

YEAR AT A GLANCE

Reconnecting you to the Delaware River



Delaware Avenue Extension

Bridesburg: This project will extend Delaware Avenue and the trail through Bridesburg to Tacony Street near Carver Street. The first phase, Lewis Street to Orthodox Street, broke ground in March 2014 and will be completed in October 2015.

Baxter Trail

Holmesburg: Construction began October 2014 on this 1.8-mile trail connecting Pennypack on the Delaware Park to Pleasant Hill Park. A 180 ft. bridge will span Pennypack Creek.

Kensington and Tacony Trail

Wissinoming and Tacony: This 1.8-mile trail will extend from the Arsenal Boat Launch to the Tacony Boat Launch. Phase I will be constructed in 2015.

Tacony Holmesburg Trail

This 1.8-mile trail will run along the river from Pennypack Park to the Tacony Boat Launch with a spur connecting to the neighborhood along Princeton Avenue. It is currently in design.



First-Annual 5K On The Greenway

On the brisk, windy morning of October 19th, over 60 participants took to the Port Richmond section of the East Coast Greenway as DRCC hosted its first-ever 5K Run/Walk! The race began at Pulaski Park on the corner of North Delaware Avenue and Allegheny Avenue, continued up to Lewis Street, then back down again to end at Pulaski Park. At the finish line, delicious refreshments were waiting from local businesses. Small prizes were given out during an award ceremony for the top runners in adult/kid categories. This trail network will link scores of local greenways into a unified route between Maine and Florida. Forty percent of the route through Pennsylvania is currently on trail and another 20 percent is in development. Special thanks to our financial and in-kind sponsors: PFCU, Fairmount Park Conservancy, Wawa, Councilman Bobby Henon, Just Born, SureShade, O'Donnell & Naccarato, PROPAC, The Dining Car, Byrne's Tavern, Liberty Bell Bicycle, Mercer Cafe, Hinge Cafe, Holmesburg Bakery, Capriotti Bros.





Executive Director Tom Branigan chats with Comcast

October 31, 2014: Our very own Tom Branigan sat down with Jill Horner of Comcast Newsmakers to talk about what DRCC has been up to. Video link:

<http://comcastnewsmakers.com/2014/11/04/delaware-river-city-corp/>



Baxter Trail Groundbreaking Ceremony

One of the latest trail sections is under construction after ground broke on October 14, 2014. Speakers at the event included Mayor Michael Nutter, Congresswoman Allyson Schwartz, DRCC Board Chairman Robert Borski and other officials.

4th Annual Spring Fling

DRCC's 4th annual Spring Fling was held at the Quaker City Yacht Club on May 15th, 2014 celebrating 10 years of blazing a new trail on the Delaware River!

Guests mingled amongst cocktails, light fare and musical entertainment while the majestic Delaware River

painted a lovely backdrop to the affair. The first-ever award ceremony honored Robert A. Borski for Lifetime Achievement; Mariann Porter Dempsey for Outstanding Service; and Tacony Town Watch for Community Organization of the Year. Special thanks to our top sponsors – PFCU, UAW and Ashton Foundation.



Summer Movie Nights



As of this year, DRCC (in conjunction with Philadelphia Parks & Recreation) will be hosting free outdoor movie nights every summer for the community to enjoy! This past September at Pennypack Park we featured the Pixar film "Despicable Me 2" while families and friends relaxed under clear skies and 70-degree weather with a spectacular view of the Delaware River in the distance.

Working With Volunteers

Highlights

Philadelphia Wooden Boat Factory

DRCC and Philadelphia Wooden Boat Factory have teamed up this past summer to work at Lardner's Point Park. WBF offers apprenticeships to high school youth from low wealth communities in the City's northern neighborhoods. This particular after-school program provides hands-on learning and work opportunities relating to environmental sciences. Our staff worked with the students on shoreline restoration projects and upland habitat maintenance activities.



Love Your Park Week

Philadelphia's annual "Love Your Park" program is a collaborative effort to help steward and support neighborhood parks throughout the city. DRCC and local volunteers have been participating in the spring and fall workdays to help spruce up Lardner's Point Park. Activities included tree planting, weeding, leaf collection and trash cleanup. What once was a hardened industrial land is now a beautiful public park with a native meadow, intertidal marsh, plants and flowers which the community has helped maintain.



What's New?

Thanks to a grant from the PA Coastal Zone Management program obtained by the Department of Parks and Recreation with assistance from DRCC, spring will bring the installation of a composting restroom building to Lardner's Point Park. The building will have three restrooms, room for storage and a message center to display information on the park, trails and upcoming events. We anticipate construction to occur in March.

The restroom will be installed near the picnic area. New trails will be built to connect the building to the main trail and to the pier.

What's Next?

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Contact us:

215.425.8350
info@drcc-phila.org



Connector Streets:

A major element of the Master Plan is the reconnection of the neighborhoods west of I-95 to the riverfront, via upgraded existing streets with improved pedestrian and bicycle facilities and the introduction of green streets elements. The importance of the Connector Streets is a means to reconnect neighborhoods cut off from the riverfront by I-95 and industry. DRCC recently received a grant from Coastal Zone Management Program to undertake a feasibility study and prepare a concept plan for a connector street in the Tacony and Wissinoming neighborhoods.

Riverfront Park:

As a result of the recent Dietz & Watson expansion, the city has acquired a 10-acre property at the end of Orthodox Street adjacent to the trail that will be developed as a riverfront park. We will be exploring options for the implementation for this park in the near future.

Events:

We plan to have more volunteer events each year and grow our Friends Group to help us maintain and care for what is built. We will also be hosting more fun events like movie nights, the annual 5k run/walk, kayak tours, fishing and birding days.

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3460 North Delaware Avenue,
Suite 306
Philadelphia, PA 19134