



**PHILADELPHIA
PARKS &
RECREATION**



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FINAL DESIGN BEGINS FOR NEW RIVERFRONT PARK IN BRIDESBURG

New 10-Acre Park Along the North Delaware Riverfront Is Now In Final Design

PHILADELPHIA (November 18th, 2017) – Commissioner Kathryn Ott Lovell, Councilman Bobby Henon, former Congressman Robert A. Borski, and other special guests joined members of the community today at the site of the future Riverfront Park in Bridesburg, to announce the start of the final design for the 10-acre parcel. This park, conceived through a William Penn Foundation funded 2015 community engagement project, will be a beautiful addition to the Philadelphia Parks system, as well as the newest addition to the North Delaware Riverfront Greenway, a planned 11-mile section of trails and parks along the Delaware River in Northeast Philadelphia.

“The Delaware River City Corporation was founded with a vision of connecting communities along the North Delaware back to the underutilized and formerly inaccessible riverfront areas,” said Robert Borski, Chairman of the DRCC Board. “This Riverfront Park in Bridesburg is a perfect example of how, by reclaiming former industrial riverfront space and redeveloping it for public use, we can achieve that mission.”

The 10-acre park will be designed mostly for passive use and contain terraced seating with riverfront views, multi-use event space, a stage and unstructured play areas. The space will also concentrate on ecological restoration and showcase trails and an upland meadow with views of both the Betsy Ross and Tacony-Palmyra bridges. This final design project, funded by the William Penn Foundation and the City of Philadelphia, will be managed by the City of Philadelphia in partnership with the Delaware River City Corporation. The new trailhead park will connect directly with the existing Port Richmond Trail and Delaware Avenue Extension to the south, and in the future, to the existing K&T Trail to the north.

“This riverfront park in Bridesburg is one of many projects that PPR is currently working on with our non-profit partners throughout the City,” said Parks and Recreation Commissioner, Kathryn Ott Lovell. “This park will connect our residents to the river, to one another, and the natural world. We look forward to many more projects like this in the future to continue to make Philadelphia one of the greatest park systems in the entire United States.”

The firm Langan was selected to lead the park design team. The final design process will take approximately 15 months to complete with an estimated cost of construction between five and seven million dollars.

“I am proud to be here today to announce this latest step in this highly-anticipated and highly desired park in Bridesburg, which the community has envisioned for many years,” said Bobby Henon, Philadelphia Councilman, 6th District. “The creation of this park will ‘give back’ the Delaware River to the people of Bridesburg, and when completed, will be a huge recreational asset to the community.”

About Philadelphia Parks & Recreation:

Philadelphia Parks & Recreation advances the prosperity of the city and the progress of her people through intentional and sustained stewardship of public land and waterways as well as through safe, stimulating recreation, environmental and cultural centers. PPR helps Philadelphia's children and other residents grow by connecting them to the natural world, to each other, and to fun, physical and social opportunities. For more information, find Philadelphia Parks & Recreation online at www.phila.gov/parksandrecreation and follow @philaparkandrec on social media.

About Delaware River City Corp. (DRCC)

DRCC is a non-profit organization that works to transform the under-utilized North Delaware riverfront corridor in Northeast Philadelphia. DRCC strives to complete and sustain the riverfront trail and network of parks along the Delaware River that connect residents of urban neighborhoods to nature, offering unparalleled recreational, community building, and environmental education activities. For more information on DRCC's past and current projects, please visit their website at www.drcc-phila.org or contact us at 215-425-8350.

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