

4.6 Segment 6: Civic Terrace, Festival Plaza (Goyeau Street to Glengarry Avenue)

Context:

The Civic Terrace, Festival Plaza and Festival Green are located at the foot of the Civic Esplanade between Glengarry Avenue and Goyeau Street. This site is of major significance to the riverfront as the prime location for a wide range of festivals and events. **(Figure 65)**

General Recommendations

- The Civic Terrace is to include interpretation of the historic railway engine display and ferry lifts and explain the importance of the railway history to the City. **(Figure 66)** This theme can be carried over to the children’s playground and kinetic display.
- The Festival Green is sited immediately west of the Festival Plaza providing overflow opportunities for larger festival and performance attractions as well as a unique “common green” within the central portion of the park. Festival Green can accommodate other uses during the week such as picnicking, art/sculpture or other displays, etc.
- The Festival Plaza will provide a flexible venue site for diverse programming of year –round festivals and performances. Located immediately north of the Windsor Casino, the sloped grade will accommodate a plaza with a covered bandshell.

Specific Recommendations (west to east)

Railway Engine 5588 and Ferry Lifts Interpretation

- Railway history interpretation through explanation of the features on site including the engine 5588 and the ferry lifts. As detailed in the EDAW report this area is to be where the railways significance to the development of Windsor is interpreted using the features on site and the historical foundations of the railway station.
- New paving and circulation to accommodate a minimum 3.0 meter (10.0 feet) zone around the display.
- The existing ferry lifts can retrofitted for use as fishing piers. **(Photo 60)**

Civic Terrace/Rotary Plaza

- A barrier-free ramp and pair of stairs to Civic Plaza from Goyeau Street.
- Maintain current location of Rotary Plaza, but raise to elevation of Riverside Drive to provide overlook.
- Terraced landscaping on riverfront slope between Rotary Plaza and the City Beacon.
- Provide space for traveling sculpture displays.

Civic Esplanade

The Civic Esplanade is made up of the four blocks between City Hall Square and the riverfront along the former Windsor Avenue right-of-way. City Hall Square has been redeveloped with a Heritage Garden and other civic installations related to the function of City Hall. The block between University and Chatham Street is being developed as the Charles J. Clark Square an outdoor skating rink that can be used for other gatherings in the summer months. Adjacent to the Joint Justice Facility the Esplanade will be developed as a plaza. The final block between Pitt and Riverside Drive is currently being redeveloped as The Civic Green, the base for the bridge over Riverside Drive. The plaque and monument to the Underground Railroad is to be located in either the Civic Green or Joint Justice Plaza.



Figure 66



Photo 60

SEGMENT 6

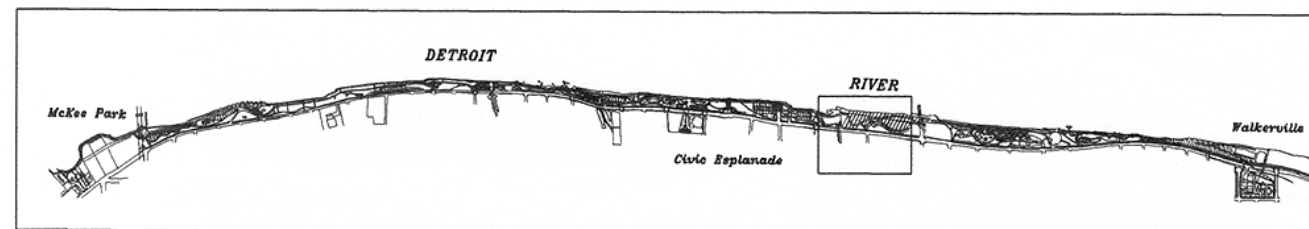
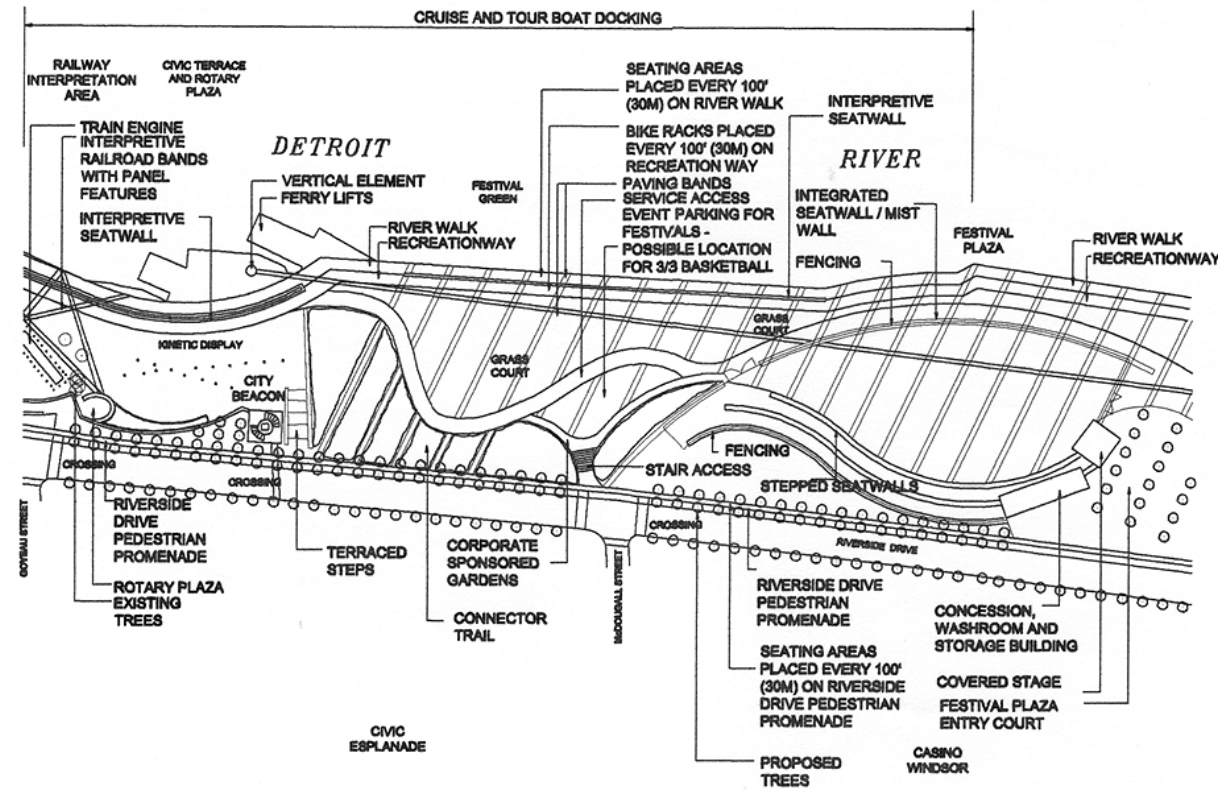




Photo 61



Photo 63



Photo 62



Photo 64

- Sloped ramp @ 8.9% from Pitt Street (elevation 182.5) to 16 feet (5 meters) above Riverside Drive.
- Stairs up to pedestrian bridge level (elevation 187.0) from Riverside Drive (elevation 182.0) Elevator in City Beacon.

City Beacon see Section 3.1.4

- Set into the riverfront slope.
- Earth sheltered design as environmentally sustainable structure.
- Contains washrooms, concession, storage, interpretive information related to the arts.
- Rooftop landscaped terrace with seating for river viewing will act as a landing for the pedestrian bridge.
- Skylight provides interior building light during the day and a illuminated landmark at night.

Kinetic Display

A three dimensional kinetic display is proposed to provide year-round animation for all ages in an educational and interactive format. The emphasis of the kinetic display will be visual, however; any sound animation should be audible for only those in the immediate vicinity.

Corporate Sponsored Gardens

A series of themes will be explored to provide continuous interest and desire to visit and interact with the garden elements. Initial examples to explore include railway and steamboat references, climate patterns including passive solar, wind gain and other weather influences. **(Photo 61)**

- Esplanade terraced steps link to Corporate Sponsored Gardens.
- Garden segments are defined as a sweeping border between the upper Riverside Drive Promenade and the lower Festival Green. (e.g. floral mosaic displays).
- An access walk from Riverside Drive defines each garden segment.
- Sponsorship is encouraged by local community groups and corporations within the City of Windsor.
- Emergency and vendor access to west end of festival green.

Festival Green

The Festival Green provides an overflow site for larger festivals as well as a significant open lawn area for recreational use and informal gatherings. Emergency and vendor access to west end of Festival plaza and vendor parking (max 40 cars) during festivals. **(Photo 62)**

Festival Plaza

- Festival Plaza provides approximately 7,200 sm (77,500 sf) of open paved space that can accommodate a variety of uses from formal performances to festivals or fairs. **(Photo 63)** It includes a covered stage, a separate building for concession, storage and washrooms.
- Informal seating areas include the stepped or terraced embankment and trellis and the integrated seat wall/mist wall that will provide seating to approximately 1,100 people. **(Photo 64 - see Appendix G: Festival Plaza Occupancy Estimate)**
- Festival Plaza will have controlled access points for venue-goers and will provide separate gated access for service vehicles.

Mist Wall

- Water feature Mist Wall to create access control between the River Walk, Recreationway and Festival Plaza. **(Figure 67)**
- Visible definition of plaza.
- Provides a series of water / mist sequences. Lighting to provide an extended animation quality into the evening.

Proposed Shoreline

- Proposed cantilever over armour stone shoreline to provide 40 ft (12 meter) width for Riverwalk and Recreationway between the Mist Wall and river edge.
- Large boat docking along shoreline and possible pedestrian ferry docking. **(Photo 65)**

Environmental Assessment Implications

In the “EA Implications” discussion in Section 3.2, mention was made of the ESR submitted by BTS Consulting Engineers for improvements to the Riverfront Park Shoreline. In Segment 6, this ESR covers works that are proposed to take place between Goyeau Street and McDougall Street. These works will entail the placement of a new vertical shore wall. As part of a complete ESR, for which no bump-up requests were made, this shore wall can be constructed with no further provincial EA compliance requirements.

As the new vertical shore wall in this segment entails in-water construction work in the Detroit River, approvals under the federal Fisheries Act and the Navigable Waters Protection Act are also required. Approvals under these federal statutes “trigger” the application of CEAA. A “screening” process under CEAA is underway at present, following which the shoreline work in this segment may be constructed.

In Segment 6, shoreline improvements have also been recommended between McDougall St. and easterly 140 metres to mid-block before Glengarry Ave. Shoreline treatments in this area are proposed to be armor stone to be consistent with the marina shoreline treatments proposed in Segment 7. These improvements have been documented as an addendum to the aforementioned BTS ESR and finalized on April 3, 2000.



Figure 67

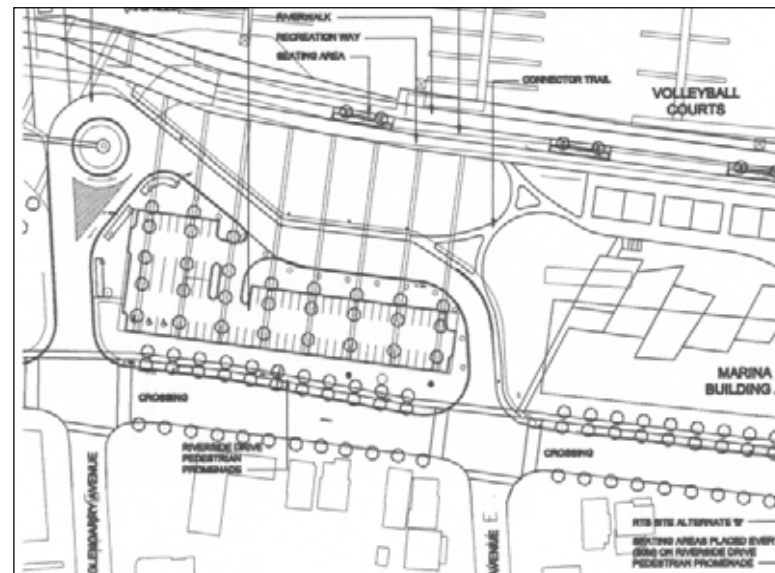


Figure 68



Photo 65