

Scenic Hudson

Making the Hudson Valley a Safe and Welcoming Place
for Everyone to Live, Work, Play and Create



Washington Irving Boat Club
March 24, 2022
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Director of Land Use Advocacy

KaN Landscape Design



OUR MISSION

Scenic Hudson preserves land and farms and creates parks that connect people with the inspirational power of the Hudson River, while fighting threats to the river and natural resources that are the foundation of the valley's prosperity.

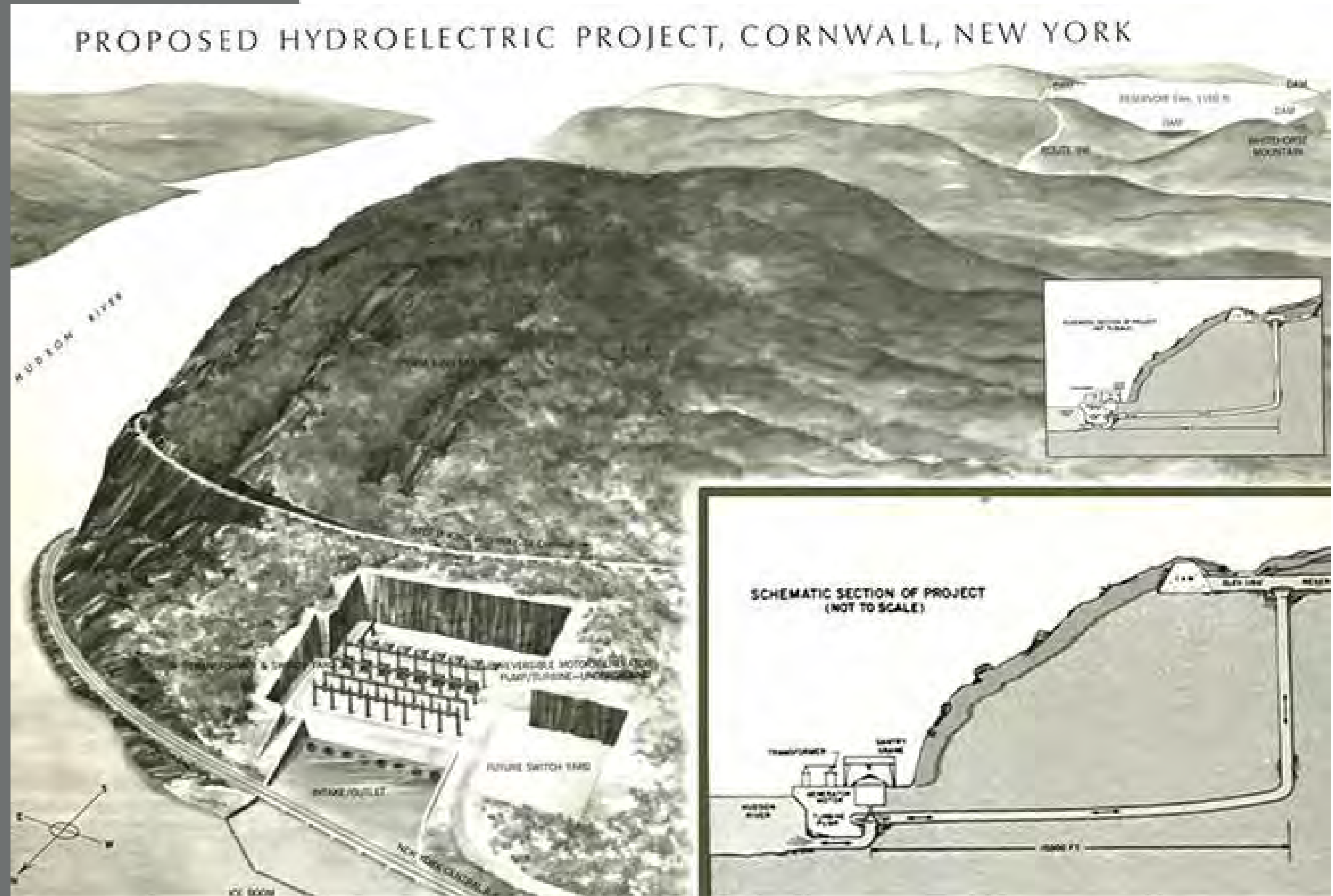
OUR VISION

The Hudson Valley is a community of informed and engaged citizens working to make the region a model of vibrant riverfront cities and towns linked by inviting parks and trails, beautiful and resilient landscapes, and productive farms.

Foundational Legal Struggle

SIX CITIZENS LAUNCH VICTORIOUS 17-YEAR BATTLE

- ▶ The historic campaign to protect Storm King Mountain from a hydroelectric project is considered the birth of the modern grassroots environmental movement
- ▶ 1965 U.S. Court of Appeals “Scenic Hudson Decision” is the basis for National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and NY State Environmental Quality Review Act (SEQRA)



Protecting the Hudson Valley's Natural Treasures

THE FOUNDATION OF OUR HEALTH, ECONOMY AND QUALITY OF LIFE

- ▶ 65+ parks, preserves and historic sites created or enhanced for public enjoyment
- ▶ 45,000+ acres conserved for wildlife/biodiversity, clean air/water, scenic beauty
- ▶ Over 18,000 agricultural acres conserved on 130+ farms for fresh, local food



Iconic views



Exceptional wildlife habitat



Productive farmland



World-class landscapes

Revitalizing Hudson River Communities

SPARKING POSITIVE CHANGE FOR OUR VALLEY'S SHIFTING POPULATION

- ▶ Reclaiming industrial waterfronts
- ▶ Improving access to nature and the riverfront
- ▶ Forging effective community partnerships



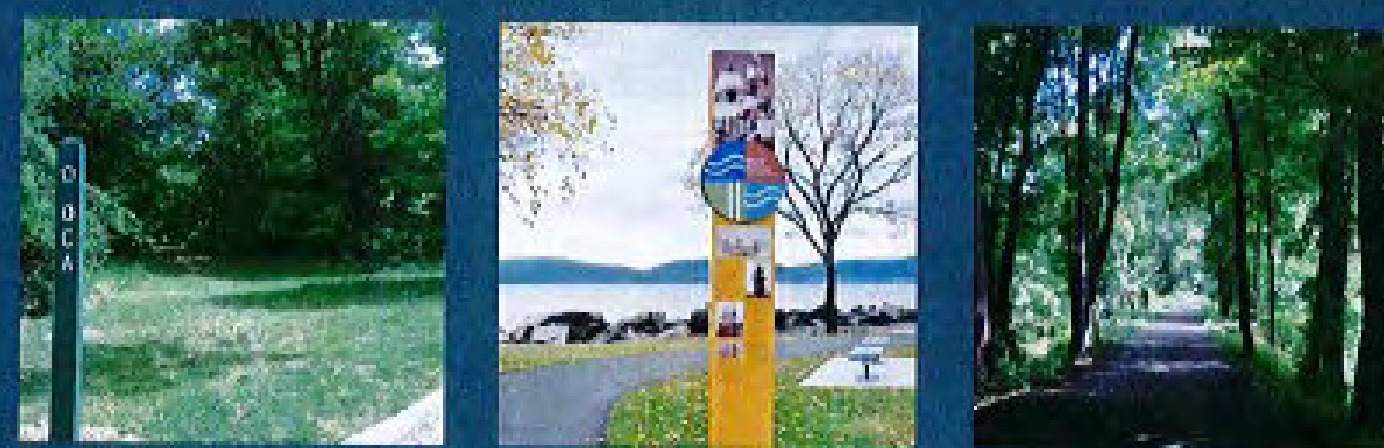
Scenic Hudson Riverwalk Park at Tarrytown

RIVERFRONT REVITALIZATION + PARK + RIVER ACCESS



Sleepy Hollow-Tarrytown Trails Strategy

Sleepy Hollow-Tarrytown Trails Strategy



Village Approval Draft
5.25.16

New NY Bridge Focus Area

Sleepy Hollow/Tarrytown Trails Strategy



RiverWalk

Opportunity

Complete RiverWalk in Tarrytown by connecting Losee Park in the north to the existing trail in the south under the New NY Bridge.

Challenges

- 1 Insufficient land between tracks and river, and need to cross the tracks.
- 2 Neighborhood concerns about additional trail traffic.

New NY Bridge

Opportunity

Connect the Shared Use Path over the bridge to existing trails, such as the Old Croton Aqueduct and RiverWalk.

Challenges

- 1 Crossing Route 9 to access regional trails.
- 2 Significant change in elevation between the bridge and trails.

Old Croton Aqueduct

Opportunity

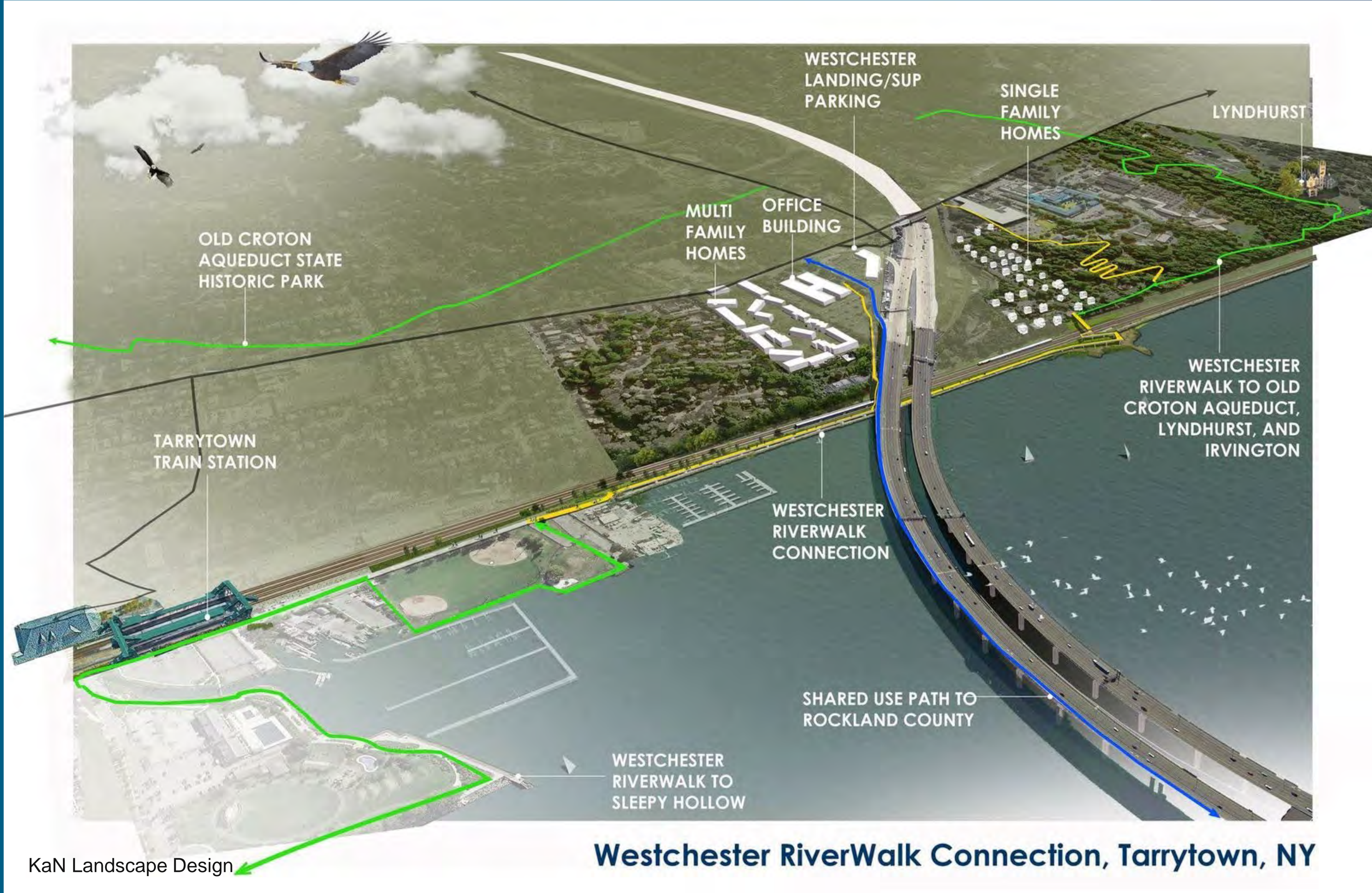
Overcome barriers to use of and access to a linear park and off-road trail.

Challenges

- 1 Encroachment along the trail.
- 2 Parking lots built on park land.
- 3 Trail is cut off by I-87 and runs into a sound wall.



Westchester Riverwalk Connection



Westchester Riverwalk Connection

ADDRESSES SEVERAL PROBLEMS WITH ONE INITIATIVE

- Fills a 0.9-mile gap in Westchester RiverWalk
- Provides transportation alternatives to automobile travel
- Creates a pedestrian link between the Governor Mario M. Cuomo Bridge Shared Use Path and Tarrytown Metro-North



Westchester Riverwalk Connection

ADDRESSES SEVERAL PROBLEMS WITH ONE INITIATIVE

- Increases riverfront access
- Connects people with nearby historic sites
- Provides opportunities for exercise and active recreation
- Consistent with Tarrytown's draft LWRP
- Supports the Mid-Hudson Regional Economic Development
- Council's LIVE, WORK and PLAY strategy



Westchester Riverwalk Connection: Recent Progress



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Three Trail Connection Options

Option A

Water and Land Trail Connection

- 1,325' long waterfront esplanade along river
- One new Metro-North Railroad crossings at former signal bridge
- Ramp connects to Van Wart neighborhood along existing retaining wall
- Path connects to Montefiore property and JCC on the Hudson
- No path access waterfront peninsula
- Potential waterfront overlooks / fishing piers

Option B

Van Wart Trail Connection

- 2,900' long waterfront esplanade along river
- Two Metro-North Railroad crossings at former signal bridge and Van Wart Node
- Path connects to Van Wart neighborhood
- Path access waterfront peninsulas with overlooks
- Potential waterfront overlooks / fishing piers

Option C

Montefiore Trail Connection

- 3,440' long waterfront esplanade
- Two Metro-North Railroad crossings at former signal bridge and Montefiore Node
- Path access to waterfront peninsula with overlooks
- Potential waterfront overlooks / fishing piers
- Minimal impact to Van Wart neighborhood



LEGEND

	Existing and Planned Trail - to Other		Metro North Railroad Signal Bridge		Railroad Restrictions - 15 foot Horizontal Clearance - 25 foot Vertical Clearance		Homeland Security Restrictions		Critical Wetland
	Option A: Water and Land Connection		Proposed Shared Use Path Connection		Woodland Corridor		Existing Overlook		Aquatic Environment
	Option B: Van Wart Connection		Proposed Overlook / Rest Area		Steep Rock Face		Bordering Neighborhood		Designated Parking
	Option C: Montefiore Connection		Steep Slope						

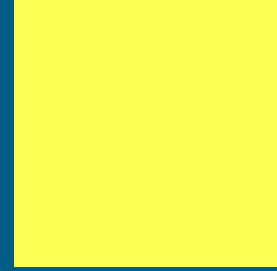
Option A: Water & Land Trail Connection



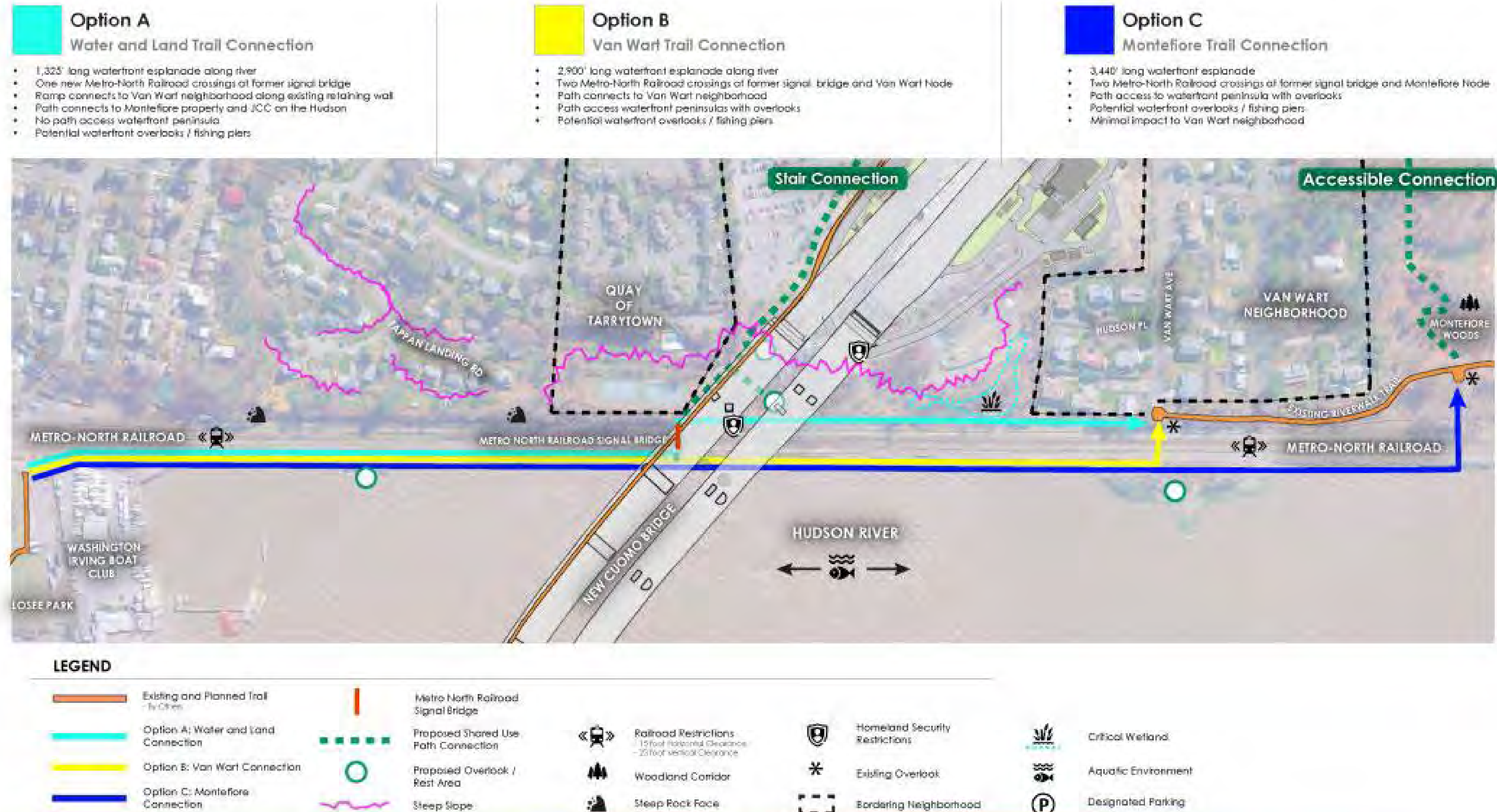
- ▶ 1,325'-long waterfront esplanade along river
- ▶ One new Metro-North Railroad crossing at former signal bridge
- ▶ Ramp connects to Van Wart neighborhood along existing retaining wall
- ▶ No path access to waterfront peninsula
- ▶ Potential waterfront overlooks/fishing piers



Option B: Van Wart Trail Connection



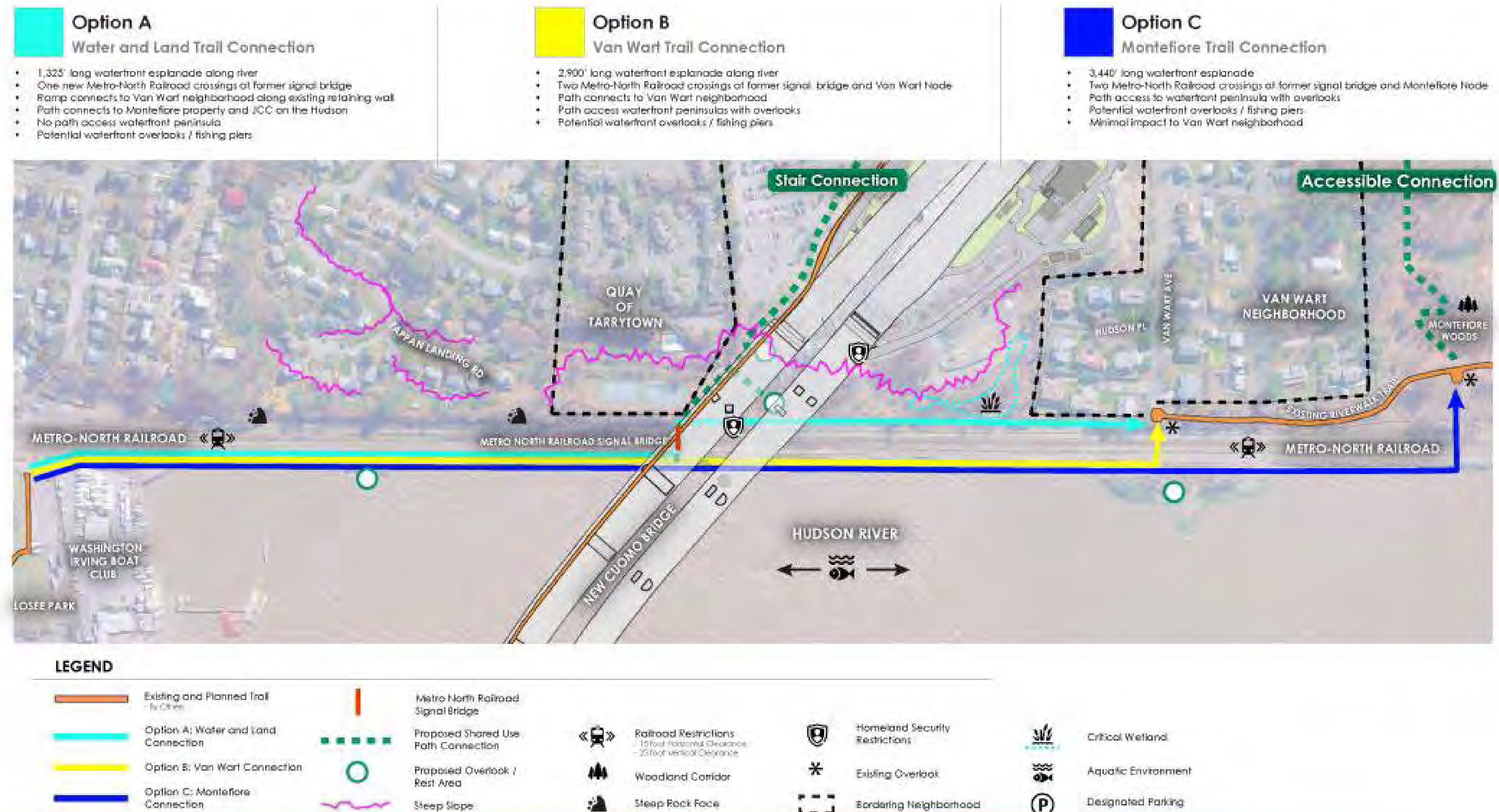
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Option C: Montefiore Trail Connection



- ▶ 3,440'-long waterfront esplanade along river
- ▶ Two Metro-North Railroad crossings at former signal bridge and Montefiore Node
- ▶ Path access to waterfront peninsula with overlooks
- ▶ Potential waterfront overlooks/fishing piers
- ▶ Minimal impact to Van Wart neighborhood



Westchester Riverwalk Connection



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Westchester Riverwalk Connection: Next Steps



KaN Landscape Design

Washington Irving Boat Club Context



Washington Irving Boat Club Context



Safety & Security

- WIBC uses a simple control gate to increase security. A fence around the marina would appear “unfriendly.”
- If RiverWalk occupies several feet of the property’s entrance, increased foot (and bicycle) traffic could pose security/safety risk and pedestrian/vehicle incidents
- What type of fencing will there be? And who is responsible for the cost (and maintenance)?
- Busy pedestrian path crossing right at our entrance.
- People will have a new and up-close perspective of our basin and boats... at all hours (security and privacy concerns).

Operations

- The east side of the property along the railroad r-o-w is used for a storage shed; wintertime boat and equipment storage; and summertime storage of jackstands, boat blocking, boat support materials, heavy equipment, and small boat trailers, and boats being repaired
- Storm drain runs along this RiverWalk alignment
- An easement of 20' represents a significant loss of usable marina space for what is presently a spatially tight marina.
- May impact proposed boat storage rack/shed adjacent to the MTA ROW (as a means to increase parking).
- Loss of valuable and needed storage for boats, etc. and everything in the green shed.
- It is not feasible/desirable to move all of the abovementioned things twenty feet to the west—not aesthetically pleasing
- Where do we store the jack stands, lumber, etc., and what other space will we lose in doing so?
- To where are we to relocate boats for winter storage?
- Where do we place the trash dumpster each time it arrives?
- If any of these changes affect the fire-lane, we may need to consider additional adjustments.
- Construction impacts on the east dock both during and after?

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Construction Impacts

- Fall/winter dredging and spring/summer construction would interfere with boating activities at the east dock.
- Similar operational winter and boating season issues concerning construction activities for the on-land portion of the RiverWalk.

Privacy

- Loss of privacy caused by the proposed RiverWalk Extension's proximity to a patio and tent with BBQ grills often used by members.

Environmental

- Impact on birds that use the “beach” area.

Questions

