

BROOKS LANDING - PHASE II PUBLIC IMPROVEMENTS
CITIZEN ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES - MEETING #5
APRIL 9, 2013 - 4:00 - 6:00 P.M.
GENESSEE WATERWAYS CENTER

ATTENDANCE

Members of the CAC met on Tuesday, April 9th. The following project team and CAC members were in attendance:

- Kathy Tanchick
- John Curran
- Sheila Bazil
- Bill Nichthauser
- Mary Larkin
- Gloria Edmonds
- Olivia Kim
- John DeMott
- John Picone
- Jim Farr
- Jeff Mroczek - City of Rochester
- Dennis Kennelly - TYLI
- Anthony Bellomo – TYLI

I. REVIEW OF PROJECT TO DATE

After introductions, and due to the significant time lapse since our last meeting, Jeff provided a brief overview of the project to date. The project began in February 2009 and we have held four Citizens Advisory Committee (CAC) meetings and one project specific Public Meeting. Detailed meeting minutes and graphic displays from all of these meetings are available on the project website at <http://www.cityofrochester.gov/article.aspx?id=8589941116>.

II. ACTIVITIES & CRITICAL DECISIONS SINCE LAST MEETING

At our last CAC meeting in September 2010 we reviewed two design options that were a result of all input received through the prior CAC and public meetings. The major difference between the two alternatives was the presence or absence of a connector road between the park turn around loop and public access easement through the Staybridge parking lot.



Two additional public meetings were conducted in September 2011 and March 2012 in conjunction with the Flats at Brooks Landing mixed-use private development project. Based upon the input from these meetings it was determined to advance the two-way drive connection alternative. This alternative was subsequently advanced through the Environmental Assessment process in conjunction with the Flats project.

Information regarding the Flats at Brooks Landing mixed-use private development project and the combined Environmental Assessment can be viewed at <http://www.cityofrochester.gov/article.aspx?id=8589950104>.

Due to prior and current project funding, and agreements that helped create the development parcels, the State Office of Parks Recreation and Historic Preservation (OPRHP) had a significant oversight review of both projects. In response to the Environmental Assessment, OPRHP responded that they are supportive of the planned park improvements with the following stipulations:

- Allow one-way traffic only from the hotel parking lot into the park, becoming a two-way at the turn around loop.
- Ensure enhancements to the park road meet industry MINIMUM standards for limited use.
- Ensure that park road speed limit signs will be installed and maintained, and raised pedestrian crosswalk(s) will be designed and constructed to slow traffic.
- Install a height restriction bar to prohibit commercial traffic from using the park road, but allow emergency vehicles to drive through.
- Install "No Through Traffic" signs at each end of the park road and signage indicating that commercial traffic is prohibited.
- Plant trees in the roadside planting strip on the south side of South Plymouth Avenue.
- Increase the vegetation (e.g. trees in lawn, layered mass plantings, etc.) and minimize pavement at the public plaza.
- Limit lighting (if any) along the road.
- Ensure no pole mounted lights, lit scoreboards, permanent dugouts, concession stands or similar structures are erected at the playing fields.

Following the conclusion of the environmental review process the park improvement plans were once again updated in response to the received comments, resulting in a Final Preliminary Design. Due to Federal Transportation funding the project is required to submit a Draft Design Report to the NYS Department of Transportation to conclude the Preliminary Design Phase. The design team submitted a Draft Design Report to the NYSDOT in January and is awaiting approval. It is anticipated that there will be no significant issues that will prevent project approval. Once the report is approved we will officially move into the Final Design phase of the project.

III. REVIEW AND DISCUSSION OF UPDATED PLANS



*a higher resolution version of this image is available for download from the project website.

Anthony led the group through a thorough review and discussion of the updated improvement plans with a focus on the major project elements including: park entry and drive; one-way southbound connector drive; traffic calming elements; trail improvements, realignment and expansion including the Elmwood Avenue trail underpass; overlooks; pedestrian connections from new trail along canal/rail corridor; select vegetation removal and thinning to open views; and new plantings to enhance the historic park landscape and to buffer views to the private development to the north and ice rink to the south. The improvements presented are refined versions of plans presented at prior CAC and public meetings.

Specific comments/questions from the CAC included the following:

- The **ball field and baseball diamonds** are a critical component off the park but are not addressed as part of the project. There are significant drainage issues that need to be addressed for it to be usable for the full outdoor sports season. Why isn't it park of the project? Can it be?

We recognize that there are serious drainage issues associated with the open greenspace but will likely not be able to address it as part of this project. The

design team will spend some time looking at possible solutions and budgetary implications.

- Can **power points** (electrical outlets) be provided throughout the park for general park users and organized events (movie nights, concerts, etc...)?
Power points are typically only provided at rental facilities (shelters, lodges, etc...) and will not be part of this project.

- What level of **lighting** will be provided along the trails, park road and turn-around, and connector drive?

The City typically does not light our trails as they are considered part of the park system that is only open dawn to dusk. In special circumstances, typically in more developed areas such as Corn Hill Landing or the Brooks Promenade, will we provide lighting.

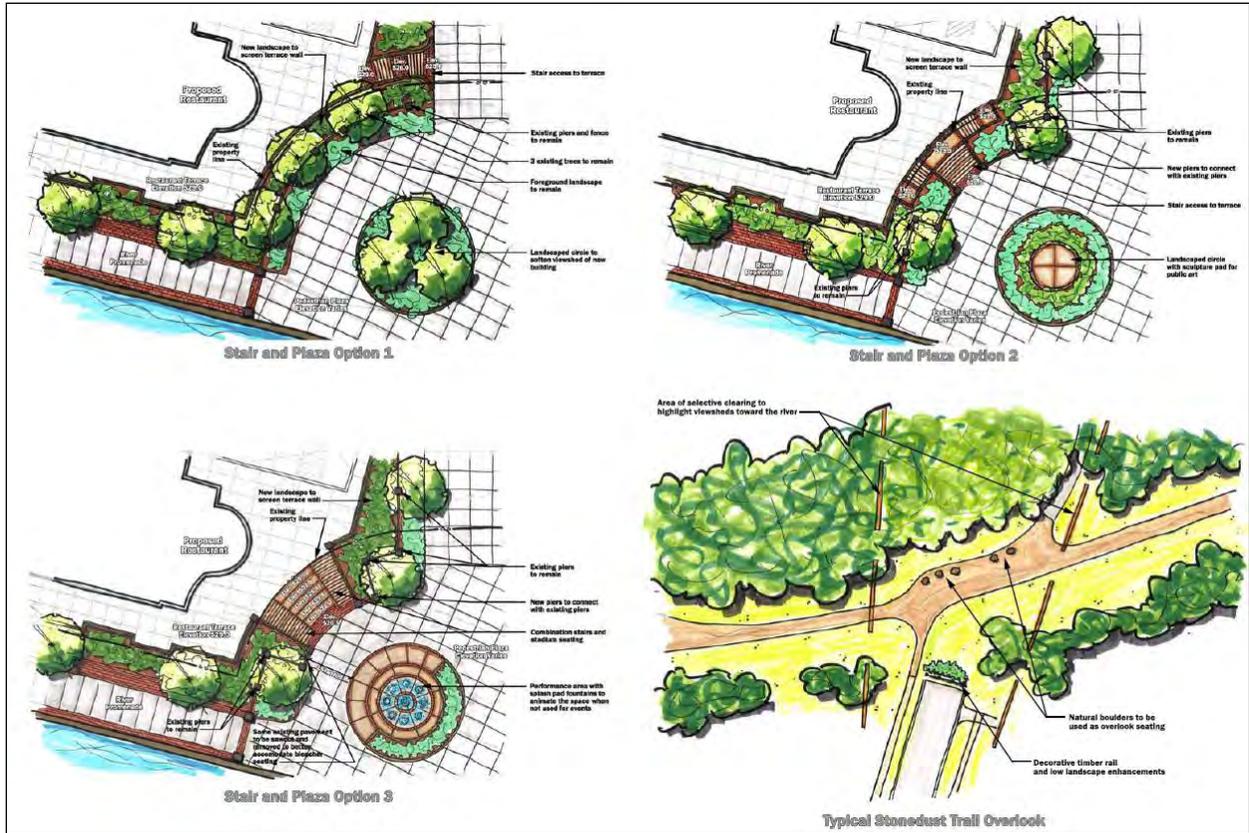
We intend to provide a minimal level of lighting along the park entry, parking and turn-around loop for safety purposes. As a parks facility it is open dawn to dusk and we do not want to encourage off-hour use.

- Can **restrooms** be provided / considered?
Restrooms will not be provided as part of this project. Stand alone restroom facilities are very expensive to install and difficult to maintain. Restroom facilities are already provided in the ice rink complex and the Genesee Waterway Center building. This will be further evaluated as part of the Genesee Valley Park West Master Plan Project.

IV. PUBLIC PLAZA ALTERNATIVES

Three alternatives have been developed for enhancements to the public plaza. These improvements are intended to provide: greater public utilization of the plaza; enhanced screening of the proposed private development, and; direct access to the future restaurant. These improvements are currently unfunded and will likely not be constructed as part of this project.

These alternatives were presented at the September 2011 and March 2012 but no comments were received. The CAC preferred option #2.



*a higher resolution version of this image is available for download from the project website.

V. FINAL DESIGN & CONSTRUCTION PROCESS & SCHEDULE

Once Preliminary Design approval is received from the NYSDOT the project can officially move into the Final Design Phase. The final design phase is when the plans and details are finalized and the contract documents are prepared. The final contract documents will require one more round of review and approval by the NYSDOT and NYSDOS prior to bidding the documents for construction.

We anticipate bidding will begin later this summer with construction beginning in the fall and finishing in summer 2014.

VI. PUBLIC ART

\$200,000 of the project funding from NYS Department of State (DOS) is designated for public art - \$150,000 for artist contracts with the remainder for design and engineering review, construction inspection and contingency. The City has established a process for jury selection, call for artists, advertisement / promotion, and artist selection and agreement. This process is currently in practice as part of the Erie Harbor Enhancements project in the South Wedge

neighborhood. The Erie Harbor project is also funded through a DOS grant. The process has been reviewed and approved by the DOS and the Mayor's Office.

Jeff reviewed critical aspects of the public art requirements and selection process, summarized as follows:

- Art Solicitation and Selection Process
 - DOS funded - will review and approve prospectus/call, advertisement, artist agreement(s)
 - We have established process – approved by DOS & Mayor's Office and used for Erie Harbor
 - Advertisement through Arts & Cultural Council, NYS Contract Reporter, City web site (notification and hosting)
 - Up to three works will be given commissions
- All artwork must be:
 - Permanent and durable – lasting up to 30 years
 - Require minimal maintenance
 - Safe for interaction of general public
 - Approved by NYS licensed engineer – as needed
- Artists must be:
 - Professional with proven ability to deliver – must provide example of 2 works of similar scale/value to what proposed
 - Insured
 - NYS resident
- Jury / Selection Committee selection and involvement
 - Jury will include:
 - Neighborhood resident (2-3): participant in the project public input process, with understanding of and familiarity/involvement with the project
 - Art expert (1): with experience in public art competitions and commissioning public art. Recommendation of Arts & Cultural Council.
 - Project stakeholder (1): adjacent owner / Staybridge representative
 - Owner's representative (3): City of Rochester Staff (DRYS, Law/Mayor's Office and NBD)
 - All juror nominations will be submitted to the Mayor's Office for review and formal invitation.
 - Jurors need to be committed to project and process and maintain involvement throughout selection process.
 - Meeting requirements
 - Pre-call meeting – to finalize scope (1 or more as needed)
 - Pre-submission meeting with artists (optional for jury members)

- Submission Evaluation
- Short-list interviews (as needed) – try to schedule in one day
- Final selection meeting (1 or more as needed)
- Ribbon cutting
- Jury will make a recommendation to me and I will make a recommendation to the Mayor’s Office and City Council who will make the final decision
- City Design Team Involvement in Selection
 - City Project Manager
 - Evaluation of artists’ submittals for completeness. Only those meeting basic requirements, as outlined in Call, will be forwarded to Jurors for consideration.
 - Will review and rank submittals and partake in discussions with Jurors but will not vote directly.
 - Will make final recommendation to Mayor’s Office based upon jury review and input.
 - Design Consultant
 - Will provide technical and aesthetic review of proposals
 - Will participate in evaluation discussion with jurors but will not vote

It is estimated that the process will take approximately 6-8 months from the first jury meeting to execution of the artist contracts with an additional 6 month to one year for art fabrication and installation.

The Erie Harbor art prospectus provided extensive detail on the neighborhood and site history, context, and design but did not dictate placement, scope, scale or materials. Artists were free to interpret the provided information and address the site as their artistic vision saw fit. A total of 14 artists submitted for consideration and the jury selected a short list of 4 artists for further consideration.

The CAC agreed that similar approach is desired for this project and that multiple pieces would be desirable. It was noted however that the circle in the plaza was always intended to have a focal piece of artwork and needs to be addressed as part of this call.

The first step in the art process is to select a jury/selection team. Jeff asked that the CAC provide names of 2 -3 people that would be interested in participating in the process. The nominees may be CAC members but participation in the CAC is not necessary. Members of the jury/selection team may not submit artwork for consideration. Any links or associations with submitting artists must be disclosed, and may be cause for recusal from the jury.

Please provide the names and contact information of perspective jury/selection team members to Jeff by May 15, 2013.

The above represents my recollection of the meeting. If there are any errors or omissions please contact me at your convenience.

Sincerely,



Jeffery J. Mroczek, R.L.A. / Landscape Architect
City of Rochester / Department of Environmental Services / Development Division
30 Church Street / Room 300B / Rochester, New York 14614-1279
MROCZEKJ@cityofrochester.gov / 585-428-7124