



A Cabin in the Woods

Concept Design Competition Proposal



The Design Team

We are a Collaborative Team – Everyone is included

actualsize

Public Art - Sculpture - Design



Robert E. Lee & Associates, Inc.
Engineering • Surveying • Environmental Services

Engineering - Construction Expertise

etc.

design studio

Landscape Architecture – Design
and Public Outreach

A Cabin in the Woods

Concept Theme

Driving up Interstate 39 something happens when you cross under the Hazlehurst Train Trestle. There is this freeing, exciting and relaxing feeling that passes through you all at once. You shed your urban ties and restrictions and kind of let go. You have entered the Northwoods. A place where cell phone service is sketchy at best and the importance of a good fish fry, a nice spin on the lake and a late night campfire become the dominant thoughts passing through one's mind.

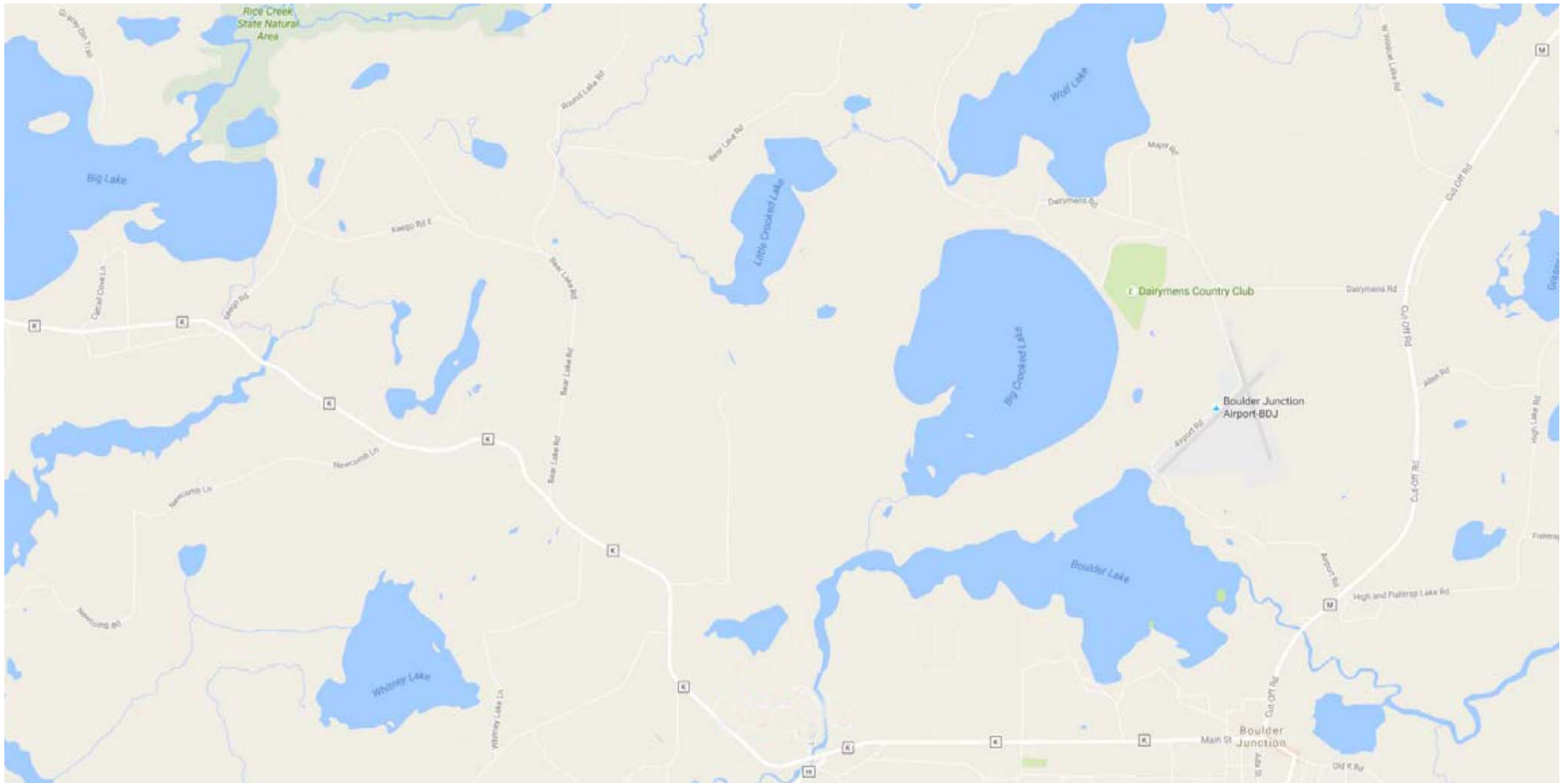
The Northwoods has an atmosphere that creates stories and folklore that carry on for generations. Whether it be stories from the week at summer camp or tales from a weekend at the cabin, they all entail camaraderie, adventure and fun and are identifiable to all that joined in on The Northwoods experience. That is what this plan is conveying to recreate the stories and to express, in a physical form, what The Northwoods experience is like.

Our theme is "A Cabin in the Woods". The plan layout is an abstraction of an aerial map that shows the lakes, rivers and streams that are interconnected and surround the Boulder Junction area. The individual sub areas are elements or environments one might find or experience while spending time at a Northwoods cabin. The amenities and sculptures within the sub areas are a depiction of natural elements we would find on or in or Northwoods lakes and forests. Many of the existing trees will be protected and become an integral part of the theme of the space.



A Cabin in the Woods

Concept Theme



A Cabin in the Woods

Concept Plan

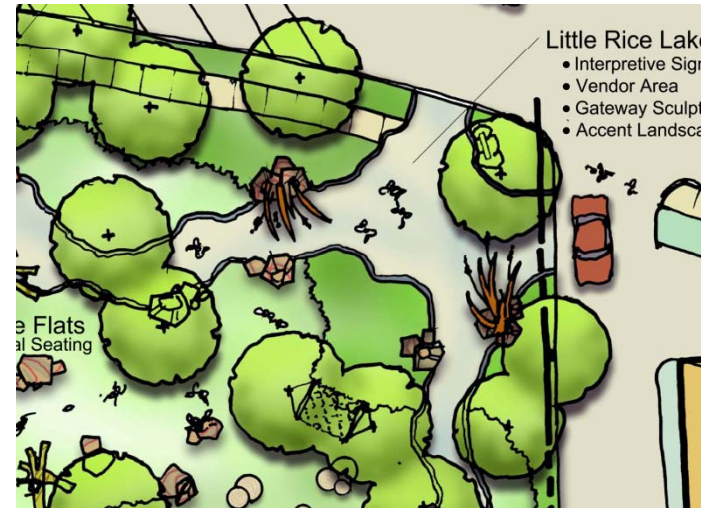


A Cabin in the Woods

Detail Area Description

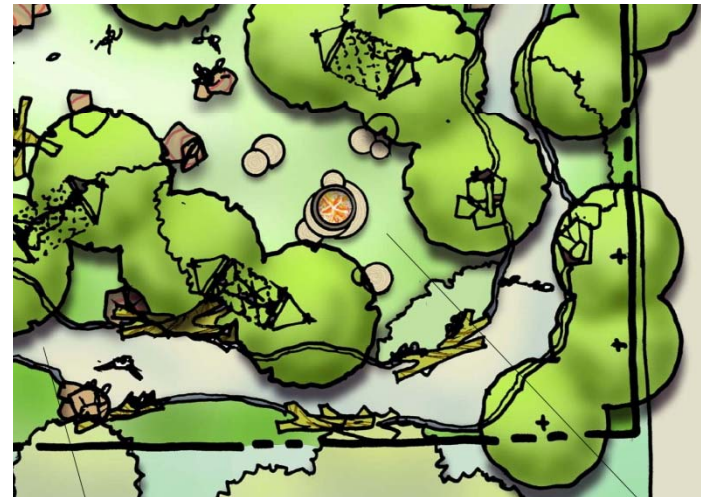
Little Rice Lake and Round Lake Plazas

These are the main entrances into the space and are formed to depict the rough shapes of Little Rice Lake and Round Lake. The paving is to be a simple stamped and brush grey concrete that's surface represents the surface of water or the bottom of the lakes. The plantings surrounding the plaza will be a natural composition with native perennial accents to attract pedestrians into the space. Natural interpretive signage will convey the history of Boulder Junction and the surrounding lakes connection to the community. The space will be large enough to hold a few vendor spaces during festivals or events during the year. Natural boulder and log seating will skirt the edge of the plaza, providing shady sitting areas and a bit of relief from a long days shopping. Gracious gateway sculptures will be located at the transition to walkways and represent the vegetation change from the lake ecosystem to a river or stream.



The Musky Cove

We have all been there, that backwater cove where we have raised a resting monster but never got them to strike. The composition of this space represents that cove and its organization of amenities allows for a resting and quiet gathering place for humans. The central feature is a large fire pit sculpture that will use natural gas as its main flame source for a bonfire. The organization and detailed design of the fire pit represents the rings of water as a fish surfaces or the life rings of a tree. The surrounding logs and native boulder represent the submerged hiding places of the musky and create additional sitting elements for the fire pit. Oversized hammocks have been added to the edges of the design to create that Northwoods campfire feel. Natural vegetation surrounds the space allowing users to look out to the other spaces but still maintain a private atmosphere.

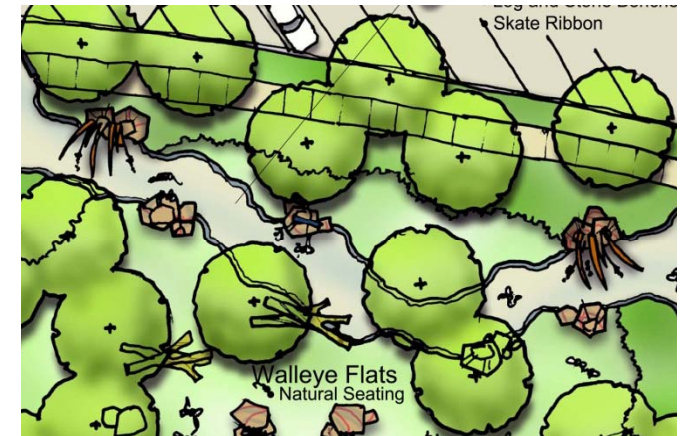


A Cabin in the Woods

Detail Area Description

The Manitowish and Wildcat Stroll

These are the main circulation routes around the space and represent the streams and rivers that interconnect our lakes. We've called them a "stroll" for they are intended to bring a calming and passive experience as you pass through the space. It is the experience one gets while meditatively paddling down our rivers or streams. They provide a respite from the bustle of business and shopping on Main Street. The edges are fringed with native plantings and spotted with boulder and log seating, allowing pedestrians to take in the scenery. The circuitous route allows for vendors to be placed along the walkway edges during festivals, events or programmed activities for the space. One of the unique aspects of the "stroll" is that it is curbed allowing it to be flooded in the winter and turned into a skating ribbon. Natural interpretive signage will skirt the edges of the stroll and convey the history of Boulder Junction.



The Lodge Plaza

Imagine driving down a long gravel lane, after a late Friday night drive up north, and seeing the yellow phosphorous warm glow of a cabin through the trees. This glow is represented in the restroom and performance space we have called "The Lodge". The unisex restrooms will be arranged to depicted random cabins at a lodge. The glow will come from backlit panels affixed to the main walls of the restrooms. The panels will be etched with the history and heritage for Boulder Junction. The restrooms will serve as a backdrop for staging of performances throughout the year. The plaza space in front of the restrooms will be stamped and brushed concrete to represent a lakes surface and be the main stage and dance floor for performances. Three full sized reclaimed trees will be placed on three corners of the performance space. These trees represent the scattered trees we see in a lodge setting. Commercial string lights and canvas ribbons will connect the three trees and act as a lighted canopy for the performance and gathering space.

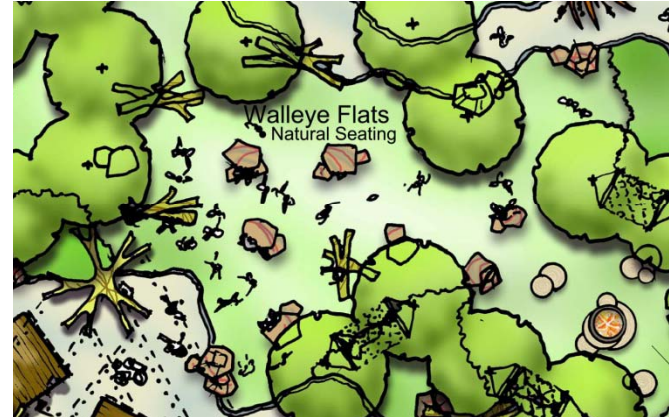


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Detail Area Description

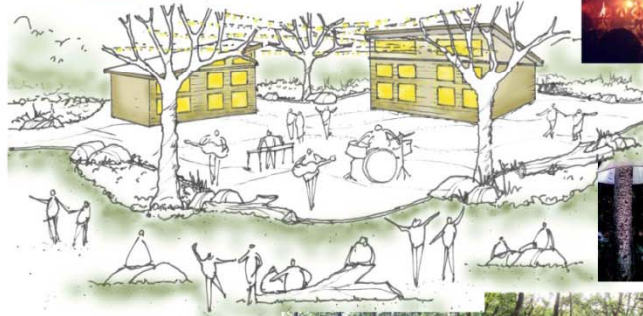
Walleye Flats

This area will serve as the main gathering and green space for the plaza. Log seating and boulder rocks will be randomly scattered throughout the lawn area and represent the natural structure found on and rock flats and prime hiding places for walleye. This organization of seating and the surrounding native plantings, will create picnicking and intimate gathering spaces for everyday use and be expandable to hold larger groups of people during performances. The boulder and log seating will supplement traditional seating added to the area during concerts or events.



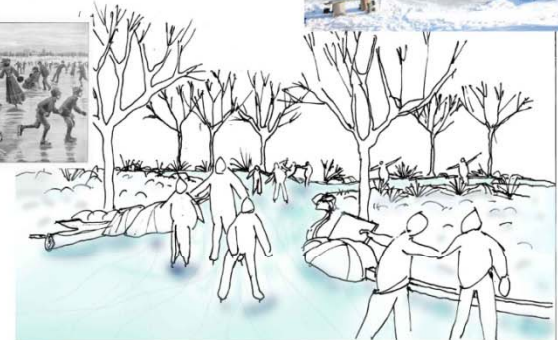
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Concept Sketches



Little Rice Lake Plaza Gateway

The Lodge Plaza



Manitowish Stroll Skating



Musky Cove Firepit



Wildcat Stroll Interpretive Sign



A Cabin in the Woods

Our Design Process

Open Communication

- Continuous and conversational communication with steering committee and town board
- Public design Charrette
- Public presentation and feedback with community

Collaboration on Program and Design

- Maintain comfort level of design with steering committee (this is your project)
- Design informed by public input

Validation of Design

- Continuous conversational for design buildability
- Cross check construction pricing with local contractors
- Open maintenance discussion with DPW staff



A Cabin in the Woods

The Design can be a Reality

Public buy in

- Public Charrette
- Public meetings
- Continuous exposure at events and festivals

Fundraising Campaign

- Identify and include potential donors
- Promote naming opportunity
- Develop fundraising campaign

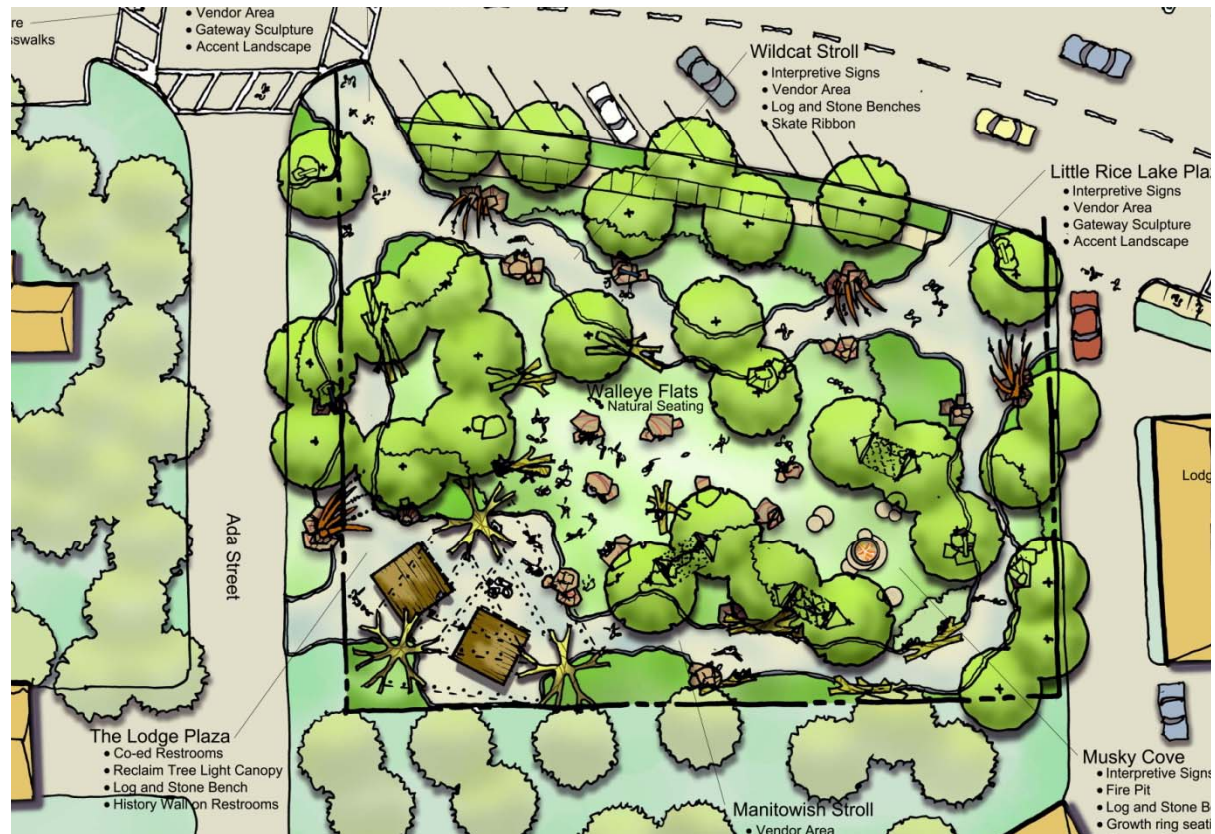
Public funding

- Solicit Federal, State and Local funding sources
- Solicit contractors for in-kind donations
- Town resources



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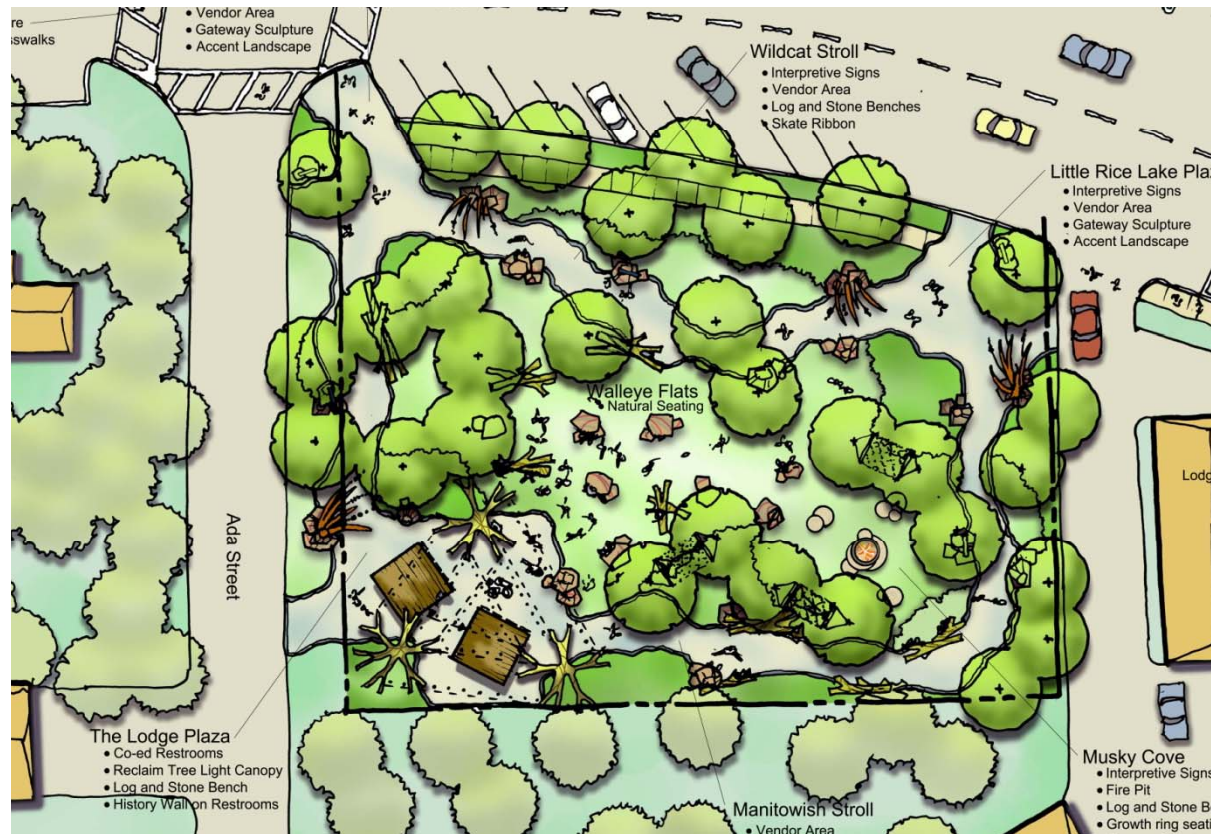
Cost Estimate Discussion



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This is Our Dream Project

How can we Help you make it come true?



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