City: Story City

Title of Project: South Park Project

City's Population: 3,431

In a few sentences, give a summary of the project and why it was needed:
The South Park Project included: 1) Removal of the existing WPA enclosed structure - the stone fireplace remained - and restore and improve the shelter with an open and larger shelter, 2) Constructed two scenic areas overlooking the South Skunk River, 3) Development of a picnic grove area along the banks of the river, and 4) Paved trail access.
The South Park is located on the city's main thoroughfare along the banks of the South Skunk River. The enclosed shelter was built as part of the WPA program back in 1936 along with the swinging bridge that crosses the river. The shelter had not been used for years because of its deteriorated condition and the park underutilized because of access and lack of amenities.

Explain the specific role of your city in this project:
The redevelopment and refurbishment of the South Park was one of the top three goals identified in the city's strategic plan and the Parks and Recreation Plan.

At the November 2015 election, voters approved with 79 percent voting in favor the renewal of the Capital Improvement Reserve Fund Levy with 80 percent of the money going towards improvements to the South and North Parks.

A committee of 11 community members worked with our engineering firm on the design for the project. City officials with the engineer then prepared detailed plans, accepted bids, and supervised the construction of the project

In a few sentences, what future impact will this project have on your community?
It'd already happened. The project was substantially completed in November, 2016. We've already had individuals utilizing the refurbished shelter, sitting on the scenic overlook areas and at night with a campfire, or simply taking a walk around the park. We have had tremendous favorable comments on this project. Interesting note, the shelter is lighted at night and many motorist comment on how wonderful this looks.

Total cost of project: $342,073
List where funding came from. (grants, donations, city funds, etc):

City funds and grant

Total time project took/projected to take for completion. Please include start date and end date. (To qualify the project must be operating or completed between January 1, 2016 and December 31, 2016):

Designed in early 2016, construction started in July 2016, and project accepted by city December 2016.

Resources. (Please list Web sites judges may reference if they seek additional information.):

http://www.bing.com/videos/search?q=south+park+story+city%2c+iowa+youtuibe&view=detail&mid=9EAA1F0E1C08F135DE769EAA1F0E1C08F135DE76&FORM=VIRE