

# Erie Harbor Enhancements – Phase 2 Design Public Meeting #1

City of Rochester Project ID #17307  
NYSDOS Contract #C1000714  
Stantec Project # 192800048

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Date/Time: April 26, 2018 / 6:00 – 8:00PM  
Place: Hamilton Apartments, Community Room  
Next Meeting: TBD  
Attendees: Project Team: Jeff Mroczek (City), Michael Damico (Stantec), Amanda Phetteplace (Stantec), Zakery Steele (Stantec), Christopher Dunne (Highland Planning), Andre Primus (Highland Planning)  
Public: See sign in sheet attached  
Absentees: N/A  
Distribution: Project Team, PAC, Project Website (City)

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## Meeting Minutes:

### 1. Introduction (6:00)

Jeff Mroczek (City of Rochester) greeted the attendees and provided an introduction to the project, history, and current status.

### 2. Presentation (6:05)

Zakery Steele (Stantec) gave a presentation outlining the project, summarizing public input and participation to-date, and described the process as to how the (3) concept plan alternatives were developed.

J. Mroczek opened the meeting up for questions and requested that attendees review display boards of the 3 concepts and provide feedback during the open house portion of the meeting.

### 3. Questions and Comments (6:25)

Question: Is this project using money from ROC the Riverway?

Response: Not yet, but potentially money from ROC the Riverway could be used for some proposed improvements.

Comment: The Genesee River is a health hazard. We should not be encouraging people to boat in it or go near it.

Response: People frequently use it for boating and there are three boathouses along the River. We can't stop people from swimming in it or drinking the water but the improvements proposed here have to do with boating and providing enhanced access. Improvements will not encourage swimming.

Question: Does this project extend to the north side near FSB Realty?

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Response: No, only from Ford St. to Alexander St.

Question: How much money is allocated for the project?

Response: \$1.7 million for construction so far.

Question: What is the timeline for the project?

Response: Design Summer 2018, Bidding Winter 2018/2019 and Construction should start in the spring 2019.

Question: Could areas of the river be cleared of debris such as logs, etc?

Response: Some of the potential designs address those issues. Part of the River managed by the Canal Corporation has not been dredged recently due to budget constraints.

Comment: Attendees should write the leaders of ROC the Riverway to encourage them to support this project, advocating is important and helpful.

Question: Is there a potential to enhance street crossings at Mt. Hope Avenue?

Response: Long-term, the City does want to improve these crossings however they are not part of this particular project.

Question: How deep is the river here?

Response: Some areas are quite shallow. Sediment deposition happens on all areas of the river, however due to the direction of up river currents and routing, it happened faster on this east side of the River. It is navigable in the center, especially for small boats.

Question: Can anything be done about the odor from the River during the summer months?

Response: Dredging by the Canal Corporation may help to mitigate sediment and debris build up where algae grows. The water is slower moving here due to the Court Street dam. Reducing upriver phosphorous loading from agricultural land uses and restoring riverbank ecologies may also help.

Comment: Be sure to phase the project so basketball court and playgrounds are available at all times.

Comment: Not sure if there is enough demand for additional boating facilities such as the "cove". Float that used to be there was sufficient. Can that be put back in place?

Response: The prior dock was damaged by debris and was expense to remove in and out each year. In keeping with the City's Roc the Riverway efforts these improvements are meant to provide meaningful access to the river in new and exciting ways. A feature like the "cove" or other methods in the concepts not only will give access to the River for kayaking but provide new identity to the park and establish new relationship between the community and the river. It gives boaters and non-boaters alike new ways to experience the river.

#### **4. Open House (6:35 – 8:00)**

Attendees were encouraged to review the displays depicting the (3) Concept Plan Alternatives.

#### **5. Comments from Open House**

Ford St. area needs to be more open / have better visibility to be safe. Improved lighting alone won't do it.

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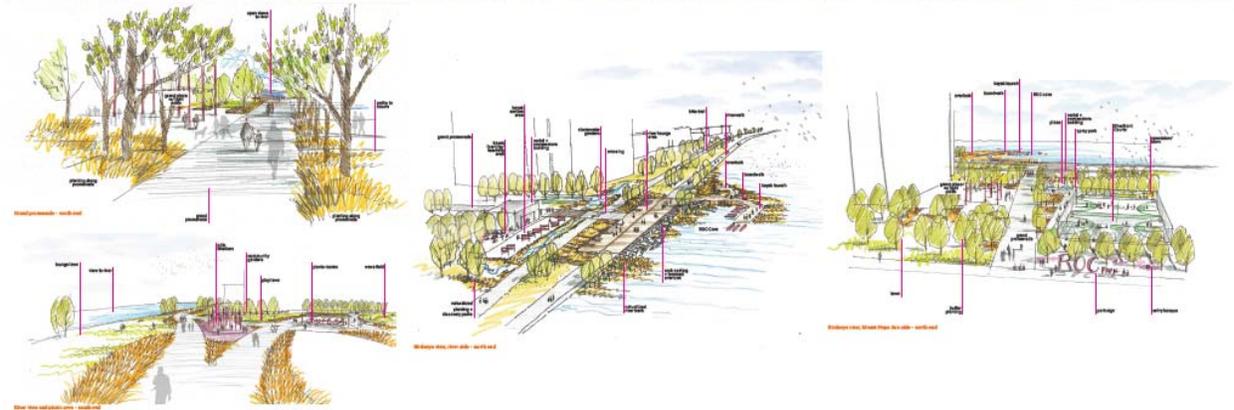
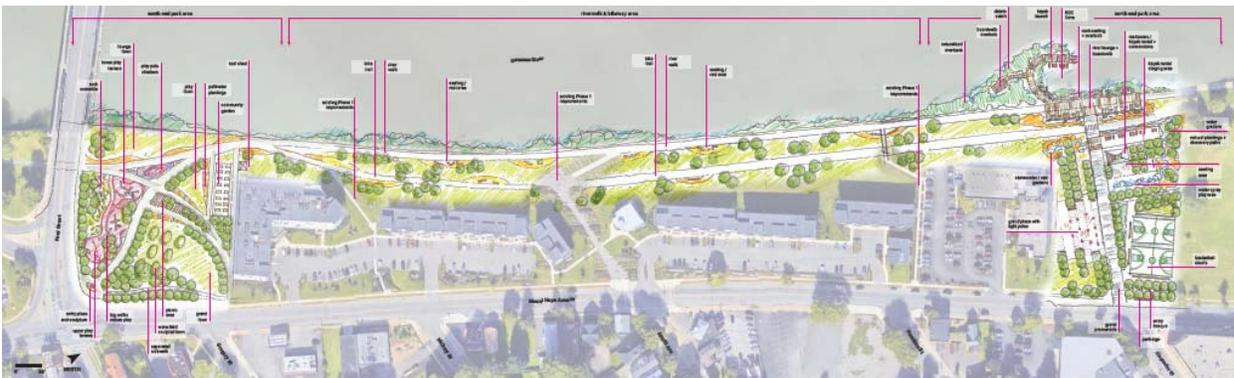
Parking is key

What will the view from the street look like for each concept? Key to attracting park-goers

Add a walking bridge to Corn Hill

Add mile markers and / or historical placards

### Concept 1



Dress up the tunnel entrance

Substitute south end of Concept 2 (south end)

Too busy intersection. Trees filter car fumes more on other plans.

There is no way to get here (south end)

Playful markings along paths

Community gardens/fruit trees (south end)

Yes to creative playspace!

Go for the big playground!

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Too loud and unsafe near road for child play near road or seating

Awesome!

Need crosswalk (south end)

The whole 1.7 would go to concrete removal and harder to keep kids safe

Love the natural shoreline!

Love the "natural" water for play!

Bike maintenance stand somewhere (north end)

Too busy & difficult to invite people from the street. Lose view of River in trees (north end)

Artistic bike racks

Pedestrian scale lighting at entrance (north end)

Please include natural/native plantings

Cove = awesome way to provide River Access

Grand Plaza is best plan for SWFM (South Wedge Farmers Market)

Grand promenade + Cove + basketball courts and make room for playground near Hamilton

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**Concept 2**



Bus stop with shelter (south end)

Too many trees makes walking path near underpass unsafe – can't be seen

Enhance crosswalk essential (south end)

I like the rock benches (existing Phase 1 Improvements)

Add natural shoreline

Good separation of bike and walk trail

Best north side concept but need grills and exercise equipment around the basketball court.

Where are picnic grills

Bus stop with shelter (north end)

Shade for people watching basketball

This plaza + the boardwalk = magic

Provide BBQ and picnic tables at both ends (north and south ends)

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I love the ROC scramble

Love the area seating and nice picnic area (south end)

Spray park

Add grills here and picnic tables (north end)

Bike park & Bike rental (north end)

**Concept 3**



Much nicer (south end)

Love it (cantilevered boardwalk)

Not active enough (south end)

Crosswalks (south end)

Best south side, open but where are our grills & seating

Enhanced crosswalks essential (south end)

Historical context signage (railroads)

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Good separation of bike and walk trail

Add natural shoreline

Nice open sight lines (north end)

Picnic tables and grills (north end)

Also good, but not enough seating or grills (north end)

Picnic area / BBQ grills and tables (north and south ends)

Bike Park (north end)

Yes, yes, yes to the boardwalk! This is amazing

Like boardwalk

The inlet concept for river access would disrupt the flow of traffic for bike commuters

**Precedent Images**

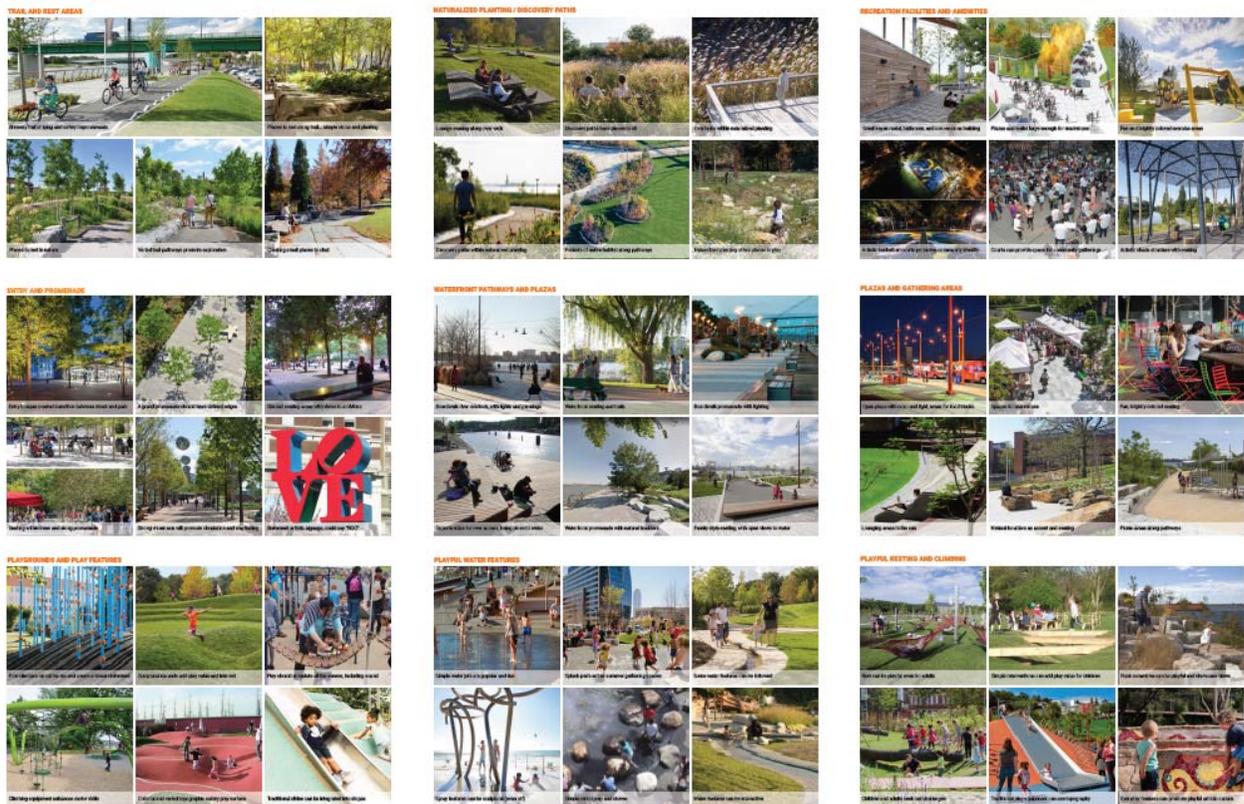


Image: "Playful water features" - This would be awesome for the back of our (the Hamilton) building

Image: "Simple mist spray and stone" – great!

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Image: "Water features can be interactive" – great!

Image: "Naturalized planting offers places to play" – great!

Image: "Sculptural mounds add play value and interest" – this!

Image: "Colorful and varied topographic safety play surface" – this!

The meeting adjourned at 8:00 PM

The foregoing is considered to be a true and accurate record of all items discussed. If any discrepancies or inconsistencies are noted, please contact the writer immediately.

**This document was prepared with funding provided by the New York State Department of State under Title 11 of the Environmental Protection Fund.**

**Stantec Consulting Ltd.**

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