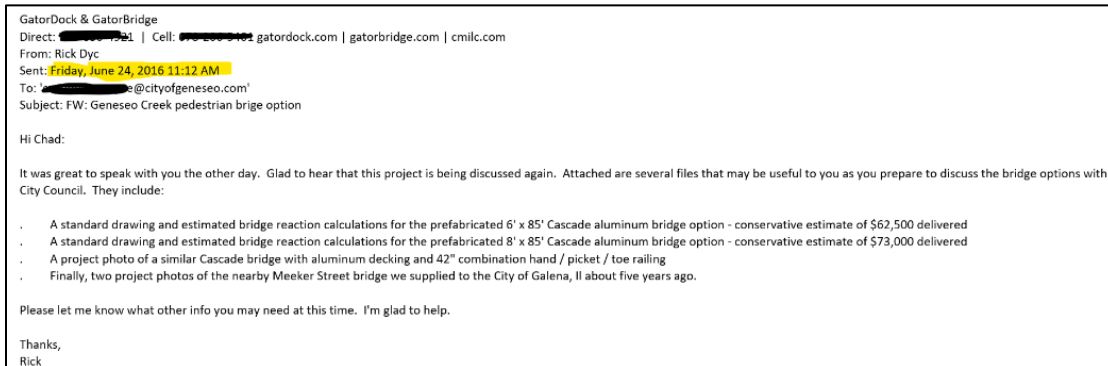


Community Involvement



A Project Long-Deliberated

Placing a pedestrian bridge across the Geneseo Creek has been a topic of discussion within the Geneseo community for years, as evidenced by Geneseo's Comprehensive Plan (discussed in greater detail in the "Connection to Local Transportation Plan" attachment). Additionally, in 2016 there was another effort to fund the pedestrian bridge project (see the email below), but it was unable to be completed.



Pedestrian Bridge Discussions from 2016

City Council Takes Action

This year the discussion of the project found renewed momentum under the support and involvement of Alderman Keith Kennett. On Tuesday, August 23, 2022, the Committee of the Whole meeting in Geneseo's City Hall recommended to the City Council to move forward with the project (see public news article right) and on September 14, 2022 the City Council approved the Resolution to support the Pedestrian Bridge and Historical Landing project.



Quad City Times News Article

Letters of Support

The Pedestrian Bridge and Historical Landing Project garnered a significant amount of public involvement and support, as evidenced from the diverse individuals who provided Letters of Support for this grant application, including Geneseo's Chief of Police, the local Daughters of the American Revolution Chapter, the Geneseo Museum Director, Senator Win Stoller, Representative Daniel Swanson, and various businesses in the community. These community leaders represent the various stakeholder organizations and citizen groups who see the benefit of this project in terms of Safety, Business Development, Historical Preservation, and as a fitting Welcome to visitors.

The Letters of Support from the Geneseo Museum Director and the local Daughters of the American Revolution note the cultural and historical importance of the site, since it is where Geneseo's first community members built the first log cabin after traveling across the country from New York in 1836. The cabin was finished on Christmas Eve, a testament to the hardy spirit and faithful dedication of the people of Geneseo that endures to this day.



Original Plaque placed in 1910



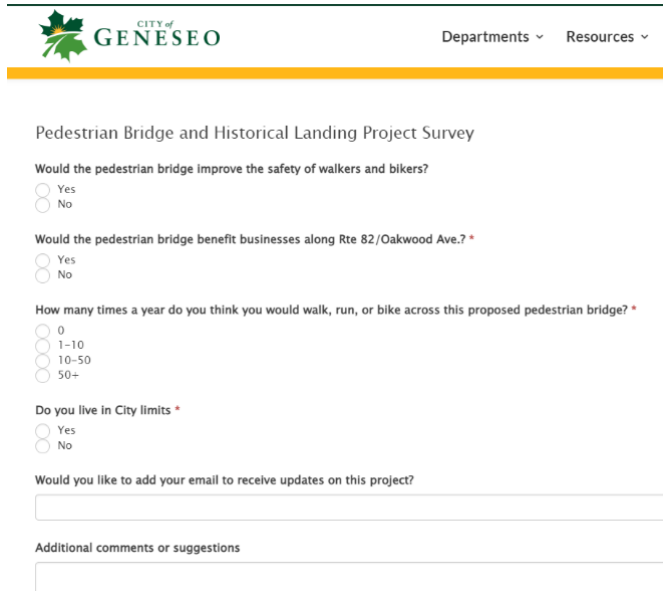
Rededication of First Cabin Site in 2000

Local Foundation Support

On September 7, 2022, the Miller Foundation notified the City of Geneseo that it was awarding \$25,000 towards completion of the Pedestrian Bridge and Historical Landing project. The Miller Foundation's goal is "to benefit the Geneseo community and surrounding areas," with preference given "to those in need and to projects that will impact the greatest number of people in the Geneseo community." This grant has generated tremendous momentum towards completing the project, and the Miller Foundation's board consists of community members who clearly believe in the positive benefits of the project.

Community Survey

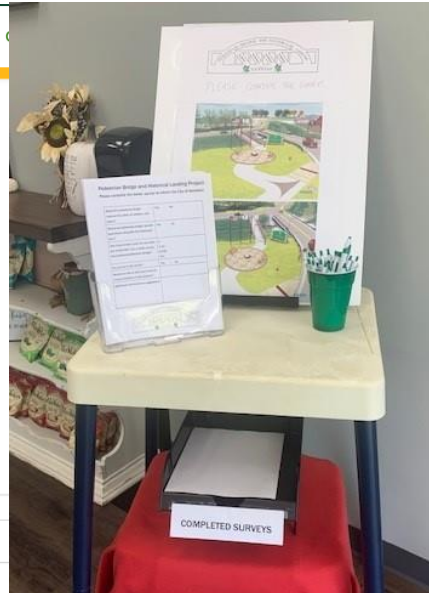
For seven days in September, the City of Geneseo solicited public input on the project, and **over 530 individuals provided their input** (with distinct IP addresses). Additionally, a printed version of the survey was also available at the popular café *Caffeine and Carbs*, which is located within 300 feet of the proposed pedestrian bridge crossing, with 40 individuals providing their feedback as well.



The screenshot shows the online survey interface for the "Pedestrian Bridge and Historical Landing Project Survey". The City of Geneseo logo is at the top left, and navigation links for "Departments" and "Resources" are at the top right. The survey questions are as follows:

- Would the pedestrian bridge improve the safety of walkers and bikers?
 Yes
 No
- Would the pedestrian bridge benefit businesses along Rte 82/Oakwood Ave.7 *
 Yes
 No
- How many times a year do you think you would walk, run, or bike across this proposed pedestrian bridge? *
 0
 1-10
 10-50
 50+
- Do you live in City limits *
 Yes
 No
- Would you like to add your email to receive updates on this project?
- Additional comments or suggestions

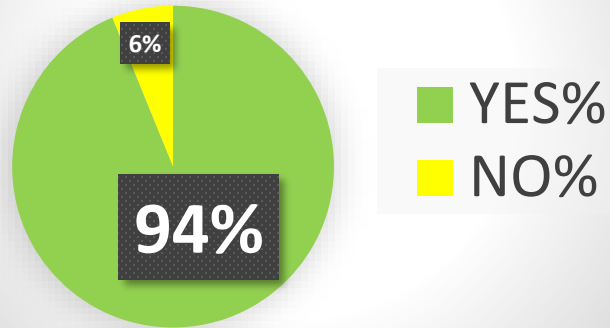
Online Project Survey



Survey at Caffeine and Carbs

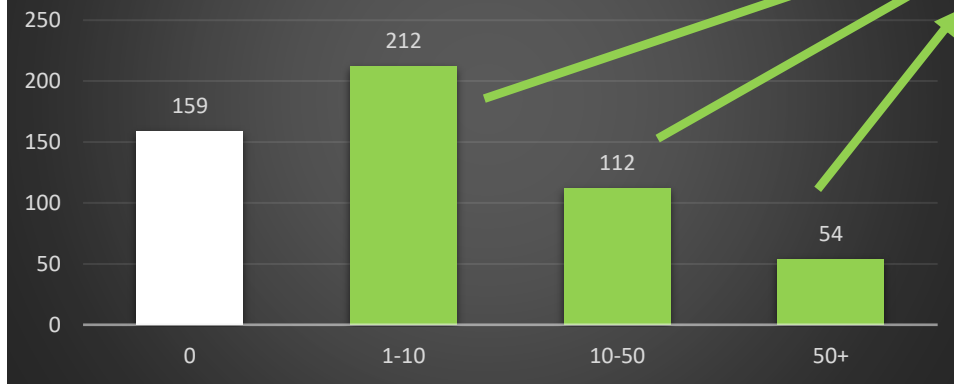
The survey results (see "Survey Results" document) show that the community of Geneseo is clearly behind this project, as over 94% of respondents identified that **the safety of walkers and bikers would improve** with the construction of the pedestrian bridge. Additionally, 122 of the respondents said they would use the pedestrian bridge 10-50 times in a year, and 64 individuals said they would use the pedestrian bridge *more than* 50 times in a year. Based on Geneseo's population size, that calculates to a mid-range estimate of 79,900 pedestrian crossings in one year. **This proves that the pedestrian bridge would see significant use by the citizens of Geneseo and its visitors.** The people of Geneseo are widely and almost uniformly in support of the Pedestrian Bridge and Historical Landing project, and, once created, the pedestrian bridge will be a heavily utilized means of connecting the two existing pedestrian walkways on both sides of the Geneseo Creek.

Would the pedestrian bridge improve the safety of walkers and bikers?



Survey conducted September 15-22, 2022; 577 respondents

How many times a year do you think you would walk, run, or bike across this proposed pedestrian bridge?



Mid-range estimate of 79,900 pedestrian crossings in one year

Survey conducted September 15-22, 2022; 577 respondents