

Cheboygan Waterfront Visioning Project

City of Cheboygan, Michigan



Sustainable Built Environment Initiative: **December 2023**

MICHIGAN STATE
UNIVERSITY

School of Planning, Design
and Construction



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*All photos unless otherwise noted, are courtesy of MSU SPDC

Acknowledgements

Local Partners

The City of Cheboygan and the Cheboygan Downtown Development Authority (DDA)

The Michigan State University Team

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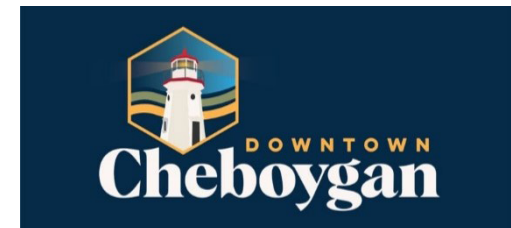
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Special Thanks

The MSU Project team would like to express their gratitude to Polly Schneider, the Executive Director of the Cheboygan Main Street Downtown Development Authority, for serving as the local contact and coordinating the input meetings.



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Introduction

Introduction

MSU Extension (MSUE) and the School of Planning, Design and Construction (SPDC) have jointly developed the Sustainable Built Environment Initiative (SBEI) to address sustainability challenges and improve the quality of life in Michigan's communities. The partnership allows for an integrated approach to solving complex community problems through the diverse expertise found within the School of Planning, Design, and Construction along with MSUE's institutes and Extension educators. The Sustainable Built Environment Initiative focuses on projects that integrate planning and design elements within a sustainability framework.

OBJECTIVE OF SBEI

- Work with communities to develop sustainable planning and design ideas for local issues and opportunities
- Build consensus and generate ideas to address challenging sustainability concerns
- Act as a bridge between communities and consulting, planning and design professionals
- Involve students and faculty in the planning process



Photo from Meeting One



Photo from Meeting One

Please note: The design recommendations in this report are intended to be conceptual and visionary. As a tool for consensus building, this report does not include an environmental, technical (e.g., parking study, site plans) or market feasibility analysis or cost estimates necessary for final design.

Project Overview

The purpose of the Cheboygan Waterfront Visioning Project is to develop a visionary document around improving the streetscape, including public art, enhancing a sense of place, incorporating green infrastructure, and identifying redevelopment opportunities. The vision will build upon important attributes such as downtown's riverfront location, history and heritage, Main Street, Pure Michigan TrailTown, and more. The project focuses on the downtown waterfront area to improve the appeal to residents, businesses, and visitors while enhancing the pedestrian experience and creating a unified vision for the area.

This report details how MSU and citizen representatives partnered to identify community concerns and build consensus on the conceptual vision. Current assets were considered to facilitate a thriving destination for residents and visitors alike. Ultimately, the recommendations focus around four goals with which to move forward. The four goals are Placemaking, Streetscape, Visual Quality, and Sustainability.

Goals of the Cheboygan Waterfront Visioning Project



Placemaking

To unify features of the built environment to promote social interaction and to enhance sense of community



Streetscape

To provide safe and efficient motorized transit that accommodates a pleasing pedestrian experience



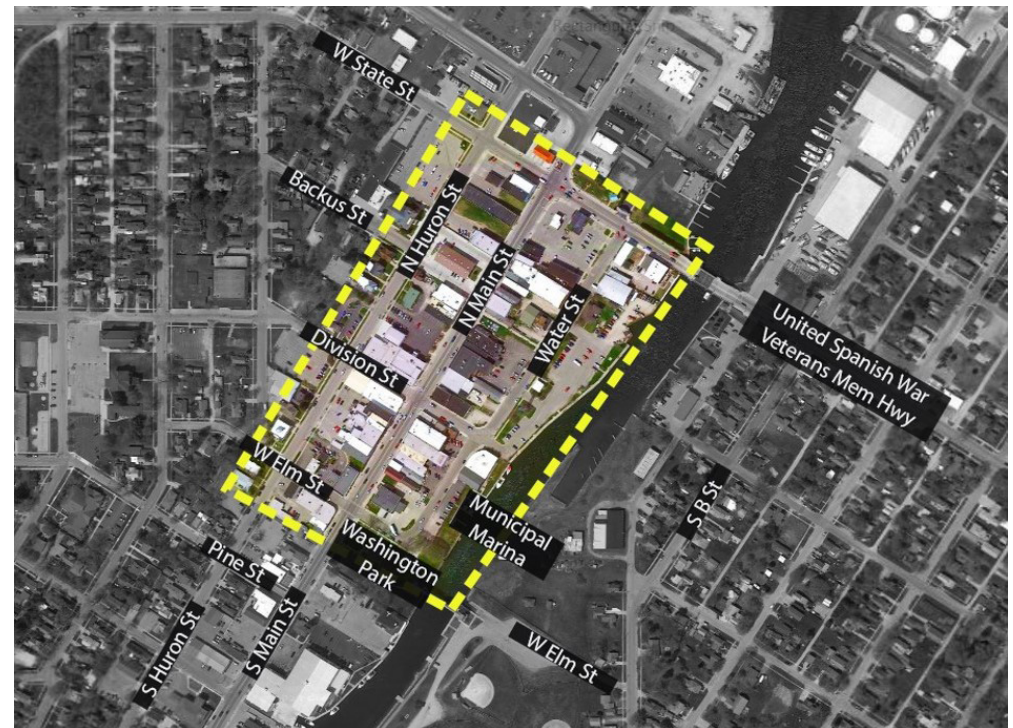
Visual Quality

To enhance the aesthetic value of the community's natural and built environment



Sustainability

To steward the natural environment in all aspects of the design process

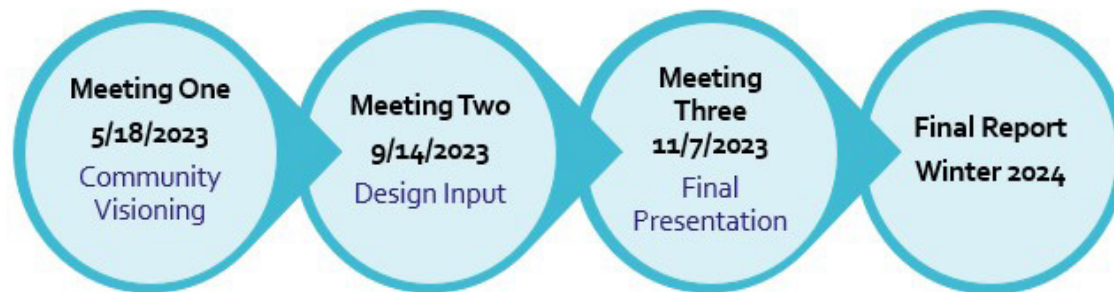


Project Focus Area

Process

Visioning Sessions | Preliminary Recommendations | Final Plan Presentation | Implementation

To achieve a plan for the area that accurately represents the interests of the community, a three-meeting input process was used. On May 18, 2023 the first meeting was held as an opportunity for residents of the City of Cheboygan, MI to discuss a future vision for the waterfront area. With input from local representatives, the meeting acted as a forum for community members to make suggestions concerning function, safety, and connection for the area. The second meeting was held September 14, 2023. The purpose of this meeting was to present preliminary recommendations and designs for the area, and to begin gathering community feedback. At the third and final meeting, held on November 7, 2023, the MSU team presented final design images and planning recommendations based on feedback from Meeting One and Meeting Two. In addition, community members developed steps toward prioritizing the recommendations and actions.



Inventory and Site Analysis

Existing Site Conditions

The project focused on waterfront areas adjacent to Water Street and parts of downtown Cheboygan, including how to improve the appeal to residents, businesses, and visitors. The goal was to enhance the pedestrian experience and create a unified vision for the area.

Key considerations include to improve the streetscape, incorporating public art, enhancing a sense of place, incorporating green infrastructure, and identifying redevelopment opportunities. The vision is to build on important attributes such as downtown's riverfront location, history and heritage, Main Street, Pure Michigan TrailTown, and more.

The project area has a number of assets, including Washington Park, Festival Square, the Cheboygan River, Gordon Turner Park, Lake Huron, the Cheboygan City Marina, and the Cheboygan Opera House.





Community Input

Community Input

Meeting One: Community Visioning

On May 18, 2023, MSU hosted the first meeting of the City of Cheboygan Water Street Visioning Project at the Cheboygan Public Library. Approximately 42 residents from the community were in attendance. The MSU team presented an overview of the SBEI process and a map of the project area. Throughout the meeting, participants had group discussions and provided input on worksheets for three question prompts:

What are you **proud** about the downtown and immediate area?

What are you **sorry** about for the downtown and immediate area?

What would you like to see as you float over the downtown **15 years from now** in a hot air balloon?



Photo from Meeting One



Photo from Meeting One

Community Input

Meeting One: Community Visioning Input Summary

Upon arrival to meeting one, participants used sticky notes to respond to the following prompt: Please write a one word description of Downtown Cheboygan as it is now, and a one word description as you want to see it in the future, and post it onto the wall.

The figures below show Word Clouds of the most prominent responses to the prompt. Word Clouds show the frequency of responses by size, with larger font sizes indicating greater frequency. Some of the common answers to how the Cheboygan Waterfront area is viewed now include “growing, disjointed, sprawling, and unified.” Prominent answers to how the Cheboygan Waterfront area would like to be viewed in the future include “destination, friendly, booming, and trendy.”

Now



Future



See Appendix A: Meeting 1, Visioning Input Feedback for more details

Community Input

Meeting One: Community Visioning Input Summary Continued

Next, participants used worksheets and small group discussion to respond to three question prompts. The figures below and to the right show Word Clouds of the most prominent responses to question prompts (see Appendix A for specific frequencies). The following question prompts were asked at meeting one:

- What are you **proud** about the downtown and immediate area?
- What are you **sorry** about the downtown and immediate area?
- What would you like to see as you float over the downtown **15 years from now** in a hot air balloon?

Proud



Sorry



Future



Community Input

Meeting Two: Design Input

On September 14, 2023, MSU hosted a second community meeting at the Cheboygan City Hall. The MSU team presented before and after design options and character images based on community input from meeting one. There were 16 people in attendance at the meeting. Upon entering the room, participants were first asked to answer the following prompt on an index card:

Imagine a vibrant street you have visited. On your index card, please describe in one word or phrase:
What made that place unique?

The results of those responses are shown in the Word Cloud below.



Photo from Meeting Two

Community Input

Meeting Two: Design Input

At Meeting Two, residents provided input to develop a vision for Water Street and the surrounding areas in Cheboygan. Following the presentation, participants were asked to provide feedback on the character images and design recommendations that were presented. Participants used sticky notes and feedback sheets to respond to the following prompts:

- **What do you like about the designs presented today?**
- **What improvements/additions would you like to see regarding the designs presented today?**
- **Are there any other comments you would like to share?**

This input helped the MSU team to focus on resident preferences of Water Street and the surrounding area in Cheboygan and helped form residents' vision for their community. A summary of the feedback is provided on the following page. The photos below show community participation at meeting two.



Photo from Meeting Two



Photo from Meeting Two



Photo from Meeting Two

Community Input

Meeting Two: Design Input Feedback Summary

Participants responded to the character images and design recommendations with feedback largely in support of the colored crosswalks, rain gardens, and multi-season use areas. In addition, participants liked the street lights illuminating down instead of into the sky, and native planting. Participants suggested improvements to connect the backside of businesses by adding professional art, and more benches and seating. The bullet points below provide participants feedback examples from each question.

What do you like about the designs presented today?

- Colored crosswalks
- Rain gardens
- Multi-season uses for areas
- Street lights shining down, not up into the night sky
- Native planting
- Adding art
- Planters with seating
- Curb expansion
- Seating
- Green by the river
- Path that leads from Main Street to the waterfront

What improvements/additions would you like to see regarding the designs presented today?

- Connection to backside of businesses
- Professional art
- Benches
- Seating
- Gathering space
- Looking for consistent style
- Must look good and be functional
- Main Street parking
- Splash pad/ice rink
- Colored crosswalks
- Plantings

Are there any other comments you would like to share?

- Employees to maintain green spaces and garden?
- Think hard about our weather (wind and snow)
- Love the splashpad idea - is it attainable?
- Who maintains the bathroom and shower?
- Art would be great if cohesive - would be hard if it is not professional
- Love sculptures if they work for our area
- Does the grass grid parking get mowed?
- I like all of the native plantings
- Colorful art (benches) along the river
- I liked the pocket park idea

Community Input

Meeting Two: Design Input

At the end of the presentation, participants were asked the following question on an index card:

- Please describe in one word or phrase something that you saw today that creates a sense of place in the Cheboygan Waterfront Area.

The results are summarized below in a Word Cloud with the most prominent answers being colored crosswalks, plantings, relaxing, inviting, multi-season use, and splash pad.

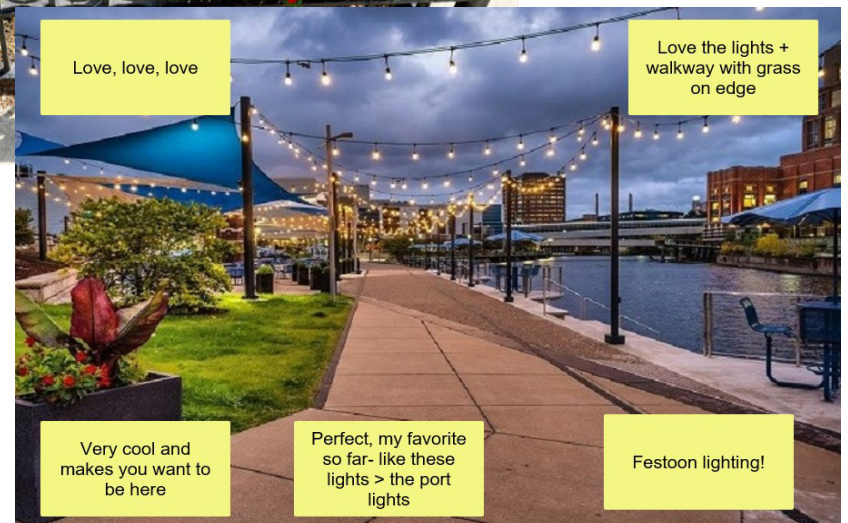
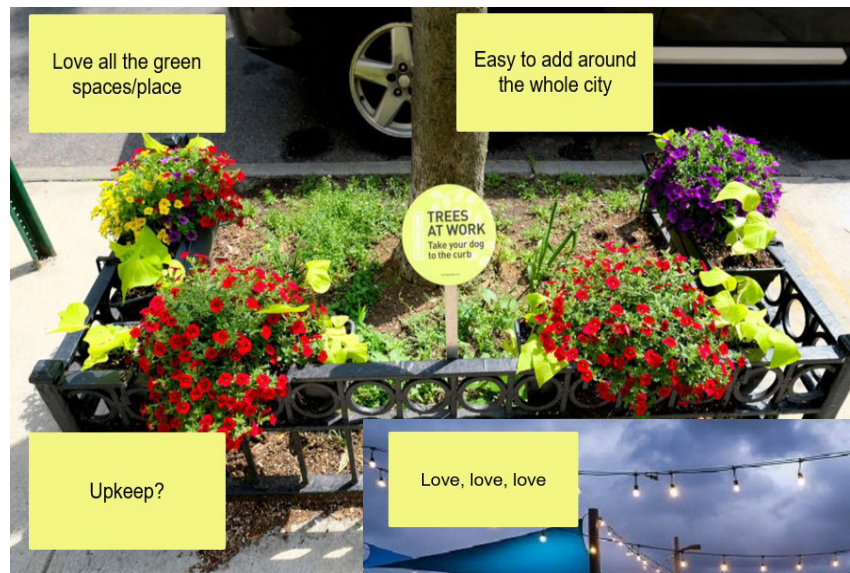


Photo from Meeting Two

Community Input

Meeting Two: Design Input Character Image Feedback Examples

After the presentation, participants made their way around the room to view and comment on the character images and design recommendations that were displayed. Participants placed their feedback directly on the images with sticky notes. The input allowed the MSU team to focus on the preferences for the Cheboygan Waterfront project based on the resident feedback. Below are a few examples of the character image feedback. Full feedback can be found in Appendix B.

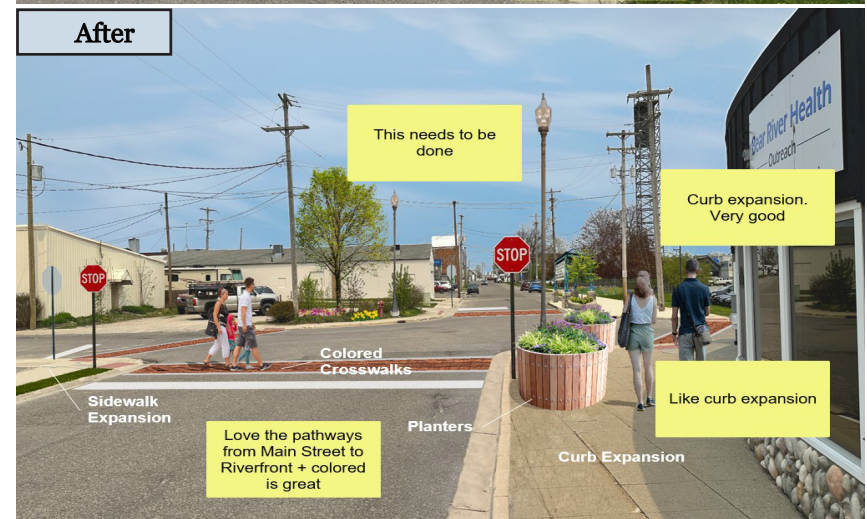


See Appendix B: Meeting 2, Design Input Feedback for more details

Community Input

Meeting Two: Design Input Design Recommendation Feedback Examples

At Meeting Two, community members responded to the design images displayed around the room. Participants provided their feedback by placing sticky notes on the design images. Below are feedback examples from the before and after design recommendation images with participant feedback represented in the yellow boxes. The before and after design recommendations were based on four goals: Placemaking, Streetscape, Visual Quality, and Sustainability. Full participant feedback is presented in Appendix B.



Community Input

Meeting Three: Final Recommendations

The final presentation was held on November 7th, 2023. This meeting was held both in-person at Cheboygan City Hall and on Zoom. The MSU team presented over Zoom. Feedback from meetings one and two were presented, as well as design images and planning recommendations. After this presentation, the participants completed two exercises summarized below and on the following page.

Following the presentation from the MSU team, participants were asked to rank the planning recommendations for each planning goal. The four planning goals consisted of Placemaking, Streetscape, Visual Quality, and Sustainability. The recommendations were ranked from most important to least important, with 1 being the most important, and the higher number being the least important. (e.g., 1-3, 1-5, 1-6) Once ranked, the average ranking for each recommendation was determined. The table below presents the highest ranked planning recommendation from each planning goal. Planning Goal #2 has two planning recommendations listed because they both received the same score. The full feedback is shown in Appendix C.

Planning Goal	Planning Recommendation
Planning Goal #1: Placemaking	Utilize riverfront area with a boardwalk, seating, and gathering spaces along the waterfront
Planning Goal #2: Streetscape	Design a streetscape with pedestrian amenities including bike racks, drinking fountains, benches, etc. to attract and anchor a variety of visitors (Tie)
	Enhance visibility and function of pedestrian crosswalks (Tie)
Planning Goal #3: Visual Quality	Create cohesive visual quality, using trees, native plants, and seating
Planning Goal #4: Sustainability	Plant flowers, trees, and shrubs native to Michigan specifically to ensure habitat diversity, resilience, and vitality

Community Input

Meeting Three: Final Recommendations

Participants were also asked “What one step would be necessary to implement one or more of the recommendations that were presented today?” Some of the responses included finding funding in the form of grants and securing the labor force to complete these projects. Additionally, another response included hiring a person to manage projects throughout the city. A full list of the responses is below:

Find some money
Secure manpower
Funding and grant opportunities
Community support and volunteers
Unified community vision
Hiring a person to manage projects in the city and the DDA
Coordinate planning and maintenance
There are several steps to implementation. It will need to be agreed upon by the DDA, then go to the City Council and get the process in motion
Raise taxes
Perhaps being able to be earmarked as projects for planning, engineering, or forestry college students

Community Input

Meeting Three: Final Recommendations Implementation Ranking

After the final recommendations were presented to the community, participants were asked to rank the design images by theme. Participants ranked the images from highest priority to lowest priority, with 1 being the highest priority, and the higher number being the lower priority (e.g., 1-2, 1-4). In total, 12 individuals participated in the exercise. The average scores were calculated in order to determine the community's highest and lowest priority for each theme. The highest ranked *Placemaking* image was "Water Street Parking South". The image that ranked the highest for *Intersection* was the design for the intersection of Water Street and Division Street. The highest ranked *Streetscape* image was Water Street between Elm Street and Division Street. The full rankings are presented in Appendix C.

Highest Ranked Placemaking Image

Water Street Parking South
Placemaking 2



Highest Ranked Intersection Image

Water Street and Division Street
Intersection 1



Highest Ranked Streetscape Image

Water Street Between Elm Street and
Division Street Design
Streetscape 3





**Planning and Design
Recommendations**

Planning and Design Goals

The recommendations are framed around four key planning and design goals which aim to improve the appeal of the downtown and waterfront areas to residents, businesses, and visitors while enhancing the pedestrian experience and creating a unified vision. The four planning and design goals are: Placemaking, Streetscape, Visual Quality, and Sustainability. Planning recommendations have been developed for each goal.

Planning & Design Goals:



Placemaking

To unify features of the built environment to promote social interaction and to enhance sense of community



Streetscape

To provide safe and efficient motorized transit that accommodates a pleasing pedestrian experience



Visual Quality

To enhance the aesthetic value of the community's natural and built environment



Sustainability

To steward the natural environment in all aspects of the design process



Goals and Objectives

The following planning and design considerations were based on input garnered throughout the first and second meetings. These ideas were categorized into four community goals to guide the designs and help position actionable planning recommendations.



Goal #1: Placemaking – to unify features of the built environment to promote social interaction and to enhance sense of community

- Create spaces for the local community to utilize and take advantage of the resources of the project area
- Provide public spaces across various generational scales
- Draw upon the unique local environmental character and community features to create a theme and sense of place



Goal #2: Streetscape – to provide a safe and efficient motorized transit that accommodates a pleasing pedestrian experience

- Develop streets as livable spaces with diverse street amenities
- Enhance connectivity between people and places on the project site
- Improve and emphasize community assets by improving visual and physical accessibility



Goal #3: Visual Quality – to enhance the aesthetic value of the community's natural and built environment

- Improve street character by adding greenery, art, and amenities
- Utilize paving design, outdoor furnishings, and lighting to make a cohesive visual quality
- Propose new usage of the current underutilized spaces



Goal #4: Sustainability – to steward the natural environment in all aspects of the design process

- Recycle and reuse materials for unique streetscape amenities
- Use native plants to promote the local ecosystem
- Utilize environmentally responsible design principles
- Manage stormwater to reduce negative impacts on the environment and community

Design Themes and Locations

The design recommendations are segmented into several locations in the waterfront and surrounding area. These sites serve as examples of what can be done at other locations throughout the project area. These areas were identified by city officials and are defined by their unique built environment characteristics. These characteristics include primary land uses and potential reuse. These recommendations are centered around three themes: streetscape, intersections, and placemaking.



Theme 1: Streetscape

Location: Water Street at Alley



Theme 1: Streetscape

Location: Water Street at Division Street



Theme 1: Streetscape

Location: Water Street Between Elm Street and Division Street (A)



Theme 1: Streetscape

Location: Water Street Between Elm Street and Division Street (B)

Existing Condition



Final Design Recommendation



Theme 1: Streetscape

Location: Elm Street at Water Street



Theme 2: Intersection

Location: Water Street and Division Street



Theme 2: Intersection

Location: Main Street and Division Street



Theme 3: Placemaking

Location: Water Street Parking North



Theme 3: Placemaking

Location: Water Street Parking South

Existing Condition



Final Design Recommendation



Theme 3: Placemaking

Location: Water Street Parking South

Existing Condition



Design Alternative



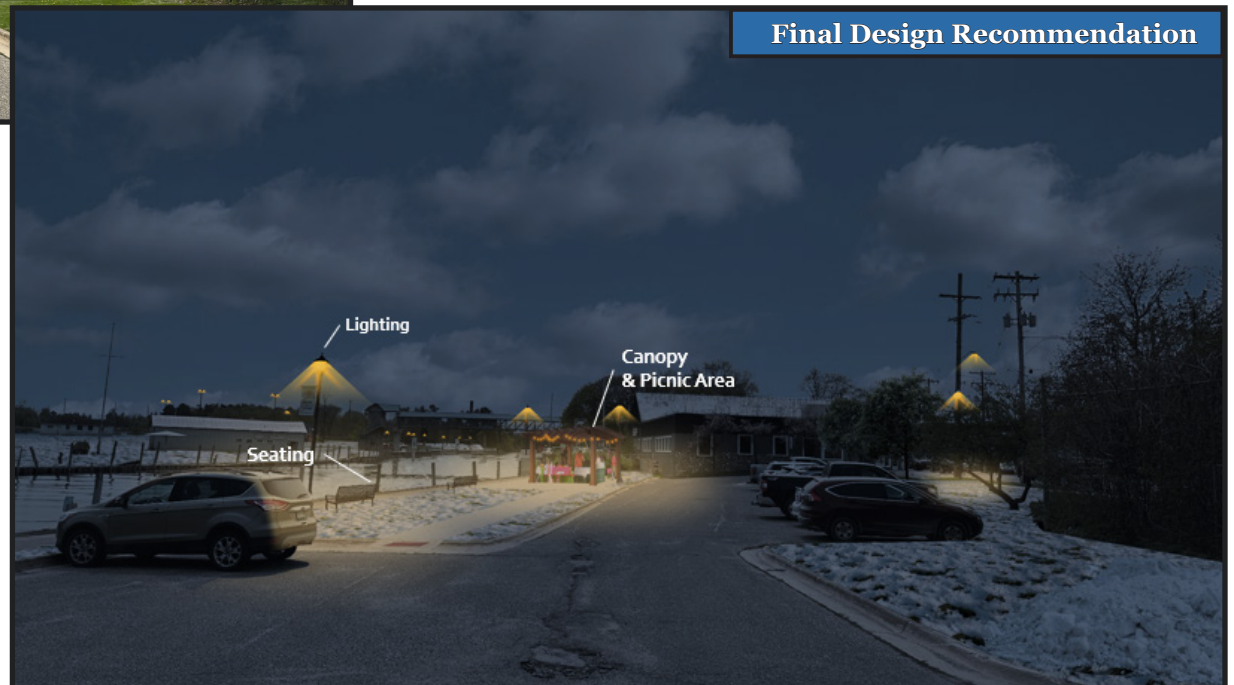
Theme 3: Placemaking

Location: Water Street Parking South (night scene)

Existing Condition



Final Design Recommendation



Theme 3: Placemaking

Location: Water Street Parking South (night scene)

Existing Condition



Design Alternative



Planning Recommendations

In order to move forward and execute the design considerations, there are a number of planning recommendations that can be implemented to enhance the waterfront area of Cheboygan. The planning recommendations are framed around four Design Goals: Placemaking, Streetscape, Visual Quality, and Sustainability.



Goal #1: Placemaking – to unify features of the built environment to promote social interaction and to enhance sense of community



Goal #2: Streetscape – to provide safe and efficient motorized transit that accommodates a pleasing pedestrian experience



Goal #3: Visual Quality – to enhance the aesthetic value of the community's natural and built environment



Goal #4: Sustainability – to steward the natural environment in all aspects of the design process

Goal #1: Placemaking

To unify features of the built environment to promote social interaction and to enhance sense of community.

Design Considerations	Recommendations	Reference in Local Policy Guides	Action Steps
Create spaces for the local community to utilize and take advantage of the resources of the project area	Utilize riverfront area with a boardwalk, seating, and gathering spaces along the waterfront	Realize 2035: City of Cheboygan Master Plan ¹ (Page 36)	Consider using temporary public furniture such as picnic tables and moveable chairs
		Cheboygan DDA Plan - Amended ² (Page 7)	Add seasonal flowers to add color and vibrancy in planter boxes near riverfront and Washington Park
	Promote public art or unique art installations that reflect the community character		Apply for the MEDC Community Partners Grant ³
Provide public spaces across various generational scales	Enhance the appearance and connectivity of parks by adding seating, shelter, games, and showing movies in the park		Apply for MEDC's Public Spaces Community Places Grant ⁴

1 <https://www.cheboygan.org/wp-content/media/Cheboygan-Master-Plan.pdf>

2 <https://www.cheboygan.org/wp-content/media/DDA-Plan-Amended.pdf>

3 <https://www.michiganbusiness.org/industries/macc/macc-grants/>

4 <https://www.miplace.org/programs/public-spaces-community-places/>

Goal #1: Placemaking

To unify features of the built environment to promote social interaction and to enhance sense of community.

Design Considerations	Recommendations	Reference in Local Policy Guides	Action Steps
<p>Draw upon the unique local environmental character and community features to create a theme and sense of place</p>	<p>Add signage and enhance landscaping which distinguishes the main areas of activity (e.g., Main Street, Waterfront, Washington Park, and Festival Square)</p>	<p>Cheboygan Trail Towns Master Plan¹ (Page 27)</p>	<p>Incorporate wayfinding signage that encourages visitors and residents to explore the amenities offered</p>
	<p>Establish goals and objectives that create a theme and sense of place</p>		<p>Incorporate an identified plant theme in landscape areas such as the proposed curb expansion and/or planter boxes</p>
			<p>Include goals and objectives that emphasize a desired character and theme within the Master Plan</p>

¹ Land Information Access Association. (2016). *Cheboygan Trail Towns Master Plan*

Goal #2: Streetscape

To provide safe and efficient motorized transit that accommodates a pleasing pedestrian experience.

Design Considerations	Recommendations	Reference in Local Policy Guides	Action Steps
Develop streets as livable spaces with diverse street amenities	Design a streetscape with pedestrian amenities including bike racks, drinking fountains, benches, etc. to attract and anchor a variety of visitors	Cheboygan Trail Towns Master Plan ¹ (Page 26)	Implement the Public Amenities in the Cheboygan Trail Towns Master Plan (Page 26)
			Include pedestrian amenities such as seating or picnic tables for visiting boaters
Enhance connectivity between people and places on the project site	Enhance visibility and function of pedestrian crosswalks	Realize 2035: Cheboygan Master Plan ² (Page 50)	Apply for the Safe Streets and Roads for All (SS4A) Grant Program to fund high-visibility pavement marking and lighting ³
Improve and emphasize community assets by improving visual and physical accessibility	Add wayfinding signage which guides and connects pedestrians to natural sites		Display map of Water Street area on kiosks to direct residents and tourists toward the available amenities

¹ Land Information Access Association. (2016). *Cheboygan Trail Towns Master Plan*

² <https://www.cheboygan.org/wp-content/media/Cheboygan-Master-Plan.pdf>

³ <https://www.transportation.gov/grants/SS4A>

Goal #3: Visual Quality

To enhance the aesthetic value of the community's natural and built environment.

Design Considerations	Recommendations	Reference in Local Policy Guides	Action Steps
Improve street character by adding greenery, art, and amenities	Lead a public art campaign with local associations and artists		Engage local artists and residents to identify desirable locations for public art
	Improve building facades	Cheboygan DDA Design Guidelines ¹ (Page 6)	Encourage businesses to apply for the facade grant offered by the Cheboygan Main Street DDA
Utilize paving design, outdoor furnishings, and lighting to make a cohesive visual quality	Create cohesive visual quality using trees, native plants, and seating	Cheboygan DDA Design Guidelines ² (Page 2)	Organize crowdsourcing campaigns to cover costs
	Enhance visibility of pedestrian crossings		Utilize brick pavers or paint to create colored or patterned crosswalks
Propose new usage of the current underutilized spaces	Implement tactical urbanism practices that create short-term development solutions		Utilize yard games and seating in the waterfront area during warmer months to promote waterfront activity

¹ <https://www.cheboygan.org/wp-content/media/DDA-Design-Guidelines-.pdf>

² <https://www.cheboygan.org/wp-content/media/DDA-Design-Guidelines-.pdf>

Goal #4: Sustainability

To steward the natural environment in all aspects of the design process.

Design Considerations	Recommendations	Reference in Local Policy Guides	Action Steps
Recycle and reuse materials for unique streetscape amenities	Consider the use of reused pallets or wood for planter boxes or seating		Use recycled wood pallets for planter boxes and seating throughout the community
Use native plants to promote the local ecosystem	Plant flowers, trees, and shrubs native to Michigan specifically to ensure habitat diversity, resilience, and vitality	Cheboygan Zoning Ordinance ¹ (Page 10-14) Cheboygan DDA Design Guidelines ² (Page2)	Develop a list of native vegetation to incorporate in the area
			Apply for the DTE Energy Foundation Tree Planting Grant to increase the number of properly planted, established, and maintained trees ³
	Select plants which require less maintenance after plants are established		Identify low maintenance plants to incorporate in the area and/or can withstand all seasons

1 <https://www.cheboygan.org/wp-content/media/Zoning-Ordinance.pdf>

2 <https://www.cheboygan.org/wp-content/media/DDA-Design-Guidelines-.pdf>

3 <https://www.michigan.gov/dnr/buy-and-apply/grants/forestry/dte>

4 <https://www.releafmichigan.org/tree-planting-application.html>

Goal #4: Sustainability

To steward the natural environment in all aspects of the design process.

Design Considerations	Recommendations	Reference in Local Policy Guides	Action Steps
Utilize environmentally responsible design principles	Explore the use of sustainable pavement materials		Incorporate pervious pavement materials to reduce runoff into the Cheboygan River
			Update zoning ordinance to include standards for green infrastructure, such as pervious pavement
	Use ecologically responsible outdoor lighting, such as LEDs for energy efficiency that illuminate down to reduce undesirable light pollution	Cheboygan Zoning Ordinance ¹ (Page 10-19)	Consider adopting community outdoor lighting standards using the IDA/IES Model lighting ordinance
Manage stormwater to reduce negative impacts on the environment and community	Use rain gardens to collect excess rain runoff from buildings, streets, and parking lots		Identify areas that have excessive runoff and install rain gardens
			Apply for the Michigan Botanical Foundation Grant ²

¹ <https://www.cheboygan.org/wp-content/media/Zoning-Ordinance.pdf>

² <https://michiganbotanicalsociety.org/mbf-grant-guidelines>



Appendix

Appendix A: Meeting 1, Visioning Input Feedback

At Meeting One, residents provided input to develop a vision for the Cheboygan Waterfront Visioning Project. Participants were asked three questions to which they provided written responses. The table below shows participant responses to the question, **What are you proud about the downtown and immediate area?**

What are you proud about the downtown and immediate area?	Count
Businesses and restaurants	17
Live music/entertainment	8
Cleanliness	8
Waterfront/water access	6
Parks and recreation opportunities	6
Growth	6
Walkability	6
Improvements	5
Friendly	5
Revitalization	5
Farmers Market	4
Riverfront	4
Banners	4
Community-oriented	3
Natural environments	3
Welcoming atmosphere	3

What are you proud about the downtown and immediate area?	Count
Buildings filled	3
Vibrant	3
Safety	3
Footbridge	3
Festival Square	3
Washington Park	3
Aesthetics	2
Busy in the summer	2
Investments	2
Community support	2
Excitement	2
Authenticity	1
Colorful	1
Family environment	1
Lots of variety	1
Streetscape	1

Appendix A: Meeting 1, Visioning Input Feedback

What are you proud about the downtown and immediate area? Continued

What are you proud about the downtown and immediate area?	Count
Beauty	1
DDA purchasing property	1
Artwork	1
East side of river development	1
Open to new ideas	1
Michigan Main Street	1
Sustainability	1
Nighttime activities	1
Children's Trail	1
Tourism	1
Parades	1
Boat launch	1
Marina	1

Appendix A: Meeting 1, Visioning Input Feedback

At Meeting One, residents provided input to develop a vision for the Cheboygan Downtown Visioning Project. Participants were asked three questions to which they provided written responses. The table below shows participant responses to the question, **What are you sorry about for the downtown and immediate area?**

What are you sorry about for the downtown and immediate area?	Count
Lack of signage	9
Business hours	7
Pedestrian bridge	6
Entrance to downtown	6
Lack of hotels	5
Blight	5
Back view of buildings	5
More murals/art	4
Lack of connection to riverfront	4
Parking along riverfront	4
Worn out buildings	3
Restaurant variety	3
Bike paths/lanes	3
Water street	3
Lack of festivals	3
Highway	3

What are you sorry about for the downtown and immediate area?	Count
Opera House condition	3
Lack of ADA compliance	3
Seawall	3
Building on State Street/Main Street	3
Old bait store	3
Tissue plant	3
Underemphasized waterfront	2
Lack of access to water	2
Restaurants underutilizing waterfront	2
Lack of gathering/public spaces	2
More family friendly places	2
Lack of attractiveness along riverfront	2
Lighting	2
Boat traffic	2
Waterfront walking options	2
East side of river	2

Appendix A: Meeting 1, Visioning Input Feedback

What are you sorry about for the downtown and immediate area? Continued

What are you sorry about for the downtown and immediate area?	Count
Lack of maintenance	2
Lack of big vision	1
Failure of historical preservation	1
Lack of green space	1
Outside dining missing	1
More music	1
More nature parks/trails	1
Strict permitting	1
Over policing/restrictions	1
Slow development	1
Needs tidying up	1
Too much concrete	1
Unsustainable	1
Lack of public restrooms	1
Dilapidated businesses	1

What are you sorry about for the downtown and immediate area?	Count
Short on technology	1
Outdoor dining	1
Lack of advertising downtown businesses	1
Underutilization	1
Evening/weekend traffic	1
Placemaking	1
Lack of communication	1
Pulling town together	1
Empty storefronts	1
RV parking	1
Residents not participating	1
Bland	1

Appendix A: Meeting 1, Visioning Input Feedback

At Meeting One, residents provided input to develop a vision for the Cheboygan Downtown Visioning Project. Participants were asked three questions to which they provided written responses. The table below shows participant responses to the question, **What would you like to see as you float over the downtown 15 years from now in a hot air balloon?**

What would you like to see as you float over the downtown 15 years from now in a hot air balloon?	Count
Housing/apartments	8
Foot/bike paths	6
Boat traffic	6
Green space	5
Connectivity with downtown/parks/river	5
People interacting	5
Boardwalk	4
Boat docking	4
Bike lanes	4
Hotels/lodging/convention space	4
Boat rides	3
Development of Lund Property	3
Tourists	3
Development on East Side of River	3
Foot traffic along river and downtown	3

What would you like to see as you float over the downtown 15 years from now in a hot air balloon?	Count
Gateways to City	3
Trolley	3
Outdoor/riverfront eating	3
Well maintained	2
Pristine parks	2
Rooftop utilization	2
Lots of sidewalks	2
More food options	2
Kayaking/paddle boats	2
Activity along water	2
People hanging out downtown	2
Vibrant	2
Businesses open later	2
More younger people	2
Development of riverfront	2

Appendix A: Meeting 1, Visioning Input Feedback

What would you like to see as you float over the downtown 15 years from now in a hot air balloon? Continued

What would you like to see as you float over the downtown 15 years from now in a hot air balloon?	Count
Elevated monorail/public transportation	2
No tissue plant	2
Art	2
Busy restaurants and businesses	1
City beach revitalization	1
More river usage	1
Murals you can see from above (roofs/streets)	1
Green roofs	1
Dinner cruise	1
Clean streets	1
Clean buildings	1
More jobs	1
Walkable	1
Public access	1
Welcoming	1

What would you like to see as you float over the downtown 15 years from now in a hot air balloon?	Count
More trees	1
Fishing	1
Dog park	1
Roller skating	1
Flowers	1
String lights	1
Putt-putt	1
Camping options	1
Bait shop	1
Beer	1
Cable bridge	1
Slower drivers	1
Mixed housing	1
Parking	1
Less parking	1

Appendix A: Meeting 1, Visioning Input Feedback

What would you like to see as you float over the downtown 15 years from now in a hot air balloon? Continued

What would you like to see as you float over the downtown 15 years from now in a hot air balloon?	Count
Year-round businesses	1
Density	1
Multi-modal	1
More useable space	1
Pedestrian pathway loop	1
Green bait shop torn down	1
Pop-up spots	1
Building on State Street/Main Street developed	1
Historical preservation	1
Empty buildings filled	1
Condos near river	1
Parking ramp	1
Development of Water Street	1
Boater incentives	1
More businesses	1

What would you like to see as you float over the downtown 15 years from now in a hot air balloon?	Count
Restuarant access	1
Building cranes	1
Lively	1
Parkways	1

Appendix B: Meeting Two Design Input Full Feedback

At meeting two, participants were asked to write a response on a note card to the question “Imagine a vibrant street you have visited. Please describe in one word or phrase, what made that place unique?” After the presentation and public commenting, participants were asked to write their answer on a notecard to the question; “Please describe in one word or phrase something that you saw today that creates a sense of place in the Cheboygan Waterfront Area.” Below are the full response counts.

Imagine a vibrant street you have visited. Please describe in one word or phrase, what made that place unique?

Response	Count
Lights	3
Outdoor seating	2
Color	2
Trees	2
Friendly	1
People interacting with businesses outside as well as inside	1
Outdoor entertainment	1
Walkable	1
Mural	1
Art	1
Plants	1
Flowers	1

Response	Count
Inviting	1
Live music	1
Energy	1
No commercial billboards	1
Families	1
Love	1
Sammons Street	1
Historic	1
Many well kept houses + yards	1

Appendix B: Meeting Two Design Input Full Feedback

Please describe in one word or phrase something that you saw today that creates a sense of place in the Cheboygan Waterfront Area.

Response	Count
Colored crosswalks	4
Planting	4
Relaxing	2
Inviting	2
Multi-season use	2
Splash pad	2
Welcome to Cheboygan!	1
Connectivity	1
Environmentally aware	1
“Put together”	1
Lighting	1
Community space	1
Consistent with Northern Michigan	1

Response	Count
Less parking	1
Spaces with seating	1
Nature aspects	1
Color	1
Friendly	1
Unified design	1
Eco-friendly	1

Appendix B: Meeting Two Design Input Full Feedback

At Meeting Two, during a design input activity, participants used feedback sheets to answer three questions; “What do you like about the designs presented today?”, “What improvements/additions would you like to see regarding the designs presented today?”, and “Are there any other comments you would like to share?”.

Q1: What do you like about the designs presented today?	Count
Colored crosswalks	9
Rain garden	5
Multi-season use for areas	5
Lighting going down, not up	4
Native planting	4
Adding art	3
Planters with seating	3
Curb expansion	3
Getting rid of large concrete parking	2
Path that leads from Main Street to waterfront	2
Seating	2
Splash pad	2
Green by river	2
Lighted walkway along the river	2
More benches	1
Addition of color	1

Q1: What do you like about the designs presented today?	Count
Promoting walking	1
Family oriented	1
They are all doable and that’s good	1
Had expected much more dramatic ideas	1
Kiosks	1
Smaller parking lot	1
Crosswalk in parking lot is a good idea	1
Sustainable projects	1
Decorative lighting	1
Gave a wide range of ideas regarding cost	1
All the designs were appealing	1
Loved the waterfront ideas	1

Appendix B: Meeting Two Design Input Full Feedback

Continued

Q2: What improvements/additions would you like to see regarding the designs presented today?	Count
Connection to backside businesses	2
Professional art	1
Benches	1
Seating	1
Gathering space	1
Looking for consistent style	1
Must look good and be functional	1
Main Street parking	1
Splash pad/ice rink	1
Colored crosswalks	1
Plantings	1

Appendix B: Meeting Two Design Input Full Feedback

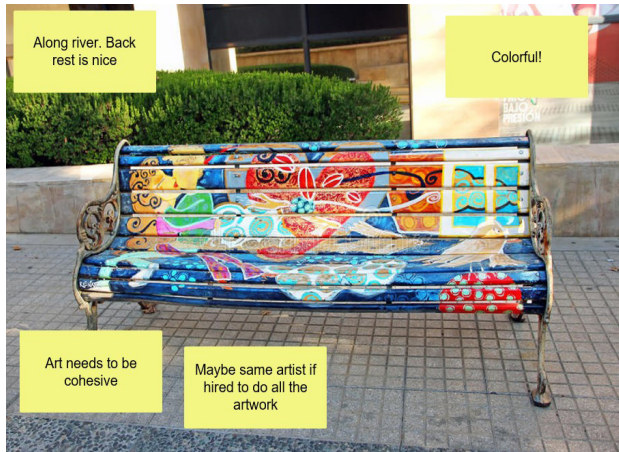
Continued

Q3: Are there any other comments you would like to share?	Count
Employees to maintain green spaces + garden?	2
Think hard about our weather (wind and snow)	1
Love the splashpad idea - is it attainable?	1
Who maintains bathroom + shower?	1
Art would be great if cohesive - hard if not professional	1
Love sculptures if they work for our area	1
Multi-season use would really help the local economy in the winter	1
Grass grid parking - does it get mowed?	1
I like all of the native plantings	1
I liked the pocket park idea	1
Liked the splash pad seating area	1
All beautiful ideas but require maintenance and currently we don't have manpower	1
Colorful art (benches) along the river	1
Backrest with benches	1

Appendix B: Meeting 2, Character Image Feedback

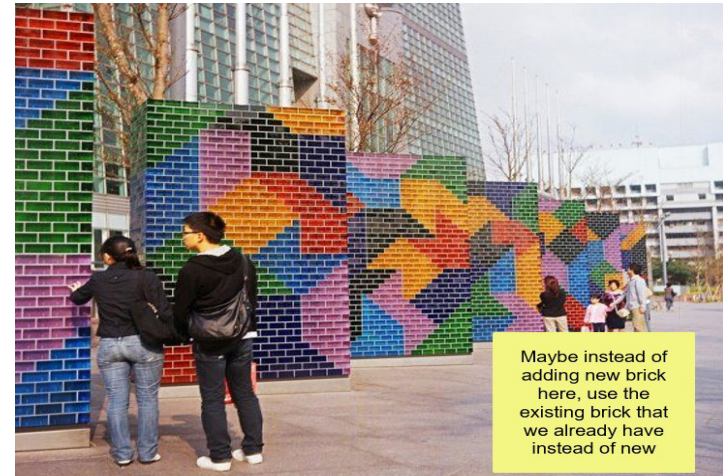
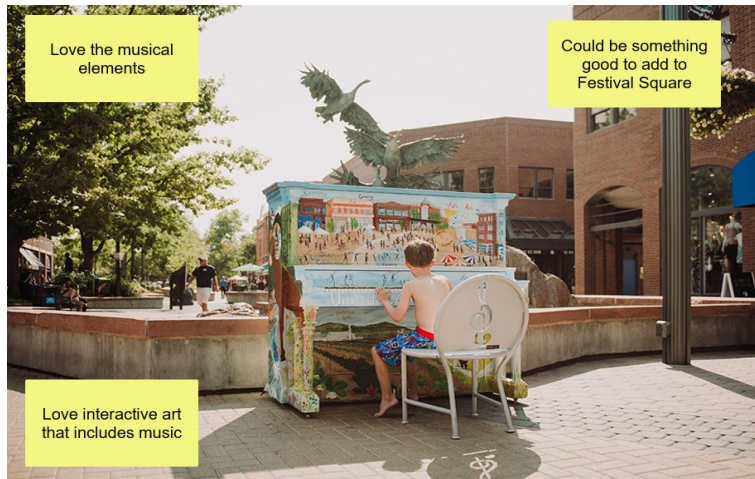
At Meeting Two, residents provided input to develop a vision for the Cheboygan Waterfront Area. Participants were asked to provide feedback on the character images. These character images included design elements that would enhance streetscape amenities, crosswalks and intersections, pop-up space/tactical urbanism, and waterfronts. Participants wrote comments on sticky notes and placed them directly onto the image. Below are the participants' comments on each image presented.

Streetscape Amenities



Appendix B: Meeting 2, Character Image Feedback

Streetscape Amenities Continued



Appendix B: Meeting 2, Character Image Feedback

Streetscape Amenities Continued



Rain gardens yes!!

More plants, green trees for cooling effect

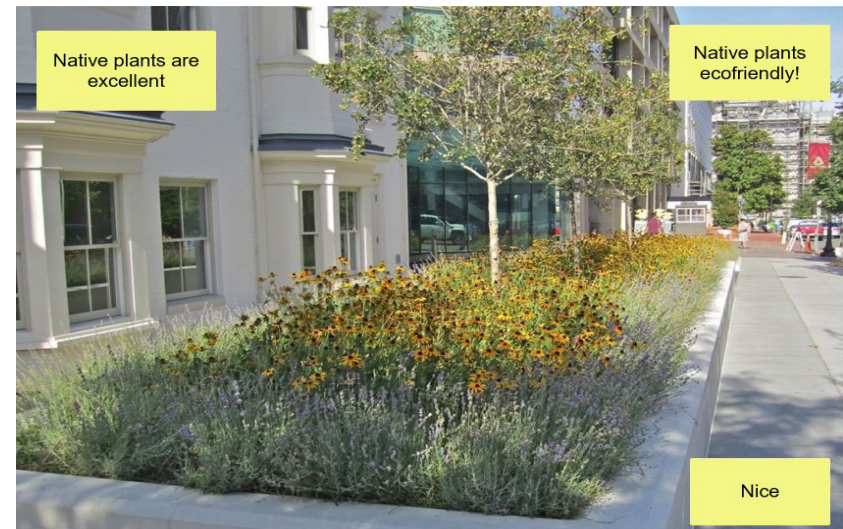
Protect our waterways



Love all the green spaces/place

Easy to add around the whole city

Upkeep?



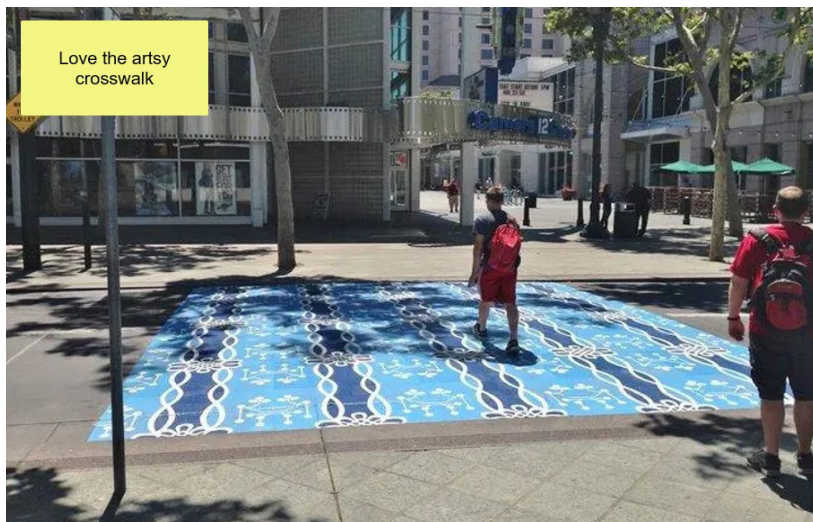
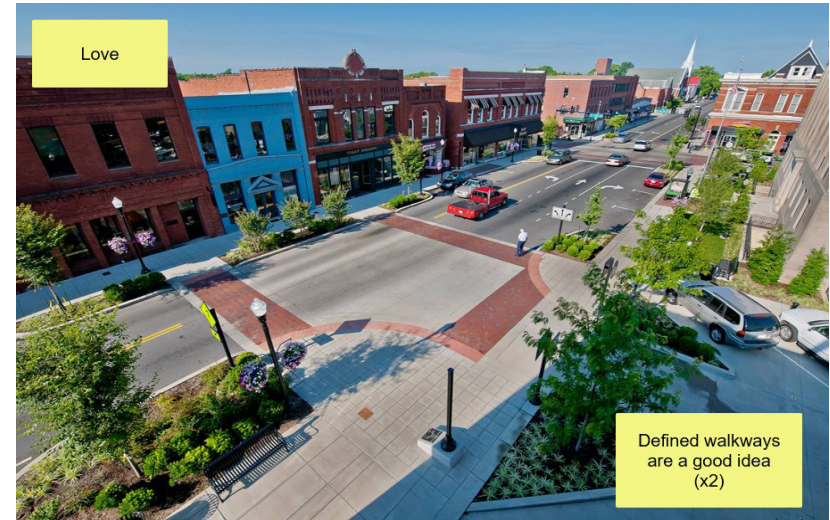
Native plants are excellent

Native plants ecofriendly!

Nice

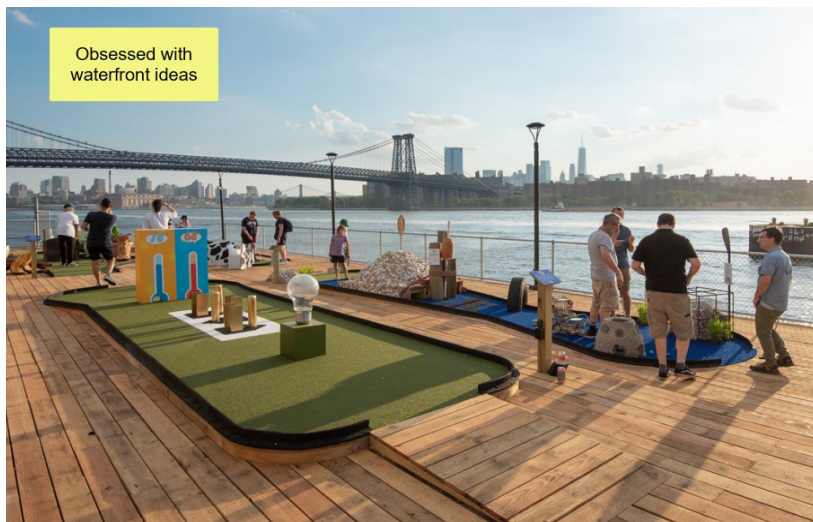
Appendix B: Meeting 2, Character Image Feedback

Crosswalks and Intersections



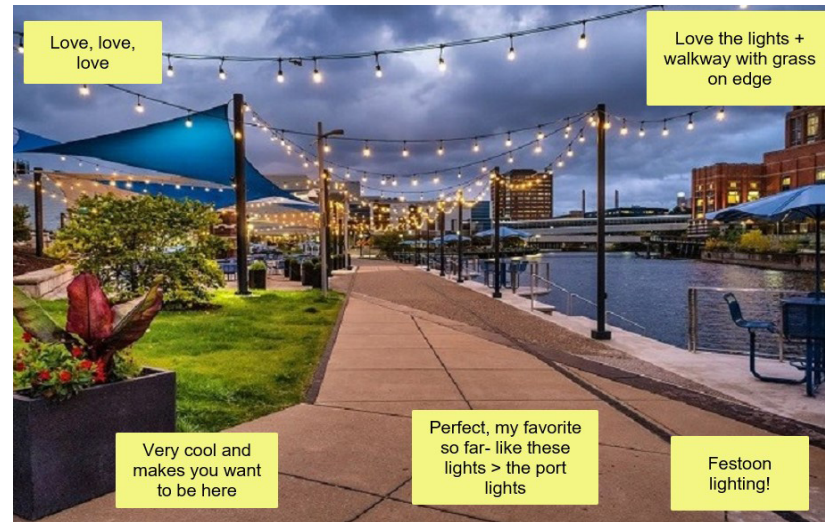
Appendix B: Meeting 2, Character Image Feedback

Pop-Up Space/Tactical Urbansim



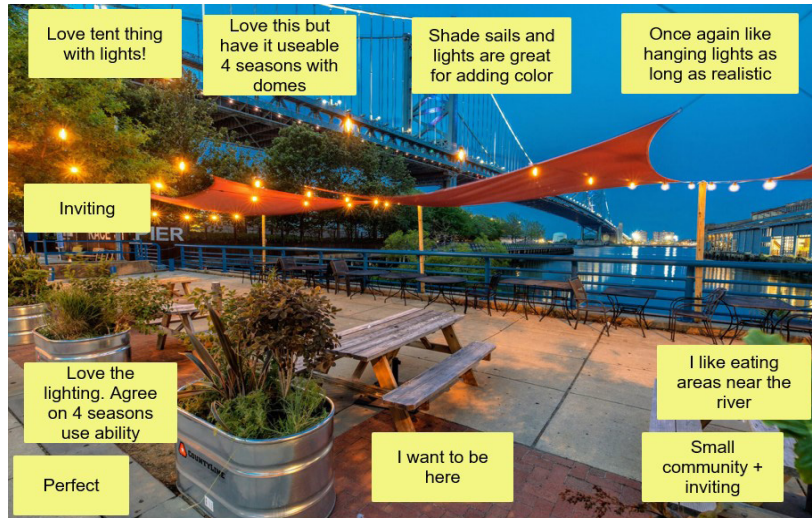
Appendix B: Meeting 2, Character Image Feedback

Waterfronts



Appendix B: Meeting 2, Character Image Feedback

Waterfronts Continued



Appendix B: Meeting 2, Design Image Feedback

At Meeting Two, community members responded to the design images displayed around the room. Participants provided their feedback by placing sticky notes on the design images. This input helped the MSU team to focus on the preferences of the Cheboygan Waterfront Area from residents' vision for their community. The following pages display all comments from participants on the design images presented.



Appendix B: Meeting 2, Design Image Feedback

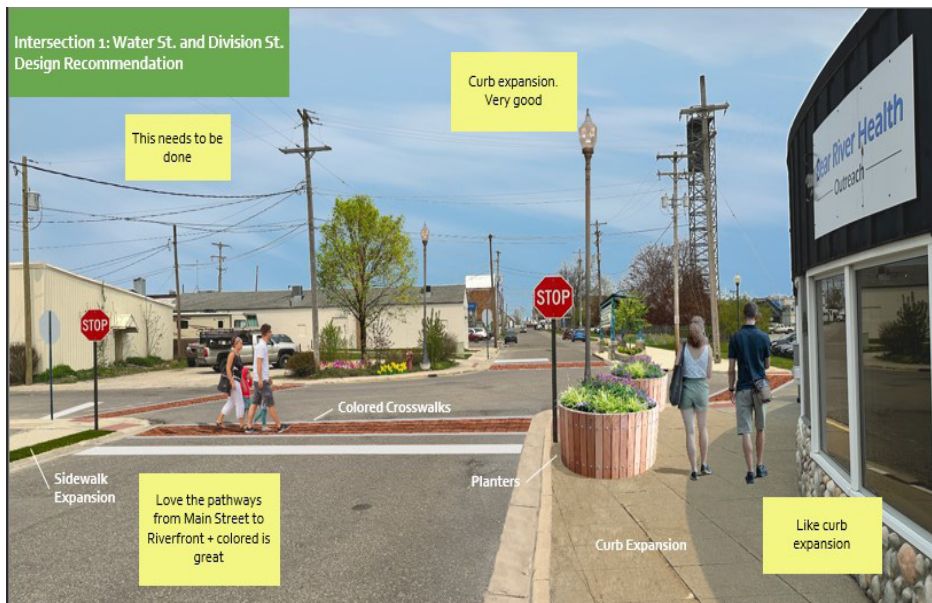
Streetscape 3: Water St. Between Elm St. and Division St.
Design Recommendation



Streetscape 4: Elm St. at Water Street
Design Recommendation



Intersection 1: Water St. and Division St.
Design Recommendation



Intersection 2: Main St. and Division St.
Design Recommendation



Appendix B: Meeting 2, Design Image Feedback



Appendix C: Meeting 3, Final Recommendations Feedback

During Meeting 3, participants were asked, which image would you most like to see implemented for each theme? Participants ranked the images from highest priority to lowest priority, with 1 being the highest priority, and the higher number being the lower priority (e.g., 1-2, 1-4). There were 12 individuals who participated in the exercise. The results below show the average score for each image with the lower score indicating higher priority. Overall, Placemaking 2 received an average score of 1.08, making it the highest preferred image, followed by Intersection 1 with a score of 1.15. Streetscape 4 had the highest score of 3.46, representing the least important priority.

Streetscape 1



Streetscape 2



Streetscape 4



Streetscape 3



Appendix C: Meeting 3, Final Recommendations Feedback

Intersection 1



Intersection 2



Placemaking 1



Placemaking 2



Appendix C: Meeting 3, Final Recommendations Feedback

At Meeting 3, participants were asked to rank the planning recommendations for each planning goal. The table below shows the complete rankings identified by participants.

Planning Goal #1: Placemaking		
	Recommendation	Score
Recommendation 1	Utilize riverfront area with a boardwalk, seating, and gathering spaces along the waterfront	1.0
Recommendation 2	Promote public art or unique art installations that reflect the community character	3.45
Recommendation 3	Enhance the appearance and connectivity of parks by adding seating, shelter, games, and showing movies in the park	3.0
Recommendation 4	Add signage and enhance landscaping which distinguishes the main areas of activity (e.g., Main Street, Waterfront, Washington Park, Festival Square)	3.09
Recommendation 5	Establish goals and objectives that create a sense of place in the Master Plan	4.45

Planning Goal #2: Streetscape		
	Recommendation	Score
Recommendation 1	Design a streetscape with pedestrian amenities including bike racks, drinking fountains, benches, etc. to attract and anchor a variety of visitors	1.67
Recommendation 2	Enhance visibility and functions of pedestrian crosswalks	1.67
Recommendation 3	Add wayfinding signage which guides and connects pedestrians to natural sites	2.67

Appendix C: Meeting 3, Final Recommendations Feedback

Planning Goal #3: Visual Quality		
	Recommendation	Score
Recommendation 1	Lead a public art campaign with local associations and artists	3.82
Recommendation 2	Improve building facades	2.91
Recommendation 3	Create cohesive visual quality, using trees, native plants, and seating	1.36
Recommendation 4	Enhance visibility of pedestrian crossings	3.09
Recommendation 5	Implement tactical urbanism practices that create short-term development solutions	3.91

Planning Goal #4: Sustainability		
	Recommendation	Score
Recommendation 1	Consider the use of reused pallets or wood for planter boxes or seating	5.82
Recommendation 2	Plant flowers, trees, and shrubs native to Michigan specifically to ensure habitat diversity, resilience, and vitality	1.82
Recommendation 3	Select plants which require less maintenance after plants are established	3.09
Recommendation 4	Explore the use of sustainable pavement materials	4.36
Recommendation 5	Use ecologically responsible outdoor lighting, such as LEDs for energy efficiency that illuminate down to reduce undesirable light pollution	3.09
Recommendation 6	Use rain gardens to collect excess rain runoff from buildings, streets, and parking lots	2.73