

POTATO DAYS POP-UP EVENT SUMMARY

Grand Forks Land Use Plan Community Engagement Event

Potato Bowl in the Park

September 16, 2021

EVENT SUMMARY

SRF consultants conducted a pop-up event for Potato Bowl at the Park from 4 to 8 p.m. September 16 at University Park. The event catered towards children of all ages. Kids and parents were asked to draw, build, or tag their favorite community places on a map of Grand Forks. Children took photos of their creations with a Polaroid camera.

The following places were identified:

Schools

- Lake Agassiz Elementary School
- Valley Middle School
- Ben Franklin Elementary School

Parks

- Bringewatt Park
- Elks Park and pool
- Sertoma Park
- Soccer fields
- Splash pad
- Picnic tables near North 43rd Street

Community Amenities

- Alerus Center
- Grand Forks Public Library
- ICON Sports Center
- Ralph-Englestad Arena

Businesses

- Walmart
- Ray Richards Golf Course
- Northern Air Family Fun Center
- Judy's Tavern
- Pumpkin Patch (by GFAPB)
- Parrot's Cay Tavern & Grill

Themes

Favorite places are places that come immediately to mind when people think of Grand Forks. These are places where there are things to do. They are places to gather, recreate, learn, and experience the community. Most would be considered “third places” – i.e., not home nor work, but other places that anchor the community and facilitate activity and social interaction. They are public or quasi-public spaces. They promote social, mental, and emotional health for residents of all ages.

As residents discussed their favorite places, some stated that these types of spaces are lacking in Grand Forks. They identified a need for more family-friendly recreation opportunities. One family pointed to Thunder Road in Fargo, which has mini golf, Go Karts, and other activities. Based on conversations with the residents, there is also a need for more indoor activities that provide diversions during the winter. Some residents highlighted opportunities to reinvigorate the malls by bringing in creative uses.

Event Photos







Photos of children's built concepts of their favorite places



Map pins of children's favorite places



When you are done building, use the camera to take a photo of your creation.
You can take the photo home to show your friends!



Drawings of children's favorite places and ideas about Grand Forks