater best management practices (BMP's) a priority. (12 positive votes)*
- *Foster the restoration of native fisheries, herpetological and ornithological resources, and landscape to be consistent with best riparian and aquatic science and water and land management practices and be harmonious with the River. (10 positive votes)*
- *Prohibit further hardening of the shorelines that are inconsistent with the Plan. (10 positive votes)*
- *Integrate existing river walks and pathways with new connections between sites and destinations that link the River to the city in ways that are physical, visual, aesthetic and psychological. (8 positive votes).*
- *Be explicit to the commitment to improve, restore and protect the health and integrity of the Riparian ecosystem of the lower River. (6 positive votes)*
- *Manage invasive vegetation and protect and retain existing native vegetation and add native vegetation where possible. (6 positive votes)*
- *Ensure that the natural flow of the River is enhanced and not curtailed or impeded by any element of the Plan. (6 positive, 1 negative)*
- *Use the natural and cultural values of the River as a guide for decisions about the commercial, economic or utilitarian values to be leveraged for the public good. (3 positive votes)*
- *Serve to foster and sustain partnerships with shared responsibilities among public and private stakeholders who share the value that the Boardman is a "common resource" that connects everyone. (3 positive votes)*
- *Identify/prioritize opportunities for multi-modal access to the River. (3 positive votes)*
- *Help ensure that new or rehabilitated developments along the River are compatible with the City's renewable energy goals. (2 positive votes)*
- *Provide that the recommended initiatives contained in the Plan will account for the impact of those initiatives on residents, habitats and the ecological status of the River. (1 positive vote)*
- *Enhance ecological and aesthetic River conditions, take advantage of and integrate iconic structures and identify new sites and structures that serve as destination or centers of programming to attract year-round access. (1 positive vote)*
- *Establish that development sites, destinations and structures must protect the health, aesthetics, accessibility and health of the relationship between the river and residents/visitors. (1 positive vote)*

- *Contain public goals for the River and City, in keeping with the community's visions about what the River is and can become as a centerpiece for downtown identity and ethos. (0 votes)*

The public was also asked to rate the following topics in answer to the question "What do you value the most about the Lower Boardman?" In descending order, the public supported the following:

- Habitat (13 positive)
- Water (13 positive, 1 negative)
- Nature (11 positive)
- Special Places (6 positive, 1 negative)
- Health (4 positive)
- History, and Culture (3 positive each)
- Recreation (5 positive, 3 negative)
- Identity (2 positive, 1 negative)
- Traditions (1 positive)
- Economic Vitality (1 positive, 3 negative)
- Events (3 negative)

The remaining comments observed at this station can be summarized as follows:

1. Project
 - Connecting Riverwalk Union St. to fish pass reach 3 and 4
2. Policy
 - No more development. Let some of the river remain nature. Recent development is too close to the river
 - I like the access for my dogs
 - Keep open spaces along parkway open
 - Clean river, both water and banks
 - Policy to balance use/user groups/use types of envirohealth leading
 - Require 25' setback from the river (share or by two water math) for buildings
3. Best Practice
 - Define vegetation – limit "weedy" shrubs that can't be maintained-especially in Hannah Park. Keep easy access to viewing
 - Protect the health of the river and banks
4. Value/Other
 - Let the Ottoway speak for itself
 - I don't like homeless displaced from the riverbank without getting into housing. We can partner to connect homeless to housing opportunities
 - The Boardman is the original "main street" of the town. Its future design should reflect that
 - More green space
 - Please allow the Boardman River to "speak for itself." No more development, no more "hard" concrete, please border barriers
 - Like the natural banks and foliage

C. River Conditions and Habitat

1. Project
 - Maintain blue ribbon trout stream
 - Fishing line and hook receptacle
 - No sturgeon chinook coho
 - No "experiment" which might fail and allow unwanted species up stream
 - Improve habitat for sturgeon including stocking
 - Do not pass salmon and steelhead (2)
 - Less concrete, more river rock, native vegetation (all reaches)

- Keep Hannah Park riverside NATURAL. Allow the wild animals to still have a home (reach 3,B)
 - Native shoreline (reach 5,D)
 - Allow as much vegetated bank as possible, wherever possible
 - River banks vegetation overgrown, unsightly and unsafe
 - Terraced south shore instead of parking
 - Stabilize the banks as much as possible with natural vegetation and, if necessary, riprap, no sheet piling
 - Promote natural buffer everywhere
 - People living in housing, rather than the riverbank, under bridges, etc.
 - Keep the flora and fauna healthy and thriving
 - Improve riverbed when bridge is renovated – current design has 9 at times) strong currents, contribute to downstream erosion on downstream (outside) bank
 - Neighbors rake leaves into the river
 - Remove all connections between storm and sanitary sewers
 - Remove all surface parking in-between river and parkway and replace with deck. Convert surface parking to parkland
 - Soften banks and improve in-stream habitat
 - Make “living walks” on concrete channel walks and integrate bird habitat (reach 6)
 - A better riparian buffer with native plants (reach 3)
 - Cars parked on the river. Lets lose that (reach 5)
 - Boats on boardwalk, preserve this use (reach 5)
 - Improve access for fishing and pedestrian nature walk (reach 5)
 - River is undermining alley which is a key thoroughfare (reach 5)
 - Soften shoreline where possible (reach 5)
 - No more development along river. All some of the rive to have natural edges (reach 5)
 - Maintain bird/bee flower/green environment on all walks
 - No building on river (reach 1)
 - Provide improved access for fishing native species (2) (reach 1)
 - Need plan for boardwalks (reach 3)
2. Policy
- No invasive species (2)
 - Protect Brooke Trout and species alike at all costs
 - More prevention against invasive species, especially the round goby because they're predators of almost all our native species
 - Eliminate boat docking on river
 - Do not introduce non-native species to the river
 - Keep out the invasive fish, including the salmonids (Pacific)
 - Establish setback for developments to help decrease shoreline hardening
 - Protect shoreline from kayak access overuse, July/august 200 kayak/week (reach 1)
 - Carry limits. We are being exploited by commercial ventures, kayaking, etc.
 - No more develop along river. Allow some of it to have natural edges
 - No more tight, to the river development. Allow some of the river to be natural
 - No wake on Boardman River
 - No building in flood plain (Pine St. XXXXX)
 - No more development on river or at least not so close, need buffer (reach 5)
3. Best Practice
- Work with land owners for landscape practices that are water friendly
 - Have a septic system monitoring program all along waterways
 - A complete list of the species of fish currently in the lower Boardman
 - Frequently check water clarity clearness
 - Stay up to date and be active on shoreline stabilization and protection
 - Ensure stormwater management best practices fir new and existing infrastructure

- Clean water, less trash
- Keep the water clean
- Keep the river as natural as possible
- Focus on native species and habitat
- Native species only
- Native species

4. Value/Other

- Impress upon anglers, paddlers and floaters that they have a responsibility to care for the river
- Build classy bridges (reach 4)
- Classy bridges

D. Access, Open Space and Recreation

1. Project

- Make the bridge at fish pass at least 6' for sup poolers
- No whitewater rapids, kayaking
- Easy portages to local businesses
- Walking access along the river
- Paddle and pints dragging boats over vegetation is not good. Need more access
- Connected pedestrian networks along river, important
- Boardwalk out of river to maximize river use
- Improve portage for canoes/kayaks
- More take-out points for canoes/kayaks as another access to downtown
- Bussed boaters ok, rowdy damage problem
- No portage going downstream at Union St. dam
- Integrate access ramps into existing river channel walls
- Convert parking lots to pike-like plazas with some food/beverage amenities/concessions
- Integrate defined bike paths and pedestrian trails
- Open space and gathering places
- Canoe/kayak launches
- Not comfortable with fish pass and being guinea pig for project
- Current portage on Union dam is not good
- Temp access at American Legion park during fish pass in 2020-2021
- No river access at Hannah Park (kayak)
- I don't like the boardwalks ever. I'd like to see natural river, no boats docked
- More trees, less concrete
- New fish pass design destroys the current site
- Integrate or connect with TART
- More places to pull out/put in canoes/kayaks, visit parks and businesses
- Security! Motion sensor lights, litter disposal at Union St. bridge, lots of fishing debris
- Hannah Park to Pine St. bridge
- I'd like to see more green space
- Keep it as natural as possible
- Limit access do its not overrun with happy, drunk kayakers (reach 5)
- Soften shoreline and channelization to improve recreation experience (reach 5)
- Opportunity for public art under bridge (reach 5)
- Possible pull out at pedestrian bridge to allow business access (reach 4)
- River setbacks, more riparian buffers
- Protect banks from erosion
- Casual concerts in the park, not full out big concerts
- Native riparian buffer up to the shoreline wherever possible (reach 1)
- Riparian buffers are needed to maintain the river health (reach 1)

- No need for more kayakers in large parks (reach 1)
 - Stagnant/dead water area (reach 1)
 - Improve pedestrian underpass of 8th to decrease traffic conflict with TART trail (reach 1)
 - More public access, walking along the river (reach 2)
 - Green to limit stormwater runoff (reach 2)
 - Infuse native plantings to improve water quality (reach 3)
 - Council circle in town on river interactive destination with engagement opportunity (reach 3)
 - Need a barrier or parking at the end of the boardwalk because people will fall in, especially at night (reach 2)
 - Bridge to Hannah Park (reach 3)
 - Make access sites actually assessible. 15th kayak access is not accessible
 - Not whitewater park (2)
 - Whitewater park at Union Dam
 - Pine St. non-motorized bridge n-s (4)
 - Education center with interpretive at farmer library
 - No more development along river
 - Universal access where possible
 - Rotary Square – housing will give it to city
 - Make North Cass St. bridge a little higher over river
 - Secluded, zen like park area
 - Need to be mindful of people who live on the water and hopefully control the effects of too much drunken boat traffic
 - Bay-oriented kayak/surf/ski launch
 - Access to river for non-motorized craft – not easy for able body
 - Make the riverfront banks beautiful, keep them beautiful, manage noise and pollution
 - Portages around the dam, north side of dam accessibility
2. Policy
- Patrol along the river
 - Regulate beer drinking kayakers from 4-6 pm on 1st Saturday of August
 - Regulate the kayak, bike and brew crowd – development will only grow this market
 - Keep/put controls on usage of river
 - No wake restriction on Boardman River
 - Ban alcohol on Boardman
 - Restrict times/number of pints and paddlers
 - Overuse of Union Park area-drunk kayakers
 - Can anything be done to curtail all the drunks in kayaks on the river downtown?
 - How did uptown get built right on the river? Should not have been allowed
 - More environmentally focused, no more development
 - Buildings too close to the water
 - We don't want San Antonio Riverwalk-too commercial
 - Regulate guided/tourist kayak numbers
 - Permitting success to river can be regulated by city. Alcohol issues with drinking tours
 - Drinking tour trash, noise
 - Clean-up old garbage, no glass allowed
 - Regulate/limit kayak numbers
 - Increase policies on how to behave on the river...city regulations (reach 1)
 - Regulate the use of the river-no beer tours on the rivers, no tubes on the river (reach 1)
3. Best Practice
- No hardening of the river
 - Concerned about DNR allowing steelhead up river at fish pass, not good idea
 - Concerns with fish pass-really able to control invasive species
4. Value/Other

- Most all current recreation is for adults only (ex. Paddle for pints). Have more recreation events for kids/teens
- Protect the river, keep it natural
- Must get people more personal with the river. Design it so it is easy to get on, get close, hear and feel it
- Homelessness along the river may discourage some people from accessing it. Just “moving homeless along” won’t fix the issue. Let’s use this river conversation as a conversation for affordable housing as well
- Clean up 8th St. underpass by riverine
- Kayak tours and opportunities for kids to learn about the river
- Accessible! Accessible! Accessible!

E. History and Culture

1. Project

- Native American mural, maybe have kids involved, paint
- Make history about river and areas (2)
- Tribal art installation
- Interpretive signage – what is the right amount? Stores/perspectives
- Hannah Park remain naturalized, not commercialized
- Emphasis on Native American culture and history
- Pre contact history for Hannah Park
- Role of the river in the growth and development of Traverse City
- More learning-based events about Boardman history (ex. guided kayak tours giving information about different parts of Boardman history)
- Develop historical encampment at north of Boardman, represent tribal camp with artistic sculptures depicting tribal activities
- More historical markers – sawmill, Native American village at government center site
- Help homeless that may be displaced. Celebrate Traverse City helping to find homes for those effected
- Incorporate a Native American philosophy in the design
- Emphasis on representing Native history and landmarks
- Stations along Riverwalk to explain history and culture, different starting points
- Interactive information/art/interpretive “what kind of fish” paddle/walk and find answer
- Art along river sensitive to culture/history
- Historical markers, interpretive signage, information kiosks
- Include signage about significant Native American historical sites
- Environmental and historical interpretive signage
- Move the waste water plant
- Important to incorporate signs about history and culture
- On new and existing trails and walkways, install stations depicting/describing cultural and historical points – S/B every 1/2-mile, or so, along trails (not covering same points)
- Walk of history, Milken Potatoes Factory, oral bowl factory
- More history and culture, less recreational facilities

2. Policy

- Protect spiritually significant sites if shared by tribe
- Restrict development

3. Best Practice

- More respect for the river and those who live/work along it
- Only native plants being planted – the same ethic should inform the choice of which fish are allowed passage – through fish pass – native species only

4. Value/Other

- Restore Ottaway name

- Tribal recognition - names, translations
- Ottaway, name-publicize – make known
- Change name back to Ottaway (8)
- A city on a river owes its life to the river and should treat the river with the respect of a revered ancestor – we have much to atone for. We will be known by the way we treat “our” river
- Appreciation for nature
- Respect the Odawa, no more development, stop the ETOH
- Need to communicate to the public via news paper the importance/history/connections of Native American tribes to Great Lakes, Boardman R/GTB
- Publicize historic containment levels
- Where did Boardman name come from?
- Boardman Lake keep name – change name of river, keep/acknowledge both cultures
- Where did the original mouth occur? What was the uses between river and bay?
- The Indians where here first, then we displaced them (and a lot worse, sad history) but now we have the opportunity to respect their history
- Tell story
- Restore the river to original name
- Effort to inform community about the history of the river and its cultural significance

F. Planning, Land Use, and Development

This station included a series of images and text that described different development approaches and issues along the riverfront. Facilitators asked participants to use colored dots to indicate support or lack of support for these ideas. In descending order, these issues and approaches are as follows:

- Site Planning and Ecological Viability (7 positive votes)
- Public Access (6 positive votes)
- Promote direct access to the river (5 positive votes)
- Site planning and Building Orientation, images showing boardwalk, landscape bank, and residential buildings oriented to river (5 positive votes)
- On-site Storm Water Management (2 positive votes)
- Site Planning and Building Orientation (1 negative vote on image of concrete wall at river bank)

Other comments and input recorded include:

1. Project

- Lets do a pop-up park on one of the parking lots
- Land to river interface. Access points for rec. whitewater park and Union dam. Remove Wier
- Expanded farm market facility
- Redevelop parking lots into usable public space (park-like/plazas, etc.)
- Bridge redo – make each iconic/artistic. Partner with XXX admission
- I don't like the fish pass-concrete, no trees, huge scale
- I'm concerned about safety. People moving from boardwalk onto private prop need garbage, lights on boardwalk
- Remove parking "across river" from farmers market/make park, benches, fountains
- Temp rec access at American Legion park during construction pf fish pass
- Fish pass work being done off season (May-June)
- Where can I put a kayak in? how does the dam work?
- No development below fish weir, no additional boardwalk. Enjoy river from canoe or kayak (no motor) paddleboat
- Keep Hannah Park the same/natural. Improve, OK, but keep natural
- Ban paddle for pints (2)
- Public access needs visibility, river undermining alley
- Protect the shoreline

- Honor appropriate setbacks
 - Leave or maintain natural vegetation
 - Eliminate invasives
 - Continue to improve alley behind barriers and the river
 - Eliminate parking
 - Enhance green space
 - Protect the cement bark or improve
 - Prevent undermining of cement walk
 - Water rising/undercutting an issue
 - Ensuring vegetation is maintained and planted along the river is extremely important for the health of the river and aesthetics
 - Public open space – difference between green space/public and places
2. Policy
- Create zoning to protect the public access along the river's edge
 - No more development tight along river. Keep the natural edge of the remaining river
 - Need more spaces for cars
 - Use by residents not so much for tourists
 - "Transfer" parking spaces to the new deck
 - Less parking
 - Any lighting should be minimal, following night sky friendly guidelines
 - Relocate parking away from rivers edge
 - Develop alleys to activate the river with business
 - Increase building setbacks
 - Less condos
 - 1 tall (4 fl) spot for parking, keep it condensed
 - Increase set backs from river an Front St.
 - Activate the riverfront along downtown buildings
 - Café spaces
 - Opo-up events
 - Concerts
 - Shops/markets
 - 50' setback for buildings and parking
 - Make setback for buildings/development 25' from river's edge (or high water mark) More greenspace along the shore
 - Don't want to see XXX motorized tours
 - Businesses should be thinking about deliveries in front to free up river side
 - Enable small pop ups shops for small local venders-seasonal attraction. Detroit-rents for use to XXXX market. Chicago-walloon sheds
 - Don't want it to be San Antonio's. No lights 24/7, not too intense, but bring people to riverfront
 - More mixed-use, less room for cars
 - Increase setbacks along river, including for parking lots
 - Fisher people trash is an issue
 - Develop the alleys/lots
 - "Boardwalk watch" i.e. neighborhood watch
 - How much land on the river does the city have control over?
 - Restaurants on the river
 - Buffer should be at least 25' for whole river, as hydrograph shifts with more intense XXX events, buffer is only going to need to get wider to protect the river and the buildings next to it
3. Best Practice
- Improve the natural aspects
 - Eradicate invasive species
 - No encroachment on building without 20' setback
 - If there is any left, maintain existing greenbelts along the BR. This includes trees

- Add native pollinator path to Hannah Park
 - Keep west bend natural. Bridge access to Hannah further east
 - Restore “natural” riverbank, remove concrete, replace with vegetation stabilized banks
 - No further removal of bank side vegetation unless critically necessary, restore vegetation
 - Identify parcels at risk to flooding/inundation with climate change scenarios. Purchase or set strict dev. Guidelines
 - Emphasize ecological viability of all development projects
 - Educate existing land owners on river friendly landscape management +/- incentives
 - More green infrastructure instead of setbacks due to tight sites already
 - No hardening of banks. Remove what exist
 - People have to think about rising water levels
4. Value/Other
- People over-using the river is not my vision. Keep the river natural
 - The river was historically used and abused. It’s been coming back but too much interest is being directed at over development, needs to be natural
 - Design for human use, not just for otters
 - The best way to get people to connect with the river us to get them out of their cars and off the sidewalks and get them in and on the river, activities
 - All of Traverse City is not for guests
 - Incorporate downtown on both sides of the river
 - Please stop approving any plans within this 1.6 miles until this is a unified plan
 - Moving homeless people along from river and elsewhere doesn’t work, need housing
 - Its not Disney World, it’s a river in northern Michigan
 - Native people should be included in the decisions
 - We have to retrain ourselves, our thinking
 - Is TART involved
 - Fish Pass will close down river temp. what do we do?
 - I’s like to see a lot of green space
 - Easier kayak access
 - Waterfront could be more attractive

CONCLUSIONS

Based on the input from the public engagement workshop, the general trends indicate that the public supports the following:

1. Project
 - Providing public access (e.g. boardwalks) along the river; assume the need for universal access
 - Monitor and repair places where high water and currents are undermining the shoreline-return to soft shores wherever possible.
2. Policy
 - Limit/manage additional development along the river corridor
 - Increase building setbacks
 - Limit/manage the use of kayaks and tubes on the river to ensure opportunities for all users and quiet enjoyment of the river for downtown residents.
 - No additional hardened edge should be allowed

3. Best Practice

- Support the use of native plants and habitat creation to control erosion
- Utilize best practices to manage stormwater and other means of improving water quality.

4. Value/Other

- Continue to engage the public throughout the planning process
- Shift the balance towards habitat and nature over human recreation and economic development
- Limit facilities for gathering or events along the river-focus should be on downtown/bay

DRAFT

ATTACHMENTS