

Grand River Network Brief

Building a Collaborative Vision, Community Voice & Plan of Action
for Grand river Corridor Revitalization



ABOUT GRAND RIVER NETWORK

A nonprofit organization designed to facilitate public-private-community partnership that aligns and builds capacity to implement the community's vision for Grand River Corridor revitalization.

Purpose: Unite community voices to advocate for enhancing the river's ecological, economic and social benefits, ensuring its legacy as the core of the city and region's enjoyment and prosperity.

Mission: Working to create a world-class River for All by developing, activating and stewarding the Grand River as a place that enriches our community well-being.

Vision: The Grand River is one of the nation's most exceptional urban rivers, thriving as a healthy, natural resource and welcoming all as a cultural destination for enjoyment and opportunity.

Core Values

Five core values guide Grand River Network in its work and inform all interactions, efforts and communications both inside and outside of the organization.

- **Diversity, Equity and Inclusion**

We center our work on the idea that the riverfront belongs to everyone and can be a model for community-driven, equitable development and access to opportunity. We strive to engage with, and learn from, a diversity of individuals and communities and work to shape solutions that directly address inequities.

- **Passion and Innovation**

We are passionate about the Grand River and our mission to stand up for it, restore its vitality, and keep it healthy for future generations. We believe the river connects us to our past, to nature, and to one another. We see community engagement as the best path for unlocking creativity and innovation in how we meet our goals.

- **Collaboration and Connection**

We seek out, and value, partnerships with diverse individuals and organizations to realize our vision. We work together as a team to collectively be the voice for the river. We trust in the goodwill, competency, and integrity of our colleagues and partners. We work with others to integrate our skills to achieve sustainable results.

- **Commitment, Trust and Accountability**

We are committed to achieving results, with practical, on-the-ground, sustainable solutions. We strive for transparency and accountability in our work and to our vision focused on results and outcomes that serve the community.

- **Balance**

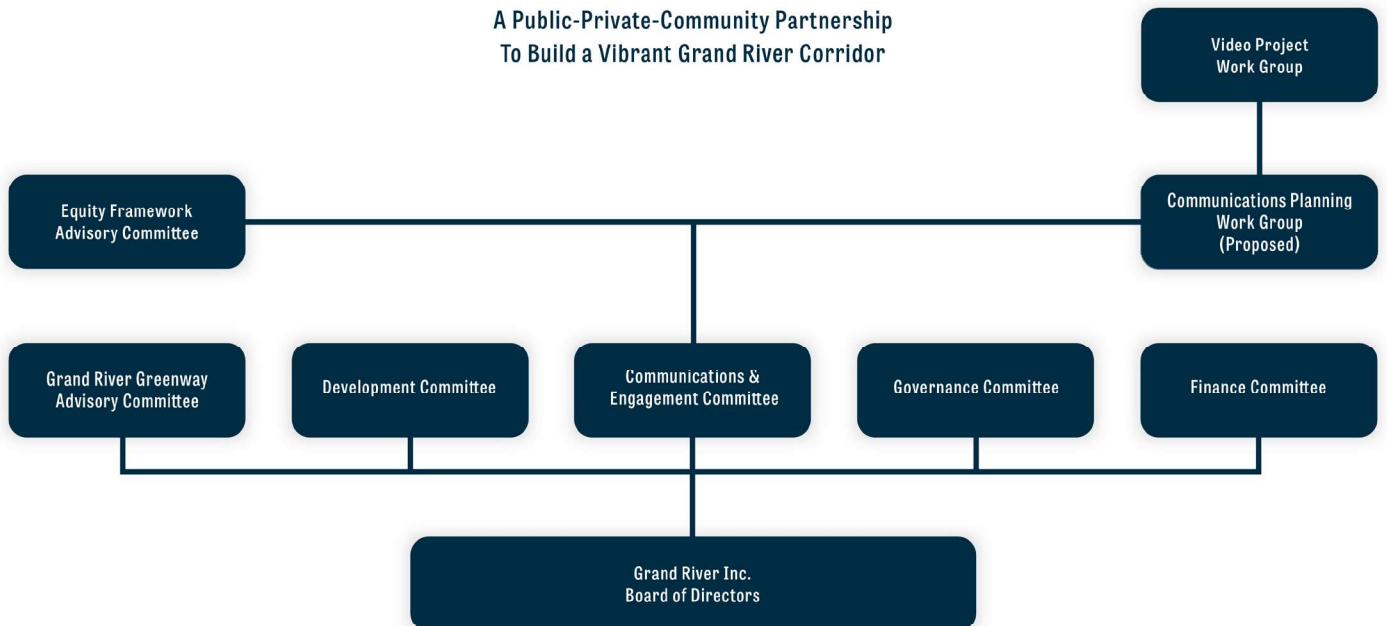
We believe the Grand River offers many benefits as an environmental resource, a cultural destination and an economic asset. Our work intentionally balances these interests with a focus on ecology and recreation as well as education, enjoyment, health and safety.

Intended Impact

- Increased and safer access to the Grand River for the community.
- Creation of new and more connected public and private assets in the corridor (parks, trails, housing, etc).
- Recreational and educational programs that enhance experience for residents and visitors.
- Increased economic opportunity and impact.
- Sustainably maintained public spaces.

GRAND RIVER NETWORK

A Public-Private-Community Partnership
To Build a Vibrant Grand River Corridor



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- AJ Hills, City of Grand Rapids
- Julie Parks, Grand Rapids Community College
- John VanElst, Grand Rapids Community College
- Victoria Keenan, Grand Rapids Community College

Communications Planning Work Group

- Members TBD

Video Project Work Group

- David Green, City of Grand Rapids
- Jill Wingfield, Great Lakes Fishery Commission
- Ciarra Adkins, City of Grand Rapids
- Sawyer Johnson, City of Grand Rapids
- Matt Chapman, Grand Rapids Whitewater
- Jay Steffen, City of Grand Rapids