

05 FINAL MASTER PLAN

INTRODUCTION

Following review of the Conceptual Master Plan stakeholder input, input from the PRLP, and a review of Township's budget and goals, Concept-A was selected to move forward with for development of the Final Master Plan. Due to the overwhelming stakeholder support for the inclusion of adjacent properties and their amenities, as shown in Concept-C, the Final Master Plan incorporates elements that facilitate future connectivity and continuity between Leonard Field Park and the Fryover and Geld properties.

The Final Master Plan maintains the ball field in its current location and includes the following improvements and elements identified as master plan areas A through J, further outlined below and graphically shown in the Final Master Plan Area Key.

A | EAST ENTRY PLAZA

Design of the east entry plaza expands on the MDOT approved plan for an improved Thornapple River Drive pedestrian crossing. The east entry plaza acts as a gateway to the park and provides an elevated viewing area for the existing ball field. Tiered walls take advantage of the natural change in grade from the plaza down to the ball field and provide integrated spectator seating. A universally accessible ramp built into the tiered walls provides access to both spectator seating and the ball field. The entry plaza includes site furnishing such as bike racks, drinking fountain, trash and recycling receptacles, and wayfinding signage. A monument sign marks the park entrance and creates a cohesive and identifiable Township Park design language. Stormwater runoff from Thornapple River Drive is redirected into a bioswale for treatment rather than piped directly into the Thornapple River.

Master Plan Goals Achieved: Provide safe walking and biking connections through the township and village, improve universal accessibility, improve traffic safety, and improve security and monitoring.

B | BALL FIELD IMPROVEMENTS

Ball Field improvements include new/taller fencing for increased safety. Additionally, the outfield fence has been moved slightly farther out to assist with ease of play. Dugout safety is enhanced with the addition of fencing and a cantilever structure that enhances player comfort without blocking spectator views. New lighting and an electronic scoreboard increase the field's usability and safety.

Master Plan Goals Achieved: Improve universal accessibility, better accommodate programs and activities offered at the park, and improve security and monitoring.

C | LEGACY WALK AND BIKE PATH

The Legacy Walk and bike path is the main spine through the park running west to east connecting the park to adjacent neighborhoods and Ada Village. The Legacy Walk includes paving inlays and or signage representing the evolution and history of Ada Township. Paver banding along the walk offers a fundraising opportunity. The Legacy Walk is universally accessible, ensuring a smooth transition to all park elements and the inclusion of handrails, where needed, that meet accessibility codes.

Master Plan Goals Achieved: Provide safe walking and biking connections through the township and village, improve universal accessibility, improve traffic safety, and improve security and monitoring.

D | COVERED BRIDGE PLAZA

The covered bridge plaza provides an overlook area adjacent to the bridge that can be used for informal gatherings on a day to day basis but can also be used for formal events. The plaza paving could include an inlay map of the Thornapple River Watershed, timeline of Ada Township's development, or simply a decorative pattern. The upper plaza is connected to a lower picnic plaza by large steps that also provide informal seating. Both plazas provide multi-function opportunities for public or private events such as the annual bridge lighting, weddings, birthday parties, photography, yoga in the park, and an outdoor classroom.

Master Plan Goals Achieved: Provide safe walking and biking connections through the township and village, improve universal accessibility, better accommodate programs and activities offered at the park, accommodate a diverse range of programs and activities, improve security and monitoring, and highlight the importance of the covered bridge.

E | PARKING LOT

The parking layout is slightly adjusted to include 38 parking spaces (including two accessible, one standard and one van), reducing the parking count by two spaces to allow for better circulation and connectivity to the picnic plaza and river access point. The central drive aisle and overall width of the parking lot is expanded to the south to allow for easier maneuverability and to provide a larger paved space for events such as Beers at the Bridge and the Grand Rapids Triathlon.

The existing asphalt parking lot is replaced with permeable pavers and the curb and gutter are removed. Permeable pavers will allow for the percolation of stormwater. Eliminating the curb and gutter make accessible sidewalk connections more seamless and allows any stormwater runoff to be directed into a bioswale added to the south of the parking lot. Enhanced sidewalk connections also include an improved connection to the restroom building that meets accessibility requirements and improves safety of pedestrians crossing the parking lot entry drive.

Master Plan Goals Achieved: Improve universal accessibility, better accommodate programs and activities offered at the park, accommodate a diverse range of programs and activities, improve traffic safety, improve parking lot efficiency, improve security and monitoring, and highlight the importance of the covered bridge.

F | RIVER ACCESS POINT

Due to the intermittent high-water hazard posed by the utility pipe crossing the Thornapple River, under the Thornapple River Drive Bridge, minor improvements are made to the existing river access point to enhance safety and accessibility for multiple uses including kayak and canoe put-in/take-out, fishing, and river studies by students. The river access point is located in an easement granted by the Grand Rapids Eastern Railroad, and as such, improvements will need to be coordinated with the railroad. In the future a kayak/canoe launch may be added downstream of the utility pipe as part of Concept-C implementation.

Master Plan Goals Achieved: Improve universal accessibility, better accommodate programs and activities offered at the park, and improve river access.

G | UNIVERSALLY ACCESSIBLE WALK

A universally accessible walk runs along the riverbank connecting the Covered Bridge Plaza and the Thornapple River Drive Bridge sidewalk. This sidewalk also provides an accessible connection to the river overlook/fishing deck, ball field outfield, and new playground.

Master Plan Goals Achieved: Improve universal accessibility, better accommodate programs and activities offered at the park, accommodate a diverse range of programs and activities, and improve security and monitoring.

H | RIVER OVERLOOK DECK

The river overlook deck is in generally the same location and is generally the same size as the existing deck to minimize the need to remove trees and impact the riverbank. The shape is adjusted to fit the overall design aesthetic of the new Master Plan and to accommodate a variety of uses. The transition between the universally accessible walk and overlook deck meets universal accessibility guidelines. The overlook decking material will be upgraded to one that can withstand water submersion during flooding, to ensure the material doesn't degrade and inhibit accessibility.

Master Plan Goals Achieved: Improve universal accessibility, better accommodate programs and activities offered at the park, accommodate a diverse range of programs and activities, and improve security and monitoring.

I | PLAYGROUND

A playground was the top item requested in initial stakeholder input. The playground utilizes topography, plant material, and seat walls to provide safety. The playground is located to provide adequate space for play while not significantly reducing open space. Natural play equipment, similar to that provided by Earthscape Play Equipment, is recommended to fit with the overall understated aesthetic of the park.

Master Plan Goals Achieved: Improve universal accessibility, better accommodate programs and activities offered at the park, accommodate a diverse range of programs and activities, and improve security and monitoring.

J | RIVERBANK IMPROVEMENTS

Riverbank improvements were another top requested item by stakeholders, primarily to provide increased and safer access to the river. The utilization of boulder or cut stone walls, similar to Legacy Park, protect the bank from erosion and provide a seamless way for people to access the river. The mitigation of scrub plant material and inclusion of native plants will also help with riverbank stabilization and river habitat enhancement.

Master Plan Goals Achieved: Improve universal accessibility, better accommodate programs and activities offered at the park, accommodate a diverse range of programs and activities, improve river access, and improve security and monitoring.

FINAL MASTER PLAN AREA KEY



FINAL MASTER PLAN



EAST ENTRY ENLARGEMENT



- 1 Improved Crosswalk (Planned for Summer 2020)
- 2 Park Entry Sign
- 3 Bicycle Racks
- 4 East Entry Plaza & Spectator Seating Areas
- 5 Universally Accessible Ramp to Ball Field
- 6 Improved Existing Ball Field
- 7 Fenced and Covered Dugouts
- 8 Legacy Walk & Bike Path with Bench Seating
- 9 Improved Accessible Access to Restrooms
- 10 Accessible Parking (2)
- 11 Permeable Paver Parking Lot with Flush Curb
- 12 Bioswale to Treat Stormwater
- 13 Ball Field Service Vehicle Access Path (Reinforced Grass)
- 14 Ball Field Service Vehicle Access Gate



Park Entry Sign to Match Township Standards



Tiered Ball Field Spectator Seating Utilizing Existing Topography

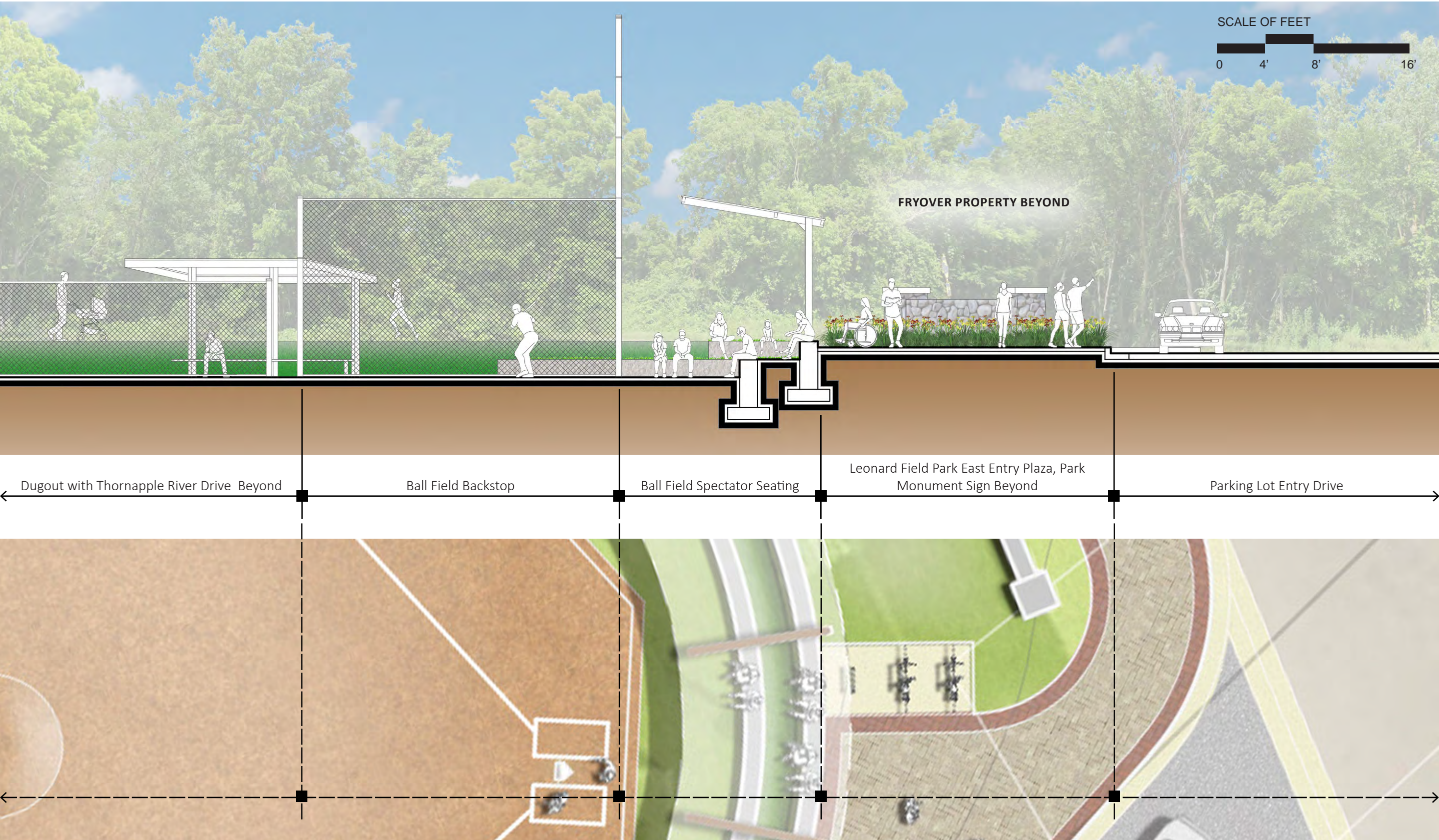


Bioswale to Treat Stormwater Runoff From Thornapple Drive

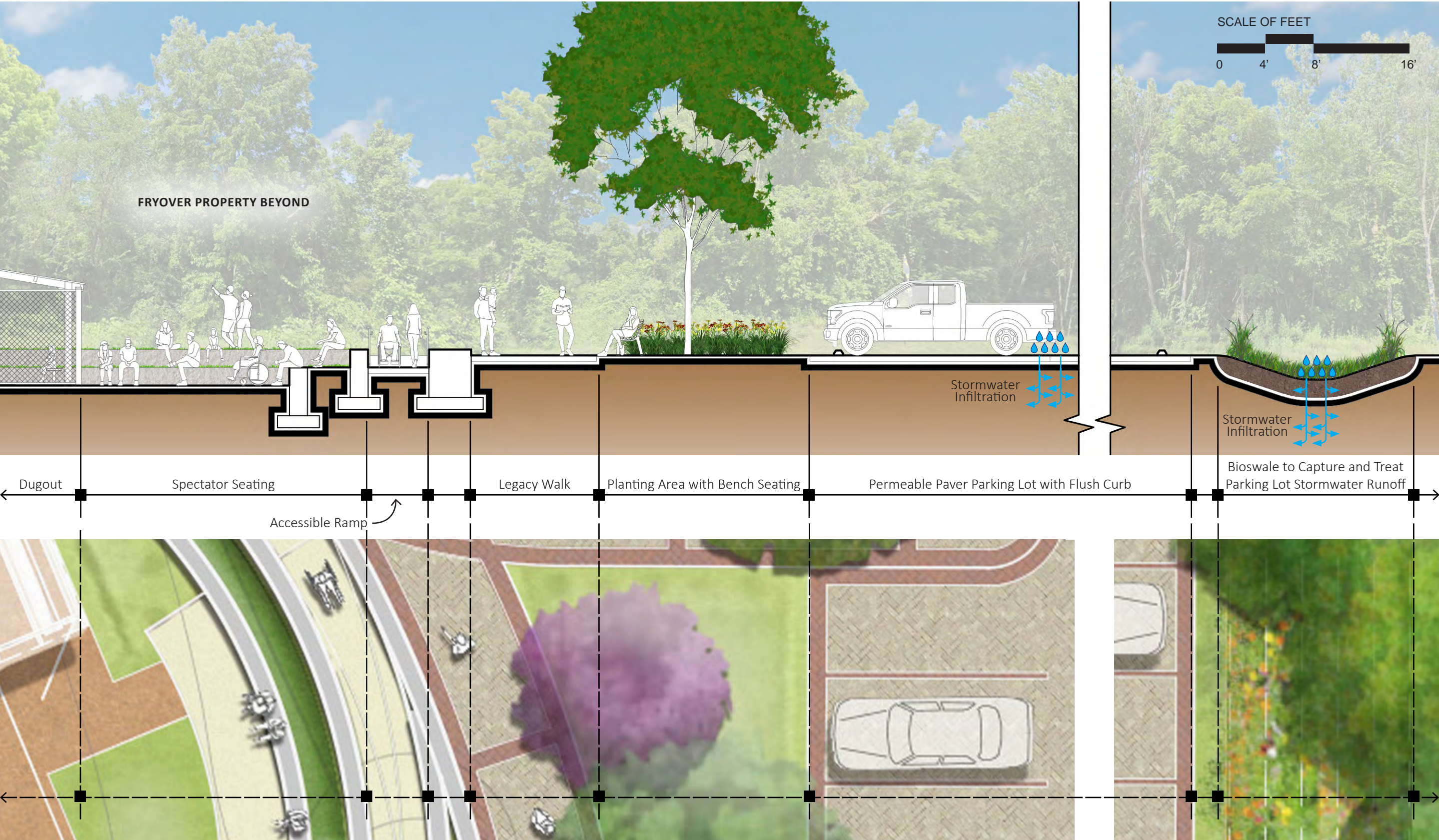


Dugout Fence and Cantilever Shade Structure

EAST ENTRY PLAZA AND SPECTATOR SEATING SITE SECTION



PARKING LOT SITE SECTION



COVERED BRIDGE PLAZA ENLARGEMENT



- 1 Legacy Walk & Bike Path
- 2 Ada Covered Bridge Plaza with Watershed Map
- 3 Stone Seating Steps
- 4 River Overlook Picnic Plaza
- 5 Permeable Paver Parking Lot with Flush Curb
- 6 Picnic Plaza Service Access with Retractable Bollards
- 7 River Access Point
- 8 Bioswale to Capture and Treat Parking Lot Storm Water
- 9 Improved Existing Ball Field
- 10 Universally Accessible Walk
- 11 River Overlook/Fishing Deck and Performance Stage
- 12 River Bank Improvements to Increase Accessibility and Reduce Bank Erosion



Legacy Walk & Bike Path Paving Outlining Ada's History



Thornapple River Watershed Map Paving at the Covered Bridge Plaza

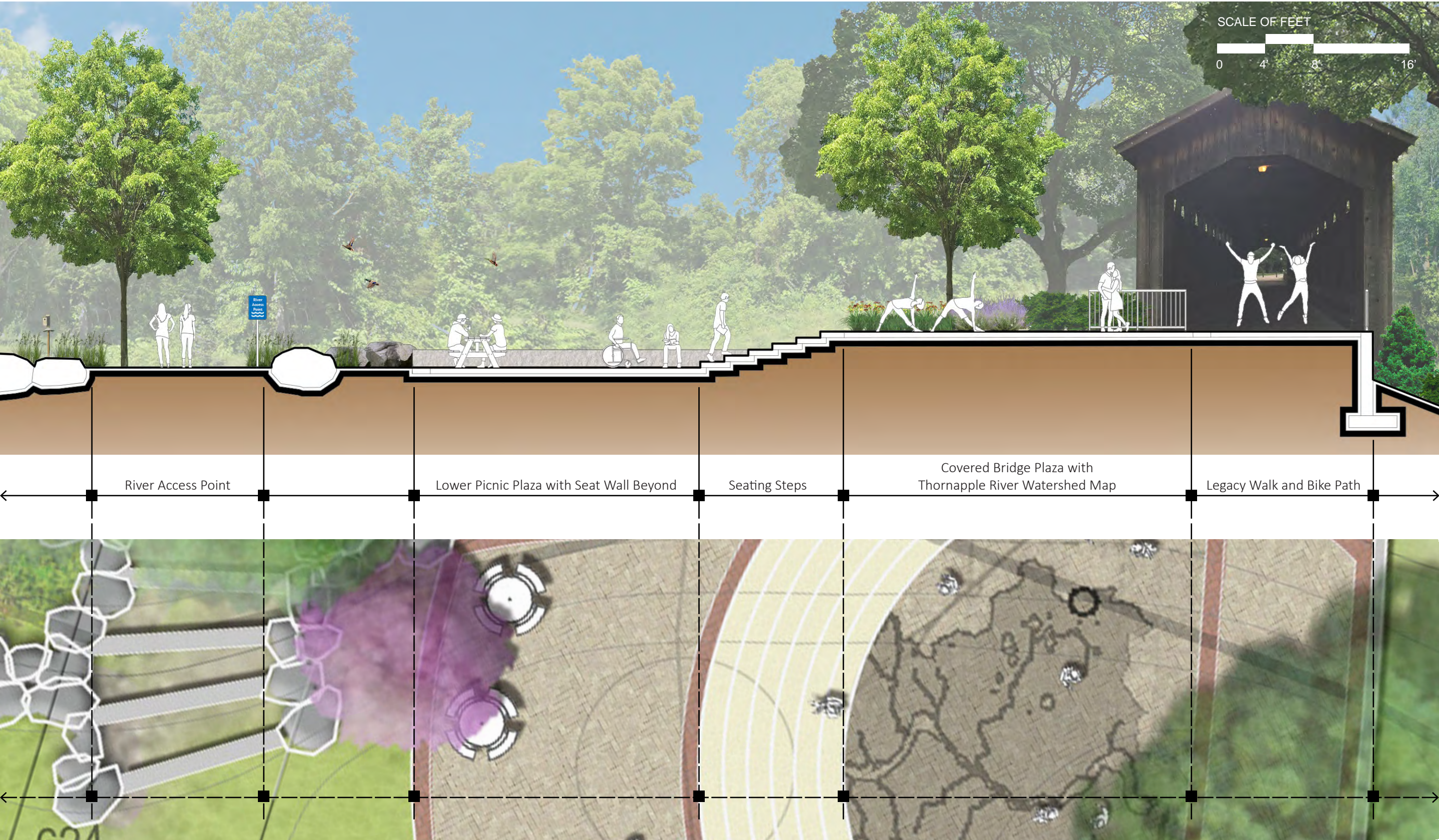


Seating Steps Connecting the Upper and Lower Level Plazas



River Access Point with Improved Accessibility and Erosion Control

COVERED BRIDGE PLAZA SITE SECTION



RIVER OVERLOOK DECK AND PLAYGROUND ENLARGEMENT



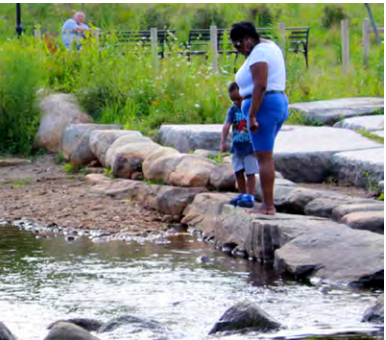
- 1 Universally Accessible Walk
- 2 River Outlook Deck
- 3 Open Multi-use Lawn
- 4 Playground with Rubberized Play Surface
- 5 Stone Seat Walls
- 6 Universally Accessible Ramp Connecting to Thornapple River Drive Bridge
- 7 River Bank Improvements to Increase Accessibility and Reduce Bank Erosion
- 8 Improved Existing Ball Field
- 9 Ball Field Scoreboard



Riverbank Enhancements to Reduce Erosion and Improve River Health



Accessible River Outlook/Fishing Deck and Performance Stage



Riverbank Enhancements to Increase River Accessibility



Playground with Natural Material Play Structures