



PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT HANDOUT

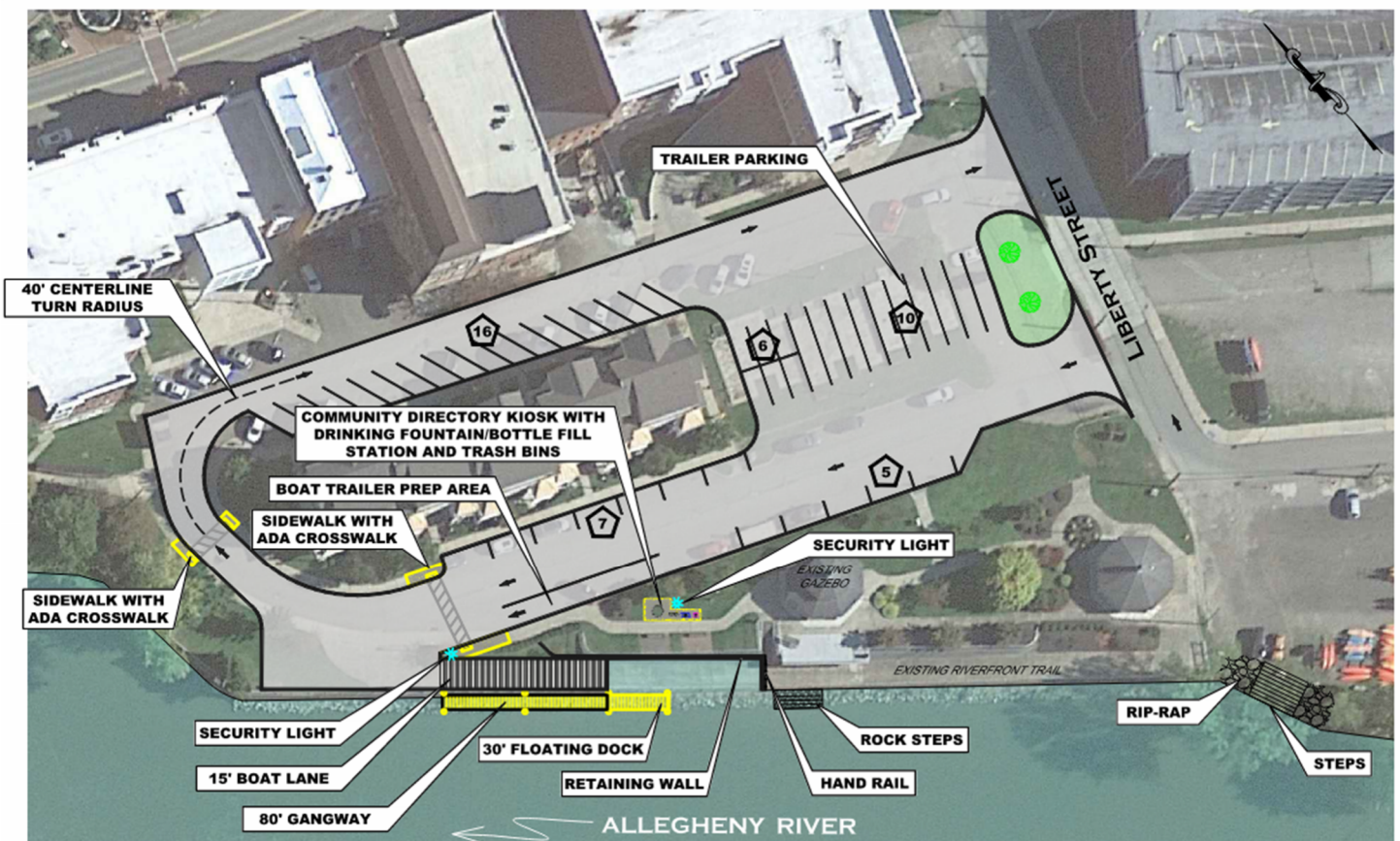
CITY OF WARREN BREEZEPPOINT LANDING RIVER ACCESS

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The project consists of constructing a new river access for small craft and canoes/kayaks to launch on the Allegheny River. New parking space will also be created to support vehicles towing trailers as well as passenger vehicles.

PROJECT AREA

The project is located on Breezpoint Circle immediately west of Liberty Street in the City of Warren.





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PROPOSED PLAN/ALTERNATIVES

The proposed plan includes construction of a river access off of Breezpoint Circle to allow small craft and canoes/kayaks to launch into the Allegheny River. A gangway and floating dock system will be included to facilitate access, loading/unloading, and launching of craft. The direction of one-way traffic flow on Breezpoint Circle will be reversed to provide space for trailers to make ready and to better approach the access ramp. New parking spaces will be provided west of Liberty Street to support vehicles towing trailers as well as passenger vehicles. All traffic flow associated with the access will be to the west of Liberty Street to reduce congestion at the intersection of Liberty Street and Clark Street.

ALTERNATIVES – CONSTRUCT ACCESS AT BASE OF LIBERTY STREET

Early concepts proposed construction of the river access at the base of Liberty Street. Upon receipt of the preliminary results of the Endangered Mussel Study in January 2024, it became apparent that encroachment into the river bed is a major design constraint. Avoiding impacts to endangered mussels at this location would require the ramp be constructed farther north, which would encroach on traffic flow in an already congested location. Furthermore, moving the ramp farther north increases the number and severity of utility impacts. For these reasons the early concepts proposing construction at the base of Liberty Street are less desirable.

ALTERNATIVES – CONSTRUCT CANOE/KAYAK ACCESS AT BREEZEPOINT LANDING AND MOTOR BOAT RAMP AT BASE OF MARKET STREET

An alternative concept was developed proposing a canoe/kayak access at Breezpoint Landing and a separate motor boat ramp at the base of Market Street. Due to sediment deposition caused by Conewango Creek entering the Allegheny River, this location is not conducive to constructing an access. Furthermore, construction of two access points will increase project costs and have a larger environmental impact to the riverbank.

ALTERNATIVES – CONSTRUCT ACCESS AT POINT PARK

An alternative to construct an access at Point Park was considered, but the Conewango Creek is known to have a high density of federally endangered mussels. This location is also farther from the City's Business District and would not provide as large of an economic benefit to the local economy. For these reasons concepts were not developed for this location.

ALTERNATIVES – CONSTRUCT ACCESS AT CRESCENT PARK

The Warren General Hospital helipad has historically been used as an "unofficial" access point by the public for many years. Use of the helipad as a launch site creates safety concerns when aircraft is using the landing. Instances of flying debris (paddles, life jackets, etc.) has been reported as helicopters are landing. Furthermore, potentially life threatening delays occur to victims being transported when the helipad is occupied by a trailer or canoes/kayaks. Construction of a new access in the western portion of the park is not possible due to Deed Restrictions that limit development. Construction of a new access on the eastern end of the park is not feasible do to limited parking and traffic congestion.



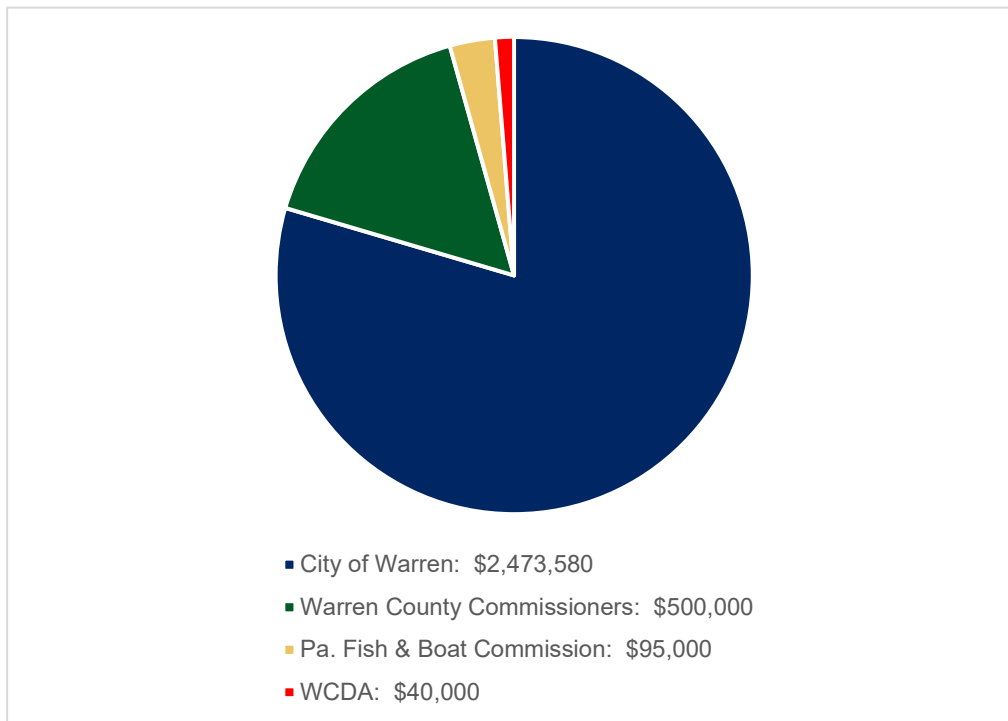
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ANTICIPATED CONSTRUCTION SCHEDULE

The anticipated project schedule is as follows:

Begin Final Design	April 1, 2024
Secure all Permits	April 1, 2025
Advertise for Bids	May 5, 2025
Start Construction	September 1, 2025
Finish Construction	August 31, 2026

PROJECT FUNDING



CURRENT PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

A 30-day public comment period will run until March 27, 2024. The purpose of the public comment period is to introduce the project and receive input regarding any questions or concerns that should be considered during final design of the project. The public is encouraged to submit written comments to the City of Warren using the "Public Comment Form". Comments and questions can be submitted to City Manager Michael Holtz, at mholtz@cityofwarrenpa.gov, or 318 West Third Avenue, Warren, PA 16365.