CONNECTIONS

BUSINESS    AGRICULTURE
EDUCATION    CITIZENS
SUSTAINABILITY    DIVERSITY
INGENUITY

A RURAL CITY OF THE 21ST CENTURY

MORRIS

1. Connections

Minnesota Design Team

Morris, MN

October 2005
1. What did the old elementary school site mean to you?
   - stylish historic building
   - nothing
   - good memories

2. What does the old...?
   - a fabulous opportunity (econ, social, rec. development)

3. What will the old...?
   - a central place
   - promise
   - recreation

2. Is Morris a town with college or a college town?
   - town with a college
   - a blend: small town with a big asset

3. What would make Morris a hip, 21st Century Town?
   - a vibrant mainstreet
   - dynamic leadership & a relationship between town & UMM
   - planning, revenue, labor, shared vision, sustainability, accept change

4. What is the Economic Center of Morris?
   - UMM

4. What is the Heart of Morris?
   - no physical center
   - people

Communicate

Morris, MN
October 2005
A SUSTAINABLE AG ECONOMY

- Adds value to crops
- Generates renewable energy
- Creates good jobs
- Lowers costs
- Keeps money local

3. Regional Hub

Minnesota Design Team

Morris, MN
October 2005
Features/Benefits of Proposed Commercial

- Mirror commercial development across Hwy #28
- Create a green buffer
- Place some parking to the sides of buildings
- Efficiency of connected retail

4. Minnesota Design Team

Gateways

Morris, MN
October 2005
Reactive Planning
Sprawling Residential Growth

Uncontrolled Development
Consumes Land

Infrastructure Expense
is unaffordable
Green Space is forgotten.

Issues Arise
Health Pollution
Traffic

Proactive Planning
Smart Residential Growth

Preserves Green Space,
Saves tax dollars, Services
are provided more efficiently.

Encourages visually
Pleasing development that is
Sustainable Population
Stabilizing and Compatible.

Morris prospers with
an economically and socially
Conducive built
Environment that
Nurtures family life
and generates
central business.

MORRIS
A BLANK CANVAS

5.
Minnesota Design Team

CREATIVE PLANNING

Morris, MN
October 2005
USE SHELTER BELTS TO CREATE ENTRY NODES

USE MARKERS TO UNIFY EXISTING PARKS/TRAILS

LOOK OUTWARD

6. Minnesota Design Team

Morris, MN
October 2005
CONNECT YOUTH WITH COMMUNITY

Morris, MN
October 2005
Where Am I?

Minnesota Design Team

Morris, MN
October 2005
IMPROVED INTERSECTIONS

DOWNTOWN ZONE

NEW CIVIC SPACE

NEW CIVIC SPACE

VEHICLES

VEHICLES

HISTORIC MUSEUM

CITY PARK

CITY HALL

POST OFFICE

SENIOR CENTER

LIBRARY

MARKER (MPL)

1 inch equals 200 feet

Blend City and University

Morris, MN

October 2005
- Calm traffic w/ bumpouts
- Monuments demarcate civic corridor
- Decorative crosswalks
- Plantings draw focus

- Mixed public uses: parking, farmer's market, street dance, flea market
- Stormwater management
- Green pedestrian corridor

More Community Spaces

Morris, MN
October 2005
- One Monument type for Civic Corridor; echo elements in other markers
- Incorporate UMM logo towards campus
- Incorporate public art & plantings
- Add interest at pedestrian scale; changeable
Opportunities

- Creating Main Street Entries.
- Connecting to Civic & Cultural Institutions.
- Enhance Image of Main Street Businesses.
- Hierarchy of Intersections to Identify Center of Main Street.
- Replace Street Trees with Planters & Benches.
  
  Connect to New Civic Center.

Constraints

- Screening of Industrial Uses at North End of Main Street.
- Spread out Suburban Look of Businesses at South End.
- Continued Use of Railroad Spur Just North of Tenth Street.

12. Minnesota Design Team

Vibrant Main Street

Morris, MN
October 2005
Character
Pedestrian Friendly
Green Parking
Decorated Entry

More Character

Minnesota Design Team

Morris, MN
October 2005
* Maintain Historic Architecture
* Define Entry

Main Street Streetscape

More Charm

Minneapolis Design Team

Morris, MN
October 2005
**Design Guidelines**

**Boundaries & Entrances**
- Awnings used to define entrances
- Provide small gathering spaces

**Public Amenities**
- Provide benches for pedestrians
- Provide trash receptacles

**Parking / Circulation**
- Explore angled parking
- Provide customer parking in rear

**Lighting**
- Provide pedestrian scale lighting
- Avoid daylighting & flood lighting

**Signage**
- Avoid billboards & large signs

**Landscaping**
- Concentrate trees at corners
- Replace current trees with planters & benches

**Historic Preservation**
- Uncover and restore architectural features
- Retain & maintain historic architecture

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**Aesthetic Downtown**

15.

Minnesota Design Team

Morris, MN
October 2005
- 5001 Population
- Existing Infrastructure
- Adaptive Reuse
- Sustainable Development
- University Connection

- 21st Century Hip Small City Development

16. Fabulous Opportunities

Morris, MN
October 2005
- senior housing connected to University environment.
- barrier free design
- sustainable design

Bring Residents and Students Together

Morris, MN
October 2005
FROM "NOTHING" TO "SOMETHING UNIQUE"
**First Year**

- Join Morristown Design Committee.
- Place/Move Public Markers.
- Add Planters On Atlantic.
- Provide New Awnings & Paint To Businesses.
- Find Hangouts For Teenagers.

**1-3 Years**

- Sidewalk Improvements On 6th.
- Re-Develop Internal Block Near City Center Mall.
- Phase I Of Housing.
- Provide Boardwalk On West Marches.

**3-10 Years**

- Complete All Trail Connections.
- Continue Growth Without Expansion.
- Phase II And III Of Old Elementary School Site.
- Complete Design Standards.