Agenda

- Public process
- Review Draft Master Plan
- Preliminary results of priority survey
- Discussion
- Next steps
Extensive Public Process

- 9 neighborhood meetings
- 1 City-wide meeting
- Pop up meetings and additional outreach
- Over 2,300 survey responses!
Master Plan Outline

- Welcome
- Public Engagement
- Operations and Maintenance
- Natural Resources
- Transportation and Access
- Trails and Greenways
- Water-based Activities
- Park Buildings
- Park Activities
- Park Expansion
- Focus Areas
Welcome to James River Park

Conserve the James River Park System as a sustaining natural counterpoint to urban life, balancing both active recreation and passive enjoyment of the Park while preserving and protecting the natural environment.
Goals and Objectives

**Equitable Access**
- **Facilitate** greater access for diverse visitors to and through the Park and the James River
- **Provide** connections between non-contiguous Park properties and to regional greenways

**Environmental and Cultural Assets Protection**
- **Conserve** wilderness by protecting un-programmed areas for discovery and adventure
- **Protect** sensitive natural resources, reduce invasive species, and restore degraded habitat within the Park and the James River
- **Increase** Park conservation easement coverage
- **Preserve** cultural and historic assets in the Park

**Education and Expansion**
- **Educate** school children and visitors on the history, natural resources, and conservation aspects of the Park and the James River
- **Expand** and sustain recreational opportunities within the Park, where appropriate
- **Acquire** additional parcels to improve connectivity and increase the size of the Park
Strategies to Improve Operations and Maintenance

- Hire additional staff based on 10-year needs
- Assign dedicated police and patrol to the Park
- Increase enforcement of current regulations
- Fund increased maintenance of restrooms
- Investigate conservancy model for governance
Strategies to Conserve Natural Resources

- Expand Conservation Easement
- Continue the work of the Invasive Plant Task Force
- Conserve important resources
  - Wildlife, its habitat, its ability to move through the Park
  - Forest cover, tree canopy, and plant communities
  - River and floodplain
- Restore streams and wetlands
- Reduce soil erosion
- Expand environmental education and awareness
- Continue to focus on environmental compliance
Strategies for Reducing Vehicular Trips to the Park

- Prohibit construction of new parking areas serving the Park
- Remove impervious cover and/or reduce parking
- Charge non-City residents for parking
- Increase GRTC service
- Implement public and/or private shuttle service
- Improve roadway crossings into the Park
- Improve multimodal neighborhood connections
- Implement streetscape connections in Riverfront Plan
Multimodal Neighborhood Connections
Strategies for Enhancing the Trails and Greenways System

- Support funding and implementation of Regional Greenways
  - Gillies Creek
  - Reedy Creek
  - James River Branch Trail
  - Powhite Creek Greenway
  - East Coast Greenway

- Ensure that regional projects include JRPS wayfinding

- Pursue east-west connections
  - Huguenot Flatwater to Pony Pasture
  - Pony Pasture to Buttermilk
  - Pump House Greenway
  - Kanawha Canal Greenway

- Implement connections from Riverfront Plan, including Missing Link

- Maintain existing singletrack

- Preserve adventure by leaving certain areas difficult to access
Strategies for Improving Water Access

- Improve signage and online information about river dangers
- Retrofit existing access points for universal accessibility
- Work with Venture Richmond to restore Kanawha Canal
- Improve/maintain canals
- Designate parking for paddlers
- Work with Richmond Rowing Club to construct rowing facility at Ancarrow’s Landing
- Establish a community paddle share program
- Implement water access recommendations from Riverfront Plan
- Add access beneath I-95 bridge
Strategies for Maintaining and Interpreting Park Buildings

- Finalize plans and implement adaptive reuse of Pump House
- Fund and construct improvements at Reedy Creek
- Pursue planning and design for Pony Pasture Environmental Education Center
- Increase funding for maintenance of Park structures and interpretation of the history and culture of the Park and River
- Stabilize and interpret historic structures and sites on Belle Isle, including hydro plant and mill
- Implement recommendations from Riverfront Plan
Strategies to Improve the User Experience

- Promote stewardship and volunteering
- Implement Riverfront Plan to help disperse visitors to areas east of Belle Isle
- Expand educational programs
- Discourage detrimental activities
- Install consistently branded interpretive and wayfinding signage
- Post up-to-date maps at Park entrances
- Install water fountains and benches
- Strategic improvements to restrooms
- Create a seasonal program guide
- Implement trial time and location for off-leash dogs
Strategies to Expand James River Park

- Implement the Riverfront Plan to create new riverside public spaces
- Incorporate publicly-owned parcels into the Park System
  - Acreage south of Ancarrow’s Landing
- Acquire privately-owned parcels
- Investigate coordination between Park System with adjacent counties
Focus Areas

- Satellite Parking and Shuttles
- Pump House Greenway
- Reedy Creek Greenway
- Pony Pasture Educational Center
- Reedy Creek Facilities
- Pump House Park
Satellite Parking & Shuttles

Satellite Parking Lot + Shuttle Network
Satellite Parking & Shuttles

Loops
Pony Pasture Education Center

- Roll up security doors
- Outdoor instruction space
- Park operations/storage above
Reedy Creek HQ and Welcome Center

yard

HQ

yard
NEW Shared Use Path separation from vehicles
Presentation to Public

- Public meeting attended by over 150 people
- Presentation of draft recommendations
- Open house discussion
- Encouragement to fill out prioritization survey
- 222 survey respondents
In your opinion which of the following are the top overall Topic Areas for implementation?
## Operations and Maintenance

In your opinion which of the following are the top priorities for implementation?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Priority</th>
<th>1st</th>
<th>2nd</th>
<th>3rd</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Hire additional Park staff</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>44</td>
<td>32</td>
<td>176</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Assign dedicated Park police</td>
<td>33</td>
<td>47</td>
<td>56</td>
<td>136</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Enforce current Park rules</td>
<td>47</td>
<td>58</td>
<td>48</td>
<td>153</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Increase maintenance of restrooms</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>51</td>
<td>44</td>
<td>118</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Change Park governance model</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>42</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Legend: **1st**, **2nd**, **3rd**, **Total**
Natural Resources

In your opinion which of the following are the top priorities for implementation?

- Expand Conservation Easement
- Conduct natural resource inventories
- Manage invasive species
- Adopt additional resource management plans
- Expand environmental education
- Ensure environmental compliance

1st 2nd 3rd Total
Transportation and Access

In your opinion which of the following are the top priorities for implementation?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Option</th>
<th>1st</th>
<th>2nd</th>
<th>3rd</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Prohibit new parking areas</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>71</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Convert existing parking to pervious cover (such as grass)</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>57</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Charge parking fees for non-City residents</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>68</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Increase GRTC service to the Park</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>70</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Develop shuttle service to the Park</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>85</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Improve roadway crossings into the Park</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>43</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Enhance pedestrian and bicycle access to the Park</td>
<td>45</td>
<td>36</td>
<td>183</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
## Trails and Greenways

In your opinion which of the following are the top priorities for implementation?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Project</th>
<th>1st</th>
<th>2nd</th>
<th>3rd</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Gillies Creek Greenway</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reedy Creek Greenway</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>James River Branch Trail</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Powhite Creek Greenway</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>East Coast Greenway</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Regional wayfinding</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Huguenot Flatwater to Pony</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pasture to Buttermilk</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pump House Greenway</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>38</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kanawha Canal Greenway</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>45</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Missing Link</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>46</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maintain existing singletrack</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>37</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Preserve areas as difficult to</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>59</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Legend:
- **1st**: First priority
- **2nd**: Second priority
- **3rd**: Third priority
- **Total**: Total number of votes

Note: The numbers represent the votes for each project.
Water-based Activities

In your opinion which of the following are the top priorities for implementation?

1. Improve signage and information about river dangers
2. Retrofit existing access points for universal accessibility
3. Restore Kanawha Canal
4. Improve/maintain canals
5. Designate parking for paddlers
6. Construct rowing facility at Ancarrow’s Landing
7. Establish paddle share program
8. Add new access site at Lehigh
9. Add new access site under I-95

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>1st</th>
<th>2nd</th>
<th>3rd</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Improve signage and information about river dangers</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>63</td>
<td>98</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Retrofit existing access points for universal accessibility</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>63</td>
<td>101</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Restore Kanawha Canal</td>
<td>49</td>
<td>31</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>98</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Improve/maintain canals</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>31</td>
<td>63</td>
<td>114</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Designate parking for paddlers</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>52</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Construct rowing facility at Ancarrow’s Landing</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>44</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Establish paddle share program</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>51</td>
<td>82</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Add new access site at Lehigh</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>47</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Add new access site under I-95</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>63</td>
<td>59</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**1st**

- Improve signage and information about river dangers
- Retrofit existing access points for universal accessibility
- Designate parking for paddlers
- Construct rowing facility at Ancarrow’s Landing
- Establish paddle share program

**2nd**

- Restore Kanawha Canal
- Improve/maintain canals
- Add new access site at Lehigh

**3rd**

- Improve signage and information about river dangers
- Retrofit existing access points for universal accessibility
- Add new access site under I-95
Park Buildings

In your opinion which of the following are the top priorities for implementation?

- Improve facilities at Reedy Creek: 121 votes
- Develop Educational Center at Pony Pasture: 81 votes
- Maintain Park structures: 158 votes
- Stabilize and interpret structures on Belle Isle: 104 votes
- Restore Pump House: 164 votes

Votes distribution:
- 1st
- 2nd
- 3rd
- Total
Park Activities

In your opinion which of the following are the top priorities for implementation?

Environmental education
Promote user dispersal to appropriate areas
Promote education as Park activity
Discourage detrimental activities
Install consistent interpretive and wayfinding signage
Install post-up-to-date maps at Park entrances
Install water fountains
Transition to permanent restrooms
Create a user’s guide to Park programs
Implement location and time specific off-leash dog areas

1st 2nd 3rd Total
In your opinion which of the following are the top priorities for implementation?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Option</th>
<th>1st</th>
<th>2nd</th>
<th>3rd</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Add open space opportunities downriver from Belle Isle</td>
<td>49</td>
<td>44</td>
<td>59</td>
<td>152</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Incorporate publicly-owned parcels into the Park</td>
<td>75</td>
<td>76</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>191</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Acquire private property</td>
<td>32</td>
<td>57</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>129</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Establish regional park system</td>
<td>55</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>59</td>
<td>142</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Focus Areas

In your opinion which of the following are the top priorities for implementation?

- Shuttles and parking
- Pump House Greenway
- Reedy Creek Greenway
- Pump House Park
- Reedy Creek Outdoor Education Center
- Pony Pasture Educational Center

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>1st</th>
<th>2nd</th>
<th>3rd</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Shuttles and parking</td>
<td>65</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>107</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pump House Greenway</td>
<td>42</td>
<td>60</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>132</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reedy Creek Greenway</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>35</td>
<td>41</td>
<td>97</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pump House Park</td>
<td>45</td>
<td>45</td>
<td>38</td>
<td>128</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reedy Creek Outdoor Education Center</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>34</td>
<td>69</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pony Pasture Educational Center</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>80</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Next Steps

- Informal presentation to Urban Design Committee 8.8.19
- Confirm priorities and action plan
- Edits to draft plan
- Formal action by UDC 9.5.19
- Presentation to Planning Commission 9.16.19
- City Council adoption