WELCOME!
QUICK ZOOM TUTORIAL

Please mute your audio, unless you are talking.

If you’d prefer, use the chat to type questions.
Public Workshop Ground Rules

1. Stay present and engaged. Turn off or mute your devices.
2. Listen with an open mind. You can respect another’s point of view without agreeing with them. Let people finish their thoughts.
3. Be honest. Say what is on your mind in the meeting, not afterwards.
4. Share the airtime; avoid long-winded stories, detail, and repetition.
5. Take care of yourself. If you need to step out, do it. The group values your participation, so do what you need to do so you can devote your full attention.
6. Stay until the meeting ends.
7. Everyone is responsible for the ground rules. Notice when we’ve strayed, and speak up.
Public Workshop Outcomes

1. Understanding of what has been done so far and where to find past material
2. Feedback on master plan strategies
3. Understanding of next steps

Public Workshop Agenda

1. Introduce project team and Advisory Committee
2. Review the master plan process and schedule
3. Review what has been done to-date
4. Introduce master plan goals
5. Present master plan strategies for entire park
6. Present master plan strategies for individual geographies and discuss ideas (breakout rooms)
Master plan strategies for the entire park

Master plan strategies for individual geographies (ie: Olympia Park)
INTRODUCTIONS
INTRODUCTIONS

Project Team

• City of Pittsburgh Department of City Planning
• Pittsburgh Parks Conservancy

Design Team

• Merritt Chase (Lead)
  Landscape Architecture

• Mon-Win Consulting
  Public Engagement

• Spackman Mossop Michaels
  Park + Stormwater Planning

• Civil & Environmental Consultants
  Ecology + Engineering

• Bohlin Cywinski Jackson
  Architecture
Advisory Committee

- Allentown CDC
- City Council Office
- Council District 2, Theresa Kail-Smith
- Council District 4, Anthony Coghill
- Department of Mobility and Infrastructure
- Department of Public Works
- Hilltop Alliance
- Mayor’s Office
- Mount Washington CDC
- Mount Washington Community Garden
- Neighbors on the Mount
- Office of Management & Budget
- Pittsburgh Water and Sewer Authority
- Public Safety (Park Rangers)
- Ream Recreation Center
- Washington Heights Athletic Association
EMERALD VIEW REGIONAL PARK
MASTER PLAN
Master Plan Purpose

- Communicate the community’s vision for a cohesive regional park
- Consolidate recommendations from past planning efforts
- Guide Emerald View Park’s future physical development with conceptual design recommendations, a phasing plan, and cost estimates
- Ensure that individual park improvements and day-to-day decisions fit within a larger vision
- Ensure that fundraising and implementation are properly sequenced and contribute to long-term goals
- Inspire local stewardship and build momentum for future project implementation
City of Pittsburgh Park Master Plan Example: South Side Park Master Plan
EMERALD VIEW REGIONAL PARK MASTER PLAN

AREAS OF FOCUS

Mount Washington Park

Duquesne Heights Greenway

Eileen McCoy Playground

Grandview Avenue and Overlooks

Ream Parklet

Olympia Park

Mount Washington Park

Grandview Park

Smaller parks

Anchor parks

Greenways + trails

Grandview Avenue

Monongahela River
PROJECT SCHEDULE

1 | LOOK + LISTEN
Project Management
Existing Material Review
Project Kick-off
Inventory and Analysis

2020
June
July
August
September
October
November
December

2021
January
February
March
April
May

AC Meeting #1
Kickoff
Virtual Site Tours

AC Meeting #2
Inventory and Analysis

Survey 1
Open

Public Workshop #1
Inventory and Analysis

Focused Group Workshops

AC Meeting #3
Master Plan Goals

AC Meeting #4
Master Plan Ideas

Public Workshop #2
Master Plan Ideas

Survey 2
Open

Public Workshop #3
Draft Master Plan Feedback

AC Meeting #5
Draft Master Plan

we are here!

2 | DESIGN + ENGAGE
Design Kick-off
Master Plan Development
Master Plan Refinement

3 | DOCUMENT + PHASE
Draft Master Plan Report
Final Master Plan Report

ADVISORY COMMITTEE
PUBLIC WORKSHOPS
WHAT WE'VE LEARNED
WHAT WE’VE LEARNED

Site Visits
EngagePGH (survey, etc)
Inventory + Analysis
Public Meetings + Workshops
WHAT WE'VE LEARNED

Site Visits

OLYMPIA PARK

OLYMPIA PARK

EILEEN MCCOY PLAYGROUND

MT WASHINGTON PARK

MT WASHINGTON PARK

REAM PARK

GRANDVIEW PARK

GRANDVIEW PARK

GRANDVIEW PARK
WHAT WE’VE LEARNED
Virtual Site Tours

Virtual site tours themes

- Anchor Parks and Programming
- Business Districts
- Greenway and Trails
- Landslides
- Outdoor Recreation

Virtual site tours participants

- Mayor’s Office | Henry Horn-Pyatt
- Hilltop Alliance | Aaron Sukenik
- DPW | Andrea Ketzel
- Ream Rec Center | John Macellarpo
- Athletic Association | Matt Smith
- Duquesne University | Eva Simms
- DOMI | Eric Setzler
- Pittsburgh City Ranger | Zach Zelazny
- DPW - Forestry Division | Lisa Ceoffe
- BikePGH | Anna Tang
- Venture Outdoors | Ashley Martin
- Landforce | Ilyssa Manspeizer
WHAT WE'VE LEARNED
EngagePGH

Emerald View Regional Park Master Plan

Through this master planning process, we will set a community vision for the future of the park, along with a phasing plan to realize desired improvements.

Emerald View Park Master Plan

Emerald View Park is a 250-acre regional park located in the City of Pittsburgh's Mount Washington, Duquesne Heights, and Allentown neighborhoods. Emerald View Regional Park is the most recent addition to Pittsburgh's regional park system. Pittsburgh's regional parks, including Frick Park, Schenley Park, Highland Park, and Riverview Park, are vital cultural and ecological assets, each with unique identities that contribute to the City's iconic urban landscape. Emerald View Park includes a variety of public open spaces, greenways, trails, Grandview Avenue, and multiple neighborhood parks (Olympia Park, Mt. Washington Park, Grandview Park, Eileen McCoy Park, and Ream Park). The Emerald View Park Regional Master Plan will guide the future of the park. The goal is to connect the park's ecology, history, and culture in order to preserve the park's significance.
WHAT WE’VE LEARNED
EngagePGH | Spreading the word

Socially distanced intercept surveys
Yard signs in parks
Door hangers
Signs in parks
**Where do you go within Emerald View Park?**

*The survey question allowed the respondent to select multiple options; totals exceed 100%*
Dream big! What is your big idea for the future of Emerald View Park?
WHAT WE’VE LEARNED
EngagePGH | Additional Activities

Memory sharing

Site specific recommendations

Kids activity
WHAT WE’VE LEARNED
Inventory + Analysis

HISTORY
- Park evolution
- Past planning
- Ongoing projects

CONNECTIVITY
- Individual parks
- Circulation
- Entrances
- Accessibility

COMMUNITY
- Demographics
- Partners
- Destinations
- Programming

ECOLOGY
- Forest Health
- Wildlife
- Natural Resources
- Stormwater
- Topography
- Landslides
WHAT WE’VE LEARNED
Public Meeting #1
October 22, 2020

Breakout Room #2 - MURAL Board

What comes to mind when you think of Emerald View Park?
- Trails - Jungle gym
- Art - Signage - Public art

What could be improved at Emerald View Park?
- Sound system - Better signage
- More play areas

What is your big idea for the future of Emerald View Park?
- Central event place on south side of river
- Gathering point
- Boardwalk
- Carpeting and more colors
- Parking and signage
- Bus stop
- Boardwalk and bike path
- Art like McEvedy
- Water connection points for public transit and incline transit modes
- Walking along the stream and by McEvedy
WHAT WE’VE LEARNED
Focused Group Workshops

Trails Workshop, November 12th

Olympia Park Workshop, November 9th

Grandview Avenue Workshop, November 10th

Ream Park & Eileen McCoy Playground Workshop, November 12th
### PAST PLANS

#### 2002 Emerald Link Plan
- An important recreational and educational asset to our existing residents
- An additional incentive for homebuilders, buyers and rehabbers
- An economic stimulator for Mount Washington businesses
- A captivating experience for our 1.5 million tourists each year

#### 2005 GVSF Master Implementation Plan
- Focus not just on linking 6 areas but also on what green space does for community health, economic vitality, and ecological functions
- Access for all residents to all types of green space
- Grandview Park, Grandview Overview Park, Olympia Park, Mount Washington Park all maintain their individual identities but become part of the larger regional park

#### 2005 GVSF Corridor Management Plan
- Create a warm and welcoming visitor experience
- Ensure continual community participation in the process
- Improve the infrastructure of the byway
- Preserve and enhance green space
- Develop overall cohesive and cooperative design plan

#### 2010 Emerald View Park Trail Plan
- To establish connections between the trail network and other regional/city trails, as well as destinations, local commercial districts, recreational amenities, and neighborhoods.
- To create a trail network that will provide a multitude of experiences for various recreational users at all ages, skill levels and during all seasons.
- To develop a sustainable trail network that coincides with the ecological goals for the Park.

### THEMES

- **Regional tourism and economic vitality**
- **Community recreation and well being**
- **Accessibility and connectivity**
- **Ecological function**
- **Sustainable management and implementation**
1. **Preserve** the park’s significance as a collection of neighborhood amenities
2. **Elevate** the park’s identity as a regional destination
3. **Connect** individual features into a safe and accessible park system
4. **Restore** the park’s ecological performance
5. **Build** momentum for the future of the park
GOAL 1: Preserve the park’s significance as a collection of neighborhood amenities
GOAL 1: Preserve the park’s significance as a collection of neighborhood amenities

Goal 1 Strategies:
- Renovate existing park amenities
- Introduce new park amenities
- Define park entrances
- Simplify site geometries and materials
- Identify available flat land for large gathering spaces
- Improve park edges and connections to immediate neighbors
- Consider parks as trail heads
- Improve park accessibility
- Design contemplative spaces
- Prioritize pedestrian circulation
- Introduce additional signage
MASTER PLAN STRATEGIES
Renovate existing park amenities and introduce new park amenities (to be discussed in more detail in the breakout rooms)
MASTER PLAN STRATEGIES
Define park entrances and simplify geometries and materials

Renovate existing stone walls and stairs. Take inspiration from original, historic Emerald View Park material palette of stone, belgian block, brick, and asphalt.
MASTER PLAN STRATEGIES
Define park entrances and simplify geometries and materials

Introduce contemporary uses of traditional materials including belgian blocks, asphalt, stone, and brick.
GOAL 2: Elevate the park’s identity as a regional destination.
MASTER PLAN STRATEGIES

GOAL 2: Elevate the park’s identity as a regional destination

Goal 2 Strategies:
- Expand the Grandview Avenue visitor experience
- Promote connections to business districts
- Visualize park identity

Diagram notes:
- Extended Grandview Avenue experience
- Proposed on street connections
- Business districts
- Views to maintain or enhance
MASTER PLAN STRATEGIES
Expand the Grandview Avenue visitor experience

Renovate the Grandview Avenue streetscape from East to West to include clear views, wider pedestrian access, renovated historic elements (overlooks, railings), gateways, and gathering spaces.
MASTER PLAN STRATEGIES
Expand the Grandview Avenue visitor experience

Renovate the Grandview Avenue streetscape from East to West to include clear views, wider pedestrian access, renovated historic elements (overlooks, railings), gateways, and gathering spaces.
Recent investment along Grandview Avenue has included new lighting, speed humps, and renovated elevated walks.

However, the sidewalks are narrow, connections to the West are unclear and uncomfortable, views are obscured due to lack of vegetation maintenance, and connections to the business districts are not obvious.
MASTER PLAN STRATEGIES
Expand the Grandview Avenue visitor experience

Design Idea #1
Widen sidewalk, improve connections to business districts, maintain vegetation, introduce seating and other site furniture
MASTER PLAN STRATEGIES
Expand the Grandview Avenue visitor experience

Design Idea #2
Renovate Grandview Avenue streetscape with new paving, widen sidewalk, improve connections to business districts, maintain vegetation, introduce seating and other site furniture
MASTER PLAN STRATEGIES
Visualize park identity

Build upon the Emerald View Park identity with visual cues in the parks and streets. Develop material palette that is easily recognizable and intriguing.
GOAL 3: Connect individual features into a safe and accessible park system.
GOAL 3: Connect individual features into a safe and accessible park system

Goal 3 Strategies:

- Connect missing links in trail networks
- Establish stronger park connections through neighborhoods
- Provide welcoming, regional connections to adjacent neighborhoods
- Design urban hiking loops to highlight history and public art
- Create stronger connections with neighborhood cultural institutions
- Design for accessibility
- Define trail entrances and crossings
- Improve trail materials for a variety of uses
- Connect park to public transportation hubs
- Develop parking strategy
MASTER PLAN STRATEGIES
Define trail entrances and crossings

Many street end trail entrances and trail crossings are unmarked and difficult to navigate.
MASTER PLAN STRATEGIES

Define trail entrances

Define trail entrances with stone walls, gathering spaces, wayfinding, and unique seasonal plantings
MASTER PLAN STRATEGIES

Define trail entrances

- Native planting
- Stone gateway + signage
- Wooden fence
- Belgian block threshold
- Stone seatwall
- Seasonal planting
- Parking

Incorporate stone walls, gathering spaces, wayfinding, and unique seasonal plantings

(references: Emerald View Park Trail Master Plan, OpenSpacePGH, and Greenways for Pittsburgh Resource Guide)
Integrate boulders, wood decking, and wooden railings to stabilize trail edges, create seating areas, and provide safe stream/seep crossings.
MASTER PLAN STRATEGIES
Improve trail materials for a variety of uses

- Advanced Trail (<20% slope)
- Intermediate Trail (5-10%)
- Easy Trail (0-5%)
- Stepping Stone Trail
- Wood boardwalk Trail
- Sidewalk Trail

(references: Emerald View Park Trail Master Plan, OpenSpacePGH, and Greenways for Pittsburgh Resource Guide)
GOAL 4: Restore the park’s ecological performance.
EMERSON STRATEGIES

GOAL 4: Restore the park’s ecological performance

- Manage stormwater in parks
- Manage stormwater in streets
- Identify locations for forest and habitat restoration
- Select plantings to create a unique sense of place
- Recommend slope stabilization to prevent landslides
- Balance conservation and viewshed management
- Incorporate educational opportunities
- Manage invasive species
Incorporate bioswales and rain gardens with native plants and educational signage into the park landscapes. Due to acid mine drainage and undermining, design green infrastructure to slow down peak flows during rain events with weirs and surface detention as opposed to infiltration.
MASTER PLAN DESIGN STRATEGIES

Manage stormwater in streets

Introduce on-street bioswales with native plants into neighborhood streets. Due to narrow streets, bump-out bioswales are recommended.
GOAL 5: Build momentum for the future of the park.
GOAL 5: Build momentum for the future of the park

Goal 5 Strategies:
- Develop phasing plan
- Develop cost estimates
- Prioritize first phase projects
- Test design ideas with temporary projects
- Identify programming strategy and responsibilities
- Build capacity with local existing and new partnerships

Proposed cultural or historic connection
Proposed program opportunity
Proposed ecological opportunity
Proposed stormwater opportunity
Proposed connections
Views to maintain or enhance
Proposed gateways
Proposed park edge improvements
Business districts
Emerald View individual parks
Emerald View Park trail network
Emerald View Park greenways
BREAK OUT ROOM DISCUSSION
Breakout room #1: Grandview Avenue + Grandview Park
Breakout room #2: Eileen McCoy Playground + Ream Park
Breakout room #3: Greenways + trails
Breakout room #4: Olympia Park + Mt. Washington Park
NEXT STEPS
Next Steps

1. Provide feedback on tonight’s presentations on EngagePGH by February 22nd

2. Design team will utilize feedback to update design ideas, create phasing plans, and cost estimates

3. Draft Master Plan will be available for review and comment in April at Public Workshop #3. Updates will be posted on EngagePGH
THANK YOU!