RIVERBEND PARK
STRATEGIC FRAMEWORK PLAN

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1/25/2016
INTRODUCTION

DESIGN INTENT

DESIGN PRINCIPLES

OUTREACH & DESIGN WORKSHOP

ANALYSIS

- PARK & RECREATION MAP
- CLINTON RIVER TRAIL
- PARK ADJACENCIES
- MARKING OF SEASONS & TIME
- HISTORIC PRECEDENT
- CURRENT LANDFORMS
- OPEN SPACE PARK COMPARISON
- SITE ANALYSIS CROSS SECTION
- ANALYSIS CONCEPT

CONCEPT

- WATER CONCEPT
- WATER FEATURE
- WATER WALL & WATER WALK CONCEPT
- MOUND CONCEPT
- LAKE & PARK FEATURE
- ILLUMINATED GLOWPATH PAVERS
- PARK ENTRY
- EXISTING CONDITIONS
- UNIVERSAL PLAY AREA
- CRESCENT OVERLOOK
- WETLANDS OVERLOOK

FRAMEWORK PLAN - PARK ELEMENTS

- ELEMENTS 1 - 6

FINDINGS

- PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT - VOTING
- SUMMARY

SHARING THE VISION
The design intent for RIVERBEND PARK is to create a unique recreational park by utilizing the site’s natural assets, promoting sustainability through the preservation of open space and the continued stewardship of land and river. Interactive art and amenities change depending upon when they are viewed, making the park different during each visit. RIVERBEND PARK is designed to provide an exceptional recreational experience for park users to, Explore, Engage, Educate and Enjoy nature as the park continues to Evolve.
**DESIGN PRINCIPLES**
**RIVERBEND PARK**

- CREATE UNIQUE RECREATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES “Make a Mark”
- CONNECT - PEOPLE TO THE PARK, PEOPLE TO NATURE
- STEWARDSHIP OF THE LAND & CLINTON RIVER
- IMPROVE THE HEALTH OF THE COMMUNITY

- DESIGN FOR ALL AGES & ABILITIES
- USE KINETIC ART TO INTERACT WITH VISITORS MAKING THEM PART OF THE ART.
- DESIGN PHASED AMENITIES
- PLACE-MAKING - CREATE A PLACE FOR PEOPLE TO HAVE FUN

**EXERCISE | EXPLORE | ENGAGE | EXPERIENCE | EDUCATE | EVOLVE | ENJOY!**

**RIVERBEND PARK**
**STRATEGIC FRAMEWORK PLAN**

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*Chris Crooks, 2015*
OUTREACH & DESIGN WORKSHOPS
RIVERBEND PARK

MEETINGS AND WORKSHOPS:

• 6/26/15 – RIVERBEND DONOR MEETING - w/ Donor & Engineer
• 6/30/15 – WORKSHOP MEETING – City Steering Committee
• 7/07/15 – WORKSHOP MEETING – City Employees & Public
• 7/07/15 – FOCUS GROUP - EDUCATORS MEETING – Area Educators
• 7/14/15 – RIVERBEND SITE TOUR – Steering Committee & City Employees
• 7/21/15 – PLANNING COMMISSION MEETING - Introduction
• 7/28/15 – OPEN DESIGN WORKSHOP - City Employees & Public
• 8/17/15 – MEETING / CONCEPT PRESENTATION - Mayor & City Department Heads
• 9/04/15 – PROJECT STATUS REVIEW - Planning Director Introduction
• 9/15/15 – CONCEPT PRESENTATION - City and Steering Committee
• 10/05/15 – MEETING / Water Feature Presentation - With Donor
• 10/13/15 – PRESENTATION - Planning Commission & Steering Committee Meeting - Introduction & Voting
• 10/23/15 – CONCEPT PRESENTATION - LT. GOVERNOR @ Park
• 11/18/15 – GRANT APPLICATION MEETING - For Sensory Garden & Natural Play Area

• 1/25/16 – PRESENTATION - City Council and Public
ANALYSIS
ROCHESTER HILLS PARK & RECREATION MAP

RIVERBEND PARK STRATEGIC FRAMEWORK PLAN
Riverbend Park is Located near the Clinton River Trail
PARK ADJACENCIES

Legend:
- Open space owned by adjacent neighborhoods
  1. Pheasant Ring
  2. Clinton River Valley
  3. Heritage Oaks
- 100' buffer strip
- City of Rochester Hills undeveloped lots
- 5 + 6 private ownership
- Utility line
MARKING OF SEASONS & TIME
SOLAR SOLSTICE | EQUINOX

photo: Adam Woolfit/Wooffin Camp & Assoc.

photo: Antlers - Rhythms of Life - Edward S. Ayensu, Crown Publishers

photo: University of Massachusetts’s Sun wheel

photo: Tree Section - American Museum of Natural History

photo: Tree Seasons Bill Blizen
HISTORIC PRECEDENT

Ancient builders illustrated human efforts to modify the land. These mounds were burial sites and places where people gathered. The mounds were aligned with the sun’s movement. Artifacts left behind provide us a hint on how they lived.

Mounds in Eastern United States, USA

The mounds attract thousands of visitors per year.
CURRENT LANDFORMS

The Garden of Cosmic Speculation, Scotland
Charles Jencks Landscape Architect

EARTH FORMS AND MOUNDS INSPIRED BY ANCIENT WORKS, MATH AND SCIENCE.
OPEN SPACE PARK

COMPARISON

THE HIGHLINE
NEW YORK, NY
6.73 ACRES

OLYMPIC SCULPTURE PARK,
SEATTLE, WA
9 ACRES

MILLENNIUM PARK,
CHICAGO, IL
24.5 ACRES

RIVERBEND PARK,
ROCHESTER HILLS, MI
114 ACRES

NICHOLS ARBORETUM,
ANN ARBOR, MI
123 ACRES

CENTRAL PARK
NEW YORK, NY
843 ACRES
THE CROSS SECTION ILLUSTRATES THE TOPOGRAPHIC CHANGES THROUGH THE SITE. ZONES HIGHLIGHT THE VARIOUS VEGETATION TYPES AND HYDROLOGY, WHICH CREATES THE PARK’S NATURAL SYSTEMS.
AN ANALYSIS WAS CONDUCTED OF THE NATURAL SYSTEMS AND MANMADE ELEMENTS WHICH ARE THE ASSETS OF THE PARK. NUMEROUS SITE VISITS WERE CONDUCTED DURING THE ENTIRE PROJECT TO EXPLORE AND DISCOVER THE PARK’S UNIQUE FEATURES.
CONCEPTS
WATER CONCEPT

CLINTON RIVER - WATER LEVEL IS CONTROLLED, CAN RISE FROM 6 INCHES TO 6 FEET. BANK STABILIZATION TO RETAIN VEGETATION AND SOIL ARE RECOMMENDED.

PONDS - CONSTRUCTED PONDS EXIST AND SUPPORT A WIDE VARIETY OF WILDLIFE. PRESERVE THESE TO OBSERVE WILDLIFE.

DESIGN A NEW WATER FEATURE TO ATTRACT PEOPLE. BRING WATER, ART, VEGETATION AND PEOPLE TOGETHER. PROVIDE AMENITIES AND ACCESS.
WATER WALL & WATER WALK
CONCEPTS

WATER WALL

WATER WALK

WATER FEATURE

WATERWALL DETAIL
MOUND - MARKING TIME & SEASONS

CONCEPT

SUNRISE at RIVERBEND PARK

EARLY CONCEPT OF MOUND AND WATER WALL

THE SUNDIAL TRACKS THE HOURS, THE SPRING AND WINTER SOLSTICE ARE MARKED ALONG THE SEAT WALL AND PAVEMENT TO INDICATE THE SUN’S POSITION AND ALIGNMENT.

RIVERBEND PARK
STRATEGIC FRAMEWORK PLAN
LAKE & PARK FEATURE
CONCEPT

VIEW FROM TRAIL OVERLOOK

EVENING VIEW

RIVERBEND PARK
STRATEGIC FRAMEWORK PLAN
LAKE & PARK FEATURE
CONCEPT

VIEW FROM PARKING LOT
SOLAR POWERED
ILLUMINATED GLOWPATH™ PAVERS

GLOWPATH™ PAVERS UTILIZE THE ENERGY OF THE SUN, LIGHTING UP AT NIGHT WITH A NATURAL GLOW.
PARK GATEWAY ENTRY CONCEPT

GATEWAY CONCEPT

MAIN PARK GATEWAY

EVENING VIEW
UNIVERSAL PLAY AREA
CONCEPT

PLAY AREA AND SENSORY GARDEN DESIGNED FOR CHILDREN WITH SPECIAL NEEDS AND THEIR FAMILIES

RIVERBEND PARK | “UNIVERSAL PLAY” AREA CONCEPT

NATURAL PLAY SCAPE

RIVERBEND PARK | STRATEGIC FRAMEWORK PLAN
UNIVERSAL PLAY AREA

CONCEPT

RIVERBEND PARK | IDEAS & CONCEPTS

RIVERBEND PARK
STRATEGIC FRAMEWORK PLAN
THE CRESCENT OVERLOOK IS THE FIRST OPPORTUNITY TO VIEW THE CLINTON RIVER AND EXPERIENCE THE PARK’S NATURAL BEAUTY
FRAMEWORK PLAN
PARK ELEMENTS
EXISTING CONDITIONS: RIVERBEND PARK

RIVERBEND PARK EXISTING

1. Parking Lot
2. Park Entry
3. Secondary Entrance
4. Paved 12' Trail
5. Paved 10' Trail
6. Gravel 8' Trail
7. Deer Trails
8. Northern Parcel Entrances
1. Finish Parking Lot & Bio-Swale
2. Add Primary Signage with Map
3. Add Secondary Signage with Park Rules
4. Add Wayfinding Elements:
   • Color Coded Wayfinding Markers for Trails
   • Signage w/ Rules for Hike & Bike Trails
5. Add PVC Boundary Markers with Rules
6. 8’ Trail: Remain as existing Gravel Trail or Pave 8’ Trail
7. Complete Boardwalk Trail from Upper Woodlands to 10’ Trail Grade for ADA Accessibility to 10’ Trail
7a. Extend Boardwalk to Utility Easement
8. Extend Gravel Hike & Bike Trail from 8’ Path through Sanitary Easement to Boardwalk (Clinton Trail Standard)
9. Complete Pedestrian / Bicycle Secondary Entrance / Trail
   Remove Concrete Driveway, replace curb
10. Create “Control Port” Roundabout. Connecting Secondary Entrance w/ Parking Lot, Play Area, and Main Trail Spine
11. Bike Racks
12. Sculpture(s) on Hamlin Road

Additional Programming

• Extend Utilities into Park
• Begin Removal of Invasive Species in Ponds and Wetlands
• Clear Park Waste and Yard Waste from Adjacent Homes
• Restrooms
• Add Seating Elements
• Add Waste Receptacles and Pet Waste Stations
• Trail Stabilization as Needed
PARK ELEMENTS 1
Ideas | Concepts

7. Complete Boardwalk Trails
   - From Upper Woodlands To 10' Trail
   - Grade For ADA Access To 10' Trail
7a. From Boardwalk To Utility Easement

8. Extend Gravel Hike & Bike Trail From 8' Path Through Sanitary Easement To Boardwalk (Clinton Valley Trail Standard)

9. Complete Pedestrian / Bicycle Secondary Entrance / Trail
10. Create "Control Point" Roundabout, Connecting Secondary Entrance W/ Parking Lot, Play Area & 12' Trail Spine

Additional Phase 1 Programming:
   - Bike Racks
   - Sculpture in Hamlin Road Median
   - Seating
   - Waste Receptacles (Human & Pets)
PARK ELEMENTS 1
Ideas | Concepts

RIVERBEND PARK | PARK ELEMENTS 1 | IDEAS & CONCEPTS

1. Finish Parking Lot & Bio-Swale

Sample of Plantings for Bio-Swale:
- Grey Dogwood
- Blue Iris
- Lipstick Strawberry
- Giant Coneflower

2. Add Primary Signage With Map.
3. Add Secondary Signage W/ Park Rules
4. Wayfinding & Trail Markers:
   - Add Color Coded Wayfinding
     Markers For Trails
   - Signage W/ Rules For Hike & Bike
     Trails
5. Add PVC Boundary Markers With
   Rules Along Park Boundary

6. 8' Trail:
   - Remain as Existing Gravel Aggregate?
   - Pave with Asphalt?
1. Major Grading for Dry Detention Basin
2. Stockpile Material Spoils for Landscape Forms
3. Create Land Forms
4. Create Water Features
   4a. Water Wall
   4b. Cascading “Waterfall”
5. Create Terrace Seating around Dry Basin
6. Grade Pads for Senior Play Area
7. Grade Pads for Kids Play Area
8. Create Trail & Pad for Kayak Landing on Clinton River

Additional Programming
Additional Seating Elements Throughout the Park
Landscaping: Native plantings & Seeding
Begin Riverbank Stabilization Treatment
Create Staging Areas at Specific Locations for Sculptures / Art
RIVERBEND PARK | PARK ELEMENTS 2a | IDEAS & CONCEPTS

1. Major Grading For Dry Detention Basin
2. Stockpile Material Spoils For Landscape Forms
3. Create Land Forms

4. Create Water Features
   4a. Water Wall

4. Create Water Features
   4b. Cascading "Waterfall"
5. Create Terrace Seating Around Pond

6. Grade Pads For Senior Play Area
7. Grade Pads For Kids Play Area

8. Create Trail & Pad For Kayak Landing
   On Clinton River

Additional Phase 2 Landscaping:
Planting & Seeding:
  a. River Birch
  b. Pin Oak
  c. Black Tupelo
  d. Purple Coneflower
  e. Ninebark
1. Major Grading for Pond Basin & Wet Detention Basin
2. Stockpile Material Spoils for Landscape Forms
3. Create Land Forms
4. Lake Development
5. Create Water Features
   5a. Water Wall
   5b. Cascading “Waterfall”
6. Create Terrace Seating around Dry Basin
7. Grade Pads for Senior Play Area
8. Grade Pads for Kids Play Area
9. Create Trail & Pad for Kayak Landing on Clinton River

Additional Programming
Additional Seating Elements Throughout the Park
Landscaping: Native Plantings & Seeding
Begin Riverbank Stabilization Treatment
Create Staging Areas at Specific Locations for Sculptures / Art

2012 Lawrence Tech University Land Studio Proposals
PARK ELEMENTS 2B
Ideas | Concepts

RIVERBEND PARK | PARK ELEMENTS 2b | IDEAS & CONCEPTS

1. Major Grading For Wet Detention Basin
2. Stockpile Material Spoils For Landscape Forms
3. Create Land Forms

4. Lake Development

5. Create Water Features
   5a. Water Wall
PARK ELEMENTS 2B
Ideas | Concepts

5. Create Water Features
   5b. Cascading "Waterfall"

6. Create Terrace Seating Around Pond

7. Grade Pads For Senior Play Area
8. Grade Pads For Kids Play Area

9. Create Trail & Pad For Kayak Landing
   On Clinton River

RIVERBEND PARK
STRATEGIC FRAMEWORK PLAN
PARK ELEMENTS 3
Ideas | Concepts

RIVERBEND PARK | PARK ELEMENTS 3 | IDEAS & CONCEPTS

1. Add Senior Play Elements -
   - Bocce Ball
   - Exercise Stations
   - Gathering/ Observation Area/ Seating/ Shelter

2. Add Kids Play Elements -
   - Natural Playscape
   - Sensory Garden
   - Tree House
   - Special Needs Play Area
   - Spiral Mound

3. Create Trail Connection Between Senior Play Area and Kids Play Area

4. Add Pavilion / Shelter On North End

5. Add Art & Sculptures
   - Control Point / Roundabout
   - Secondary Entrance On Hamlin
   - Point Of Interest From Bird's Nest
   - *Integrate Wi-Fi Within Sculpture
1. Add Senior Play Elements:
   - Bocce Ball
   - Exercise Stations
   - Gathering / Observation Area / Seating / Shelter
2. Add Kids Play Elements:
   - Natural Playscape
   - Sensory Garden
   - Tree House
   - Special Needs Play Area
   - Spiral Mound
3. Create Trail Connection from Adult to Kids Area
4. Add Pavilion / Shelter on North End
5. Add Art & Sculptures
6. Create “New” Park Main Entrance

Additional Programming
- Add Structure for Maintenance with Restroom in Zone 1
- Expand Landscape Natural / Functional Plantings and Seeding
- Remediation of Invasive Plant Species from Wetland and Stormwater Detention Basins
PARK ELEMENTS 3
Ideas | Concepts

6. Create “New” Park Main Entrance

- Remediation Of Invasive Plant Species From Wetlands And Stormwater Detention Basins

- Expand Landscape Plantings
- Detailed Areas
- Native Plants And Others With Specific Functions

Additional Landscape Plantings:
- Swamp White Oak
- Thornless Honeylocust
- Red Twig Dogwood
- Big Bluestem
- Prairie Dropseed

RIVERBEND PARK
STRATEGIC FRAMEWORK PLAN
1. Add Crescent Overlook of River
2. “The Point” Observation Point
3. Wetland Observation Tower
4. “Bird’s Nest” Elevated Viewing Platform
5. Shelter Structure
   5a. Adult Area
   5b. Kids Area
6. Add Living Art & Architecture
PARK ELEMENTS 4
Ideas | Concepts

**RIVERBEND PARK | PARK ELEMENTS 4 | IDEAS & CONCEPTS**

1. Add Crescent Overlook Of River

2. “The Point” Observation Deck

3. Wetland Observation Tower
PARK ELEMENTS 4
Ideas | Concepts

4. "Bird's Nest" Elevated Viewing Platform

5. Shelter Structure
   a. Adult Area
   b. Kids Area

6. Add Living Art & Architecture
PARK ELEMENTS 5:
Plan Ideas | Concepts

1. Community Pavilion Options:
   - Open Pavilion
     - Open Air
     - Simple Structure
     - Fire Pit
     - Photovoltaic Panels on Roof?
     - Green Roof?
   - Complex Pavilion
     - Enclosed
     - Multi-Level
     - Flexible Space for Programming
     - Options
     - Fire Pit
     - Photovoltaic Panels on Roof?
     - Green Roof?
     - Weather Station & Monitoring Equipment
1. Prefabricated Steel Truss Bridge from South Park Property to North Open Space Property to link both sides of the Park.
   - Requires +/- 600 to 800 linear feet to connect neighborhoods to the Park

2. Secure Additional Green Space to Complete the Aggregate Hike & Bike Trail Along Sanitary Easement (Clinton Trail Standard)
   - Continue Trail Along the Old Hamlin Road R.O.W. Connecting to the East Park Entrance

3. Alternative suggestion by voters was to include a rope bridge
FINDINGS
Steering Committee, members of the Planning Commission and City Departments viewed the presentation and voted on the Park Elements.
SUMMARY

Voters conveyed consistent & overwhelming support for the majority of the conceptual park elements proposed in RIVERBEND PARK.

Elements that garnered the greatest support include: the water features, the mound, the universal play area, extended trails and bird’s nest.
Presentation of the proposed park elements with special attention to the Universal Design Area for Kids and Park Tour was conducted for Lt. Governor Brian Calley and guests.
DONOR
Steve and Vivian Stolaruk Foundation

CITY OF ROCHESTER HILLS
Mayor Bryan Barnett
Maria Willett - Chief Assistant to the Mayor

PLANNING DEPARTMENT
Ed Anzek, AICP Director of Planning and Development
Sara Roediger, ACIP Manager of Planning

PARK & RECREATION DEPARTMENT
Mike Hartner - Director of Park and Recreation
Alan Buckenmeyer, Lance Devoe

ENGINEERING DEPARTMENT
Allen Schneck, P.E. Department of Public Services Director

MANAGEMENT INFORMATION SYSTEMS
Bob Grace - Director

STEERING COMMITTEE
Sue Barnes, Michael Behrmann, Kristin Bull, Gerald Carvey,
Renee Cortright, Michelle Gage, Ron Jewell, Tamanna Lam,
Amy Mangus, Steph Morita, Bret Rasegan, Tami Salesbury,
Carrie Schochet, Anne Vaara

EDUCATION COMMITTEE
Sandra Turner, Laura Brown, Brian Peterson, Tracy Anderson

LAWRENCE TECHNOLOGICAL UNIVERSITY
ALLIED DESIGN LANDSCAPE LAND - STUDIO
Professors Will Allen, Ralph Núñez, Donn Perez

LTU STUDENTS
Jeremiah Armstrong, Breck Crandell, Erion Lulashi, Matt Puz,
Greg Nowicki, Dee Hewitt, Brian Halteman, Rachelle Hiser,
Fran DePalma, Flora Pattah, Stephen Tenney, Amy Michalek,
Jonathan Sterns, Rene Kadoo, Shannon Harte, Kyle Bobcean,
Ibrahim Alsharif, Fady Tawfiq

SPECIAL THANKS!
“WE SHALL NOT CEASE FROM EXPLORATION, AND THE END OF ALL OUR EXPLORING WILL BE TO ARRIVE WHERE WE STARTED AND KNOW THE PLACE FOR THE FIRST TIME.”

T. S. ELIOT
RIVERBEND PARK SCENIC BEAUTY
RIVERBEND PARK
EXERCISE | EXPLORE | ENGAGE | EXPERIENCE | EDUCATE | ENJOY!