

HAZELWOOD RIVERFRONT MASTER PLAN

Community Meeting

April 7, 2021

Project Partners:



Project Planning-Design Team:



VIRTUAL MEETING PROCESSES

01

Please remain on **MUTE** throughout the meeting.

02

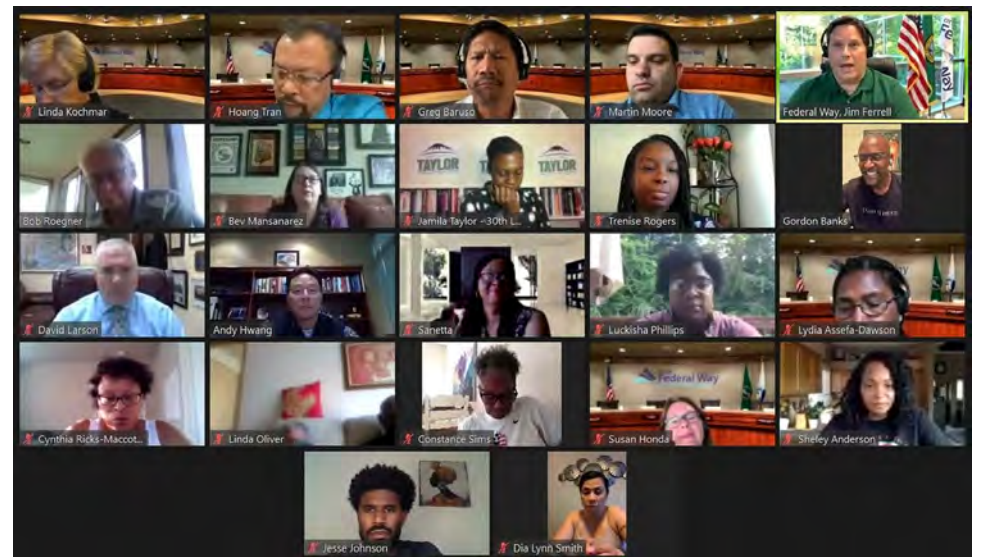
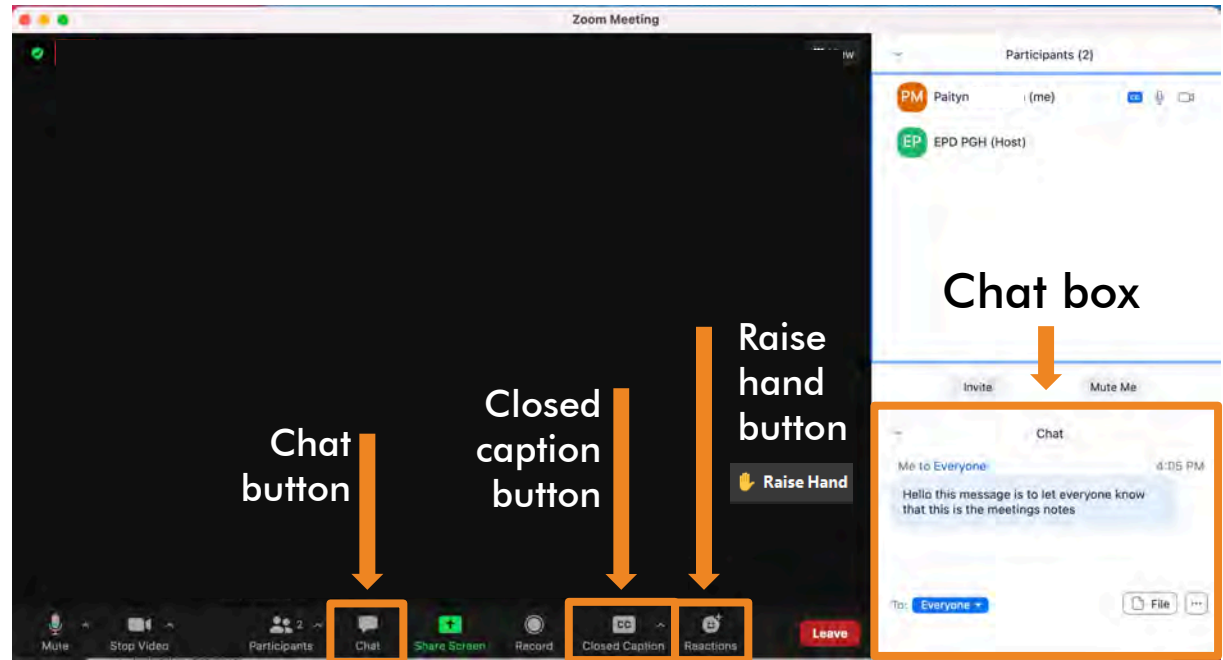
During the presentation, if you have a question, please ask using the **CHAT** box. Verbal answers will be provided throughout the presentation.

03

During the discussion section, if you have a question, please click the **"RAISE HAND"** button. Please limit questions/comments to (3) minutes so that everyone can participate.

04

Note that this evening's Community Meeting will be recorded.



PROJECT BACKGROUND

Purpose of a Master Plan

A master plan is **a blueprint or vision for future improvements** that allows multiple issues and opportunities to be addressed in a comprehensive and cohesive manner.

A successful master plan **balances functional, social, cultural, programmatic, ecological, and financial considerations** simultaneously. Most importantly, the master plan is a document where **development projects can be defined** and fundraising can be initiated.

The Hazelwood Riverfront Master Plan will enable the future transformation of the area southwest of Blair Street and address opportunities for **public access and activity on both land and water.**



PROJECT TIMELINE



Project Partners:

Almono LP



Project Planning-Design Team:



KEY FINDINGS



IMPORTANT SITE INFLUENCES

- **1.3 miles** of riverfront
- Historic, **legacy easements**, and leases
- **Vacated rights-of-ways** and a short stretch of **different ownership**
- **Active railroad** use
- **Mooring cells**, dolphins, and former barge fleet areas
- **Industrial artifacts**, structures, and buildings
- **Steep slopes**, drop-offs, and **no universally accessible route** to get to the water
- **Accidental wilderness** – Mother Nature reclaiming what was once her domain
- **Stormwater areas** and deep drainage swales along Blair Street
- ALCOSAN and PWSA easements and **combined sewer overflows**
- **Proximity** to Greater Hazelwood, Four Mile Run, Greenfield, South Side and Oakland
- **Proximity** to the Blair Street Bike Path, Hot Metal Bridge, Schenley Park, and the Three Rivers Heritage (inclusive of the Eliza Furnace Trail and the Great Allegheny Passage)

IMPORTANT SITE INFLUENCES

Existing Site Conditions



Active railroad use



Accidental wilderness

IMPORTANT SITE INFLUENCES

Existing Site Conditions



Fly-ash riverbank



Combined sewer overflow

IMPORTANT SITE INFLUENCES

Existing Site Conditions


















Industrial structures and river infrastructure



Access issue along Hazelwood Avenue extension

IMPORTANT SITE INFLUENCES

Legend

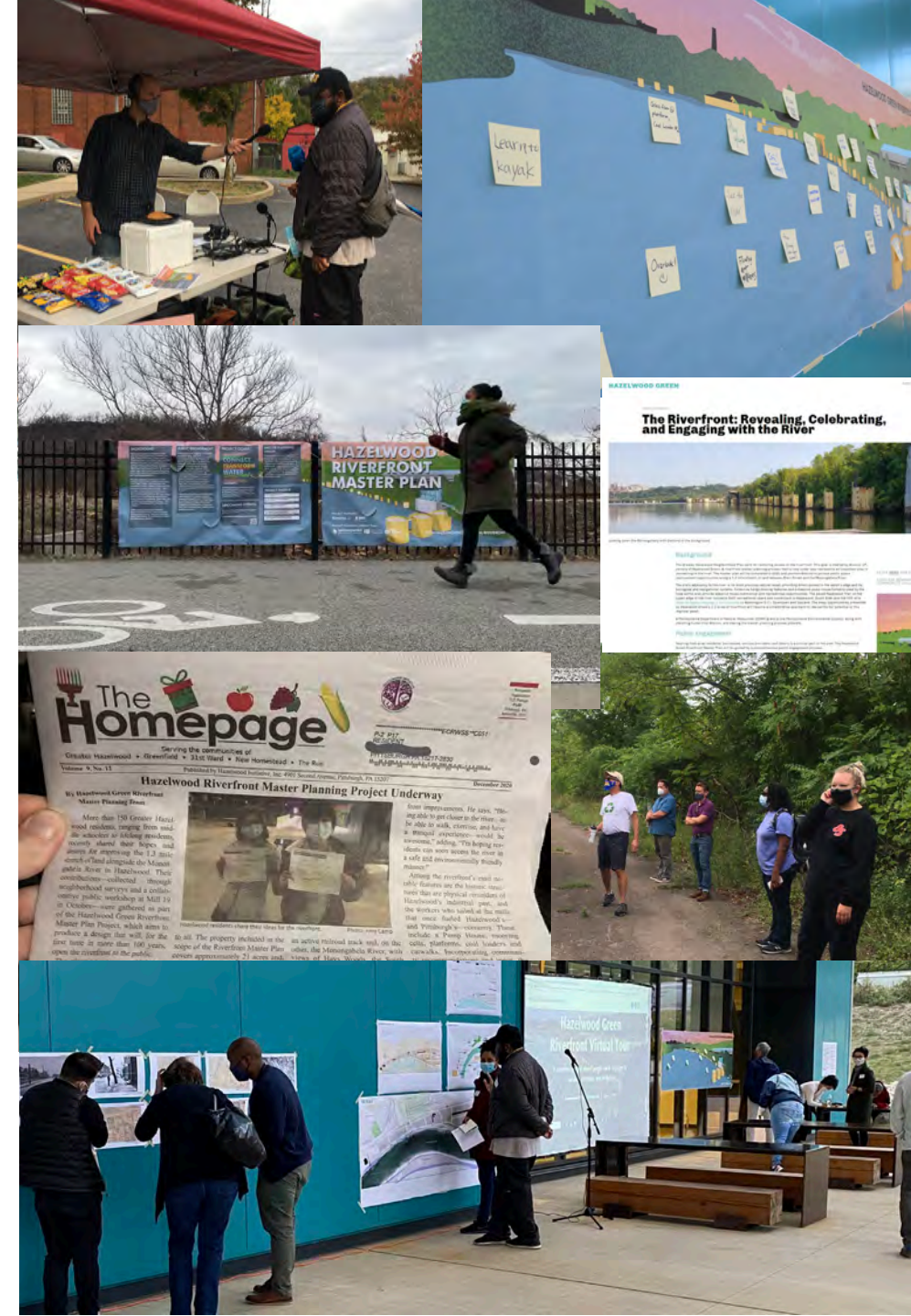
-  Potential Site Access Point
-  Narrow & Limited Segment
-  Potential Water Access
-  Potential Recreational Water Activity Zone (Motorized/Non-Motorized)
-  Water Landmark Zone
-  Wide/Flat/Visible Zone
-  Existing/Potential Stormwater Area
-  Water Edge of Concerns (Safety, Debris, Hygiene, Erosion, etc.)
-  Potential High Intensity Water Activity Zone
-  Node
-  Potential Great Lawn Slope Area
-  Water Edge Intervention Zone
-  Potential Water Link Zone
-  CSOs
-  Sewer Lines



OUTREACH & ENGAGEMENT

Opportunities for Information and Input

- Online Virtual Tour
2,000+ views
- Citywide Digital Survey
180+ responses
- Neighborhood Digital Survey
180+ responses
- Neighborhood Paper Survey
30+ responses
- Stakeholder Interviews
20+ interviews
- 3-Day Community Workshop (hybrid event: in-person and live stream) 200+ attendees
- Project Video
560 views
- Hazelwood Green Webpage
- Traditional Media
- Articles in *The Homepage*
- Social Media
- Blair Street Banner
- Onsite Project Information Kiosk
- Hazelwood Initiative Monthly Meeting Updates



OUTREACH & ENGAGEMENT

Top Insights and Aspirations

Top **PASSIVE** activities choices:

Music/ Art Appreciation
Nature Interaction
Relaxing/Socializing
Tasting/Dining

Top **ACTIVE** activities choices:

Biking
Walking/Jogging
Kayaking/Canoeing
Local Events

Top **DESIRABLE AMENITIES** choices:

Cafe
Overlooks
Plaza
Restroom

Top **CONCERNS**:

Accessibility for people with limited mobility
Safety
Adequate lighting
Visibility from other public spaces

Project Partners:

Almono LP



Project Planning-Design Team:



OUTREACH & ENGAGEMENT

Top Insights and Aspirations

Items with Strong Interest

- a Hazelwood Avenue connection
- art installations
- art and nature discovery features
- a special event space at the S-Curve
- aerial pedestrian connectors/flyover from the riverfront to the Plaza
- water access(s)
- community event spaces

Items with Mixed Feedback

- the elevated and floating walkways
- the floating pool
- the multi-use linear plaza

Item that Sparked Pushback

- a marina

Project Partners:

Almono LP



Project Planning-Design Team:



OUTREACH & ENGAGEMENT

Top Insights and Aspirations

Which **INDUSTRIAL ARTIFACTS** would you like to see repurposed on the riverfront?
Please select all that apply.



Loading Chute



Coal Loader Platforms



Coal Loader



Pump House



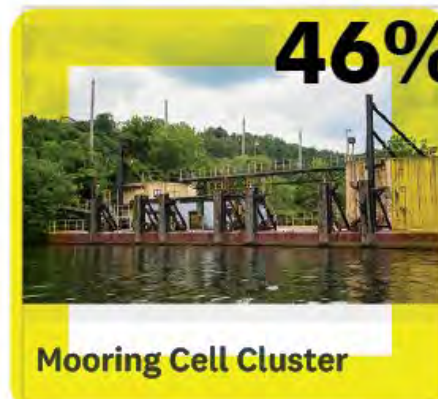
Piers



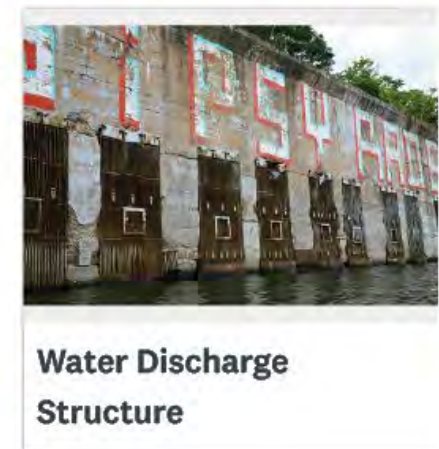
Giant Bulkhead Wall



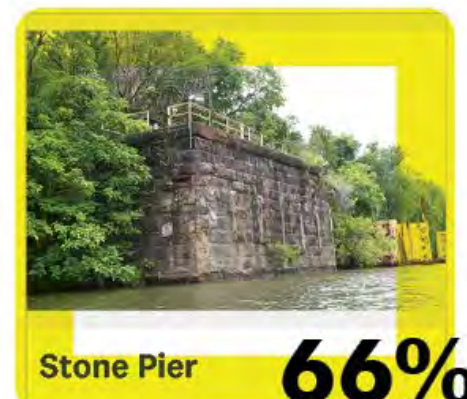
Metal Shed



Mooring Cell Cluster



Water Discharge Structure



Stone Pier

RIVERFRONT PLANNING-DESIGN GOALS

COMMON GROUND
INCLUSIVE
CONNECT
CULTURAL
TRANSFORM
MENDING WELLNESS
WATER
COHABITATE
AUTHENTIC
HISTORICAL
CELEBRATE

- View the riverfront as a ‘common ground’ where people come together to **socialize, recreate and recharge.**
- Create an **inclusive place** where users of all abilities and interests can enjoy the space with full accommodation and **sense of belonging.**
- Allow the land and water’s **ability or capacity to support development** to guide the riverfront’s **long-term uses and activities.**
- Consider the site’s **water resource as equally important as its land resource** in the planning and design process and commit to enabling people to reach the water.
- **Leverage** the riverfront’s **unique qualities** in length, industrial structures and regional juxtaposition to create a **distinct and authentic place.**
- **Transform** the environment by **mending the impacts of past industrialization** through innovative interventions.
- **Reveal and celebrate** the riverfront’s cultural and historical significance to Western Pennsylvania and world culture.
- Create a **multi-use and multi-modal link** along the riverfront that attracts both local residents/workers and international visitors to the nearby **Great Allegheny Passage.**
- Overcome the riverfront’s physical constraints by finding synergies and **ways for uses, activities, and infrastructure investments to cohabitate.**
- Use the riverfront as a place to **support and promote physical, social, mental, and spiritual wellness.**

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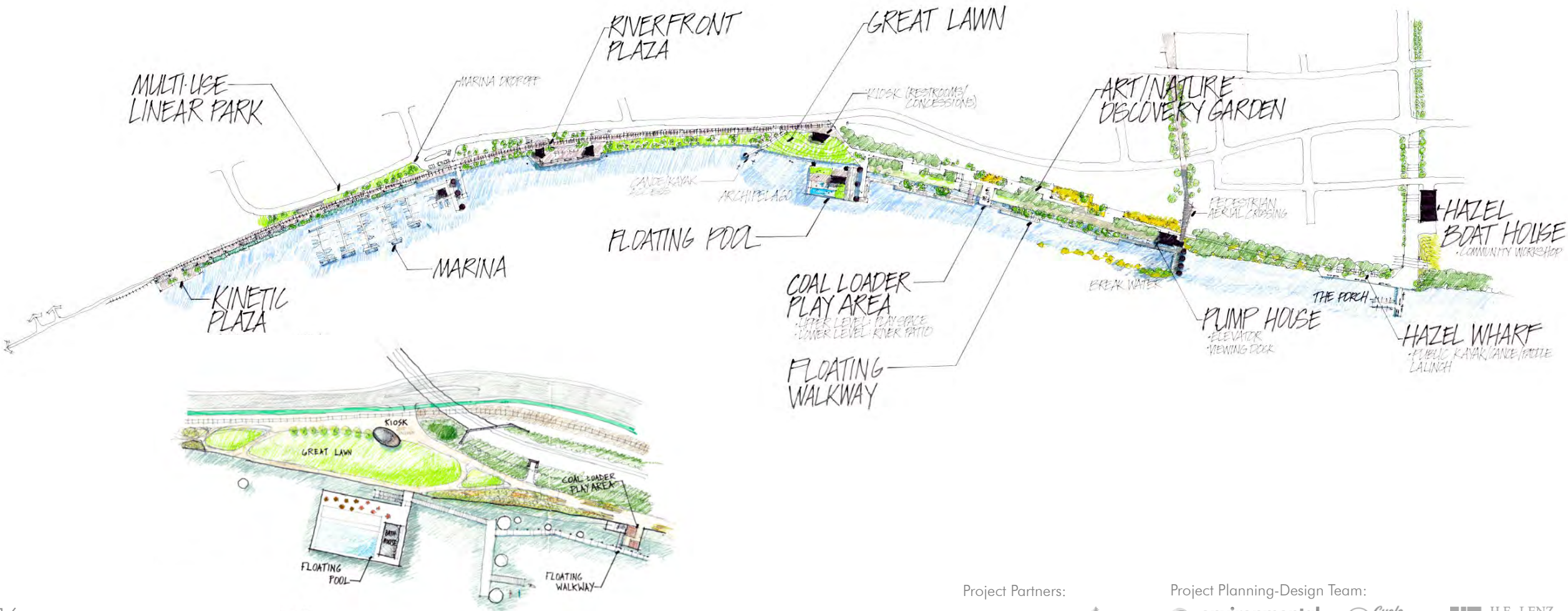
Almono LP



Project Planning-Design Team:



EXAMPLE OF 2020 COMMUNITY WORKSHOP IDEAS



Project Partners:

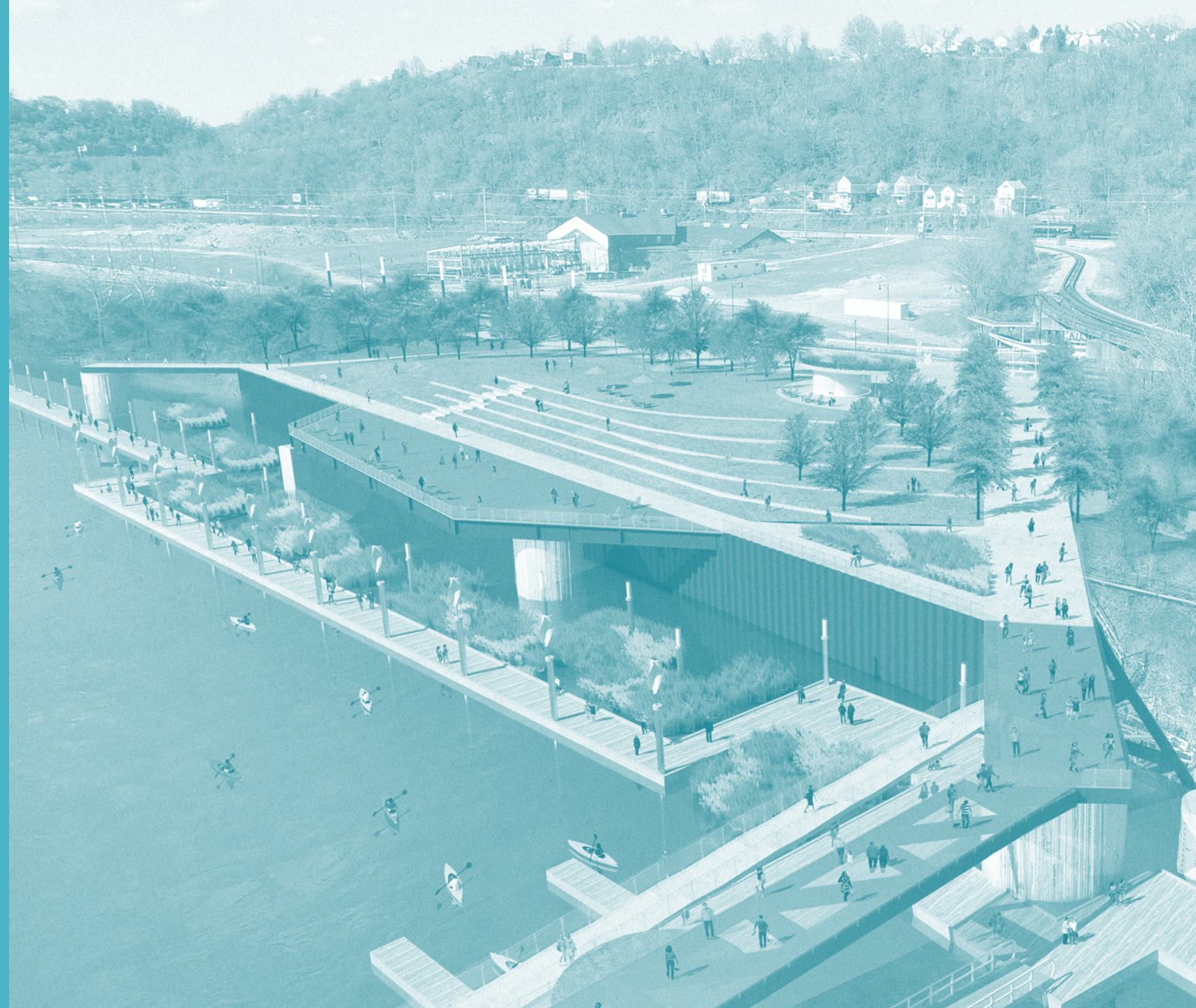
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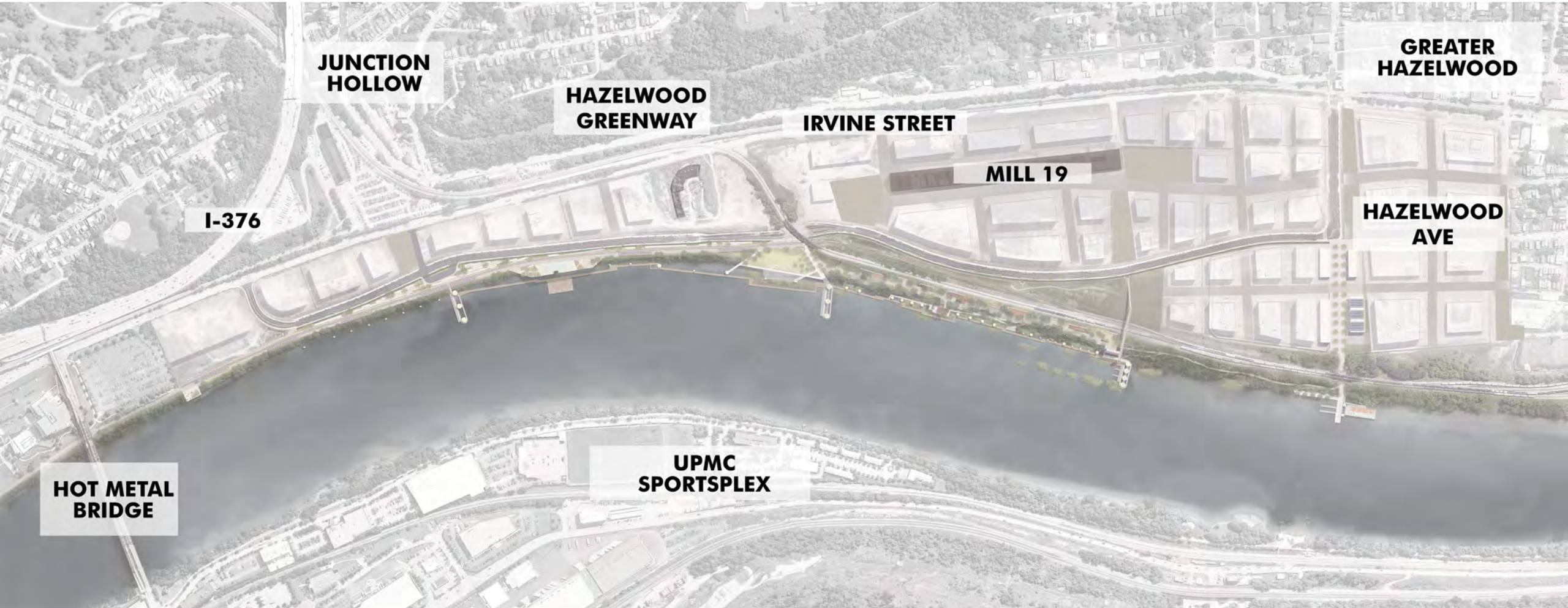
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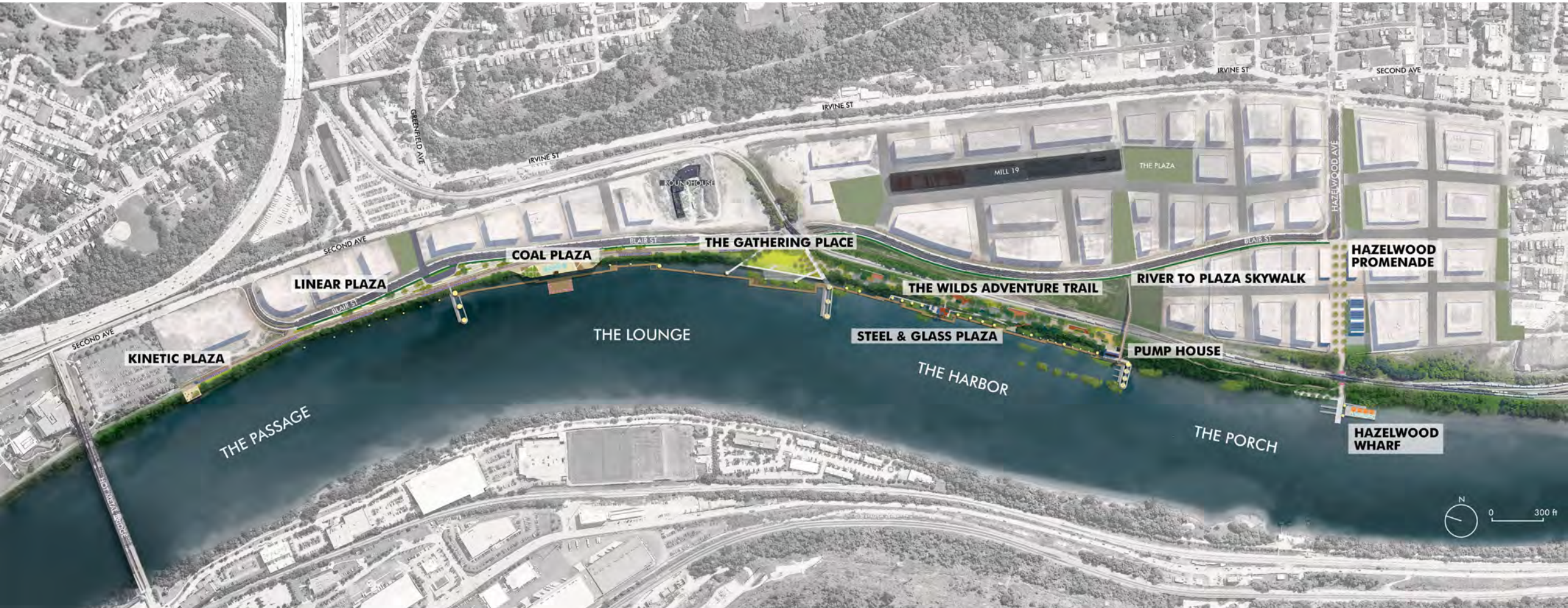
MASTER PLAN DESIGN CONCEPTS



RIVERFRONT MASTER PLAN



RIVERFRONT MASTER PLAN



Project Partners:

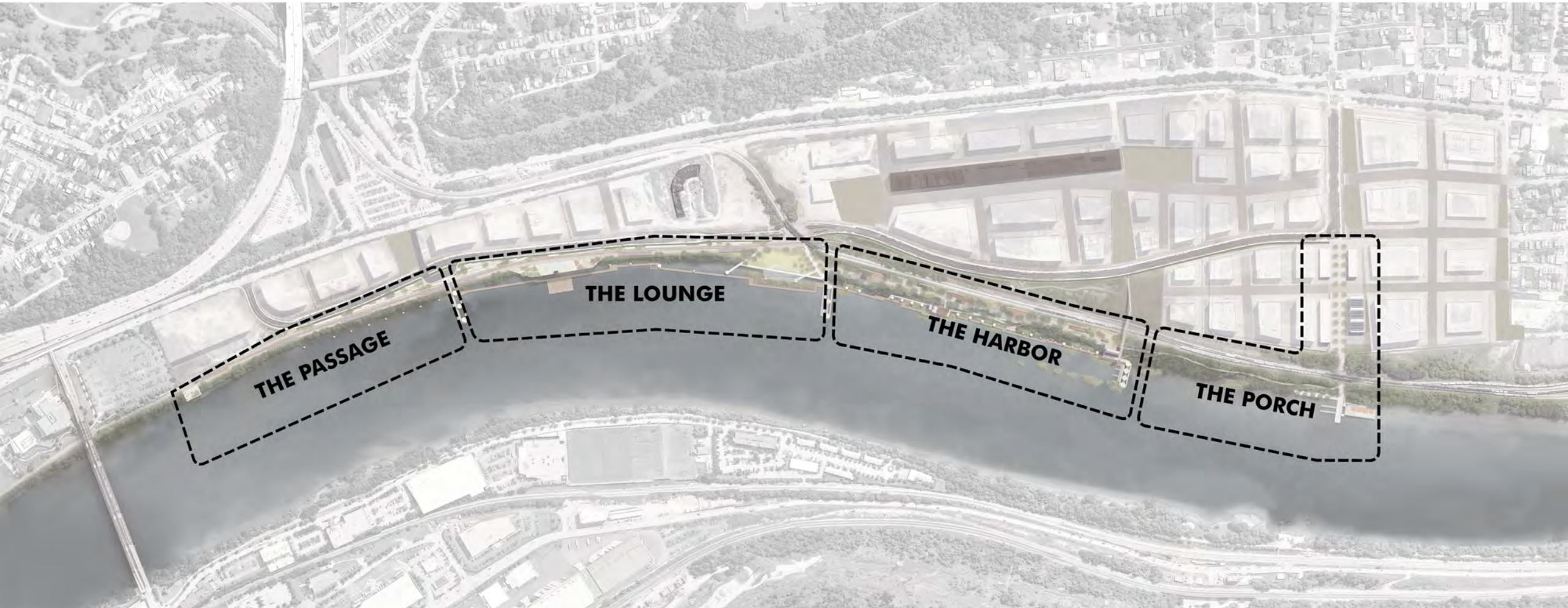
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DIFFERENT CHARACTER ZONES



DIFFERENT CHARACTER ZONES



The Passage
extremely narrow section with limited night-time railroad use; no access to water

The Lounge
widest section and when coupled with changes to stormwater management area can permit gatherings and more social activities; great access to water

The Harbor
A secluded and narrow section with a 'wild' vibe; great access to water and a safe harbor area; great fishing

The Porch
great access to water and nature; great fishing and a 'wild' vibe

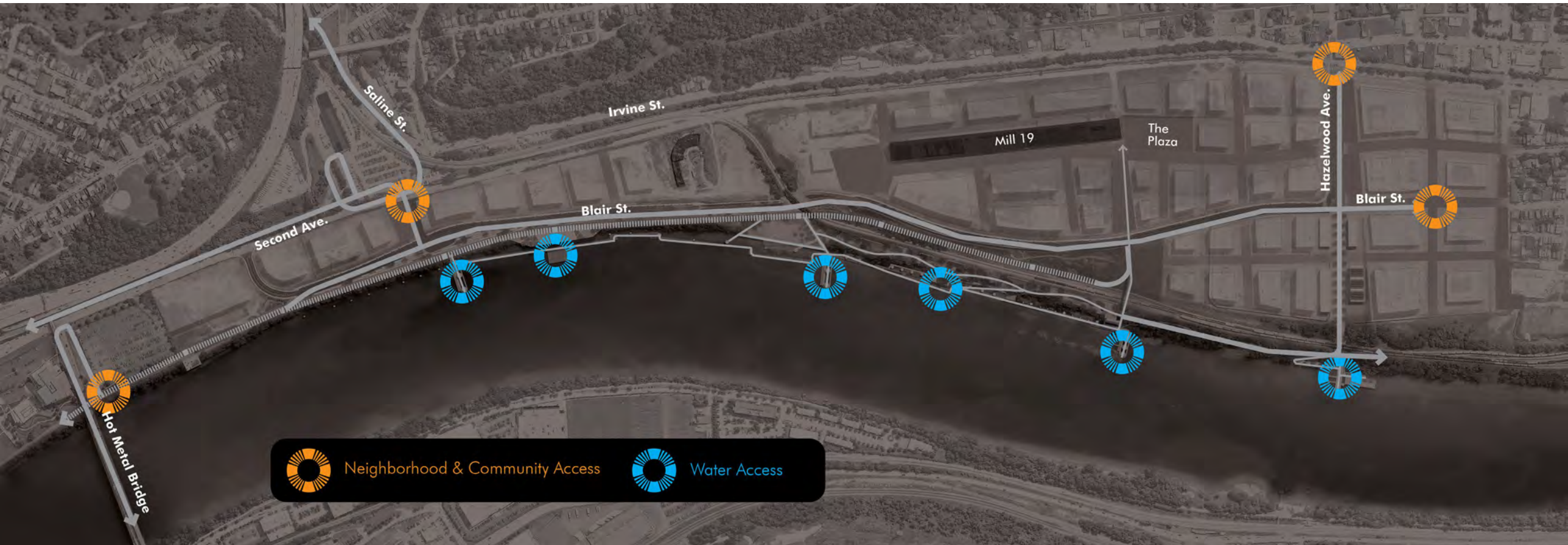
FUNCTIONALITY

Circulation



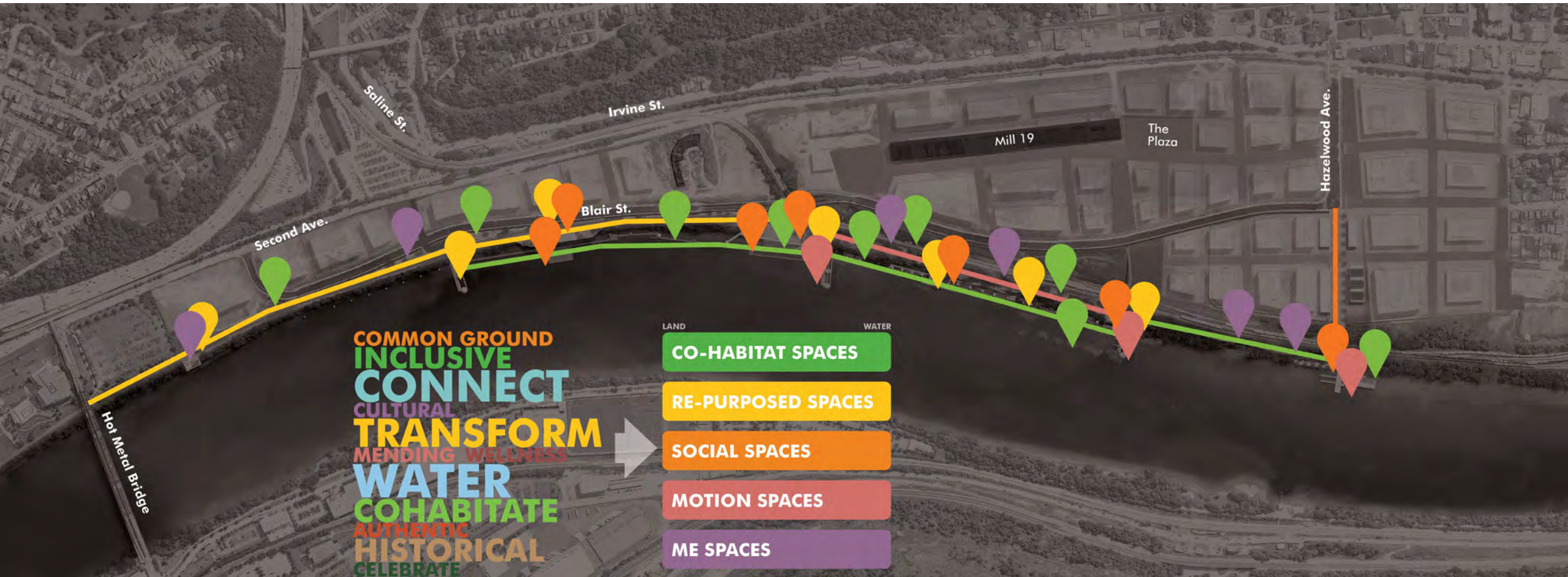
FUNCTIONALITY

Water and Neighborhood Access



FUNCTIONALITY

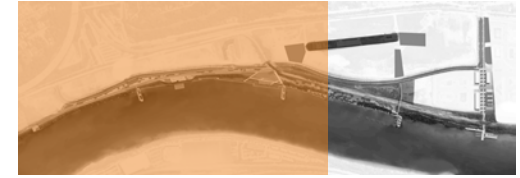
Space Typologies



DOWNSTREAM SECTION

Enlarged Plan

Key Map



Project Partners:

Almono LP



Project Planning-Design Team:



DOWNSTREAM SECTION

Before Photograph – Linear Plaza



DOWNSTREAM SECTION

After Illustration – Linear Plaza



DOWNSTREAM SECTION

After Illustration – Linear Plaza

BLAIR STREET
(complete streets facility)

RAIN GARDENS AND UNDERGROUND STORMWATER STORAGE

PAVED WALKWAY

RAILROAD TRACKS

SAFETY ENHANCEMENTS

WIND TURBINES

ENERGY CANOPY

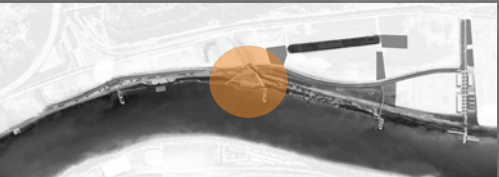
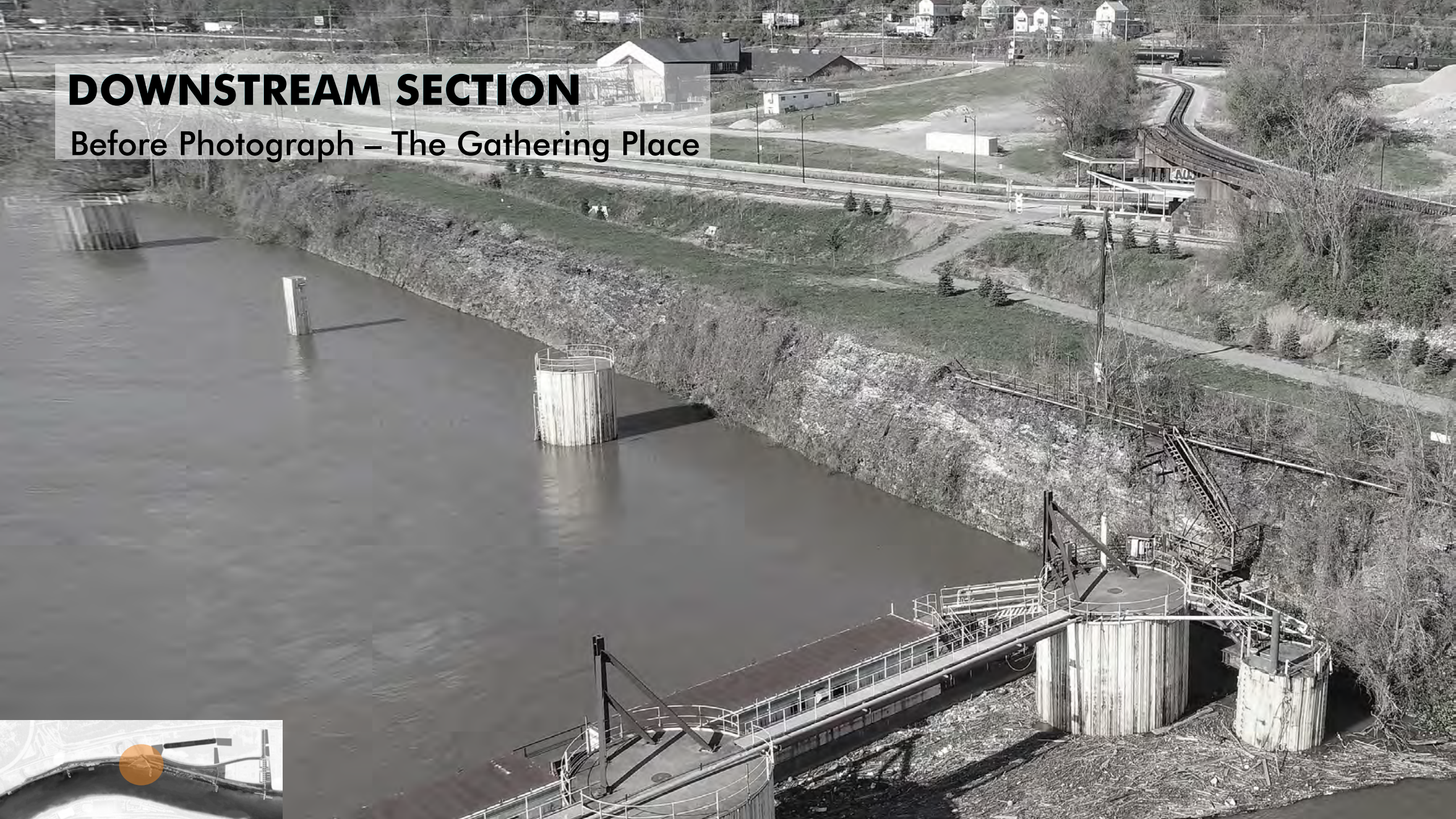
SOLAR PANELS

SEATING AREA

ACCIDENTAL WILDERNESS

DOWNSTREAM SECTION

Before Photograph – The Gathering Place



DOWNSTREAM SECTION

After Illustration – The Gathering Place



DOWNSTREAM SECTION

After Illustration – The Gathering Place



OVERLOOK

WELCOME PAVILION

RIVER STAGE

LAWN

FLOATING ISLANDS

FLOATING WALKWAY

OVERLOOK

UNIVERSALLY ACCESSIBLE RAMP

CANOE/PADDLE BOARD/KAYAK LAUNCH

DOWNSTREAM SECTION

After Illustration – The Gathering Place

- REUSE EXISTING INDUSTRIAL STRUCTURES
- CELEBRATE SITE/NEIGHBORHOOD HISTORY AND CULTURE
- OPEN UP UNIQUE VIEWS

- ACCOMMODATE RAILROAD (only late night)
- PROVIDE A UNIVERSALLY ACCESSIBLE PEDESTRIAN-BICYCLE PATH

- STORE STORMWATER UNDERGROUND
- CREATE USABLE LAWN AREA

- REDUCE RIVERBANK EROSION
- DEVELOP NEW BIRD AND AQUATIC HABITAT
- MITIGATE DISCHARGES FROM CSOs
- VISUALLY EXTEND FLOODPLAIN

- REPURPOSE EXISTING MOORING CELLS
- PROVIDE UNIVERSALLY ACCESSIBLE ACCESS TO THE WATER

UPSTREAM SECTION

Enlarged Plan

Key Map



Project Partners:

Almono LP

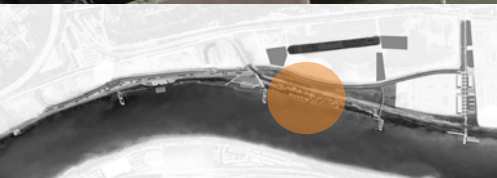


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UPSTREAM SECTION

Before Photograph – Steel and Glass Plaza



UPSTREAM SECTION

After Illustration – Steel and Glass Plaza



UPSTREAM SECTION

After Illustration – Steel and Glass Plaza

STEEL & GLASS
PLAZA

UNIVERSALLY
ACCESSIBLE RAMP

INDUSTRIAL INTERPRETATION

RIVER SWINGS

FLOATING
WALKWAY

BAIT SHOP

THE FISHING SPOT

FLOATING ISLANDS

UNIVERSALLY
ACCESSIBLE RAMP

UPSTREAM SECTION

Before Photograph – Steel and Glass Plaza



UPSTREAM SECTION

After Illustration – Steel and Glass Plaza



UPSTREAM SECTION

After Illustration – Steel and Glass Plaza



OUTDOOR GAMES

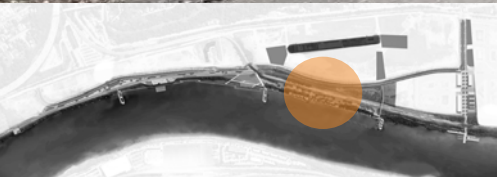
GLASS FLOOR SLAB

**COMMUNAL TABLES
AND SEATING**

INDUSTRIAL INTERPRETATION

UPSTREAM SECTION

Before Photograph – The Wilds Adventure Trail



UPSTREAM SECTION

After Illustration – The Wilds Adventure Trail



UPSTREAM SECTION

After Illustration – The Wilds Adventure Trail

FITNESS/WELLNESS
STATION

FLY ASH REMEDIATION

STEEL BOARDWALK

ART GARDEN

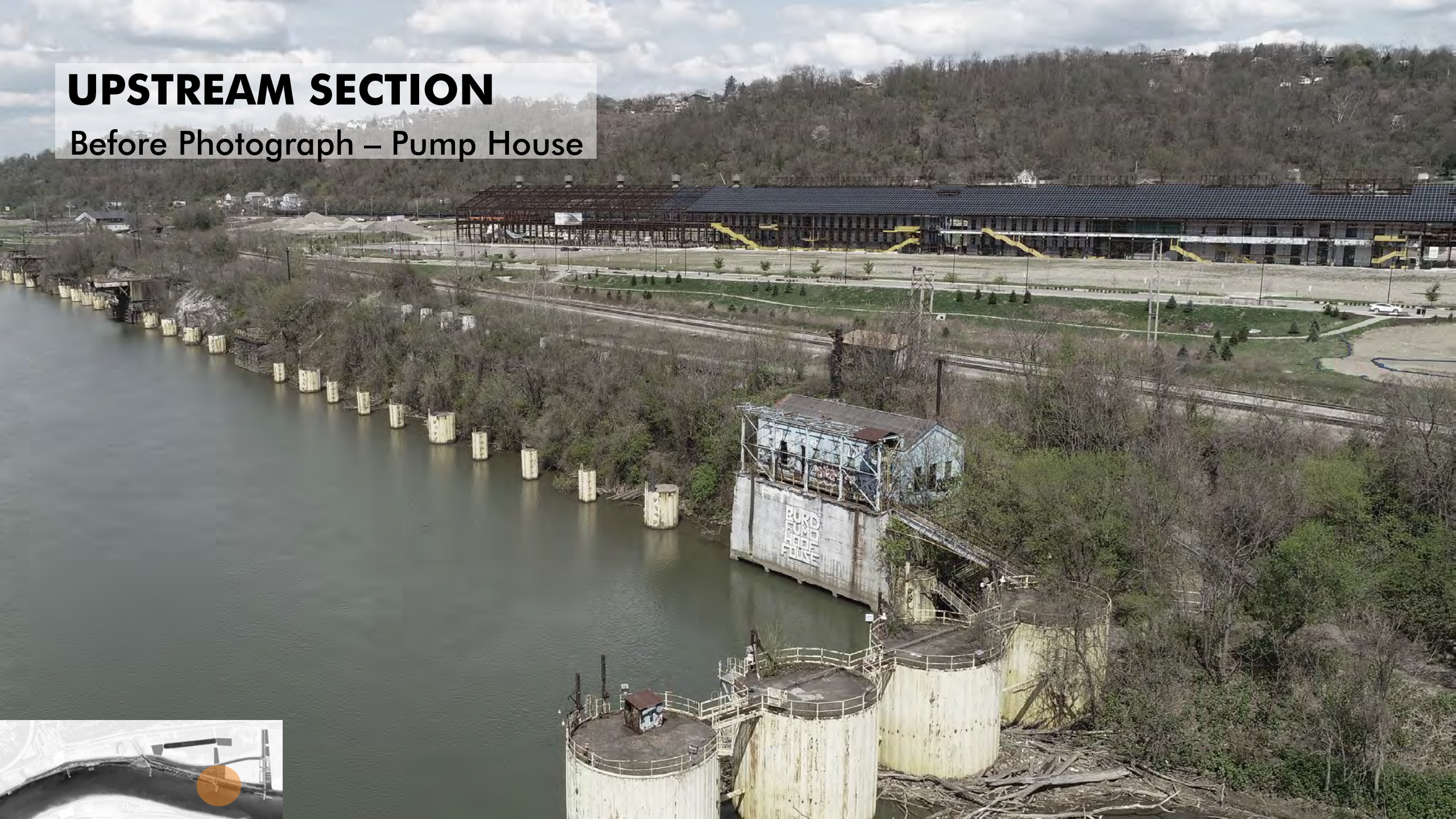
BIRD HABITAT
RESTORATION

STORMWATER WETLAND



UPSTREAM SECTION

Before Photograph – Pump House



UPSTREAM SECTION

After Illustration – Pump House



UPSTREAM SECTION

After Illustration – Pump House

THE WILDS ADVENTURE TRAIL

FLOATING WALKWAY

RIVER HAMMOCK

CALM WATER HARBOR

FLOATING ISLANDS

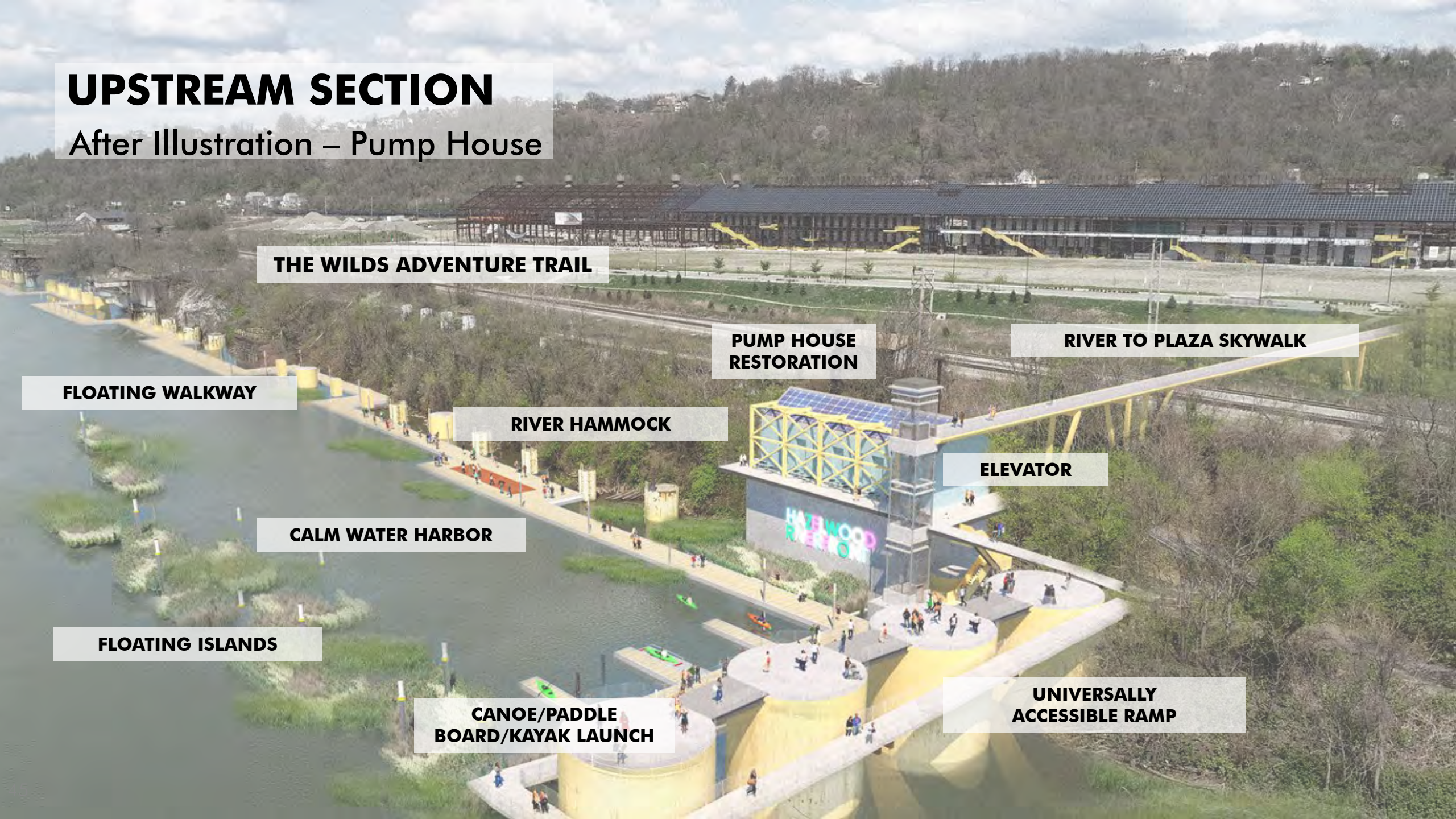
CANOE/PADDLE
BOARD/KAYAK LAUNCH

PUMP HOUSE
RESTORATION

ELEVATOR

RIVER TO PLAZA SKYWALK

UNIVERSALLY
ACCESSIBLE RAMP



NEXT STEPS



IMPLEMENTATION PRINCIPLES

- **Access/connections** - from nearby neighborhoods to the river
- **Infrastructure improvements** - providing utility services to support future recreational and social activities
- **Safety/security** - legally and safely getting people to the water's edge
- **Activation** - getting people to the Hazelwood Riverfront with activities and programs
- **Development cost** - total expenditures related to final engineering, permitting and construction
- **Catalytic effect** - a given project's ability to launch or stimulate other implementation efforts



IMPORTANT NEXT STEPS

- 01 Update **City-related policies and plans** to reflect the vision for the riverfront
- 02 Resolve the 'legacy' issues that impact legal **public access and use** of the riverfront
- 03 Work with the railroads to safeguard public **safety and security**
- 04 Collaborate with adjoining property owners and public officials to improve **regional connections to the riverfront area**
- 05 Build **public awareness and appreciation** of the riverfront and enable residents to safely explore
- 06 Begin to define riverfront **development projects** and implementation **phases**
- 07 Identify and pursue **funding opportunities** to capitalize development projects

Project Partners:

Almono LP



Project Planning-Design Team:



QUESTIONS AND THOUGHTS

If you have a question, please use the **“Raise Hand”** button to ask. The Moderator will then call on you on for your input.

We are asking participants to please limit their comments to **3 minutes** so that we are able to address everyone.



An architectural rendering of a riverfront park. The scene is shown from an elevated perspective, looking down at a multi-level structure. At the top, a wide walkway with a metal railing is populated with several people. Below this, there are various platforms and walkways, some with ramps and stairs. The structure is surrounded by lush greenery, including tall grasses and trees. In the foreground, a wooden deck area features people sitting on benches and walking. The entire image has a teal color overlay.

THANK YOU

If you have any further questions, or would like more project information, please see our website at <https://www.hazelwoodgreen.com/riverfront> or e-mail us at amy@cycleforward.org