

The Wishbone

Iconic walkway proposed over Mississippi River in downtown Minneapolis

Project Details:

- Located at St. Anthony Falls and along Horseshoe Falls in downtown Minneapolis
- 3/4 miles (4080 ft) long, not including access points
- The loop, including the Stone Arch Bridge, is an estimated 1.4k
- Access points:
 - From downtown Minneapolis at lock and dam, accessible via elevator or stairway
 - From Northeast Minneapolis at St. Anthony Main
 - An additional access point if planned below the lock
- More than 80% of the walkway is supported by obsolete/ reusable structure already in the river
- Initial plans are for landscaped and lit walkway to be open to the public year-round

Frequently Asked Questions:

How much would it cost to build?

Estimates will be confirmed after further study.

How much would it cost to maintain and/or operate?

 The team will explore all costs associated with the operation as well as opportunity for fundraising in the feasibility study.

Who's going to pay for it?

 To be determined. This is a public project designed to enhance tourism while also serving downtown's growing residential population. A combination of public/private funding is anticipated.

Who would own it?

 Ownership, operation, jurisdiction is quite complicated. However, there are excellent civic models in existence and conversations underway.

How would safety be maintained?

- The walkway, as envisioned, would accommodate emergency vehicles. Security plans will be worked out further in the process.
- Many procedures for the walkway will also be necessary.

How does this project align with other proposed plans for riverfront?

 We believe the Wishbone compliments other proposals and provides visitors a free, inclusive experience at one of the Mississippi Rivers most dramatic places. Where would visitors park?

 Parking strategies will be explored and confirmed in feasibility study. There are public parking ramps located near each entry point.

What is the historic opportunity at the Falls of St. Anthony?

 The location is historically significant in so many ways. Native Americans lived alongside the river and portaged around the falls for centuries. The sacred Spirit Island was once there, before industry forever changed the landscape. We believe there's opportunity to share the stories of the river, to honor it's past, while integrating the river in a more intentional, meaningful way into our future. We plan to explore, study, and collaborate with Native American leaders as well as other historic sources as we move forward to capture the significance of this special place.

What are the environmental responsibilities that come with this place?

 Intensive study will explore the environmental impact and opportunities associated with the project.

Who else has been involved in the design concept so far?

- The initial design team includes:
- RSP Architects
- Damon Farber Landscape Architects
- Meyer Borgman Johnson
- Mortenson



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