

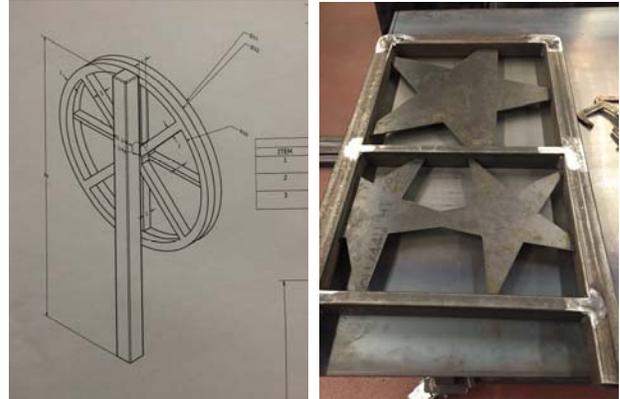
Jasper Place Bike Racks Pilot Project: Lessons Learned

The Opportunity:

In October of 2015, Jasper Place High School asked CITYlab to help support an interdisciplinary pilot project in which students and teachers from Jasper Place High School's Design and Welding classes would design and build unique bike racks that would be installed somewhere in the city. This student project would allow student work to connect to community need in a real and meaningful way.

What We Did:

CITYlab and Sustainable Transportation provided the students in the Design class with the standards for City bike racks, as well as information from Zoning Bylaw 12800 on bicycle rack placement on the sidewalk. As well, CITYlab shared information on urban design standards, pedestrian flow, and how bike racks interact with the sidewalk and street.



At the same time, we identified the Stony Plain and Area Business Revitalization Zone as our community partner since placemaking is part of the Revitalization and Stony Plain Road is near to the school.

The students used this information to design a series of bike racks that reflected the context of Stony Plain Road and their own school property. Additionally, the Welding class provided input on the proposed designs and discussed modifications with the design students based on the capabilities of the equipment currently available at the school. CITYlab and Sustainable Transportation then selected two bike rack designs that would work well on Stony Plain Road, and school Administration selected two that would complement school property. Students in the Welding class constructed all four bike racks.

On Wednesday, June 15th the two Stony Plain Road branded bike racks were installed on Stony Plain Road and a celebration was held on-site to ceremoniously lock up the first bike. One bike rack was installed in front of Richard Butler Memorial Park at 157th Street, and the other at 155th Street and Stony Plain Road. The two Jasper Place High School branded bike racks are located in front of the school.

Project Results:

This project took 9 months to complete and reflects Jasper Place High School's semesters. The Design class was in the first semester, the Welding class in the second. There were:

- 47 students in two classes
- 5 Jasper Place High School staff
- 7 City staff members
- 1 community member



Some Lessons Learned:

- This was an excellent opportunity to challenge high school students with real-world design constraints and contextual design, while connecting them to their local community.
- The pilot bike rack project brought students, the school, the BRZ and City staff together in a meaningful way to make our community better. Everyone was very positive all the way through!
- The bike racks made by students were more expensive to produce than the standard bike racks used by the City of Edmonton. This was likely because the school welding facility cannot currently work with stainless steel, however the increased costs were justified as a part of the pilot and because of the overall benefit to the community.
- Jasper Place High School staff members were enthused about the cross-curricular connections. Examples of the feedback included:
 - *“Wow cross curricular connections! Science, welding, math, business, community. Super!”*
 - *“Cross-discipline, Science and Math. Students have the opportunity to explore technically complex activities.”*
 - *“We realized there were many cross-curricular connections to Science 30. The plan is to work together to develop a teaching resource/package for Science 30. This will promote building relationships between departments and support multiple pathways-recognition of trades and use of energy in manufacturing by an academic subject.”*
- **We heard from students that the biggest impact for them was that they realized that they can shape the city - especially when teenagers are made to feel like they don't belong.**
- The students, teachers and City staff surveyed were a bit unclear on the goal of the project. The range of responses went from simply **“making bike racks”** to **“showcase[ing] a connection between the school and the community.”** There is an opportunity to clarify and better share the goal with participants.
- The majority of survey responses showed that participants thought the project contributed to building a better city. A few were unsure, but no one disagreed.

Jasper Place High School Bike Rack Pilot Project in the media:

[Jasper Place High School kids brighten up community by designing new bike rack.](#) Edmonton Examiner, June 22 2016.

[On Your Street.](#) CTV News, June 15, 2016.

