



Hudson Waterfront “Vision” Study

February 26, 2018

Hudson
Wisconsin

Acknowledgements

Advisory Committee

Rich O'Connor, Mayor

John Hoggatt, Alderman District 5

Pat Casanova, Plan Commission, Park Board

Tom Zeuli, Public Works/Parks Director

Mike Johnson, Community Development Director

Stakeholders

Thank you to the many stakeholders that attended the meetings on June 26th, 2017.
Your input valuable in helping to shape this Vision Plan.

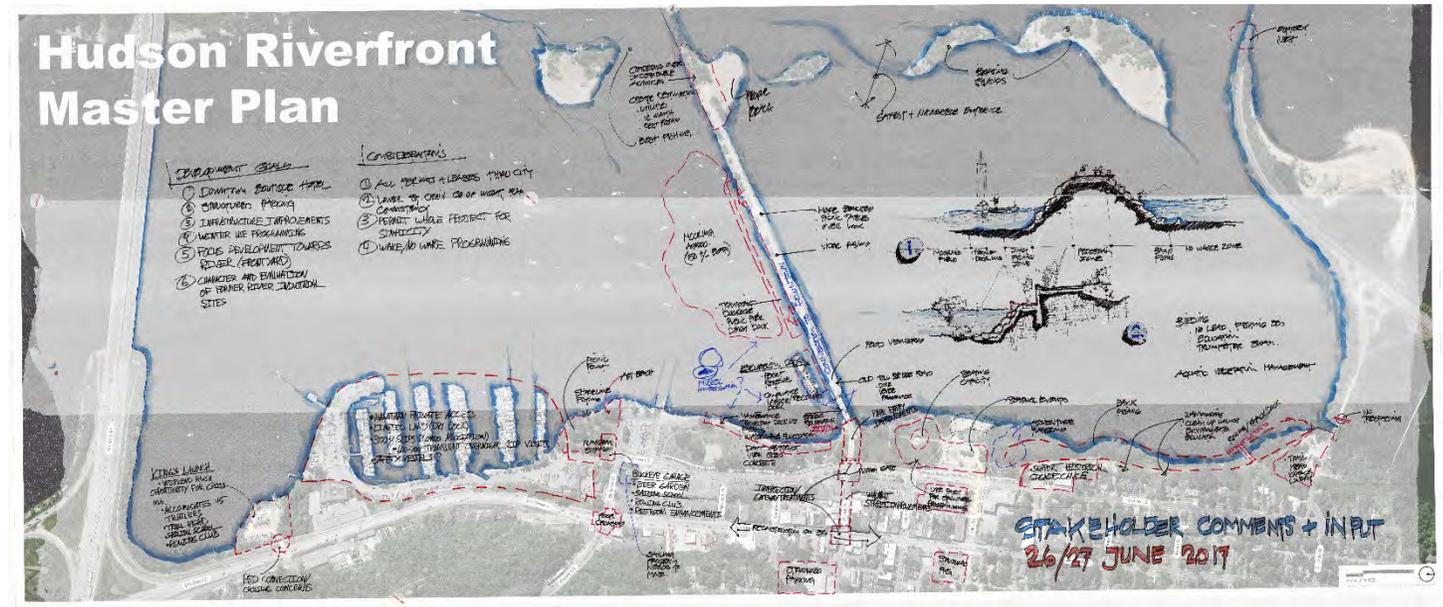
Design Team (Short Elliott Hendrickson Inc.)

Ed Freer, RLA, Landscape Architect

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Consensus Plan





Transient Dock Option 1/
Armored Shoreline

Renovated Boat Launch

Buckeye Beer Garden/
Community Center

Community Sailing School
and Sailing Beach

Park Access

Streetscape
Improvements

Intersection
Improvements

St. Croix Sailing School



Photo Credit: St. Croix Sailing School



Photo Credit: Marina Del Rey

The relocation of the St. Croix Sailing School was a necessity as the downtown continues to redevelop. The new proposed location offers easy and safe access to the water, while providing adequate storage capacity for the boats and supplies. A new beach area would provide the proper launching mechanisms for the sailboats along with any personal paddle craft. This area will become a location where people can launch kayaks and canoes, as well as watch the sailing school compete in competition.

Buckeye Community Center + Outdoor Garden



Photo Credit: wallstreetjournal.com



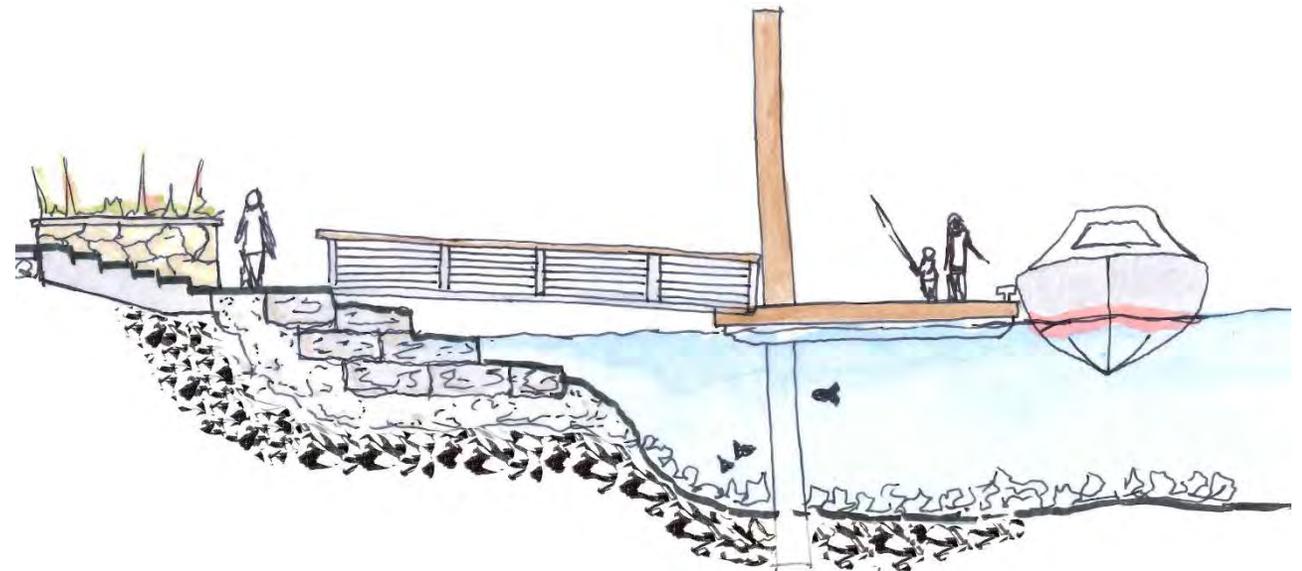
Photo Credit: Philadelphia Magazine

Transforming the Buckeye Garage into a multi-purpose community center will create an additional destination along the riverfront while providing an economic benefit. An addition to the building would provide updated restrooms and utility space for the sailing program and other community programs.

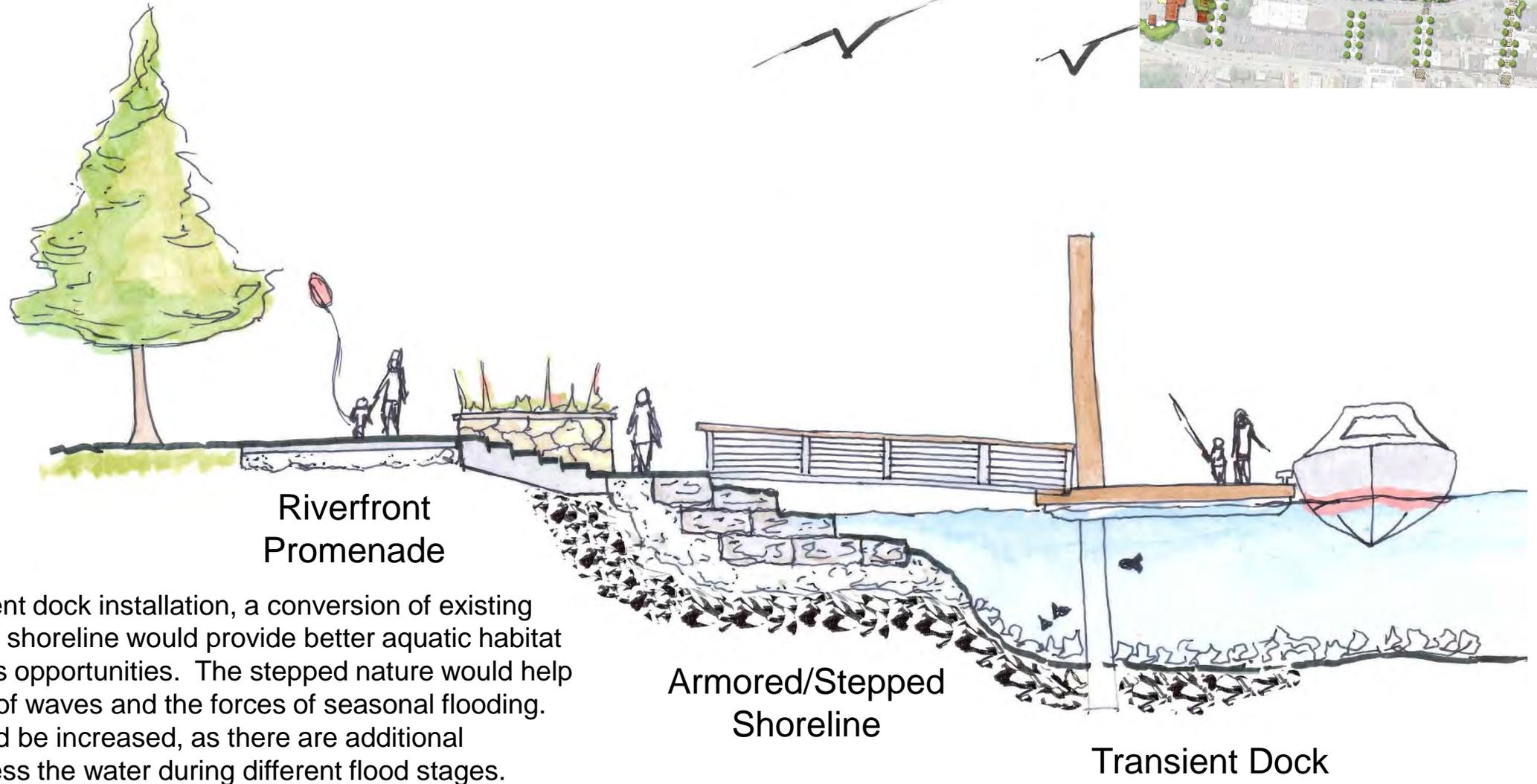
Transient Dock



Transient docks allow for temporary parking of boats as they peruse downtown or grab a bite to eat. 500' docks are shown which would amount to 19 twenty-six boats. The section below depicts how gangways would be used to access the new floating dock.



Stepped Shoreline



As part of the transient dock installation, a conversion of existing seawall to a stepped shoreline would provide better aquatic habitat and shoreline access opportunities. The stepped nature would help with the attenuation of waves and the forces of seasonal flooding. Fishing access would be increased, as there are additional opportunities to access the water during different flood stages.

Walnut Street Improvements

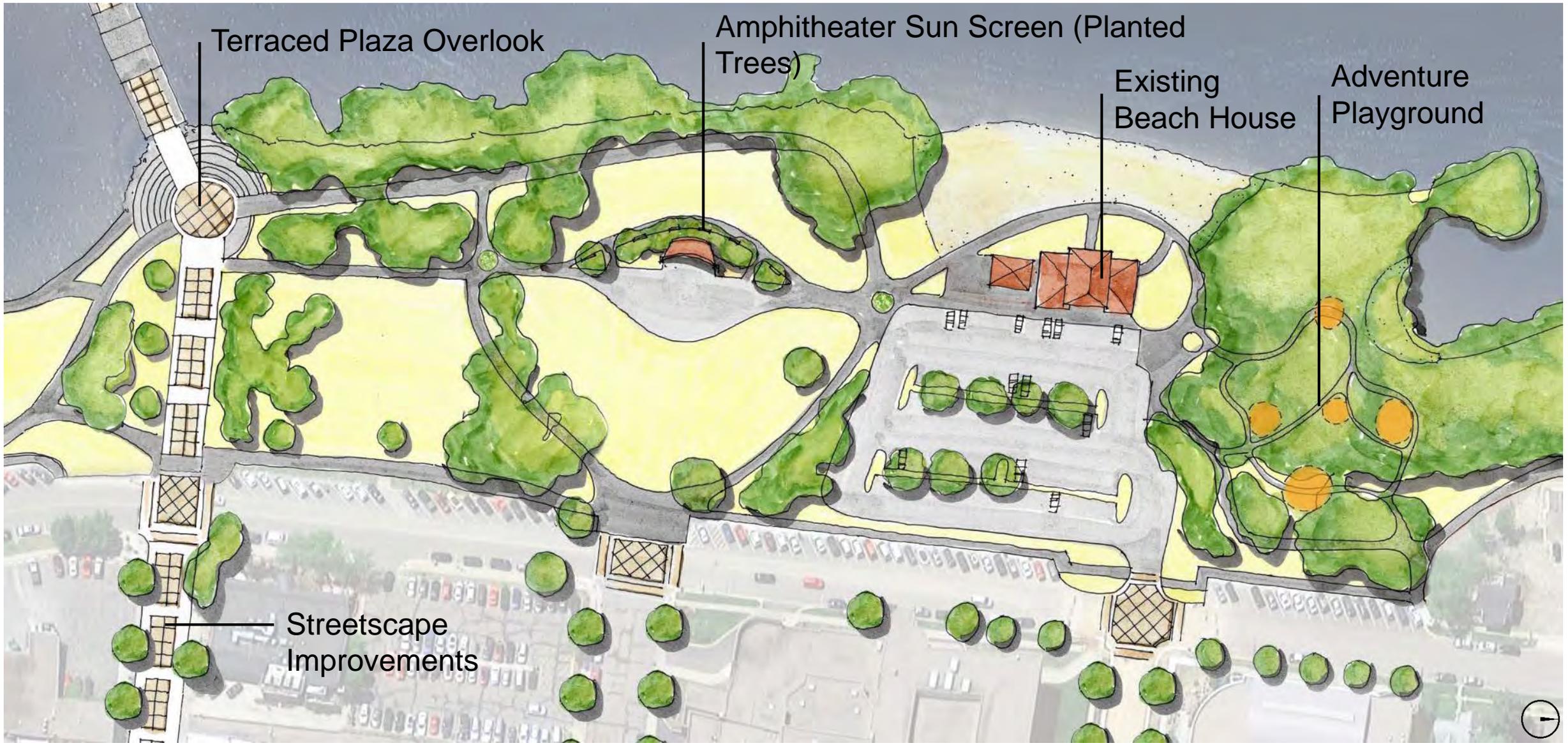


The ability to function as a flex space enhances the connection between downtown and the riverfront. Functioning as a typical street during the week, on the weekends it can transform into a public plaza for a farmers market or art fair. Consistency with materials accentuates Walnut St. as the gateway to the river.

Overlook Terraces



These terraces create focal points from both downtown and out over the St. Croix River. The stepped geometry is ideal for outdoor classrooms, events, or picnics. Access to the water was important to maintain as this area near the bridge is a well known fishing spot. As you approach the rivers edge, the plaza along the top of the terraces gently redirects pedestrians to reorient themselves down the historic toll bridge road. This plaza serves as a transitional moment between two entities within Lakefront Park.



Terraced Plaza Overlook

Amphitheater Sun Screen (Planted Trees)

Existing Beach House

Adventure Playground

Streetscape Improvements

Amphitheater Screening



Visual screening of evening sun glare helps to make performances more enjoyable. An effective way to reduced sun glare is to plant large trees around the rear of the band shell. The images to the right depict a row of spaded oak trees during the summer months. Trees of this size would significantly reduce the amount of glare of patrons enjoying any one of the many events held at the band shell.



Adventure Playground

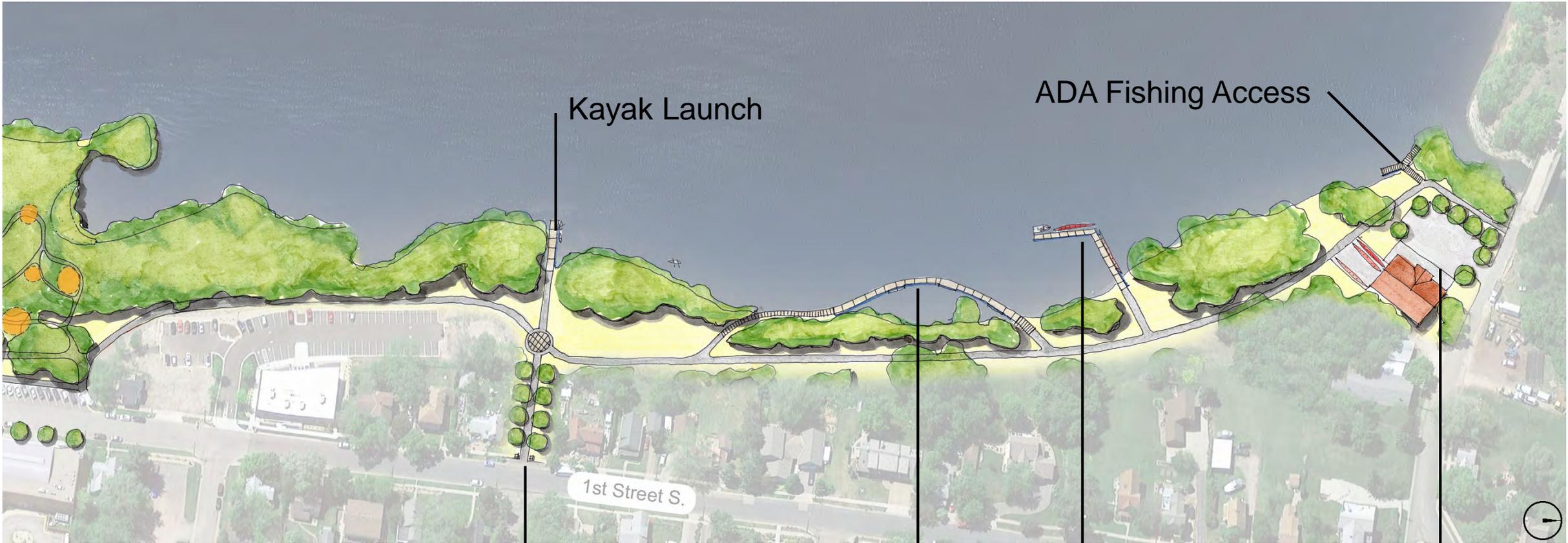


Photo Credit: Subiaco Theatre Gardens



Photo Credit: Springbrook Nature Center

Adventure playgrounds capitalize on children's curiosity and the appeal of natural elements. Many adventure playgrounds can be constructed with on-site materials making them practical and affordable. Because of the use of natural elements, these playgrounds are sustainable and resilient. Their adaptability makes them perfect for challenging locations. These types of playgrounds are ideal for areas that see seasonal flooding because of their materiality and ease of maintenance.



Kayak Launch

ADA Fishing Access

Pedestrian Park Access

Floating Boardwalk

Rowing Dock/
Kayak Launch

Rowing Club Building/
Trailhead and Restrooms

Floating Boardwalk



Photo Credit: Breifne Earley



Photo Credit: Irish Times

One way to increase access to the water is through floating boardwalks. When properly incorporated within a shoreline they provide users a unique experience on the water as well as access to fishing and birdwatching opportunities. The image on the left depicts ideal habitat for smaller panfish. The larger arch provides refuge for these species of fish creating a hotspot for recreational fishers to target these popular fish species.

Rowing Dock



Photo Credit: The Dock Doctors



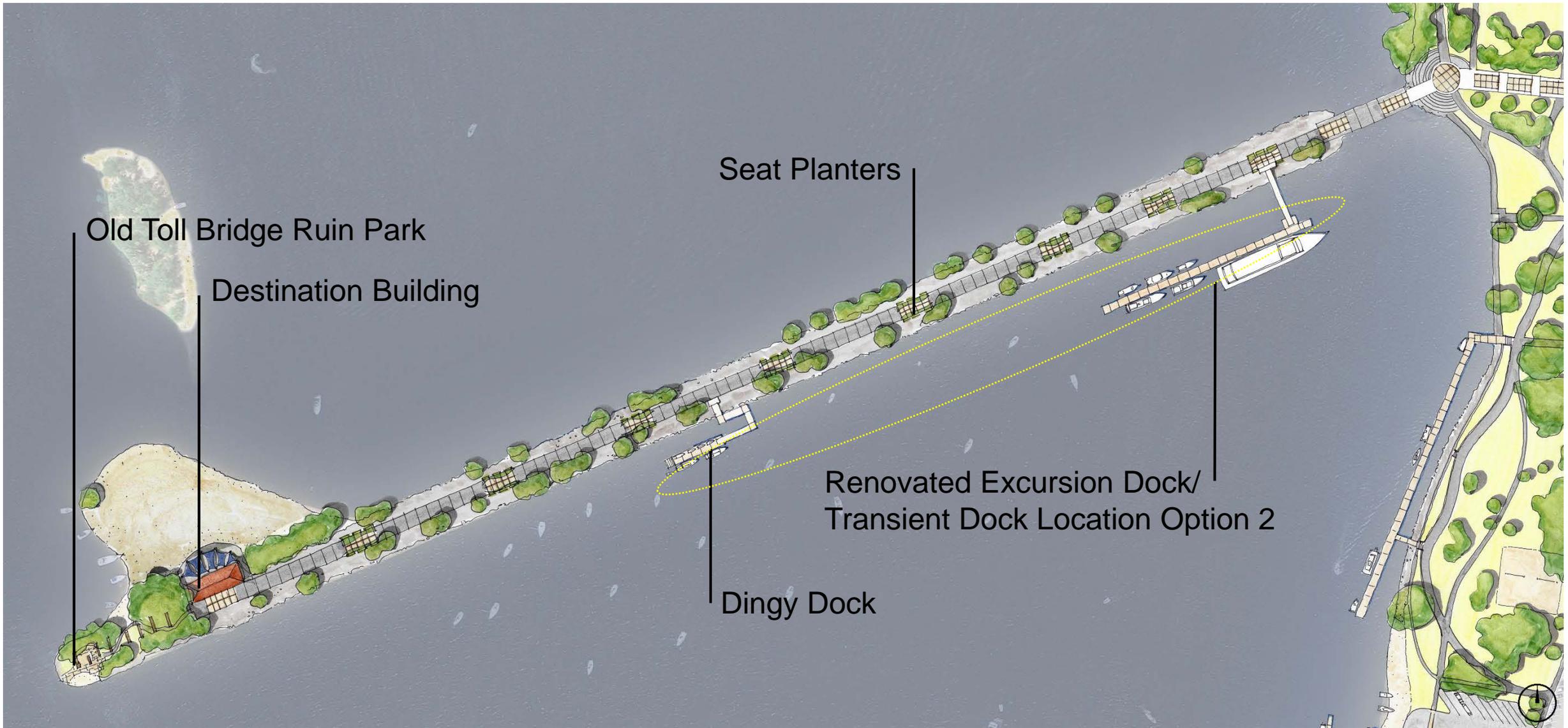
Photo Credit: The Dock Doctors

As part of an expanding rowing club, having proper facilities for launching and embarking on the sculls is important to the long term growth of the sport. These docks make it easier for users to access the water, as well as create additional water access for fishers and bird watchers alike.

Rowing Club + Trailhead



As part of a growth strategy for the Rowing Club, a new boathouse and storage facility would help to enhance and ensure the long-term sustainability of the program. The new facility would include offices, scull storage, and public restrooms that would be accessible as part of a new trailhead for both the Hudson Riverfront and the connections along highway 35 to Stillwater Minnesota.



Old Toll Bridge Ruin Park

Destination Building

Seat Planters

Renovated Excursion Dock/
Transient Dock Location Option 2

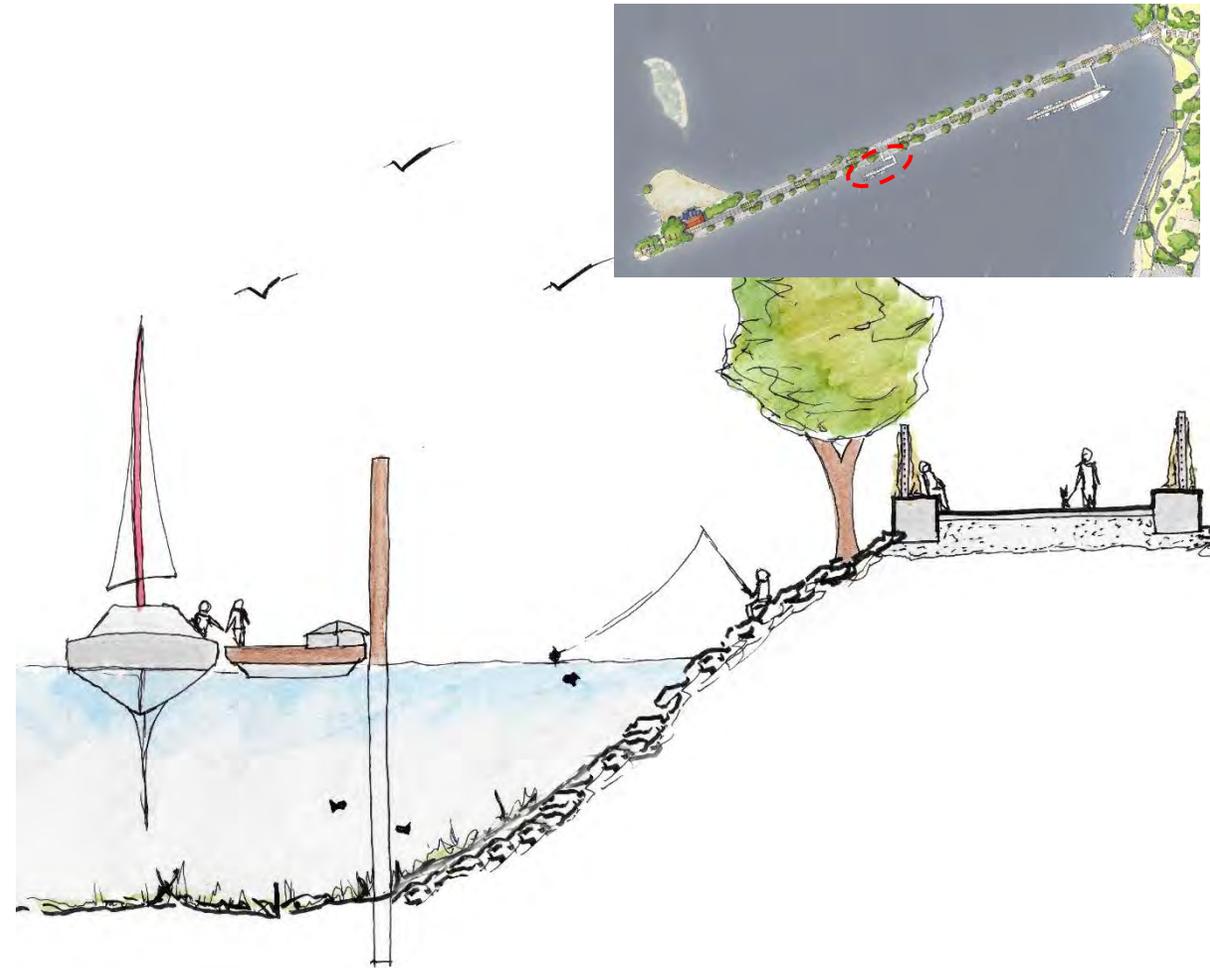
Dingy Dock

Renovated Excursion Dock



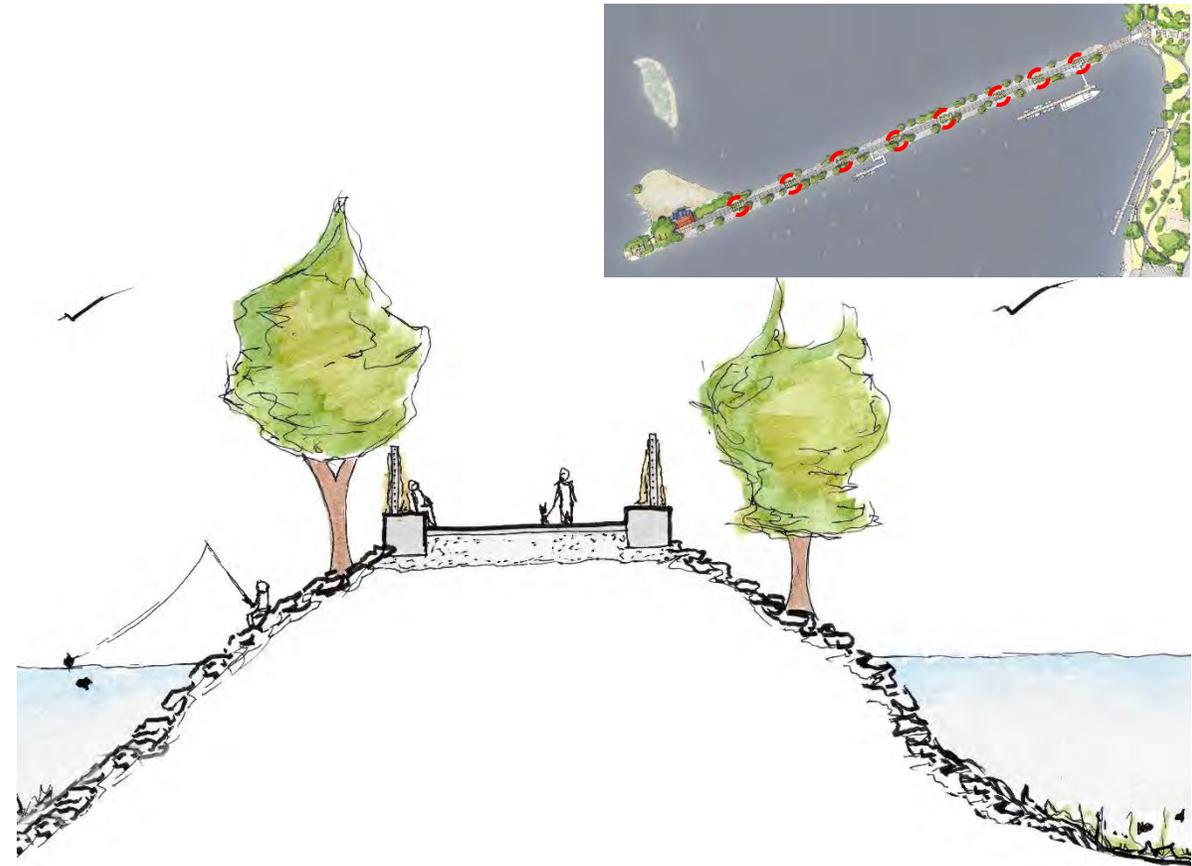
In an effort to increase safety and access to the riverfront, a renovation of the existing excursion dock would consist of new gangways and the elimination of the finger piers. The new layout of the dock would allow for more efficient docking and eliminate the near shore hazards of the old toll bridge road. This renovated dock would be outfitted to be able to accommodate larger vessels shall they ever become commissioned.

Dingy Storage Dock



Proper storage of the sailboat dinghies is important to the safety of all the sailors and users of the riverfront. This new dock could incorporate private dinghies, or be a communal share system. Dinghies would be safe and off of the rip rap, allowing users to safely load and unload as they set sail.

Vegetated Seat Planters



These seat planters help to provide additional green vegetation in an area that is difficult to get vegetation to grow. They also provide refuge for people to rest as they complete or begin the nearly half mile walk to the end of the Old Toll Bridge Road. These planters can be contain a mixture of ornamental grasses and shrubs. Adequate room for additional trees may be difficult given the conditions the former road.

Old Toll Bridge Ruin Park



One of the most unique aspects of the Old Toll Bridge Road is what lies at the end. Currently a hangout spot for the communities teens, the overgrown terminus lays abundant a story of the past. Preserving yet highlighting the past is a way to ensure future generations understand the meaning of a particular place. The old bridge abutments could be preserved similar to Mill Ruins Park in Minneapolis, pictured above.

Destination Building

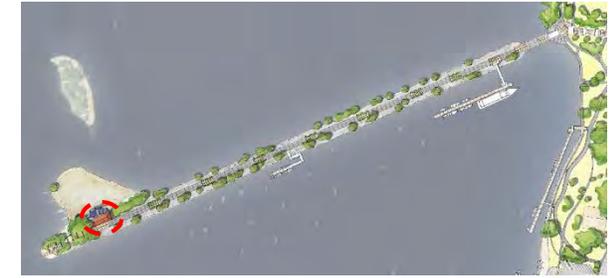


Photo Credit: outdoorproject.com

Incorporating a destination helps to symbolize an area of importance both requiring care but facilitating enjoyment. By bringing people to the end of the Old Toll Bridge Road with food opportunities and event spaces, helps to keep it active during all times of the day and year. This destination building could very well become a regional destination for work events, birthday parties, or weddings.

What's Next?

- Endorse the “Vision” Plan
- Prioritize and Identify a “Demonstration Project”
- Develop Implementation/Funding Strategies
- Start the Preliminary Engineering and Permitting Process

Vision to Reality – Overall project will require patience and incremental implementation over the next 10 - 15 years.

Thank You!

