



RIVEREDGE PARK PHASE II IMPROVEMENTS APPROVAL OF ARCHITECT SERVICES



AGENDA

- Proposed Improvements and Rationale
- Selected Architect Background
- Approved City of Aurora Capital Budget
- Timeline and Next Steps

CONCEPT PLAN REFINEMENT

- Beginning in 2018, City staff held meetings with City staff, ACCA staff, Key Stakeholders, Park Committee Members, and the APD to discuss the next improvements to the park.
- The discussions and decisions were based upon the original concept plan.
- An agreed upon concept plan was created and since that time City Staff with ACCA Staff has continued to identify the scope for the improvements.

RECENT IMPROVEMENTS

- Since the development of the concept plan:
 - The bicycle and pedestrian bridge has opened
 - New security cameras, new POS system, wi-fi has been installed
 - New ADA improvements including two golf carts and a new drop off procedure
 - Replacement of several chairs, tables, high-tops
 - Designated Rideshare on the westbank
 - Wilder Park and Promenade project
 - Broadway Avenue and ATC parking lot (east and west) Improvements

REASON FOR IMPROVEMENTS

- Since the park opened, RiverEdge Park continues to be a popular and increasingly important attraction for the entire City of Aurora.
- Coming out of the pandemic, City staff continued to work closely with ACCA staff to take a fresh look at the concept plan to look at phasing, priorities, and cost estimates to assist with budgeting.

REASON FOR IMPROVEMENTS

- **Replacements**

- As the park ages, replacements are necessary, especially for new technologies (such as wi-fi, POS systems, and screens)

- **New Additions**

- The concept is to also add more areas for improving visitor experiences (more bathrooms)
- Activate the southern lawn area, additional restrooms, improved access to beverage sales areas
- Increase revenue, improve the overall experience

REASON FOR IMPROVEMENTS

- Primary reasons for improvements (**by Area**):
 - **Back of house** – increase competitiveness and attractiveness of ACCA to book more variety of acts that would drive more ticket sales/revenue to front of the house that the current backstage facilities can not accommodate.
 - **Front of the house** – improve park capacity, revenue, guest experience and offer more variety of seating areas to fully utilize the remaining space.

BUDGETING AND RATIONALE

- Using the agreed upon plan, with an eye towards justifying City Capital Expenditures, rationale was added to the proposed project list.
 1. Revenue
 2. Experience
 3. Operations
 4. Safety

CONCEPT PLAN





PROPOSED SIGNIFICANT IMPROVEMENTS

PROJECTS	RATIONALE			
	REVENUE	EXPERIENCE	OPERATIONS	SAFETY
BUILDINGS				
B1 CSO ADDITION	●	●	●	○
B2 DRESSING ROOM TRAILER	●	●	●	○
B3 BEVERAGE PAVILION	●	●	●	○
B4 RESTROOM, STORAGE AND OFFICE	●	●	●	●
G1 NORTHERN GATE	○	●	●	●
G2 SOUTHERN GATE	○	●	●	●
B5 WILL CALL	○	●	●	○
SAFETY				
A BROADWAY BARRIER	○	○	○	●
B RIGHT-IN/RIGHT-OUT ACCESS GATE	○	○	●	●
C FENCING	●	○	○	●
D LANDSCAPE PLANTERS BARRIERS	○	○	○	●
MEDIA				
S1-S6 SCREENS	●	●	○	○
★ SPEAKERS	●	●	○	○
LANDSCAPING				
L1 GRASS EXISTING ASPHALT ACCESS	○	●	●	○
L2 NEW SHADE TREES AND SCREENING	○	●	●	○
L3 PUBLIC SPACE AND ART FEATURE	○	●	●	○
OTHER				
UTILITIES, INFRASTRUCTURE	●	●	●	●
ARTWORK, PLAQUES, MARKERS	○	●	○	○

DRAFT 3.21.2023

ARCHITECT SELECTION

- **Description:** To move forward with the implementation of the **expansion and improvement plan** an architect with experience in park design is needed to create drawings and construction documents
- **Key Project Elements to be Designed:**
 - New General Admission area and Restroom
 - New Beverage Pavilion
 - New Southern Gateway and Entrance
 - New Will Call Building
 - Back of House - Dressing Room, Storage, Office, etc...

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MAPLEWOOD PARK FIELDHOUSE CHICAGO, IL



IMPROVED SOUND AND VIDEO

- **Description:** Purchase new screens and speakers for the “front of house”
- **Project Elements:**
 - Replace 2 existing Screens
 - Add 2 new Screens
 - Purchase 1 Additional Screen for the Middle of the Park
 - Acquire 1 Trailer Mounted Screen for the Lawn Area

ADDITIONAL SECURITY FEATURES

- **Description:** Work with APD to add to the existing safety and security measures for both the “front of house” and “back of house”
- **Project Elements:**
 - Continue to add an attractive and secure barrier along Broadway Avenue.
 - Add new fencing that provides security as well as a more attractive look than the temporary fencing.
 - New Gate improvements including storage of metal detectors.

IMPROVED GENERAL ADMISSION AREA

- **Description:** The goal is to expand the park to the south and improve the experience to create a “Ravinia” type area.
- **Project Elements:**
 - Improved access
 - More cohesive connection with an improved south entrance
 - Relocation of the existing truck access lane
 - New bathroom building that could include storage as well as possible additional VIP Deck

IMPROVED BACKSTAGE

- **CSO Addition**

- Adding new and larger dressing rooms is vital
- Additional office space is needed
- Opportunities for food service
- General accommodations and amenities for the acts

- **Dressing Room Trailer**

- To be located Backstage to help attract larger and more popular acts

TIMELINE AND NEXT STEPS

- **Architectural Services**

- Concept Plans
- Refinement
- Finalize Drawings and Construction Bid Documents

- **Bidding**

- **Construction**

- Coordination will be key
- Begin in early 2024, could continue into 2025



THANK YOU

- We appreciate the opportunity to continue to implement the vision that was created decades ago for RiverEdge Park and the riverfront.

THERE'S *Something* HAPPENING HERE

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