

RIVER ROCK CONNECTIONS PROJECT

STAKEHOLDER ADVISORY GROUP MEETING #1
August 11, 2021

Welcome / Introductions

Mayor's Office of Strategic Planning + Buffalo Urban Renewal Agency

John Fell, Hailey Whitney, Crystal Middleton, Nkosi Alleyne

Consultant Team

Fisher Associates: Emily Smith, Mike Godfrey (PM), Frank Armento, Alicia Benhumea +
Joy Kuebler, PC: Joy Kuebler, Eve Holberg +
Mustard Seed World Consulting Group: Sandy White +

Stakeholder Advisory Group

Council Member Golombek
Comm. Mike Finn + Nolan Skipper
Deputy Comm. Andy Rabb
Evelyn Vossler
Mary Ann Kedron+Anne McCooley
Rich Guarino+Amy Weymouth
Council (GBNRTC)
James Morrell
Nadine Marrero
Sarah Gatti
Representative
Laura Barnum

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City of Buffalo
City of Buffalo DPW
City of Buffalo Parks and Recreation
Rediscover Riverside
Black Rock Riverside Alliance (BRRAlliance)
Greater Buffalo Niagara Regional Transportation
Niagara Frontier Transportation Authority (NFTA)
Bridges Development, Inc.
Erie County Planning
CSXTransportation
Buffalo State College, Finance & Management

Agenda

Study Background

Current Initiatives

River Rock Goals, Objectives, Opportunities

Study Area

Scope + Schedule

Final Product

Next Steps + Q&A

Study Background

Niagara Street Reconstruction

- Currently in Phase 4A, Forest Ave to Hertel Ave
- Phase 4B will take place from Hertel Ave to Ontario St

Continued focus on connectivity and accessing neighborhood assets

- Riverside Park & George Washington Park
- Waterfront access

Long history of major/disruptive transportation projects that act as barriers

- I-190
- Rail lines

Brownfield Opportunity Area Study recommendations

- Strong industrial past in neighborhood

Current Initiatives

Niagara Street Reconstruction

Schaffer Village Master Plan

Region Central Project

Scajaquada Creek Restoration

City of Buffalo Parks Master Plan

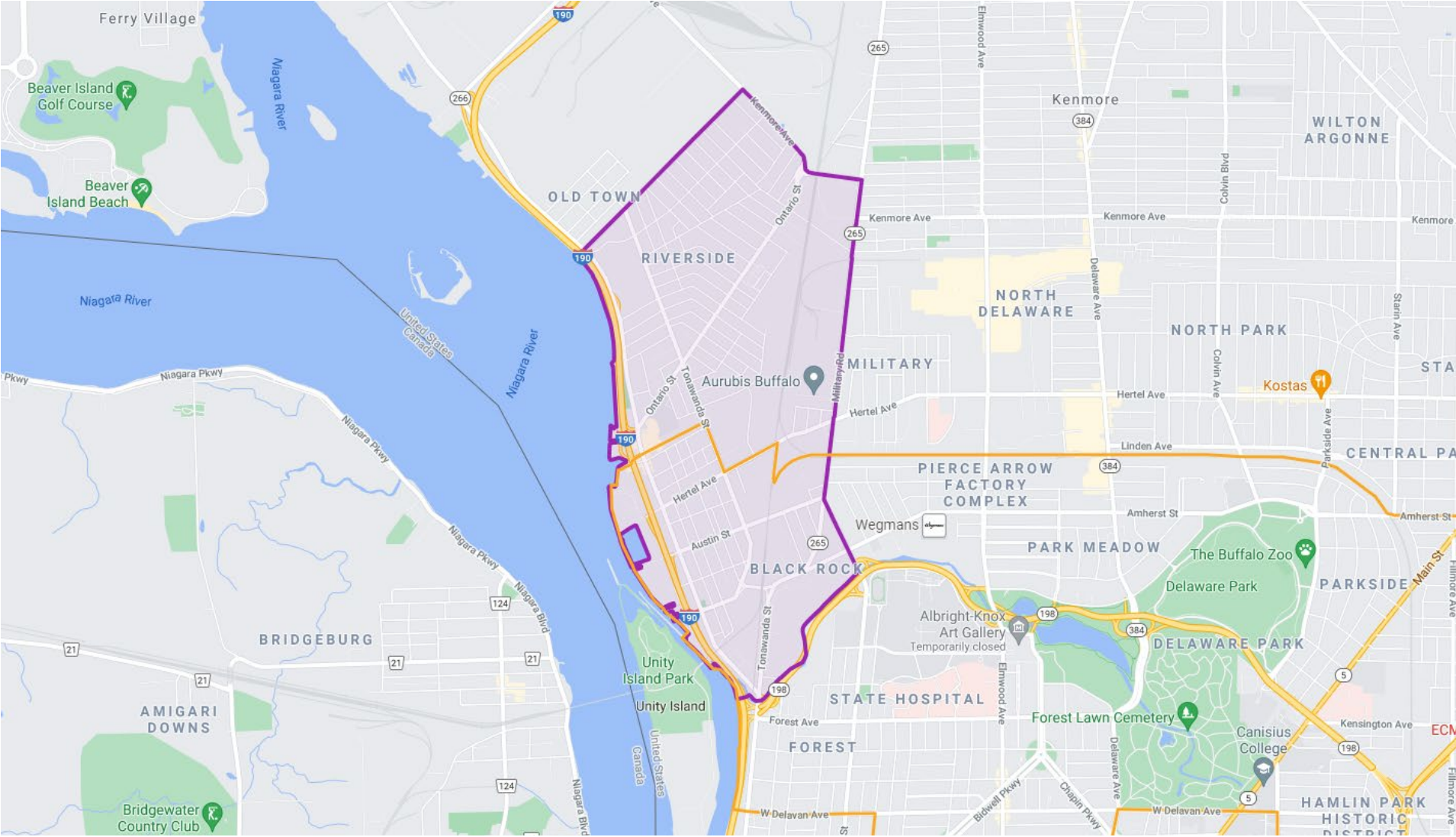
Buffalo Parks and Public School
Facilities Survey + Design Development

Goals, Objectives, Opportunities

Three Primary Areas:

1. Riverfront Public Access
 2. Complete Streets
 3. Rails-with-trails
- Access to community assets including the river, canal, parks, natural areas, major destinations
 - Complete, interconnected system for all modes
 - Removing the barriers for access
 - Determining feasibility, options, and community desires for infrastructure
 - Determining high-level estimate of probable costs
 - Determining financing options that combine multiple sources, requirements, deadlines, et

Study Area



View in [Google Maps](#)

Final Product

Final Product:

Connectivity Plan with Preliminary Waterfront Park Design

Components:

Compilation of planning process, information, research, findings, etc.

Design/infrastructure recommendations focused on three primary areas:

1. Riverfront Public Access
2. Complete Streets
3. Rails-with-trails

High-level estimate of probable costs

(including long-term maintenance costs and possible phasing)

Follow-on Activities

(including funding sources, additional public engagement, additional design and feasibility studies)

Next Steps + Q&A

Study Area Tour and Focus Group Meeting (Wednesday 8/29/2021)

Inventory Summary (early September)

Stakeholder Advisory Group Meeting #2 (Wednesday 10/6/2021)

Public Meeting #1 (Thursday 9/16/2021)

*Dates are subject to change

RIVER ROCK CONNECTIONS PROJECT

STAKEHOLDER ADVISORY GROUP MEETING #1
Septmeber 8th, 2021

Project Contact:

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Strategic Planning
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Project Website:

Coming Soon!