



Riverside Park Community Forum AGENDA

50% Submission Meeting

- Welcome and Introductions
- Project Overview
- Schedule and Milestones
- Next Steps
- Discussion

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Project Overview and Focus

Goals

- Protect Train Exhibit
- Improve pedestrian access and accessibility
- Improve park and trail amenities
- Develop an Interpretive Plan and construct five signs
- Develop plant list for future plantings

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Project Status

Schedule

- 50% Drawing Submission (August 2013)
- Public Comment and Internal Staff Review at City
- VDOT Review (Sept-Nov 2013)
- 80% and 100% Drawing Submission (Spring 2014)
- Advertise for Bid and Construction (Spring 2014)

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Project Location



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Past Studies and Recent Investments

Early Plans



2009 Riverside Park Master Plan

2010 – 2013



Playground, Spray court, Basketball Court

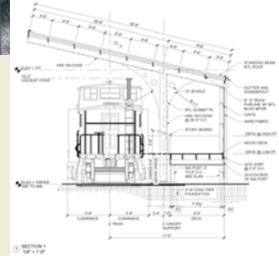
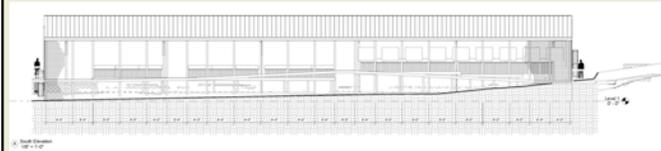
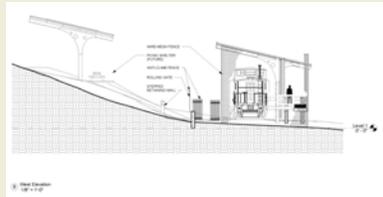
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Train Exhibit

Train shed

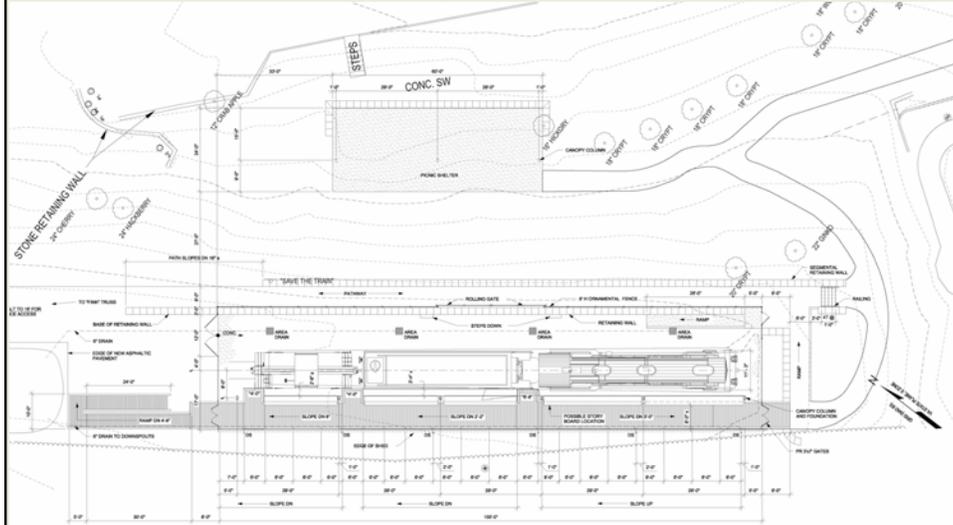
- Cover for weather protection and fencing for security
- Accessible walkway for visitors
- Picnic shelter



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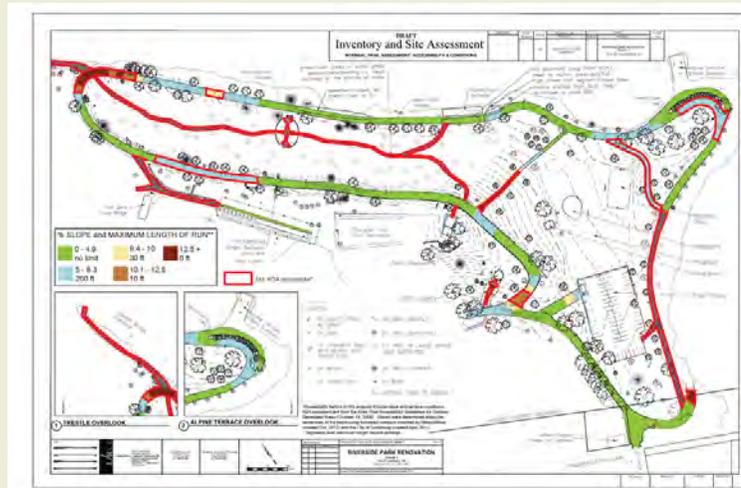


Train Exhibit



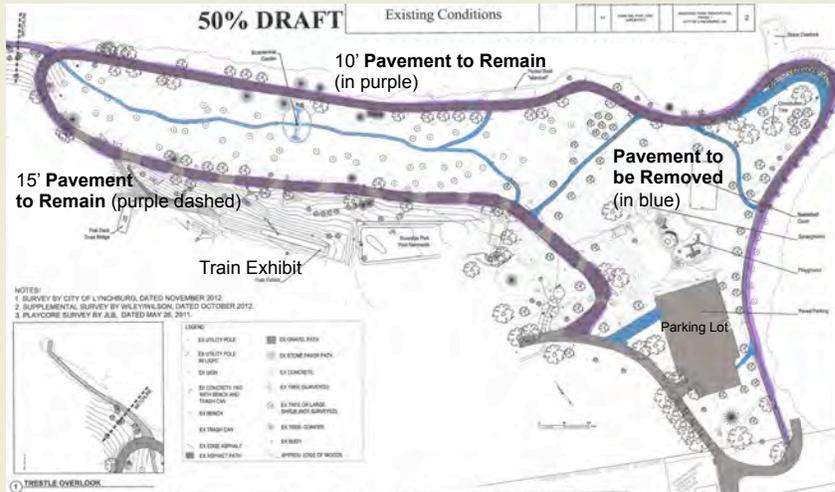
Pedestrian Accessibility

Slope/Accessibility Analysis



Pedestrian Accessibility

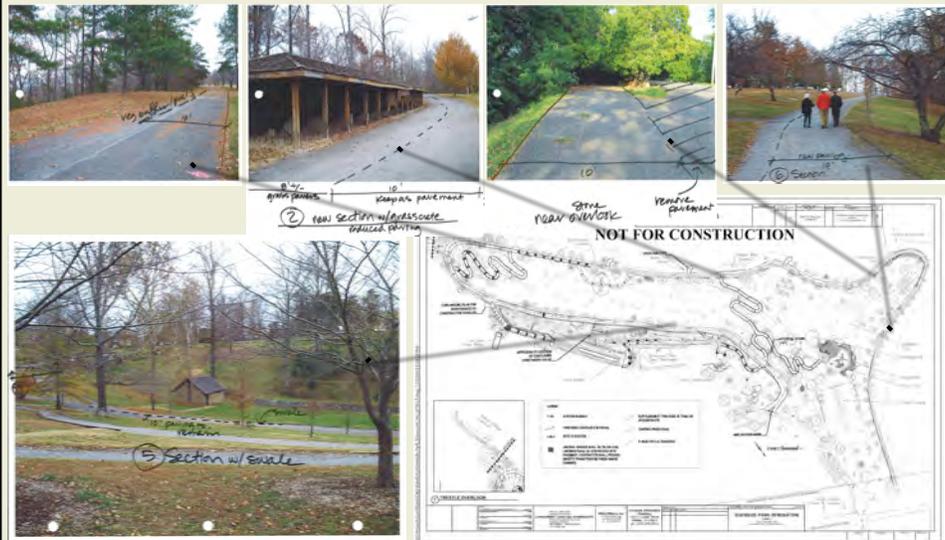
Pavement Removal and Reduction



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Pedestrian Accessibility

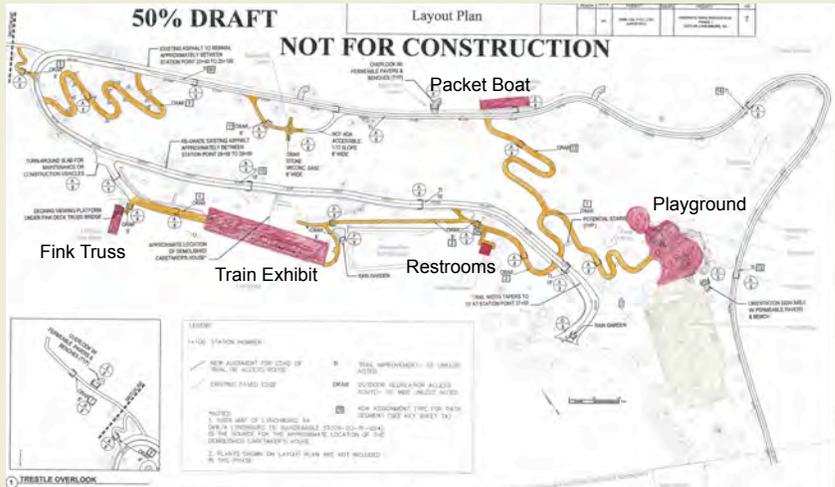


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Pedestrian Accessibility

Connect Key Features with Accessible Path

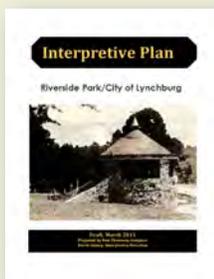


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Interpretation of Park's History

Long Range Interpretive Plan Storylines



1. A Reflection of Society

Riverside Park has layers of physical and social history that parallel and reflect the evolution of the city and its citizens.

2. Anchored in Place

The location of Riverside Park, not only on a bluff overlooking the James River but also along the spine of a planned community, is integral to the park's history.

3. A Product of Many Hands

Since it opened in 1923, Riverside Park has depended on a variety of public and private agencies, groups, and individuals to build and maintain park features.

4. Breadcrumbs to the Past

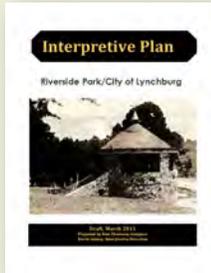
Throughout the park, today's visitors can discover commemorative breadcrumb—large and small monuments, plaques, and plantings—placed with ceremony to preserve links to the past.

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Interpretation of Park's History

Long Range Interpretive Plan Recommendations

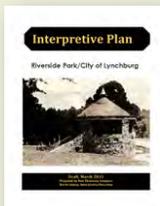


- Develop a multi-level, park-wide sign system
- Enhance the park's web presence
- Develop a modest schedule of interpretive events, performances, celebrations, or commemorations appropriate to park features and resource capacity
- Create micro-publications for the use of interpretive partners and stewards
- Create a self-discovery "publication" for families and youth
- Encourage more use by educators
- Explore the feasibility of a modest train shed exhibit

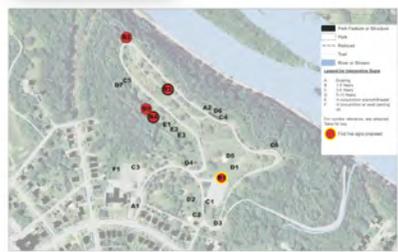
Interpretation of Park's History

Sign Plan

DRAFT Sign Identification



Catwalk at Steartown, PA



- **Orientation Sign** at Existing parking lot near playground (*Information/Multiple Themes*)
- **Wayfinding Sign** at accessible river overlook (*Park History/A Product of Many Hands or Anchored in Place*)
- **Wayfinding Sign** about the pool history (*Park History/A Reflection of Society*)
- **Series of Small Signs** on railing at Train Exhibit (*Transportation/Breadcrumbs to the Past*)



Benefits of Investment

Benefits

- Stabilization of Resources
- Enhanced Accessibility for Users – make path system more walkable
- Greening of Investment with Sustainable Building Practices – materials, stormwater treatment
- Interpretive Opportunities, Telling of the Stories

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Next Steps – Where from Here?

- Incorporate Comments
- Submit for Agency Review
- Confirm first Interpretive Storylines

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Comments or Questions?

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