Burlington’s Riverfront has historically been a defining character of the City’s identity. This Vision seeks to reestablish the importance of the Riverfront Promenade in the lives of all citizens.

The process of engaging the Burlington community and listening closely to their needs and aspirations for a renewed Promenade has guided every aspect of the visioning process. The preliminary Vision presented to the community on December 11, 2014 and shown on the following pages is derived from the input we received through hundreds of responses to the online survey, many meetings with community members including high school students and multiple productive conversations at the public workshop. The Vision encourages those current activities on the Promenade supported by the community to continue but in more conducive and attractive surroundings. Additionally, it provides many opportunities for satisfying the new uses that arose from the community conversations.
A NEW VISION FOR THE BURLINGTON RIVERFRONT PROMENADE

The Vision plan seeks to strengthen the City’s connection to the Delaware River by thickening the transition zone along Pearl Blvd with a sinuous grove of trees that offers shade while preserving key views to the River. Within this shady grove, a meandering path links together a series of places of varying character. These ‘gardens’ might provide a playground for children, a place to interpret the history of the city, an area for picnics and places to sit, relax and enjoy the view.

A sunset path draws people towards the water, culminating at the intersection of the extension of High Street and the river with views to the Burlington-Bristol bridge and the setting sun.

The promenade itself is to be re-paved and widened slightly with new seating and a new railing with integrated lighting. New piers or overlooks are proposed at points where paths meet the waters edge.
RELAX & ENJOY

- SUNSET OVERLOOK
- PICNIC GROVE
- OPEN LAWN
- RIVER WATCHING BENCHES
- VIEW GARDEN
- READING GROVE
- ISLAND OVERLOOK
- SHADED SEATING

RELAX & ENJOY
Children’s activities, together with sports and fitness for all will continue to be an important part of the Promenade’s life. The large soccer field remains in the same location with the youth league field relocated to the east. Paths may be used for jogging and the existing exercise stations are relocated located at intervals along the meandering path. A playground is proposed within a grove of trees near High St.
PROMENADE

NEW RAILING
NEW SEATING
NEW TREE PLANTING
SUNSET OVERLOOK
NEW PAVING
PLAYGROUND
Lighting

New lighting is proposed along the length of the Promenade and throughout the park. Lighting will be integrated into the railing along the Promenade. Pole lights will be placed along the meandering path. Trees in and around the seating areas will be uplit to create a gentle glow. The bandshell will also be lit at night. Specific fixtures are not yet specified and will we will work closely with the City and Historic Commission to specify appropriate fixtures.
WATER’S EDGE: BOATING

STEAMER SHIP DOCK
(using existing structures)

UPGRADED DOCK FOR KAYAK / CANOE LAUNCH & HISTORIC SHIP DOCK

PROPOSED TRANSIENT MARINA & BOATHOUSE

BOATHOUSE WITH RESTROOMS
PLANTING

New planting is proposed throughout the Promenade. Tree species would be selected for their appropriateness to the riverfront location and to provide a variety of seasonal character and habitat value. Spring flowering trees as well as deciduous trees with fall color will be used to accentuate the distinct character of places within the new grove. Native trees will be planted adjacent to the river edge to enhance riparian habitat. Views to the river will be preserved via careful placement of trees. Specific tree species will be selected in conjunction with an arborist contracted by the City.
The Vision for the new promenade has been guided by the many layers of history that underlie the City of Burlington. From the Lenape Indians and the early European settlers, to the bustling port of the late 19th/early 20th centuries, to the urban renewal period of the 1970s and the vibrant energy of today’s community, Burlington has many stories to be shared. The new promenade will offer a place that serves to reconnect Burlington’s community with the river that was such an integral part of the City’s history.
BURLINGTON-BRISTOL BRIDGE VIEW

SHIP BUILDER’S PAVILLION

BURLINGTON WHARF HISTORIC WALK

BURLINGTON ISLAND HISTORIC OVERLOOK

1908 Shoreline for reference

DOCK FOR HISTORIC SAIL (including A.J. Meerwald)

HISTORY GARDEN

Burlington City and County Historic Walking Tour Route

and possible tour extension
ART & CULTURE: PROMENADE ART

Potential sites for public art

Potential sites for temporary installations

NEW PLEIN AIR OPPORTUNITIES

TEMPORARY INSTALLATIONS / ARTIST IN RESIDENCE

POTENTIAL SITES FOR PUBLIC ART

BANDSHELL COMMISSION

11 DECEMBER 2014
ART & CULTURE: FACILITIES

THE LIBERTY BELLE
SPIRIT OF PHILADELPHIA
DINNER CRUISE

8,000 SF NEW RETAIL /
RESTAURANT IN PEARL
POINTE DEVELOPMENT

RESTORED
HOPE
FIREHOUSE

CAFE GALLERY
RESTAURANT

UNION STREET ARTS DISTRICT

RESTORED
WATERWORKS
### CALENDAR OF EVENTS - PROPOSED ADDED WINTER PROGRAM

#### WINTER
- **First Night Celebration Concert**
- **Temporary Ice Skating Rink** & **Hot Chocolate Stand open on Weekends**
- **Ice Sculpture Festival**
- **Chinese New Year Celebration**
- **Justice Week (MLK)**

#### SPRING
- **Spring Park Clean Up Day**
- **Burlington Day / Home Garden Tours**
- **Memorial Day Parade**
- **A Taste of Two Cities Restaurant Week**

#### SUMMER
- **A.J. Meerwald Docks & Oysters Overboard**
- **Heritage Blues and Jazz Festival**
- **National Night Out**
- **Kids Day**
- **Blue Devil Home Stand Show**
- **Plain Air Art Show**
- **Historic Tour Office Open**

#### FALL
- **A.J. Meerwald Docks**
- **Riverfront Summer Concert Series**
- **3rd Thursday Cruise Night**
- **Police K9 Motorcycle Run**
- **Holiday Tree Lighting**
- **Ghost Tours**
- **Halloween Hoopla**
- **Veterans Day Parade**
- **Chamber of Commerce Home for the Holidays**
- **Holiday House Tours**
- **Holiday Parade**

**Legend:**
- **City Sponsored**
- **Private Organization Sponsored**

**Annotations:**
- **New winter events that could take place on Promenade**
- **New winter season activities that could take place on Promenade**
The new tree planting frames flexible lawn areas that, on the western side can hold some 700 people for a performance. A new permanent bandshell is proposed beside the Promenade to provide a stage for concerts, movie night and other events. Larger events of some 3000-5000 people can be held centrally using temporary stages tailored to the specific event. Infrastructure would be provided to facilitate power and other amenities. Temporary toilet facilities would be provided for events commensurate with needs. Arrangements for parking will be managed to minimize any detrimental impact on the City.
PERFORMANCE LAWN - SUMMER MOVIE NIGHT
PERFORMANCE LAWN - CONCERT
IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGY - A SERIES OF DISCREET PROJECTS

Making this plan a reality will take significant effort from the City as well as the citizens of Burlington. The project is designed to be done in phases and discreet elements can be built over time as resources become available. A preliminary cost estimate will accompany the final vision plan in order to guide the City towards developing a budget for the work and understanding the scope of funding needs for the various components.
THANK YOU