THE TOLEDO RIVERFRONT TRAIL + OPEN SPACE CONCEPT PLAN

Prepared for:

February, 2019

SMITHGROUP
THE TRAIL SYSTEM IS MADE UP OF A SERIES OF LINKS AND NODES.

CONNECTORS
- They are generally linear corridors that provide clear routes in two directions
- Widths vary and are determined by the intensity of users
- Amenities are integrated in a designated zone

GATEWAYS
- They are located at trail access points from adjacent neighborhoods and street ends
- Their primary role is to function as a gateway and provide core amenities

LANDMARK DESTINATIONS
- They are recognizable anchors within neighborhoods along the riverfront
- Larger plaza-like spaces, with the highest concentration of programming and design elements
- Their primary role is to function as an attraction and provide both core amenities and supplemental amenities
THE CONCEPT DESIGN APPROACH: 3 LEVELS OF DESIGN

CONCEPT DEVELOPMENT

THE RIVERFRONT TRAIL SYSTEM WILL BE DESIGNED WITH THREE LEVELS.

LEVEL 1
The entire riverfront trail network needs to function as one unit. A consistent, underlying theme will be expressed throughout the network to provide an intuitive and cohesive network.

LEVEL 2
Each district is rooted to a neighborhood that has its own sense of character and culture. A subtheme that stems off of the Network theme provides each district the opportunity to express their uniqueness.

LEVEL 3
Within each district is a smaller subset of spaces, referred to as nodes. Primary nodes give an opportunity to integrate amenities that support special programming. Not all districts have primary nodes.
THE INTERNATIONAL PARK CONCEPT
THE RIVERFRONT TRAIL EXPERIENCE

DISTRICT CHARACTERISTICS

- Existing park and restaurant assets
- Restore riparian zone and soften river's edge

HIGHLIGHTS

- Develop nodes to capitalize on existing assets and create programming opportunities
- The trails relationship to the shoreline drives the trail treatment strategies

TREATMENT TYPES

- **A** – BASELINE
- **B1** - NATURAL EDGE, RESTORE
- **C** – THE DOCK’S
- **D** – THE BASIN

TOLEDO RIVERFRONT TRAIL and OPEN SPACE CONCEPT PLAN
EXISTING CONDITIONS
The existing shoreline, south of The Docks, is hardened and requires extensive landscape maintenance. View from Google Earth Imagery over the river looking inland.

TYPE B₁ – NATURAL EDGE, RESTORE
- Cut and remove existing seawall, re-slope river bank
- 24’ trail assembly (6’+12’+6’) can shift within the trail corridor
- Include tree planting buffers on both sides (as feasible)
- Manage stormwater in riparian buffer

PROPOSED TRAIL TREATMENT
THE RIVERFRONT TRAIL EXPERIENCE

- Cut and remove existing seawall, re-slope river bank
- 24’ trail assembly (6’+12’+6’) can shift within the trail corridor
- Include tree planting buffers on both sides (as feasible)
- Manage stormwater in riparian buffer
EXISTING CONDITIONS
The existing promenade behind The Docks restaurants is a wide corridor of concrete with no seating or shade. View looking upstream.

TYPE C – THE DOCK’S
- Add planter / amenity zone along the river
- Maintain relationship of shared use trail with café space
- Manage stormwater in planter
PROPOSED TRAIL TREATMENT
THE RIVERFRONT TRAIL EXPERIENCE

EXISTING CONDITIONS
The existing walkway and amenities around The Basin appear tired and show signs of aging. The shoreline conditions discourage engagement with the water. View looking west-northwest.

TYPE D – THE BASIN
- Widen existing trail to meet standards (include removal + full replacement)
- Soften river’s edge with plants
- Provide stepped access to water through planted edge
- Manage stormwater in riparian buffer
CONCEPT ILLUSTRATIVE VIEW
THE RIVERFRONT TRAIL EXPERIENCE

- Seating Area, Extended Toward Water
- Riparian Buffer

--- Amenity + Planting Zone
--- Stepped Water Access
THE DOWNTOWN CONCEPT
THE RIVERFRONT TRAIL EXPERIENCE

DISTRICT CHARACTERISTICS
- Highest intensity of users
- Needs more seating options
- Needs infrastructure improvements and amenities to support a growing list of programming
- Notable community attractions

HIGHLIGHTS
- Create consistent corridor treatment for cohesive district
- Separate bike trail to accommodate high number of users
- Node development to capitalize on programming potential
- Integrate green infrastructure at One SeaGate

TREATMENT TYPES
- A - BASELINE
- F - BOARDWALK
- DTN1 – SWAN CREEK / DTN2 – PROMENADE PARK / DTN3 – STEAM PLANT

TOLEDO RIVERFRONT TRAIL and OPEN SPACE CONCEPT PLAN

SCHMIGROUP
EXISTING CONDITIONS
The existing infrastructure is aging. Opportunities to capitalize on water (water feature, the basin, Water Street terminus) should be explored to re-create a landmark space. View from the south side of the basin looking inland.

TYPE E₁ – ONE SEAGATE
- Remove expanses of concrete and integrate natural plantings
- Re-design as part of One SeaGate improvements
- Provide a minimum 12’ shared use path at two levels
The link behind the Imagination Station is the most narrow section on the Downtown riverfront and appears even more narrow because of the retaining wall to the elevated patio on one side and the large-scale mooring bollards plus light poles on the other. View looking upstream.

**TYPE H – IMAGINATION STATION**

- Integrate lighting into seatwall,
- Provide new railing along the water’s edge and reclaim space as part of corridor
- Integrate a planter in front of seawall to provide soft edge
- Manage stormwater in planter
**EXISTING CONDITIONS**

The sidewalk, trees, and amenities behind the former steam plant are all remnants of a past riverfront. View looking upstream.

**TYPE DTN₃ – STEAMPLANT**

- Separate biking from walking to manage high user intensity
- Manage stormwater in planter
EXISTING CONDITIONS

The path by Promenade Park was not included in any of the recent upgrades to the park. The large-scale mooring bollards plus light poles on the riverside create the sense of a barrier to the river.

TYPE DTN₂ – PROMENADE PARK

- Separate biking from walking to manage high user intensity
- Strategically locate a second row of trees in planters to frame the relationship between the park and river in priority areas (i.e. gateways, views)
- Manage stormwater in planter
An existing trail along Swan Creek discourages engagement with the water. A mixed-use development that would replace the parking lot could strengthen the downtown riverfront with a stretch of retail and restaurants on the ground-level.

**TYPE DTN₁ – SWAN CREEK**

- Separate biking from walking to manage high user intensity
- Provide stepped water access to Swan Creek between planters along river
- Implement a café/retail zone between trail and new development
- Manage stormwater in planter