Poggemeyer Design Group provided assistance to obtain funding and planning and design services for the development of the Huron Boat Basin in Huron, Ohio, just off Lake Erie. The project includes the construction of a live performing arts facility including stage, seating tiers, lighting, landscape development, electric service, and walkway access.

A second phase included construction of a marina building adjacent to the amphitheater and boat basin area. The facility provides ADA accessible restrooms with showers, lounge, storage, retail space and a registration and administrative office area.

The City of Huron utilizes the area for a variety of community events and festivals including the concert series Boppin’ at the Basin, Arts at the Amphitheater and Movies by the River.

**Huron Waterfront Development and Amphitheater**

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**Design**

**Huron River Amphitheater**

PDG designed and managed the construction of an amphitheater facing the marina in downtown Huron.

**Award Winning Project**

- **Location**: Huron, Ohio
- **Services Provided**: Architectural, Engineering, Site, Landscaping, Planning, Survey, Grant Administration, Construction Administration
- **Cost**: $285,000 Amphitheater, $300,000 Marina Building, $2,433,155 Boat Ramp and Parking Lot, $39,000 Waterfront Walkway
- **Project Funding**: $3.142 Million Grant– ODNR Boat Ramp
- **Project Team**: Emil Diener, RLA, Landscape Architect, Daniel Knott, PE, Site Power/Lighting

**Project Relevance**

- Municipal Rental
- Recreation

**Reference**

Mr. Andrew White
City of Huron
417 Main Street, PO. Box 468
Huron, Ohio 44839
419.433.5000
The Huron Waterfront Development and Amphitheater

Huron. The amphitheater was designed to capitalize on the topography of the site, the vistas created by the Lake and River, the business activity of the downtown, and the pedestrian and boating activities of the marina. Numerous very successful concerts are held there every year.

Planning

Developed a plan for a waterfront walkway along the Huron River and Lake Erie. PDG, with the assistance of JJR, Inc., worked with a Waterfront Walkway Committee to develop goals and objectives for the project to define:

- The location of the walkway throughout the Target Area;
- Identification of property control issues;
- Historical, ecological, and environmental data into the walkway design;
- Selection of a walkway theme and image;
- Design elements such as furniture, street lighting, signage and landscaping;
- Acquiring citizen input and consensus;
- Tying in major community focal points such as the boat basin, the amphitheater, the proposed marina building, beaches, the lighthouse and pier, the downtown, etc.;
- Addressing both vehicular and pedestrian traffic patterns throughout the area;
- Development of preliminary probable construction costs;
- Potential phasing of construction elements; and
- Identification of potential funding sources for various elements of the project.

PDG incorporated an innovative visioning technique to acquire citizen input. In addition to public forums, a “Trip-Tic” was prepared. This “Trip-Tic” included an overall color map of the proposed walkway, as well as a section devoted to each key area along the walkway (about 18 in all). Historic information, along with proposed features of the walkway at each section were presented and questions were asked. Participants could take the “Trip-Tic” tour at their convenience, answer the questions, and return the booklet to the City for analysis. This visioning technique was considered very successful by the City and all participants.
Marina Building

PDG designed a unique structure to serve as a marina building for transient boaters, as well as public event participants in downtown Huron. The Marina Building faces the Huron River and Lake Erie and is adjacent to the marina and the amphitheater in the downtown. Restrooms, showers, lounge areas, offices (for the City's parks staff), a small retail shop, and decks provide transient boaters and residents with an attractive public space for River and Lake events. PDG also acquired State grants to assist with the financing of this project.

ODNR Boat Launch - Award Winning

PDG provided engineering services for new public boating access facilities in the Huron River with access to Lake Erie. The facility was designed for typical Lake Erie private watercraft and includes a four-lane boat launch and associated sheet piling and dock abutments, floating boarding docks and courtesy docks, access drives, 135 car/trailer parking spaces, lighting, make-ready and tie-down areas, and a public restroom facility with water service, grinder pump sanitary sewer and other appurtenances. The project involved the demolition of existing industrial structures and the concrete and masonry from one of the demolished was crushed and utilized on-site as granular backfill material and the existing asphalt parking and aggregate base was crushed and used as new pavement base.

Stormwater runoff is treated by a linear stormwater quality pond which also minimized the required storm sewers thereby reducing project cost and energy inputs. Site lighting is provided by LED area lights which greatly reduce power requirements while minimizing light pollution.

PDG prepared the City's application for grant funds, which resulted in an award of $3,142,000 (Engineers' Estimate) through the Ohio Department of Natural Resource's Cooperating Public Boating Facility Project program. Project cost was $2,433,155.

- 2010 National Award as Best Large Boating Access Facility – States Organization for Boating Access (SOBA)
- 2010 Quality Asphalt Paving Awards-Flexible Pavements of Ohio

PROJECT FINANCING

- Huron NatureWorks Grant
- Huron CDBG-ED Grant
- Huron Boat Basin Grant Program
- Transportation Enhancement Program
- STAG Grant (Federal) Application
With assistance from PDG, the Luna Pier Master Plan was completed in 2009 and represented the first major planning initiative for this Southeast Michigan community. As part of the Luna Pier Master Plan, the City was awarded a grant for $490,000 from the Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund to help fund the improvements to the pier and beach area. Enhancements include a new restroom/changing area that will represent a replica of the Turtle Island Lighthouse—that once stood in Lake Erie. The project also includes ADA improvements to the beach, a kayak launch, and storm water improvements. This grant was combined with a $100,000 U.S. EPA Great Lakes Restoration Grant that helps to fund an innovative storm water management system. This project demonstrates “Green Streets” techniques and innovative stormwater management which helps to clean runoff before it is discharged into Lake Erie. Poggemeyer assisted City Leaders in obtaining the grant funds and also provided design services for the new waterfront.
Poggemeyer has played an integral role to-date in the conceptualization and development of the Marina District. As part of this extensive project, PDG completed a detailed design of the $5.8 million Marina and Site Improvements. PDG successfully met the accelerated schedule and the City’s very aggressive bid date. This project consists of a 96-slip marina with full utilities, sanitary pump-out facilities, marine fueling facilities, access roads, parking, all public utilities including: water, sanitary sewers, storm sewers, power, gas, telephone and cable.

Other major design components include; sheet pile wall and tie-back system in weak soils, a major 96" combined sewer junction chamber with primary screen, guide piles for floating docks, construction methods and sequencing to comply with brownfield clean-up requirements.

The electrical design for the floating docks, future development, street lighting and passenger terminal building included drawings and specifications for the utility service connection, power distribution, grounding, shore power connections, and area and parking lot lighting. This project was complicated by the constrained site, coordination with the Toledo Edison Company of relocation of their main 69KV
power feeding the entire downtown business district, connection to the existing 35ft deep sanitary sewer and aggressive design schedule.

**Electrical Elements**

- Underground Manholes
- Hand Holes and Duct Banks for Power Distribution
- Telephone and Cable Television System Cabling
- Calculations of Dock Electrical Loads According to National Electrical Code Requirements
- Calculations for Electrical Fault Analysis
- Photometric Analysis for Lighting Systems
- Construction Cost Estimating
PDG worked closely with the City of Oregon to move forward with waterfront development initiatives developed as part of the City’s Comprehensive Plan. During the comprehensive planning process, the need to more fully capitalize on the Lake Erie waterfront was identified which led to the concept of developing a boardwalk adjacent to a city park and community center. After several attempts to secure funding from different sources, and modifying the original project scope, the City of Oregon and PDG prepared a successful NatureWorks application for the project.

The new boardwalk improves and beautifies approximately 600 feet of Lake Erie Shoreline with a pedestrian walkway, access points to the water, decorative lighting, and outdoor furniture. This project stabilizes the shoreline, dissipates wave action with unique rip rap design, and provides various landscape treatments between the shoreline and Bay Shore Road.