

# Exchange Street Playground Park Improvements

Public Meeting | December 14, 2022  
Carlson Commons



**City of Rochester, NY**  
**Malik D. Evans, Mayor**  
**Rochester City Council**



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# Agenda

- **Team Introductions**
- **Goals of This Project**
- **Feedback Received to Date**
- **Concept Plan**
- **Open House Discussion**

# Project Team



**City of Rochester, NY**  
**Malik D. Evans, Mayor**  
**Rochester City Council**



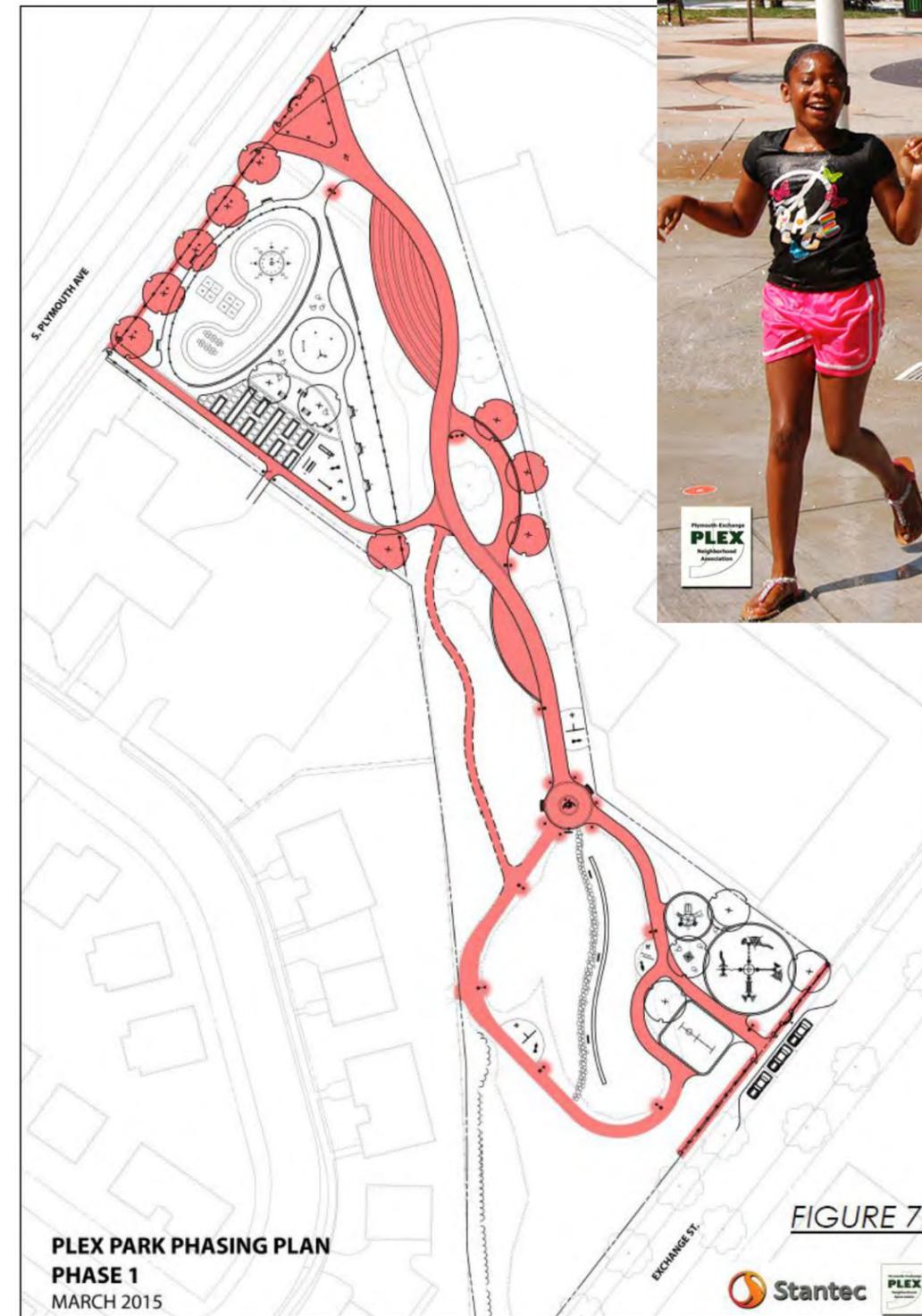
**BERGMANN**  
ARCHITECTS ENGINEERS PLANNERS

*Bergmann has joined Colliers Engineering & Design*

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# Goals of the Project

- **Implement Phase 1 of the community driven PLEX Community Park Master Plan** completed in 2015
- To provide an **ADA accessible pedestrian pathway** Through park between Exchange Blvd and S. Plymouth Ave
- Create a **safe and welcoming environment** for the PLEX neighborhood to enjoy
- Set the stage for future improvements to **fulfill the community's park vision**
- Provide a **direction connection from the PLEX neighborhood to the Genesee River** & the West River Wall Phase 2 project.



# Existing Site



Doran Street

Edith Street

Plymouth Avenue

Exchange Street

Ford Street

# Exchange-Plymouth Sight Lines



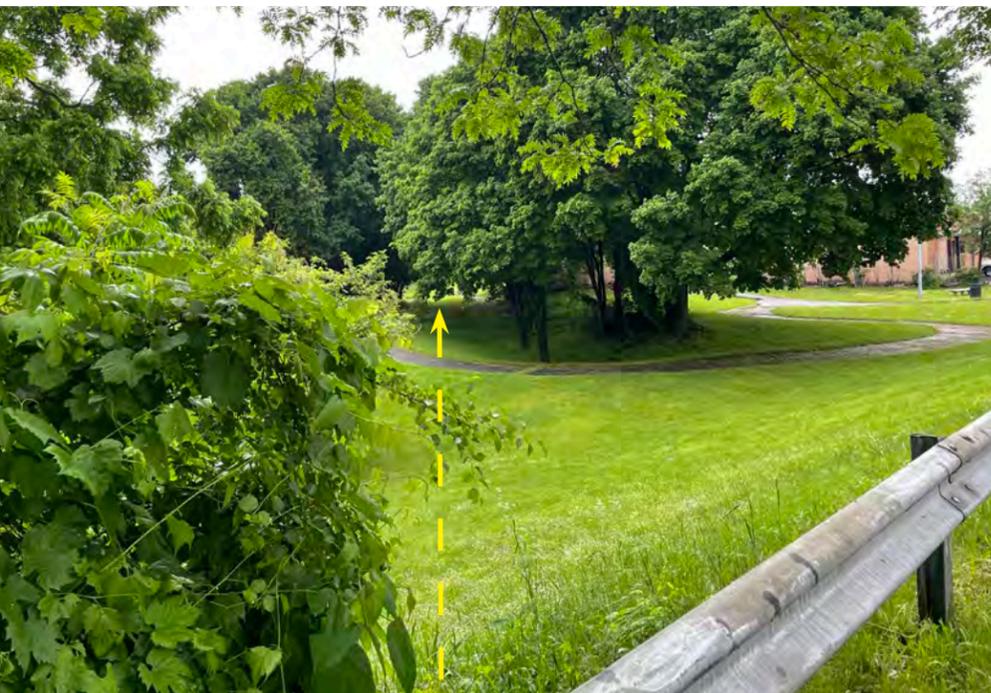
open up a wide central sight line to Plymouth



open up a wide central sight line to Exchange



n. maples blocking view from Exchange sidewalk



open up a wide central sight line to Plymouth



open up a wide central sight line to Exchange



low branching oaks blocking view from Plymouth

# Existing Photos - Exchange



"flat" area near Exchange, (former) playground location



n. maples along railroad siding wall



Exchange Street and sloped area



brush and maples along east edge



extensive poison ivy along railroad siding wall



extensive poison ivy along pathway

# Existing Photos - Middle Area



drainage issue area, looking towards Plymouth



drainage issue area along path and (plugged?) inlet



drainage issue area and adjacent property retaining wall



drainage issue & debris, looking towards Exchange



ponding in low area after rain



adj. property / wall view between English and Red Oak

# Existing Photos - Plymouth Area



pavement area with unknown circle feature



view from Plymouth, "goat pathing" line in foreground



looking south on Plymouth sidewalk



view from Plymouth sidewalk to site and adj. building



green ash near Plymouth, looking towards street



former fire station property with fencing, wall, etc.

# Existing Photos - Site Features / Misc.



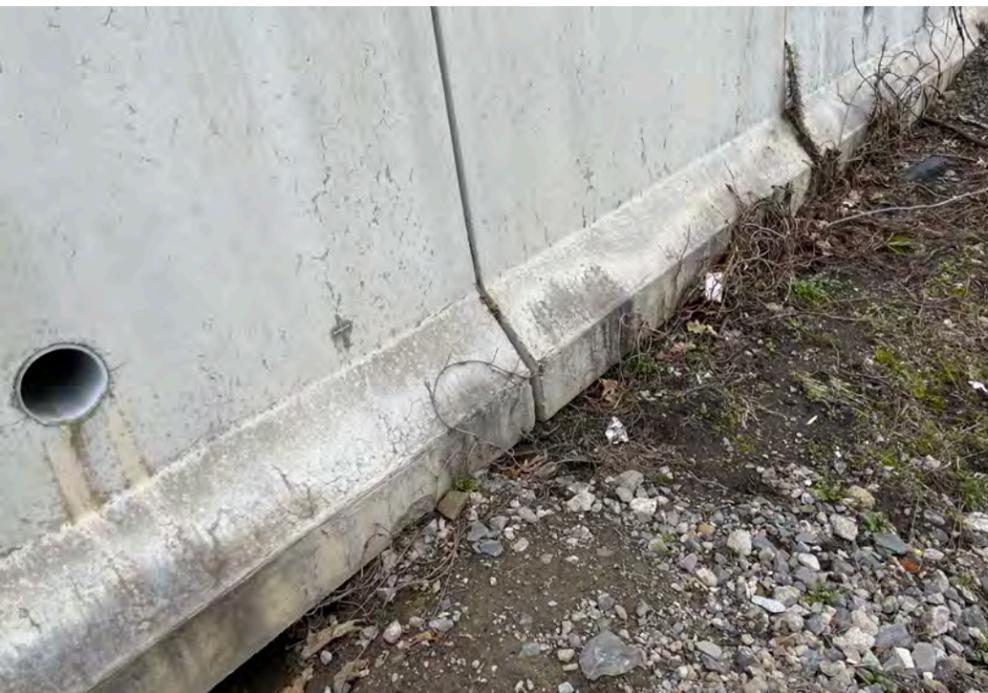
one of several interesting and sculptural root flairs (n. maple)



unknown surface and subgrade railroad siding infrastructure



parking lot and cut through "goat pathing" (Plymouth to Ford St.)



wall drain hole (1 of dozens) with undercut

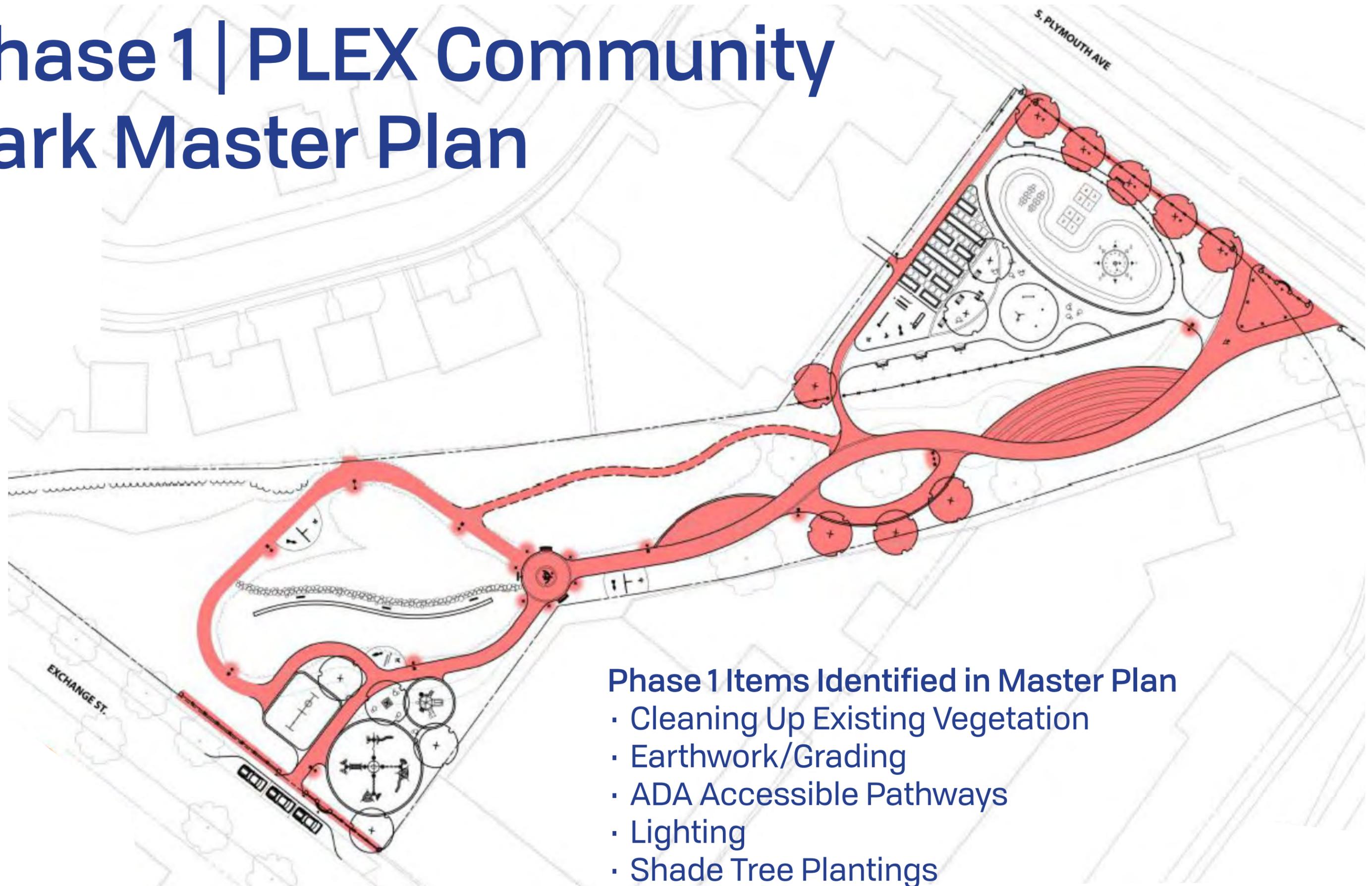


building drainage into site (roof?)



trash collection within eastern brush line (also along adj. prop. wall)

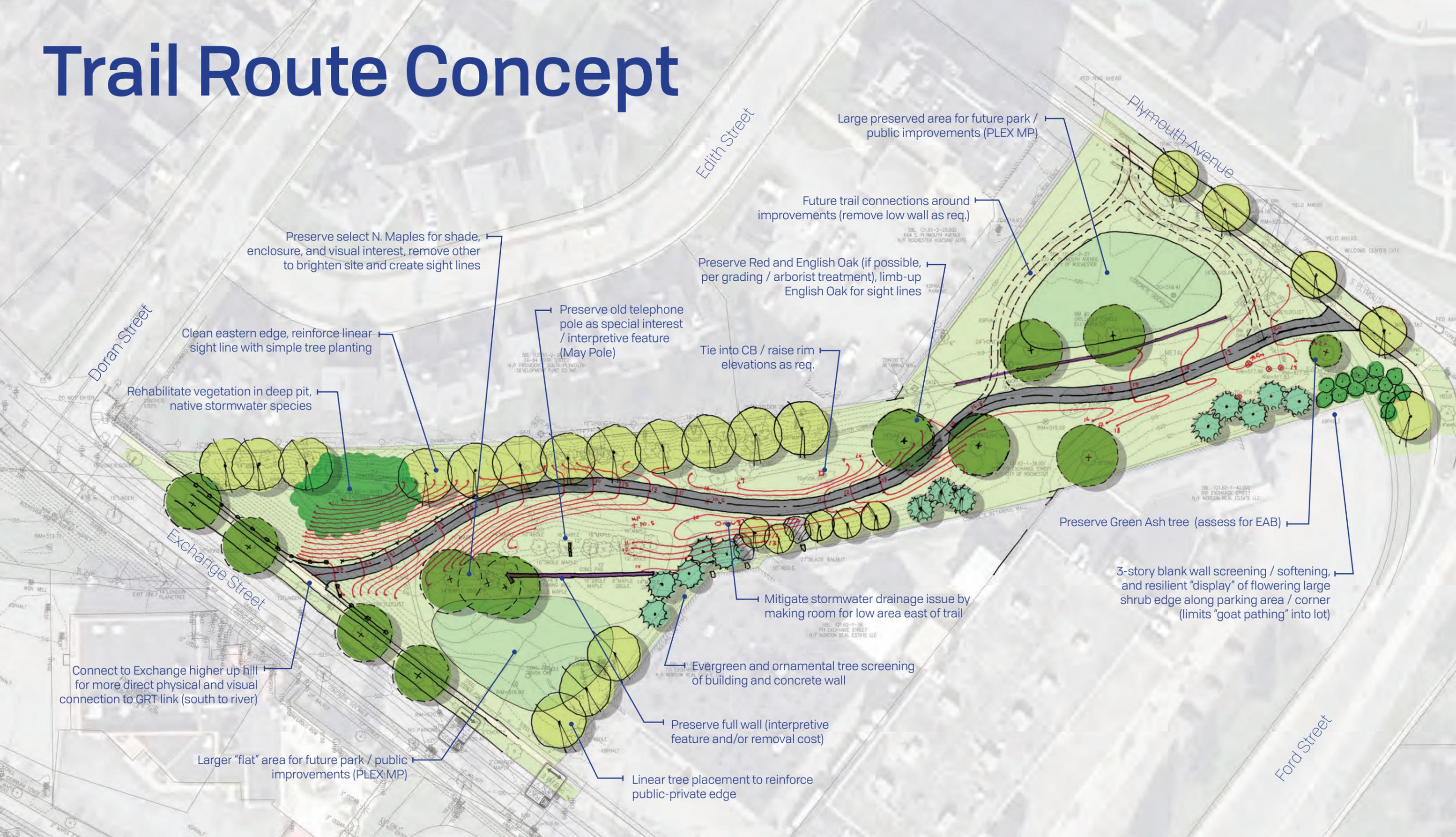
# Phase 1 | PLEX Community Park Master Plan



## Phase 1 Items Identified in Master Plan

- Cleaning Up Existing Vegetation
- Earthwork/Grading
- ADA Accessible Pathways
- Lighting
- Shade Tree Plantings

# Trail Route Concept



Preserve select N. Maples for shade, enclosure, and visual interest, remove other to brighten site and create sight lines

Clean eastern edge, reinforce linear sight line with simple tree planting

Rehabilitate vegetation in deep pit, native stormwater species

Preserve old telephone pole as special interest / interpretive feature (May Pole)

Preserve Red and English Oak (if possible, per grading / arborist treatment), limb-up English Oak for sight lines

Tie into CB / raise rim elevations as req.

Large preserved area for future park / public improvements (PLEX MP)

Future trail connections around improvements (remove low wall as req.)

Preserve Green Ash tree (assess for EAB)

3-story blank wall screening / softening, and resilient "display" of flowering large shrub edge along parking area / corner (limits "goat pathing" into lot)

Mitigate stormwater drainage issue by making room for low area east of trail

Evergreen and ornamental tree screening of building and concrete wall

Preserve full wall (interpretive feature and/or removal cost)

Linear tree placement to reinforce public-private edge

Connect to Exchange higher up hill for more direct physical and visual connection to GRT link (south to river)

Larger "flat" area for future park / public improvements (PLEX MP)

# PLEX Community Outreach

- **Virtual Presentation with PLEX Neighborhood Association | August 16, 2022**
- **On-site Meeting with PLEX Neighborhood Association | October 16, 2022**
- **Public Meeting | Today!**

## Key Themes

- Safety is number one priority.
- Vegetation is important, but so is keeping views open for safety.
- Lighting will be key for enhancing the sense of safety.
- Future parking for the park should be thought about.
- Signage to identify the park is important, especially for events.
- Maintenance is a concern.

# Next Steps

- Evaluate feedback received to date.
- Modify concept plan to address feedback within the identified scope and budget for the project.
- Complete construction documents with a goal of going out to bid in 2023.
- Construction 2023/2024



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