



**PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT**

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April 1, 2015

North Dakota Industrial Commission  
ATTN: Outdoor Heritage Fund Program  
State Capital, 14<sup>th</sup> Floor  
600 E Boulevard Avenue, Dept. 405  
Bismarck, ND 58505

RE: Outdoor Heritage Fund Application for The Fargo Project: World Garden Commons

Dear Outdoor Heritage Fund Advisory Board;

Please find with the email correspondence, an application for the second grant round cycle for the Outdoor Heritage Fund Grant. We are excited to present for your consideration, a dynamic project that involves the conversion of an existing 18 acre stormwater basin, located at Rabanus Park in Fargo, into a multi-purpose outdoor place, known as World Garden Commons.

This project initiated in 2010 and through grant contributions from national art organizations, city dollars and the hard work of many volunteers, we have entered the next phase of this project. This upcoming phase entails demolition of the existing concrete infrastructure and pond and restoring the basin with natural plantings, walking trails, and interactive art elements.

The proposed art elements were awarded an implementation grant in 2014 from Artplace America for installation in 2015. The request for the Outdoor Heritage Funds is to help provide the natural vegetation background and recreational opportunities as a backdrop to the art elements. As part of the basin restoration, there are many new stormwater practices to apply as we work with area experts on the restoration of a wet meadow regime. We believe through this project, we will demonstrate stormwater practices that are adaptable to many other sites and location throughout the region.

Attached with this application is a brochure of the entire project, known as The Fargo Project. World Garden Commons is the site of the pilot project for The Fargo Project. We look forward to providing more information as part of the 10 minute presentation.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Nicole Crutchfield".

Nicole Crutchfield, ASLA, AICP  
Planning Administrator



**The Fargo Project: World Garden Commons**  
**April 1, 2015**



## Outdoor Heritage Fund Grant Application

The purpose of the North Dakota Outdoor Heritage Fund is to provide funding to state agencies, tribal governments, political subdivisions, and nonprofit organizations to:



**Directive A.** Provide access to private and public lands for sportsmen, including projects that create fish and wildlife habitat and provide access for sportsmen;

**Directive B.** Improve, maintain, and restore water quality, soil conditions, plant diversity, animal systems and to support other practices of stewardship to enhance farming and ranching;

**Directive C.** Develop, enhance, conserve, and restore wildlife and fish habitat on private and public lands; and

**Directive D.** Conserve natural areas for recreation through the establishment and development of parks and other recreation areas.

### Exemptions

Outdoor Heritage Fund grants may not be used to finance the following:

- A. Litigation;
- B. Lobbying activities;
- C. Any activity that would interfere, disrupt, or prevent activities associated with surface coal mining operations; sand, gravel, or scoria extraction activities; oil and gas operations; or other energy facility or infrastructure development;
- D. The acquisition of land or to encumber any land for a term longer than twenty years; or
- E. Projects outside this state or projects that are beyond the scope of defined activities that fulfill the purposes of Chapter 54-17.8 of the North Dakota Century Code

### NO CONSIDERATION:

In addition to those specific items in law that are ineligible for funding, in the absence of exceptional circumstances, the following projects will NOT receive consideration for funding:

- Projects that are already completed;
- Projects that are on-going (Phased projects would be considered);
- Staffing;
- Feasibility studies;
- Annual maintenance;
- Paving projects for roads and parking lots;
- Swimming pools;
- Non-permanent equipment (such as tractors, snowmobiles);
- Research;
- Projects where the applicant is not directly involved in the project.

### Application Deadline

Applications for the second grant round cycle are due on **April 1, 2015 at 5:00 p.m. CT.** All information, including attachments, must be submitted by that date. See instructions below for submission information.

**Instructions**

Please download this Word document (available on the Industrial Commission/Outdoor Heritage Fund Program website at <http://www.nd.gov/ndic/outdoor-infopage.htm> ) to your computer and provide the information as requested. You are not limited to the spacing provided except in those instances where there is a limit on the number of words. After completing the application, save it and attach it to an e-mail and send it to [outdoorheritage@nd.gov](mailto:outdoorheritage@nd.gov) or print it and mail it to the address noted in the next paragraph.

Attachments in support of your application may be sent by mail to North Dakota Industrial Commission, ATTN: Outdoor Heritage Fund Program, State Capitol – Fourteenth Floor, 600 East Boulevard Ave. Dept. 405, Bismarck, ND 58505 or by e-mail to [outdoorheritage@nd.gov](mailto:outdoorheritage@nd.gov). The application and all attachments must be received or postmarked by the application deadline. You will be sent a confirmation by e-mail of receipt of your application.

You may submit your application at any time prior to the application deadline. Early submission is appreciated and encouraged to allow adequate time to review your application and ensure that all required information has been included. Incomplete applications may not be considered for funding. **Any item noted with an \* is required.**

**Oral Presentation.** Please note that you will be given an opportunity to make a ten-minute Oral Presentation at a meeting of the Outdoor Heritage Fund Advisory Board. These presentations are strongly encouraged.

**Open Record.** Please note that your application and any attachments will be open records as defined by law and will be posted on the Industrial Commission/Outdoor Heritage Fund website.

Name of Organization \*  
City of Fargo

Federal Tax ID# \*  
45-6002069

Contact Person/Title \*  
Nicole Crutchfield, Planning Administrator

Address \*  
200 3<sup>rd</sup> Street North

City \*  
Fargo

State \*  
North Dakota

Zip Code \*  
58102

E-mail Address \*  
[ncrutchfield@cityoffargo.com](mailto:ncrutchfield@cityoffargo.com)

Web Site Address (Optional)  
www.thefargoproject.com

Phone \*  
(701) 297-7782

Fax # (if available)  
(701) 241-1526

List names of co-applicants if this is a joint proposal  
The Fargo Park District

**MAJOR Directive: (select the Directive that best describes your grant request)\***  
Choose only one response

- Directive A.** Provide access to private and public lands for sportsmen, including projects that create fish and wildlife habitat and provide access for sportsmen;
- Directive B.** Improve, maintain, and restore water quality, soil conditions, plant diversity, animal systems and to support other practices of stewardship to enhance farming and ranching;
- Directive C.** Develop, enhance, conserve, and restore wildlife and fish habitat on private and public lands; and
- Directive D.** Conserve natural areas for recreation through the establishment and development of parks and other recreation areas.

**Additional Directive: (select the directives that also apply to the grant application purpose)\***  
Choose all that apply

- Directive A.** Provide access to private and public lands for sportsmen, including projects that create fish and wildlife habitat and provide access for sportsmen;
- Directive B.** Improve, maintain, and restore water quality, soil conditions, plant diversity, animal systems and to support other practices of stewardship to enhance farming and ranching;
- Directive C.** Develop, enhance, conserve, and restore wildlife and fish habitat on private and public lands; and
- Directive D.** Conserve natural areas for recreation through the establishment and development of parks and other recreation areas.

**Type of organization: (select the category that describes your organization)\***

- State Agency
- Political Subdivision
- Tribal Entity
- Tax-exempt, nonprofit corporation.

**Project Name\***

**The Fargo Project: World Garden Commons**

**Abstract/Executive Summary. An Executive Summary of the project stating its objectives, expected results, duration, total project costs and participants.\* (no more than 500 words)**

We are requesting \$350,000 in funding through the Outdoor Heritage Fund for the World Garden Commons (WGC), a pilot of The Fargo Project. The WGC, is a City-sponsored initiative engaging diverse communities in the transformation of an 18-acre stormwater detention basin into a public commons that will restore wildlife habitat as well as provide new opportunities for outdoor recreation. The project directly develops, enhances, and restores wildlife habitat on public lands and will continue to conserve the habitat through adaptive management. The quality of water will be improved by returning the site to a more natural state where prairie plants filter pollutants and sediments. WGC will serve as a regional attraction by providing a desirable natural area as a unique outdoor gathering space. The site will provide social and cultural amenities, bringing together community residents and visitors.

The Fargo Project began in 2010 as a new approach to design and maintain city infrastructure. Stormwater basins throughout the city are large excavations that temporarily detain stormwater to reduce flooding, but due to their large size, they can interrupt connectivity and reduce the natural amenities in neighborhoods. As part of a federal grant by the National Endowment for the Arts, the city engaged environmental artist Jackie Brookner (internationally renowned for her water remediation/public art projects). Through extensive community outreach, we developed a plan to retrofit an existing basin at Rabanus Park to reshape local stormwater practices. The resulting plan is WGC. WGC, represents the community's desire to remove the existing low flow concrete channel and transform the basin into 18 acres of prairie, wildflower, and wet meadows with environmental learning labs, walking trails, gathering places for celebrations and cultural festivals, nature observation areas, a natural playground, and a community garden with a solar greenhouse.

The WGC will serve as a pilot project that will demonstrate the larger vision of The Fargo Project, which is to find new ways to better integrate our City with the natural habitats of North Dakota. The findings from WGC will be used to retrofit other neighborhoods and ponds throughout the City.

The Fargo Project and WGC has significant community buy-in and there are several partners and stakeholders that include: multiple departments at the City of Fargo, Fargo Park District, Plains Art Museum, River Keepers, Friends of the Watershed and Soils, FM Area Foundation,

Lutheran Social Services, NDSU, Growing Together, Fargo Cass Public Health and private businesses.

The City is starting Phase 2 of the WGC project in spring of 2015. Phase 2 has an estimated cost of \$930,000, and we are seeking \$350,000 (38 percent) from the Outdoor Heritage Fund. City matching funds and other donations will cover the remaining \$580,000 (62 percent) of estimated project costs. The Outdoor Heritage Funds will be applied to the removal of the existing concrete channel and to vegetation and earthwork to set the natural backdrop.



*Project Concept for World Garden Commons developed by community members and project team.*

### **Project Duration:\***

Planning and design for this project began in 2010. A summary of the project timeline to date is presented below:

- 2010-2012: Site selection, community outreach and site development plans
- 2011: NEA Our Town Award recipient
- 2012-2014: Coordination with project partners and development of project elements (Overlook, Community Gardens, Natural Play, Amphitheatre, water features, and ecological restoration), Stakeholder coordination and community partner development.
- 2014: Artplace Foundation Community Innovation Award recipient
- 2015: Construction of Phase 2, including demolition, earth work, erosion control, temporary vegetation (for disturbance control), and prairie and native vegetation maintenance and establishment.

**Amount of Grant request \$ \***  
\$350,000.00

**Total Project Costs \$\***

(Note that in-kind and indirect costs can be used for matching funds)

The 2015 construction phase (Phase 2) is estimated to cost \$930,000. The City has budgeted \$350,000, Artplace America Foundation has awarded \$200,000 (\$450,000 total), In Kind and Local Foundations have given \$30,000. The City is seeking an additional \$350,000 from the Outdoor Heritage Funds.

**The allocation of funds is categorized between the following phases:**

**Phase 1** (January 2011-December 2014): \$225,000 (*completed*)

- Social Engagement
- Design Development
- Community programs
- 

**Phase 2** (January 2015-December 2015): \$930,000

- Soil, Plants, and Water Evaluation
- Key Features and Implementation of World Garden Commons
  - Ecological Restoration\*
    - Concrete Channel Removal
    - Complete Earth Moving
    - Seeding
    - Plantings
    - Vegetation Establishment
  - Boardwalk
  - Overlook
  - Listening Garden
  - Natural Play

**Phase 3** (January 2016-December 2016): \$672,000

- Community Implementation and Monitoring
  - Welcome Garden
  - Adaptive Management Plan
  - Citizen Environmental Lab
  - Amphitheatre
  - Full Programming Rollout
  - Final Stages of water inlet retrofits

\*WGC is currently in phase 2. We are seeking Outdoor Heritage Funds for the Ecological Restoration items, the Boardwalk, and a portion of the Overlook of Phase 2, as listed above. Other items are funded through a grant received by Artplace America and City dollars.

The following table breaks down funds allocated to the project:

	Phase 1	Phase 2	Phase 3	Total
In Kind	\$5,000	\$20,000	\$50,000	\$75,000
Local Foundation	\$10,000	\$10,000	\$10,000	\$30,000
Local Agency Partnership	-	-	\$30,000	\$30,000
Other Grant	\$100,000 (NEA)	\$200,000 (ArtPlace) (of \$450,000)	\$250,000 (ArtPlace) (of \$450,000)	\$550,000
Outdoor Heritage Funds	-	\$350,000	-	\$350,000
City Funds	\$110,000	\$350,000	\$332,000	\$792,000
	\$225,000	\$930,000	\$672,000	1,827,000

**A minimum of 25% Match Funding is strongly encouraged.** Amount of Matching Funds  
Please indicate if the matching funds will be in-kind, indirect or cash.

Matching funds of \$ 350,000 (100%) are cash.

**Source(s) of Matching Funds\***

Please provide verification that these matching funds are available for your project.

The matching city funds of \$350,000 have been approved by the City Commission and are available for 2015.

**Certifications \***

I certify that this application has been made with the support of the governing body and chief executive of my organization.

I certify that if awarded grant funding none of the funding will be used for any of the exemptions noted on Page 1 of this application.

**Narrative**

**Organization Information – Briefly summarize your organization’s history, mission, current programs and activities. \***

Include an overview of your organizational structure, including board, staff and volunteer involvement. (no more than 300 words)

The Fargo Project is currently housed under the City of Fargo’s Planning and Development Department. The project is primarily managed by Nicole Crutchfield, Planning Administrator and Maegin Rude, Assistant Planner, with additional support from April Walker, City Engineer, Dan Mahli, Community Development Administrator, and Jackie Brookner, Lead Artist. In 2014, the City hired a project manager, Land Elements, a Fargo based landscape architecture firm to assist in coordination of construction documentation and plan development.

Volunteers from the Fargo Park District, Plains Art Museum, River Keepers, Friends of the Watershed and Soils, FM Area Foundation, Lutheran Social Services, NDSU, Growing Together, and Fargo Cass Public Health are all called upon at various times to contribute to the project as needed. Oversight and budget approval is provided by the Fargo City Commission with Commissioner Melissa Sobolik as department liaison.

This project is closely coordinated across multiple city departments for policy development and infrastructure planning on other properties for storm water management, maintenance, and recreation.

**Purpose of Grant – Describe the proposed project identifying how the project will meet the specific directive(s) of the Outdoor Heritage Fund Program \***

Identify project goals, strategies and benefits and your timetable for implementation. Include information about the need for the project and whether there is urgency for funding. Please indicate if this is a new project or if it is replacing funding that is no longer available to your organization. Identify any innovative features or processes of your project.

**Goals:**

We request support to advance The Fargo Project: WGC into construction phases. Funds will support establishment and maintenance of the native vegetation and returning the water to a more natural system, benefiting water quality in the process. Since this is establishing native vegetation in a wet meadow regime, we believe there are additional funds needed for adapting new knowledge to construction practices in this region. Working with area experts over the past several years, we are learning that unique soils and climate make the adaptation to a more native and natural landscape different than elsewhere in the country. In the stormwater management discipline the concept includes learning low impact development practices and how we can retrofit an existing basin.

The goal is to honor the site's existing identity while creating a new one. This new identity will be responsive to the neighborhood's social structure, cultural history, natural history, and its relationship to the Red River watershed. The emphasis of the Fargo Project is on the process as much as it is on the final product, since it is not only the space itself that will be transformed but also the people living and working around the existing basin involved through community engagement events and outreach at the site that will allow this project to continue to be successful well into the future.

**Strategies:**

The WGC will transform a barren 18-acre storm water detention basin into a destination that the community takes pride in and will have a sense of ownership of. In the end, Rabanus Park will become a model for ecological revitalization and education about the importance of nature. The original purpose of effectively holding stormwater will be maintained and improved.

**Benefits:**

This project combines several different community goals. The involvement of local artist teams bridges communication between community residents and the engineering team. The artist involvement builds vibrancy and unique context to the neighborhood. WGC is located in close proximity to the FM Visitors Bureau and the West Acres Mall; resulting in a regional attraction illustrating the beauty of the native North Dakota landscape.

The city staff, in conjunction with area experts will learn new practices for managing the land that is more cost effective. At the same time the project will improve the aesthetic quality of the

community and building habitat refuge areas within the city. As a fully developed recreational location, walking trails, gathering spaces and natural play areas community members can experience a location within the city to connect to nature and see wildlife.

**Timetable:**

The timetable for the phase of project specific to this grant request is to spend the construction dollars in the 2015 construction season. Depending on contractor availability and timing of bidding, delays may be expected.

**Funding:**

Approximately half of the funding has been provided for by arts foundation groups. City dollars are the other half of funding to date. It is expected that construction prices will rise, and availability of construction and volunteers will become more limited based on our experiences from last construction season history. Additional funding from this grant application will assist us in quicker implementation and showcase to the community the benefits of this project more dynamically and with faster results.

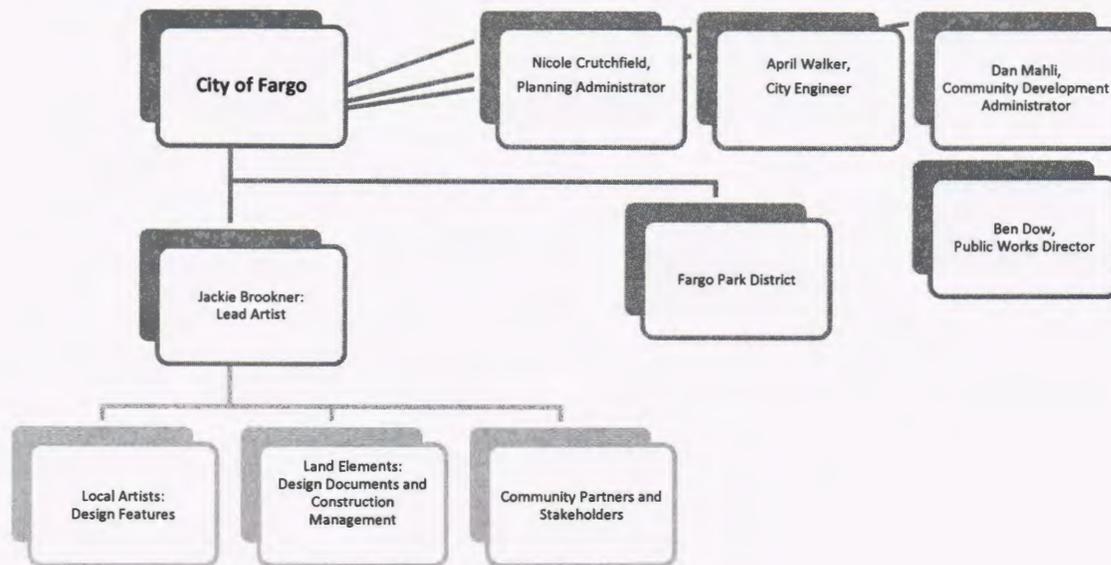
**Innovative features and processes:**

This project will also provide a template for how the City can continue to improve the natural habitat and wildlife ecosystems across more than 20 similar basins throughout the City. Funding has already been secured to create a project management consultant team to monitor implementation and evaluate success of the project through continued community participation and wildlife development post-construction. In addition, a training program will be established to ensure continued care and maintenance of this resource well into the future.

**Management of Project – Provide a description of how you will manage and oversee the project to ensure it is carried out on schedule and in a manner that best ensures its objectives will be met.\***

Include a brief background and work experience for those managing the project.

The City of Fargo will provide project oversight and holds ultimate responsibility to ensure that the project is carried out on schedule and that project objectives are met. To assist the City in managing the project design and implementation, in early 2015, the City of Fargo contracted with Land Elements, a Fargo-based Landscape Architecture firm, to provide design development and project management services. In addition, the city has continued to retain Jackie Brookner as the Lead Artist for continued design and implementation support. Below you will find background information and work experience from the project leaders.



**Nicole Crutchfield, Planning Administrator, City of Fargo**

Nicole Crutchfield brings over 20 years of experience from the land development industry. She is a licensed landscape architect in the state of North Dakota, and nationally certified through the Council of Landscape Architecture Registration Board, and a certified planner through the American Institute of Certified Planners. She has been with the City of Fargo for 7 years, with the last two years leading the planning division. She currently leads a team of staff responsible for implementation and long range planning focusing on outcomes of the built environment and quality of life in the Fargo region. Her expertise focuses on land development related to: natural resource management, land use and zoning, recreation and open space, bicycle and pedestrian transportation, urban design, and real estate due diligence. Since 2010, Crutchfield has been working with Brookner on the development of The Fargo Project, including the site selection process and communication of the project among city departments.

**April Walker, City Engineer, City of Fargo**

April Walker is the City Engineer for the City of Fargo. She is a licensed Professional Engineer and also a Certified Floodplain Manager. She is a North Dakota Native and an NDSU graduate who has been employed by the City since 2002. During her career with the City, April has served as the Storm Sewer Utility Engineer and as an engineer in the Traffic Engineering Department. Prior to returning to Fargo, she worked as a highway designer for the California Department of Transportation.

**Dan Mahli, Community Development Administrator, City of Fargo**

Dan Mahli is the Community Development Administrator for the City of Fargo. He is responsible for the development of housing programs, neighborhood initiatives, historic preservation, human relations, as well as administration of a number of the City's Federal and local grants. Dan has been with the Fargo Department of Planning and Development since 2001. Prior to working with the City of Fargo, Dan served as a Field Representative for US Senator Byron Dorgan and as

the Executive Director of the Park Rapids Area Chamber of Commerce in central Minnesota. Dan has a master's degree in Public and Human Service Administration from Minnesota State University Moorhead and a bachelor degree from North Dakota State University.

**Jackie Brookner, Lead Artist**

Jackie Brookner brings over 20 years of experience as a socially engaged ecological artist to The Fargo Project. Her work unites plant-based water remediation for parks, rivers, and wetlands together with habitat restoration, landscape sculpture, and active community collaboration. Her projects demonstrate how undervalued water resources can be reclaimed to create evocative public places that connect people with natural systems and are grounded in aesthetic understandings developed throughout Brookner's 40 year practice as a sculptor. Her whole systems approach activates nodal points where social, cultural and ecological revitalization meet. Brookner's works can be found in Finland and Germany, and in the United States in Ohio, Washington, Idaho, Florida, California, and Missouri. Brookner publishes and lectures internationally linking sustainable cities, water, expanded art practice and global ecological urgency. She teaches at Parsons/New School for Design, NYC.

**Land Elements, Landscape Architecture Firm, Fargo**

Land Elements has an extensive background in landscape architecture and planning projects, including parks and recreation work as well as a comprehensive portfolio of projects where native prairie has been the design focus. Michael Allmendinger, RLA, Dominic Fischer, RLA, and Brian Reinarts serve as project managers.

**Evaluation – Describe your plan to document progress and results. \***

How will you tell if the project is successful? Please be specific on the methods you will utilize to measure success. Note that regular reporting, final evaluation and expenditure reports will be required for every grant awarded.

The key to the success of this project will be determined through two main aspects: (1) continued stormwater management with enhanced wildlife habitat and (2) community use. First, this project is enhancing an existing stormwater basin to restore natural habitats. The City will continue to monitor this stormwater basin to ensure that it continues to meet or exceed retention goals for stormwater events with the addition of the natural habitats. Monitoring will be conducted after storm events to determine how water flows throughout the basin and to determine if sediment and debris carried by the storm water changes with the natural habitat improvements to the site. Second, this project is designed to spur community involvement and provide new recreational and learning opportunities for the community to enjoy and appreciate the natural habitats of North Dakota. Extensive community involvement has been included as part of the design of this project. As such there are features designed into this project that community members are invested in. The City will continue to monitor the use of these new facilities to gauge the level of interest and its applicability to other stormwater basins throughout the area. In addition, the City will monitor and record attendance at annual community events that will be held at the project site.

Further, the City will track and monitor this project and its continued success. A community-centered maintenance program is being developed outside of this grant request, to ensure that the project is maintained and cared for. Through the use of new adaptive management techniques, this project will continue to be successful and supported by both the City and

community.

### Financial Information

**ATTACHMENT: Project Budget – Using the standard project budget format that is available on the website at <http://www.nd.gov/ndic/outdoor-info/page.htm> , please include a detailed total project budget that specifically outlines all the funds you are requesting. Note that a minimum of 25% match funding is strongly encouraged.\***

The project budget should identify all matching funds, funding sources and indicate whether the matching funds are in the form of cash or in-kind services. As noted on the standard project budget format, certain values have been identified for in-kind services. Please utilize these values in identifying your matching funds. **NOTE: No indirect costs will be funded.**

I certify that a project budget will be sent to the Commission\*  
A project budget has been approved by the Fargo City Commission.

### **Sustainability – Indicate how the project will be funded or sustained in future years. \***

Include information on the sustainability of this project after all the funding from the Outdoor Heritage Fund has been expended and whether the sustainability will be in the form of ongoing management or additional funding from a different source.

Additional funding will support a co-shared project management/program coordinator position and a community-centered job training program for future care-taking and stewardship of the site. Primary responsibility of this position will be to ensure that the project is able to be self-sustaining in the near-term.

The City of Fargo and the Fargo Park District will have continued ability to appropriate funding to this project as is deemed both necessary and prudent. The Fargo Park District is supportive in developing a new programming opportunity for the community. The City of Fargo is supportive in incorporating new practices for community outreach and stormwater design that can be replicated to other sites.

A new budget item has been created in the City's budget as part of this project. The full project (elements outside of this grant request) are long term, and have an implementation plan lasting 2-3 more years. By then it is expected, that the Fargo Project will have been operational and can demonstrate success for many spin-off programs and practices. Since this project initiated in 2010 we have already seen evidence of this through new recreational programs supported by Fargo Park District, revised mowing management, water monitoring, and partnerships with NDSU faculty and students.

### **Partial Funding – Indicate how the project will be affected if less funding is available than that requested. \***

If less funding is approved, elements of the project will be removed from the project temporarily. As with other funding, elements have been included or removed from phases, depending on availability of funds. All project elements are intended to be built, but may be delayed to a future

phase.

**Partnership Recognition - If you are a successful recipient of Outdoor Heritage Fund dollars, how would you recognize the Outdoor Heritage Fund partnership? \***

If funding is received from the Outdoor Heritage Fund, the City of Fargo will issue a press release, which will be included on the cities official website and distributed to media. The Outdoor Heritage Fund will be included in future publications and events, and noted in project documentation.

Aside from the scope of work proposed with this grant, the project and City are entering into a public relations campaign. Professional publications, social media outreach, and other techniques are strategized for this project. Information and recognition of the Outdoor Heritage Partnership will be included with this communication strategy.

**Scoring of Grants**

All applications will be scored by the Outdoor Heritage Fund Advisory Board after your ten-minute oral presentation. The ranking sheet(s) that will be used by the Board is available on the website at <http://www.nd.gov/ndic/outdoor-infopage.htm> .

**Awarding of Grants\***

All decisions on requests will be reported to applicants no later than 30 days after Industrial Commission consideration. Applicants whose proposals have been approved will receive a contract outlining the terms and conditions of the grant. Please note the appropriate sample contract for your organization on the website at <http://www.nd.gov/ndic/outdoor-infopage.htm> that set forth the general provisions that will be included in any contract issued by the North Dakota Industrial Commission. Please indicate if you can meet all the provisions of the sample contract. If there are provisions in that contract that your organization is unable to meet, please indicate below what those provisions would be. \*

The City of Fargo is prepared to meet the provisions in the contract.

**Responsibility of Recipient**

The recipient of any grant from the Industrial Commission must use the funds awarded for the specific purpose described in the grant application and in accordance with the contract. The recipient cannot use any of the funds for the purposes stated under Exemptions on the first page of this application.

If you have any questions about the application or have trouble submitting the application, please contact Karlene Fine at 701-328-3722 or [kfine@nd.gov](mailto:kfine@nd.gov)

Revised August 21, 2014

## Budget Standard Form

Please use the table below to provide a detailed total project budget that specifically outlines all the funds you are requesting and the matching funds being utilized to fund this project. Please note if the matching funds are in the form of cash, indirect costs or in-kind services. The budget should identify all other committed funding sources and the amount of funding from each source. Match can come from any source (i.e. private sources, State and Federal funding, Tribal funding, etc.) Note a minimum of 25% match funding is strongly encouraged. An application will be scored higher the greater the amount of match funding provided. (See Scoring Form.)

Please feel free to add columns and rows as needed. Please include narrative to fully explain the proposed budget.

Note that NO INDIRECT COSTS will be funded from the Outdoor Heritage Fund. Also by law several items are ineligible for funding -- see Exemptions in the Application Form. Effective January 29, 2014 the following guidelines were approved by the Industrial Commission:

### NO CONSIDERATION:

In addition to those specific items in law that are ineligible for funding, in the absence of exceptional circumstances, the following projects will NOT receive consideration for funding:

- Projects that are already completed;
- Projects that are on-going (Phased projects would be considered);
- Staffing;
- Feasibility studies;
- Annual maintenance;
- Paving projects for roads and parking lots;
- Swimming pools;
- Non-permanent equipment (such as snowmobiles, tractors);
- Research;
- Projects where the applicant is not directly involved in the project.

Project Expense	OHF Request	Applicant's Match Share (Cash) (City Funds)	Applicant's Match Share (In-Kind)	Applicant's Match Share (Indirect)	Other Project Sponsor's Share	Total Each Project Expense
	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
1) Concrete Channel Removal	\$ 75,000	\$ 25,000	\$	\$	\$	\$ 100,000
2) Earth Moving	\$ 45,000	\$ 45,000	\$	\$	\$	\$ 90,000
3) Seeding	\$ 40,000	\$ 30,000	\$	\$	\$	\$ 70,000
4) Plantings	\$ 40,000	\$ 30,000	\$	\$	\$	\$ 70,000
5) Vegetation Establishment	\$ 35,000	\$ 25,000	\$	\$	\$	\$ 60,000
6) Overlook	\$ 90,000	\$ 90,000	\$	\$	\$ 100,000	\$ 280,000
7) Boardwalk	\$ 25,000	\$ 25,000	\$	\$	\$	\$ 50,000
8) Consultant and Technical Services		\$80,000				\$ 80,000
<b>Total Costs</b>	<b>\$ 350,000</b>	<b>\$ 350,000</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>\$ 100,000</b>	<b>\$ 800,000</b>

- 1) The removal of the channel will allow the site to go back to a natural system.
- 2) The basin topography will change to allow for a naturalistic feel. The meandering stream will be included.
- 3) The seeding will introduce native forbs and grasses back into the site. In addition, seeding after earth moving is critical with consistent low-flow water volume and irregular inundation.
- 4) Native plantings will create wildlife habitat.
- 5) The establishment of new vegetation will ensure proper ecological restoration and continued wildlife habitat. This scope is outsourced to a contractor specialized in native vegetation establishment.
- 6) The Overlook provides a unique outdoor gathering space with views over the basin (\$100,000 is provided by ArtPlace America).
- 7) The Boardwalk provides visitors the opportunity to experience the wet meadow during times of low inundation levels.
- 8) A portion of the consultant costs will be allocated to this phase of construction.

In-kind services used to match the request for Outdoor Heritage Fund dollars shall be valued as follows:

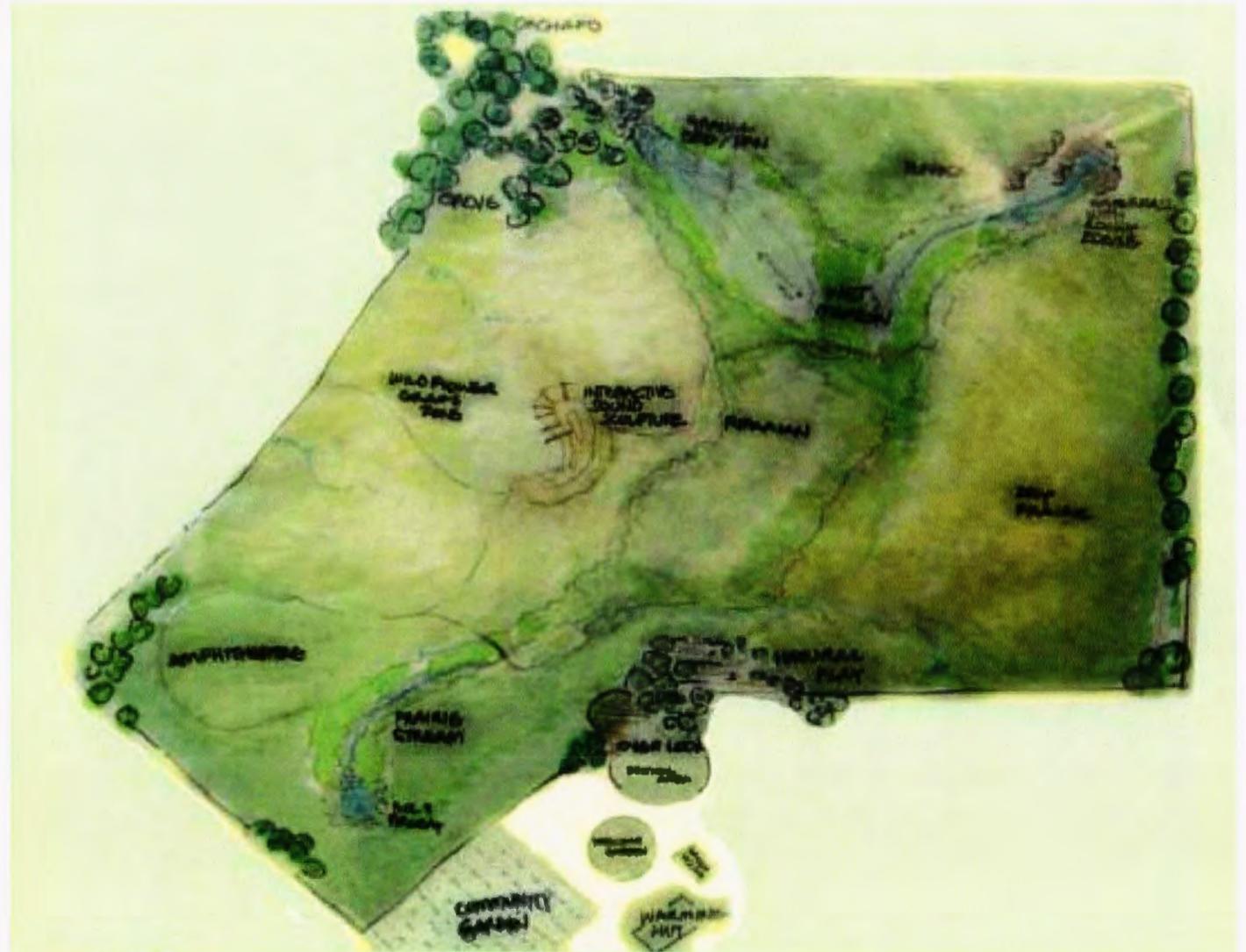
- Labor costs \$15.00 an hour
- Land costs Average rent costs for the county as shown in the most Recent publication of the USDA, National Agricultural Statistics Services, North Dakota Field Office
- Permanent Equipment Any equipment purchased must be listed separately with documentation showing actual cost. (For example: playground equipment)
- Equipment usage Actual documentation
- Seed & Seedlings Actual documentation
- Transportation Mileage at federal rate
- Supplies & materials Actual documentation

More categories will be added as we better understand the types of applications that will be submitted. We will use as our basis for these standards other State and Federal programs that have established rates. For example the North Dakota Nonpoint Source Pollution Management Program has established rates. If your project includes work that has an established rate under another State Program please use those rates and note your source.

Approved by OHF Advisory Board: October 17, 2013  
Approved by Industrial Commission: October 22, 2013  
Revised by OHF Advisory Board: January 22, 2014  
Approved by Industrial Commission: January 29, 2014  
Revised by OHF Advisory Board: May 13, 2014  
Approved by Industrial Commission: May 27, 2014



## THE WORLD GARDEN COMMONS





**RABANUS PARK**  
THE FARGO PROJECT WORLD GARDEN COMMONS IS LOCATED AT 18<sup>TH</sup> AVE. S AND 42<sup>ND</sup> ST. S





## Background

Over the last several decades the City of Fargo built over 20 large neighborhood basins to offer protection from catastrophic spring and summertime storms. The basins were built to address water quantity, but not water quality. Because social and aesthetic impacts were not considered in the selection and construction of these basins, these barren sites cut off neighborhoods and disrupt connectivity. In addition, many of the basins are in underserved neighborhoods with low or moderate-income residents, including Fargo's Native American community and "New American" population, refugees and immigrants from 20 different nations such as Bhutan, Somalia, Sudan, Liberia, Iraq, and Bosnia.



The Fargo Project in Fargo, ND is a pilot project to demonstrate how *holistic ecological restoration*, *socially engaged ecological art*, and *active community process* can synergize to transform functioning *stormwater infrastructure* into vibrant and innovative green spaces for our urban community. The 18-acre urban stormwater detention basin at Rabanus Park, one of Fargo's largest and most visible basins, will become a multifunctional commons with restored native prairie stream, walking trails, and outdoor spaces for natural play, gathering and celebration.

The project's long term goal is to transform many of Fargo's storm water detention basins into neighborhood amenities and to do this through a fully participatory community process. Water quality, flood control, biodiversity, cultural diversity, and human health and well being become the beneficiaries of recognizing and celebrating stormwater as a valuable resource.



## Project team

The project launched in 2011 when the City of Fargo received an inaugural \$100,000 Our Town Grant from the National Endowment for the Arts to support the research, outreach and design phases of the pilot. It is co-lead by Fargo planner/ landscape architect Nicole Crutchfield and ecological artist, Jackie Brookner. The city began working with Brookner in March, 2010 when she was invited to Fargo to help investigate solutions. Respected internationally for her socially engaged, ecologically functional art, Brookner's practice unites natural systems approaches to storm water filtration with intensive community process. In order to build local capacity for socially engaged ecological art, the team includes five local artists, made possible by the "Our Town" grant.

## Building a Community of Interest

While this is a city initiated project, part of its purpose is to create a methodology and processes that embed it deeply and broadly within Fargo's diverse communities—from concept through design, implementation, use and care of the spaces.

Our primary efforts during the project's first year were to create relationships with city residents of all ages and backgrounds to understand what kind of commons people want and the research opportunities the site presents. Over several months our ecological artist team and other volunteers engaged over 400 people of all ages and backgrounds in the initial visioning outreach. The project team visited nearby residences and businesses, went into churches, had participatory events in the park, with the secondary schools, and in the high school, met individually and in small groups with New Americans from many cultures, with representatives from the Native American Community, and engaged with students and faculty from Fargo/ Moorhead academic institutions, including North Dakota State University, Minnesota State University Moorhead, and Concordia College.

We felt it was particularly important to learn from the long experiences of Native Americans in this region and to ground the project in the place where Native American values and ecological values intersect. Our first major public event was a site visit and well attended lecture with Lakota ecologist and ethnobotanist Linda Different Cloud.





### WeDesign Workshop

In late spring 2012 over 200 people participated in the celebration inaugurating the basin with Native American dancing and drumming and at the WeDesign workshop that followed.

For the three days after the charette many other people came to contribute their ideas and to see the models and drawings from the workshop at the open design space at the warming hut next to the basin.





## 2012 Schematic plan based on community visioning and workshop



17 acres of native prairie, wet meadow, and culturally significant plants

Colorful wildflowers for bird and pollinator habitat and beauty

A meandering prairie stream that allows infiltration replaces the concrete low flow channel

Orchard with fruit and nut trees

Walking trails throughout

Natural play areas with local logs and boulders

Trees for shade, sound, and wind shelter

A 1/2 acre community garden and Farmer's market

An overlook and gathering area

An earthen amphitheater

Opportunities for winter play



## Partners

Regional native plant restoration consultants will oversee and manage the initial planting, and city staff in planting and ecological management practices. Concurrently, the project team will continue working with community members to build participatory programming for skills training in prairie restoration and maintenance practices, community gardening, and establish stewardship partnerships with nearby schools.

Primary Partners include:

River Keepers

The Plains Art Museum

Fargo Native American Commission

Lutheran Social Services

Growing Together

Soil Conservation District

The Fargo Project Advisory group

includes: NDSU Dept. of Natural Resources, Plant Sciences, Zoology, Landscape Architecture, and Fine Arts;

The Parks District; The Arts Partnership; and K-12 teachers.

We are working closely with City engineers on all phases of the project.





tree plantings



natural play



overlook



water features



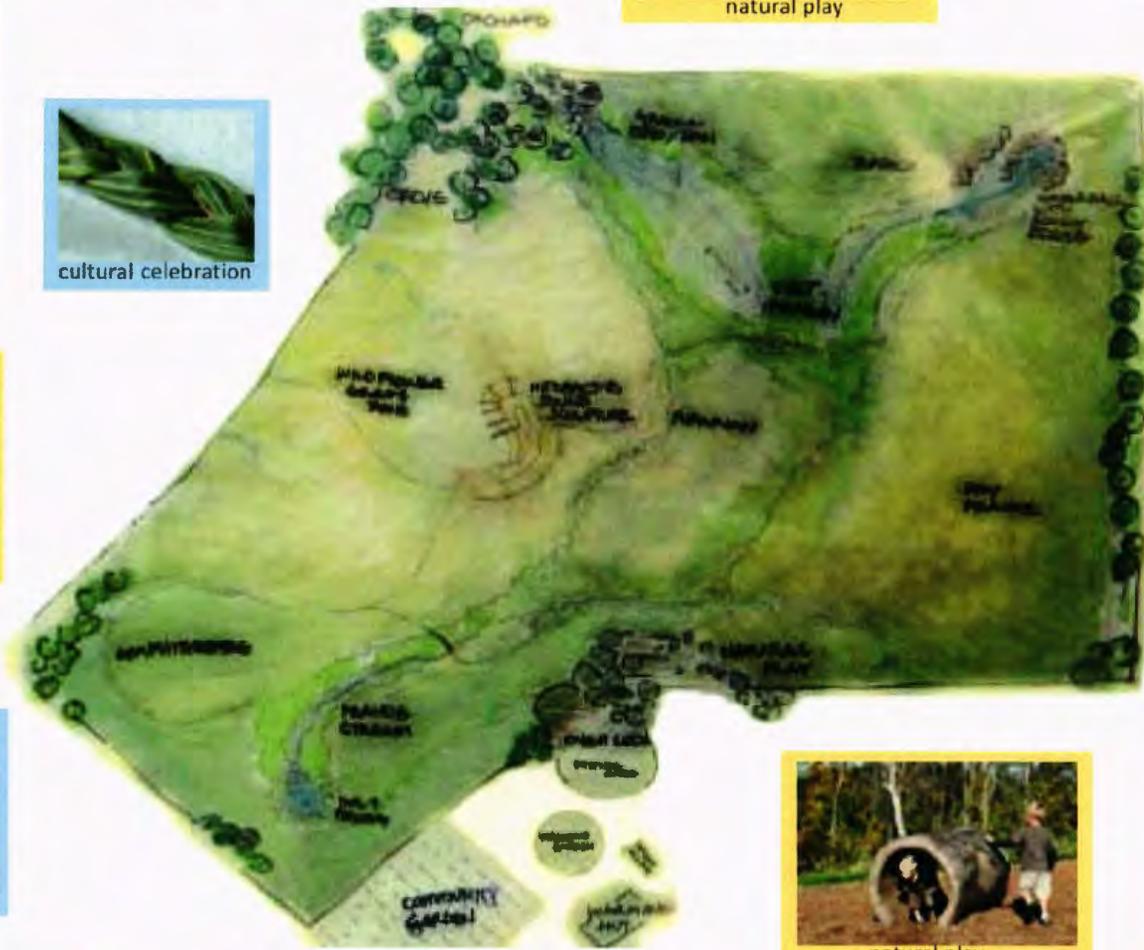
cultural celebration



outdoor ecolab



amphitheater



wildflower prairie



welcome area



prairie restoration, hiking paths



natural play



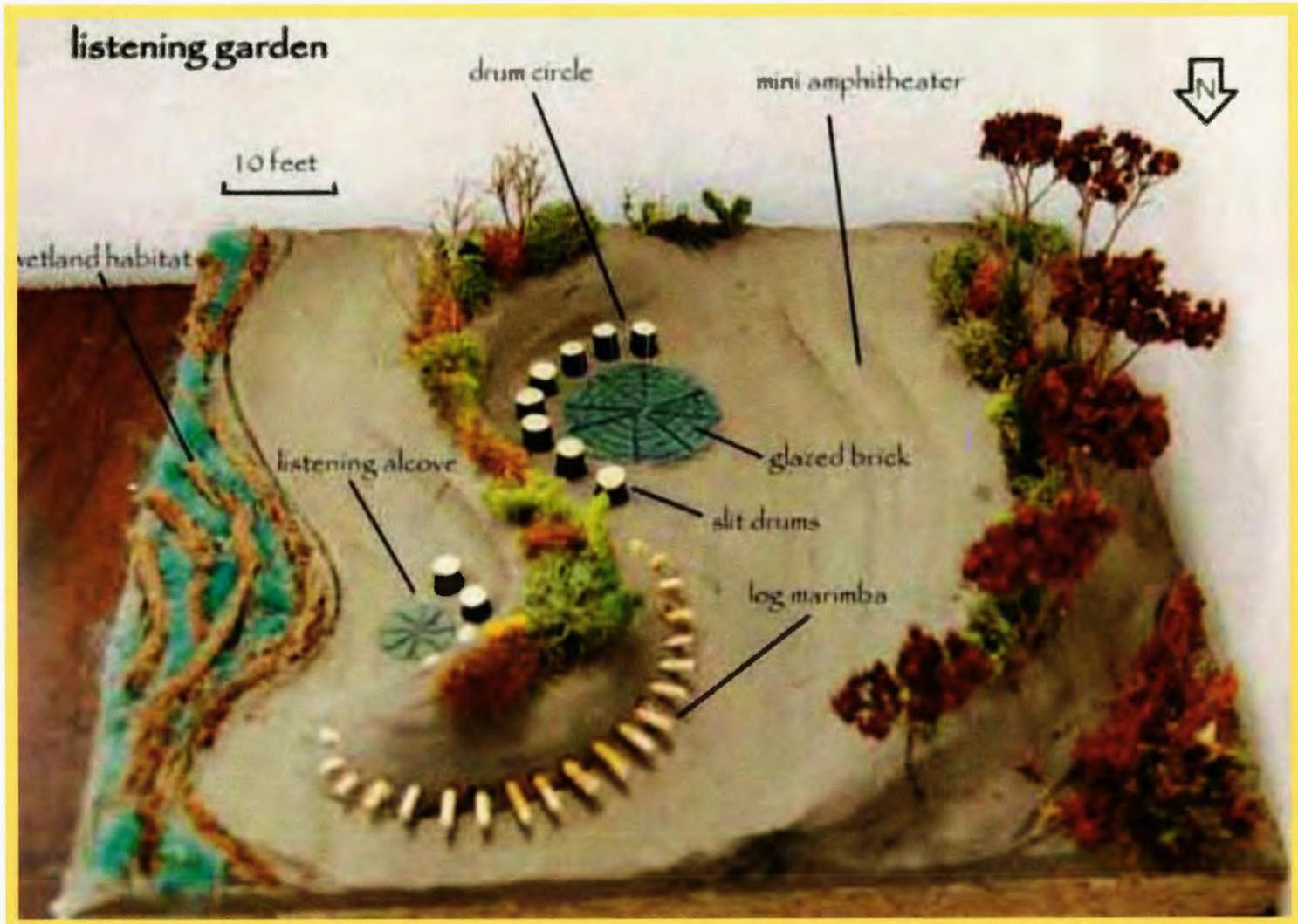
listening garden / sound sculpture



community garden



## THE LISTENING GARDEN / SOUND SCULPTURE



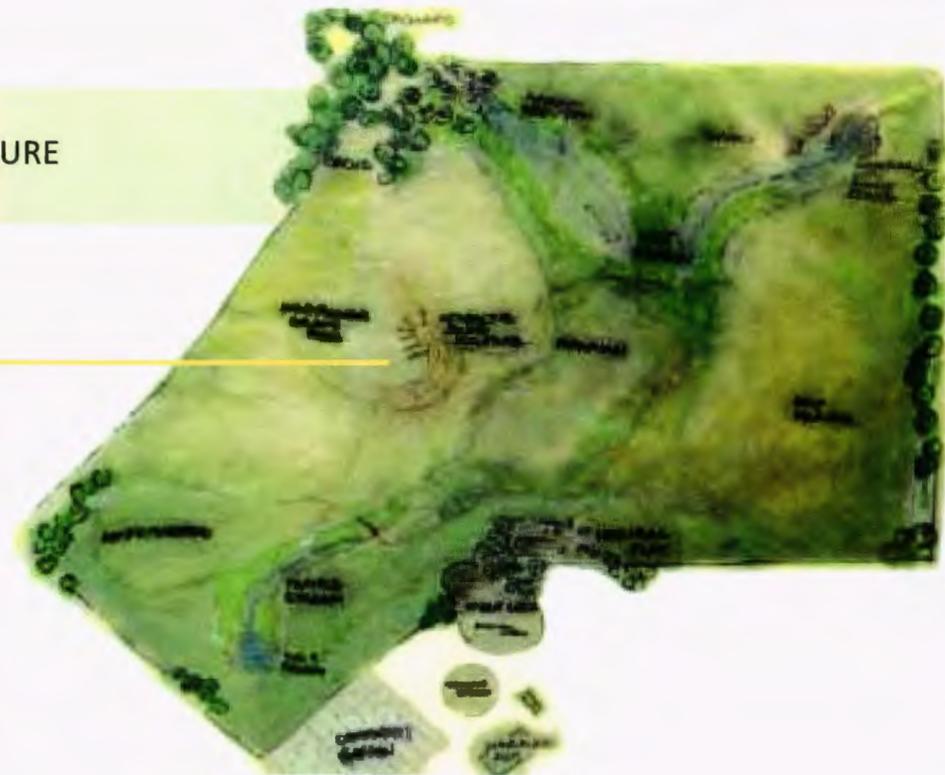
The Listening Garden will be at the center of World Garden Commons. The overall shape of the Listening Garden is based loosely on the shape of a human ear. It is meant to be an intimate place where one can listen to the natural sounds of the Commons--the grasses moving in the wind, the insects, the birds, the water; and where people can also "speak" back by making music with the slit drums and log marimba.



## THE LISTENING GARDEN / SOUND SCULPTURE



The log marimba is based on African slit drums . It will be carved out of burr oak.



The drum circle is a semi-circle of steel Cajon drum seats designed to be played by hand while seated. The hard surface circular blue-glazed brick provides sound projection.



The Listening Garden was designed by Moorhead artist Dwight Mickelson, who is part of The Fargo Project team. Dwight is continuing to develop the design of the instruments and tile projects with interested community members during the winter of 2015.



## THE LISTENING GARDEN / SOUND SCULPTURE -- OPPORTUNITIES FOR PARTICIPATION 2015

There are many opportunities for people of all ages to participate in the creation of this project throughout 2015. This includes planning, decorating, and carving the musical instruments, building and planting the garden, and planning, designing and decorating the tile areas.



- PLANTING TREES, GRASSES AND SHRUBS (Summer, Fall 2015)



- DEVELOP AND TEST HOW THE MARIMBA WORKS (Winter, Spring 2015)
- CARVING THE MARIMBA LOGS (Summer, 2015 and on)



- MAKING AND PAINTING THE LISTENING SEATS (Fall 2015)



- MAKING AND THE SLIT DRUMS (Summer, 2015)
- DESIGNING AND PAINTING THE GLAZED TILES (Fall/Winter, 2015)

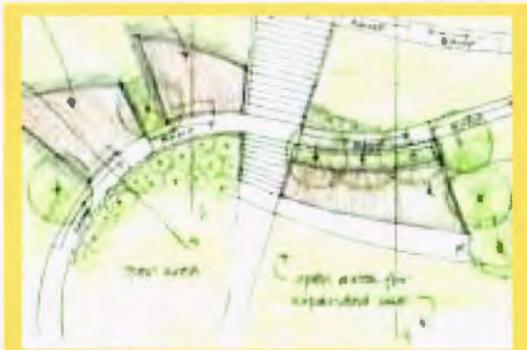
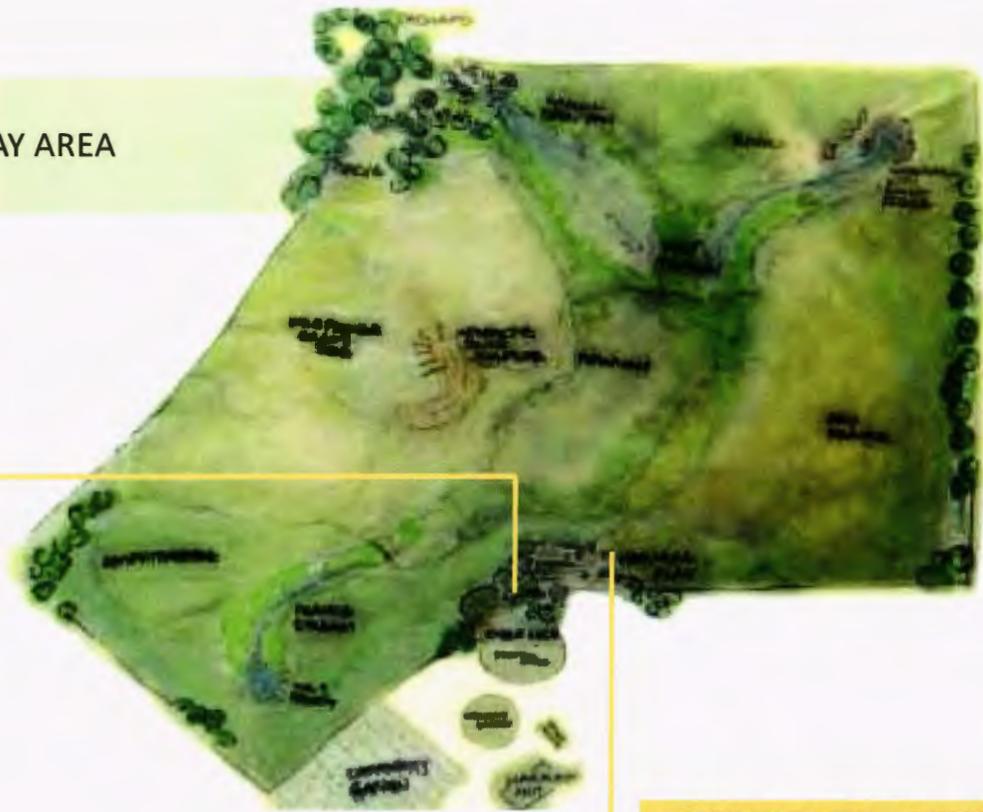
The drum circle is a semi-circle of steel Cajon drum seats designed to be played by hand while seated. The hard surface circular blue-glazed brick provides sound projection.



## THE OVERLOOK AND NATURAL PLAY AREA



THE OVERLOOK



OVERLOOK DESIGN STILL DEVELOPING



THE NATURAL PLAY AREA

One of the suggestions at the WeDesign workshop was for an Overlook where people could get a wide view of the whole prairie landscape. Other requests were for an area for celebrations for weddings, cultural festivals, etc where all feel welcome.

The Overlook will be a series of decks that provide vista views of the landscape. The deck at the top of the basin will be extended by "an outdoor room" for celebrations, and where a tent could be put up if desired.

The Natural Play area will be next to the Overlook. The idea of this area is to provide play opportunities with natural materials such as trees, rocks, etc. There will be areas close to the Overlook where younger children can play with seating for adults nearby. There will also be play areas for older children to enjoy.

- Community workshops with children of different ages, and interested parents to help design the play area (Spring/Summer 2015)
- Opportunities for community members to help build the play area structures (Fall 2015/Winter 2016)



## PRAIRIE PLANTING, COMMUNITY GARDENING



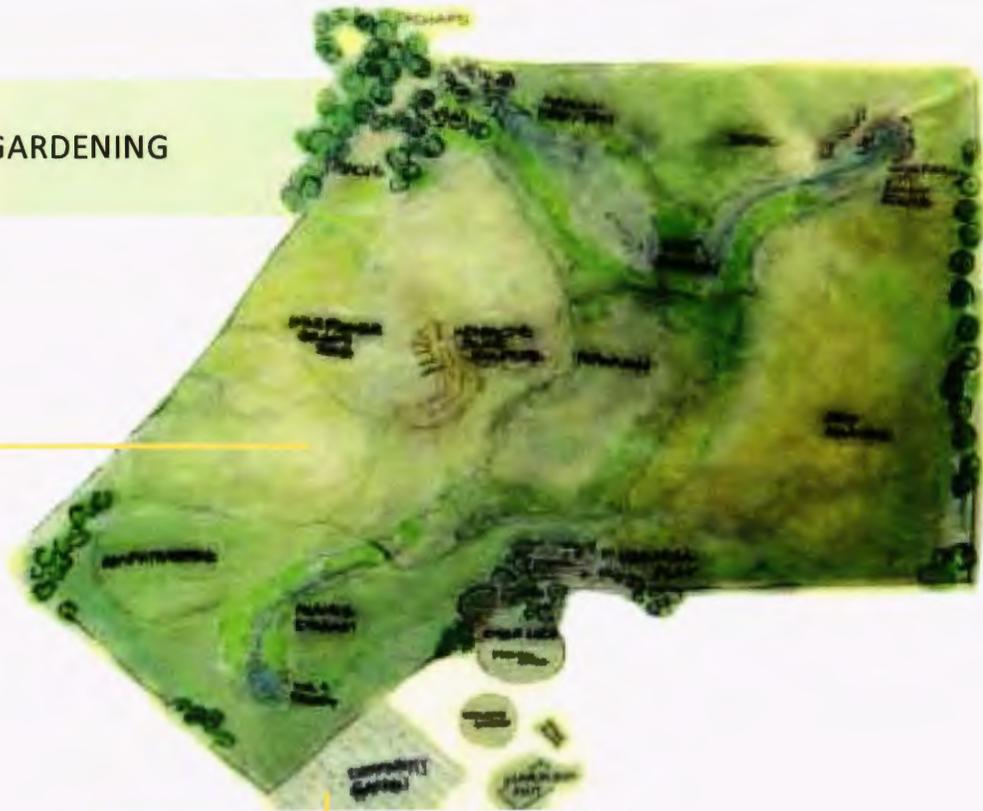
PLANTING THE PRAIRIE

Do you like working with plants? We would love to have you help plant the prairie at World Garden Commons.

Restoring North Dakota prairie and prairie meadows is not only a valuable skill--and it is an art. There will be many opportunities for education and job training in planting the prairie.

Planting will begin in Fall, 2015 and continue throughout 2016 and beyond.

Help develop the education and job skills program. We want to know what is of interest to you and how you would like this to work. Discussion groups will begin in Summer 2015.



WORLD GARDEN COMMUNITY GARDEN

The World Garden Community Garden welcomes everyone who would like to participate on a regular basis. The garden began in 2014 in partnership with Growing Together and Lutheran Social Services. It will be continuing in 2015, adding with a new leadership training program. This garden regularly meets during the Growing Season on Tuesdays 2 PM- 4 PM. Hours may be expanded if there is interest.

Come to the planning meeting on Tuesday April 14<sup>th</sup>, 1PM-4PM at 3911 20th Ave South, Fargo.



## GREENHOUSE, WELCOME GARDEN and ECOLAB 2016



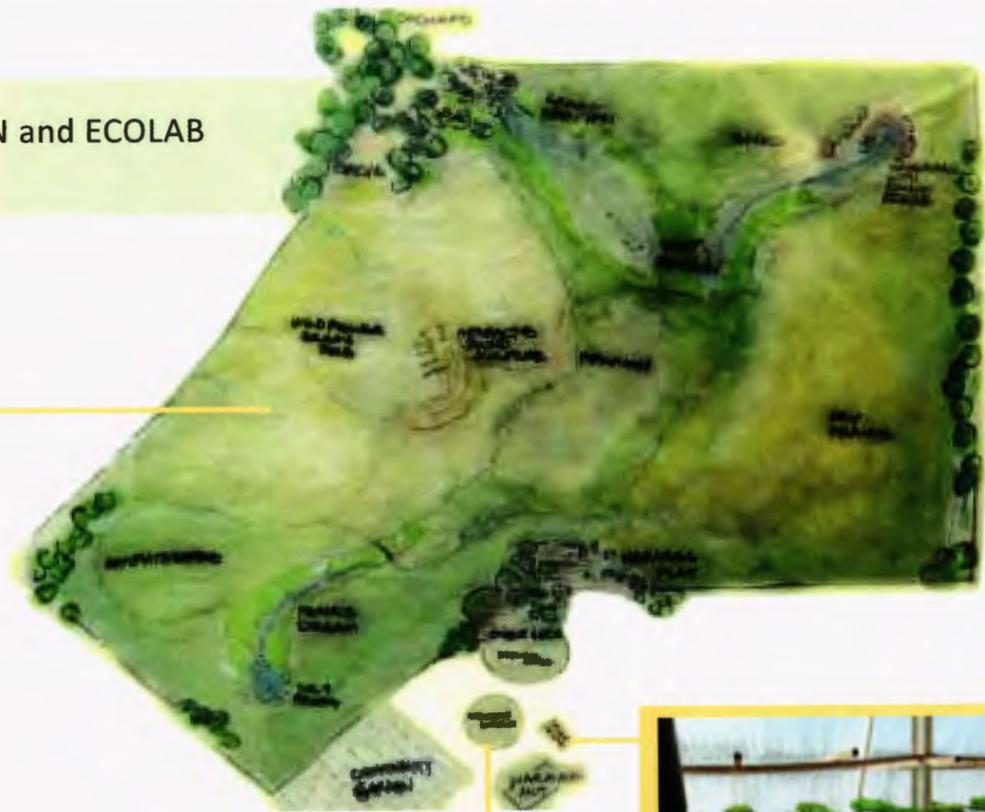
OUTDOOR ECOLAB

Are you interested in the science of how the soil, plants and water work together?

Beginning in Spring 2016, there will be opportunities to help understand how the ecosystems are working. This is important knowledge to help create a healthy and beautiful commons. Please let us know if you would like to be part of this.

### THE WELCOME GARDEN

In Spring 2016 there will be community workshops to plan The Welcome Garden--the area at the main entrance to the Commons that will say welcome to everyone who comes to World Garden Commons. We hope many groups will work together to plan and build this.



YEAR ROUND GREENHOUSE

In 2016 we will build a greenhouse that will be able to be used year round.

There will be opportunities for learning how to plan and build this geothermally heated greenhouse starting in early 2016.

And of course, once it is built, there will be programs to use the greenhouse. We will want to know if your interests and ideas for how you would like to participate.