



## ERIE HARBOR & THE HAMILTON

### Timeline of Public Hearings, Commissions, Project Milestones, and Articles

- April 15, 2004: Conifer Realty LLC (“Conifer”) acquired ownership interest in River Park Commons.
- April 2004: *The Wedge*, “Conifer to Redevelop Riverfront”, page 1.
- October 4, 2004: Conifer submitted Section 236(e)(2) Decoupling application to the U.S. Dept. of Housing and Urban Development (HUD).
- June 7, 2005: Preliminary Antidisplacement Plan submitted to HUD for River Park Commons Redevelopment Project and available for a 30-day public review period ending July 11, 2005. No comments were received.
- July 2005: Final Antidisplacement Plan submitted to HUD.
- November 3, 2005: First Mt. Hope Task Force meeting at SWPC with representatives from SWPC, Conifer, and the City in attendance. Discussed possible improvements to Mt. Hope Avenue including curbed bumpouts at selected intersections, enhanced crosswalks, and possible changes in street width.
- December 1, 2005: Mt. Hope Task Force meeting at SWPC
- February 2, 2006: Mt. Hope Task Force meeting at SWPC
- March 23, 2006: Mt. Hope Task Force meeting at SWPC
- November 3, 2007: Sector 6 “State of the Sector Conference”, Conifer presented project to approximately 150 persons in attendance.
- April 23, 2008: Draft Environmental Impact Statement and Environmental Assessment (DEIS) accepted for public review; it contained elevations designed by Barkstrom & LaCroix.
- April 23, 2008: Start of public comment period on DEIS. 120 form letters received from residents of the community; additional written comments received (see FEIS).
- May 19, 2008: Public hearing held by Rochester Environmental Commission (REC) regarding the DEIS. Eleven (11) speakers gave verbal comments to the REC.
- June 4, 2008: Plans and renderings presented to the Project Review Committee.
- June 6, 2008: Relocation of residents of low-rise structures started with door-to-door meetings between relocation consultant and residents of low-rise structures.
- June 6, 2008: Close of public comment period on DEIS.



June 2008: Conifer changed architects and retained services of Barton Partners to redesign Erie Harbor (“Barton plan”).

July 4, 2008: *Democrat & Chronicle*: “South Wedge ready for its housing makeover” Page 1.

July 22, 2008: NYS Office of Parks, Recreation, and Historic Preservation (SHPO) issued No Adverse Impact letter for River Park Commons.

August-Sept. 2008: *The Wedge*, “River Park Commons Development Update!”, page 1. Article showed new site plan by Barton Partners.

September 23, 2008: Conifer presented Barton plans to SWPC’s Real Estate committee.

September 25, 2008: *Democrat & Chronicle*: “River Park Commons gets a whole new look”, Page 1 (New elevations designed by Barton Partners shown in article and made available on the D&C website).

October 10, 2008: Approval granted by HUD for Section 236 decoupling.

October-Nov. 2008: *The Wedge*, “Community Aids in Riverfront Transformation: New Erie Harbor and The Hamilton Planned for River Park Commons Site”, page 1. Showed site plan and elevations in Barton plan.

October 24, 2008: Mailing to approximately 150 property owners within 300 feet of 205-405 Mt. Hope Avenue notifying them of Planning Commission meeting and information hearing to be held on 11/10/08. Meeting agenda posted on City Website. Notice in Daily Record.

November 10, 2008: Information hearing held by Planning Commission regarding the rezoning of 7 parcels between 171 and 405 Mt. Hope Avenue from O-S to CCD-R, two speakers in support of the proposal and no speakers in opposition. Barton plan presented. Planning Commission voted 5-0-1 to recommend approval by City Council of the rezoning.

November 2008: Conifer started renovation of The Hamilton.

December 10, 2008: “Final Environmental Impact Statement and Environmental Assessment: Erie Harbor Development” (FEIS) issued. Barton plan included with an explanation of design rationale.

December 10, 2008: FEIS posted on the City of Rochester’s website. Notice of availability of FEIS sent to all who expressed an interest in the DEIS. Documents placed at local library, City Hall and SWPC.

December 12, 2008: *Rochester Business Journal, Special Report*: “Extreme Makeover: Will new development boost the South Wedge neighborhood?”, page 22. Showed Barton site plan.

December 23, 2008: Public hearing held by City Council regarding the above-referenced rezoning to CCD-R. Notification mailed to approximately 150 property owners within 300 feet of 205-405 Mt. Hope Avenue.

December 23, 2008: City Council approved rezoning to CCD-R.

January 2009: Last household relocated from the low-rise structures.

January 20, 2009: Public hearing held by City Council regarding amendment of Consolidated Community Development Plan for \$2M loan to Conifer for development of Erie Harbor.

January 20, 2009: City Council approved amendment of the Consolidated Community Development Plan for \$2M loan to Conifer for development of Erie Harbor.

February 2009: Conifer started asbestos abatement and demolition phase of the low-rise structures.

March 2, 2009: Public Informational Meeting re: Mt. Hope Avenue Enhancement Project, 15 Whalin Street, St. Boniface School. Agenda: Project Overview, Project Features (curbed bumpouts at selected intersections, enhanced crosswalks, pavement striping, proposed changes in street width).

July 1, 2009: Plans and renderings presented to the Project Review Committee.

Fall 2009: Conifer completed asbestos abatement and demolition of the low-rise structures.

September 14, 2009: Conifer presented Barton plans to NBN Sector 6.

December 2009: Conifer completed renovation of The Hamilton.

March 15, 2010: Public Information Meeting re: Mt. Hope Avenue Enhancement Project at Artisan Church, 1235 So. Clinton Avenue.

April 5, 2010: Start of construction on Mt. Hope Avenue Enhancement Project.

August 17, 2010: Speak to Council held by City Council relating to additional funding for Erie Harbor.

August 17, 2010: City Council approval of financing for Erie Harbor and new public access easements through the site.

August 18-24, 2010: *City* newspaper: "Erie Harbor: Eerie or Eclectic?" Page 4.

August 31, 2010: Projected date for substantial completion of Mt. Hope Avenue Enhancement Project

September 2010: City Council to consider authorizing an agreement for professional services for a consultant to implement a \$400,000 grant from the NYS DOS Environmental Protection Fund to design the improvements to the three new easements on the site of Erie Harbor and adjacent public right-of-way.

Updated: 8/30/10

NOTE:

Both of the sites of The Hamilton and Erie Harbor were remediated with assistance from the NYS Brownfield Cleanup Program; the above timeline does not include any major milestones from the environmental remediation that occurred on these sites.