



AGENDA

Ardsey Village Board of Trustees

8:00 PM - Monday, November 2, 2020

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83106903250?pwd=NIY1WWNQVnBwZnpJTjVzVWlvS3BtZz09>

Meeting ID: 831 0690 3250

Passcode: 200916

One tap mobile

+19292056099,,83106903250# US (New York)

Dial by your location

+1 929 205 6099 US (New York)

Meeting ID: 831 0690 3250

Find your local number: <https://us02web.zoom.us/u/kelHF0PmL>

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4.2.a Village Manager's Report -November 2, 2020

4.3. TREASURER

4.3.a Abstract Report -November 2, 2020

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4.4. BUILDING

No Building Department Report

4.5. FIRE

No Fire Department Report

4.6. POLICE

No Police Department Report

4.7. MAYOR’S ANNOUNCEMENTS

4.8. COMMITTEE & BOARD REPORTS

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6. OLD BUSINESS:

7. NEW BUSINESS:

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7.a Consider a Resolution Authorizing the Village Manager to Sign a Revised Memorandum of Agreement with Respect to the Saw Mill River Coalition/ Groundwork Hudson Valley

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7.b Consider a Resolution Acknowledging the On-Going Service Arrangement with the Ardsley Garden Club

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7.c Consider a Resolution To Reject Village Facility Cleaning Bid

8. CALL FOR EXECUTIVE SESSION

9. ADJOURNMENT OF MEETING

10. NEXT BOARD MEETING:

November 16, 2020



MINUTES

Ardsey Village Board of Trustees

8:00 PM - Monday, October 19, 2020

507 Ashford Avenue

Meeting held via Zoom Platform

Present: Mayor Nancy Kaboolian
Deputy Mayor/Trustee Andy DiJusto
Trustee Evan Yager
Trustee Joann D'Emilio
Trustee Steve Edelstein
Village Manager Meredith S. Robson
Village Clerk Ann Marie Rocco
Village Attorney Robert J. Ponzini

Absent:

1. PRESENTATION-HONORING THE RETIREMENT OF RICHARD THOMPSON

- 1.1 Tribute to Richard Thompson from Mayor Nancy Kaboolian. Mayor Kaboolian read a proclamation to Richard Thompson and wished him the best of health and happiness during his retirement.

Police Chief Anthony Piccolino wished Rick all the best in his retirement.

Tribute to Richard Thompson from Westchester County Legislator, Mary Jane Shimsky. County Legislator Mary Jane Shimsky presented a proclamation to Richard Thompson declaring Thursday, October 22, 2020 as Richard Thompson Day.

Village Manager, Meredith Robson read the following statement:

As I mentioned at the last meeting, Rick Thompson has retired from service as our General Foreman for our Highway Department. I want to reiterate my heartfelt thank you to Rick for his many years of service to the Village. Rick has managed the highway department, served as Fire Chief, and served as chief cook and bottle washer

for all sorts of Village events because of his extraordinary culinary talents! For more than 21 years, Rick has given his heart and soul to this Village and his contributions are acknowledged and greatly appreciated. I'm sure I speak for all of us in wishing Rick a long, healthy and wonderful retirement!

Eda Kapsis CEAC member wished Rick Thompson all the best in his retirement and thanked him for all his help with recycling.

Building Inspector, Larry Tomasso wished Rick Thompson all the best in his retirement and thanked him for all his work as a Fire Inspector.

2. 8:15 p.m. - PUBLIC HEARING Continuation of Public Hearing-To Discuss the Proposed Permit to Replace the Site Lighting in the Parking Lot at 921 Saw Mill River Road

2.1 The Public Hearing was opened at 8:15 p.m.

Trustee DiJusto questioned the if the other stores were notified on this new lighting system? Will the lighting be brighter?

Building Inspector, Larry Tomasso explained that this lighting application has been submitted due to NYS banking rules and regulations and these lights are on 24/7.

Neil Sander Engineer for Wells Fargo explained yes, the other businesses were notified of the new lighting and that the new lighting is mandated by the State.

At 9:15 p.m. Trustee DiJusto: Resolved that this public hearing be closed for the proposed permit to replace the site lighting in the parking lot at at 921 Saw Mill River Road. **Seconded by Trustee Yager and passed unanimously.**

3. ANNOUNCEMENT OF EXIT SIGNS

4. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

5.1 Regular Meeting Minutes-October 5, 2020

Moved by Trustee DiJusto Seconded by Trustee Yager and passed unanimously. RESOLVED that the Village Board of the Village of Ardsley hereby approves the minutes of the Regular Meeting of Monday, October 5, 2020 as submitted.

[10.05.20 BOT](#)

6. DEPARTMENT REPORTS

1. LEGAL

- 1.a Village Attorney Robert Ponzini stated there is nothing to report and has been working with staff on various ongoing items.

2. MANAGER

- 2.a Village Manager's Report October 19, 2020

Village Manager Meredith Robson read the following report:

1. **CON EDISON GAS LINE PROJECT:** We have an updated project schedule from Con Ed on our website. We are waiting to see if Con Ed finishes the final tie-in work on Ashford Ave by the end of the week. If so, we are looking to re-pave Ashford Ave in its entirety under this year's road paving contract. If the agreement is approved by the Board, we will be receiving a contribution from Con Ed for the portion of the paving work they would have been responsible for completing. The Village would then add the other roughly half of the funding in order to pave the entire road.
2. **Sewer Bills:** The first sewer bills will likely be going out within the next week or so. We are working with our billing vendor to finalize information. There will be more information to follow.
3. **Census:** We are 1 out of 8 municipalities that had over 80% in the Census.

3. TREASURER

- 3.a Abstract Report October 19, 2020

Village Manager Meredith Robson read the Treasurer's Report for October 19, 2020. Village Manager Robson stated that the bills for the past two weeks totaled as follows: From the General Fund: \$209,392.66; from the Sewer Fund: \$0.00; from the Trust & Agency fund: \$825.00 and from the Capital Fund: \$0.00

[October 19, 2020 Abstract for the Village Board Meeting](#)

Moved by Trustee Yager, Seconded by Trustee DiJusto and passed unanimously.
RESOLVED, that the Village Board of the Village of Ardsley hereby authorizes the Village Treasurer to make the following payments: From the General Fund: \$209,392.66; from the Sewer Fund: \$0.00; from the Trust & Agency Fund: \$825.00 and from the Capital Fund: \$0.00.

4. BUILDING

- 4.a September 2020 Building Department Report

Building Inspector, Larry Tomasso provided the Board with totals from the September 2020 Building Department Reports:

- 11 Building permits
- 19 Application fees

- 3 Certificates of Occupancy
- 7 Plumbing permits
- 5 Electrical permits
- 20 Title Searches
- 1 Miscellaneous

Total received - \$9,725.27

Other activities-

- 68 Building inspections
- 9 Zoning inspection
- 4 Violations
- 2 Warnings

[September 2020 Building Department Report](#)

5. FIRE

5.a September 2020 Fire Department Reports

Mayor Kaboolian stated that the Fire Department Report be accepted under submission for September 2020.

- 20 Alarms for the month of September
- September 3, 10, 17, 24 The Department held weekly drills.
- September 30 Chiefs Murray, Mancini & Podalski attended a Zoom B-14 Chiefs Meeting
- September 11 Department held our annual 9/11 ceremony.
- September 16 apparatus committee met to further discuss the replacement of E-165
- September 24 Department trained on new highway struts for vehicle stabilization.
- September 3 members reviewed forcible entry tactics -24 training hours.
- September 10 members repacked hose and cleaned all tools -28 training hours.
- September 17 maintenance drill -32 training hours.
- September 24 manufacturer training on paratech rescue system-36 training hours.

[September 2020 Monthly report](#)

[September 2020 Training Report](#)

6. POLICE

6.a September 2020 Police Department Report

Chief Piccolino reported the following activities for September 2020:

- Court fine and fees - \$18,027.00
- Property lost or stolen - \$40,206.00
- Alarm fines and fees - \$190.00
- Meter collection - \$1,951.00
- 7 Traffic Accidents
- 8 Arrests
- 181 Calls for Service
- 10 Investigations
- 1 Impoundment
- 46 summonses issued

Training in October:

-480 Hours which consisted of Firearms, Hazardous communications, sexual harassment, workplace violence, blood borne pathogens and Juvenile Law.

COMMUNITY POLICING

Movie in the park at Pascone park with the recreation department. 50 people attended and were socially distancing apart from each other.

Senior citizen picnic at Louis Pascone Park. 25 people attended and properly distanced.

Movie at the high school field two session of 50 high school students in each session properly distancing.

COMMUNITY INFORMATION

The department is investigating numerous reports of bank fraud, please remember to check your bank statements and never give out personal information over the phone regardless of who calls you.

The coronavirus epidemic has spurred many scams. If you receive an email, which looks legitimate such as a bank that you use, you should verify the url before sending any information.

Our village website lists many of the most common scams.

CORONAVIRUS 2019:

Prevention:

There is currently no vaccine to prevent COVID-19. The best way to prevent illness is to avoid being exposed to this virus. However, as a reminder, CDC always recommends everyday preventative actions to help the spread of respiratory disease including:

- Avoid close contact with people who are sick.

- Avoid touching your eyes, nose & mouth.
- Stay home when you are sick.
- Cover your cough or sneeze with a tissue, then throw the tissue in the trash.
- Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces using a regular household cleaning spray or wipe.
- Follow CDC's recommendations for using a facemask.

-CDC does not recommend that people who are well wear a facemask to protect themselves from respiratory diseases, including COVID-19.

-Facemasks should be used by people who show symptoms of COVID-19 to help prevent the spread of the disease to others. The use of facemasks is also crucial for health workers and people who are taking care of someone in close settings (at home or in a health care facility).

- Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds, especially after going to the bathroom; before eating; and after blowing your nose, coughing or sneezing.

-If soap and water are not readily available, use an alcohol based hand sanitizer with at least 60% alcohol. Always wash hands with soap and water if hands are visibly dirty.

For information about handwashing, see CDC's Handwashing website:

<https://www.cdc.gov/handwashing/index.html>

For information specific to healthcare, see CDC's Hand Hygiene in Healthcare Settings:

<https://www.cdc.gov/handhygiene/index.html>

These are everyday habits that can help prevent the spread of several viruses. CDC does have specific guidance for travelers.

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/travelers/index.html>

For more information, please visit the CDC website at:

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-nCoV/index.html>

Trustee Edelstein questioned the incident that occurred at the crosswalk in front of Starbucks. How can we enhance safety?

Chief Piccolino explained that he is spending afternoons from 3:00 p.m.-5:00 p.m. in that area observing and he feels that we should be lobbying the State. This is a dangerous situation.

Mayor Kaboolian stated the victim is okay but shaken. The immediate next steps are as follows:

- Trustee DiJusto will be meeting with the Traffic Committee to devise a plan.
- The Village will be contacting the NY State DOT to see if they can come look at the intersection.
- Increased law enforcement in this area.

[September 2020 Police Department Reports](#)

7. MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

7.a Mayor Nancy Kaboolian announced the following:

- Congratulations to ASVAC on receiving their brand new Ambulance.
- Early voting will begin Saturday, October 24th- November 1st. Ardsley residents are able to vote early at Dobbs Ferry Village Hall and Greenburgh Town Hall.

8. COMMITTEE & BOARD REPORTS

8.a Trustee DiJusto announced the following:

- September 2020 ASVAC Report-ASVAC answered 43 calls.
- ASVAC is always looking for volunteers.

Trustee Yager did not have anything to report.

Trustee D'Emilio announced the following:

- Drug Take Back Day will take place on 10/24/20. Please note: They cannot take syringes/epi pens. Please visit www.safeneedledisposal.org to learn more.
- 125th Anniversary Committee-still working on events to celebrate.

Trustee Edelstein announced the following:

- Multicultural Committee had their second virtual book club which was a success. Look out for future book clubs.
- Trunk or Treat is will take place on Saturday, October 24th
- Movie in the Park will take place on October 30th at 6:45 p.m. Please visit www.ardsleyrec.com to sign up for this event.

7. VISITORS

8. OLD BUSINESS:

8.1 Consider a Resolution Approving the Permit to Replace Site Lighting on the Building and Parking Lot at 921 Saw Mill River Road (Wells Fargo Bank)

**Moved by Trustee DiJusto Seconded by Trustee Yager and passed unanimously.
RESOLVED**

that the Village Board of the Village of Ardsley hereby authorizes the proposed permit to replace the site lighting on the building and in the parking lot located at 921 Saw Mill River Road (Wells Fargo Bank) as presented by the applicant.

Subject to the following conditions:

1. The applicant must obtain a building permit and an electrical permit before starting work.
2. The new lights will not appear or operate in a manner which is significantly different in brightness and intensity than the lighting on the other poles in the shopping center.

9. NEW BUSINESS:

9.1 Consider a Resolution Awarding Contract for 2020 Joint Road Milling & Restoration

Moved by Trustee D'Emilio, Seconded by Trustee Edelstein and passed unanimously.
WHEREAS, the Village of Ardsley in a cooperative relationship with the villages of Irvington, Dobbs Ferry, Elmsford, Hastings and Tarrytown, has solicited bids for the milling and resurfacing of various streets in the Village of Irvington and partner municipalities referenced above; and

WHEREAS, a public notice for this project bid was duly advertised in an official newspaper on July 16, 2020; and

WHEREAS, at 11:00 A.M., on August 5, 2020 at Irvington Village Hall all bids received were opened as summarized below; and

<u>CONTRACTOR</u>	<u>BASE BID</u>	<u>ALT BID</u>	<u>TOTAL BASE BID</u>
Waters Construction Company 300 Bostwick Avenue Bridgeport, CT 06605	\$1,376,752.00	\$385,450.00	\$1,762,202.00
Consorti Brothers Paving & Sealcoating Inc. 208 South Plank Road Newburgh, NY 12550	\$1,409,753.50	\$424,860.00	\$1,834,613.50
ELQ Industries Inc. 567 Fifth Avenue	\$1,446,600.04	\$389,522.00	\$1,836,122.04

New Rochelle, NY 10801			
Montesano Brothers Inc. 76 Plain Avenue New Rochelle, NY 10801	\$1,449,372.86	\$403,225.00	\$1,852,597.86
PCI Industries Corp. 550 Franklin Avenue, Suite 100 Mount Vernon, NY 10550	\$1,462,332.60	\$414,400.00	\$1,876,732.60

WHEREAS, the Irvington Village Administrator reviewed the bids submitted and determined that the lowest bidder is in order and responsive to the specifications; and

WHEREAS, following the unit values bid in the contract and the extended totals based upon the Engineer's estimates of the work to be performed in the Village of Ardsley, the value of work is \$709,086.00, with the balance of the contract value for work apportioned to the Villages of Irvington, Dobbs Ferry, Elmsford, Hastings, and Tarrytown, collectively summing to \$1,762,202.00; and

WHEREAS, in accordance with the contract, each partner municipality will separately authorize the Contract and be responsible for payment of services performed within their respective municipality directly to the contractor;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Village Board of Trustees of the Village of Ardsley hereby awards the contract, including the alternate for Ashford Avenue, for the work to be performed for the 2020 Milling and Resurfacing on various streets in the Village of Ardsley to Waters Construction Company 300 Bostwick Avenue, Bridgeport CT 06605 in accordance with their Unit Prices contained in their Bid of August 5, 2020 for the work to be performed within the Village of Ardsley and the other five villages and authorizes the Village Manager to execute said contract and all related documents.

9.2 Consider a Resolution to Renew the County Snow & Ice Contract October 1, 2020-September 30, 2025

Moved by Trustee Edelstein, Seconded by Trustee D'Emilio and passed unanimously. RESOLVED that the Village Board of the Village of Ardsley hereby authorizes the Village Manager to sign an inter-municipal agreement with the Westchester County Department of Public Works located at 148 Martine Avenue, White Plains, New York 10601 to renew our commitment to remove Snow and Ice on County Roads for the period October 1, 2020 through September 30, 2025.

9.3 Consider a Resolution authorizing the Village Manager to Enter into an Agreement with Pace Land Use Law Center for Services Related to Police Reform Review

Moved by Trustee DiJusto, Seconded by Trustee Yager and passed unanimously. WHEREAS, the Village of Ardsley is required by the Governor's Executive Order 203 to perform a comprehensive review of current police force deployments, strategies, policies, procedures, and practices; and

Whereas, the Village of Ardsley wants to ensure objectivity and broad public participation in the review process; and

Whereas, the Pace Land Use Law Center has submitted a proposal to assist the Village in this work by providing facilitation, public outreach and report review services;

Now Therefore Be It Resolved, that the Village Board of the Village of Ardsley hereby authorizes the Village Manager to enter into an agreement with the Pace Land Use Law Center based on the attached proposal submitted October 15, 2020, subject to review and acceptance by the Village Attorney as to its legality and form.

9.4 Consider a Resolution Authorizing the Village Manager to Sign an Agreement with Con Edison Related to the Restoration of Ashford Avenue

Moved by Trustee Yager, Seconded by Trustee DiJusto and passed unanimously.
WHEREAS, the Village of Ardsley has reached an agreement with Con Edison to secure partial funding for the Ashford Avenue road improvements required as a result of the Con Edison gas main project; and

Whereas, the Village Board of the Village of Ardsley wants to provide for restoration of the entire road;

Now, therefore be it **RESOLVED**, that the Village Board of the Village of Ardsley hereby authorizes the Village Manager to sign an agreement with Con Edison dated October 19, 2020 for final road restoration of Ashford Avenue.

10. CALL FOR EXECUTIVE SESSION Personnel & Legal Advice

11. ADJOURNMENT OF MEETING

Moved by Trustee D'Emilio, Seconded by Trustee Edelstein and passed unanimously.
RESOLVED that the Village Board of the Village of Ardsley
Hereby adjourns the regular meeting of Monday, October 19, 2020, at 9:19 p.m. Seconded by Trustee Edelstein and passed unanimously.

12. NEXT BOARD MEETING: November 2, 2020

Village Clerk, Ann Marie Rocco

Date:

**ABSTRACT FOR VILLAGE BOARD MEETING OF
NOVEMBER 2ND, 2020**

GENERAL FUND \$41,394.44

TRUST & AGENCY FUND \$1,305.00

CAPITAL FUND \$33,600.00

SEWER FUND \$0.00

ABSTRACT FOR VILLAGE BOARD MEETING OF NOVEMBER 2, 2020			
Date	Vendor Name	Description	Amount
10/16/2020	AAA EMERGENCY SUPPLY CO	Cal gas and Tango Battery	139.00
10/26/2020	AAA EMERGENCY SUPPLY CO	Webbing for Bailouts	110.00
10/26/2020	AAA EMERGENCY SUPPLY CO	Tarps	315.00
10/30/2020	AAA EMERGENCY SUPPLY CO	Green 3x3 Foam	639.00
10/30/2020	ADT Commercial	Fire Line Repair inv136441750	455.00
10/16/2020	AIRGAS	oxygen/acetylene	408.89
10/28/2020	AIRGAS	Acetylene, inv 9106242989	223.66

10/23/2020	ARGENTO AND SONS INC	radiator/v belt	52.27
10/23/2020	ARGENTO AND SONS INC	radiator	342.43
10/29/2020	ARGENTO AND SONS INC	drive shaft/screw/nut	563.05
10/29/2020	BEN ROMEO CO INC	towel dispenser/paper towels	214.50
9/4/2020	BOUND TREE MEDICAL, LLC.	medical supplies	19.77
9/4/2020	BOUND TREE MEDICAL, LLC.	medical supplies	20.20
9/4/2020	BOUND TREE MEDICAL, LLC.	medical supplies	27.60
9/4/2020	BOUND TREE MEDICAL, LLC.	medical supplies	33.60
9/4/2020	BOUND TREE MEDICAL, LLC.	medical supplies	11.59
9/4/2020	BOUND TREE MEDICAL, LLC.	medical supplies	23.18
9/4/2020	BOUND TREE MEDICAL, LLC.	medical supplies	4.71
10/29/2020	BP	September Usage	110.78
10/22/2020	CARDMEMBER SERVICE	supplies for Community Center	133.63
10/22/2020	CARDMEMBER SERVICE	supplies for Community Center	38.95
10/29/2020	CITY OF YONKERS	organic waste	2,069.87
10/19/2020	CON EDISON	September Usage	52.58
10/22/2020	CON EDISON	590906276615006, 9-8 to 10-7	4.25
10/16/2020	CURRY CHEVROLET	rotors/pads	376.14
10/16/2020	CURRY CHEVROLET	oil/bezel	82.97
10/19/2020	DALCO REPORTING INC	October Translation inv 54706	175.00
10/29/2020	DIEHL & SONS INC	brake parts	523.48
10/29/2020	DIEHL & SONS INC	brake parts	523.48
10/26/2020	EMERGENCY SERVICES MARKETING	Yearly Subscription	660.00
10/16/2020	FASTENAL	swivel	86.80
10/29/2020	FASTENAL	bolts	28.24
9/8/2020	FUNDAMENTAL BUSINESS SERVICE I	Parking	163.50
10/29/2020	GABRIELLI TRUCK SALES LTD	truck repair parts	206.05
10/29/2020	GABRIELLI TRUCK SALES LTD	truck repair parts	50.00

10/29/2020	GABRIELLI TRUCK SALES LTD	truck repair parts	90.32
10/29/2020	GAINES NOVICK PONZINI COSSU &	Professional Services Sept 20	700.00
10/23/2020	GRAINGER	car/stop/	122.60
10/30/2020	George Malone	Meeting of October 19, 2020	791.45
10/26/2020	HUDSON VALLEY FIRE EQUIPMENT L	E-164 Battery	1,822.94
10/29/2020	JOE CORVINO	Newsletters Historical Society	1,500.00
10/16/2020	LITE CONCEPTS	pigtails/bulbs	195.00
10/16/2020	LITE CONCEPTS	pigtails/bulbs	204.00
10/28/2020	MEREDITH ROBSON	Nov 2020 Cell reimbursement	79.00
10/16/2020	MOMAR INCORPORATED	Insta patch	211.19
10/28/2020	NEXT LEVEL ELEVATOR SERVICES L	Annual Service Agreement 20/21	1,500.00
10/22/2020	NYS ASSOC OF FIRE CHIEFS	2021 Membership Dues	175.00
10/27/2020	OPTIMUM	usage for 10-23 to 11-22	16.84
10/23/2020	ORTIZ WELDING	salter/bearings/bolts	148.00
10/16/2020	PARTS AUTHORITY	brakes	18.79
10/16/2020	PARTS AUTHORITY	brake link	24.58
10/16/2020	PARTS AUTHORITY	wiper/bulb	77.18
10/16/2020	PARTS AUTHORITY	brake/rotor	215.24
10/16/2020	PARTS AUTHORITY	brake/rotor	151.82
10/29/2020	PAUL BUNYAN TREE SERVICE	removal stump /Tappan Rd	750.00
10/16/2020	PECKHAM INDUSTRIES INC	blacktop	334.94
9/8/2020	PERCISE TRANSLATIONS LLC	Court Translation	170.00
10/29/2020	PETTY CASH-FIRE DEPARTMENT	PETTY CASH REIMBURSEMENT	213.17
10/9/2020	PROSPERO NURSERY	plant bulbs & tree supplies	309.75
10/28/2020	Quench USA, Inc	Usage for 8-1 to 10-31	117.00
10/28/2020	Quench USA, Inc	Usage for 8-1 to 10-31	117.00
7/13/2020	READERS HARDWARE INC	Various	14.99
10/16/2020	READERS HARDWARE INC	wood decking/screws	37.56

10/16/2020	READERS HARDWARE INC	Battery and Bulbs	259.84
10/23/2020	READERS HARDWARE INC	sledge hammer/tools/	511.33
10/23/2020	READERS HARDWARE INC	sledge hammer	26.99
10/29/2020	READERS HARDWARE INC	blades/ext cord/misc	174.47
10/29/2020	READERS HARDWARE INC	trimmer line	27.19
10/30/2020	READERS HARDWARE INC	Gloves	12.79
10/30/2020	READERS HARDWARE INC	cleaner and hose 946551	21.58
10/30/2020	READERS HARDWARE INC	glass cleaner, wire converters	106.70
10/30/2020	READERS HARDWARE INC	glass cleaner, wire converters	29.99
10/29/2020	ROBERT PONZINI	November monthly retainer	5,833.00
10/29/2020	SAW MILL STONE & MASONRY SUPPL	brick/block/cement	227.08
10/29/2020	SAW MILL STONE & MASONRY SUPPL	brick/blade	136.90
10/21/2020	SAW MILL STONE & MASONRY SUPPL	lyme inv 0003213-00	51.00
10/26/2020	SPRINT	Phone Bill	75.80
10/26/2020	SPRINT	Inv 264462119-230	153.77
10/21/2020	STANDARD INSURANCE COMPANY	Nov prem policy 00 445100 0001	955.50
10/23/2020	STATE COMPTROLLER	September 2020	7,222.00
10/29/2020	STECICH MURPHY & LAMMERS LLP	Professional Service Sept 2020	821.00
10/26/2020	THE RIVERTOWNS ENTERPRISE	work session & bids ad	28.28
10/21/2020	TOLLS BY MAIL PAYMENT CENTER	Bill # 17435356957	68.00
10/29/2020	VERIZON	Usage for 10-22 to 11-21	40.28
10/29/2020	VERIZON	Usage for 10-22 to 11-21	32.60
10/21/2020	VERIZON WIRELESS	acct 785781565-0001 9-13 10-12	495.47
6/18/2020	W.B. MASON CO. INC.	Paper, envelope	111.97
10/16/2020	WALLAUER	epoxy/sealant/ties	31.70
10/23/2020	WALLAUER	paint/Ardsley signs	44.40
10/23/2020	WESTCHESTER COUNTY DEF	Tipping Fee for September 2020	4,722.28
10/23/2020	WESTCHESTER WASTE OIL CO.	removal waste oil	175.00

		General Fund Total	41,394.44
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10/29/2020	BRIAN T. ROEMER	Car Seat Recertification fee	55.00
10/19/2020	Woodard & Curran Engineering	55 Ridge Road	1,250.00
		TRUST & AGENCY TOTAL	1,305.00

10/29/2020	WESTON & SAMPSON	DPW facility-Prof service Sept 20	33,600.00
		CAPTIAL FUND TOTAL	33,600.00

		SEWER FUND TOTAL	0.00
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**RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE VILLAGE MANAGER TO EXECUTE
A REVISED MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT WITH
SAW MILL RIVER COALITION-GROUNDWORK HUDSON VALLEY**

RESOLVED, that the Village Board of the Village of Ardsley hereby authorizes the Village Manager to execute a revised Memorandum of Agreement regarding participation with Saw Mill River Coalition – Groundwork Hudson Valley located at 22 Main Street, Yonkers, NY 10701.

Saw Mill River Recreation Area



Developed by Groundwork Hudson Valley
Rick Magder, Executive Director
Ann-Marie Mitroff, River Program Director
P. Lynn Oliva, River Associate
Nicole Diz, Graduate Student, Landscape Architecture, primary author
Sven Hoeger, Creative Habitat Corp.

September 19, 2014
Presented in fulfillment of New York State, Department of Environmental Conservation, Hudson River Estuary Program Grant Contract #T303989, originally titled "Saw Mill River Watershed, Farragut Avenue – Phase II Plan"

Saw Mill River Recreation Area

Introduction

The Saw Mill River Coalition, a program of Groundwork Hudson Valley, was established in 2001 with a vision of revitalizing and protecting the Saw Mill River, and helping people enjoy it! One of the earliest restoration efforts begun in 2004 was working with volunteers to cut invasive vines. A main vine cutting site was established north of Farragut Avenue in Hastings, along the Westchester County's South County Trailway. This Trailway, the old Putnam Railroad Line (a Rails-to-Trails conversion project) follows the Saw Mill River and provides great opportunity for people using the Trailway to know and understand the river. On-going seasonal vine cuttings and the annual Great Saw Mill River Clean-ups have been established at various sections along the Trailway.

Originally, the grant objective was to enlarge the restoration focus area just slightly from Farragut to Mt. Hope Rail platform historical site, approximately a ½-mile. However, feedback from the public—the very people who use the Saw Mill River corridor, especially those who walk and bicycle along the Trailway which hugs the river—plus the work that has been done by programs conducted by Groundwork, has expanded the area of coverage for this “connector plan.” The final project plan will now cover the area between Hearst Street in Yonkers to just north of Woodlands Lake in Irvington. We have also labeled this area as “The Saw Mill River Recreation Area” to provide a vision for use of the area for recreation—kayaking, bicycle riding, trail walking, nature viewing, etc. For each of the intervention areas along the Trailway/river, we have listed existing conditions and opportunities, and developed proposals for site-specific features and restorations as well as interpretive elements.

We want to thank the following for their input and support:

Dobbs Ferry Conservation Advisory Board: Stephen Brennan, Neil dePasquale, Tony Losee, Matt McCormick, Jeanne Michaelson, N. Delmerico Vitagliano; Donna Cassell, Trustee liaison

Hastings Conservation Committee: Kerry-Jane King, Haven Colgate, Jean Hamerman, Elisa Zazzera, Sharon Kivowitz

Invasive Vine Task Force: Bob Del Torto, Susan Harris, Jeff Main, Gene Maiorano, Bob Montoye, Guy Pardee, Steve Pucillo, MJ Wilson

Westchester County Staff: David De Lucia, Rob Doscher, Rob Lopane, David Kvinge, Pat Natarelli

Groundwork Hudson Valley Board: Rob Baron

Hastings-on-Hudson Village Manager: Fran Frobel

Saw Mill River Recreation Area

LIST OF INTERVENTION SITES

- 1 Welcome Map & Wayfinding, HEARST STREET, YONKERS
- 2 New Trailway Access, FARRAGUT PARKWAY, HASTINGS
- 3 Floodplain Forest Path, SOUTH OF FARRAGUT AVENUE
- 4 Native Meadow Restoration, NORTH OF FARRAGUT AVENUE
- 5 Mill Remnants, WESTCHESTER MANOR
- 6 Old Railroad Platform & Bridge, MOUNT HOPE CEMETERY
- 7 Rivertowns Square Connector, LAWRENCE STREET, DOBBS FERRY
- 8 Dobbs Ferry Wetland, RIVERTOWNS SQUARE
- 9 Ardsley Access, ARDSLEY ACRES MOTEL, ARDSLEY
- 10 Green Connectors, V. EVERIT MACY PARK
- 11 Woodlands Lake Natural Area, GREAT HUNGER MEMORIAL PARK, IRVINGTON

Saw Mill River Recreation Area

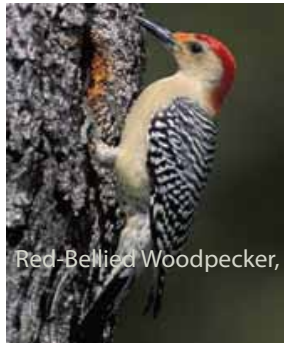


The Monarch Butterfly, *Danaus plexippus*



Blue Flag Iris, *Iris versicolor*

American Eel, *Anguilla rostrata*



Red-Bellied Woodpecker, *Melanerpes carolinus*

Some of the **over 450 species** identified in the watershed during the **2009 BioBlitz.**

Gadwall Duck, *Anas strepera*

Blue Heron, *Ardea herodias*



Chipping Sparrow, *Spizella passerina*



Cherry-Faced Meadowhawk, *Sympetrum internum*



Red-Backed Salamander, *Plethodon cinereus*

Scarlet Tanager, *Piranga olivacea*



Fingernail Clams, *Sphaerium corneum*

Cormorant, *Phalacrocoracidae*



Tessellated Darters, *Etheostoma olmstedii*



Lizard's Tail, *Saururus cernuus*

Snapping Turtle, *Chelydra serpentina*



1

Welcome Map and Wayfinding, HEARST STREET, YONKERS

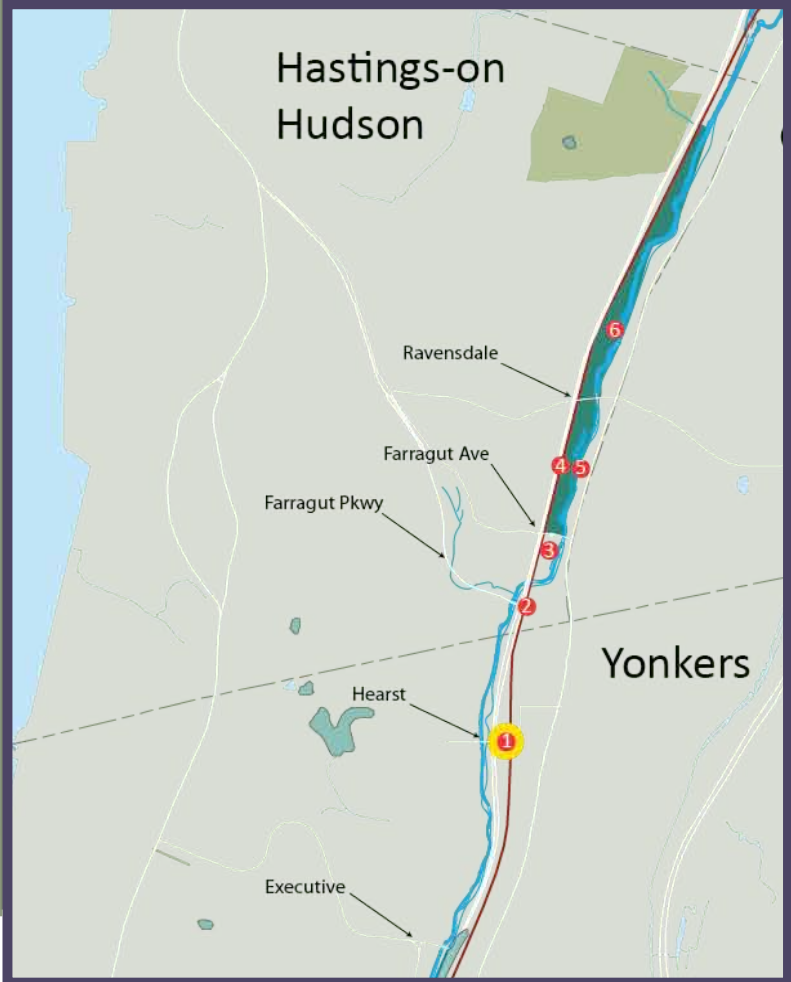
EXISTING STATE OF SITE

Hearst Street is the only pedestrian access in Yonkers from the west side of the parkway to the South County Trailway. The Trailway is a great connector to the Saw Mill River because it runs along the river for miles, crossing it at several visually interesting and ecologically important sites.

Hearst Street is a controlled intersection, with a crossing signal for pedestrians. The Trailway access at this location is spacious, open and safe.

Richter Park, nearby on the banks of the river, has baseball fields, a playground, and a dog run.

Hearst Street is therefore an important link for walkers (with and without dogs), cyclists, and others interested in active or passive recreation.



EXISTING SITE IMAGES



Nearby Richter Park



Hearst Street Access

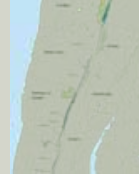


Yonkers Bike Club & Westchester Cycle

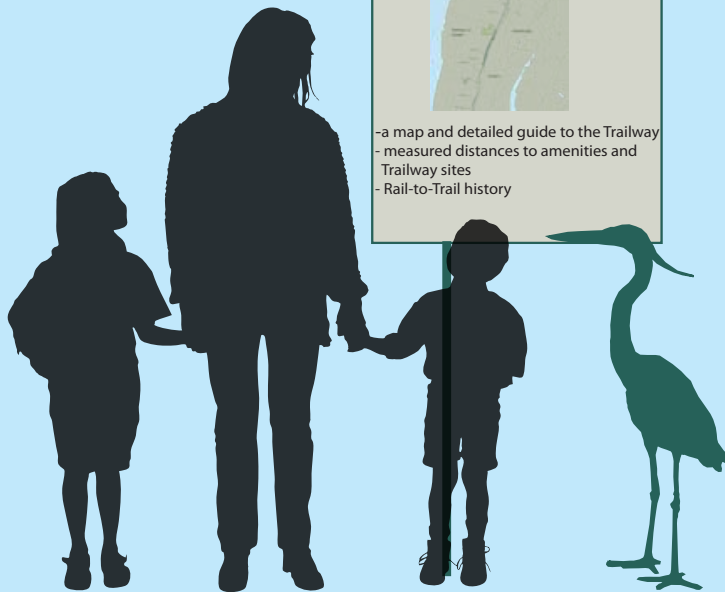
Saw Mill River Recreation Area 1

Welcome

The welcome site would have wayfinding signage available including:



- a map and detailed guide to the Trailway
- measured distances to amenities and Trailway sites
- Rail-to-Trail history



PROPOSALS

Hearst Street in Yonkers, could be reimagined as the southernmost access point to the recreation area, and therefore appropriate as a welcome site for cyclists and pedestrians accessing the trail.

Hearst Street would serve as the starting point for unified signage throughout the recreation area.

This open area of the Trailway could be host to tree-planting, in order to expand the area of floodplain forest, just north of Hearst.



Floodplain forest

2

New Trailway Access, FARRAGUT PARKWAY, HASTINGS

EXISTING STATE OF SITE

Farragut Parkway is a wide road that winds through the Village of Hastings, ending at the Saw Mill Parkway.

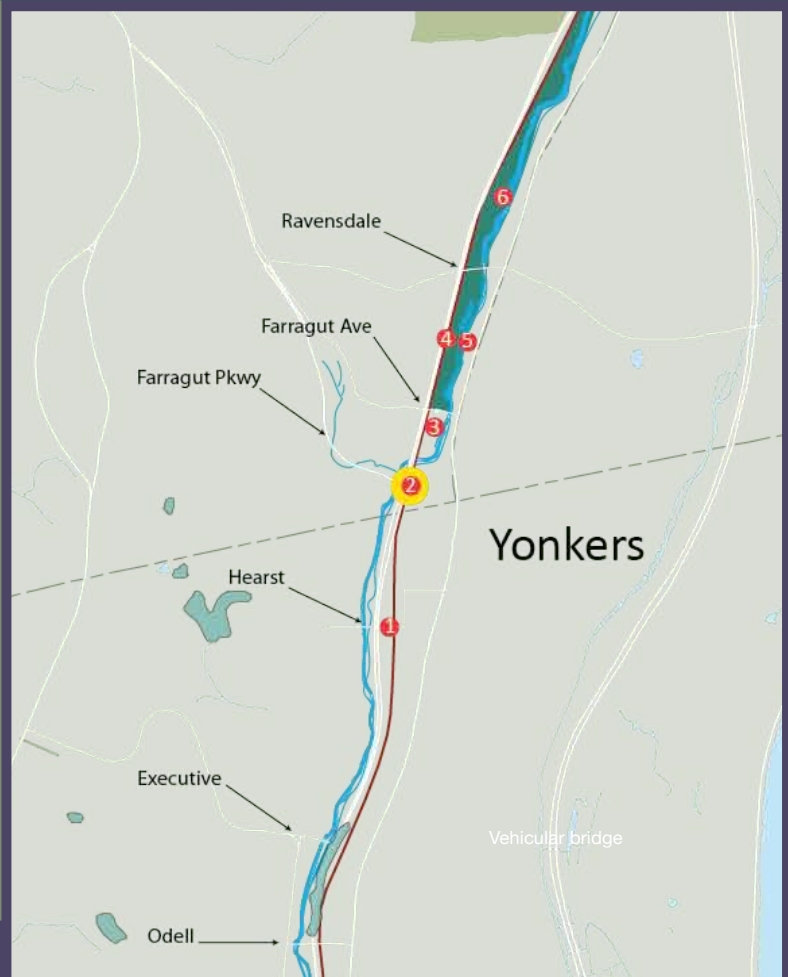
The intersection of the two parkways is a protected intersection in which north and southbound traffic (on the Saw Mill) must stop.

The river lies west of the Saw Mill Parkway at this location and the grade is mostly flat.

Farragut Parkway itself is a wide road with ample shoulders on both sides.

There is a link to the Old Croton Aqueduct as well. The OCA crosses Farragut a mile and a half west of the Saw Mill.

All of these factors, taken together, describe a location that would be appropriate for bike lanes that would create an important link between the two trails.



EXISTING IMAGES



Intersection of Farragut & Saw Mill Parkways, view east



Farragut Parkway, suggested for proposed bike lanes, Hastings

Saw Mill River Recreation Area 2



LEGEND

- River
- Old Croton Aqueduct
- Proposed Bike Lane Connector
- Trailway
- Saw Mill Parkway

PROPOSALS

Bikeways in both east and west directions, as well as the installation of a controlled pedestrian crosswalk at this location would enable bikers to reach the Old Croton Aqueduct State Historic Park and South County Trailway. Bikeways would enable riders from the Villages of Hastings and Dobbs Ferry to access both trail systems safely. The only access currently used is Ravensdale Road, which is not a safe alternative.



3

Floodplain Forest Path, SOUTH OF FARRAGUT AVENUE

EXISTING STATE OF SITE

Farragut Avenue currently hosts parking for Trailway users. There is a bus stop on the southbound side of 9A here as well.

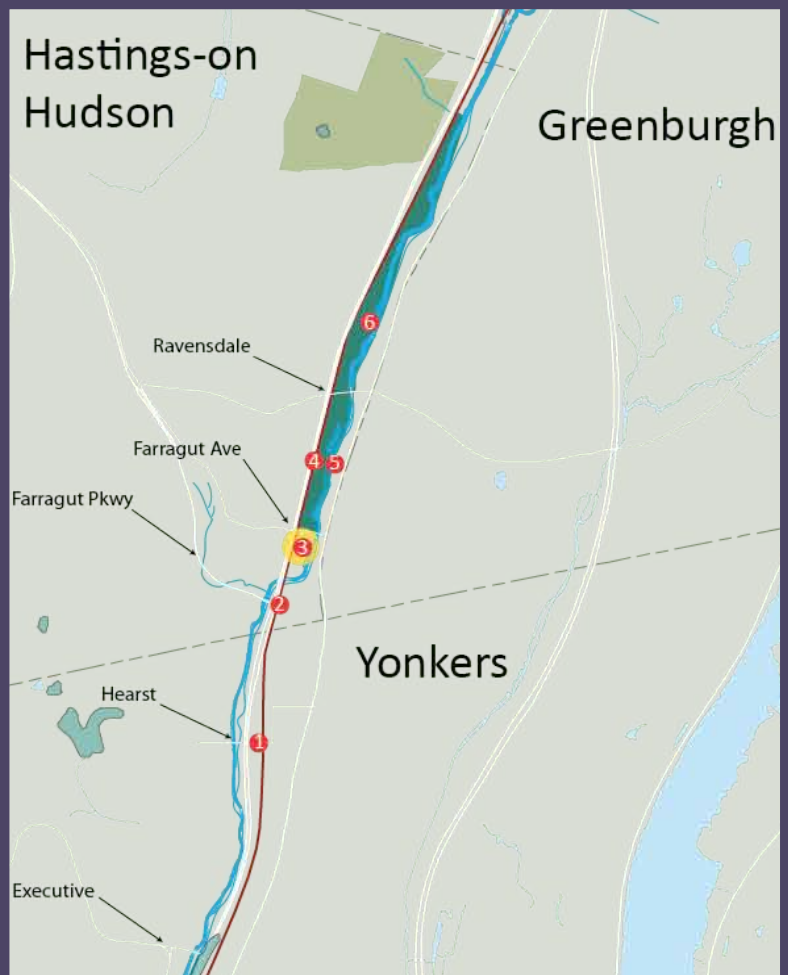
Adjacent to the parking lot are portable toilets and trashcans.

A stormwater swale was installed a few years ago to filter runoff from the parking lot.

The area is a rich example of a floodplain forest.

The Saw Mill River leaves the Trailway here, passing west, under the trail and parkway. Remnant railroad ties are visible to pedestrians and cyclists on the bridge at this location.

An abandoned concrete wall along the river bank is visible, east of the Trailway bridge.



EXISTING IMAGES



Railroad ties on Trailway bridge

Concrete bank, view east from Trailway bridge

Saw Mill River Recreation Area 3



Accessible paths

LEGEND

-  River
-  Trailway
-  Proposed Floodplain Forest Path
-  Parking Lot/Bus stop
-  Bridge

PROPOSALS

A boardwalk loop would lead down from the Trailway, just south of the bridge to the existing concrete platform at the edge of the river. The loop would provide a short path from the parking lot and bus stop, down to the river for an up-close, and immersive experience of a floodplain forest. The length, width and slope of the path would be accessible to all.

Restoration efforts would be made to create open canopy wet meadows within the floodplain forest.

Interpretive materials would be provided to teach the public about the stormwater swale, floodplain forest and wet meadow.



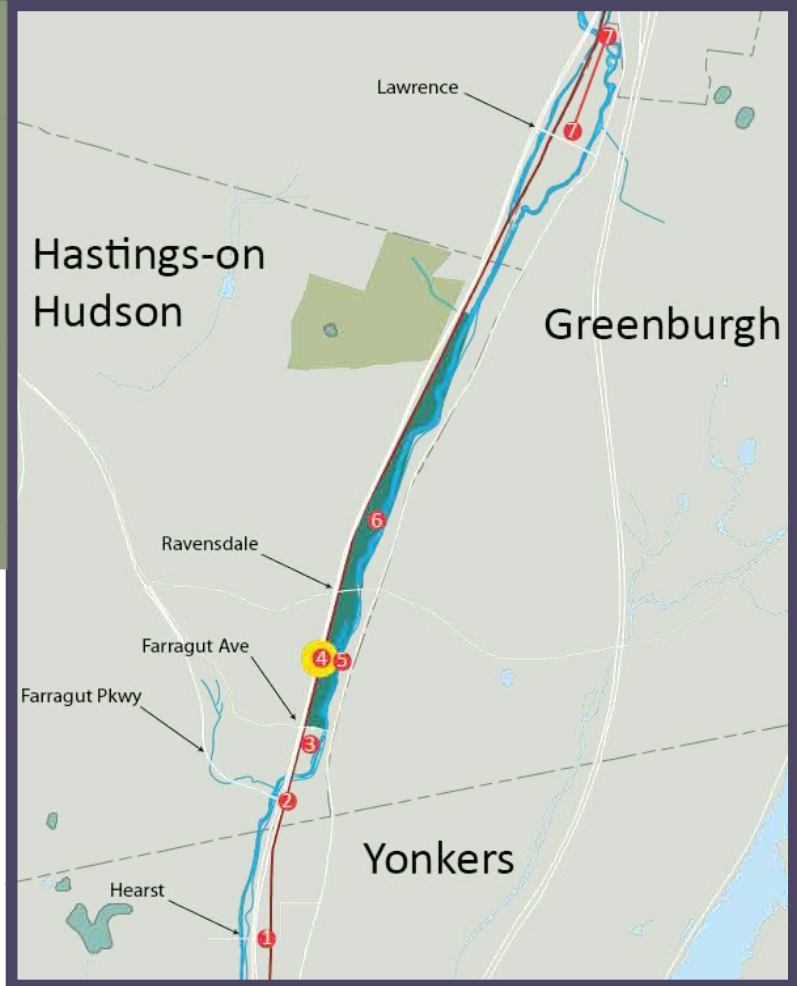
Area targeted for restoration

4

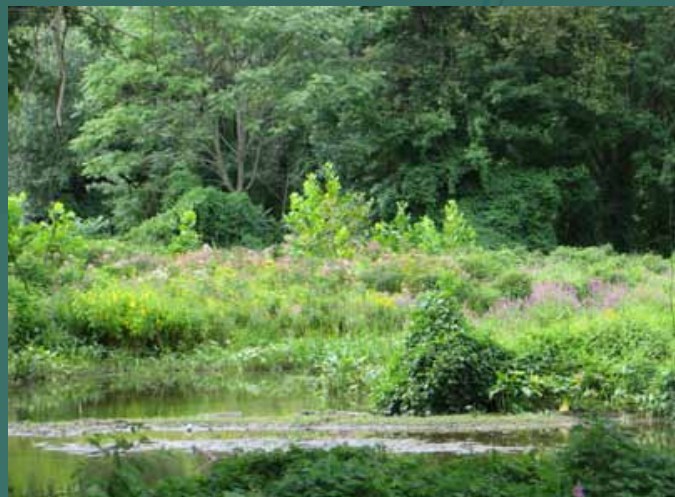
Meadow Restoration & River Access, NORTH OF FARRAGUT AVENUE

EXISTING STATE OF SITE

A forest and meadow restoration was begun in 2004. The restoration has included repeated vinecutting and removal as well as native species planting. A sunny meadow is now visible from the South County Trail and the native tree saplings well-established. The county maintains the meadow with regular mowing. The restoration area is a short walk from the Farragut Avenue parking lot and restrooms.

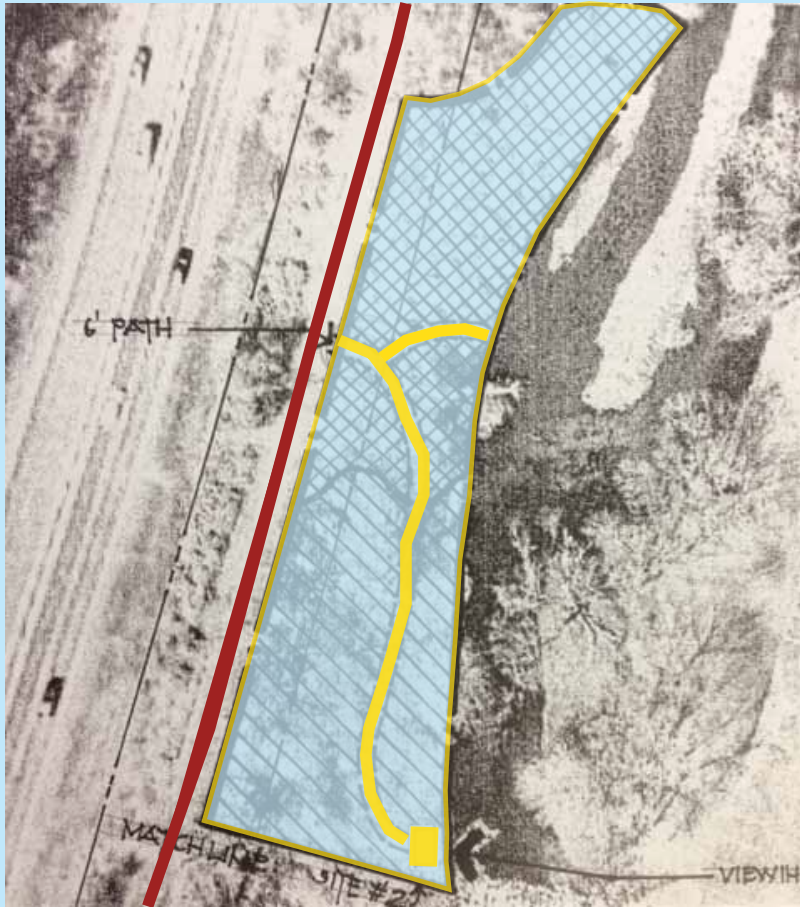


EXISTING IMAGES






Restored floodplain meadow

Saw Mill River Recreation Area 4



LEGEND

-  Trailway
-  Restoration area
-  Proposed path and viewing platform

Proposed boardwalk and viewing platform

PROPOSALS

This is a great site for continued and expanded restoration efforts, in a northward direction.

The current restoration area presents a great opportunity to educate the public about healthy riverine systems and what efforts are called for to restore an impacted stream.

A boardwalk and viewing platform could be built to carry trail users closer to the river.

This site has also been thoroughly examined as a put-in site for kayaking.



Vinecutting

5

Mill Remnants & Expanded Restoration, NORTH OF FARRAGUT AVENUE

EXISTING STATE OF SITE

The eastern bank of the river in this location presents a clear view of a mill's remnants. The Saw Mill River has a rich history of people's attempts at harnessing the river to power grist, saw, and cider mills from Eastview (Mount Pleasant) south to Yonkers.

The western bank of the river has been identified as an area for expanded restoration efforts of wet meadow and floodplain forest.



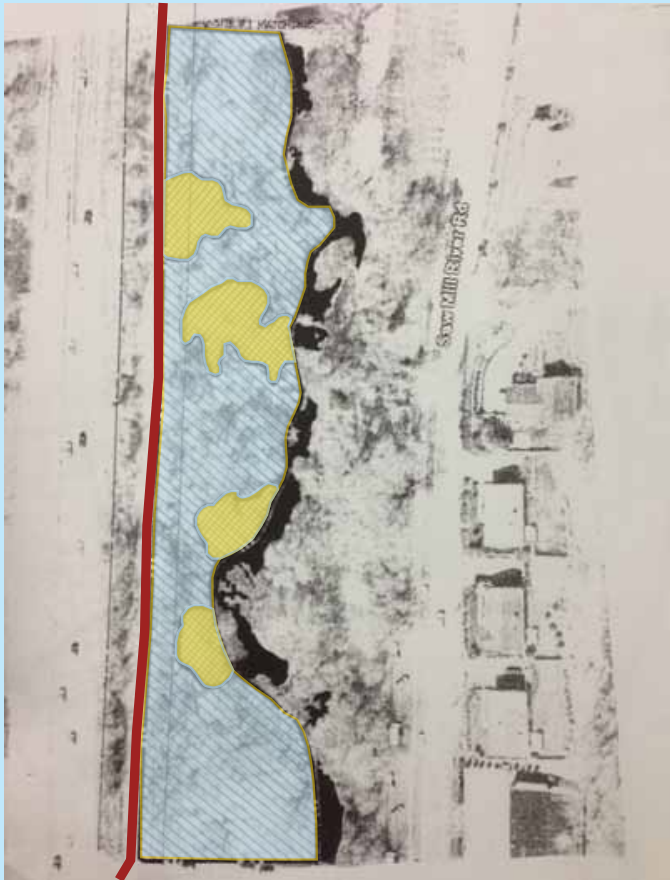
EXISTING IMAGES



Floodplain forest




Mill remnants, view west from 9A, Saw Mill River Road

Saw Mill River Recreation Area 5



Floodplain forest

LEGEND

-  Trailway
-  Proposed restoration of floodplain forest
-  Proposed restoration of wet meadow

PROPOSALS

The mill remnants offer a springboard for discussion of the river's human history. Informational signage could be placed here to interpret this history.

Invasives would be removed and meadow areas would be seeded with native plants. Floodplain forest areas would be planted with native shrubs and trees.



Wet meadow

6

Old Railroad Platform & Bridge, MOUNT HOPE CEMETERY

EXISTING STATE OF SITE

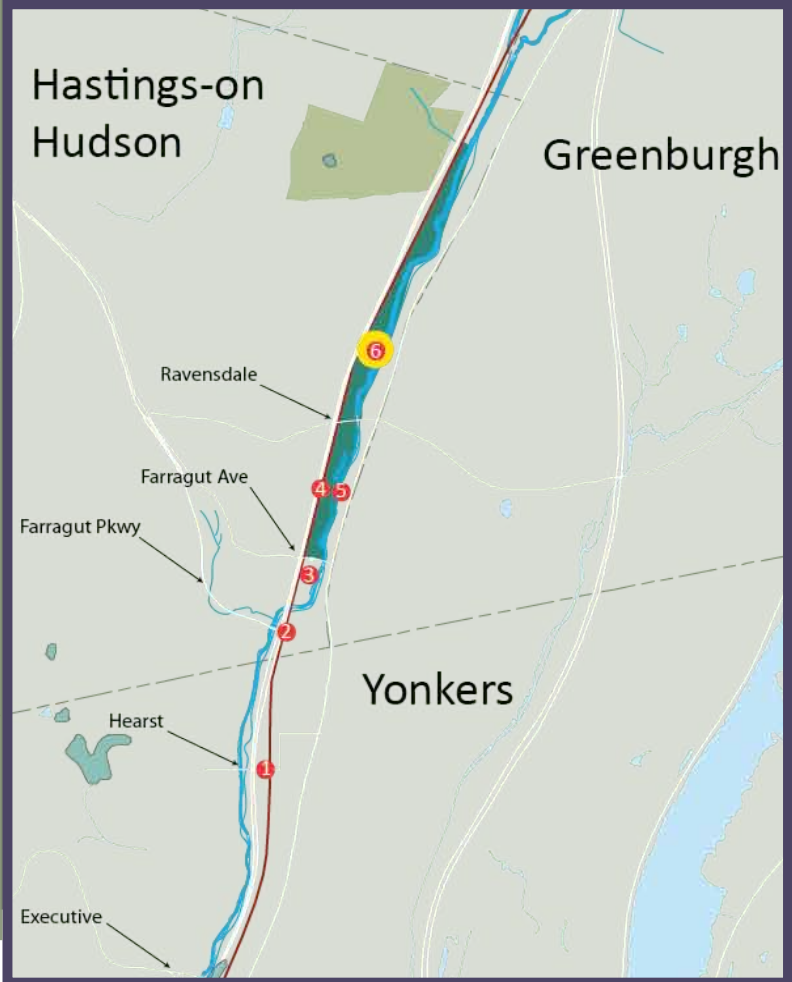
A vehicular bridge is intact at this location. It is a remnant of the NY Central Railroad's Putnam line construction.

The bridge creates an important link for bikers and pedestrians from the South County Trailway to 9A (Saw Mill River Road.) This link is currently a mulched pathway.

9A is without a safe shoulder for biking but plans are in place for a trail along the road.

The river has been greatly impacted by human development at this location. The fill used on either side of the river in this location, to support the train platform and bridge, has forced the river into a tighter meander. The narrower width causes the river to run stronger and with more force around the filled area, causing erosion. The eroded, compacted streambanks are empty of vegetation and therefore, habitat for riverine life.

Just north of the existing trestle bridge is a one-mile long section of the river which is 300-400 feet wide and relatively flat. This area could be transformed into a wetland area.



EXISTING IMAGES



14

Mulched path



Eroded riverbank, view north from bridge



Vehicular bridge

Saw Mill River Recreation Area 6

LEGEND

-  River
-  Trailway
-  Proposed path & lot
-  Existing mulched path
-  Existing bus stop
-  Proposed wetland restoration area
-  Existing bridge



PROPOSALS

The connecting path brings users in view of the impacted stream area and is therefore, a great opportunity for interpretation of how development impacts a river's ecology.

Wetlands could be created in the one-mile long swath, north of the bridge. This potential was called out in the 1999 US Army Corps study (1). The Corps report stated that the site could be cleared and graded and replanted with diverse wetland vegetation. It would provide fish and wildlife habitat as well as benefits to the river system by increasing flood water retention.

A path has been planned along 9A (Saw Mill River Road) from the bus stop at Ravensdale/Jackson to a proposed parking area. The expanded parking is intended to relieve the overburdened parking area at Farragut Avenue.



Floodplain forest



(1) Section 905(b) (WRDA 86) Preliminary Analysis Flood Control and Ecosystem Restoration, Saw Mill River Basin, US Army Corps of Engineers, 1999.

7

Wetlands Restoration & Rivertowns Square Connector, LAWRENCE STREET

EXISTING STATE OF SITE

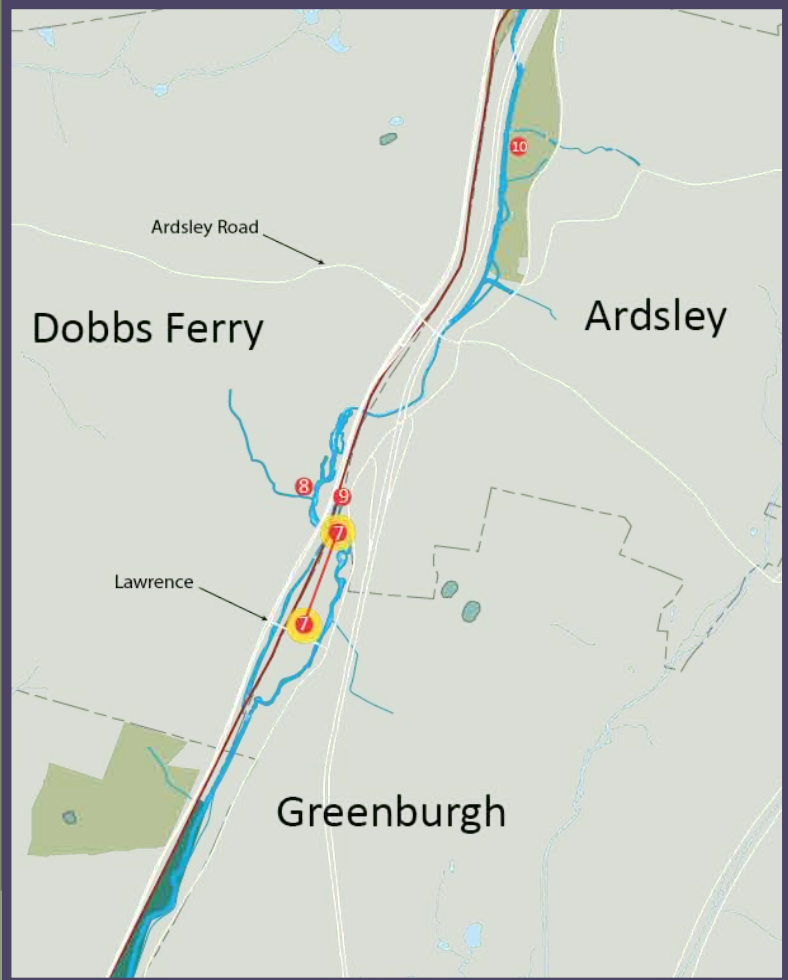
Lawrence Street is an important connector. It provides a protected intersection that will soon serve car and pedestrian traffic entering and exiting Rivertowns Square.

An abandoned access road runs north-south between the South County Trailway and the parkway.

A beautiful stretch of river runs along the Trailway north of Lawrence. Road noise from the parkway is buffered by a berm that the stream flows under. Two branches of the river feed back together here, creating a rich natural area. A Trailway bridge offers beautiful views of this wetland area.

On both sides of the Parkway just north of Lawrence Street lie degraded riparian wetlands. They connect to a private section of land where the once thriving Akzo Nobel chemical company existed. The property has been for sale or lease for years and the buildings were removed. Soils beneath the paving logically should be hydric (wetlands).

LIFE is an event and recreation space with indoor and outdoor facilities.



EXISTING IMAGES

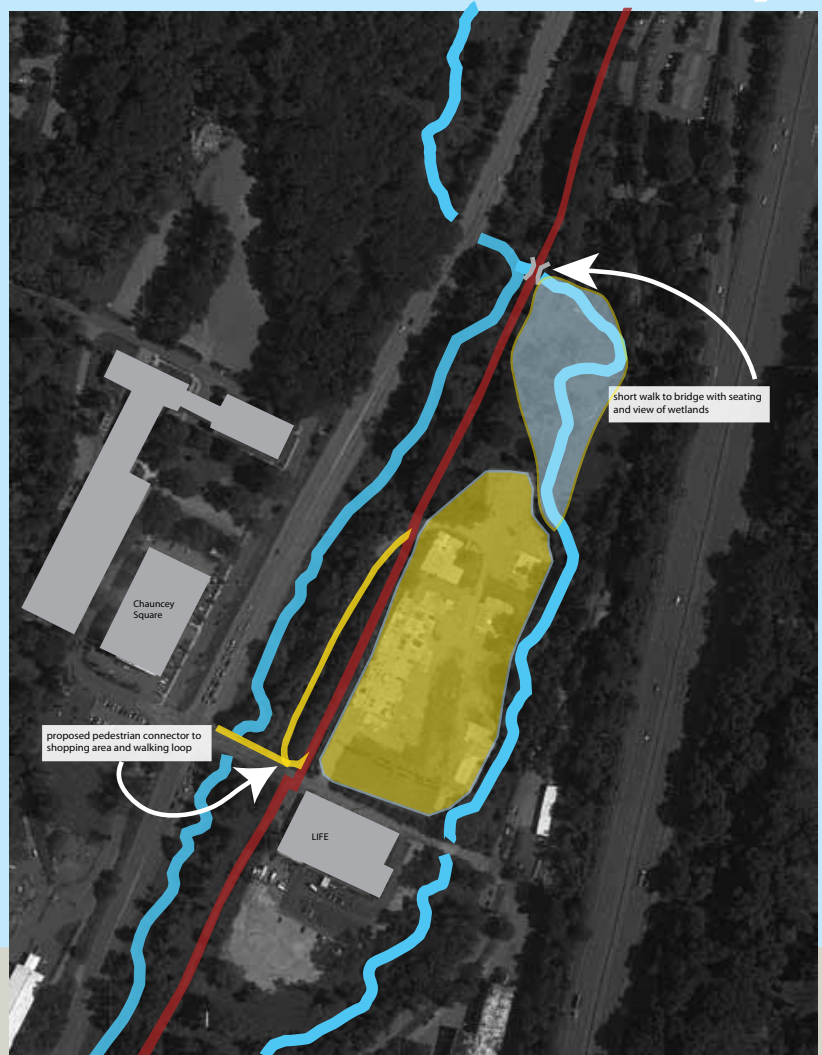


View west from Trailway bridge



View east from bridge

Saw Mill River Recreation Area 7



PROPOSALS

A pedestrian connector would be created to enable Rivertowns Square users to safely access the Trail.

The access road could be developed into a landscaped pedestrian walking loop.

Seating would be placed on the bridge.

The area along the Trailway north of Lawrence, and around the bridge would offer wetland exploration and educational opportunities.

The area has also been targeted for wetland restoration.

LIFE could offer recreation equipment rental.

LEGEND

- river
- existing path
- proposed path
- commercial bldg
- wetlands
- potential wetlands

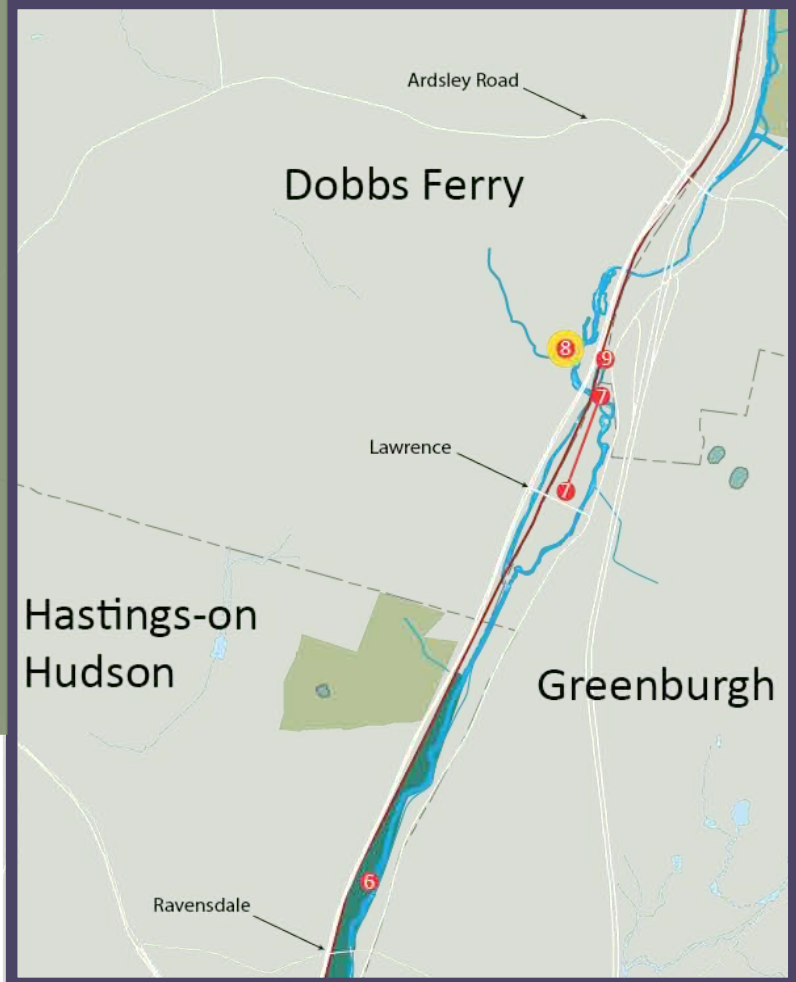


EXISTING STATE OF SITE

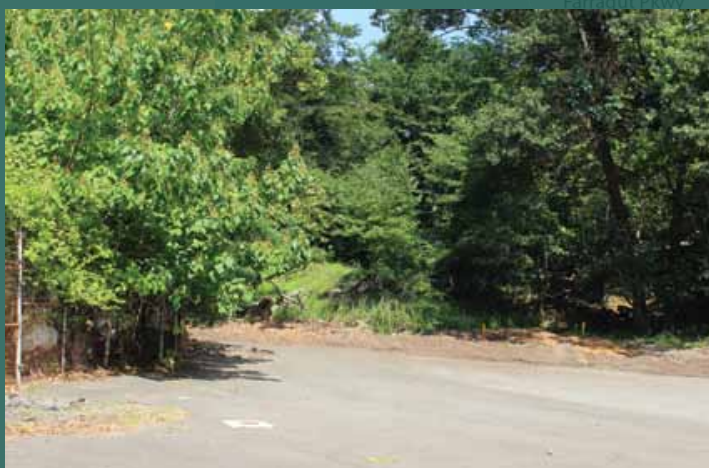
Rivertowns Square is an approved development that will include shopping, a cinema, residences, a hotel and other businesses.

The Dobbs Ferry wetlands are located just north of this planned development. On both sides of the Parkway just north of Lawrence Street lie degraded riparian wetlands. Wetland restoration of this area, initially called out in an Army Corps of Engineers Preliminary Analysis Flood Control and Ecosystem Restoration report (1999) (1), would provide benefits for important fish and wildlife habitat, as well as provide benefits for flood water retention.

An old, unused boot path exists between proposed development and wetlands.



EXISTING IMAGE



Existing parking lot at north perimeter of planned development



Rendering of planned development (Rivertowns Square) view south

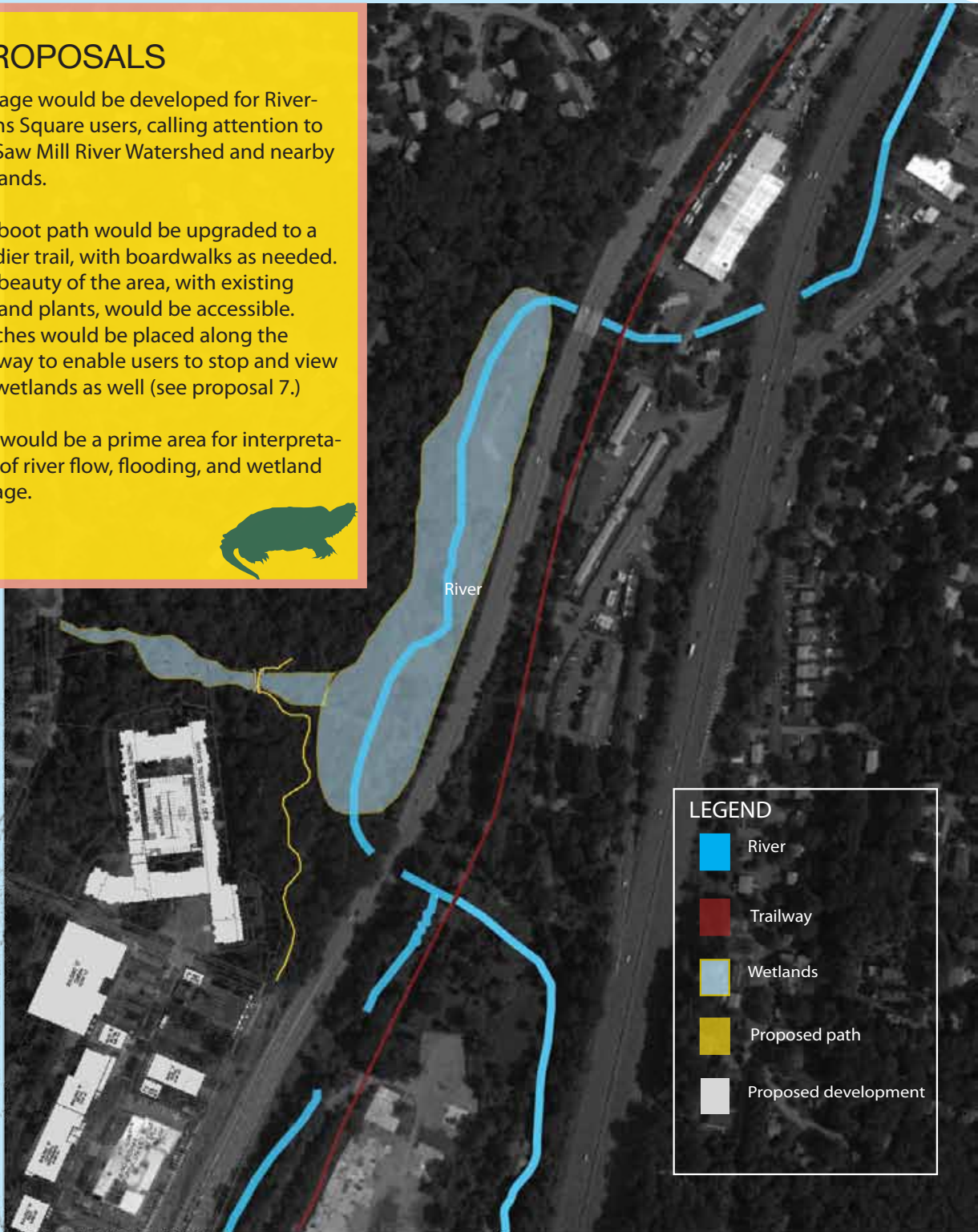
Saw Mill River Recreation Area 8

PROPOSALS




Signage would be developed for River-towns Square users, calling attention to the Saw Mill River Watershed and nearby wetlands.

The boot path would be upgraded to a sturdier trail, with boardwalks as needed. The beauty of the area, with existing wetland plants, would be accessible. Benches would be placed along the Trailway to enable users to stop and view the wetlands as well (see proposal 7.)

This would be a prime area for interpretation of river flow, flooding, and wetland storage.



LEGEND

-  River
-  Trailway
-  Wetlands
-  Proposed path
-  Proposed development

9

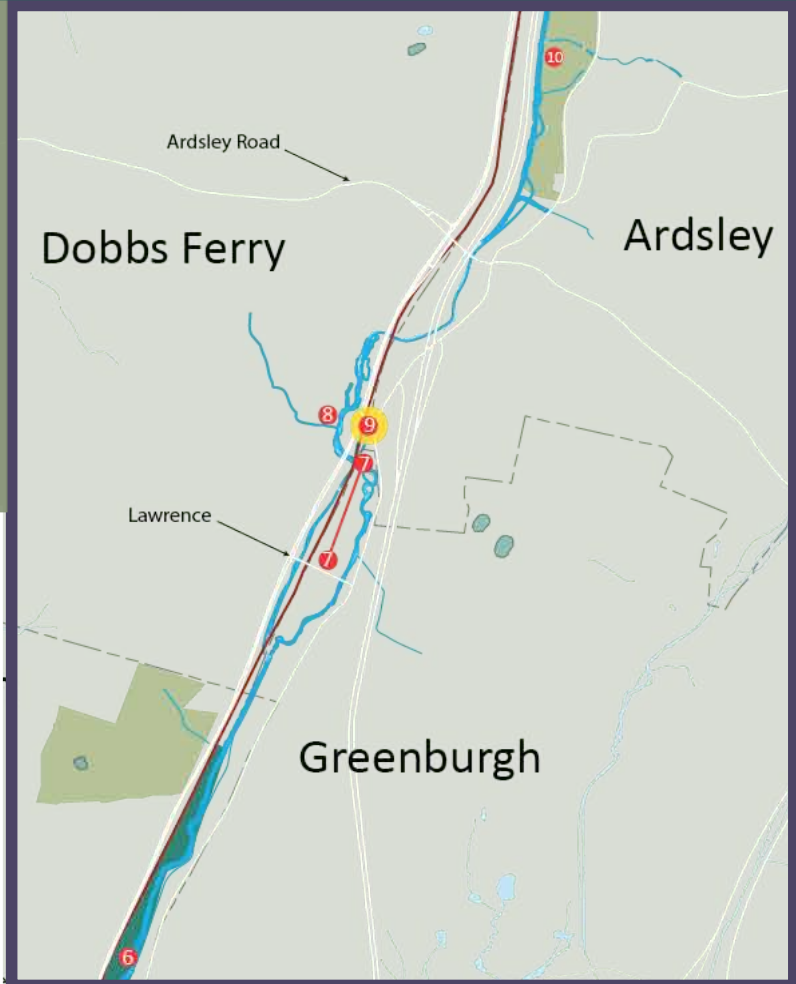
Ardsley Bike Access, Ardsley Acres Motel

EXISTING STATE OF SITE

The Trailway runs close to 9A (Saw Mill River Road) at this location.

Several markets, eateries and services are available in Ardsley, a short distance from the motel.

The House of Sports is an indoor multi-sport recreational center, minutes away.



EXISTING IMAGES



Ardsley Acres Motel parking lot, View from Trailway, Proposed Access Point



House of Sports

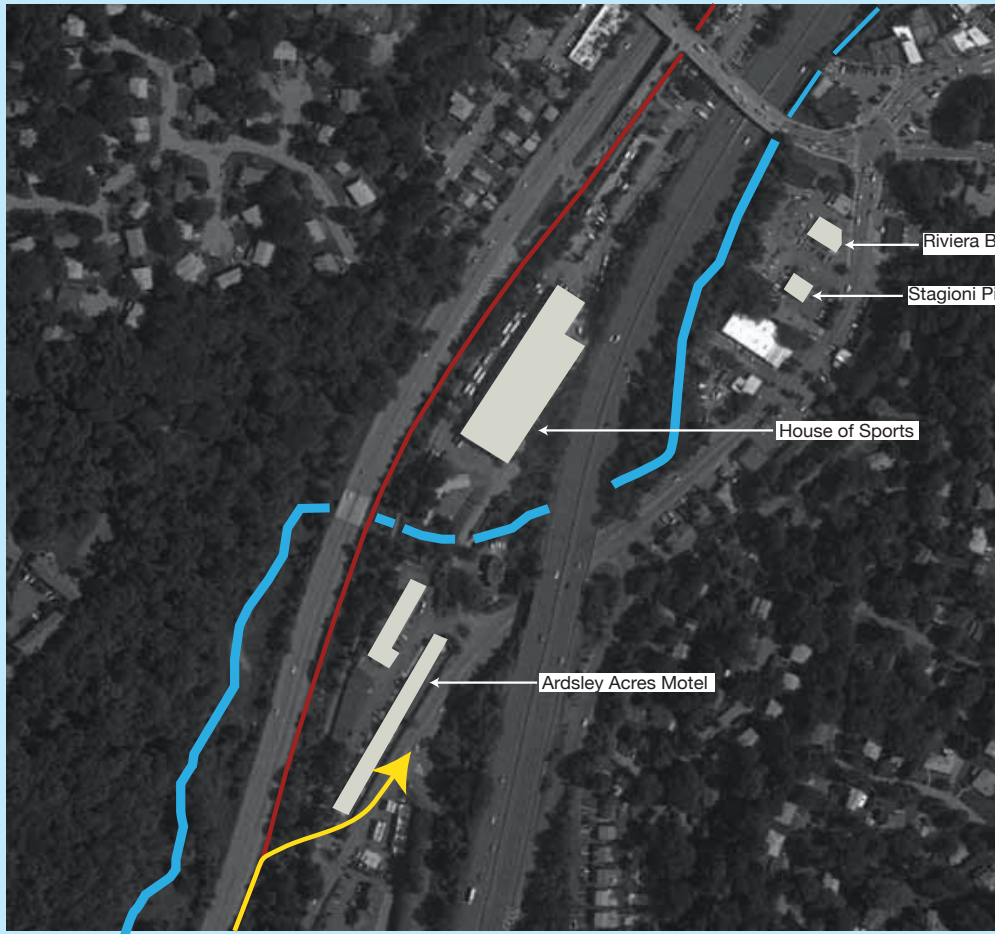


Stagioni Pizza



Riviera Bakehouse

Saw Mill River Recreation Area 9



LEGEND

- River
- Trailway
- Proposals
- Buildings

Proposed access route via Ardsley Acres Motel Parking lot

PROPOSAL

The chainlink fence would be removed at the southernmost point of the motel parking lot. Cycling and pedestrian access to the Village of Ardsley and its amenities would be possible from the Trailway.



Yogurt By You, Ardsley

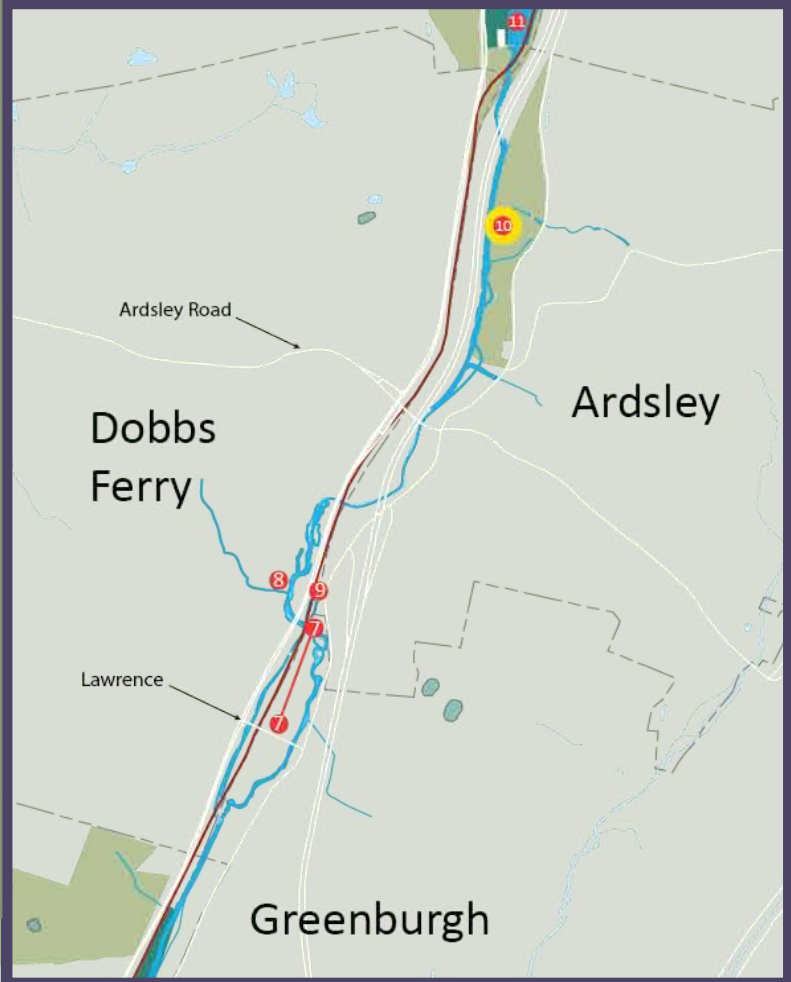
10 Green Connector, Stormwater Management Park, V E Macy Park

EXISTING STATE OF SITE

V. Everit Macy Park has three sections: Ardsley ballfields and picnic facilities (north of Ardsley on 9A), Great Hunger Park, at Woodlands Lake, and the hills west of the Saw Mill River parkway, where it is connected to Irvington Woods.

The Ardsley ballfields section was re-developed to showcase how stormwater can be managed. It is accessible by car.

The northeastern boundary of the park carries the Saw Mill Parkway approximately 25' above the adjacent grade of the park, just north of where the river passes under the Parkway.



EXISTING IMAGES



Farragut Pkwy



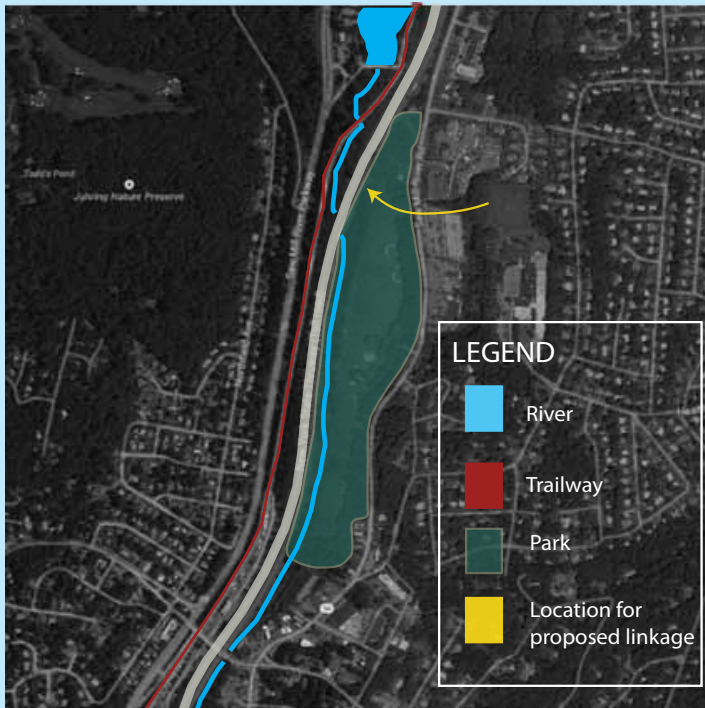
22

V. Everit Macy Park ballfields and picnic area



Stormwater management in the park

Saw Mill River Recreation Area 10



Area to explore for connector opportunity



Suggested Link

PROPOSAL

The telling of the river's story would continue in V. Everit Macy Park with interpretation of the county's management of its stormwater.

A connection from V E Macy Park to the Trailway, river and Woodlands Lake is desirable. Possible means of bridging the barrier of the parkway and state highway should be explored in the northeastern section of the park, where a significant grade change is present. Perhaps a tunnel for pedestrians and cyclists could be built that would enable Dobbs Ferry, Irvington and Ardsley residents to easily and safely access the Trailway and river.



11

Woodlands Lake Natural Area, GREAT MEMORIAL PARK, IRVINGTON

EXISTING STATE OF SITE

Woodlands Lake is an area rich with riverine life .

As early as the 1790's, the river was dammed at this location for a mill, irrevocably altering the ecology of the river.

Today there are mowed areas and picnic tables as well as restrooms.

The Great Hunger Memorial was unveiled on this site in 2001. The sculpture commemorates those who died and were displaced during the Irish potato famine of the mid-nineteenth century .

A meadow of native wildflowers was planted by Groundwork and its partners, north of the memorial.

There is a footbridge in satisfactory condition, across the stream, north of the lake.

There is a parking area as well as a circular drive with two stone and log buildings that once housed a restaurant.



Some of the many species identified in the **2009 BioBlitz**.

- cormorants
- gadwall duck
- northern shoveler
- american black duck
- cinnamon teal
- mallard
- common gold eye
- common loon
- yellow-billed loon

EXISTING IMAGES



24

- crappie fish
- catfish
- smallmouth
- largemouth
- spotted
- striped
- and white bass
- walleye fish



Walleye fish

- blue heron
- woodpecker
- chipping sparrow
- broad-tailed
- humming birds



Broad-tailed hummingbird



Gadwall duck

Saw Mill River Recreation Area 1 1



Existing driveway and unused buildings



Existing footbridge north of lake, could be incorporated into loop

LEGEND

- River
- Trailway
- Proposed Loop



PROPOSAL

Woodlands Lake is a great place to picnic, bike, walk or fish. A loop would create a short stretch of trail that would enable increased participation of users of different ages and abilities.

The meadow restoration area could be expanded, with added interpretative boards describing the plantings. The rich diversity of species living in and around the lake offer opportunities for education as well.

The parking area and driveway could host large group drop-offs or a bike repair kiosk. The kiosk would offer needed supplies to bikers, and could serve as a meeting destination as well. The kiosk could also offer educational guides about riverine life and wetlands.



Kiosk suggestions





Saw Mill River Coalition

5-Year Action Plan

2020





Acknowledgements

This Project has been funded in part by a grant from the New York State Environmental Protection Fund through the Hudson River Estuary Program of the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation and the Westchester Community Foundation.

This plan was developed by Groundwork Hudson Valley and the Sarah Lawrence College Center for the Urban River at Beczak with the support of:

Westchester County Board of Legislators – Saw Mill Watershed Advisory Board

Board Chair - County Legislator MaryJane Shimsky

City of Yonkers

Village of Dobbs Ferry

Town of Greenburgh

Village of Elmsford

Village of Pleasantville

Town of New Castle

Village of Hastings-On-Hudson

Village of Ardsley

Village of Irvington

Village of Tarrytown

Town of Mount Pleasant

Introduction

The Saw Mill River Coalition, a program of Groundwork Hudson Valley, was established in 2001 with a vision of revitalizing and protecting the Saw Mill River. Throughout the last two decades, the coalition has worked to promote the health of the river through community-based initiatives, such as organizing vine cutting and river cleanup events and supporting government led projects like the Saw Mill River Daylighting in Downtown Yonkers. However, there are still great challenges the river faces, as it runs entirely through highly developed suburban and urban areas. To face these challenges, it is important to develop a process which can ensure continuity of coalition work. In the past few years, the coalition chose to follow the path of other successful watershed alliances in the United States. A State of the Watershed Report was published in 2019, which along with municipal and community input, led to the development of this 5-Year Action Plan. Looking forward, the coalition aims to focus its efforts on developing, together with Westchester County, a comprehensive watershed management plan.

Just like every watershed has its unique characteristics, so does every watershed alliance. Therefore, this action plan not only outlines what we wish to see in the future, but also identifies existing assets and past achievements of our coalition. Such assets include active stewardship program, led by Groundwork Hudson Valley, a successful water sampling program, led by the Sarah Lawrence College Center for the Urban River at Beczak, a county supported advisory board as well as past plans and reports, municipal surveys, community input sessions and a renowned river daylighting project. This plan draws upon those assets and sets clear goals and objectives for further strengthening them.



Plan Scope

In this plan, the coalition proposes to continue the ongoing work of our stewardship program, our water quality sampling program, community engagement efforts and the routine meetings of the Saw Mill Watershed Advisory Board, while also pursuing funding to complete a comprehensive watershed management plan. We see the development of a watershed management plan as a crucial step for moving towards implementation of large restoration projects, so this 5-Year Action Plan is designed based on the assumption that a proposal for funding for the development of a watershed management plan will be submitted in year 1, the work on developing the plan will start during year 2 and the plan will be completed by year 4. This aspirational timeline is dependent on our ability to secure significant funding.

The plan consists of six sections, focusing on the fields of stormwater management, water quality, habitat restoration, community engagement and stewardship, access and recreation and stakeholder coordination. It is important to note that the success of achieving the objectives of this plan is highly dependent on the ability to ensure continuous funding for the work of the coalition towards the planning and implementation of projects. The strategies, tasks and measurable outcomes detailed in the plan should be viewed as guidelines for efforts to be made by members of the coalition, local municipalities, and the county government to support the restoration of the Saw Mill River.

Covid19 – This plan was developed throughout the spring and summer of 2020, in the midst of the Covid19 crisis. This crisis impacted the routine work of the Coalition, especially when it comes to hosting community engagement and stewardship events, which were substituted with virtual meetings or limited to fewer people to allow for social distancing. But more than all, the Covid19 crisis brought a lot of uncertainties when it comes to future availability of funding resources. In the coming year, as we begin stepping out of this crisis and having better clarity regarding funding resources, we will revise the Action Plan accordingly.

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A Program of the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation



Acronyms

SMR – Saw Mill River

SMRC – Saw Mill River Coalition

SWAB – Saw Mill Watershed Advisory Board

GWHV – Groundwork Hudson Valley

CURB – Center for the Urban River at Beczak

WMP – Watershed Management Plan

GI – Green Infrastructure

Link for Existing Plans, Agreements and Reports

[Saw Mill River Coalition Action Plan: 2004](#)

[Memorandum of Agreement with respect to the Saw Mill River Watershed \(2005-2006\)](#)

[Stormwater Reconnaissance Plan for the Saw Mill River – Pocantico River Watershed \(2012\)](#)

[Saw Mill River Recreation Area Plan \(2014\)](#)

[State of the Saw Mill River Watershed Report \(2019\)](#)

Saw Mill River Coalition – 5 Year Action Plan

2020

Stakeholder Coordination



Saw Mill River Coalition Community Engagement Meeting

Like most environmental features, a river knows no human-made boundaries. When a wetland is paved in a particular town, increasing the flow rates of the rivers, the impact will be felt in communities further downstream. The power of a successful watershed alliance lies in its ability to bring different stakeholders from the private, public and nonprofit sectors to sit together and address issues of the river from a watershed-wide point of view. These connections are the foundation for collaboration between different stakeholders such as different municipalities, local developers who own property along the river and community-based organizations who work to restore its health. A strong stakeholder forum is also an important tool for securing funding for river restoration projects. The Saw Mill River runs through 12 municipalities, several commercial districts and residential neighborhoods. With the support of the Westchester County Board of Legislators, the Saw Mill River Coalition is helping to coordinate the work of the SWAB – the Saw Mill Watershed Advisory Board. Throughout the years the SWAB has been successfully promoting river restoration projects at the watershed-wide scale as well as coordinating restoration projects at the local level.

Year 1

Strategy	Tasks	Who's responsible	Examples/ measurable outcomes
Continue supporting municipal and community partners through the County's Saw Mill Watershed Advisory Board (SWAB)	Designate and train SWAB Coordinator	SWAB	Designated SWAB coordinator leads quarterly meetings
	Add new members to the SWAB from local community organizations	GWHV + CURB	6-8 new members added
	Routinely update SWAB members on coalition activities	GWHV + CURB	At least one SWAB update email between each quarterly meeting
	Coordinate local outreach activities with SWAB members	GWHV	Municipal partners promote and support SMRC outreach in local events
	Create a system for documenting data on SMR flood events to be updated based on municipal partners input	SWAB, GWHV	SMR Flooding map embedded on SMRC website
	Maintain quarterly SWAB Meetings	SWAB Coordinator	4 meetings per year with at least 8 out of 11 municipal partners present at each meeting
	Create a platform for SWAB and BRAB idea exchange	SWAB Coordinator	1 quarterly meeting per year to be combined with BRAB meeting
Renewed commitment from municipal partners	Designate official representatives from each municipality	SWAB Coordinator	List of official SWAB members posted on Westchester County Board of Legislators Website
	Revise 2004 Memorandum of Understanding with municipal partners committing to pursue up to 3 local SMR restoration actions	SWAB, GWHV	At least 10 out of 12 municipalities sign renewed commitment letter
	Work with Westchester County and municipal partners on securing funding for the development of a Watershed Management Plan	SWAB, Westchester County Planning, GWHV	Revised LWRP or equivalent grant application submitted in 2020

Year 2-3

Strategy	Tasks	Who's responsible	Examples/ Measurables outcomes
Develop a Watershed Management Plan	Hire Watershed Management Plan Consultant	SWAB, Westchester County	Consultant hired
	Educate SWAB on Watershed Management Plan best practices	GWHV + SWAB coordinator	Bronx River Alliance staff present to SWAB their WMP process and lessons learned
Promote new collaborations with private sector stakeholders	Work with municipal partners to identify private landowners in the floodplain	SWAB	Contact list of commercial, residential and industrial owners
	Work with municipal partners to identify potential incentives for private commercial landowners	SWAB	Tax breaks for green infrastructures on commercial properties.
	Conduct outreach and invite private stakeholders to participate in SWAB and SMRC meetings	SWAB Coordinator + GWHV	SWAB meeting with commercial property owners Personal outreach to residential property owners regarding SMRC meetings
Promote local municipal restoration actions	Meet with each municipal partner to coordinate support for local restoration actions	GWHV	Meeting with at least 8 out of 12 municipal partners
	Municipal partners present local restoration actions taken at SWAB meeting	SWAB	At least 5 projects presented Site visit to 1-2 municipalities
	Map dumping "hot spots" along the river	SWAB, GWHV, CURB	Each municipality creates a list of dumping hot spots with details regarding source of dumping and potential actions to be taken
Continued municipal support in SMRC activities	SWAB members reach out to local elected officials for participation in stewardship/ community engagement events	SWAB	Each active stewardship group hosts local elected officials Elected Officials participate in SMRC community meetings

Year 2-3 (continued)

Strategy	Tasks	Who's responsible	Examples/ Measurable outcomes
Coordinate municipal partners and stakeholders' input for Watershed Management Plan	WMP consultant to meet with SWAB	GWHV, SWAB Coordinator	All 12 municipal partners present at meeting
	Organize a river tour for SWAB members and WMP consultant	GWHV, SWAB Coordinator	Visit potential restoration site in at least 4 municipalities
Prioritize projects for implementation	Develop stakeholder survey for project prioritization	Prioritize projects for implementation	Develop stakeholder survey for project prioritization
	Municipal partners prepare 1 pager documents for potential projects within their jurisdiction	Westchester County, SWAB municipal partners	Municipal partners prepare 1 pager documents for potential projects within their jurisdiction
Monitor local municipal restoration actions	Work with municipal partners on evaluating success of municipal actions	SWAB	Municipal members share progress and lesson learned with SWAB
	Measure success in treating dumping "hot spots"	County	Action (camera, signs, enforcement, letters to owners etc.) taken at least at half of all sites.

Year 4-5

Strategy	Tasks	Who's responsible	Examples/ Measurable outcomes
Support the development of Watershed Management Plan	Selecting high priority sites for initial implementation	SWAB Coordinator, GWHV	5 priority sites agreed on by SWAB members
Secure implementation funding	Round one of fundraising for implementation of high priority projects based on WMP recommendations	Westchester County, Municipalities	Funding proposal for at least 2 sites submitted
Assess progress of 5-Year Action Plan objectives	Survey SWAB members on 5-Year Action Plan progress	SWAB, GWHV	Survey answered by all watershed municipalities
Promote completed WMP	Share and promote WMP with communities	SWAB	WMP published on all local websites and newsletters
	Present WMP to Elected officials of municipalities with highest priority sites	GWHV	Presentations to elected officials (City Council/ Board of Trustees) in at least 10 watershed communities
Evaluate restoration projects cost/benefit	Work with municipal and state partners to evaluate expenses of flood damage	SWAB, GWHV	Publish summary report of past and present expenses for emergency management and infrastructure repair
	Partner with an academic entity focusing on ecosystem services	GWHV, SMRC	Develop ecosystem services appendix to WMP

Saw Mill River Coalition – 5 Year Action Plan 2020

Community Engagement and Stewardship



Members of the Green Team during the Annual Great Saw Mill River Cleanup event at the Saw Mill River Daylighting site in Yonkers

Having clear priorities and a well-educated grassroots constituency is the lifeblood of successful watershed alliances. The Saw Mill River Coalition seeks to expand and work more effectively in terms of its goals and objectives, more volunteers need to be involved in site-specific stewardship activities, and a greater understanding is needed across the watershed of the importance of the stream to local biodiversity and water quality protection.

Year 1

Strategy	Tasks	Who's responsible	Examples/ measurable outcomes
Increase and diversify community participation in coalition work	Develop an interactive, traveling Saw Mill River education roadshow, in both English and Spanish.	GWHV	Reach 100+ residents
	Conduct semiannual coalition public engagement meetings - one for lower watershed and one for upper watershed	GWHV+CURB	40+ participants
Increase online presence of coalition	Develop new website for coalition	GWHV	Reach 500+ residents
	Semiannual coalition newsletter	GWHV	Reach 500+ residents
SMR Heroes - Collect stories from residents who lived or worked in the Saw Mill River Watershed	Conduct outreach to identify potential testimonials	GWHV	At least 4 stories published on SMRC website and newsletters
Expand Stewardship Program	Open an upper watershed stewardship group	GWHV	2+ annual events reaching 50+ residents
	Open a lower watershed stewardship group	GWHV	2+ annual events in new restoration sites
	Develop Model Stewardship Guide	GWHV	Reach 100+ residents from at least 8 municipalities
	Expand the Great Saw Mill River Cleanup	GWHV	open at least 1 new cleanup site
Increase and diversify SWAB participation	Conduct outreach to community-based stakeholders to join SWAB meetings	GWHV + SWAB staff	6+ new SWAB members

Year 2-3

Strategy	Tasks	Who's responsible	Examples/ Measurables outcomes
Promote Model Stewardship Guide	Conduct outreach to local sustainability advisory boards	GWHV, SWAB	Meetings with all Sustainability/ Conservation Advisory Boards
	Present Model Stewardship Guide to SWAB members	GWHV	Lead SWAB Meeting promoting municipal support in local stewardship groups.
	Present Model Stewardship Guide to residents	GWHV	Dedicate a full coalition community engagement meeting to presenting the Stewardship Program.
Continue expansion of stewardship program	Support new river stewardship groups based on Model Stewardship Guide	GWHV	At least 4 stewardship groups working according to a work schedule set in the beginning of the season including 2 annual group leadership meetings for planning.
	Expand Great Saw Mill River cleanup to Upper Watershed	GWHV, SMRC	Add 3 new sites north of Woodlands Lake
Educate students on SMR restoration	Promote SMR Daylighting Curriculum to teachers throughout the watershed	GWHV, SMRC	At least 100 teachers exposed to curriculum
Gather public input for Watershed Management Plan	Conduct Public Surveys	WMP Consultant + GWHV	100+ answered surveys
	Host public participation workshops	WMP Consultant	2 annual workshops

Year 4-5

Strategy	Tasks	Who's responsible	Examples/ Measurable outcomes
Modify stewardship program around newly implemented restoration sites	Promote educational programs around restoration sites	GWHV	Community participation in development of interpretive signage
	Develop community/ participatory monitoring program for restoration sites	GWHV + CURB	Citizen Science monitoring program for water quality, flood events and invasive species
Educate students about SMR restoration	Develop watershed wide SMR Restoration educational curriculum	GWHV	Curriculum addresses issues such as climate change, stormwater management and water quality
WMP Outreach	Organize tours to the different project sites	GWHV + SWAB	2 annual tours. At least 40 participants per tour.
	Promote stories about WMP in local media outlets	GWHV, SMRC	Stories to be published at least 5 media outlets.
	Conduct public meetings to present WMP	GWHV + CURB	2 annual coalition meetings presenting the plan.
	Develop interpretive signage for restoration sites	GWHV + SWAB members	at least one sign per site explaining the work that has been done and the projected benefit.

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Stormwater Management



Flooding along the Saw Mill River in Greenburgh, NY

Stormwater management is a core issue in the effort to restore the health of the Saw Mill River. Not only is the issue of stormwater the direct cause for one of the most urgent problems impacting communities throughout the watershed, recurrent flooding events, but it also has a direct impact on issues such as water quality, habitat, and access. Improving stormwater management in the Saw Mill Watershed is even more crucial given the impact of climate change. More and more, extraordinary weather events are becoming the norm in Westchester County. Nor'easters, tropical storms and severe thunderstorms have deluged Westchester with greater frequency and intensity. With intense development throughout the Saw Mill Watershed, and specifically along the Saw Mill River floodplain, permeable surface is becoming rare, resulting in increasing flow levels in the river leading to more flooding, bank erosion, low filtration and deterioration of sewer utilities.

Year 1

Strategy	Tasks	Who's responsible	Examples/ measurable outcomes
River Bank Restoration	Remove invasive vines at selected stewardship sites: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Yonkers – Executive Blvd - Dobbs Ferry – Chauncey Park - Pleasantville – McDonalds - Pleasantville – Grant St 	GWHV, SMRC	2 upstream invasive removal events 2 downstream invasive removal events Total 6 acres cleared of invasives
	Plant and maintain native vegetation in: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Yonkers – Executive Blvd - Pleasantville – Grant St 	GWHV, SMRC Stewardship Groups	0.4 acres planted
Promote GI throughout watershed	Present GI best practices to SWAB	GWHV, CURB	Sample policy and design guidelines and their relation to the SMR are presented at SWAB meeting
	Work with municipal partners to include GI in local plans and infrastructure projects	GWHV, SWAB	Gather list of planned infrastructure projects within the watershed that may include GI elements Municipal partners to sign letters of commitment for promoting GI projects
	Educate local communities on homeowner stormwater management tools	GWHV	Table at 5 community events Teach stormwater management practices in public schools
Debris removal	Expand Great Saw Mill River Cleanup	GWHV	Add 9th cleanup site with at least 15 volunteers to currently existing 8 sites.
	Work with the City of Yonkers on developing solution for ongoing debris removal from Daylighting	GWHV	Quarterly review with the City of debris in Daylighting
	Organize additional cleanup events at stewardship program sites	SMRC	2 local cleanup events
	Work with SWAB to identify solutions around downed trees	GWHV	Present to SWAB best practices for wooded habitat management in urban areas

Year 2-3

Strategy	Tasks	Who's responsible	Examples/ Measurables outcomes
Promote GI throughout watershed	Promote municipal efforts to get funding to create GI plans	GWHV, SWAB, municipalities	Develop model grant proposal for local GI project Submit at least 1 GI grant proposal per year
	Develop a presentation of best practices for GI incentive tools for private sector	GWHV, SWAB	Municipal SWAB members present to City Councils/Boards of Trustees potential tools for GI Incentives for private developers
	Establish a consistent wetland buffer management policy	SWAB	Adoption of policy by majority of municipalities
Perform Baseline Watershed Assessment (as part of a watershed management plan)	Begin stream-flow gauge project on Saw Mill River	Westchester County Planning	Gauges installed in at least 3 locations
	Prepare an existing conditions hydrologic model	WMP Consultant	Model entire watershed based on permeability and land use
	Perform a comparative analysis of the sub-basins and select priority sub-basins	WMP Consultant	List of priority sub-basins created 3 priority sub basins identified
	Monitor pre and post storm flow rates	WMP Consultant	Establish average baseline flow rates of river before and after storm events
	Identify erosion hot spots	WMP Consultant	Top 10 erosion hot spots identified
	Identify flooding hot spots	WMP Consultant	10 most flood prone locations identified
Identify stream restoration sites for implementation	Map potential floodplain restoration sites	WMP Consultant	At least 10 potential floodplain restoration sites identified
	Prepare preliminary design documents for selected high priority restoration sites	WMP Consultant	20% design documents prepared for 2-3 potential restoration sites
	Raise necessary funds for floodplain restoration projects identified in WMP	Westchester County + Municipalities	Funding secured for at least 3 major projects

Year 4-5

Strategy	Tasks	Who's responsible	Examples/ Measurable outcomes
Promote GI throughout watershed	Develop Homeowner Stormwater Management toolkit	GWHV, SWAB, SMRC	Toolkit sent to residents by all watershed municipalities Toolkit hashtag created for sharing examples
	Implement local GI projects	GWHV, SWAB municipal partners	Amount of stormwater captured in watershed increased by at least 5%
Implement restoration activities at priority sites identified in year 3 based on watershed management plan	Install bank stabilization plantings and monitor	Westchester County, SWAB municipal partners	30% average erosion reduction at 3 top priority erosion hot spot sites
	Plant buffer strips	Westchester County, SWAB municipal partners	At least 0.5 acre of riparian buffer planted
	Implement stream-flow gauge project 2 nd round	Westchester County	2-3 additional gauges installed at priority sub-basins
Restoration site maintenance	Develop floodplain restoration maintenance plan for municipalities	Westchester County, SWAB municipal partners, SMRC stewardship groups	Maintenance plan completed for each site, involving county agencies, municipal DPWs and local stewardship groups
Monitor and document effects of restoration projects	Develop participatory science stewardship program for floodplain restoration monitoring	GWHV + CURB	A comprehensive dataset of river conditions collected at project sites after completion of restoration

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Water Quality



Saw Mill River Coalition Volunteers sampling water in Hastings-on-Hudson

The issue of water quality in the Saw Mill River has been an ongoing challenge. In the last decade, the County and the Saw Mill River Coalition have continued to monitor water quality in the watershed which has public health, aquatic habitat and recreational impacts that can limit the viability of the river as a local resource. With EPA funding, a 4-year water quality study was carried out with Manhattan College to assess 15 sites from the headwaters to the mouth of the river focusing on fecal coliform (bacteria), conductivity (road salt), total phosphorus (fertilizer), pH (acid), and turbidity (suspended sediments). In 2015, Coalition members Riverkeeper and the Center for the Urban River at Beczak (CURB) launched a new round of sampling at the same 15 sites. It focused primarily on Enterococcus (“Entero”), which is an indicator of fecal coliform. Prior studies were conducted by the USGS and the Army Corps as well. Using this existing data, and as part of the development of a comprehensive Watershed Management Plan, the County and the Coalition will narrow down the source of key pollutants and propose specific projects, policies, and programs to address them at “hot spot” sites.

Year 1

Strategy	Tasks	Who's responsible	Examples/ measurable outcomes
Continue baseline pollution monitoring	Train local high school students in water quality analysis and sampling	CURB	Continued hosting of both the Winter Water Academy and Blue Team at CURB
	Perform water sampling in selected sites	CURB	Seasonal sampling data collected at sites along the SMR
Consolidate existing water quality data and information	Transfer consolidated water sampling data to WMP consultant	CURB	Data transferred to WMP consultant
River bank Restoration	Expand Willow Planting Project to additional bank restoration sites	GWHV, stewardship groups	Additional Willows planted along banks of SMR

Year 2-3

Strategy	Tasks	Who's responsible	Examples/ Measurables outcomes
Consolidate existing water quality data and information	Identify all past water quality data collected by USGS and Army Corps	WMP Consultant	A compilation of all historic water quality data is collected and document for future reference
Identify pollution prevention opportunities	Map pollution "hot spots"	WMP Consultant	Locations identified along the river that are prone to different pollutants using information collected
	Determine high priority pollution hot spots	WMP Consultant	Locations are prioritized based on the highest levels of needs
	Perform preliminary analysis of pollution source for high priority sites	WMP Consultant	Pollution sources are identified at high priority hot spots
Analyze non-fecal pollution levels - conductivity (road salt), total phosphorus (fertilizer), pH (acid), and turbidity (suspended sediments)	Perform water testing for non-fecal pollution	CURB	Additional water quality data points collected along the river during the sampling season
	Explore state and federal funding opportunities for non-fecal pollution cleanup, prevention and mitigation	CURB	Funding opportunities identified for the continued support and betterment of the water quality of the SMR
Water sampling reviewing and monitoring	Additional water quality sampling carried to confirm initial hot spot assessments	CURB	Sample at least 2 potential hotspot pre and post extreme rain event
	Consultant, Coalition, County staff review water quality hot spots together	GWHV	A trip to identified hot spots by group scheduled and completed
Work towards implementation of pollution prevention projects identified in year 1 and 2	Coalition and County staff finalize public access and water quality strategies	SMRC	List of projects and strategies created.
	Raise necessary funds for pollution prevention projects	Westchester County	Funds sought and obtained by county
	Work with municipalities on developing sewer leaks prevention program	Municipal partners	Sewer leaks prevention program created and implemented

Year 4-5

Strategy	Tasks	Who's responsible	Examples/ Measurable outcomes
Implement restoration activities at priority sites identified in year 2	Fix high priority leaking sewer pipes	Municipalities + Westchester County	Water quality improvements.
Implement regulation for reducing non-fecal pollution	Work with municipalities, county and state to reduce the use of salt on roadways and impacts on the stream in the winter	SMRC, CURB	An alternative salt plan is developed and adopted by users along the SMR
	Re-evaluate monitoring for heavy metals, toxics, PCBs in sediments	CURB	Determined whether it is feasible to monitor for these additional parameters physically and financially
Monitor and document effects of restoration projects	Develop citizen science stewardship program for floodplain restoration monitoring	GWHV + CURB	Water quality improvements tracked

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Habitat Restoration



Members of the Green Team planting Willow trees along the Saw Mill River in Yonkers

The natural habitat of the Saw Mill River has been in decline throughout centuries of ongoing development throughout the watershed. This is a multifaceted problem. The Saw Mill River Parkway, which stretches along more than two thirds of the river, exposes much of its floodplain to direct sunlight, accelerating the spread of invasive species which have taken over much of the flood plain and pushed out native riparian vegetation, insect communities and aquatic animals. Sewer leaks throughout the watershed have led to poor water quality and with it a decline of native aquatic habitat. In the lower watershed, a rapid process of urbanization turned entire sections of the river into a concrete channel, which in much of Downtown Yonkers runs under the city streets. These channelized sections, a man-made dam in Great Hunger Memorial Park and rapid flow rates at some sections of the river due to mismanagement of stormwater create an obstacle for species that have been migrating up and down the Saw Mill River throughout history. The approach for mitigating this multifaceted problem must be multilayered itself. Many of the strategies offered in other sections of this plan will help to restore the natural habitat of the SMR. This section offers strategies and actions specifically focused on the issues of habitat restoration and biodiversity.

Year 1

Strategy	Tasks	Who's responsible	Examples/ measurable outcomes
Riparian habitat restoration	Conduct frequent removal of invasive vines at stewardship sites and monitor	SMRC stewardship groups	Significant reduction of invasive vine spread along a total of 0.6 miles of floodplain at 4+ sites
	Expand vine cutting program	GWHV, SMRC stewardship groups	Additional 0.5-mile strip of flood plain added to program for a total of...
	Maintain and monitor Yonkers willows site	GWHV, SMRC Yonkers stewardship group	75% survivability of willows and shrubs 50% reduction of Japanese Hops spread rate
	Expand native habitat planting program	GWHV, SMRC stewardship groups	At least 100 native trees planted 0.4 acre planted [or restored to seedling forest]
Develop best practices for community-based riparian habitat restoration	Test and monitor invasive vines reduction strategies at various sites	GWHV, SMRC Yonkers stewardship group	Clear determination of best practices most suited to Saw Mill River community-based bank restoration projects, with references to the testing sites, will be included in a SMR Model Stewardship Guide
	Publish SMR invasive vines control guidelines as part of Model Stewardship Guide	GWHV	Each SMRC stewardship group presents their long-term vine control plan

Year 2-3

Strategy	Tasks	Who's responsible	Examples/ Measurables outcomes
Native riparian forest restoration	Coordinate sponsorship of stewardship groups by local tree nurseries	GWHV, SMRC	1 planting event per year for each group 1 tree maintenance training event per year for each group
	Support local stewardship groups in applying for Trees for Tribs	GWHV, SMRC	2 proposals submitted
Naturalization of critical fish migration obstacles	Develop plan for Woodlands Lake Dam Removal	Westchester County Planning	Woodlands Lake Dam Removal feasibility study completed
	Promote naturalization project for Carpet Mills channelized section	GWHV, Curb, City of Yonkers	Conduct site visit with Army Corps of Engineers Present stream naturalization best practices to City Council
SMR Daylighting – restore natural habitat of covered section in Downtown Yonkers	Prioritize habitat restoration in design process of Daylighting 4 (Chicken Island)	City of Yonkers	3 annual meetings with design consultant to discuss habitat restoration practices
	Include in SMR Daylighting Phase 4 design measures for reduction of water velocity at Daylighting 3 site	City of Yonkers	Design consultant for Daylighting 4 to study Daylighting 3 and publish report of potential interventions through Daylighting 4 design
Identify priority species	Partner with an academic institution to conduct insect population assessment at selected sites	GWHV, CURB	Saw Mill River insect population assessment report published
	Work with DEC HREP on conducting American Eel population assessment	GWHV, CURB	Saw Mill River American Eel population assessment report published
	Organize biennial bio-blitz for tracking stewardship impact	GWHV, SMRC stewardship groups	Bio-blitz results from at least 5 sites published

Year 4-5

Strategy	Tasks	Who's responsible	Examples/ Measurable outcomes
Include natural habitat restoration elements in WMP	Collaborate with an academic partner for selecting restoration species	WMP Consultant, Westchester County, GWHV	Publish a guide for selecting native species based on site goals and characteristics including info from Bio Blitz results
Monitor and document success of restoration site	Organize biennial bio-blitz for tracking stewardship impact	GWHV, CURB	Bio-blitz results from at least 5 sites published
	Conduct second insect population assessment	GWHV, CURB	Publish 2-year population change in SMRC Newsletter
	Organize SMRC tour of riparian forest restoration sites at different stages	GWHV, SMRC	At least 40 participants in the tour Local stewardship groups share lessons learned
SMR Daylighting – restore natural habitat of covered section in Downtown Yonkers	Implement Daylighting 4 at Chicken Island	City of Yonkers, GWHV	0.7 acres daylighted and planted with native vegetation
	Secure funding for fish passage improvements to Daylighting 3	City of Yonkers, GWHV	Funding secured for sediment removal and a fish ladder
Naturalization of critical fish migration obstacles	Remove Woodlands Lake Dam	Westchester County	3.5 acres restored and planted with native vegetation
	Carpet Mills naturalization feasibility study	City of Yonkers, Army Corps of Engineers	Feasibility study published
Riparian forest restoration	Continue maintenance of restoration sites	SMRC stewardship groups	At least 4 events per year for each group At least 75% planted trees survivability rate
	Open 2 new planting sites at priority sub-basins	SMRC, GWHV	100 native trees planted 0.4 acres planted
	Plant riparian trees at post-dam-removal Great Hunger Memorial Park	Westchester County Parks	At least 100 trees planted
	Monitor reduction of invasive vines at mature stewardship sites	SMRC stewardship groups, GWHV	Required routine vine cutting reduced to 1 event per year per site

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Access and Recreation



Winter recreation trails and signs opening access to the Saw Mill River from the South County Trail in Hastings-on-Hudson

“Not just a parkway” has been a long-time tag line for the Saw Mill River. Even though thousands of drivers pass along the river every day, many of them are not aware of the river with all its magnificent ecosystems. Proper access to the Saw Mill River for recreational purposes is mostly limited to the South County trail, which itself tends to ignore the river running alongside it, lacking signage, seating or well-maintained trails. Furthermore, many of the riverside communities do not have proper access routes for pedestrians or cyclists. Many times, the river runs through vacant “no-man-lands” which hold great potential to be developed as new river parks. The variety of access issues contributes to the Saw Mill River’s reputation as a forgotten river. The Saw Mill River Coalition believes that the river can serve as a great attraction for recreational activity such as hiking, walking, cycling, snowshoeing and kayaking. In addition, we believe that the river should also serve as an educational tool to teach residents of the efforts taken to restore the wellbeing of an urbanized stream. Developing new access and recreation opportunities is a critical element in raising awareness, engagement and political will for supporting restoration efforts throughout the watershed.

Year 1

Strategy	Tasks	Who's responsible	Examples/ measurable outcomes
Increase river access and local recreation opportunities through community-based projects	Coordinate stewardship projects to increase river access, visibility and recreational opportunities from the South County Trail in the lower watershed	GWHV, stewardship groups	Add 3 new "signature locations" along the trail Install 2 additional benches
	Create new river access opportunities at upper watershed	Upper watershed stewardship group	Trail work, bench and signage at McDonalds site in Pleasantville
	Promote designation of the new 14.8 acres Chauncey SMR Park as Dobbs Ferry village park	Dobbs Ferry stewardship group	Tour of site with elected county official conducted Map potential access routes and signature locations
River restoration sites as an educational tool	Publish SMR Curriculum for school teachers to lead tours of SMR Daylighting	GWHV, Yonkers Public Schools, City of Yonkers	Curriculum sent to all schools in 12 watershed municipalities
	Organize public tour of lower watershed restoration sites	GWHV	At least 30 participants exposed to 4-5 sites
Promote connectivity and river access opportunities from existing and planned recreational infrastructures along the SMR	Promote implementation of 2014 SMR Recreation Plan recommendations	Westchester County Parks, SWAB municipal partners	Plan presented to SWAB 2-3 priority recommendations developed into proposals
	Improve river access opportunities at V.E. Macy Park	Westchester County (Parks, Planning)	Organize site visit with Parks personal and Ardsley Conservation Committee
Promote online information on SMR access and recreation opportunities	Publish SMR Recreation Plan on new SMRC Website	GWHV	Outreach of plan via all municipal newsletters
	Develop an access and recreation map on SMRC website	GWHV	Map to include all trails and signature locations

Year 2-3

Strategy	Tasks	Who's responsible	Examples/ Measurables outcomes
Increase river access and local recreation opportunities through community-based projects	Create new river access opportunities from local river adjacent businesses in the Village of Ardsley	SMRC, Village of Ardsley	Install benches and signs at Bridge Street site
	Conduct trail work and open new access points at Dobbs Ferry Chauncey Park	Dobbs Ferry stewardship group	Trails connecting all surrounding neighborhoods opened 3 new benches installed
Promote wayfinding along river access sites	Install interpretive signage at signature locations	Stewardship groups, Westchester County Parks	4 new signs installed along South County Trail signature locations
	Work with Rivertowns Square management on installing signs from Lawrence St to Chauncey Park	Village of Dobbs Ferry, Dobbs Ferry stewardship group, GWHV	3 signs and park map installed
River restoration sites as an educational tool	Lead public educational tours of SMR Daylighting	GWHV, City of Yonkers	50-100 people participate in new proposed tours
Promote connectivity of and river access opportunities from existing and planned recreational infrastructures along the SMR	Promote implementation of 2014 SMR Recreation Plan recommendations	Westchester County Parks, SWAB	Implement year 1 proposals if granted Develop 2 additional connectivity proposals
	Promote development of plans for connecting highway-separated parks	SWAB municipal partners	Proposal for connecting Rum Brook to South County Trail Proposal for connecting the 2 sections of V.E. Macy Park
	Develop proposal for recreational connection between the Yonkers Greenway, South County Trail and Old Croton Aqueduct	City of Yonkers	Plan presented to Westchester County Parks and to NYS Parks and Historic Preservation Proposal submitted to NYSDOT
Develop recreational activity at SMR	Implement Yonkers Greenway bike lanes at Daylighting 1 and 2	City of Yonkers	3,500ft of new river adjacent bike lanes
	Organize annual SMR hike	GWHV	At least 25 participants per hike

Year 4-5

Strategy	Tasks	Who's responsible	Examples/ Measurable outcomes
Create new river parks	Implement SMR Daylighting 4 at Chicken Island in Yonkers	City of Yonkers	0.7 acres of new urban river park open to the public
	Complete designation process of Dobbs Ferry Chauncey Park as village park	Village of Dobbs Ferry Dobbs Ferry stewardship group	14.8 acres of new park open to the public Friends of Chauncey Park group established Maintenance plan completed
River restoration sites as an educational tool	Develop plans for an urban river restoration educational facility at Great Hunger Memorial Park	Westchester County Parks, WMP Consultant	Proposal for center prepared and submitted Preliminary design documents prepared
	Expand SMR curriculum to include Daylighting 3,4	City of Yonkers, GWHV	Expanded curriculum published to all watershed schools At least 100 people per year participate in site tours
Increase river access and local recreation opportunities through community-based projects	Promote kayaking activity on the river	Stewardship groups, GWHV	3 new platforms installed along newly designated parks Organize annual SMR flotilla
	Expand winter recreation on the SMR	Stewardship groups, GWHV	1.5 miles of snowshoeing/cross country ski routes developed
	Organize annual SMR bike tour	GWHV	At least 20 participants
Promote connectivity of and river access opportunities from existing and planned recreational infrastructures along the SMR	Expand Yonkers bike lanes network to Daylighting 3 and 4 and continue via Palisade Ave to Old Croton Aqueduct trail	City of Yonkers	800ft of river adjacent bike lanes added 150% ridership increase at daylighting sites coming from newly connected trails
	Promote implementation of 2014 SMR Recreation Plan recommendations	Westchester County Parks, SWAB municipal partners	Implement year 2-3 proposals if granted Develop 2 additional connectivity proposals
	Develop new recreation plan for upper watershed	SMRC, GWHV	5-8 new sites surveyed Plan published and distributed to municipalities





Letter of Renewed Commitment to Memorandum of Agreement with
Respect to the Saw Mill River Watershed

Town/Village/City of Ardsey

Through this letter the Town/Village/City of Ardsey, a member of the Saw Mill Watershed Advisory Board, wishes to express its renewed commitment to the mid-2000s *Memorandum of Agreement with Respect to the Saw Mill River Watershed* as signed by our Village Manager on the date of 10/20/2005 (as attached). **In addition, the Village of Ardsley will endeavor to address requests for municipal assistance as detailed in the Saw Mill River Coalition 5-Year Action Plan, where practicable and feasible in a timely manner.**

With the advance in scientific understanding of the impacts of climate change on the livelihood of our communities and the health of our local estuaries, it is important, now more than ever, to reiterate our commitment to take both local and county-wide actions for mitigating the growing challenges faced by the Saw Mill River Watershed. These include among others, an increase in extreme rain events and flooding, loss of natural habitat, water pollution and the spread of invasive species.

To further emphasize our renewed commitment to the goals and objectives of the *Memorandum of Agreement* and the *5-Year Action Plan*, we hereby commit to take the following local actions within the next 24 months:

- 1. Complete the Village of Ardsley Comprehensive Plan and Local Waterfront Revitalization Plan (LWRP) documents and begin review of Bridge Street Plaza upgrade implementation as suggested in our LWRP.**
- 2. Work to encourage Westchester County Parks Department to create Saw Mill River waterfront observation access points in Macy Park.**
- 3. Encourage volunteers from the Village of Ardsley to join the Saw Mill River Coalition effort to create a passive recreation park and trailway at Chauncey Park, which is located along the western segment of the Saw Mill River.**

dated: _____

READ AND AGREED:

By: _____

**Memorandum of Agreement
with respect to the
Saw Mill River Watershed**

WHEREAS, the undersigned cooperating municipalities wish to explore mutually beneficial ways of sharing information and resources to improve their relationship with the Saw Mill River (the "River") and the Saw Mill River Watershed (the "Watershed"), as well as improve the health, ecology, economic and recreation potential of the River itself.

WHEREAS, the undersigned cooperating municipalities share a number of common goals, including flood prevention, storm water management, non-point source pollution remediation and prevention, sustainable land use and open space resource preservation.

WHEREAS, the undersigned cooperating municipalities realize that the River, as a tributary of the Hudson River, links their communities and that, therefore, land use decisions made by any municipality in the Watershed can adversely impact downstream municipalities as well as the habitat for the River's flora and fauna.

WHEREAS, the undersigned cooperating municipalities believe it is in their joint best interest to cooperate on addressing common issues relating to the River such as, for example:

- flooding;
- storm water management;
- improving water quality;
- increasing public access/recreational opportunities; and
- improving aesthetics and restoring native vegetation.

WHEREAS, the undersigned cooperating municipalities have been requested through the Saw Mill River Coalition to participate in a natural resource watershed management plan for the Watershed, initiated by Westchester County Department of Planning and the US Army Corps of Engineers.

WHEREAS, the undersigned cooperating municipalities have agreed to work together with the Saw Mill River Coalition on projects to address the aforementioned issues, which projects may include, but are not limited to, the following:

- a. securing and sharing the public and private grants available to address issues pertaining to the River and the Watershed;
- b. providing information and input for the natural resource watershed management plan;
- c. coordinating the efforts of individual municipalities to ensure their compatibility;
- d. addressing federal storm water mandates, including the joint implementation of new technologies and joint training opportunities;
- e. developing educational programs on watershed planning, pollution prevention, and storm water management; and
- f. drafting sample language, which could be incorporated into the land use legislation of the cooperating municipalities, pertaining to development within the Watershed that protects the Watershed corridor's ability to function as necessary to prevent flooding and the degradation of water quality and water habitat.

WHEREAS, the undersigned cooperating municipalities agree, that cooperation pursuant to this Memorandum of Agreement will result in, among other things:

- a. enhanced opportunities when applying for grants to fund mutually beneficial projects in respect of the River and the Watershed; and
- b. a more efficient and cost-effective approach to implementing current and future projects pertaining thereto.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED:

1. That we, the duly appointed representatives of the undersigned cooperating municipalities hereby voluntarily enter into this MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT WITH RESPECT TO THE WATERSHED, and hereby agree to work together to achieve mutually beneficial projects in respect of the Watershed;

2. That the cooperating municipalities will communicate regularly, using the Saw Mill River Coalition as an organizing forum and means of communication, to assess progress made in achieving the projects envisioned hereunder;

3. That the cooperating municipalities hereby agree, that any cooperating municipality shall have the right, at any time, to withdraw from this agreement upon written notice to the other parties hereto; and

4. That this Agreement may be executed in any number of counterparts, each of which shall be deemed an original but all which, when taken together, shall constitute one and the same instrument.

EXECUTED ON BEHALF OF THE COOPERATING MUNICIPALITIES BY
THEIR REPRESENTATIVES THERETO DULY AUTHORIZED:

FOR THE VILLAGE OF ARDSLEY: October 20, 2005	Name: George F. Calvi Title: Village Manager
FOR THE VILLAGE OF DOBBS FERRY: November 22, 2005	Name: Title: Board of Trustees
FOR THE VILLAGE OF ELMSFORD: November 21, 2005	Name: Robert Willaims Title: Mayor
FOR THE TOWN OF GREENBURGH: April 11, 2007	Name: Title: Town Board
FOR THE VILLAGE OF HASTINGS-ON-HUDSON: February 20, 2007	Name: Title: Board of Trustees
FOR THE VILLAGE OF IRVINGTON: October 17, 2005	Name: Donald Marra Title: Village Administrator
FOR THE TOWN OF MOUNT PLEASANT: February 28, 2006	Name: Robert F. Meehan Title: Supervisor
FOR THE TOWN OF NEW CASTLE: January 10, 2006	Name: Title: Board of Trustees
FOR THE VILLAGE OF PLEASANTVILLE: January 8, 2007	Name: Title: Board of Trustees
FOR THE VILLAGE OF SLEEPY HOLLOW:	Name: Title:
FOR THE VILLAGE OF TARRYTOWN: November 21, 2005	Name: Title: Board of Trustees
FOR THE CITY OF YONKERS: March 17, 2006	Name: Title: City Council

A RESOLUTION ACKNOWLEDGING THE ONGOING SERVICE ARRANGEMENTS WITH THE ARDSLEY GARDEN CLUB

WHEREAS, the Village of Ardsley (“Ardsley”) finds it in the public interest to provide for the beautification of Ardsley by the display and maintenance of horticultural plantings and exhibits in its various municipal locations, and

WHEREAS, the Ardsley Garden Club (“Garden Club”) is a long time local not for profit local organization under the auspices of the New York State Garden Club, and

WHEREAS, the Garden Club has taken upon itself the responsibility, at no cost to Ardsley, to create and maintain these various municipal sites with horticultural displays, and

WHEREAS, Ardsley recognizes that these services to the to the Village that could not duplicated without additional cost to Ardsley, and

WHEREAS, Ardsley wishes to continue this relationship with the Garden Club and recognize the Garden Club’s labor and out of pocket contributions to municipal services,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Garden Club is authorized to utilize the Ardsley Community Center (“Community Center”) for its official club meetings and any events scheduled for the benefit of Ardsley and its residents as may occur from time to time, and such meetings and events may be scheduled upon the review and consent, and in the sole discretion, of the Village Manager,

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that permission provided for in this resolution may be terminated at any time by the Village Manager.

RESOLUTION TO REJECT VILLAGE FACILITY CLEANING BID

WHEREAS, a public notice for Village Facility Contract was duly advertised in an official newspaper on October 16, 2020; and

WHEREAS, on October 29, 2020, at 11:00 a.m. the Village Manager, in the presence of the Village Clerk and Confidential Secretary, opened three bids;

WHEREAS, the bid results were inconsistent with the intent of the work required and therefore the bid document requires clarification;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the Village Board of the Village of Ardsley hereby rejects the bids received and authorizes the Village Manager to re-bid the services.