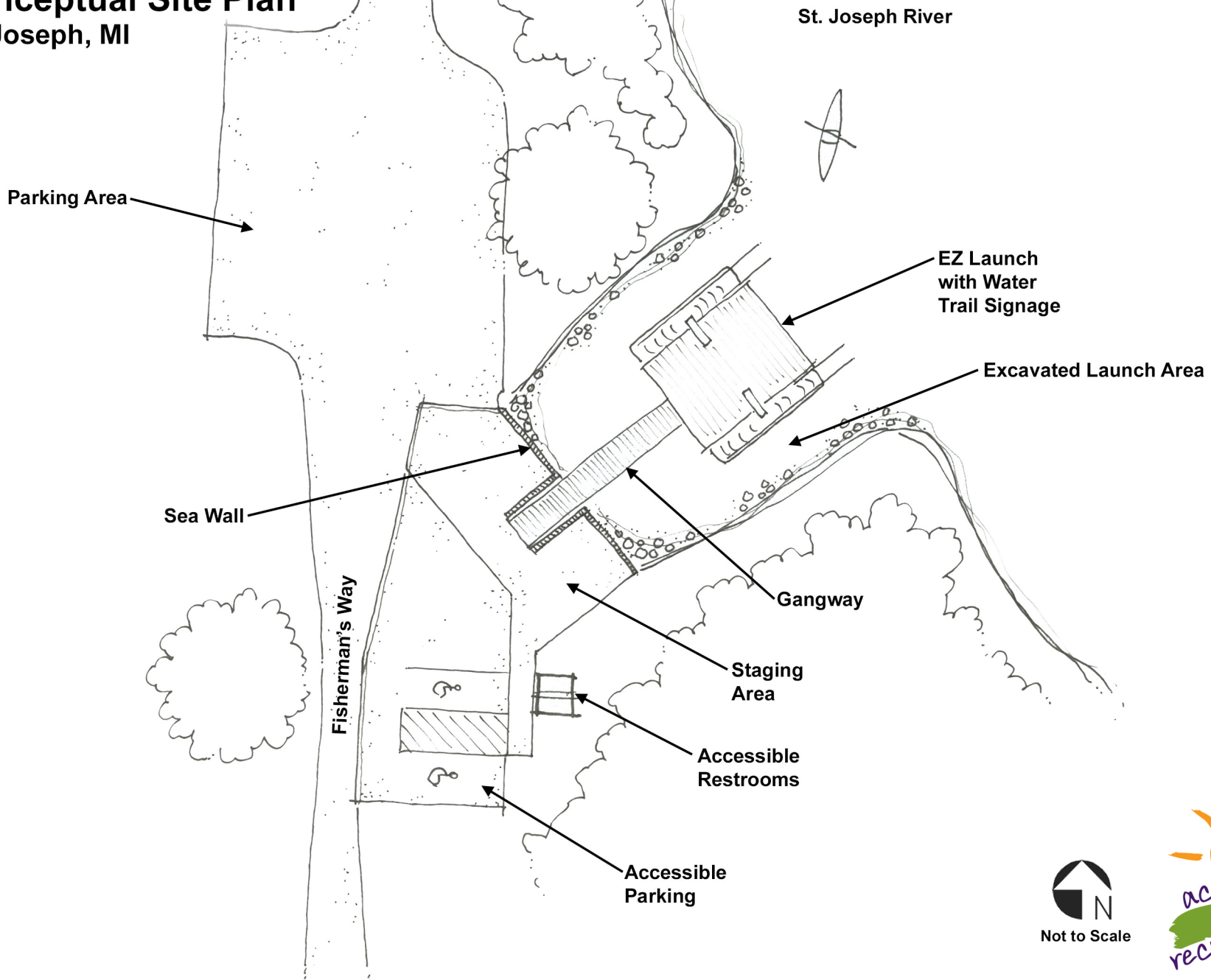


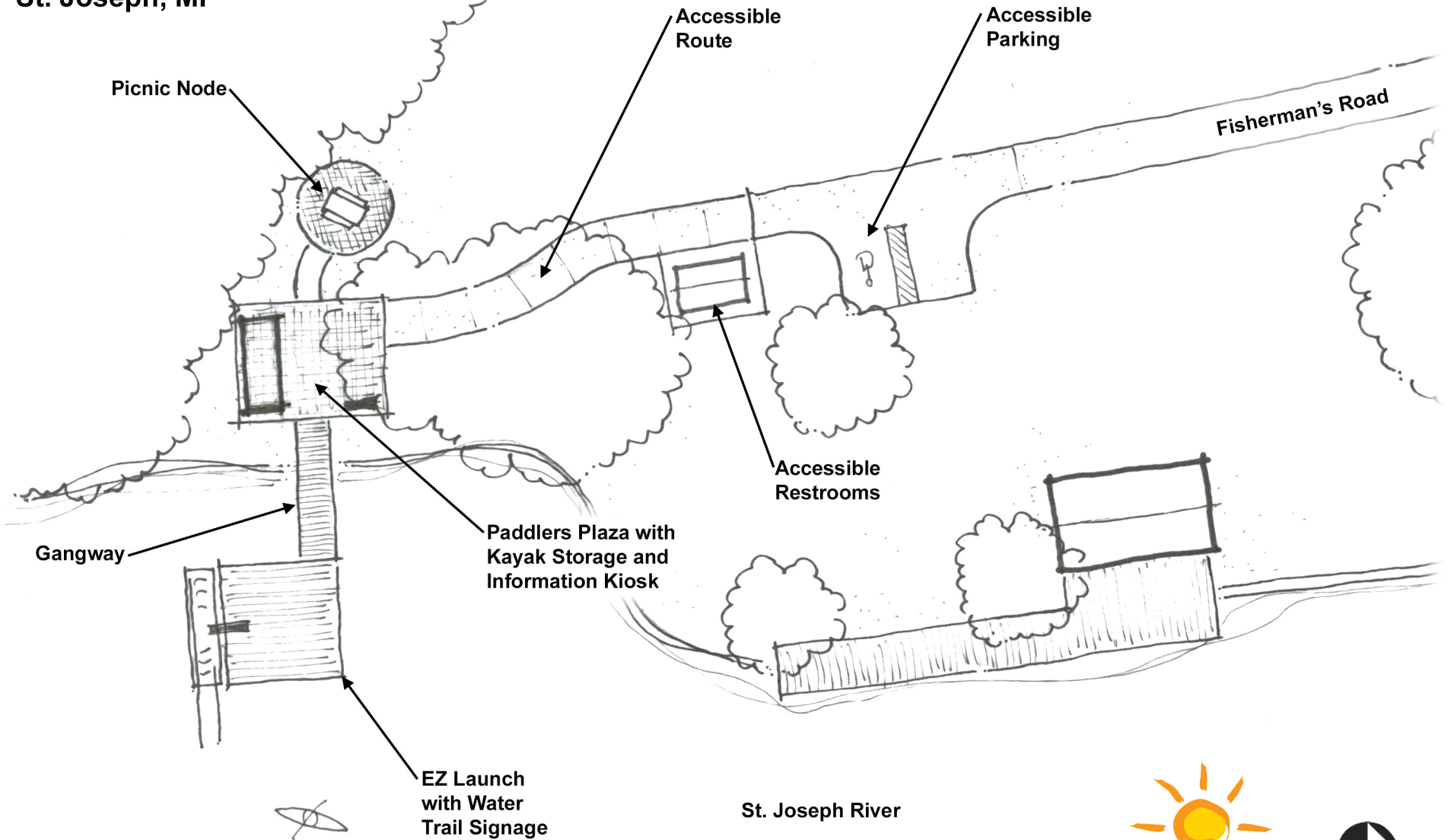
Fisherman's Way Launch Conceptual Site Plan St. Joseph, MI



Not to Scale



Fisherman's Wharf Marina Conceptual Site Plan St. Joseph, MI



Not to Scale

St. Joseph

Local officials and community stakeholders in St. Joseph have identified two potential access sites for improvement along the St. Joseph River. Either one of these sites would primarily provide access to the St. Joseph Water Trail. Local officials and stakeholders considered potential access sites along the Lake Michigan shoreline, but ultimately determined that seasonal beach erosion and damaging waves would not support a developed access site. Paddlers along the Lake Michigan Water Trail could still arrive and deploy from St. Joseph via Silver Beach. However, paddlers wishing for more formal access site amenities would be directed to the St. Joseph River.



Existing Site - Option One



Trailhead - Option One.

The first trailhead option is located at a former boat ramp on Fisherman’s Road, adjacent to Fisherman’s Wharf. This location is currently under private ownership, so the city would need to acquire the property. However, access to the site and areas where the paddler’s plaza might be located are owned by the city. Fisherman’s Wharf LLC owns the large parking lot adjacent to the site and has expressed an interest in allowing paddlers to use it.

Before Treatment



After Treatment



Before Treatment



After Treatment



Before Treatment



After Treatment



Trailhead - Option Two.

The second trailhead option is located just down the road from Option One. The site is currently owned by the city. However, there are no facilities or amenities at this location and substantial excavation and vegetation removal would be required to accommodate an accessible launch or any other amenities. A site plan for the access site was developed in 2013 and is represented in Appendix C.

Before Treatment



After Treatment



Wayfinding

The pathway between the two alternative trailheads and downtown St. Joseph meanders almost two miles through the city. In an effort to direct trail users into downtown St. Joseph (and residents and trail tourists from downtown to the trailhead) the city should place directional signage at key streets and intersections. Directional signs should include the incremental distance in miles between the trailhead and downtown St. Joseph.

Before Treatment



After Treatment



Before Treatment



After Treatment





Access Recreation Group, LLC

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Launch Site Accessibility Evaluation & Design Recommendations

Location: St. Joseph Fisherman's Warf Marina
Date/Time: September 22, 2015 /12:00pm
Contact: Randy Rood
Phone: 269-876-1544
Email: rrood@sjcity.com

Access Recreation Group Volunteers:

Rod Ritchison

Gina Lago

Jim Lago

Additional Site Evaluation Notes:

Universal design concepts to guide the development of site amenities...

By defining spaces & directing human behavior we protect the environment and enhance accessibility for everyone!

Accessible route surfaces must be firm & stable...concrete, asphalt, boardwalk, well compacted crushed aggregate/fines (NOT woodchips or grass)

Accessible routes should be at least 10' - 12' wide to accommodate two person/two vessel carries

Accessible routes should have less than 5% running slope with less than 2% cross slope

Accessible routes should surround all amenities & be at least 4' wide surrounding the entire element

Accessible routes should be smooth with no changes of level at edges and connections to entry/exits & into/onto site elements/amenities


Photo	Location Description	Accessibility Feature Design Recommendations
 The top photograph shows a group of people standing on a grassy area. One person in the foreground is holding a large map. In the background, there are utility poles, a concrete wall, and a building. The bottom photograph shows a view of a river with several boats docked. A concrete wall runs along the riverbank, and a wooden beam is visible in the foreground. A person is walking on the grass near the river.	EZ Launch	The perfect spot for a one-way EZ Launch tucked up in between the sea walls. This gets users out of the flow of boat traffic while entering/exiting the river



Photo	Location Description	Accessibility Feature Design Recommendations
	<p>Water trail flag</p>	<p>Place the water trail flag as far out on the marina side sea wall to be visible for paddlers arriving from both up and down stream.</p> <p>Also place flags leading paddlers in off Lake Michigan along the channel and from the Paw Paw river merge as well.</p>
Photo	Location Description	Accessibility Feature Design Recommendations
	<p>Accessible routes</p>	<p>None existing at this time but there is plenty clear level space to create accessible routes from existing parking to the launch area.</p>



Photo	Location Description	Accessibility Feature Design Recommendations
	<p>Kayak/canoe storage lockbox</p>	<p>The kayak/canoe storage lockbox will be about 8' wide & 22' long. The paddler should be able to carry their vessel and slide it into the box without making a sharp turn, in other words parallel to the accessible route from the launch. The lockbox should directly connect to the paddlers' plaza and route to accessible parking and restrooms.</p> <p>Work with private land owners on each side for easement or shared use of the space.</p>
	<p>Information kiosk & paddlers welcome plaza</p>	<p>Locate the kiosk near the top of the accessible route from the launch across from the kayak/canoe storage lockbox. Locate on the paddles welcome plaza off the accessible route so those viewing the kiosk information are not in the accessible route. Place kiosk on accessible surface and include water trail information on one half and trail town information on the other side. Make sure surface extends under the kiosk so someone can roll up for very close viewing without their front wheels dropping off the concrete.</p>



Photo	Location Description	Accessibility Feature Design Recommendations
	<p>Toilets</p> <p>Potable water source</p> <p>Power</p>	<p>None existing at this time but may be on adjacent property. Consider property acquisition or working with land owner to access infrastructure for power & water so accessible toilet, potable water & power would be available.</p> <p>Suggest adding a single user unisex accessible toilet room so opposite gender care givers can assist someone with a disability in a private & dignified manner. These family friendly single user toilet rooms with baby changers accommodate opposite gender parents to assist their child. These rooms are large enough to accommodate someone using a wheelchair or parents with strollers.</p>
Photo	Location Description	Accessibility Feature Design Recommendations
	<p>Accessible parking</p>	<p>None existing at this time so add car and car/boat trailer parking next to the launch site on the marina side and connect to the accessible route to all amenities.</p>


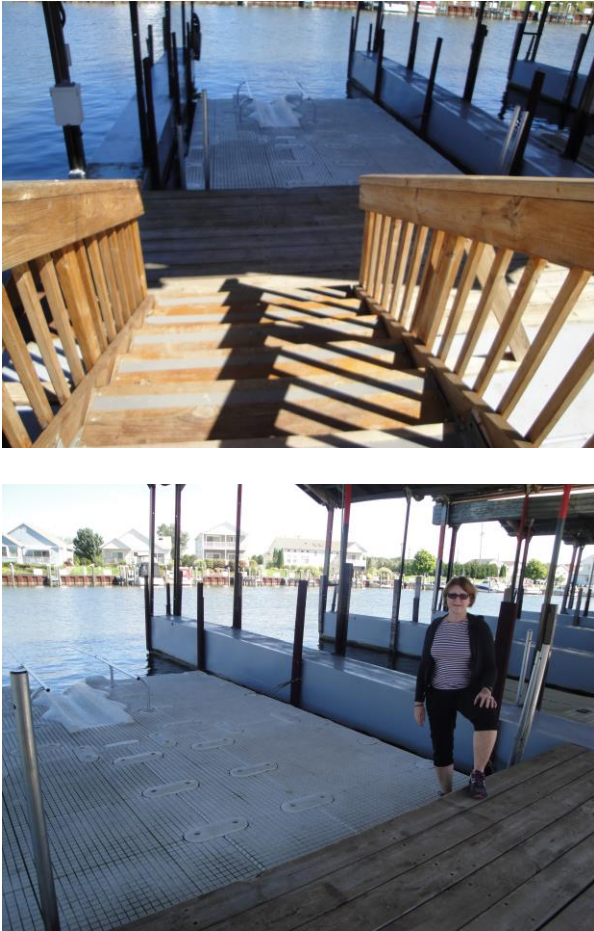
Photo	Location Description	Accessibility Feature Design Recommendations
 A group of approximately ten people are standing on a large, well-maintained grassy area. In the background, there is a long, low building with a light-colored roof, possibly a community center or a school. The area is surrounded by lush green trees under a clear blue sky. The people are dressed in casual summer attire, and some appear to be engaged in a group activity or conversation.	Picnic tables & grills	None existing at this time but consider adding some at the paddlers' welcome plaza area.

Photo	Location Description	Accessibility Feature Design Recommendations
	<p>Existing private marina in accessible launch</p>	<p>The existing private marina kayak launch area is not accessible. After meeting with the owners they stated they would be very interested in a joint venture to make an accessible launch area with the city if they too would be able to use it for launching vessels they rent. The enhancement at the end of their marina property would also get paddlers out of conflict with landing and launching motor craft. A win-win for both!</p>