

1.4a GRR Access Student Handout

Name: _____

How can we get to the Restored Grand River Rapids?

If implemented, the Grand River Revitalization and Restoration project will create a river with many more recreational uses for residents and visitors alike. Although the Grand River Restoration is meant to be used by all Grand Rapids residents, this will be challenging, as there are over 30 different neighborhoods in the City. You are going to analyze one neighborhood's access to the riverfront by 1) determining all the ways someone from your neighborhood could get to the area that will have restored rapids (such as by walking, by bus, and by car), and by 2) finding the barriers to accessing the river. Then you and your classmates will share your findings to determine what could be done to provide more people with access to the river.

What is your neighborhood? _____

Step 1 - Go to the Community Research Institute - <https://data.johnsoncenter.org/community-insight/reports/community-profiles?defaultLocation=48&locationType=107> and click on your neighborhood.

1. How many people live in this neighborhood/area? _____
2. What percent of the population is under 20? _____
3. What percent is over 65? _____

Step 2- Go to Google Maps and find an intersection near the center of your neighborhood.

Intersection: _____

Step 3 - Look at the development map for the rapids (<http://bit.ly/developmentpoints>) and select a location on the river you would like to travel to.

Location/Intersection: _____.

Use Google Maps to obtain directions from your neighborhood to the restoration. Use this information to complete the table on the backside. Make sure to include the following:

- **Cars** - Where will you park? Will you need to pay or walk a distance?
- **Bus** - Do you need to transfer? Do you have to walk between transfers? How long do you have to wait for a bus? Check your routes on the <https://www.ridetherapid.org/schedules-maps>. Are there any days/times you cannot take the bus?
- **Bike** - Use the Road Bike map on Experience GR (<https://www.experiencegr.com/things-to-do/outdoors/road-biking/>) to see if your route will take you on any roads with designated bike lanes. Consider how busy the roads you will be traveling are. Would you bike this at night?
- **Walking** - Look at the roads you will be traveling on. Add the satellite layer to Google Maps and zoom in. Are there any sidewalks?
- **Bonus – Uber/Lyft** - how much would it cost you to Uber/Lyft from your neighborhood? Would you take this option? What might be some advantages/drawbacks?

Transportation Type Analysis

	Car	Bus	Bike	Walking	Bonus – Uber/Lyft
Travel Time					
Transfers (time to wait/distance to)					
Days/Times Available					
Costs (Rides/Parking)					
Safety (Sidewalks, Bike Lanes)					
Would you use this mode of transportation?					

1. What modes of transportation would you recommend for your neighborhood? Why?

2. What modes of transportation would you not recommend for your neighborhood? Why?

3. Give two or three recommendations for what the city could do to make it easier for residents in your neighborhood to get to the restored rapids.