

Redesigned Rice Street Corridor

- Explore options for relocating recycle center to create space for improvements.
- New parking layout and other improvements north of proposed central axis establish Rice Street as a park access drive and part of the park. Curb and gutter, paving, lighting and landscaping create a pedestrian scale corridor.
- New paths improve pedestrian circulation within the park and provide a pedestrian link between Depot Town and Forest Ave.
- A proposed bioswale captures runoff from paved surfaces and adds interest. If possible, route stormwater from existing lot south of central axis to proposed bioswale.
- Explore a restored prairie area between Rice St. and RR tracks to add symmetry to the road corridor and frame views to the Freight House.
- Extensive bulb planting in prairie areas provides a mass of spring color throughout the Rice St. corridor.

Old Mill Natural Area & Detention Wetland

- Develop park's north end as a natural area. Include a new paved path and board walk to complete the park B2B trail and improve access from Forest St.
- Area provides stormwater detention and filtration for parking areas and Rice St. Explore cutting multi-notch weir into old foundation to regulate water flow out of wetland. Explore addition of an artistic element to river side of foundation.
- Native plantings provide natural setting for walking and wildlife habitat. Footpaths, surfaced with mulch or other suitable material, provide access through the area.
- Details include an improved fishing area with overlooks, historic signage with photos, habitat interpretive signage (frog habitat?), and benches.
- Manage invasive shrubs to improve views to river.

Community Garden

- Continue implementation of the existing community garden per the approved site plan. Implement improvised art play space north of garden only after Old Mill area & B2B trail components are installed.
- Add additional wattle fencing and permanent sculpture or boulders to define the outer perimeter circle. A proposed metal-mesh fence with cedar posts transects the circle forming the west edge of the main garden area.
- Additional features include a gathering space, art work space, demonstration plots, prairie restoration areas, ADA accessible beds, informational kiosk, interpretive signage, and storage sheds.
- Explore the possibility of a well with pedal or solar powered pump to fill a raised water tank.

Park Main Entry and Neighborhood Link

- New main entry plaza creates a node of activity and breaks up extensive parking along the park's east edge.
- Proposed central axis links plaza to new spectator seating and the historic Ypsilanti Freight House. Axis could potentially extend across RR Tracks providing a formal link to the Historic East Side Neighborhood.
- Landscaping, lighting and gateway entry signage improve aesthetics and park identity.
- Vendor setup space is provided for special events.

Enhanced Spectator Areas, Border 2 Border Trail, & Stream Bank Stabilization

- Develop berm west of soccer field to accommodate B2B trail and provide permanent seating for the soccer field.
- Proposed seatwalls on both sides of the field add functionality, capacity and slope stabilization. Details for the terraced concrete and lawn seating should match those found at the existing amphitheater. Landscaping, lighting, and stairs further enhance the area and encourage day to day use. Explore the possibility of illuminating the field area for special events.
- Regrade berm and use additional retaining walls to provide necessary trail width (10' nominal; 8' if needed). Priority should be given to preservation of existing mature trees.
- Provide railings as needed for safety.
- Add interpretive and way-finding signage per county design standards.
- A new raised boardwalk & overlook provides views up and down stream from the proposed central axis. Remove invasive shrubs to increase visual access to the river. Explore possibility of additional overlooks.

- Develop and implement comprehensive stream bank stabilization plan. Utilize bioengineering techniques wherever possible. Implement phased selective tree replacement program. Re-plant banks with native riparian tree & understory species.

Enhance Existing Amphitheater

- New retaining walls provide additional seating and slope stabilization at the existing amphitheater. Landscaping and lighting improves stage backdrop and overall appearance. Retaining wall detail should match existing concrete and lawn seating
- Develop a Process to Facilitate Community Based Programming.
- Provide ADA access from parking lot &/or Cross St.

General Recommendations

- Remove concrete & debris from river bank, slope east of soccer field, and area below concrete bridge to Cross St. Develop and implement comprehensive stream bank and upland slope stabilization plan. Utilize bioengineering techniques wherever possible.
- Conduct annual removal of invasive species. Manage wooded areas to improve visual access and air circulation on the field. Manage prairie areas to prevent woody growth. Consider prescribed fire as a management technique for natural areas.
- Develop low-maintenance planting plans for proposed improvements. Utilize a consistent plant palette for entire park. Priority should be given to native plant species. Potentially invasive species should be prohibited. Include significant spring bulb planting.
- Develop & implement comprehensive creative lighting plan for entire park. Explore options for illuminating soccer field.
- Upgrade Park Waste Collection System. Install formal waste receptacles throughout the park. Include receptacles for recycling and explore providing dog-waste bag dispensers. Receptacle design should be consistent throughout the park and should complement other park furnishings.
- Develop and implement comprehensive signage plan for entire park. Plan should include entry signage as well as B2B wayfinding & interpretive signs. Interpretive signs should highlight both ecological and historic features. Consider signage directing B2B trail users to the Downtown and Depot Town business districts as well as to local museums and the RAC.
- Provide non-slip surface for bridge.
- Add removable bollards and grass-pave system to provide large vehicle access.



Band Shell & Pavilion

- A new band shell allows the park to be easily converted to a large amphitheater for festivals and local groups such as the Ypsilanti Community Band. The shell also provides a shelter for small gatherings and day-to-day use.
- Development of a permanent performance venue provides potential for increased cultural programming, regional recognition and revenue for park improvements and maintenance
- Final design should employ creative ideas and innovative technology to create a unique sense of place. A tension membrane structure could provide a high impact flexible solution, while a green roof shell would soften the overall impact and blend with park natural elements.
- Option 1 aligns with the central axis further enhancing the park entry image. The stage location takes advantage of proposed seating on the west side of the field. Provide ADA ramps from main entry to field & stage. Disadvantages include afternoon sun in performers eyes. *(If not used mirror seating plan from west side of field)*
- Option 2 provides the possibility of combining the existing and proposed stages to allow more spectator & dancing space at the existing theater. New landscaping improves the stage backdrop from both sides.
- Option 3 provides potential crowd separation from Community Garden reducing potential conflicts & damage to the garden. It would also point the sound system towards Depot Town and away from adjacent residential areas. New landscaping improves the stage backdrop.

Legend		Proposed Picnic Table w/ Conc. Pad		Bike Racks (Ex. & Proposed)		Manhole	
	Existing Deciduous Tree		Proposed Picnic Table w/ Conc. Pad		Bike Racks (Ex. & Proposed)		Manhole
	Proposed Deciduous Tree		Proposed Sculpture or Focal Element		Street Lamp		Ex. Electrical Box
	Evergreen Tree (Ex. & Proposed)		Proposed Bench		Cobra Lamp		Proposed Tree Planting Limits
	Proposed Shrub, Vine, & Ornamental Grass Plantings		Proposed Mich. Boulder Seating or Wall		Bollards		Proposed Drainage Path

* Data For Existing Conditions Provided by Washtenaw County GIS Program. Supplemental Data Added from Informal GPS Survey and Site Measurements by Mueller LandWorks, LLC. All Existing Feature Locations are Approximate.
 ** All Proposed Plan Features are Approximate. Plan is Conceptual Only NOT for Construction.



FROG ISLAND PARK

- CONCEPTUAL SITE PLAN -

City of Ypsilanti, MI



REVISIONS:	
Rec. Commission Review	11-29-07
CDC Review	12-11-07
Rec. Commission Review	12-13-07
Revised	12-17-07
Revised	1-2-08

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