

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Developers want public input on Appleton riverfront project

Nine months ago, my colleague Andrew Bermingham and I discovered 15 acres on the Fox River in downtown Appleton.

We were immediately intrigued by the location, the site's industrial past and the proximity to downtown, Lawrence University and Telulah Park. After speaking with the city's Development Department, we became excited about the possibility of transforming the area into a space where the people could live, work and play.

We introduced the project to our architecture firm, Milwaukee-based Engberg Anderson Design Partnership. It quickly saw the site's tremendous potential. We dubbed it "RiverHeath," combining the riverfront location and our design for a grassy park in the center.

The land has an amazing history. Today, many runners, walkers, bicyclists and dog walkers already know about the area, because they use the riverfront trail under the College Avenue bridge every day. For others, unless you peer over the north side of the bridge, you might not even know there's land down there.

Before we proceed with designs, we need the community's help. Large, downtown urban infill sites like this one come up once in a lifetime. If the RiverHeath site is going to regain its place as part of the vibrant Appleton downtown, we want to make sure the community gets a chance to participate in the planning.

Would you like to live on the water, or are you looking for a shady place to drink lemonade and watch the boat traffic navigate the newly refurbished lock? Let us know.

Send us an e-mail or join us in person at the Telulah Park pavilion on Tuesday at 5:30 p.m. We will be joined by city and state officials, engineers, architects and other people who are working with us to answer questions and discuss the project.

We hope to see you there.

Mark Geall,
principal,
Tanesay Development,
Denver