

HERRING RUN PARK

Master Plan

Baltimore City Department of Recreation and Parks

In Association With:

Baltimore City Department of Planning
Baltimore City Office of Sustainability

Mahan Rykiel Associates, Inc.

Final Report May 1, 2011



**MAHAN RYKIEL
ASSOCIATES INC.**
Landscape Architecture
Urban Design, Planning

City of Baltimore
Recreation & Parks



HERRING RUN PARK

MASTER PLAN


Baltimore City Department of Recreation and Parks

In association with:

Baltimore City Department of Planning
Baltimore City Office of Sustainability

Mahan Rykiel Associates, Inc.

Final Report: May 1, 2011

FROM	NAME & TITLE	THOMAS J. STOSUR, DIRECTOR	CITY of BALTIMORE MEMO	
	AGENCY NAME & ADDRESS	DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING 417 EAST FAYETTE STREET, 8TH FLOOR		
	SUBJECT	HERRING RUN PARK MASTER PLAN		

TO

DATE:

Mr. Gregory Bayor, Director
Department of Recreations and Parks
3001 East Drive
Baltimore, MD 21217

August 27, 2010

This is to inform you that on August 5, 2010 the Baltimore City Planning Commission approved and adopted the Herring Run Park Master Plan. This plan is to be used as a guide plan for the future development and renovation of Herring Run Park. Copies of the staff report and the Herring Run Park Master Plan are attached.

Therefore, I respectfully submit to the Department of Recreation and Parks, the duly approved and adopted Herring Run Park Master Plan. Many thanks to you and the members of your agency who worked so diligently to bring this plan to completion.

If you have any questions, please contact Mr. William Doane of my staff at (410) 396-5901.

TJS/WYA/ttl

Attachments

cc: The Honorable Nicholas D'Adamo, Jr., City Council Representative, 2nd District
The Honorable Robert Curran, City Council Representative, 3rd District
The Honorable Warren Branch, City Council Representative, 13th District
The Honorable Mary Pat Clarke, City Council Representative, 14th District
Ms. Kaliope Parthemos, Deputy Mayor
Mr. Khalil Zaied, Director of BDOT
Mr. Jamie Kendrick, BDOT
Mr. Howard Aylesworth, Chair of the Herring Run Park Advisory Board
Ms. Carolyn Wainwright, Chair of the Recreation and Parks Advisory Board
Mr. Gennady Schwartz, Recreation and Parks

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

Baltimore City Department of Recreation and Parks

Baltimore City Department of Planning

Baltimore City Office of Sustainability

Baltimore City Department of Public Works

Baltimore City Department of Transportation

Morgan State University

Herring Run Park Advisory Board (HRPAB)

Friends of Herring Run Parks

Herring Run Watershed Association

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PART I: EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Baltimore City Department of Recreation and Parks initiated a master plan for Herring Run Park in early 2008 and worked with multiple City departments and advocacy groups to complete the master plan in 2010, with this report being finalized in 2011. Herring Run Park is a stream valley park that provides active and passive recreation and educational opportunities for the public and furnishes some of the critical environmental infrastructure necessary to meet City sustainability goals and regulatory mandates. The purpose of the master plan is to provide a tool for the City and advocacy groups to promote park stewardship and guide future park enhancements. See **Exhibits N, N-1, N-2 and N-3** at the end of this Executive Summary. These exhibits are also repeated later in the body of this report.

OVERALL VISION

Herring Run Park is a dynamic stream valley park that plays a unique role within the Baltimore park system. The Herring Run Park Sustainability Principles emphasize restoration and preservation of the park's natural resources, safeguard its beauty and tranquility, provide visitors a variety of recreational and reflective experiences, and foster connection between City communities.

Sustainability Principles

1. *The Natural Oasis: Protection and Enhancing the Park's Natural Resources*
2. *A Place to Play: Recreation*
3. *A Place with a Past: Revealing the Park's History*
4. *The Herring Run Link: Connecting Baltimore*
5. *The Emerald Necklace: One Park, Many Jewels*
6. *A Clean, Safe and Functioning Park: Attention to Maintenance and Safety*
7. *Everybody's Park: Building Stewardship*

MASTER PLAN RECOMMENDATIONS

Park-Wide Recommendations

1. **Natural Resource Protection and Enhancement:** Enhance woodland and riparian buffers; restore stream channels; and provide storm water retrofit projects.
2. **Herring Run Greenway and Linked Nature Trails:** Establish a multi-phased Herring Run Greenway extending from Morgan State University to beyond I-895. Develop system of interconnected trails and mountain bike paths throughout the park.
3. **Park Signage:** Utilize new Department of Recreation and Park standards and develop comprehensive sign system for the park including overall park signs, gateway signs and interpretive stream crossing signs.
4. **Traffic-Calming Enhancements:** Coordinate with Department of Transportation to incorporate traffic calming enhancements along the streets that divide and surround the park including pavement markings, modifications to Road Sections and streetscape enhancements.

Recommendations by Park Area

1. *Upper Park*

U1. Morgan/Montebello Woods: Preserve and enhance wooded steep ravines along Montebello filtration plant and Morgan State University Property.

U2. Hall Spring/Argonne Gateway: Create a park gateway and preserve opportunity for potential active use in the future.

U3. Hall Spring Restoration: Restore unique historic features and support family-friendly park activities.

U4. Heinz Park: Enhance existing park features to reinforce as a neighborhood park.

U5. Walther Woods/Eastwood Neighborhood Park/East Woods: Improve the wooded slopes along Eastwood Drive and enhance community access to the park.

U6. Eastwood Fields: Renovate the Eastwood Drive athletic field area to improve playing field conditions and allow expansion of the riparian buffer.

U7. Camp Overlook/Parkside-Belair West Gateway Park: Renovate the former Boy Scout camp and enhance the adjacent park gateway.

U8. Chesterfield West Gateway Park: Improve pedestrian safety and use areas and create a landmark gateway to the park.

U9. Father Hooper Athletic Fields Renovation: Renovate the athletic fields to improve field conditions and enhance the park.

U10. Chesterfield Woods/Woodstock Neighborhood Park: Enhance wooded edges along Chesterfield Avenue and expand neighborhood access into the park.

U11. Woodstock Softball Fields: Renovate and improve existing ball fields.

U12. Chesterfield East Gateway Park: Preserve and enhance this area as a neighborhood park and gateway to Herring Run Park.

2. Middle Park

M1. Parkside-Belair East Gateway Park: Enhance this area as a gateway to the park.

M2. Parkside Multi-Purpose Athletic Field: Renovate the Parkside Drive athletic field area to improve playing field conditions and allow expansion of the riparian buffer.

M3. Parkside Neighborhood Park: Expand and enhance the playground.

M4. Parkside-Sinclair Woodland Expansion Project: Remove baseball field and expand riparian buffer.

M5. Shannon West Gateway Park: Enhance the historic monument, pathways and community access to the park.

M6. Mannasota Neighborhood Park: Enhance the open lawns along Shannon Drive.

M7. Brehms Lane Neighborhood Park: Expand and enhance the playground located at the northeast corner of Brehms Lane and Shannon Drive.

M8. Shannon Multi-Purpose Athletic Fields: Renovate the athletic field area to improve playing field conditions and allow expansion of the riparian buffer.

M9. Shannon East Neighborhood Park: Remove baseball field and create picnic grove while enhancing community access to the park and expanding the riparian buffer.

3. Lower Park

L1. Sinclair Lane Community Garden and Park: Provide a community garden and passive recreation area while utilizing existing pavement for parking.

L2. Bowleys Lane Neighborhood Park: Enhance a passive park area located along Bowleys Lane and restore the park woodlands near the stream.

L3. Post Office Gateway and Greenway in the Lower Park: Create a gateway landmark for the park and Herring Run Greenway.

L4. Buttonbush Swamp Path: Coordinate with BGE to allow potential public trail access to the existing swamp.

L5. Lower Herring Run Environmental Education Area: Preserve and enhance much of the lower park as an environmental education area with an emphasis on enhanced and expanded woodlands, meadows, nature trails and environmental education with no disturbance to the existing landfill cap.

L6. Armistead Gardens Neighborhood Park: Enhance a passive play area and enhance park access from the adjacent community.

IMPLEMENTATION

Implementation of the master plan will occur over many years and will be an on-going effort involving many partners and stakeholders. The following outlines the roles of park advocate groups who will continue to work in conjunction with the Department of Recreation and Parks in on-going maintenance, park programming, volunteer support, park advocacy and park promotion.

1. Park Maintenance, Park Programming and Volunteer Support

Herring Run Park Advisory Board (HRPAB): This organization was formed to streamline communication between the City and community organizations related to park improvements. The HRAB will continue to work with the City as individual park implementation projects occur.

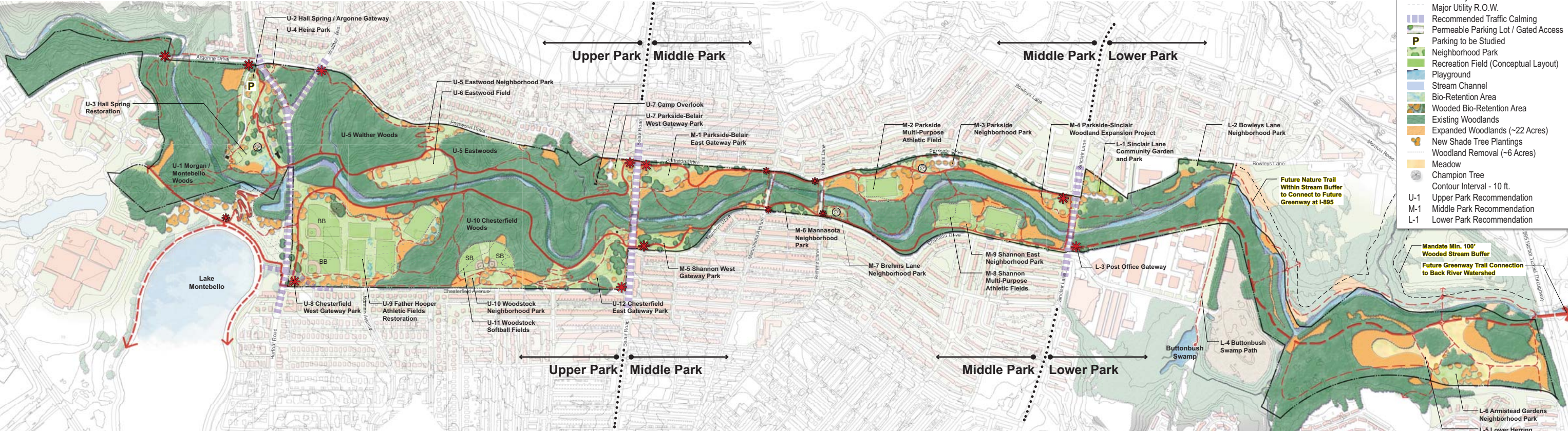
Friends of Herring Run Parks (FHRP): The FHRP will continue to partner with the City to help program the park with events, promote the park's natural resources and help build momentum for implementation of the master plan.

Park Maintenance Audit and Annual Herring Run Park Summit: The City and HRAB will conduct a quarterly and annual audit of park maintenance and park permitted activities to identify successful and unsuccessful operations and to help inform practices outlined in the park maintenance plan.

Promoting the Park by Improving Visibility: All partners will continue to build advocacy by making the park more visible through physical improvements with each implementation project and through programming.

2. Improving the Health of the Park and Stream by Promoting Environmentally Sound Choices in the Surrounding Neighborhoods

All partners will continue to build stewardship through educating the public about the strains placed upon natural systems as a result of development and about the measures needed to reduce these stresses.



LEGEND:

- Gateway Sign / Treatment
- Proposed Greenway Trail Alignment
- Greenway Trail Extension (Future)
- Secondary Trail / Nature Trail
- Major Utility R.O.W.
- Recommended Traffic Calming
- Permeable Parking Lot / Gated Access
- Parking to be Studied
- Neighborhood Park
- Recreation Field (Conceptual Layout)
- Playground
- Stream Channel
- Bio-Retention Area
- Wooded Bio-Retention Area
- Existing Woodlands
- Expanded Woodlands (~22 Acres)
- New Shade Tree Plantings
- Woodland Removal (~6 Acres)
- Meadow
- Champion Tree
- Contour Interval - 10 ft.
- U-1 Upper Park Recommendation
- M-1 Middle Park Recommendation
- L-1 Lower Park Recommendation

Mandate Min. 100' Wooded Stream Buffer
Future Greenway Trail Connection to Back River Watershed

L-6 Armistead Gardens Neighborhood Park
L-5 Lower Herring Run Environmental Education Area

HERRING RUN PARK MASTER PLAN
Baltimore, Maryland

EXHIBIT N
Illustrative Master Plan
Revised May 2, 2011

MARSH PIVKEL ASSOCIATES, INC.
800 Wyman Park Drive, Suite 100
Baltimore, MD 21221
DEPARTMENT OF RECREATION & PARKS
2000 Madison Ave.
Baltimore, MD 21217

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HERRING RUN PARK MASTER PLAN

Baltimore, Maryland

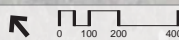
EXHIBIT N - 1

Illustrative
Master Plan -
Upper Park

Revised May 2, 2011

MAHAN RYKIEL ASSOCIATES, INC.
800 Wyman Park Drive, Suite 100
Baltimore, MD
21211

DEPARTMENT OF RECREATION &
PARKS
2600 Madison Ave
Baltimore, MD
21217



LEGEND:

- Gateway Sign / Treatment
- Proposed Greenway Trail Alignment
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- U-1 Upper Park Recommendation
- M-1 Middle Park Recommendation
- L-1 Lower Park Recommendation

U-2 Hall Spring / Argonne Gateway:

- Improved Traffic Signalization at Intersection (Or Potential Traffic Circle)
- Gated Access Road / Vehicular Drop-Off
- Terraced Permeable Parking With Rain Garden / Bio-Swale
- Trail Connections
- Gateway Signage
- Seasonal Gardens
- Invasive Species Removal
- Woodland Expansion

Water Quality Improvements by DPW:

- Replacement of Sewer Line from Argonne to Harford (Dates 2010-2011)

U-3 Hall Spring Restoration:

- Hall Spring Restoration of Water Supply & Structures
- Stormwater Demonstration Project
- Hillside Meadow
- Harford Road Tree Limbing-Up to Open Views
- Seasonal Gardens
- Eutaw Place Methodist Church "Pavilion"
- Gateway / Interpretive Signage
- Greenway Trail Connection
- Picnic Grove
- Event Lawn
- Basketball Court Renovation
- Restroom Facility Enhancement
- Playground Enhancement
- Gated Drop-Off Circle
- Water-Based Natural Recreation
- Woodland Expansion
- Invasive Species Removal
- Shade Tree Planting
- Site Furniture

U-1 Morgan / Montebello Woods:

- Invasive Species Removal
- Woodland Expansion
- Habitat Enhancement
- Environmental / Historic Interpretation
- Land-Based Natural Recreation
- Water-Based Natural Recreation
- DPW Study Area

Potential Future Trail Extension:

- Bridge and Switchback to Lake Montebello

Harford Road Greenway Underpass:

- Pedestrian Underpass In Conjunction with Harford Road Bridge Construction

U-4 Heinz Park:

- Columbus Monument Enhancements
- Tree Planting
- Gateway Treatment
- Interpretive Signage
- Seasonal Gardens
- Pathway Connections
- Open Lawn for Events
- Site Furniture
- Traffic Calming / Crosswalks

U-5 Walther Woods:

- Water-Based Natural Recreation
- Land-Based Natural Recreation
- Invasive Species Removal
- Woodland Expansion
- Habitat Enhancement
- Trail Connections
- Tributary Restoration

U-6 Eastwood Fields:

- Field Renovation
- Woodland Edge Enhancements
- Switchback Trail
- Site Furniture
- Riparian Buffer Enhancement
- Shade Tree Planting
- Invasive Species Removal
- Greenway Trail Connection
- Meadows / Bio-Retention
- Portable Toilets / Enclosure
- *Field Layout is Conceptual

U-5 Eastwood Neighborhood Park:

- Picnic Grove
- Greenway Trail Connection
- Open Lawn
- Sledding Hill
- Meadow Edges
- Site Furniture
- Shade Tree Planting

U-5 East Woods:

- Water-Based Natural Recreation
- Land-Based Natural Recreation
- Invasive Species Removal
- Woodland & Habitat Enhancement
- Trail Connections
- Tributary Restoration

U-7 Camp Overlook:

- Pavilion Renovation
- Greenway Trail Connection / Future Trailhead
- Interpretive Signage
- Invasive Species Removal
- Shade Tree Planting
- Site Furniture
- Permeable Parking to Support Use of Pavilion
- Land-Based Natural Recreation

U-7 Parkside-Belair West Gateway Park:

- Open Lawn
- Shade Tree Planting
- Invasive Species Removal
- Greenway Trail Connection
- Traffic Calming / Crosswalks
- Seasonal Gardens
- Site Furniture
- Gateway Treatment

U-10 Chesterfield Woods:

- Water-Based Natural Recreation
- Land-Based Natural Recreation
- Invasive Species Removal
- Woodland Enhancement
- Habitat Enhancement
- Riparian Buffer Enhancement
- Trail Connections
- DPW Study Area

U-12 Chesterfield East Gateway Park:

- Movie Shed Enhancements
- Greenway Trail Connection / Loop Trail
- Riparian Buffer Enhancement
- Gateway Treatment
- Picnic Grove
- Site Furniture
- Seasonal Gardens
- Maintain Hillside Seating
- Traffic Calming / Crosswalks

U-8 Chesterfield West Gateway Park:

- Realignment of Chesterfield / Harford Intersection, Potential Traffic Circle
- Pathway Connections
- Shade Tree Planting
- Seasonal Gardens
- Site Furniture
- Open Lawn for Small Events
- Gateway Treatment

*U-9 Father Hooper Athletic Fields Renovation:

- Field Reorganization
- Shade Tree Planting
- Trail Connections / Loop Path
- Gateway Treatment
- Bio-Retention / Wooded Bio-Retention
- Riparian Buffer Enhancement
- Woodland Expansion
- Invasive Species Removal
- Drinking Fountains
- Site Furniture
- Benches / Hillside Seating
- Bridge Connection to Eastwood Fields
- Champion Tree Protection
- Water-Based Natural Recreation
- Portable Toilets / Enclosure
- Stream Channel Gabion Repair / Removal
- *Field Layout is Conceptual

U-11 Woodstock Softball Fields:

- Field Reorganization
- Woodland Expansion
- Shade Tree Planting
- Invasive Species Removal
- Pathway Connections
- Site Furniture
- Portable Toilets / Enclosure
- Meadows

U-10 Woodstock Neighborhood Park:

- Picnic Areas
- Shade Tree Planting
- Pathway Connections
- Seasonal Gardens

ICON LEGEND:

- Sustainability Principle #1:** The Natural Oasis: *Protecting and Enhancing the Park's Natural Resources*
- Water Quality
 - Woodland Expansion / Tree Plantings / Habitat Enhancement
 - Invasive Species Removal
 - Meadow / Bio-Retention / Rain Garden
 - DPW Study Area for Passage Over Fish Barriers
 - Future Stream Channel Gabion Removal / Repair by DPW

- Sustainability Principle #2:** A Place to Play: *Recreation*
- Recreation Fields
 - Land-Based Natural / Passive Recreation
 - Water-Based Natural Recreation

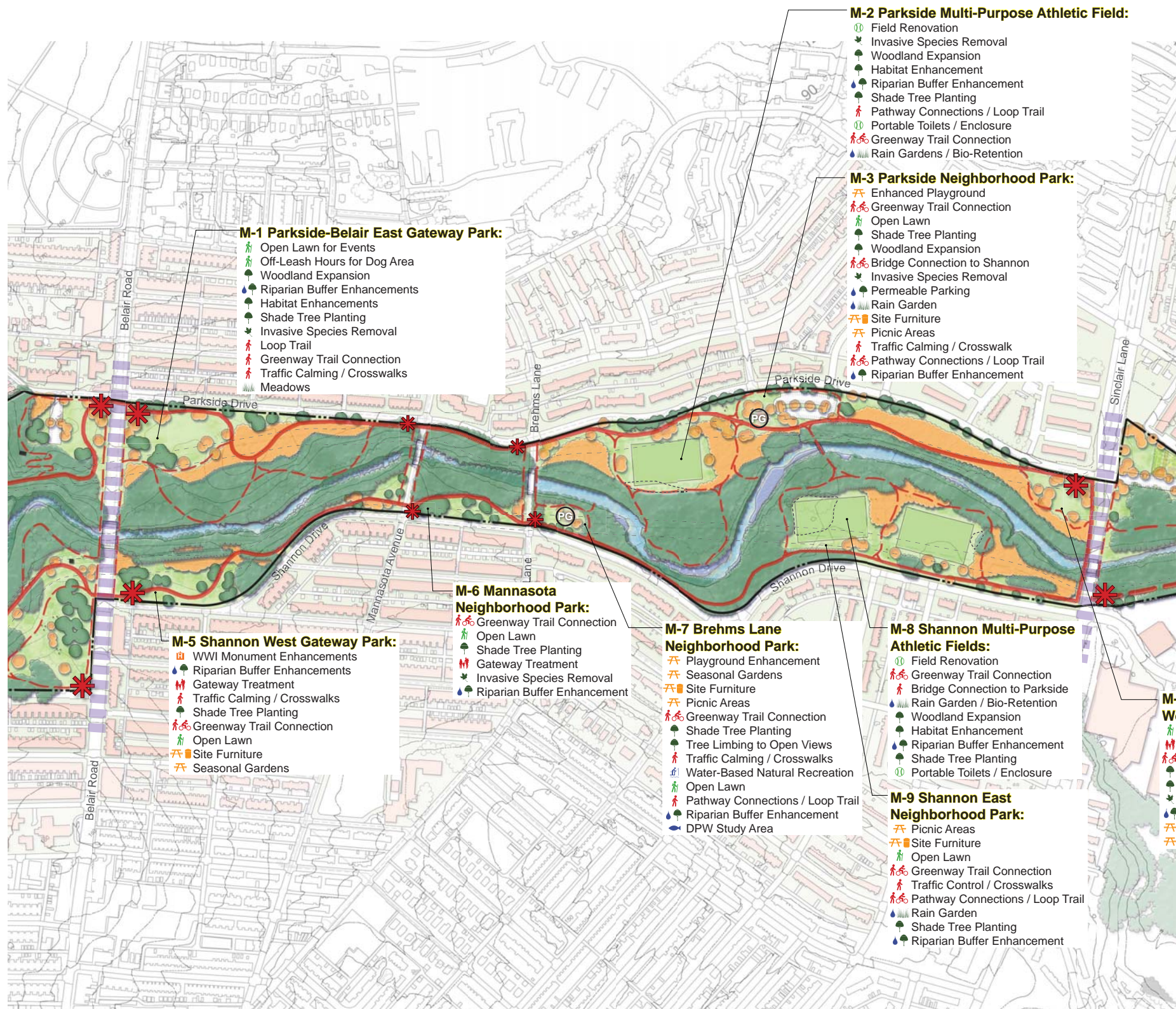
- Sustainability Principle #3:** A Place with a Past: *Revealing the Park's History*
- Historical / Cultural Elements

- Sustainability Principle #4:** The Herring Run Link: *Connecting Baltimore*
- Pedestrian Access
 - Bicycle Access
 - Traffic Calming

- Sustainability Principle #5:** The Emerald Necklace: *One Park, Many Jewels*
- Neighborhood Park Elements

- Sustainability Principle #6:** A Clean, Safe, and Functioning Park: *Attention to Maintenance and Safety*
- Maintenance Opportunity (Throughout Park)

- Sustainability Principle #7:** Everybody's Park: *Building Stewardship*
- Park Gateways



- LEGEND:
- ✳ Gateway Sign / Treatment
 - Proposed Greenway Trail Alignment
 - - - Greenway Trail Extension (Future)
 - - - Secondary Trail / Nature Trail
 - - - Major Utility R.O.W.
 - ▭ Recommended Traffic Calming
 - ▭ Permeable Parking Lot / Gated Access
 - P Parking to be Studied
 - ▭ Neighborhood Park
 - ▭ Recreation Field (Conceptual Layout)
 - ⊙ Playground
 - ▭ Stream Channel
 - ▭ Bio-Retention Area
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 - ▭ Existing Woodlands
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- Invasive Species Removal
- Meadow / Bio-Retention / Rain Garden
- DPW Study Area for Passage Over Fish Barriers
- Future Stream Channel Gabion Removal / Repair by DPW

Sustainability Principle #2: A Place to Play: *Recreation*

- Recreation Fields
- Land-Based Natural / Passive Recreation
- Water-Based Natural Recreation

Sustainability Principle #3: A Place with a Past: *Revealing the Park's History*

- Historical / Cultural Elements

Sustainability Principle #4: The Herring Run Link: *Connecting Baltimore*

- Pedestrian Access
- Bicycle Access
- Traffic Calming

Sustainability Principle #5: The Emerald Necklace: *One Park, Many Jewels*

- Neighborhood Park Elements

Sustainability Principle #6: A Clean, Safe, and Functioning Park: *Attention to Maintenance and Safety*

- Maintenance Opportunity (Throughout Park)

Sustainability Principle #7: Everybody's Park: *Building Stewardship*

- Park Gateways

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Baltimore, Maryland

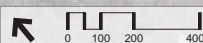
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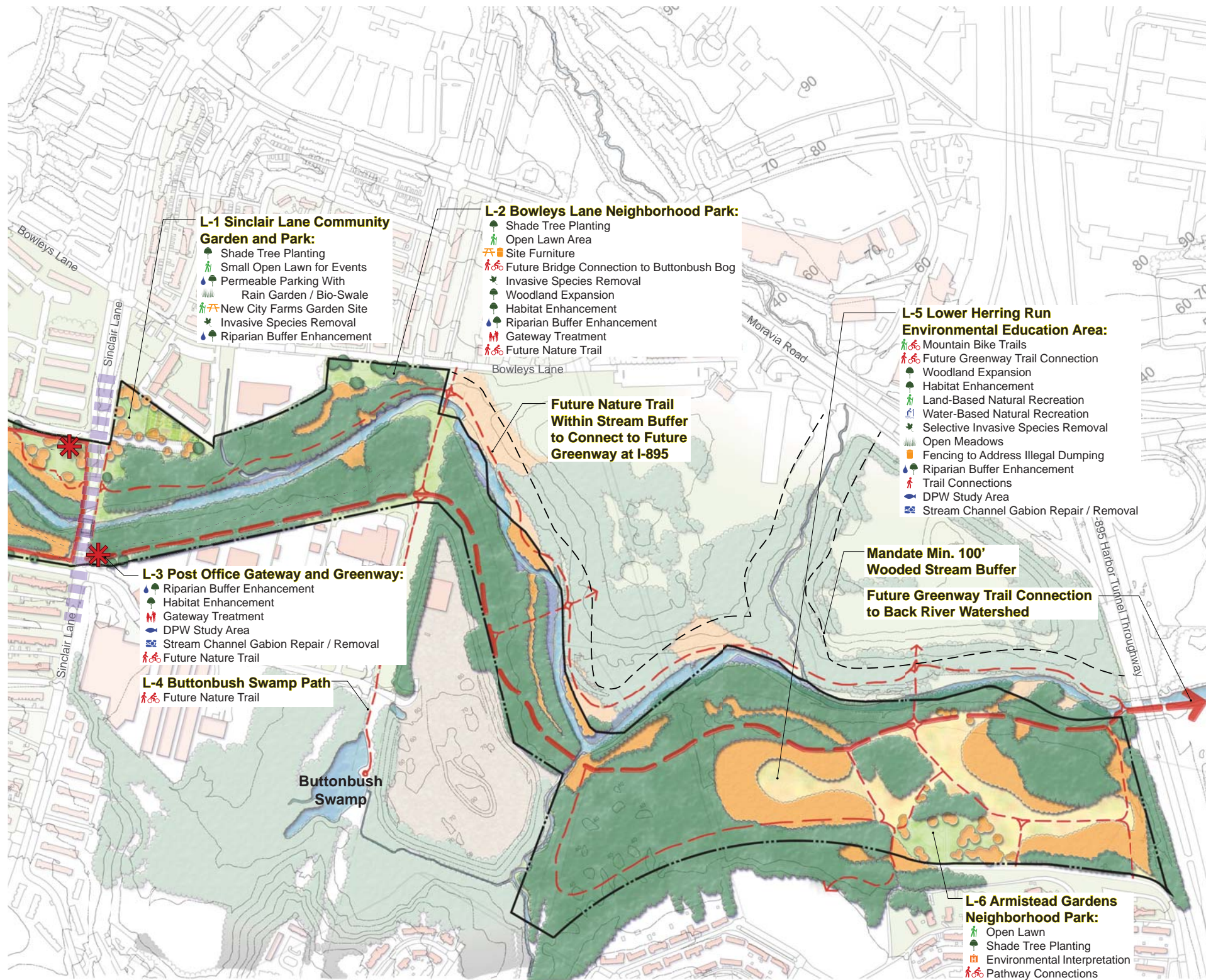
Illustrative Master Plan - Middle Park

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MAHAN RYKIEL ASSOCIATES, INC.
800 Wyman Park Drive, Suite 100
Baltimore, MD 21211

DEPARTMENT OF RECREATION & PARKS
2600 Madison Ave
Baltimore, MD 21217





- LEGEND:**
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 - ▨ Land-Based Natural / Passive Recreation
 - ▨ Water-Based Natural Recreation

- Sustainability Principle #3:** A Place with a Past: *Revealing the Park's History*
- ▨ Historical / Cultural Elements

- Sustainability Principle #4:** The Herring Run Link: *Connecting Baltimore*
- ▨ Pedestrian Access
 - ▨ Bicycle Access
 - ▨ Traffic Calming

- Sustainability Principle #5:** The Emerald Necklace: *One Park, Many Jewels*
- ▨ Neighborhood Park Elements

- Sustainability Principle #6:** A Clean, Safe, and Functioning Park: *Attention to Maintenance and Safety*
- ▨ Maintenance Opportunity (Throughout Park)

- Sustainability Principle #7:** Everybody's Park: *Building Stewardship*
- ▨ Park Gateways

HERRING RUN PARK MASTER PLAN

Baltimore, Maryland

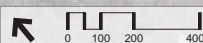
EXHIBIT N - 3

Illustrative
Master Plan -
Lower Park

Revised April 29, 2010

MAHAN RYKIEL ASSOCIATES, INC.
800 Wyman Park Drive, Suite 100
Baltimore, MD
21211

DEPARTMENT OF RECREATION &
PARKS
2600 Madison Ave
Baltimore, MD
21217



PART II: INTRODUCTION

1. BACKGROUND AND PURPOSE

The Baltimore City Department of Recreation and Parks retained Mahan Rykiel Associates, Inc. in early 2008 to prepare a long-range master plan for Herring Run Park. Various city agencies and non-profit organizations had been working independently on projects that impacted the park, which generated an interest in an overall plan to coordinate ideas and resources. The Department of Recreation and Parks had secured funding to improve and expand the park's paths as part of a Bicycle Greenway for Northeast Baltimore. Plans were already developing through the Department of Transportation to replace the Harford Road and Argonne Road bridges and through the Department of Public Works to replace and upgrade sewer lines as part of the city-wide septic and storm drain review.

At the same time, the Herring Run Watershed Association, a non-profit community-based organization, had been working throughout the park to improve the water quality of the Herring Run Stream and its tributaries by collecting trash, planting trees, removing invasive plant material, monitoring the stream's health, and identifying potential projects to enhance the ecological health of the watershed and Chesapeake Bay. Initiated as a project of the Herring Run Watershed Association Board, the Friends of Herring Run Parks was formed as an independent community-based stewardship and advocacy organization for parks within the Herring Run Watershed.

Morgan State University also expressed an interest in promoting a better connection between the park and their campus. At the behest of the Friends of Herring Run Parks, the School of Architecture and Planning conducted a survey of park stewardship, park use and the value of open space in communities surrounding the park. The Morgan State Department of Social Work conducted surveys of neighborhood residents concerning issues of health and wellness in relationship to the park.

All of these agencies and organizations have become active partners with the Department of Recreation and Parks during the master planning process, providing detailed information and

evaluating alternative ideas. At the behest of the Herring Run Watershed Association, the Department of Planning formed the Herring Run Park Advisory Board (HRPAB) to advise Baltimore City agencies, commissions, committees, and other groups on matters relating to the care and operation of Herring Run Park, including completion of the Master Plan and implementation of its recommendations. The HRPAB is an inclusive body representative of city officials and community leaders whose purpose is to make the park an exemplary model of sustainable planning and project implementation through successful public-private collaboration.

Herring Run Park is a stream valley park that provides active and passive recreation and educational opportunities for the public and furnishes the critical environmental infrastructure necessary to meet City sustainability goals and regulatory mandates. The purpose of the master plan is to provide a tool for the City and the Friends to promote park stewardship and guide park enhancements for the next decade and longer by identifying many opportunities for park improvement. Because the master plan is far-reaching, this report identifies individual project areas and project descriptors that, as funds become available, will serve as the basis for defining individual project approaches and designs consistent with the Master Plan Vision Statement and Sustainability Principles.

2. PROCESS: MAJOR MEETINGS DURING THE MASTER PLAN PROCESS

January 2008:	Baltimore City Department of Recreation and Park retains Mahan Rykiel Associates to prepare the master plan.
February 28, 2008:	Town Hall Meeting #1: Listening Meeting #1
March – May, 2008:	Stakeholder Leadership Interviews: Listening meetings
April 29, 2008:	Town Hall Meeting #2: Listening Meeting #2
March – November 2008:	Assessment / Inter-Agency Coordination
May – June 2008:	Park Tours: Two park walks to listen and observe
October –December 2008:	Park Assessments and Concept Alternatives Development
December 6, 2009:	Town Hall Meeting #3: Assessment and emerging concepts
January 26, 2009:	Town Hall Meeting #4: Concept review and community input
January – April 2009:	Draft Master Plan Preparation: Consolidated from concepts
April 23, 2009:	Town Hall Meeting #5: Draft Concept and Master Plan review
June - August 2009:	Series of Community Meetings to Discuss and Refine Draft Plan
Sept 2009 – April 2010	Master Plan Advisory Board formed to Coordinate Community Review and Implementation of Master Plan
June 2010	Presentation of Master Plan
August 2010	Baltimore City Planning Commission Adopts Master Plan

PART III: BACKGROUND AND ASSESSMENT

1. HISTORIC OVERVIEW (See Exhibit A)

Herring Run Stream Valley before Development of the Park (1700 – 1900)

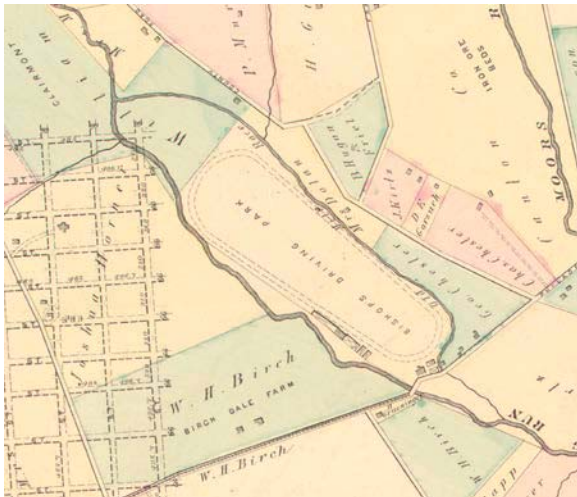
Herring Run Park's 375 acres lie in the stream valley of the Herring Run in the former countryside areas north of the original Baltimore City limits. Information provided by Eric Holcomb of the Baltimore City Commission for Historical and Architectural Preservation (CHAP) indicates one of the oldest records of the land dates back to 1734 for the sale of 1,400 acres of land by Colonel Sheradine in which the current Herring Run Park is set. This land was subdivided over the years and sold to private mill owners, farmers and country estate landholders.

The oldest mill on record is the Kingsbury Iron Furnace, built in 1744 by the Principio Company and situated just north of the current Pulaski Highway. As early as 1840, The Baltimore Sun has records of a racecourse on this land. The racecourse is recorded as being built by Cooper and Dull for both running and trotting races. The two ran the course for several years and sold it to Dan McCann, who in turn rented it to Dan and Frank Steever, George Nelson and others. The land was purchased in 1878 by David Blenson, who leased it to the Maryland Trotting Association. In 1887 Thomas Scharf bought the course from the Belson estate. "Uncle Dave" Bishop leased and ran the course for many years. Bishop's Driving Park is presumed to be part of the Hall Spring Estate run by proprietor William Bishop, Jr. and was in existence from the 1870s through 1890s. The horse drawn driving course was likely part of the original Harford Road resort of Hall Spring that included picnic areas, swings, a picnic pavilion with electric cars running from downtown to the Hall Spring hotel every hour. Today, there is no remaining physical record of the mills and track though assessment records indicate the locations.

Green's Mill, located approximately three-quarters of a mile from Harford Road near Lake Montebello was a cotton mill that later became a horse stable with increased traffic along the old Harford Turnpike. Other mills that once lined the Herring Run included Columbia Cordate Mill on the grounds of the current Montebello Hospital, Lee's Dam and Ivy Flour



1876 Map of Herring Run Area



Enlargement Showing Bishop's Driving Park



Eutaw Place Methodist Church Today



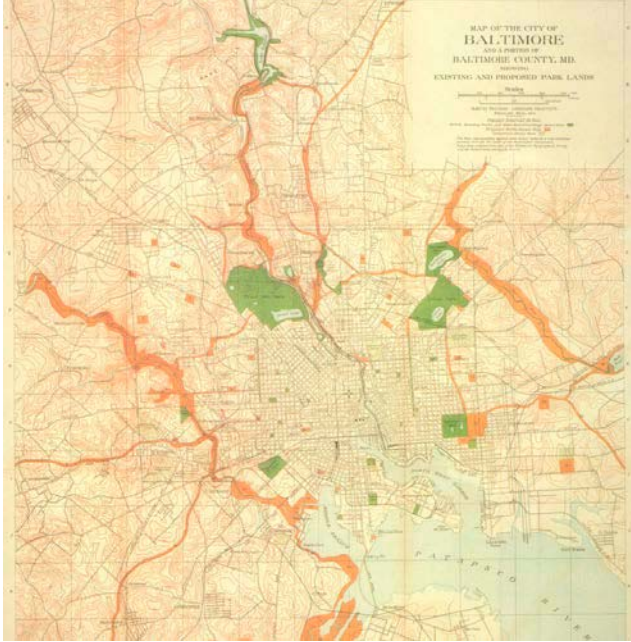
Hall Springs in 1934 and Today

Mill upstream of these on the Morgan State Campus at Cold Spring Lane. Eutaw Grist Mill operated by John Harder was located east of Harford Road on the north side of the stream.

Another land holding record along the stream valley included Furley Hall. A plaque at Parkside Drive and Brehms Lane marks the general location of the French-inspired estate built in 1775 and burned in 1906. Bowley, the builder of the estate also maintained a Course Plantation on Bowleys Homestead. The estate was bulldozed in 1953. Other prominent estate holders along the Herring Run were William Smith, whose estate was located near the current Eastwood Drive at Parkside Drive, and Morrison, Turners, Harris and Erdman, who give their names to local streets and neighborhoods.

The old Harford Turnpike generally follows the alignment of the modern Harford Road. At the intersection of Argonne Road and Harford Road, the Turnpike route was found within Herring Run Park, following the park road, crossing near the current pedestrian bridge and then following along the park path that leads up to Chesterfield Avenue. During the great flood of 1911, the Harford Road Turnpike's timber bridge, along with support forms for a new bridge, were carried away. Within one half hour, two inches of rain fell, cresting five feet over the old Harford Turnpike alignment. The entire roadway and bridge were rebuilt on a new alignment, raised high over the streambed to avoid the hazards of flooding.

The Hall Estate, located in the present day Hall Spring Park Area, included the Hall Springs Hotel and boarding house overlooking the turnpike and a railway line. Between the hotel and Green's Cotton Mill was the Eutaw Place Methodist Church, built in 1860 by the Green family for use by employees and their families. The church served a network of traveling pastors (circuit riders) until 1874, providing morning and evening services, Sunday school, mid-week prayer and fall revival meetings. As nearby mills closed and electric cars replaced horses, the congregation declined and moved to more suburban areas. In 1908, the remaining 75 congregants purchased land in nearby Mayfield to build the New Eutaw Methodist Church, which opened in 1909. The old church was purchased as a park picnic shelter in the same year. The original corner stone is missing but the church structure remains.



Olmsted Brothers' 1904 Report Map



Detail of Olmsted Brothers' 1904 Report Map Showing Proposed Park Along Herring Run

Also on the former Hall Estate is the remaining Hall Spring, which served as a clean water source for stagecoach horses along the Harford Turnpike and for drinking water by local residents. George Washington is rumored to have drunk from the spring. Revolutionary Army encampments set up in the areas around the church and spring. The local watering hole served as a source of clean water for many decades and survives as one of the remaining active springs in the city. The location of the natural spring is marked by a rustic wall and bench. (For a comprehensive history of Northeast Baltimore see *The City as Suburb: A History of Northeast Baltimore Since 1660*. Eric Holcomb).

Olmsted Brothers Legacy and Park Land Acquisition (1900 to Present)

In 1902, the Municipal Art Society of Baltimore hired the services of the Olmsted Brothers to evaluate and recommend a comprehensive network of parks in the then-suburban portion of Baltimore. The resultant 1904 report “*Development of Public Grounds for Greater Baltimore*” evaluated potential park development based upon population trends and comparisons to other City park systems for health and environmental concerns. Evaluation of the City’s park system also included specific needs and purposes for the parks, the conditions in and surrounding the parks, as well as recommendations for new parks.

Herring Run Park was recommended as an extension of Montebello Park (today the Lake Montebello Water Treatment Facility). The stream valley was prized for its picturesque nature and usefulness for park activities as well as low land prices (it was generally not suited for development other than farming). Herring Run Park was also more broadly conceived of as a network of valley parks and parkways with a radial parkway connection to Clifton and Montebello Parks. The upper portion of the valley was valued for its picturesque abrupt turns, stone outcroppings, and beautiful forest trees. The beauty and proximity to two existing parks was critical to achieving the radial parkway system. The lower portion of the valley was valued for its sparse population and economical land prices. The stream valley park was conceived as means of regulating flooding during future development and as a narrow park or broad parkway ultimately connecting to the Back River.

In 1909, the Baltimore Parks Commission hired the Olmsted Brothers to further study the Herring Run Reservation for thinning of the woods. It is conjectured that this be done to maintain or establish picturesque vistas for nearby residents and to attract visitors. The



Olmsted Brothers' plan showing connection between Herring Run and Clifton Parks along Norman Avenue

Herring Run Park acquisition was proposed for 450 acres of land, approximately one-quarter mile in width along with 85 acres associated with then Lake Montebello Park. By 1913, the City had acquired much of the land for the current park located between Harford Road and Belair Road.

The Olmsted Brothers firm was asked in 1926 to follow-up the 1904 report. Park extensions were recommended in this report along with affirming the soundness of the original report recommendation of linking the stream valleys of Jones Falls, Gwynns Falls, and Herring Run with a system of parkways and parks. Master planning efforts for the citywide park system in the past 50 years have confirmed the soundness and relevance of the Olmsted-envisioned park network for Baltimore in the 21st Century.

The 1926 "Report on Park Extension for Baltimore" recommended adding two sections to the land that had been acquired for the Herring Run Park. This included a lower portion from Belair Road to current Route 40 and upper portion from Harford Road to the former Taylor tract. The land of the lower portion was characterized by broad meadows with meandering streams and good stands of native specimen trees. The meadow areas provided room for desirable recreational activities for City residents. The topography of the upper portion of land is marked by wooded, steep ravines with a rapidly flowing stream, offering attractive views of the valley. The land, while not suitable for other development, was seen as a destination for travelers seeking beautiful scenery and hikers seeking rugged terrain closer to the city. The Board of Park Commissions acquired six tracts of land (257 acres) in the lower park along with 260 acres from the original Taylor Tract in the upper park based upon the 1926 Olmsted Report. Recommendations to acquire adjacent land to buffer the park property were also made. Further south of Hamilton Avenue, the Commission was given 46 acres of valley land. The basis of the recommendation to acquire additional land was to reduce expenses for future sewer construction, proactively direct development in appropriate areas and preserve the beauty of the area.

While the Olmsted Brothers firm was hired to provide guidance for a comprehensive park system in Baltimore, including recommendations for land acquisition along the Herring Run and other stream valleys, there is no evidence that the firm designed any elements of Herring Run Park itself. A search of the Olmsted archives found that the only design completed by



Columbus Monument and Associated Planting



World War I Monument and Associated Planting



Police Monument in Heinz Park

the Olmstead Brothers firm for Northeast Baltimore is a connecting road from Clifton Park to incorporate the Olmsted design philosophy as the recommendations of this master plan are implemented. The Olmsted design philosophy is summarized in Part VII of this report.

A Listing of Monuments, Historic Sites and Historic Structures in the Park Today

Few historic structures remain in the park today. The two oldest monuments found in the park were relocated from other areas in the City in the last 50 years. Most of the historic structures remaining in the park are in poor repair and currently do not have a park function.

Columbus Monument: This historic obelisk monument was dedicated October 12, 1792 on the date that Columbus landed on San Salvador. The cornerstone is reported to have been laid on August 3, 1792 to mark Columbus' sailing from Laos, Spain. The monument was donated by the French Consul to Baltimore, Chevalier Charles D'Anmour, to celebrate the tri-centennial of Columbus' historic voyage and address the fact that there were no monuments to Columbus in the U.S. at the time. It was located on his estate, which later became the Samuel Ready Institute on North Avenue and Harford Road. A Sears and Roebuck Department Store (now a Baltimore City Courthouse) was built on the estate in 1938 when the Samuel Ready School relocated. The monument was moved and re-dedicated on October 12, 1964 to its current location in the "Heinz Park" area of Herring Run Park on Harford Road near Argonne Drive. Constructed of brick and finished with mortar, it is believed to be the oldest extant monument to Christopher Columbus in the United States. The Arcadia Community Association assists in maintaining the nearby plantings

WWI Monument: This historic monument, located on the corner of Shannon Drive and Belair Road, was relocated from Glenmore Avenue (formerly Glen Avenue) to make way for a new road. The Glashoff family of Belair-Edison and friends were responsible for raising money to save and relocate the monument to its current location. The Belair-Edison Community Association assists in maintaining the monument and the plantings around it.

Police Monument: The memorial to five fallen officers from the nearby Northeast police station was installed in the "Heinz Park" area of Herring Run Park 2004. Heinz Park is also the location of a former BGE brick storage building. The structure's design is not



Hall Springs Comfort Station



Harford Road Bridge



Hall Spring channel

architecturally significant. The Arcadia Community Association assists in maintaining the small storage building and the nearby plantings.

Scout Camp Site: The Scout Camp is located on Parkside Drive at Belair Road. This stone fieldhouse structure was built in the 1920's to serve camping groups. The main structure is largely intact with roof repairs needed. Several outdoor fireplaces and a former parking area are also evident on the grounds. The building is currently vacant.

Harford Road Bridge: The current historic, federal designation eligible, bridge is slated for replacement due to safety and long term maintenance concerns. Construction of the new bridge is expected to begin in 2013. The historic three-span concrete arch bridge designed by Luten in 1911 will be documented prior to demolition.

Other Small Bridges over Herring Run: Belair Road, Mannasota Avenue, Brehms Lane, and Sinclair Lane Bridges. Each of these roadways has a bridge that crosses the Herring Run. Most bridges appear to be built in the 1920s and are constructed of concrete. These individual bridge designs are not architecturally significant and no known refurbishment or replacement projects were identified for these bridges at the time of the master plan.

Hall Springs Comfort Station: The small masonry structure at Hall Spring was built in the 1950s and renovated in 2003. The building's restroom is open to the public when park rangers are in attendance and the storage area is used by the Herring Run Watershed Association (HRWA). The structure's design is not architecturally significant.

Eutaw Place Methodist Church: The former church (c.1860) was adapted as a picnic shelter when the land was purchased for park use. The building was abandoned many years ago and the stone walls remain although there is no longer a roof. The woods have returned to the grounds around the building and completely surround the structure (refer to image - Page 8).

Hall Spring: The spring still flows from a stone "springhead" structure although the water spouts and other decorative features (predating 1920) no longer remain. The woods have returned to the area near the spring and the springhead is now in deep shade. Water flows



Residential uses front onto much of the park perimeter, particularly in the upper and middle sections



*Lake Montebello and associated walking/bicycle path
(Photo Credit - Tanya Mehri)*

from the spring in a small stone channel through the park to the Herring Run. The water quality of the spring has not been tested for several decades.

Belair Road Maintenance Building: A small masonry storage building (c 1950) also serves as the screen for movie nights sponsored by the Belair-Edison Neighborhoods, Inc. The structure's design is not architecturally significant.

2. CULTURAL ENVIRONMENT INVENTORY AND ASSESSMENT

The Park and its Urban Surroundings (See Exhibit B)

Herring Run Park is surrounded by 12 neighborhoods. Three of these neighborhoods have Federal historic designation and are touching or are within a half mile walk of the park. The upper portion of the park is primarily bordered by residential land use with two significant institutional neighbors: Morgan State University and the Montebello Water Treatment Plant to the north and west. The middle portion of the park is bordered by residential land use while the lower portion of the park is a combination of residential areas and significant portions of Biddison Run are under the ownership of adjacent industrial land uses. The Herring Run Watershed Association has expressed concern about the long-term health of the stream bank along the Herring Run, south of Sinclair Lane because of the industrial activities adjacent to the stream.

Cultural institutions including fire stations, police stations, churches, post offices and retail establishments including restaurants are within a half-mile radius of the park. Thirteen academic institutions from pre-school to university are located within a half-mile radius of the park. Many of these institutions use the park for daily recreation, training for athletic events and regular tournament play.

Transportation Networks (See Exhibit C)

Herring Run Park is influenced by the road network that passes around and through it. The arterials of Harford Road, Belair Road and Sinclair Lane each cross the park. They carry a significant amount of speeding traffic and pose access conflicts at each intersection. These factors have made it unsafe and uneasy for pedestrians to traverse the length of the park.



Major arterial roads such as Belair Road bisect the park and pose barriers for pedestrians and bicyclists



Father Hooper Field Area

Although accessing the park by motor vehicle is very convenient, parking in and around the park is very limited. On-street parking is available around the entire perimeter of the park and on arterial roads. In densely populated areas and during major sporting events, the perimeter parking poses a conflict between local residents and park users. Street parking on arterial roads is often avoided due to traffic safety concerns. Parking within the park is only found at Hall Spring and is accessed via the Harford Road/Argonne Drive intersection. This awkward intersection has no phased traffic light and safety concerns have necessitated the installation of a no left turn sign, which is often ignored. Parking here is well-used on the weekends by visitors to the Hall Spring picnic area, basketball court and playground. However the road access area has also provided convenient remote parking for undesirable activities. Though gates have been installed at the entrance, motorists have maintained access by driving over the curb and beyond the bollards. A small parking area associated with the Scout Camp near Belair Road is no longer used. The roadway around Lake Montebello has extensive on-street parking but is likely not known by park visitors or seen as too remote from park activities.

Road traffic noise poses a negative impact on park use near the arterial streets and edges. The summer movie program at the maintenance shed suffers from the distraction of sounds on nearby Belair Road.

Herring Run Park is connected to the city through a network of 12 different bus lines within a half-mile walk of the park. The roadways around the park have been included in the City's Bicycle Master Plan and bike lanes are planned for Harford Road, Belair Road, Parkside Drive and Edison Highway with connections through the park on the Herring Run Greenway.

Active Recreation (See Exhibit D)

Active recreation tends to be concentrated in Father Hooper Field, with a smaller playing field located near Sinclair Lane. Evidence of former playfields is uniformly distributed throughout the park. There are three playgrounds in the park and another seven within a half-mile walk of the park boundary. A trail system links most of the active recreation area with the Greenway expansion set to complete the connection of all currently used fields. Those open space areas not utilized for active recreation are used for annual neighborhood events.

3. NATURAL ENVIRONMENT INVENTORY AND ASSESSMENT

Watershed Overview (See Exhibit E)

Herring Run Park is located entirely within the stream valley of the Herring Run, which is a major stream found within the Herring Run Watershed. The Herring Run Watershed is located in the northeast portion of Baltimore City and southeastern Baltimore County. The Herring Run Watershed drainage area encompasses 31 Sq. Miles or 19,840 Acres; from approximately Eastern Avenue in the south to Joppa Road in the north, and from I-695 to the east to York Road in the west. The Herring Run Watershed includes over 41 linear miles of stream channel (Herring Run and its tributaries, Chinquapin Run, Tiffany Run, Armistead Run, Moores Run, Redhouse Runs and the Western Branch) and joins with the Back River Watershed as it reaches the Chesapeake Bay.

The Herring Run Park is 371 acres and borders 4.9 miles of the Herring Run, approximately 11% of the total stream channel found in the Watershed. Because the park is quite narrow and has a very small drainage area (< 2%) relative to the larger Watershed, the park itself has minimal impact on the water quality of the Herring Run Watershed.

Stream Channel/Bank Assessments within Park Boundaries (See Exhibit F)

In 2004, Baltimore City Department of Public Works completed a geomorphologic study of the Herring Run Watershed within Baltimore City limits. The resultant report “*Herring Run Watershed: Stream Assessment and Restoration Concept Plan*” surveyed the roughly 18.4 miles of streams and tributaries of the Herring Run Watershed to assess the health of the stream, prioritize areas for restoration and define the best techniques for stream restoration with a goal of reducing water pollution and sediment load in the Chesapeake Bay. (A summary of the stream assessment and storm water studies has been included in *Appendix D*. The full reports can be obtained from the Baltimore City Department of Public Works).

The study divided the Herring Run into 24 distinct “reaches”, with each reach defined by a change in stream channel character or physical change such as a bridge crossing. Overall, Herring Run was found to be a typical urban stream, in poor physical condition due to encroaching urban infrastructure and limited riparian buffers. Data was collected for each



Herring Run stream channel in the Upper Park



Herring Run stream channel in the Lower Park

reach to describe the characteristics of the stream channel and the adjacent riparian buffer to allow an assessment of the condition of the reach and a priority ranking for stream restoration. The study found that the smallest tributaries in the Herring Run Watershed are the source of the majority of water pollutants and sediment, and their poor condition influences the condition of water quality downstream in the main channel of the Herring Run.

The study identified 7 stream reaches within Herring Run Park. The reaches within the park were scored for over a dozen characteristics of stream channel stability with the highest rankings found in the Upper Park and the lower scores in the Middle and Lower Park. Within the park, the scores for ‘bank stability’ ranged from good to excellent and scores for ‘relationship between the stream channel and floodplain’ ranged from fair to good. The stream channel was found to be stable upstream of Sinclair Lane and less stable or actively changing downstream of Sinclair Lane. When the data on channel stability for the entire watershed was assessed and compared for potential impact on water quality and contribution to sediment load, the small tributaries outside the park were given high priority for Channel Stability Restoration and the stream reaches found within Herring Run Park were given moderate to low priority ranking for Channel Stability Restoration. While the priority rankings of the Watershed Report are a reflection of the importance of the recommendations in relation to immediate water quality improvements, each of the projects, including the lower priority recommendations within the Herring Run Park, are necessary for maximum water quality improvement in the Herring Run Watershed.

Storm Water Retrofit Concepts within the Park Boundaries (See Exhibit F)

In 2008, the Herring Run Watershed Association and the Center for Watershed Protection developed a list of potential storm water retrofit projects for the Herring Run Watershed focused primarily on institutional sites and parkland. The memo “*Proposed Storm Water Retrofit Projects in the Herring Run Watershed*”, inventoried and prioritized potential retrofit projects based upon the ability to have significant impact on treating storm water and site constraints. Six projects were identified with high priority, and two of these were located within the Herring Run Park. In 2008, Baltimore County Department of Environmental Protection and Resources Management in consultation with the Upper Back River SWAP



Invasive tree species providing beneficial canopy in the Lower Park



Insufficient riparian buffer in Lower Park near Bowleys Lane.

Steering Committee (Baltimore City Public Works, The Jones Falls Water Association, The Center for Watershed Protection, The Herring Run Watershed Association and Baltimore County DEPRM) completed a study of potential storm water retrofit projects in the Herring Run Watershed, Jones Falls Watershed, and Inner Harbor. The best Management Practice conclusions were identified in the *Upper Back River Small Watershed Action Plan, 2008*, and Technical Memorandum “*Baltimore City Storm water Inventory*” 2008. The report and memo identified potential watershed restoration measures that included storm water retrofit, stream repair, riparian management, discharge prevention, and pollution source control and municipality best practices. The report/memo indicated 8 potential areas within Herring Run Park with priority rankings of high to low. The techniques included within these areas were storm water ponds/wetland systems, dry swales, and stream restoration. These reports are summarized in **Appendix D** and individual projects are identified and mapped on **Exhibit F**.

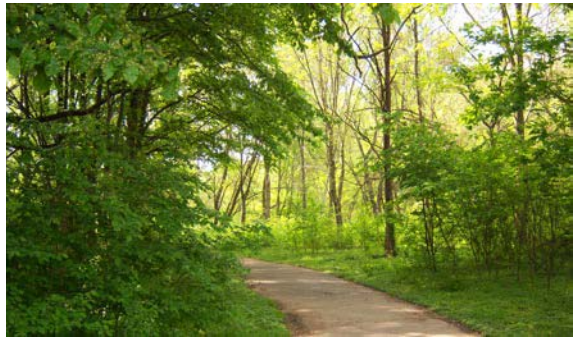
Once the potential sites were identified, preliminary investigations were completed by staff from the Department of Public Works, Recreation and Parks and the Herring Run Watershed Association to identify any site constraints for the proposed storm water retrofit projects. The areas identified within Herring Run Park were found to be unsuitable for storm water storage the park. As a result of these conflicts, no significant storm water retention ponds or wetlands can be built within Herring Run Park, although minor “demonstration” areas could be accommodated. The Herring Run Watershed Association has identified the Hall Spring area as a potential “demonstration” site for storm water management practices to support their environmental education programs. No conflicts with existing utilities are present in this area.

Woodland Studies and Riparian Buffer Assessment within Park Boundaries (See Exhibit G)

Two environmental assessment reports contributed to this exhibit: The *Herring Run Watershed Stream Assessment and Restoration Concept Plan, 2004* (prepared for Department of Public Works) and *Herring Run Park Tree Survey, 2008* (prepared for the Department of Recreation and Parks). The first study evaluated riparian quality as a factor in stream health in the Herring Run Watershed, while the second study was an assessment of the forest stands in Herring Run Park.



Healthy riparian buffer in portions of the Upper Park



Riparian buffer adjacent to Fr. Hooper Field(east side) and Champion Swamp White Oak (west side).

The 2004 DPW Watershed study included an assessment of the condition and width of the riparian buffers along each stream reach. The total acreage of Herring Run Park is less than 2% of the catchment of the Herring Run Watershed, so rainwater filtered by the park is insignificant in terms of impacting the water quality of the stream. However, the riparian buffers in the park play a significant role in stabilization of the stream bank with roots, moderating the water temperature with forest canopy and contributing to the habitat requirements of insects, invertebrates and other aquatic life in the stream.

The study gave an excellent rating for the terrestrial complexity of all the riparian buffers within the park and an excellent rating for riparian buffer width for all portions of the stream within the park except the reach between Brehms Lane and the BGE utility right of way. The study recommended that these buffers be doubled in width. The majority of trees in the Upper and Middle Park are native species and provide a good level of canopy cover for the stream. The majority of trees in the Lower Park are invasive species and there are significant portions of the stream without adequate canopy cover. The study gave a very high priority to habitat restoration south of Sinclair lane, recommending planting to increase tree cover and reduce the presence of invasive species. The study gave a high priority to habitat restoration between Brehms Lane and Sinclair Lane to the BGE line, recommending widening the riparian buffer with native trees and shrubs.

The Herring Run Park Tree Survey evaluated several different test plots within the woodland of the park. The study found that the woodlands in Herring Run Park have a density of trees consistent with healthy urban woodlands (approximately 100 trees per acre). The report affirmed that the species of young trees currently found in the park included a sufficient variety of native species to foster natural forest regeneration. Both studies found significant areas of invasive species of trees and vines within the woodlands and recommended removal of invasive species where there was already sufficient tree canopy to cool the stream. In areas where invasive species dominated the woodland mix and where their canopies provide value in cooling the stream (such as in the Lower Park), their complete removal is not recommended. Detailed summaries of these studies are included in ***Appendix D***.



Example of the steep slopes adjacent to Herring Run, north of Harford Road.



Areas adjacent to park edges are the most appropriate for “neighborhood parks” and playgrounds as they offer good access and visibility.

Soils Analysis (See Exhibit H)

The soils in the park as identified by the US Department of Agriculture are mostly disturbed urban soils in the low areas and erodible soils on the slopes. The soils limit land use to recreational and park use and suggest concentrating active recreation in the flatter areas.

Slope Analysis (See Exhibit I)

The topography of the park changes dramatically from north to south. For the most part, the northern-most part of the park, north of Harford Road, is characterized by sharply sloping ravines with limited flat areas adjacent to the stream. Exceptions to this are the flatter flood plain areas at Hall Spring. For the portion of the park between Harford and Belair Roads, the land south/west of the stream includes broader flat area adjacent to the stream and steeper slopes closer to the street edge. On the north/east side of the stream in this area, the topography is steeply sloping with limited low, flat areas. The portion of the park from Belair Road to Sinclair lane is marked by low, gently rolling topography at the edges and deep incised slope banks where park and tree cover is very limited. Beyond Sinclair Lane, the topography is mostly flat, with some steep slopes along the eroded stream banks.

Elevation Study (See Exhibit J)

Consistent with the topography, the land descends toward sea level from north to south. The elevation change along the park varies from approximately 220 to 240 feet above sea level to 20 to 40 feet above sea level, respectively. The stream likewise is reflective of the topography with more rapid movement and falls in the north and slower meandering patterns to the south.

4. POTENTIAL USE AREAS (See Exhibit K)

An inventory of the open spaces within Herring Run Park found that much of the park is described as gently sloping hills or meadows that are suitable for both active and passive recreational use as well as environmental enhancement. The park edges that interface with residential areas are generally suited for “neighborhood” parks because they offer good access and visibility into and out of the park. Trails, environmental enhancement projects, natural resource based recreation, sports facilities and other active and passive park uses are



The existing path will be improved as part of the initial phase of the Greenway



Several "footpaths" will be improved as part of the Greenway

ideally located throughout the park for the greatest exposure to and education of the public regarding the park ecosystems.

5. CONCURRENT PROJECTS (See Exhibits L and M)

Following is a brief summary of City-sponsored projects planned near Herring Run Park:

The Baltimore City Office of Sustainability will lead a multi-agency task force to monitor the progress and compatibility of all City investments proposed in or near Herring Run Park. Currently funded projects that will be tracked by the Task Force include the Herring Run Greenway, renovation/replacement of two bridges crossing Herring Run (Argonne Drive, and Harford Road), and several sewer relining/replacement contracts.

The Herring Run Park Greenway Trail

The Herring Run Greenway will pass through Herring Run Park as it travels through Northeast Baltimore City. The Greenway will be built in several phases. Phase I will link Morgan State University, Lake Montebello, Hall Spring and Sinclair Lane. The Greenway project will include improvements to an existing park path, new pathway sections and new pedestrian bridges. Trail design is in progress and will be informed by the recommendations within the park master plan. The proposed Herring Run Greenway alignment is illustrated on ***Exhibit N***. Phase I of the Greenway is to be completed by 2012. Future phases of the Greenway will extend the trail south from Sinclair Lane to Armistead Gardens and north from the Morgan State University campus past Northern Parkway.

Sanitary Sewer Realignment and Lining

Based upon recommendations for improvements to water quality and by Consent Decree, the Department of Public Works has recently upgraded and continues to upgrade the sanitary lines that are located in the Herring Run stream valley. The projects will improve water quality as the stream flows through Herring Run Park by eliminating leaks in the sewer pipes and increasing pipe capacity to reduce manhole overflows into the stream. The work has been designed for minimal disruption to service and minimized environmental impacts.

Projects expected for construction in 2010 include tunneling for a new sewer line between Argonne Drive and Hall Spring and relining several miles of sewer pipes along Herring Run upstream from the Hall Spring Area of Herring Run Park to Mt Pleasant Golf Course. The construction activities of these sewer projects are will be coordinated with the Greenway Trail project to lessen park impacts.

Argonne Drive Bridge

The Argonne Drive Bridge project is a rehabilitation of the current bridge anticipated to begin in the summer of 2010. The project will have minimal impacts on Herring Run Park, as only the bridge decking will be renovated.

Harford Road Bridge

The reconstruction of the Harford Road Bridge is to begin in the fall of 2011. The bridge will be closed for approximately one year, and portions of Hall Spring will be used as a staging area for construction. The bridge and its roadway approaches will be completely replaced. The design is to incorporate two arches in the current central and north locations and expand the roadway width to accommodate bike lanes on both sides. An underpass connecting Lake Montebello to Herring Run Park via the Greenway is proposed as part of the bridge construction. Construction is to be coordinated with the Greenway and be informed by the recommendations of the Herring Run Park Master Plan. A new park pedestrian bridge, just east of the current pedestrian bridge will be installed before the Harford Road Bridge project begins, to provide a new Greenway connection near Hall Spring and to maintain pedestrian access during the bridge construction. The current pedestrian bridge will be demolished during renovation of the Harford Road Bridge.

Harford Road Resurfacing

The portion of Harford Road between Chesterfield Avenue and 25th Street is to be resurfaced. Sidewalk improvements, street tree plantings, and planted medians are to be included where feasible. Construction is expected to begin in the fall of 2010.

Athletic Field Study

The Baltimore City Departments of Planning, Recreation and Parks and Education are working together to prepare an athletic field study. This study will include an inventory of

all current and potential athletic fields on public lands in Baltimore City and an in-depth study of current use by school sports and recreational teams and permit holders. In addition, this will also include a study of use by youth and adults for informal games. This athletic field study should be consulted as this master plan is implemented.



Stakeholders participate in one of three park walks conducted during the master planning process

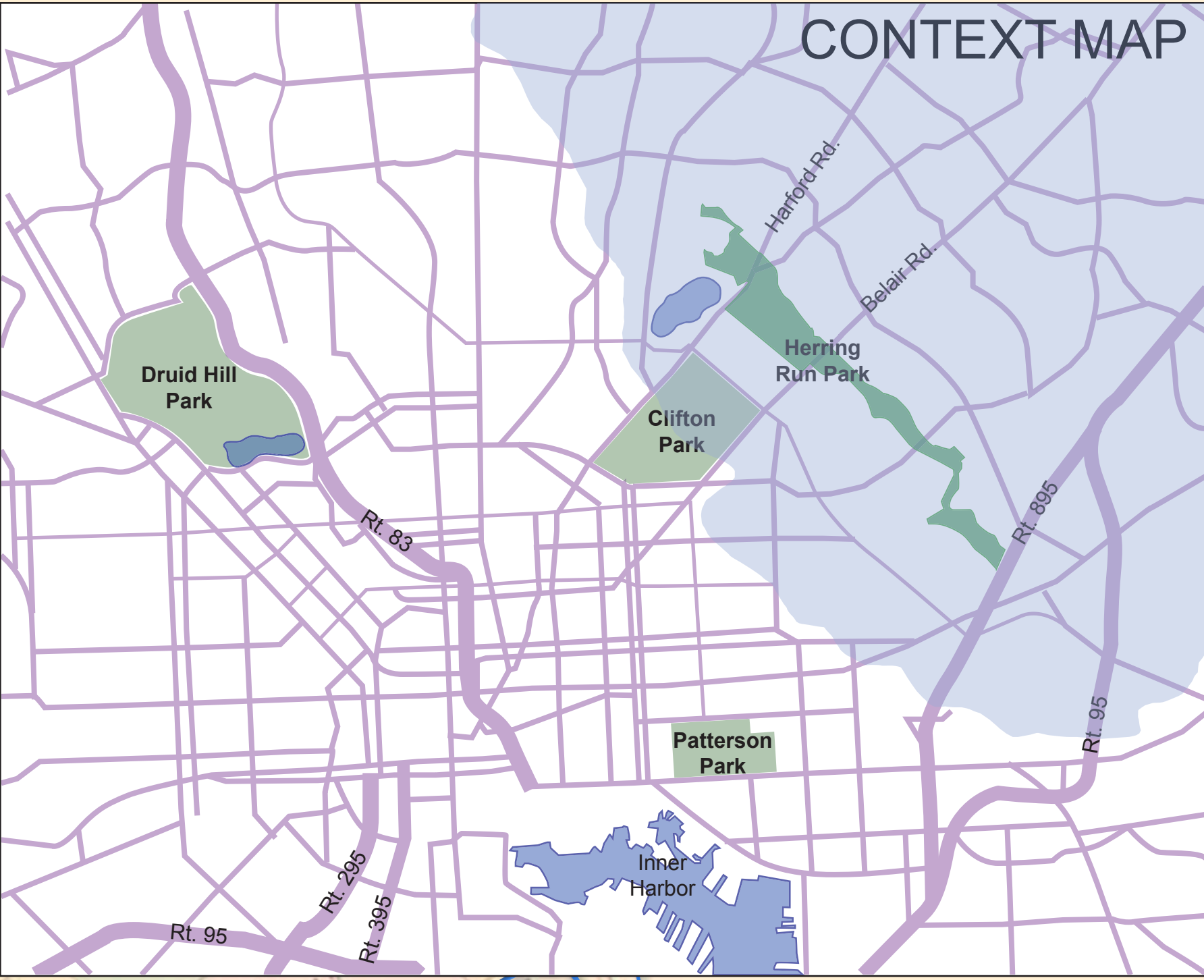
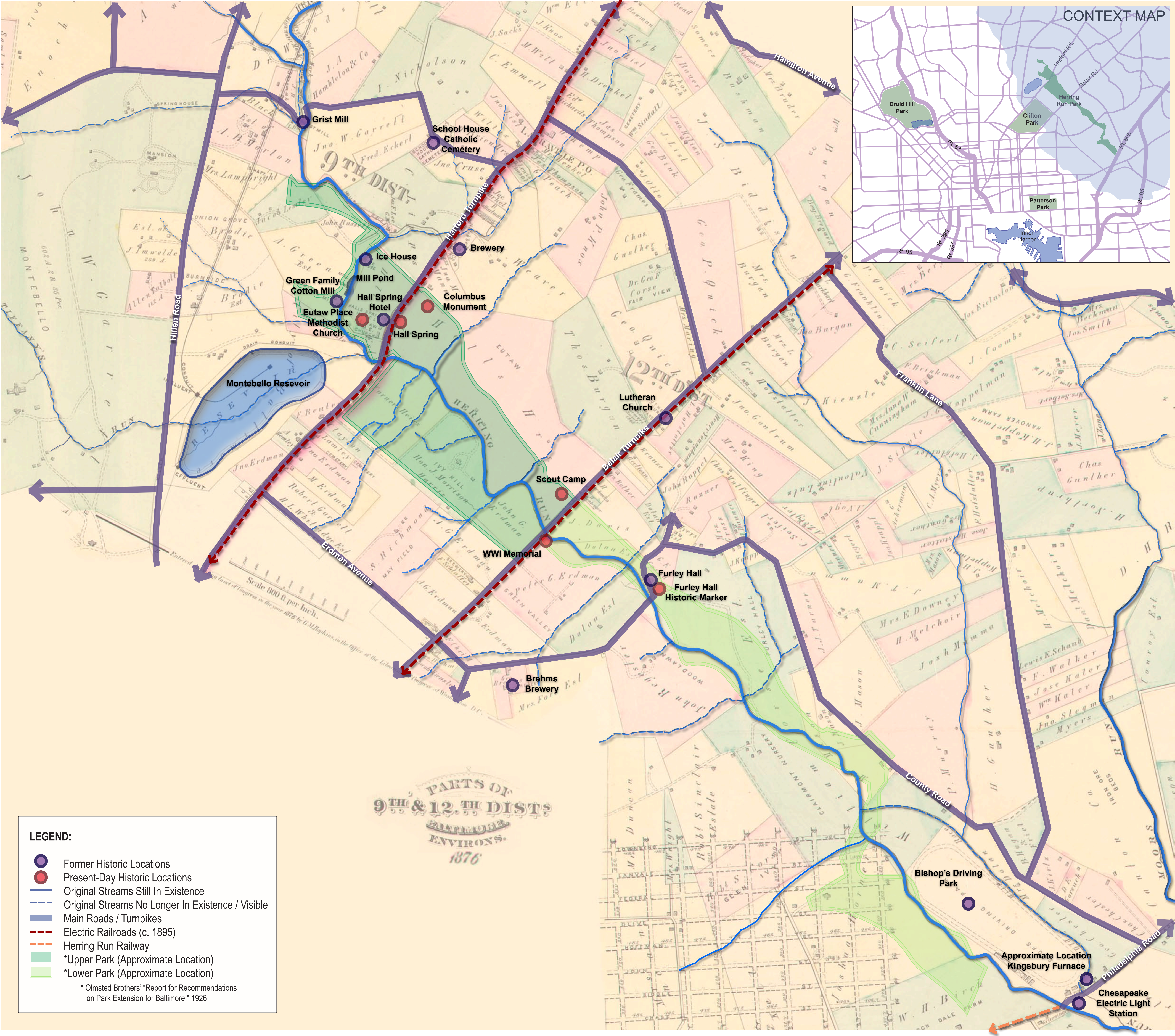
6. SUMMARY OF STAKEHOLDER INPUT

The predominant strength that has emerged through stakeholder meetings, surveys, and park walks is Herring Run Park's intrinsic value as a natural resource, a water resource, a forested expanse, and a wildlife habitat. The linear nature of the park and its proximity to numerous neighborhoods compliments the "front door" park image for residents of many communities. The forest, meadows, marshland, streamside paths, active recreation fields and facilities, function as a venue for educational programs and neighborhood events that continue to bring new generations of neighbors to Herring Run Park and its surrounding neighborhoods.

There are many ways to experience Herring Run Park. While some park visitors only come to the park for the soccer fields during the sports season, others walk the woodland paths daily and observe the cycles of nature throughout the year. These widely different human needs can be satisfied in Herring Run Park because the park's landscape is a successful blend of natural woodland areas, open meadows and open spaces that can accommodate a wide variety of park activity. Supporting the balance between active and passive activities in Herring Run Park is critical to preserving the natural resources of the park as well as meeting the recreational needs of the communities in Northeast Baltimore; sustaining park features that have become the magnet that joins these communities together.

Herring Run is blessed with the priceless beauty of its natural setting yet there are still many opportunities for improvement. Environmental concerns about water quality, stream bank erosion and sedimentation, invasive plants in the woodlands, and trash deposited by high water flows and wind plague the park's natural beauty. While some active recreation fields are over-used, others have minimal use. Most active recreation fields would benefit from turf restoration and installation of basic park amenities such as benches, nearby restrooms and drinking fountains. Limited maintenance is a common concern for park users. Random incidents of undesirable activities weaken the park's image and take away from the beauty and history of the spaces in the park. These, along with limited awareness of the park, limited visibility into and out of the park, and poor connections to well-used adjacent amenities such as Lake Montebello detract from the sense of safety and security within the park.

Addressing the weaknesses that exist in the park today opens up a wealth of opportunities, including enhancing natural resources, creating park settings for informal activities, and improving athletic facilities and youth activities. There is an opportunity to revisit the historical aspects of the park by re-opening the natural spring in Hall Spring, enhancing park structures and providing interpretive elements throughout the park, nodding to this history and the environment. An enhanced trail system, which builds beyond the Greenway to improve connections throughout the park and to adjacent areas, as well as improved signage, would create more park use by more people. Many of these improvements would foster a widespread sense of stewardship from the neighborhoods nearby which, in turn, will host more events and bring more use to the park. The Herring Run Park Advisory Board (HRPAB), amongst other venues, offers an opportunity to improve communication between city agencies and communities to arrive at common goals for the park.



HERRING RUN PARK MASTER PLAN

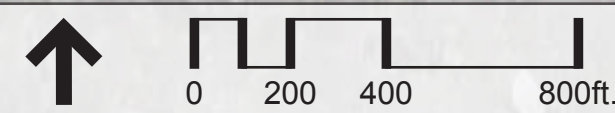
Baltimore, Maryland

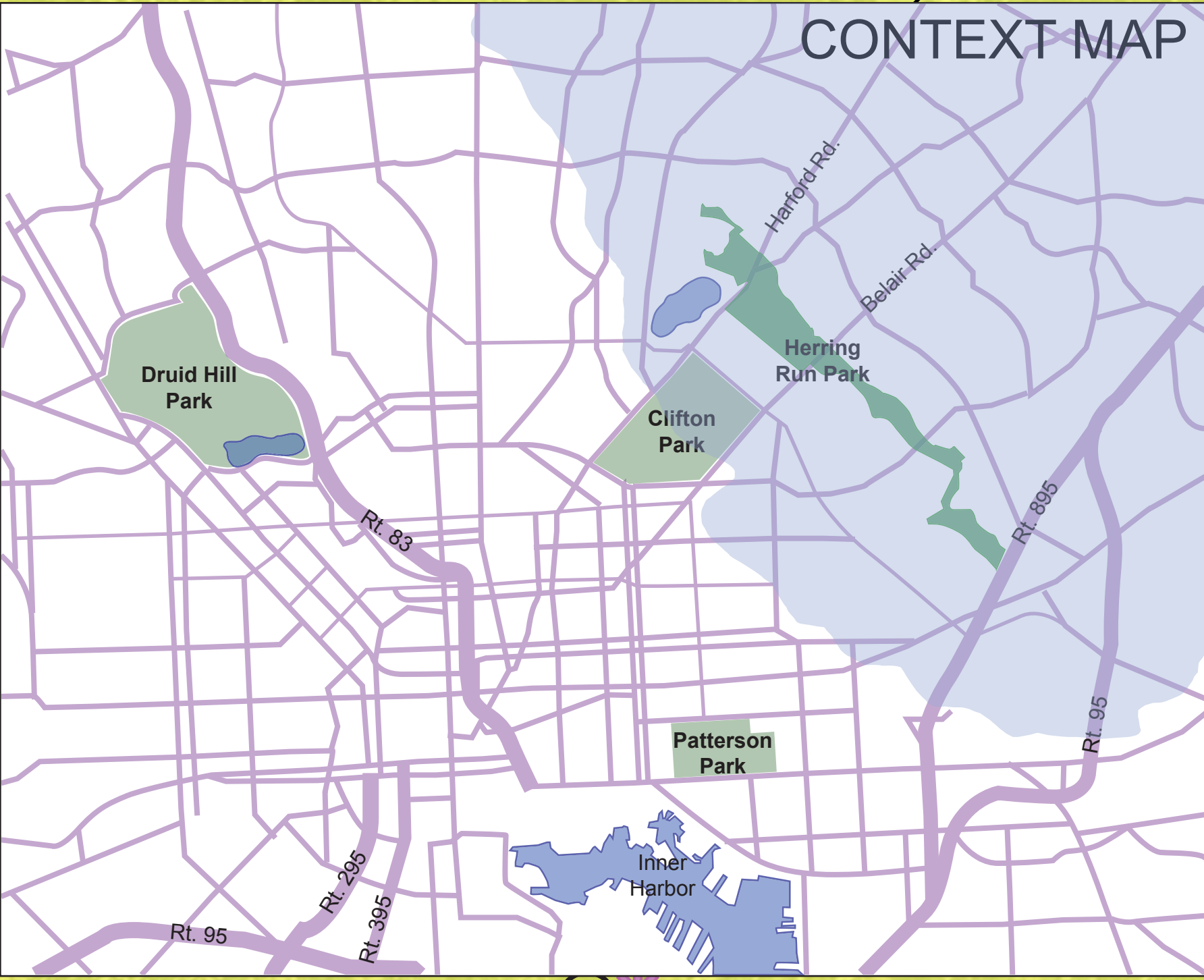
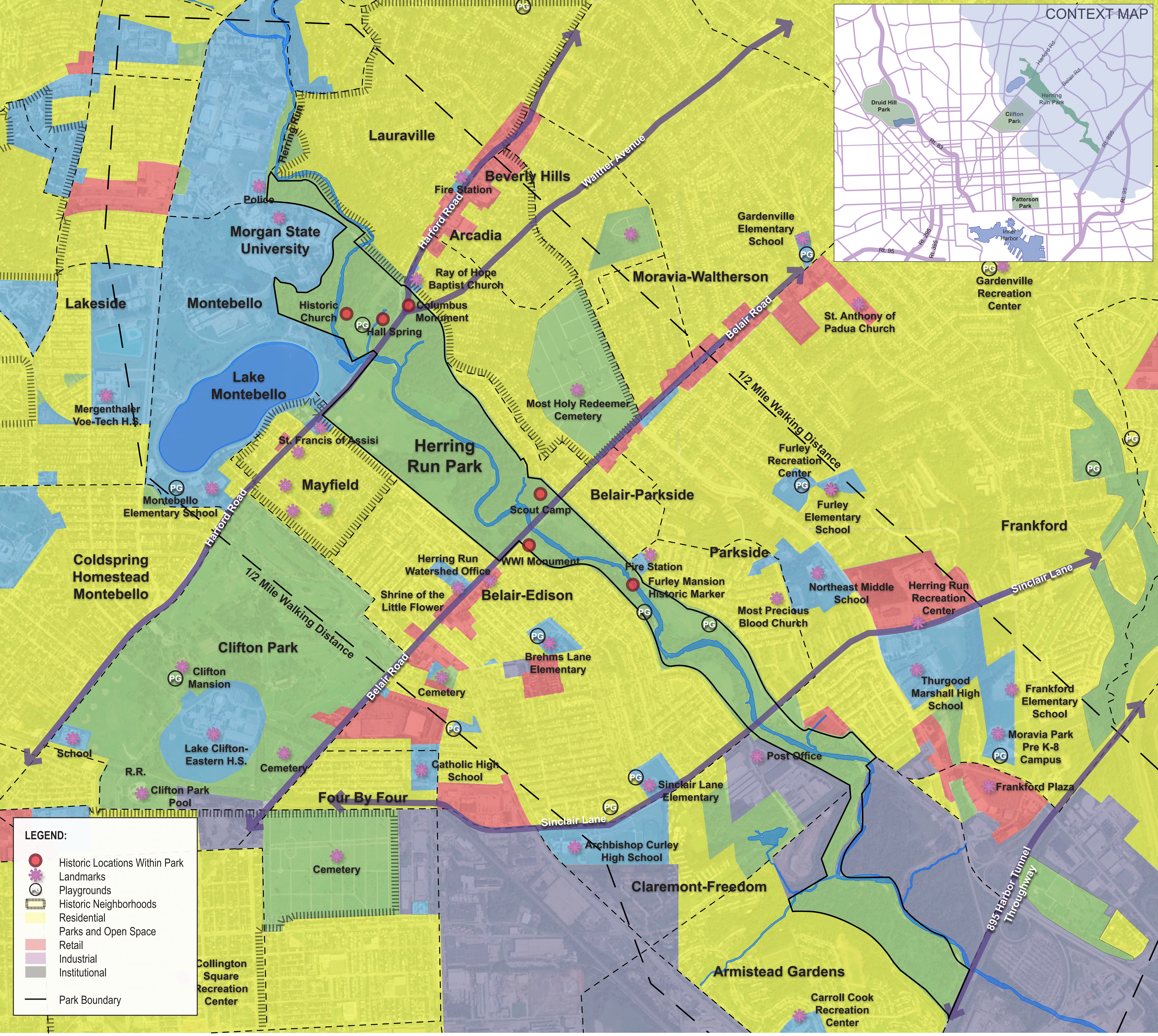
EXHIBIT A

Historic Sites

MAHAN RYKIEL ASSOCIATES, INC.
800 Wyman Park Drive, Suite 100
Baltimore, MD
21211

DEPARTMENT OF RECREATION & PARKS
2600 Madison Ave
Baltimore, MD
21217





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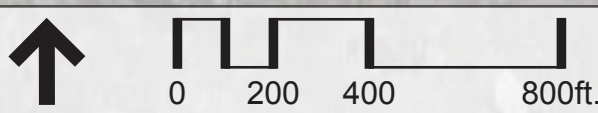
Baltimore, Maryland

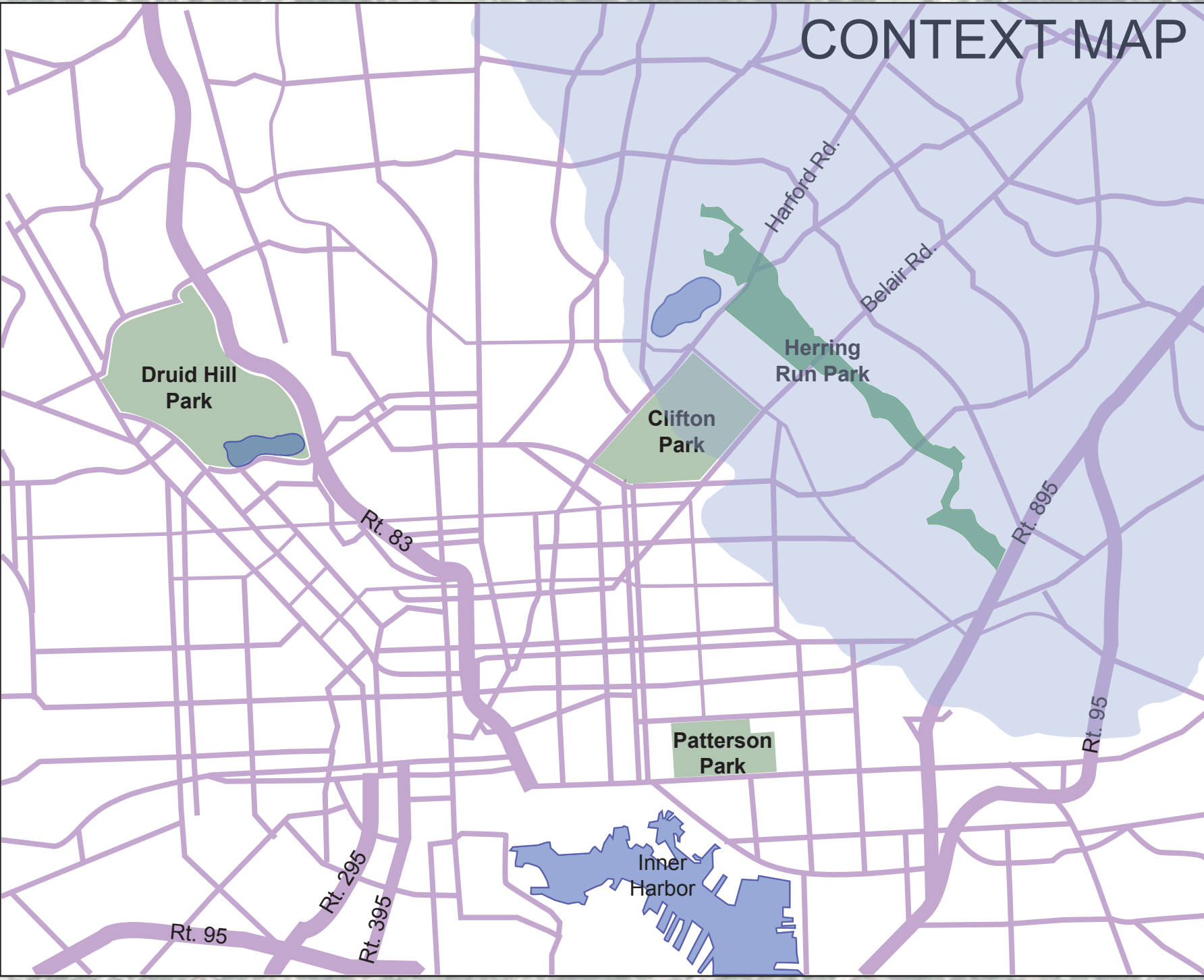
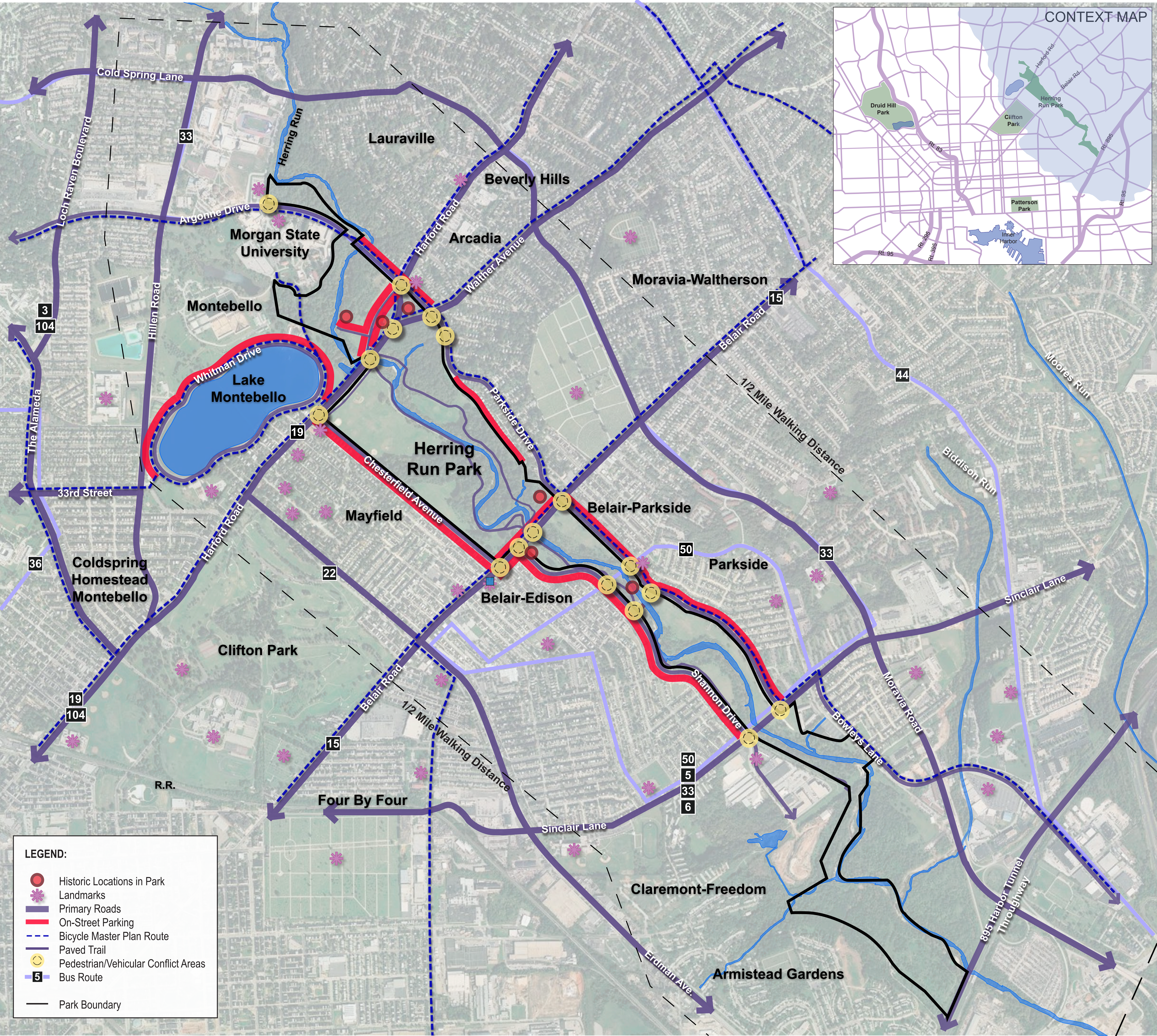
EXHIBIT B

Neighborhood
Context

MAHAN RYKIEL ASSOCIATES, INC.
800 Wyman Park Drive, Suite 100
Baltimore, MD
21211

DEPARTMENT OF RECREATION &
PARKS
2600 Madison Ave
Baltimore, MD
21217





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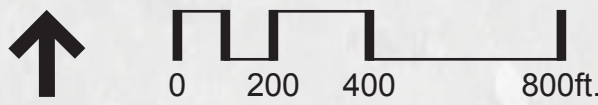
Baltimore, Maryland

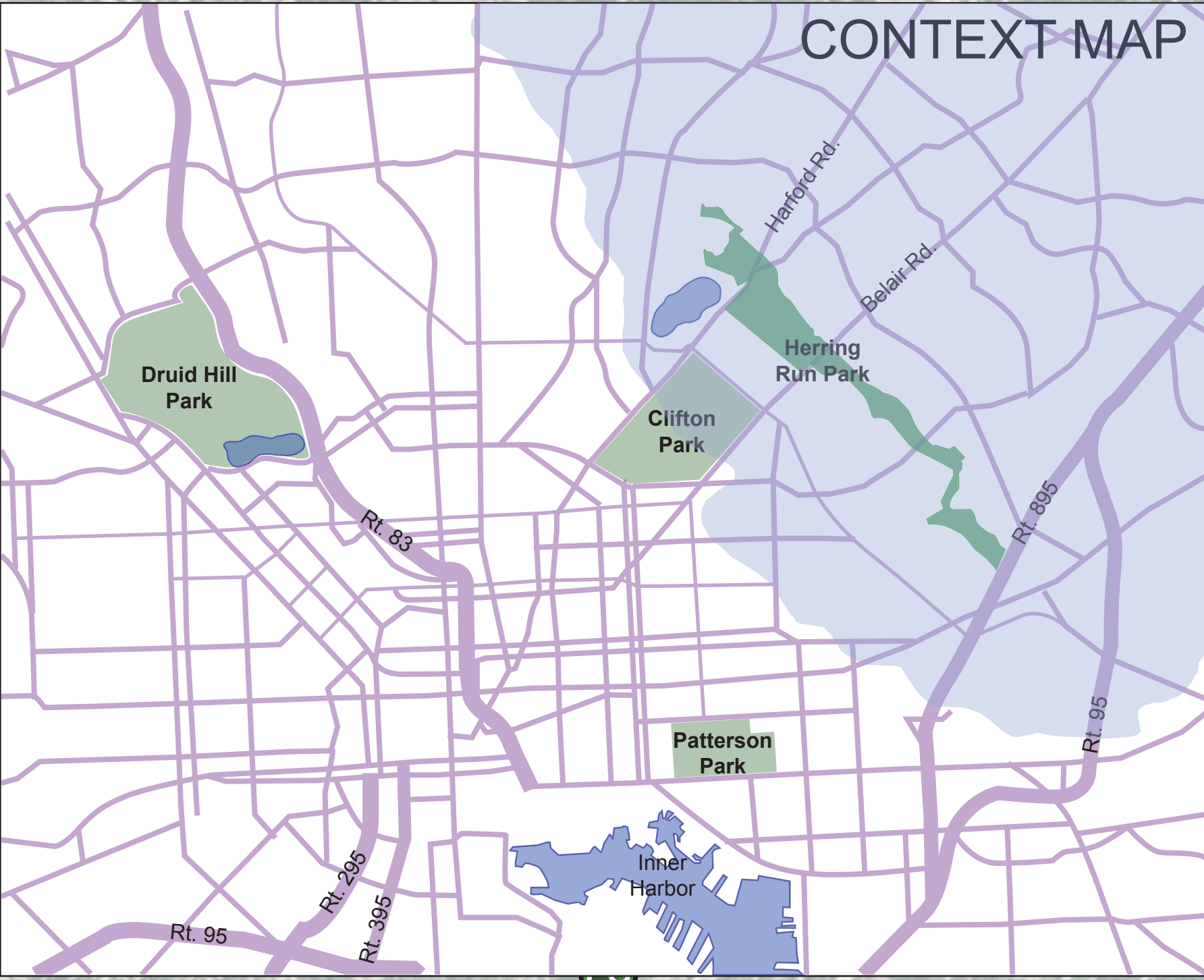
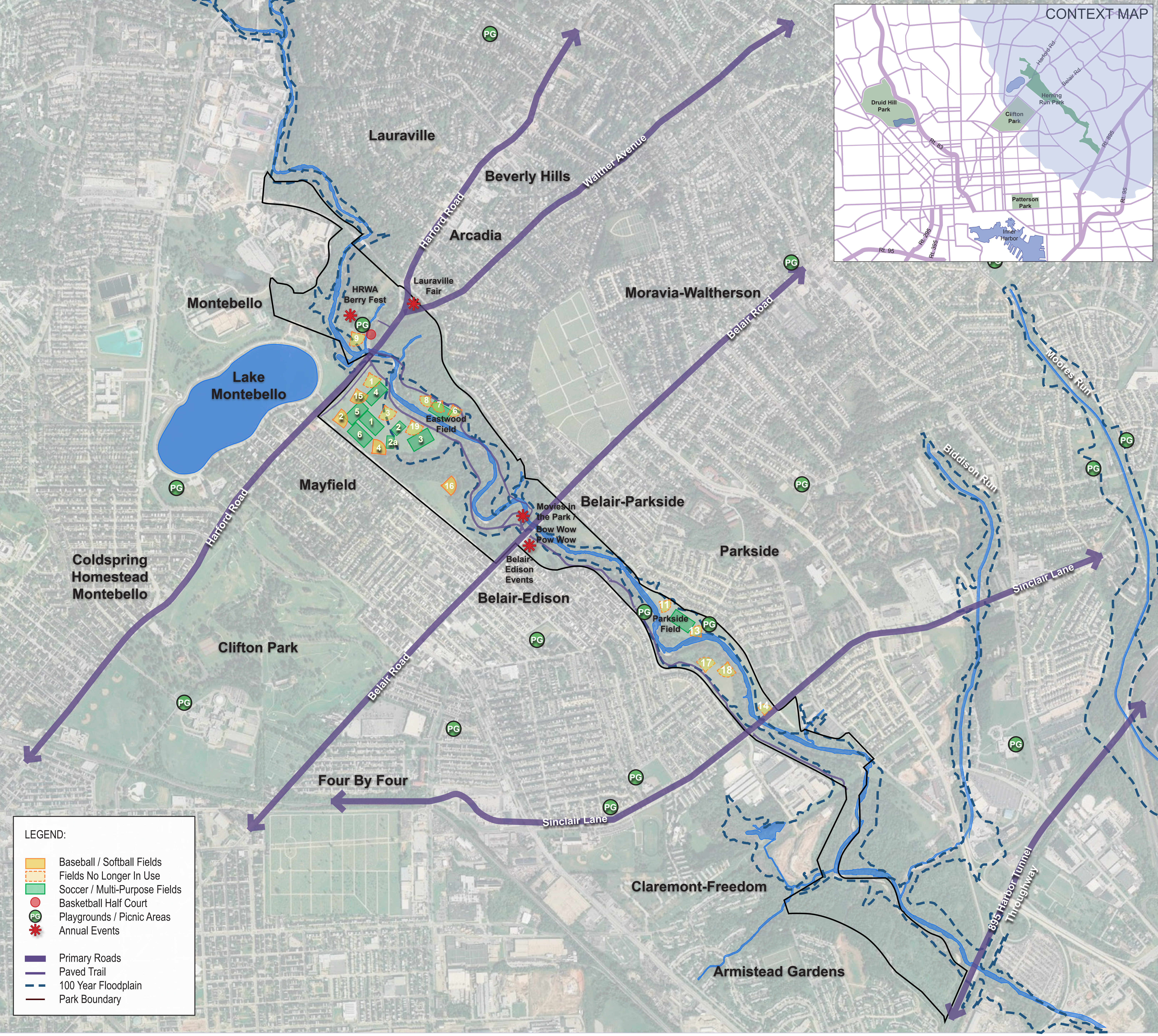
EXHIBIT C

Transportation
Networks

MAHAN RYKIEL ASSOCIATES, INC
800 Wyman Park Drive, Suite 100
Baltimore, MD
21211

DEPARTMENT OF RECREATION &
PARKS
2600 Madison Ave
Baltimore, MD
21217





LEGEND:

- Baseball / Softball Fields
- Fields No Longer In Use
- Soccer / Multi-Purpose Fields
- Basketball Half Court
- Playgrounds / Picnic Areas
- Annual Events
- Primary Roads
- Paved Trail
- 100 Year Floodplain
- Park Boundary

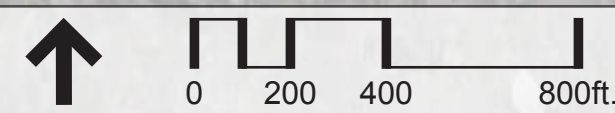
HERRING RUN PARK MASTER PLAN

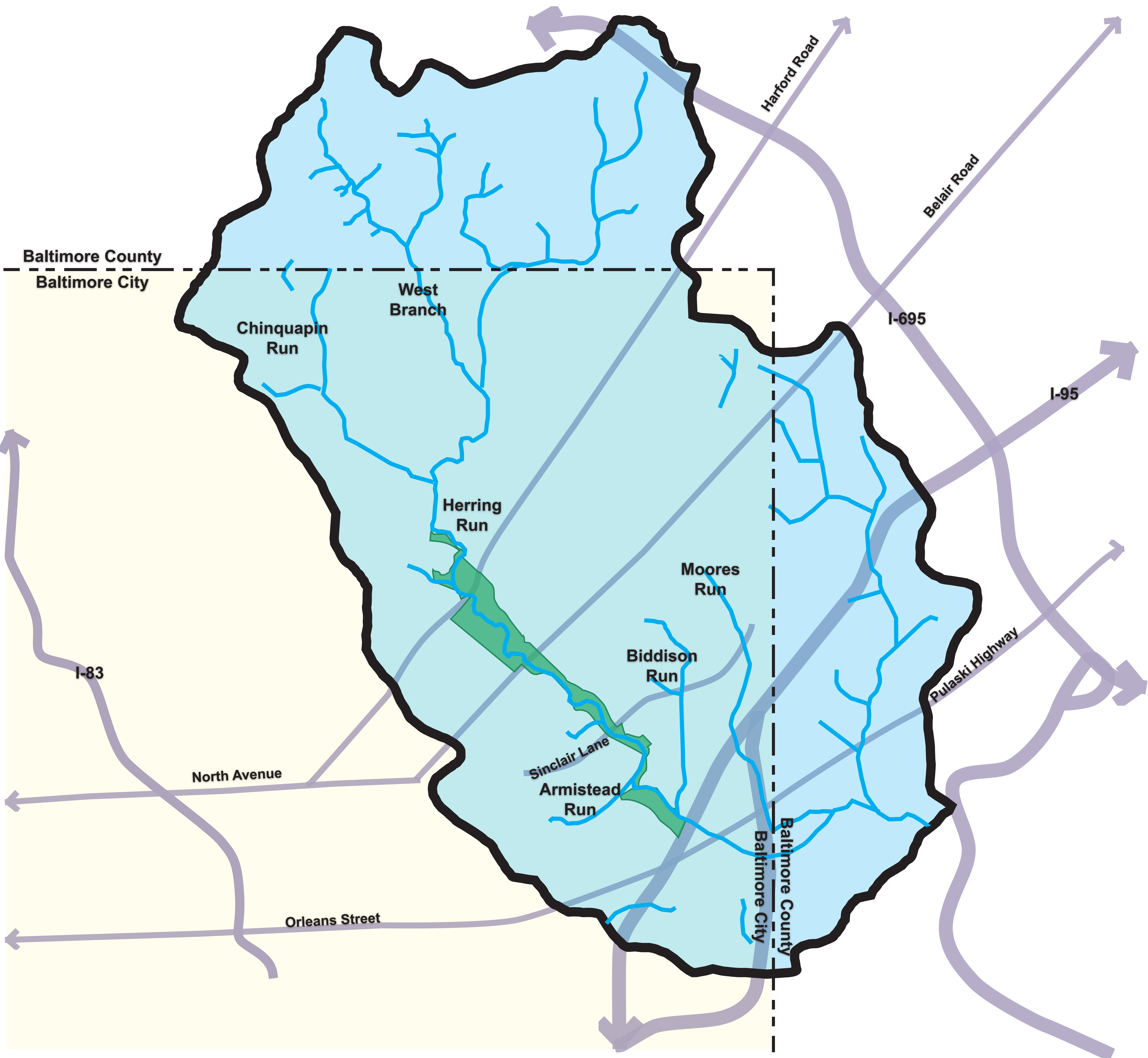
Baltimore, Maryland

EXHIBIT D

Active Recreation

MAHAN RYKIEL ASSOCIATES, INC
800 Wyman Park Drive, Suite 100
Baltimore, MD 21211
DEPARTMENT OF RECREATION & PARKS
2600 Madison Ave
Baltimore, MD 21217





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Baltimore, Maryland

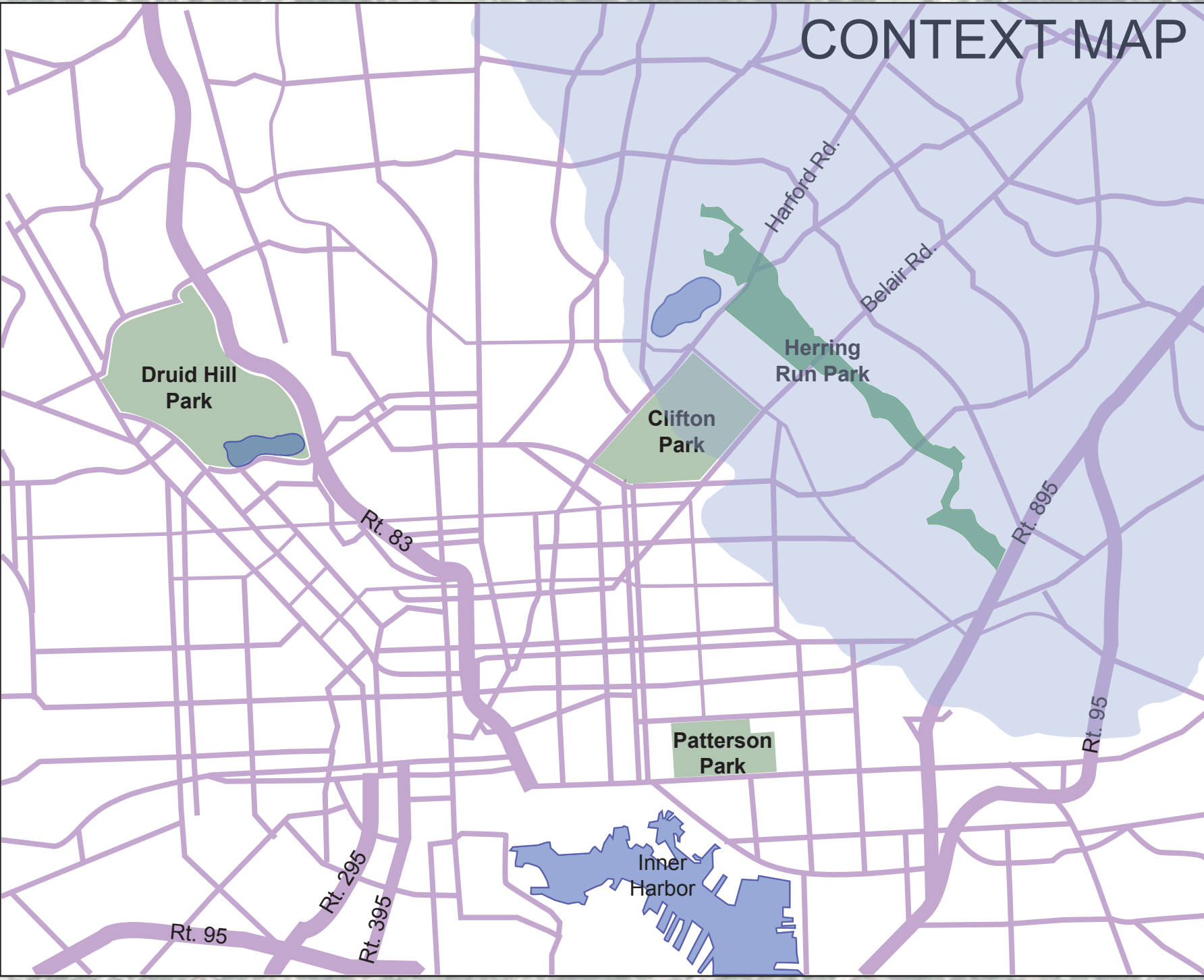
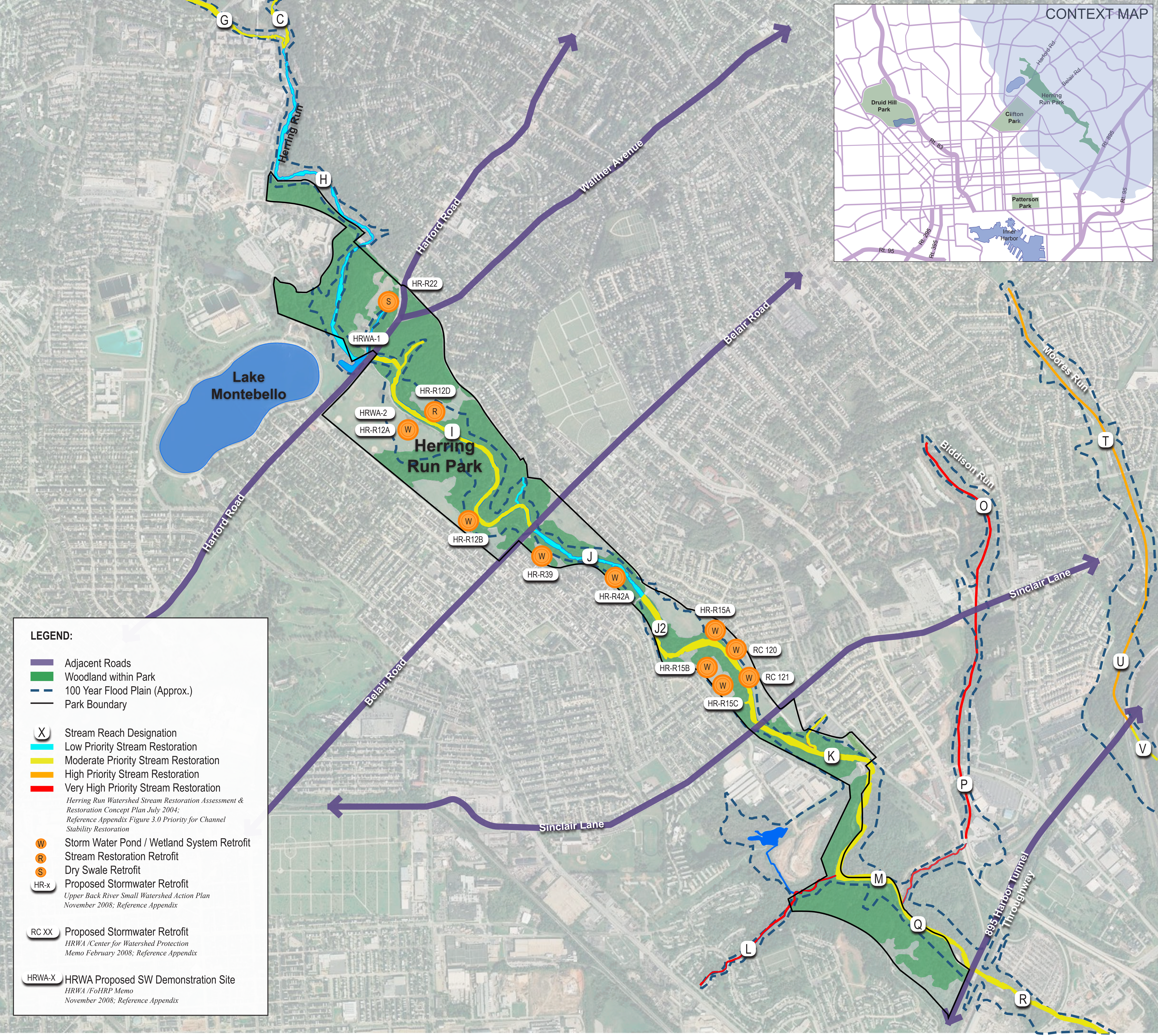
EXHIBIT E

Herring Run
Watershed

MAHAN RYKIEL ASSOCIATES, INC
800 Wyman Park Drive, Suite 100
Baltimore, MD
21211

DEPARTMENT OF RECREATION &
PARKS
2600 Madison Ave
Baltimore, MD
21217

↑ 0 200 400 800ft.



- LEGEND:**
- Adjacent Roads
 - Woodland within Park
 - 100 Year Flood Plain (Approx.)
 - Park Boundary
 - Stream Reach Designation
 - Low Priority Stream Restoration
 - Moderate Priority Stream Restoration
 - High Priority Stream Restoration
 - Very High Priority Stream Restoration
 - Herring Run Watershed Stream Restoration Assessment & Restoration Concept Plan July 2004; Reference Appendix Figure 3.0 Priority for Channel Stability Restoration
 - Storm Water Pond / Wetland System Retrofit
 - Stream Restoration Retrofit
 - Dry Swale Retrofit
 - Proposed Stormwater Retrofit
 - Upper Back River Small Watershed Action Plan November 2008; Reference Appendix
 - Proposed Stormwater Retrofit
 - HRWA /Center for Watershed Protection Memo February 2008; Reference Appendix
 - HRWA Proposed SW Demonstration Site
 - HRWA /FoHRP Memo November 2008; Reference Appendix

HERRING RUN PARK MASTER PLAN

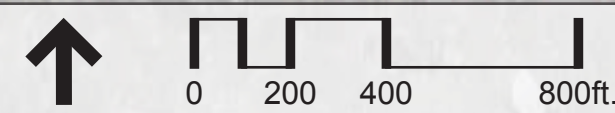
Baltimore, Maryland

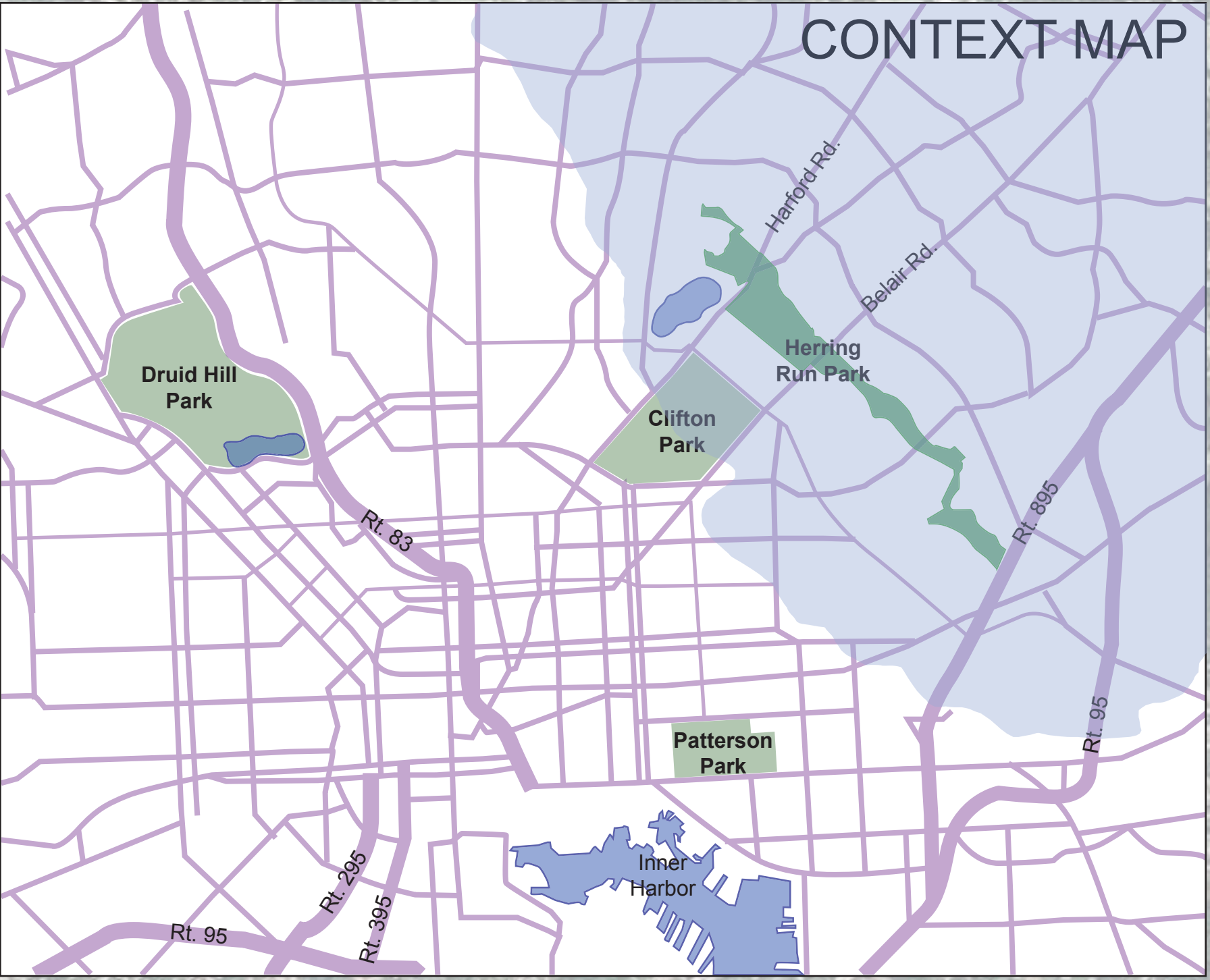
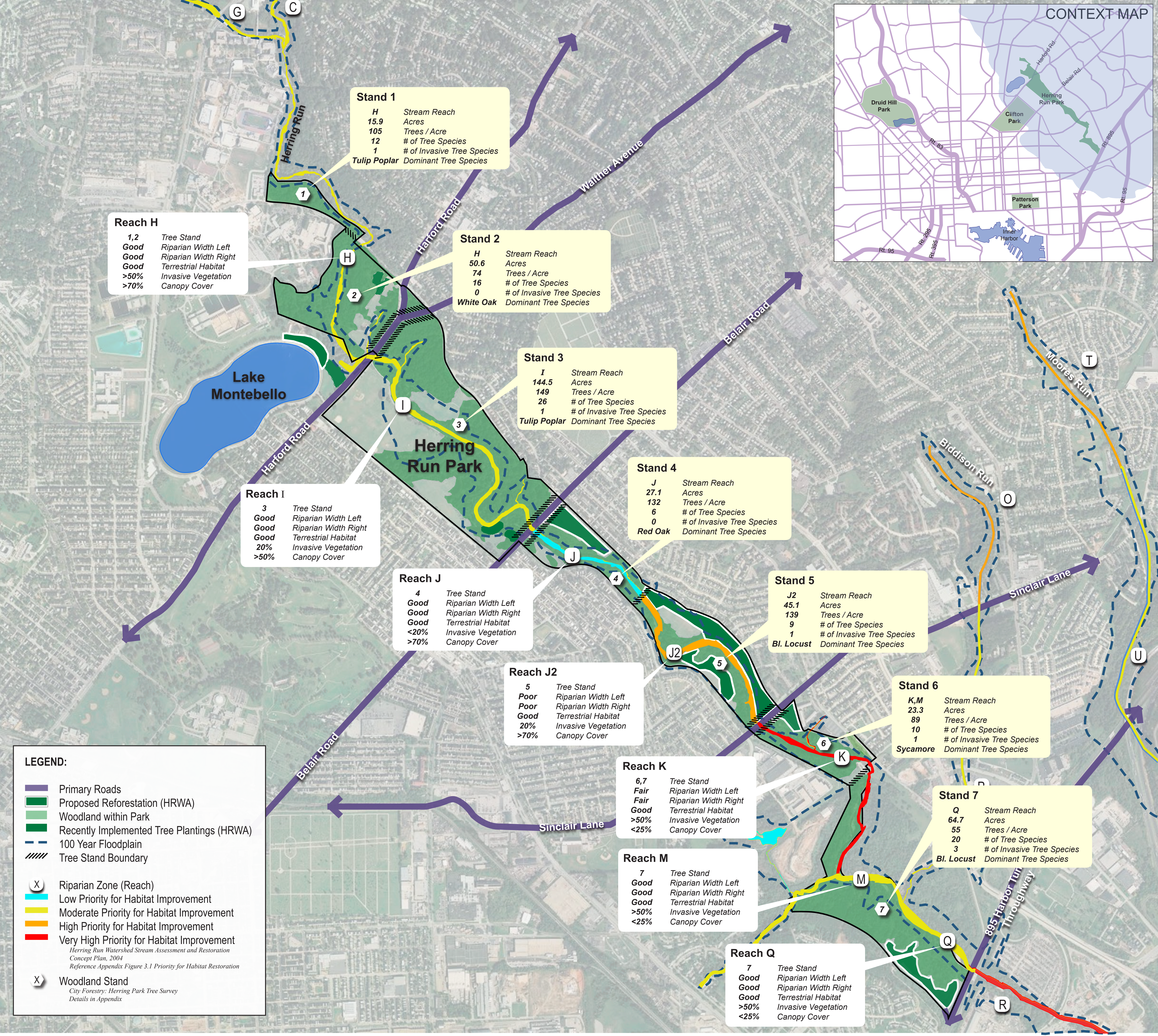
EXHIBIT F

Stream Assessments & Recommendations

MAHAN RYKIEL ASSOCIATES, INC
800 Wyman Park Drive, Suite 100
Baltimore, MD 21211

DEPARTMENT OF RECREATION & PARKS
2600 Madison Ave
Baltimore, MD 21217





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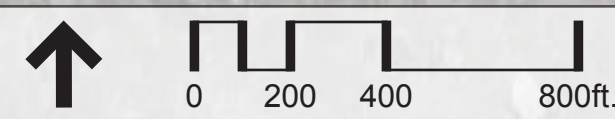
Baltimore, Maryland

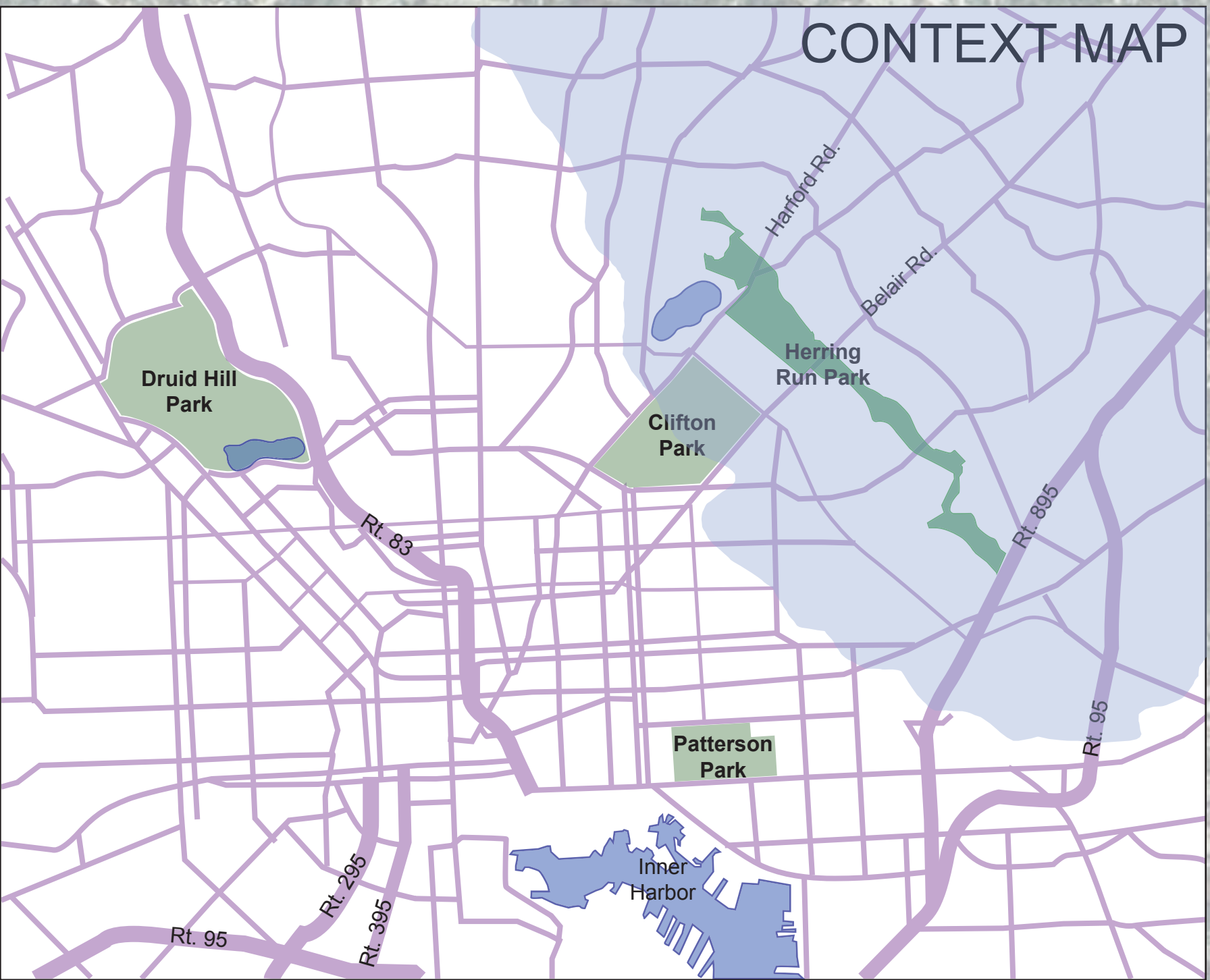
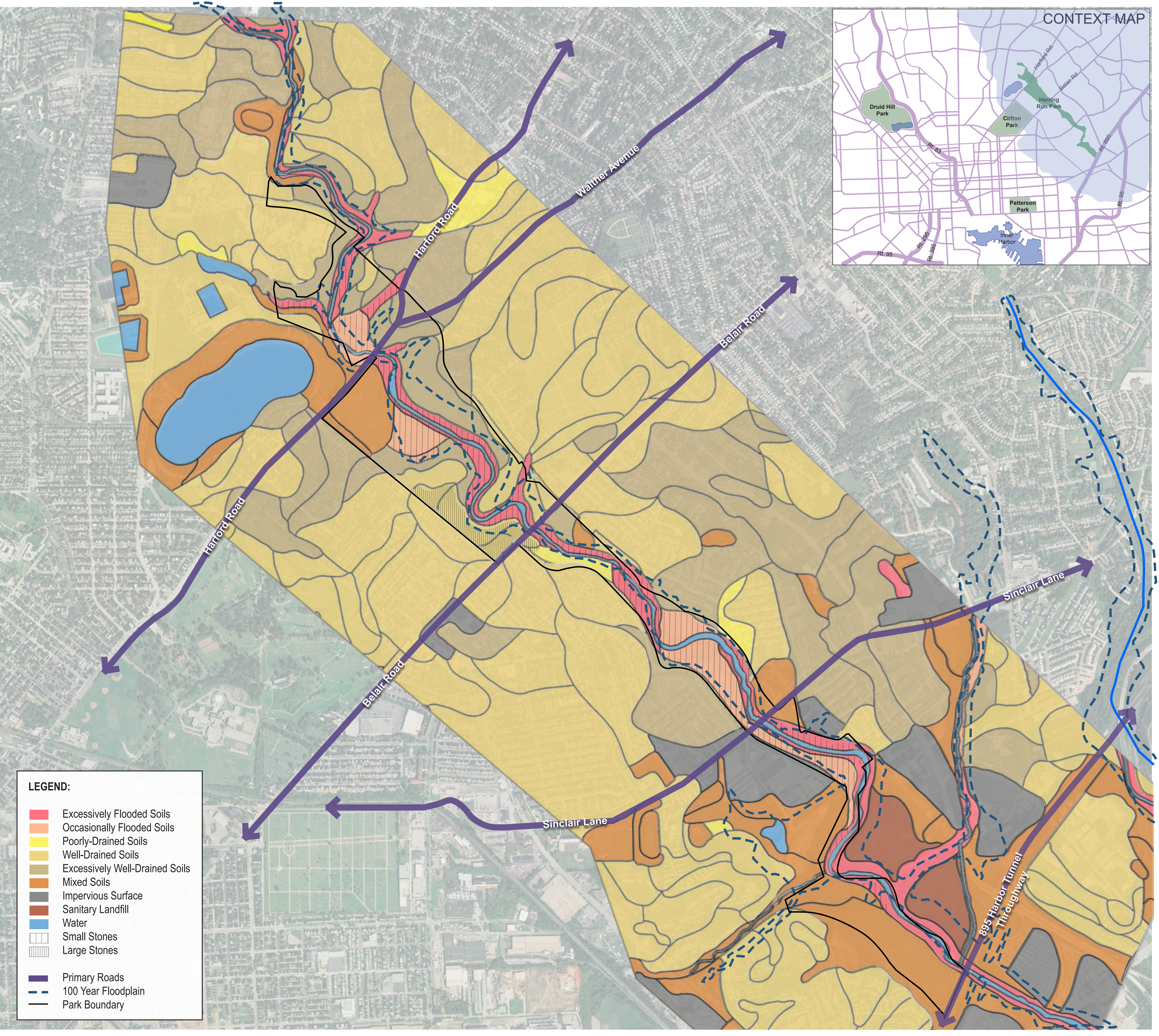
EXHIBIT G

Woodland Studies & Recommendations

MAHAN RYKIEL ASSOCIATES, INC.
800 Wyman Park Drive, Suite 100
Baltimore, MD 21211

DEPARTMENT OF RECREATION & PARKS
2600 Madison Ave
Baltimore, MD 21217





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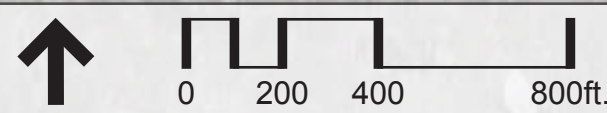
Baltimore, Maryland

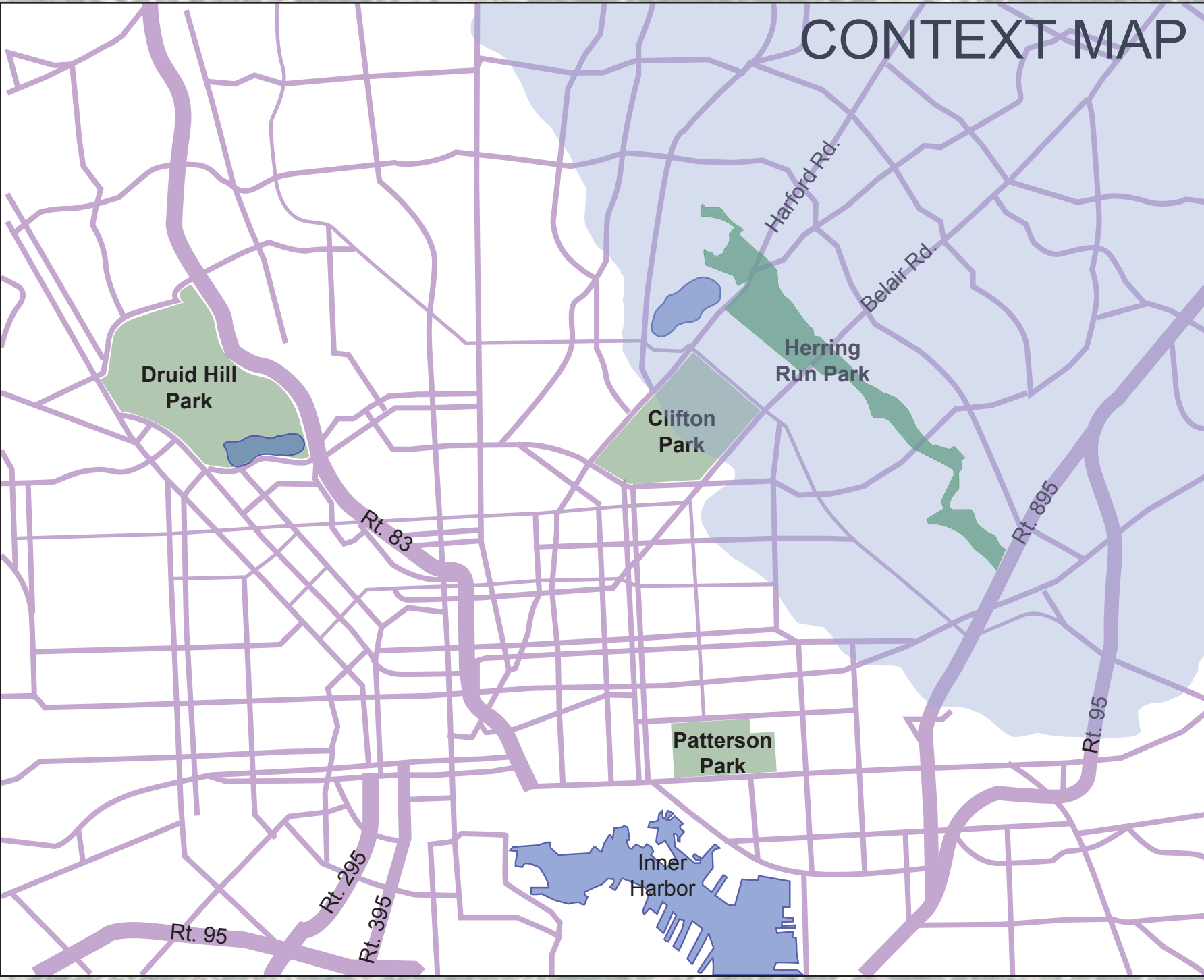
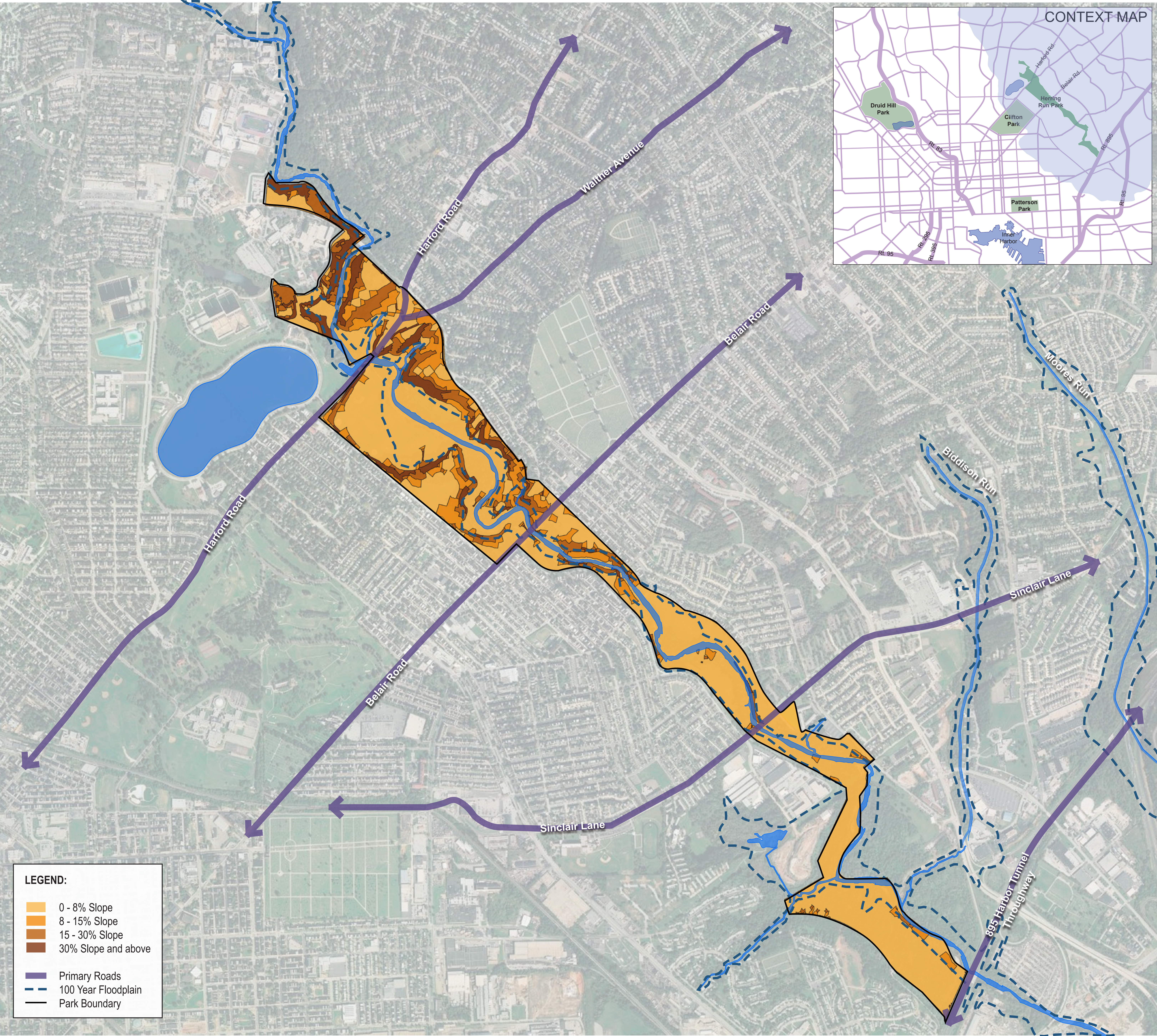
EXHIBIT H

Soils
Analysis

MAHAN RYKIEL ASSOCIATES, INC
800 Wyman Park Drive, Suite 100
Baltimore, MD
21211

DEPARTMENT OF RECREATION &
PARKS
2600 Madison Ave
Baltimore, MD
21217





LEGEND:

- 0 - 8% Slope
- 8 - 15% Slope
- 15 - 30% Slope
- 30% Slope and above
- Primary Roads
- 100 Year Floodplain
- Park Boundary

HERRING RUN PARK MASTER PLAN

Baltimore, Maryland

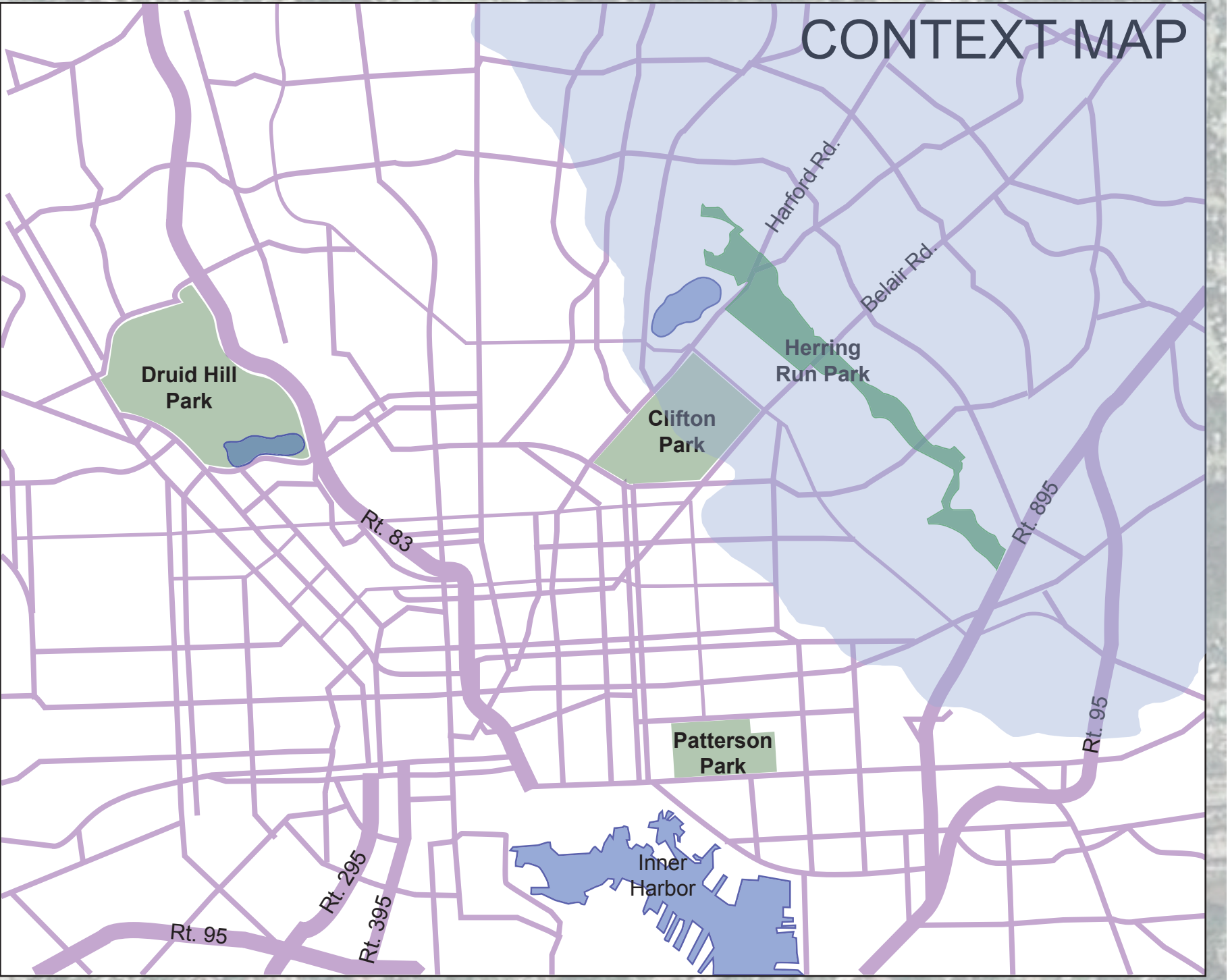
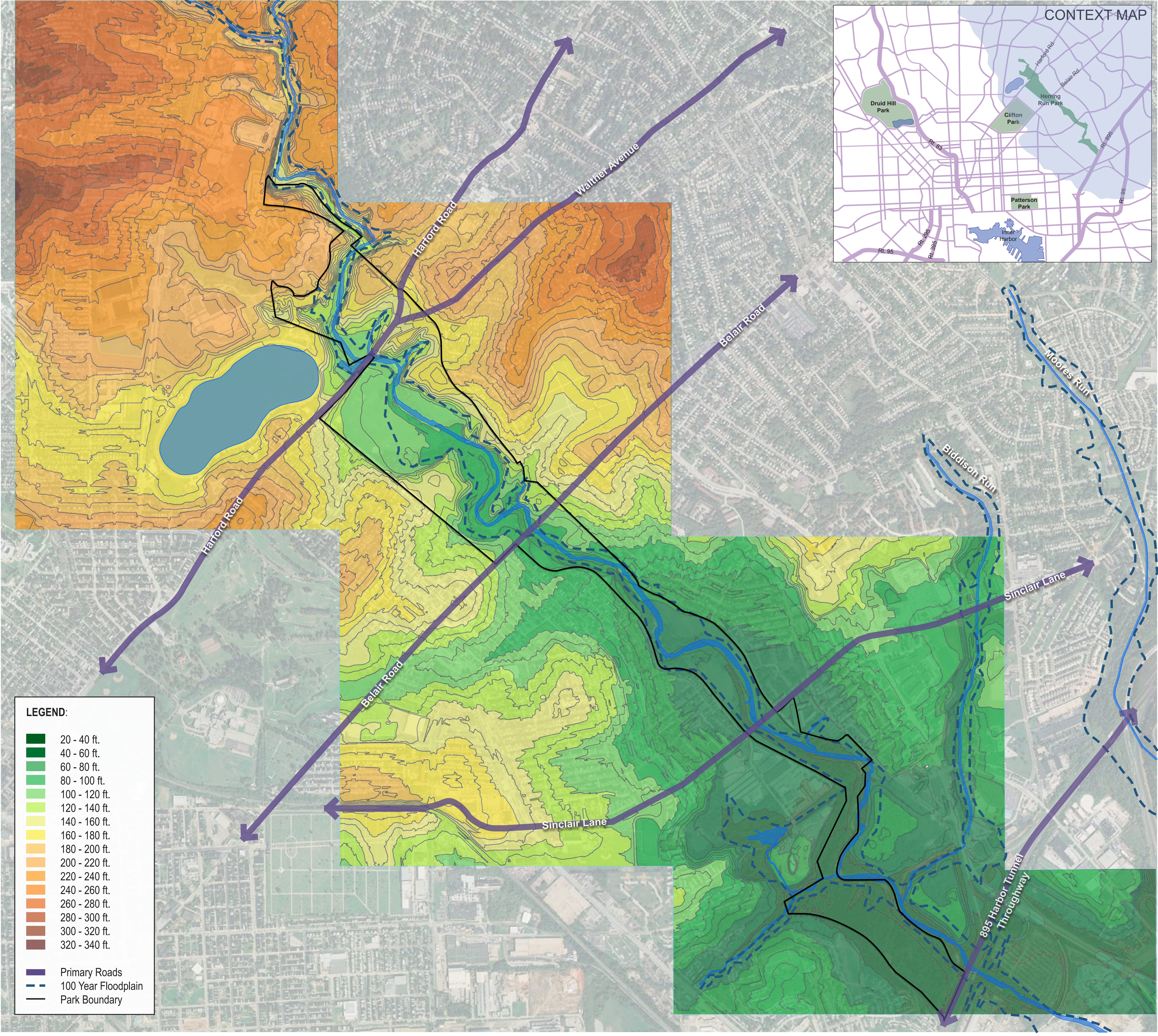
EXHIBIT I

Slope Analysis

MAHAN RYKIEL ASSOCIATES, INC.
800 Wyman Park Drive, Suite 100
Baltimore, MD 21211

DEPARTMENT OF RECREATION & PARKS
2600 Madison Ave
Baltimore, MD 21217

0 200 400 800ft.



LEGEND:

20 - 40 ft.
40 - 60 ft.
60 - 80 ft.
80 - 100 ft.
100 - 120 ft.
120 - 140 ft.
140 - 160 ft.
160 - 180 ft.
180 - 200 ft.
200 - 220 ft.
220 - 240 ft.
240 - 260 ft.
260 - 280 ft.
280 - 300 ft.
300 - 320 ft.
320 - 340 ft.

Primary Roads
100 Year Floodplain
Park Boundary

HERRING RUN PARK MASTER PLAN

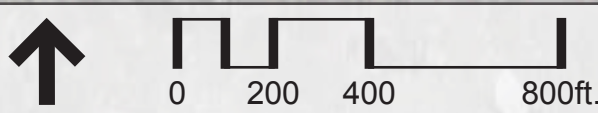
Baltimore, Maryland

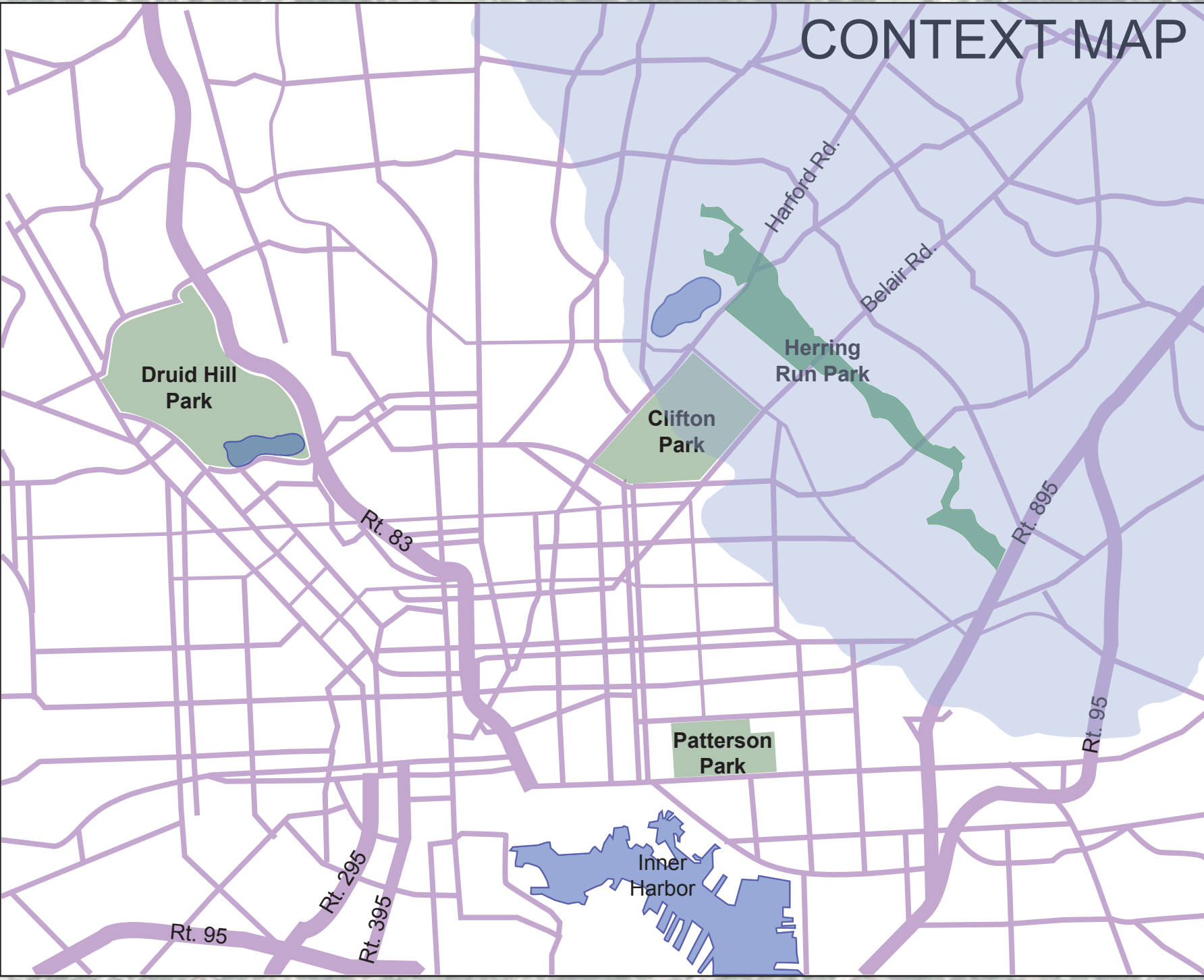
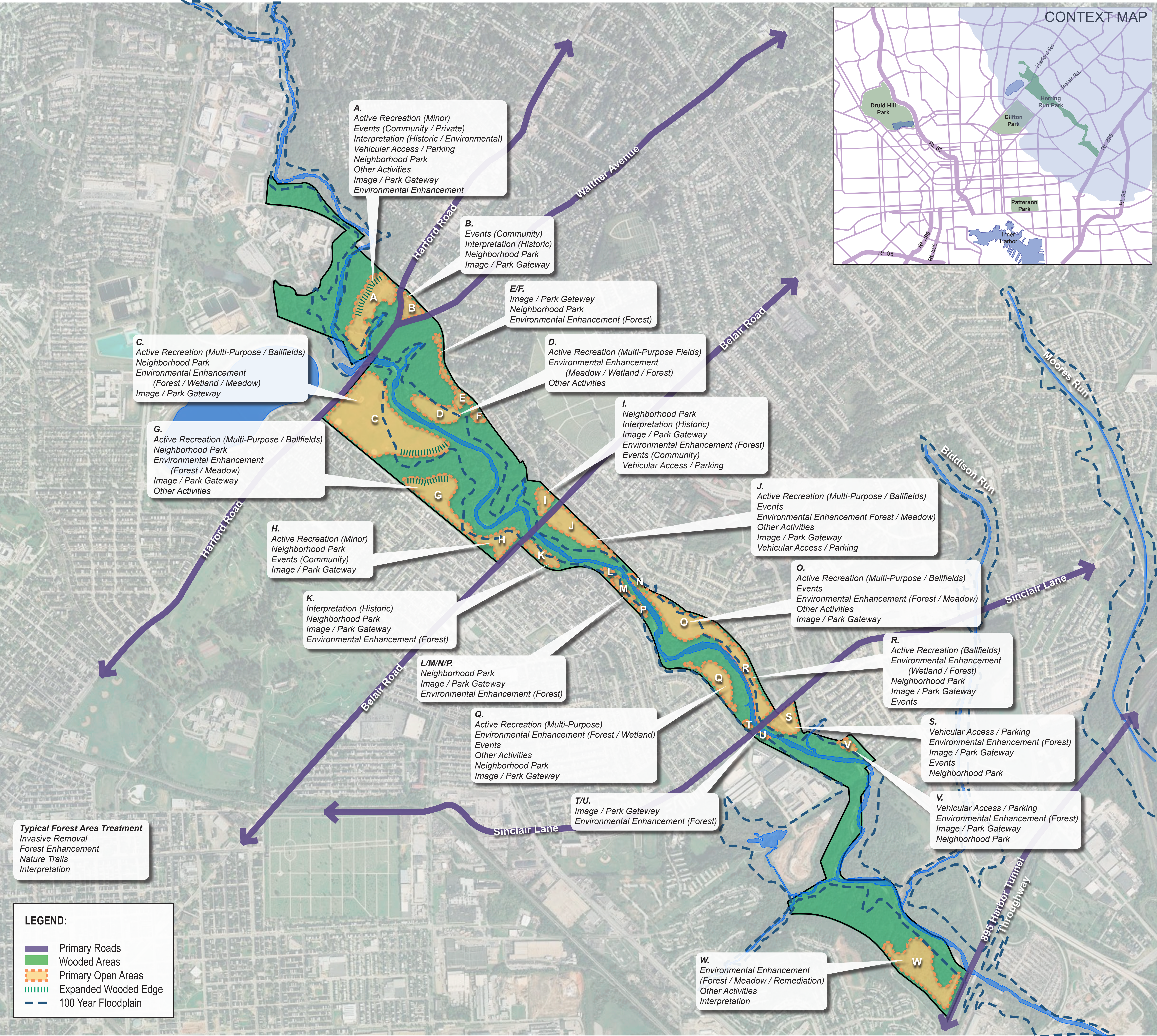
EXHIBIT J

Elevation Study

MAHAN RYKIEL ASSOCIATES, INC
800 Wyman Park Drive, Suite 100
Baltimore, MD
21211

DEPARTMENT OF RECREATION & PARKS
2600 Madison Ave
Baltimore, MD
21217





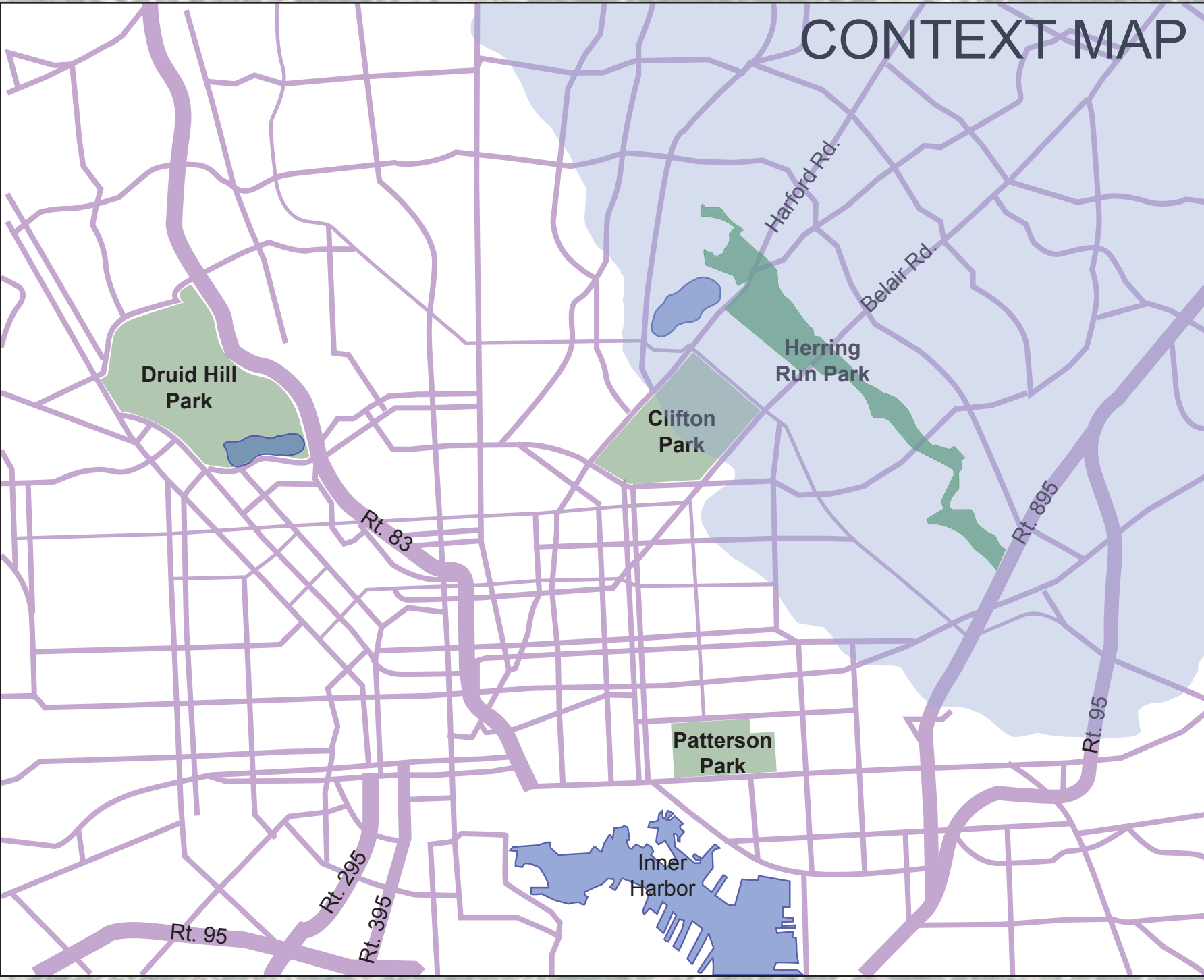
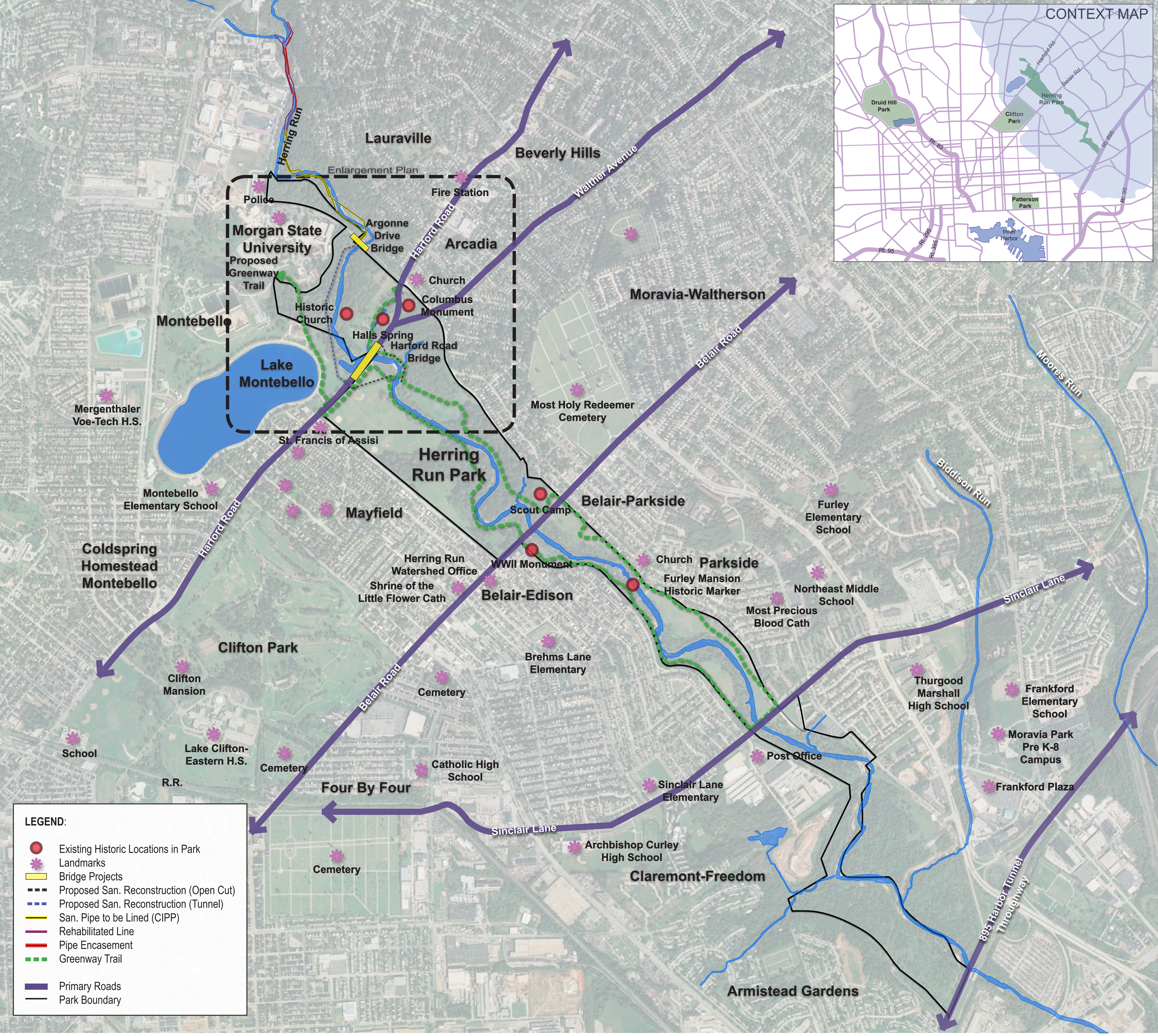
HERRING RUN PARK MASTER PLAN
 Baltimore, Maryland

EXHIBIT K

Potential Use Areas

MAHAN RYKIEL ASSOCIATES, INC
 800 Wyman Park Drive, Suite 100
 Baltimore, MD 21211
 DEPARTMENT OF RECREATION & PARKS
 2600 Madison Ave
 Baltimore, MD 21217





LEGEND:

- Existing Historic Locations in Park
- ✳ Landmarks
- ▬ Bridge Projects
- - - Proposed San. Reconstruction (Open Cut)
- - - Proposed San. Reconstruction (Tunnel)
- ▬ San. Pipe to be Lined (CIPP)
- ▬ Rehabilitated Line
- ▬ Pipe Encasement
- ▬ Greenway Trail
- ▬ Primary Roads
- ▬ Park Boundary

HERRING RUN PARK MASTER PLAN

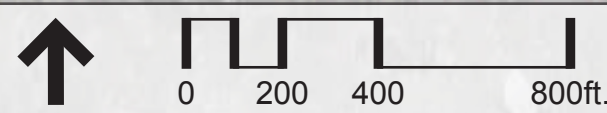
Baltimore, Maryland

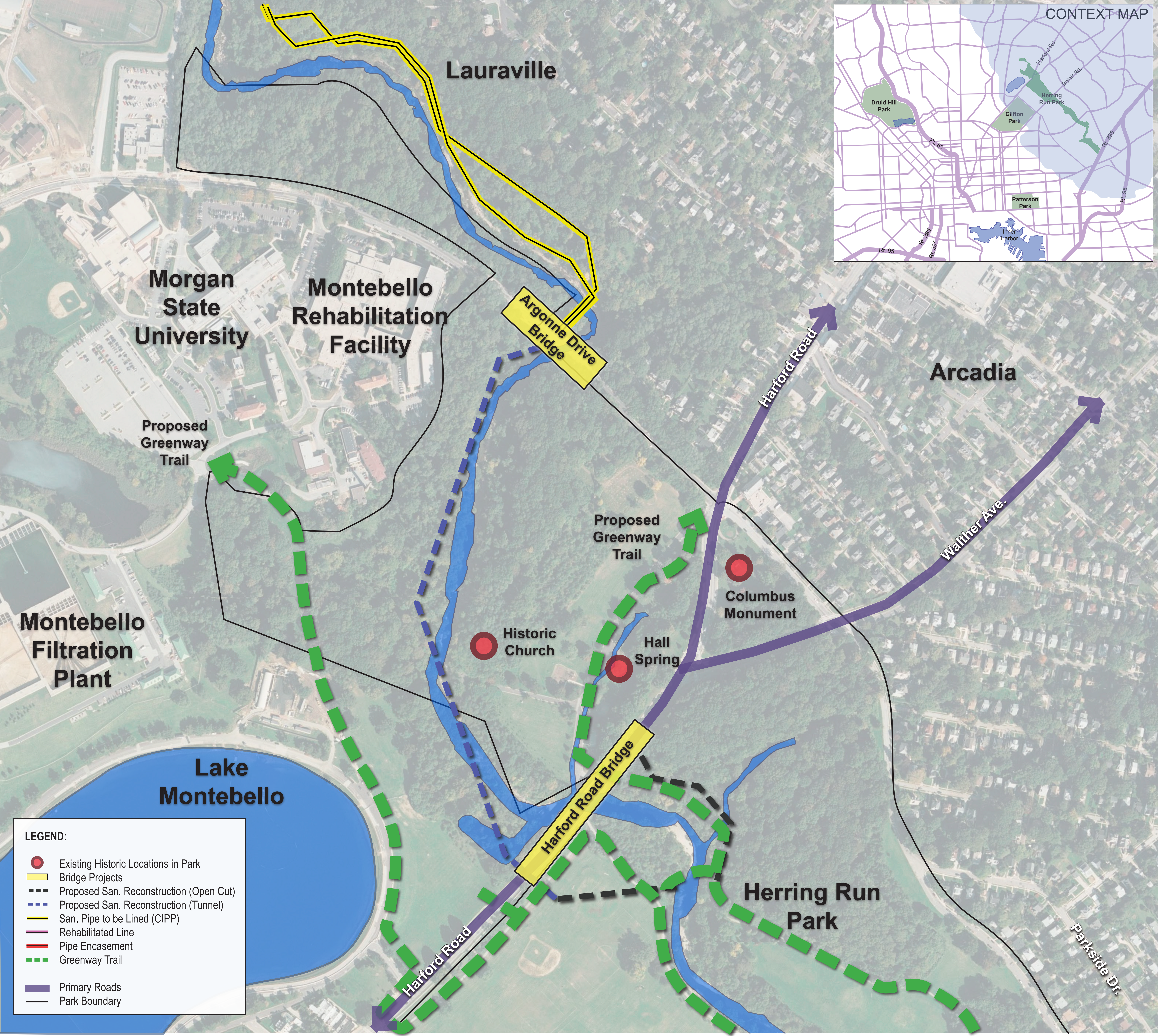
EXHIBIT L

Concurrent
Projects

MAHAN RYKIEL ASSOCIATES, INC
800 Wyman Park Drive, Suite 100
Baltimore, MD
21211

DEPARTMENT OF RECREATION &
PARKS
2600 Madison Ave
Baltimore, MD
21217





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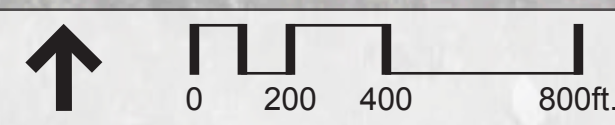
Baltimore, Maryland

EXHIBIT M

Concurrent
Projects
Enlargement

MAHAN RYKIEL ASSOCIATES, INC.
800 Wyman Park Drive, Suite 100
Baltimore, MD
21211

DEPARTMENT OF RECREATION &
PARKS
2600 Madison Ave
Baltimore, MD
21217



PART IV: OVERALL VISION AND SUSTAINABILITY PRINCIPLES

The Vision Statement and Sustainability Principles were developed during the master plan process and refined by the Herring Run Park Advisory Board. The Sustainability Principles define the Vision and express the foundational concepts and values underling the recommendations included in the Herring Run Park Master Plan. Together, they are critical elements guiding the selection, design and implementation of the Master Plan, including capital improvement projects, park programming and park maintenance

1. OVERALL VISION

Herring Run Park is a dynamic stream valley park that plays a unique role within the Baltimore park system. The Herring Run Park Sustainability Principles emphasize restoration and preservation of the park's natural resources, safeguard its beauty and tranquility, provide visitors a variety of recreational and reflective experiences, and foster connection between City communities.

2. SUSTAINABILITY PRINCIPLES

#1: The Natural Oasis: Protection and Enhancing the Park's Natural Resources.

Herring Run Park is a restored and preserved stream valley park which provides visitors with the experience of a healthy, sustainable natural environment.

#2: A Place to Play: Recreation

Herring Run Park supports both outdoor resource-based recreation and field-based sports. Plans for organized sports facilities complement the park's natural resources and park communities.

#3: A Place with A Past: Revealing the Park's History

Herring Run Park is a place where visitors can discover Baltimore history through every day park activities.

#4: The Herring Run Link: Connecting Baltimore

Herring Run Park creates the thread that connects multiple neighborhoods and park areas with each other and is linked to Lake Montebello, Morgan State University and other locations.

#5: The Emerald Necklace: One Park, Many Jewels

Herring Run Park offers visitors a variety of experiences in distinct smaller park areas lying within its unified landscape and connected by the Herring Run stream.

#6: A Clean, Safe and Functioning Park: Attention to Maintenance and Safety

Herring Run Park is known by visitors for its safety, cleanliness and well-functioning facilities.

#7: Everybody's Park: Building Stewardship

Herring Run Park is known for the stewardship of this exceptional park resource through its strong stakeholder base, public-private partnership and interagency coordination.

PART V: MASTER PLAN RECOMMENDATIONS

The master plan for Herring Run Park is illustrated in a series of drawings under *Exhibit N, Illustrative Master Plan* (and *Exhibits N-1-3* which are enlargements of the plan) and includes short to long-term recommendations grounded in the Sustainability Principles described in the previous chapter. The recommendations are general in nature and include discussions of strategic issues and ideas that must be considered as each recommendation evolves from a concept to a new park program or design project. Accordingly, the icons appearing in *Exhibits N-1-3* are notational and identify the area in which an activity occurs or a solution is needed as it relates to the Sustainability Principles. Recommendations for natural resource protection, greenway design, park signs and traffic-calming enhancements are consistent for the whole park and are introduced under Park-Wide Recommendations and reinforced as needed under recommendations for specific park areas. To guide those interested in specific areas of the park, the master plan and maps have been organized into three main sub-sections: Upper Park (*Exhibit N-1*), Middle Park (*Exhibit N-2*) and Lower Park (*Exhibit N-3*) and each in turn includes neighborhood specific details.

PARK-WIDE RECOMMENDATIONS

The following recommendations apply to the entire park. They focus on natural resource protection and enhancement; trail systems; park signage and traffic-calming enhancements (to be coordinated with other City agencies). These recommendations will be implemented incrementally with each capital improvement project described later in this chapter.

1. NATURAL RESOURCE PROTECTION AND ENHANCEMENT

As a part of an extensive urban park system, Herring Run Park is a valuable resource for all of Baltimore City as well as the neighborhoods that are immediately adjacent to the park. Design recommendations have been made that will encourage both neighborhood and

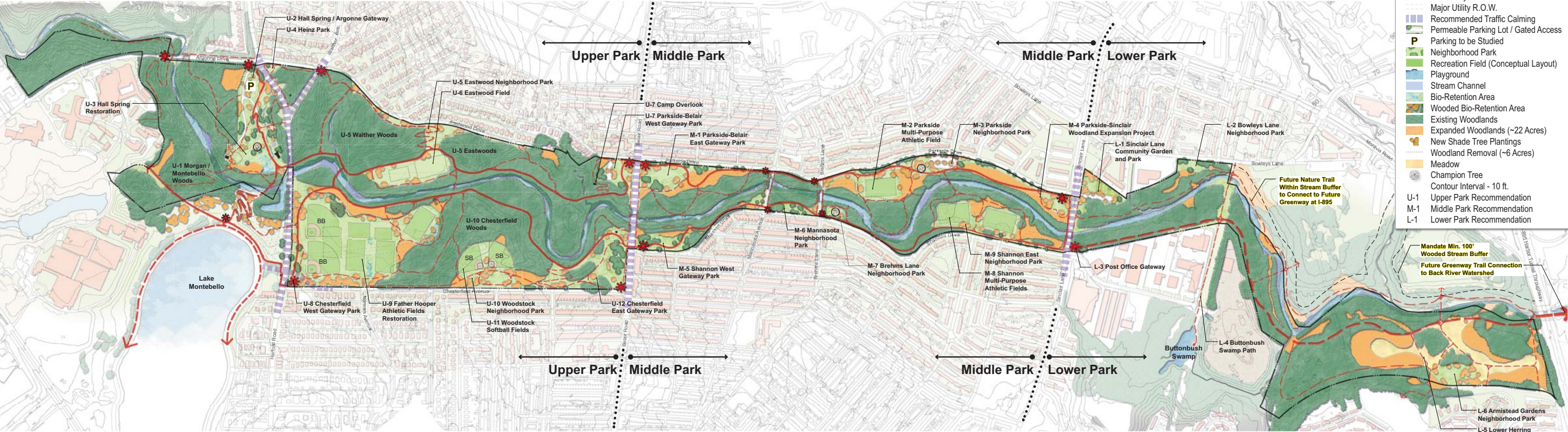
city-wide park visitors to utilize the park's natural landscapes and recreation features for an active and healthy lifestyle. As part of an extensive urban watershed, the natural features within Herring Run Park can be enhanced as a part of the citywide goals for improved air and water quality. The following design guidelines are recommended throughout the park to improve all park features and help achieve a positive balance between the natural areas and the active and passive recreation facilities throughout the park.

Woodland and Riparian Buffer Enhancements

Park areas selected for woodland expansion were determined based upon recommendations for expansion of the riparian buffer in *The Herring Run Watershed Stream Assessment and Restoration Concept Plan, 2004*. The stream banks in the Middle Park and Lower Park were given high priority for riparian buffer expansion and restoration in the DPW report (*Exhibit G*) and are the focus of recommendations for new plantings and invasive removal in the park master plan. In addition to “stand-alone” projects focused on riparian buffer enhancement, the park master plan includes recommendations for riparian buffer expansion and restoration in conjunction with the design of each proposed park improvement in the Upper Park, to “re-connect” the park user to the natural woodlands of Herring Run and combat invasive plants throughout the park. The master plan estimates that 6 acres of existing woodland will be impacted as park amenities are improved. The master plan also identifies over 22 acres for proposed new woodlands and riparian buffers for a net gain of approximately 16 new acres of tree canopy (*Exhibit N*).

Removal of invasive plant materials and expansion of existing wooded areas throughout the entire park will require a significant continual effort to combat new growth of invasive species. Therefore, new planting and tree management must be carefully coordinated. Species recommended for removal or planting can include those attached in *Appendix C*.

- Woodland expansion and riparian buffer planting should include species of trees, shrubs and herbaceous plants selected to compliment the microclimate, soils, sun exposure, and objectives for a given area.
- Natural resource enhancements such as expansion of the woodlands and riparian buffer with new tree planting or restoration of existing woodlands are critical to the health of the



LEGEND:

- Gateway Sign / Treatment
- Proposed Greenway Trail Alignment
- Greenway Trail Extension (Future)
- Secondary Trail / Nature Trail
- Major Utility R.O.W.
- Recommended Traffic Calming
- Permeable Parking Lot / Gated Access
- Parking to be Studied
- Neighborhood Park
- Recreation Field (Conceptual Layout)
- Playground
- Stream Channel
- Bio-Retention Area
- Wooded Bio-Retention Area
- Existing Woodlands
- Expanded Woodlands (~22 Acres)
- New Shade Tree Plantings
- Woodland Removal (~6 Acres)
- Meadow
- Champion Tree
- Contour Interval - 10 ft.
- U-1 Upper Park Recommendation
- M-1 Middle Park Recommendation
- L-1 Lower Park Recommendation

Mandate Min. 100' Wooded Stream Buffer
Future Greenway Trail Connection to Back River Watershed

L-6 Armistead Gardens Neighborhood Park
L-5 Lower Herring Run Environmental Education Area

HERRING RUN PARK MASTER PLAN
Baltimore, Maryland

EXHIBIT N
Illustrative Master Plan
Revised May 2, 2011

MARSH PIVKEL ASSOCIATES, INC.
800 Wynton Park Drive, Suite 100
Baltimore, MD 21221

DEPARTMENT OF RECREATION & PARKS
2000 Madison Ave.
Baltimore, MD 21217

0 100 200 400

park and stream and should be funded as “stand alone” capital improvement projects as well as annual projects organized with volunteer efforts.

- Woodland diversity, increased tree canopy cover or invasive plant removal are needed throughout the park and should be designed in conjunction with each capital improvement project for new and existing park features.
- Invasive removal should include those plants (perennials, vines, shrubs and trees) recognized by State and Federal Agencies to negatively impact native species and degrade natural ecosystems, and have a harmful effect on human health. As a reference, the list developed by the Invasive Species of Concern in Maryland can serve as a guide. Many plants on this list pose great threats to waterways and agricultural lands throughout the State and Country, but may be of minimal impact to wooded areas in Herring Run Park. Lists of Invasive plant material developed for the Park should focus on those species of plants that affect the long-term viability of the native forests and affect the citywide goal for increased forest canopy. Trees that are recognized as invasive may not be the focus for removal in all areas due to the overall value of specific trees (invasive or not) as canopy cover for cooling the stream, reducing erosion or providing wildlife shelter.

Stream Channel Restoration Recommendations within Herring Run Park

The master plan recognizes the assessment of Herring Run Park within the context of the larger Herring Run Watershed (*Herring Run Watershed Stream Assessment and Restoration Concept Plan, 2004*) and supports recommendations to place the highest priority on City funding for restoration of the watershed tributaries, as they are the source of the majority of pollutants and sediments effecting water quality in the Chesapeake Bay. We anticipate that DPW will repeat this stream assessment within the next 5 years to monitor the baseline information and priorities may be adjusted to guide restoration of the remaining reaches within the park and watershed. The master plan includes recommendations to correct specific areas of stream bank erosion (gabion failure) in the main channel of the Herring Run that do not require further evaluation by DPW.

- The Department of Recreation and Parks will support the Department of Public Works in its goal to improve water quality in the Herring Run Watershed with on-going stream monitoring and major projects such as sewer line rehabilitation, stream bank restoration, riparian zone expansion and storm water outfall stabilization in the tributaries and main channel of the Herring Run.
- Interpretive signs in the park can increase public awareness of hydrologic systems and the role of individuals in improving water quality.

Storm Water Retrofit Projects Recommended for Herring Run Park

Preliminary investigations were completed by staff from the Department of Public Works, Recreation and Parks and the Herring Run Watershed Association to evaluate the proposed storm water retrofit projects recommended in two reports (Technical Memorandum “*Baltimore City Storm water Inventory*” September 15, 2008 and memo “*Proposed Storm Water Retrofit Projects in the Herring Run Watershed*”, February 20, 2008). Through further study and investigation, it was determined that existing utility corridors severely limit the ability to implement ponds or wetlands as storm water retention projects within Herring Run Park. As a result, this master plan does not recommend installing any of the storm water retention projects suggested in these two reports.

- The master plan recommends including landscaped bio-swales and dry grass bio-swales, whenever possible in the design of the Greenway, the playing fields and playgrounds to retain storm water and allow natural infiltration of storm water in the park.
- In an effort to meet the master plan goals for environmental education, the master plan proposes to create a “demonstration” storm water pond/wet land in the Hall Spring area to utilize the natural spring and storm water from the hillside and park pavement (parking and roadways) in a design that can be used for environmental education about permeable pavement, storm water runoff and native landscaping.

2. HERRING RUN GREENWAY AND LINKED NATURE TRAILS

Herring Run Greenway

The Herring Run Greenway will include an 8'-10' wide hiker/biker trail throughout Herring Run Park and will be developed in several phases. Following is a description of phases and specific trail elements:

- Phase I will establish a loop extending from Morgan State University to Sinclair Lane on both sides of the Herring Run stream valley. Phase I will follow the alignment of the existing park pathway with minor alignment changes to meet ADA grades and improved street crossings. A new section of trail will be installed where none exists along Parkside Drive from Belair Road to Sinclair Lane. Two new pedestrian bridges will be installed; (1) Father Hooper Field and (2) Sinclair Lane. (Note: Some stakeholders expressed the concern that the location of a new pedestrian bridge south of the location of the existing pedestrian bridge may have the negative effect of isolating Hall Springs from the rest of the Park. Consideration should be given in the future to allowing for an additional pedestrian bridge at or near the current crossing if, indeed, it is determined that lack of connectivity is harmful to the Hall Springs area).
- Phase II of the Greenway within the Park will include an extension south of Sinclair Lane to I-895 and beyond into Baltimore County. Phase III will extend the greenway north through the Morgan State campus north toward Northern Parkway. As Phase III is developed, Morgan State should consider providing visible pavement markings and/or way-finding signage, directing people to the Greenway.
- The Greenway will be designed to meet federal trail standards for width (8-10 ft. wide) and accessibility (desired steepness less than 5% grade, maximum steepness 8% with hand rail). Surface treatments for the Greenway will be asphalt or concrete, however, alternative treatments such as boardwalk bridges to replace concrete pipe culverts where small tributaries enter the Herring Run will be considered when evaluating design options.

- Improvements at all Greenway street-crossings will be coordinated with the Department of Transportation to provide safer crossings for pedestrians and bicyclists. Well-marked crosswalks, pedestrian signals, pedestrian islands, speed bumps and rumble strips are all techniques to be considered when adding traffic calming devices where the Greenway crosses City streets.
- Trail head signage will be provided at major entrances to the trail and where major streets cross Herring Run Park, including the following locations:
 - Morgan State University
 - Harford Road at Argonne Drive
 - Lake Montebello
 - Hall Spring
 - Harford Road at Chesterfield Avenue
 - Belair Road at Chesterfield Avenue, Shannon Drive, and Parkside Drive
 - Sinclair Lane at Shannon Drive and at Parkside Drive.
- A pedestrian underpass will be incorporated into the design of the new Harford Road Bridge to provide a more direct link between two popular recreation features, the loop road of Lake Montebello and Herring Run Park. The underpass construction will be managed by the Department of Transportation and coordinated with the Herring Run Greenway project. In response to community concerns, the underpass design will be as wide and tall as practical for the topography, with interior lights, and entrances on each side sited in highly visible locations. The Department of Transportation has assembled a community group, including members of the Herring Run Park Advisory Board (HRPAB), to assist with design development of the bridge and underpass and specifically address public safety concerns which have been raised.
- Several ideas for Greenway enhancement projects, beyond basic construction of the main trail, have been proposed during the master plan process. These include additional alignments and additional pedestrian bridges across the Herring Run. Greenway Enhancement ideas have been included with specific projects under individual park sections (Upper, Middle or Lower Park).

Nature Trail System

A series of nature trails will be developed in Herring Run Park in conjunction with renovation of the Greenway and improvement of park features. These trails will be based on the existing system of nature trails that already connect communities to the park. Improving the nature trails will help to reduce erosion in the woodlands by encouraging park users to stay on trails and not cut across steep slopes. The simple design and construction techniques of nature trails lend themselves to volunteer projects, and the master plan recommends that communities and park volunteers work with the City to begin improvements to nature trails as part of their efforts to promote park stewardship. Alignments should be determined in the field to be sensitive to unique site features such as trees, steep slopes and small tributaries. Specific areas where nature trails are appropriate are identified throughout this report as a part of other projects. The nature trail design standards will be narrower (3-5 ft. wide) than the main trail. Surface treatments for the nature trails will be permeable materials such as crushed stone, wood chips, and timber steps in the woodlands and stepping stones where the nature trails link to the stream.

Mountain Bike Trail System

Mountain bike trails should be improved or expanded to support the existing mountain bike use of dirt trails in the Walther Woods and Armistead Gardens/ Lower Herring Run areas of the park. Careful consideration for locations should be given to soil types, stability of soils, and stress to existing trees. All mountain bike trails should be constructed to International Mountain Biking Association standards.

3. PARK SIGNAGE

Overall Park Signs

A comprehensive sign system is currently being developed for all Baltimore City Parks. The sign system will provide a unified family of signs with a dominant theme of identifying Herring Run Park at major entry and gateway locations as well as supportive signs for various site or event specific functions such as information signs, way-finding signs, regulatory signs, pedestrian directories and interpretive signs. The new sign system will provide clear information while reducing visual clutter in the parks.

The Master Plan recommends that signs such as gateway signs, regulatory signs, and way finding signs, should be installed throughout the park as an early implementation project from the master plan. Interpretive signs and other minor signs should be installed in conjunction with the renovation of specific park areas as noted in the master plan. Examples of the sign system as they apply to Druid Hill Park are included in Part VII of this report.

Gateway Signage

For many people, the only exposure they have to Herring Run Park is what they see from the adjacent roadways. Herring Run Park is a stream valley park that is visually lower than the surrounding roadways; motorists may drive by and not even know that they are near a park. Likewise residents may not venture into the park for fear of what is just beyond their sight line. First impressions are lasting impressions so having positive gateway images, particularly for a park that interfaces with so many communities and streets, is an important way to reach out to these “incidental users” and residents and increase their awareness of this outstanding natural resource. Gateway signs should be installed in specific locations as described throughout this report. The new park sign standard can be adapted to incorporate neighborhood name signs in keeping with Baltimore traditions.

Stream Crossing Signage

To further reinforce awareness of the Herring Run stream valley, additional consideration should be given to providing signage at bridges indicating that one is crossing Herring Run. This signage should occur at both pedestrian and vehicular bridges.

4. TRAFFIC-CALMING ENHANCEMENTS

Herring Run Park is divided by several roads, including three major roadways, reinforcing the division of the park into three areas and creating conflicts between park users and vehicular traffic. Application of a variety of traffic calming techniques should be considered as park improvements and projects are being implemented and as roadway improvements are being planned to minimize the conflicts described above. It is recommended that the Office of Sustainability assist in coordinating traffic calming projects by the Department of Transportation in support of park improvements. The techniques outlined below should be explored with the Department of Transportation and other agencies as appropriate at Harford Road, Walther Avenue, Belair Road, and Sinclair Lane. While these enhancements may be implemented as part of other capital projects described in the following sections of this report, they are outlined below as park-wide enhancements because they will need to be studied holistically and coordinated with and implemented by other agencies.

Pavement Markings

- Define crosswalks clearly – Well-delineated pavement markings should be used at all street crossings into the park. Brick stamp, used along Harford Road to match other crosswalks added on Harford Road as part of its streetscape project to the north, may be considered for inclusion further south on Harford Road as transportation projects are implemented. As other streetscape projects for Belair Road and Sinclair Lane occur, the crosswalk design should be compatible with the designs for those streetscapes.
- Make provisions for bike lanes – Both Harford Road and Belair Road are designated bike routes in the Baltimore City Bike Master Plan. Bike lanes and/or “share the road”

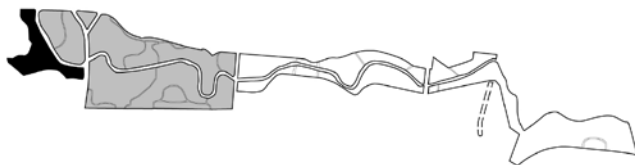
markings should be provided for these streets. The Harford Road Bridge replacement is to include bike lanes.

Modifications to Road Sections

- Evaluate road realignments around park – Consideration should be given to realigning Chesterfield Avenue in the future so that it ties in with Curran Drive creating a singular safer intersection. While the feasibility of this concept needs to be studied, the renovation of the Father Hooper Fields should be designed to allow this realignment to occur in the future.
- Evaluate the feasibility of traffic circles – Traffic circles are effective methods of traffic calming and maintaining traffic volumes and should be considered at the intersections of Harford Road and Walther Avenue, Harford Road and Argonne Drive and Sinclair Lane and Parkside Drive. The feasibility of these will need to be studied.
- Incorporate lane narrowing – Consideration should be given to narrowing the travel lanes of Belair Road and Sinclair Lane to accommodate a median (pedestrian refuge) or widening of the sidewalk areas. Belair Road between, Parkside and Chesterfield Avenue, should be reevaluated to determine if the three existing travel lanes are needed in each direction since they feed into 2 travel lanes south of Chesterfield. Walther Avenue from Harford Road should be reevaluated for need of 2 turn lanes from a singular north bound Harford Road lane. The acute angle of this intersection limits visibility of crossing pedestrians and poses hazards to slower moving vehicles such as cyclists.
- Utilize curb extensions – Curb extensions should be considered along Belair Road and Sinclair Lane to designate parallel parking zones and reduce width of street while maintaining same standard level of service for traffic. Curb extensions can also provide planting areas for street trees and shorten pedestrian crossing distances at intersections.

Streetscape Enhancements

- Provide streetscape enhancements – Streetscape enhancements including sidewalk paving, pedestrian scaled lighting and street trees should be considered to better connect the park to the adjacent communities, particularly the commercial districts of Greater Lauraville on Harford Road and Belair-Edison on Belair Road.



Morgan/Montebello Woods

RECOMMENDATIONS BY PARK AREA

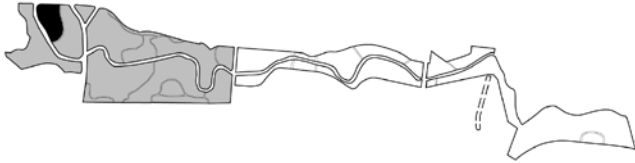
1. MASTER PLAN RECOMMENDATIONS FOR THE UPPER PARK

The Upper Park is the widest portion of Herring Run Park and includes significant areas of woodlands, historic elements and active recreation features on both sides of the Herring Run Stream. The master plan recommends retaining all the current uses in the Upper Park, restoring the historic spring in the Halls Spring area, enhancing the park entrances and refining the athletic field design to reduce the separation between the woodlands and recreation areas. The recommendations for the Upper Park are denoted “U-1”, “U-2”, etc. and correspond to the numbered recommendations in *Exhibit N-1*

U1. Morgan/Montebello Woods

Preserve and enhance wooded steep ravines along Montebello filtration plant and Morgan State University property.

- Restore the existing woodland by removing invasive vines and herbaceous plants. Prioritize removal of invasive trees with consideration to the contribution of the tree canopy for overall water quality.
- State University above Argonne Drive to the Herring Run Greenway and Lake Montebello including a “stepping stone” path (using significantly sized stones) to access the stream and connect to Hall Spring. Utilize the routes cleared by utility corridors whenever possible.
- Expand the Wooded Riparian Buffer near the DPW access roads by planting native trees and shrubs to increase the tree canopy as well as increase the diversity of tree types in the existing woodlands.
- Develop detailed design alternatives to explore feasibility of a bridge connection with a switchback path between the Montebello Woods and Hall Spring as a Greenway Enhancement project.



Hall Spring/Argonne Gateway

- Work with the Department of Public Works to evaluate the removal of abandoned sewer pipes in the stream with minimal disturbance to the channel.

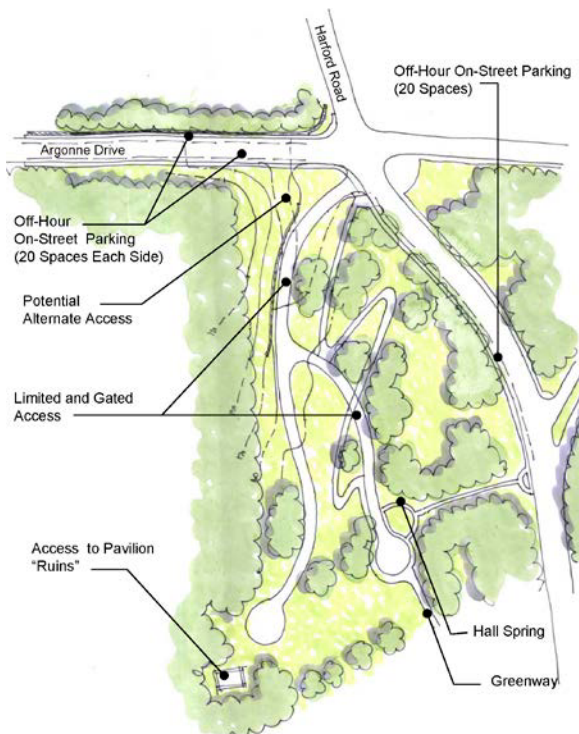
U2. Hall Spring/Argonne Gateway

The plateau adjacent to Argonne Drive, above the Hall Springs area is an appropriate place for an active park use with direct access from Argonne Drive. However, because this area is visually separated from other areas of the park, this area should be reserved as a “placeholder” for a potential active use at some time in the future when it might be appropriate.

- Create a Gateway entry for the Park and Greenway including park signage with landscaping for seasonal plantings. The design of the Gateway Sign in this location should include a place for temporary information signs that display park or community events.
- Install bollards and gates at the park entry to prevent park use after hours. Remove the existing park entry road and replace with a shorter circulation route that keeps all autos closer to the main entrance. Utilize permeable pavers and bio-swales in the design for the new roadway to improve water quality.
- Develop detailed design alternatives to meet the need for parking in Hall Spring while reducing the overall amount of impervious pavement and auto access in the park. Explore the feasibility of parking layouts such as those illustrated on the following page and using permeable pavers and bio-swales near the park entrance to promote park storm water infiltration and improve park safety, as well as the possibility of creating “on street” parking on Argonne Drive or Harford Road for use by park visitors. Include a gated access drive/turnaround in the design alternatives to meet ADA access for the picnic area. The concepts on the following pages illustrate a few potential solutions that may be explored.
- Request assistance from the Department of Transportation to evaluate the intersection of Argonne Drive, Parkside Drive and Harford Road for improved pedestrian and bicycle safety while designing the Herring Run Greenway. Request assistance from

DOT in a study of the potential for on-street parking on these streets as well as improved signalization of the intersection or installation of a traffic circle.

- Maintain a nature trail that links the gated access road just east of the Argonne Drive Bridge with other features in Hall Spring.
- Expand the Riparian Buffer on the east side of the stream, by planting native trees and shrubs. Remove invasive trees and vegetation in the existing woodlands in conjunction with installation of new plantings. Establish a “mow line” to define the mowed open lawn area and the meadow edges mowed less frequently along the tree line of the riparian buffer. Establish hillside meadow in areas of limited pedestrian access.



Hall Spring/Argonne Gateway Alternative A



Hall Spring/Argonne Gateway Alternative B



Hall Spring/Argonne Gateway Alternative C

HERRING RUN PARK MASTER PLAN

Baltimore, Maryland

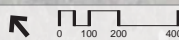
EXHIBIT N - 1

Illustrative
Master Plan -
Upper Park

Revised May 2, 2011

MAHAN RYKIEL ASSOCIATES, INC.
800 Wyman Park Drive, Suite 100
Baltimore, MD
21211

DEPARTMENT OF RECREATION &
PARKS
2600 Madison Ave
Baltimore, MD
21217



LEGEND:

- Gateway Sign / Treatment
- Proposed Greenway Trail Alignment
- Greenway Trail Extension (Future)
- Secondary Trail / Nature Trail
- Major Utility R.O.W.
- Recommended Traffic Calming
- Permeable Parking Lot / Gated Access
- Parking to be Studied
- Neighborhood Park
- Recreation Field (Conceptual Layout)
- Playground
- Stream Channel
- Bio-Retention Area
- Wooded Bio-Retention Area
- Existing Woodlands
- Expanded Woodlands (~22 Acres)
- New Shade Tree Plantings
- Woodland Removal (~6 Acres)
- Meadow
- Champion Tree
- Contour Interval - 10 ft.
- U-1 Upper Park Recommendation
- M-1 Middle Park Recommendation
- L-1 Lower Park Recommendation

U-2 Hall Spring / Argonne Gateway:

- Improved Traffic Signalization at Intersection (Or Potential Traffic Circle)
- Gated Access Road / Vehicular Drop-Off
- Terraced Permeable Parking With Rain Garden / Bio-Swale
- Trail Connections
- Gateway Signage
- Seasonal Gardens
- Invasive Species Removal
- Woodland Expansion

Water Quality Improvements by DPW:

- Replacement of Sewer Line from Argonne to Harford (Dates 2010-2011)

U-3 Hall Spring Restoration:

- Hall Spring Restoration of Water Supply & Structures
- Stormwater Demonstration Project
- Hillside Meadow
- Harford Road Tree Limbing-Up to Open Views
- Seasonal Gardens
- Eutaw Place Methodist Church "Pavilion"
- Gateway / Interpretive Signage
- Greenway Trail Connection
- Picnic Grove
- Event Lawn
- Basketball Court Renovation
- Restroom Facility Enhancement
- Playground Enhancement
- Gated Drop-Off Circle
- Water-Based Natural Recreation
- Woodland Expansion
- Invasive Species Removal
- Shade Tree Planting
- Site Furniture

U-1 Morgan / Montebello Woods:

- Invasive Species Removal
- Woodland Expansion
- Habitat Enhancement
- Environmental / Historic Interpretation
- Land-Based Natural Recreation
- Water-Based Natural Recreation
- DPW Study Area

Potential Future Trail Extension:

- Bridge and Switchback to Lake Montebello

Harford Road Greenway Underpass:

- Pedestrian Underpass In Conjunction with Harford Road Bridge Construction

U-4 Heinz Park:

- Columbus Monument Enhancements
- Tree Planting
- Gateway Treatment
- Interpretive Signage
- Seasonal Gardens
- Pathway Connections
- Open Lawn for Events
- Site Furniture
- Traffic Calming / Crosswalks

U-5 Walther Woods:

- Water-Based Natural Recreation
- Land-Based Natural Recreation
- Invasive Species Removal
- Woodland Expansion
- Habitat Enhancement
- Trail Connections
- Tributary Restoration

U-6 Eastwood Fields:

- Field Renovation
- Woodland Edge Enhancements
- Switchback Trail
- Site Furniture
- Riparian Buffer Enhancement
- Shade Tree Planting
- Invasive Species Removal
- Greenway Trail Connection
- Meadows / Bio-Retention
- Portable Toilets / Enclosure
- *Field Layout is Conceptual

U-5 Eastwood Neighborhood Park:

- Picnic Grove
- Greenway Trail Connection
- Open Lawn
- Sledding Hill
- Meadow Edges
- Site Furniture
- Shade Tree Planting

U-5 East Woods:

- Water-Based Natural Recreation
- Land-Based Natural Recreation
- Invasive Species Removal
- Woodland & Habitat Enhancement
- Trail Connections
- Tributary Restoration

U-7 Camp Overlook:

- Pavilion Renovation
- Greenway Trail Connection / Future Trailhead
- Interpretive Signage
- Invasive Species Removal
- Shade Tree Planting
- Site Furniture
- Permeable Parking to Support Use of Pavilion
- Land-Based Natural Recreation

U-7 Parkside-Belair West Gateway Park:

- Open Lawn
- Shade Tree Planting
- Invasive Species Removal
- Greenway Trail Connection
- Traffic Calming / Crosswalks
- Seasonal Gardens
- Site Furniture
- Gateway Treatment

U-10 Chesterfield Woods:

- Water-Based Natural Recreation
- Land-Based Natural Recreation
- Invasive Species Removal
- Woodland Enhancement
- Habitat Enhancement
- Riparian Buffer Enhancement
- Trail Connections
- DPW Study Area

U-12 Chesterfield East Gateway Park:

- Movie Shed Enhancements
- Greenway Trail Connection / Loop Trail
- Riparian Buffer Enhancement
- Gateway Treatment
- Picnic Grove
- Site Furniture
- Seasonal Gardens
- Maintain Hillside Seating
- Traffic Calming / Crosswalks

U-8 Chesterfield West Gateway Park:

- Realignment of Chesterfield / Harford Intersection, Potential Traffic Circle
- Pathway Connections
- Shade Tree Planting
- Seasonal Gardens
- Site Furniture
- Open Lawn for Small Events
- Gateway Treatment

*U-9 Father Hooper Athletic Fields Renovation:

- Field Reorganization
- Shade Tree Planting
- Trail Connections / Loop Path
- Gateway Treatment
- Bio-Retention / Wooded Bio-Retention
- Riparian Buffer Enhancement
- Woodland Expansion
- Invasive Species Removal
- Drinking Fountains
- Site Furniture
- Benches / Hillside Seating
- Bridge Connection to Eastwood Fields
- Champion Tree Protection
- Water-Based Natural Recreation
- Portable Toilets / Enclosure
- Stream Channel Gabion Repair / Removal
- *Field Layout is Conceptual

U-11 Woodstock Softball Fields:

- Field Reorganization
- Woodland Expansion
- Shade Tree Planting
- Invasive Species Removal
- Pathway Connections
- Site Furniture
- Portable Toilets / Enclosure
- Meadows

U-10 Woodstock Neighborhood Park:

- Picnic Areas
- Shade Tree Planting
- Pathway Connections
- Seasonal Gardens

ICON LEGEND:

- Sustainability Principle #1:** The Natural Oasis: *Protecting and Enhancing the Park's Natural Resources*
- Water Quality
 - Woodland Expansion / Tree Plantings / Habitat Enhancement
 - Invasive Species Removal
 - Meadow / Bio-Retention / Rain Garden
 - DPW Study Area for Passage Over Fish Barriers
 - Future Stream Channel Gabion Removal / Repair by DPW

- Sustainability Principle #2:** A Place to Play: *Recreation*
- Recreation Fields
 - Land-Based Natural / Passive Recreation
 - Water-Based Natural Recreation

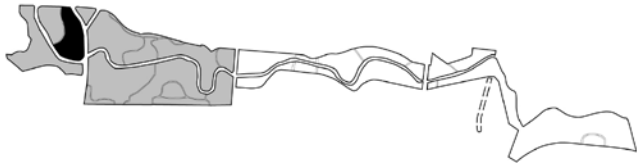
- Sustainability Principle #3:** A Place with a Past: *Revealing the Park's History*
- Historical / Cultural Elements

- Sustainability Principle #4:** The Herring Run Link: *Connecting Baltimore*
- Pedestrian Access
 - Bicycle Access
 - Traffic Calming

- Sustainability Principle #5:** The Emerald Necklace: *One Park, Many Jewels*
- Neighborhood Park Elements

- Sustainability Principle #6:** A Clean, Safe, and Functioning Park: *Attention to Maintenance and Safety*
- Maintenance Opportunity (Throughout Park)

- Sustainability Principle #7:** Everybody's Park: *Building Stewardship*
- Park Gateways



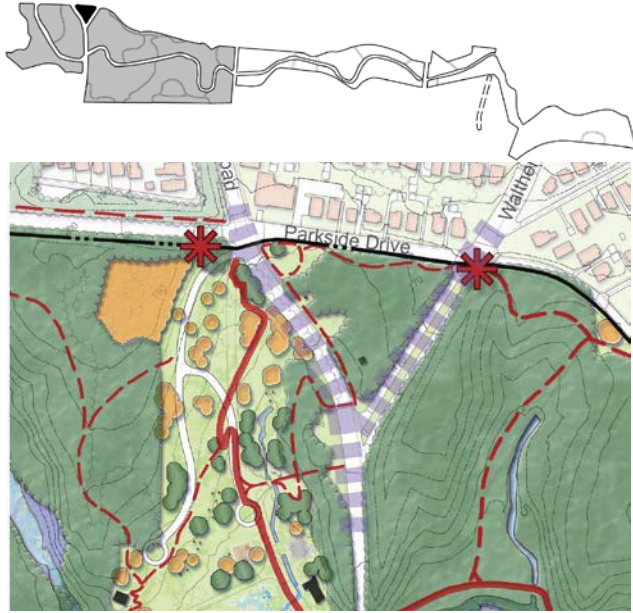
U3. Hall Spring Restoration

The Hall Spring area is a major Gateway into Herring Run Park. Improvements will support family-friendly park activities as well as restoration of many of the unique historic features.



Hall Spring Restoration

- Install a new section of the Herring Run Greenway from Argonne Drive to the base of the Harford Road Bridge, keeping the greenway trail alignment close to route of the park road to maximize the uninterrupted useable lawn area, while meeting ADA compliance. Create a nature trail loop from the greenway trail to provide access to the woodlands near Argonne hill.
- Restore the historic Hall Spring, including repair to the stonework, reactivation of water flow and special stone paving around the spring area. The water should be tested prior to reactivation. If water is not potable, then appropriate signage should be integrated into the overall design and posted. Install an interpretive sign describing this historic spring, the historic drainage patterns of Northeast Baltimore and impacts of development within the watershed. Landscape the slopes near the headwaters of the spring by limbing-up canopy trees and removing invasive plant materials to open up views into the park from Harford Road. New plantings are to include native groundcovers and low seasonal plantings on the small hillside adjacent to Harford Road.
- Renovate and expand the existing playground and picnic grove at Hall Spring. Rehabilitate the ruins of the Eutaw Place Methodist Church as a new picnic shelter and outdoor education area with benches, trash receptacles and picnic tables located on the upper slope near the pavilion and at the lower slope near the playground. Renovate the playground by installing new metal modular play equipment and rubber safety surface. Maintain an event lawn adjacent to the playground for passive play and community gatherings. Install a permeable pathway connecting the greenway to the church pavilion, playground and picnic areas. Landscape the picnic area with high-canopied shade trees to define outdoor spaces and maintain sight lines. Install interpretative signs near the picnic grove that describe the historic Hall Spring area, including the old Harford Toll Road, the Eutaw Place Methodist Church and other



Heinz Park



Potential for Columbus Monument
(Provided by FHRP)

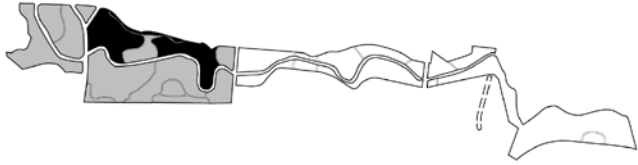
structures such as an ice house, mill pond, Hotel, and Green Family cotton mill once located within the vicinity.

- Renovate the existing basketball court. Include benches, trash receptacles and picnic tables for spectators.
- Remove the backstop from a small baseball field to allow installation of a wetland/storm water pond as a demonstration site for environmental education. Design the wetland to receive water from Hall Spring as well as filter storm water from bio-retention swales associated with the pedestrian paths and greenway. Install interpretive signs focused on water quality in the Herring Run and related environmental issues. Work with Park Rangers and the Herring Run Watershed to increase operations in the existing Restroom/Storage building to support environmental education programs.
- Expand the Riparian Buffer on the east side of the stream, by planting native trees and shrubs. Remove invasive trees and vegetation in the existing woodlands in conjunction with installation of new plantings. Establish a “mow line” to define the mowed open lawn area and the meadow edges mowed less frequently along the tree line of the riparian buffer. Establish hillside meadow in areas of limited pedestrian access.

U4. Heinz Park

The triangle located in the split between Walther Avenue and Harford Road, functions as a “park within a park” for the communities of Arcadia and Lauraville. Improvements will enhance existing park features.

- Create a Gateway entry for the Park at the intersection of Parkside Drive and Harford Road, and the intersection of Parkside Drive and Walther Avenue including park signage with landscaping for seasonal plantings. The new gateway signs should combine, or be compatible with existing community name signs.
- Request assistance from the Department of Transportation to evaluate the intersections of Parkside Drive, Walther Avenue and Harford Road for improved pedestrian and bicycle safety.



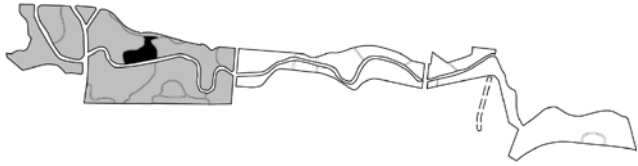
Walther Woods / Eastwood Neighborhood Park / East Woods

- Install new benches along the park walks. Add new sections of walkway near Parkside Drive and in between monuments to complete a loop through the park using permeable pavers.
- Remove evergreens near the Columbus Monument and install new landscape to open views from all directions and add seasonal color (image, previous page).
- Install interpretive signage highlighting the history of the Columbus Monument, the Police Memorial and the park stewardship of the Heinz Family.
- Plant groves of new trees in the park while maintaining open lawn areas for community events and passive play. Tree plantings should emphasize native high-canopied shade trees to preserve sight lines. Lower, flowering trees could be massed along the wooded edge adjacent to Walther Avenue.

U5. Walther Woods/Eastwood Neighborhood Park/East Woods

The wooded slopes along Eastwood Drive will be preserved and enhanced with improved community access.

- Expand and restore the Riparian Buffer on the north side of the stream from Walther Avenue to Belair Road by planting native trees and shrubs. Remove invasive plant material in the woodlands in conjunction with installation of the new plantings.
- Renovate the existing paved park path to create the Herring Run Greenway between Hall Spring and Belair Road. Follow the current alignment of the path as closely as possible to reduce the impacts of construction. Create nature trails with stepping-stones to provide access to the stream.
- Design and complete restoration of the stream banks of the small tributaries on the Eastwood slopes at the same time as construction of the Herring Run Greenway improvements. Replace deteriorated culverts with bridge/culverts as the Greenway crosses small tributaries.
- Design a series of small open lawn areas near Parkside/Eastwood Drive to create views into the park and “play islands” for small community gatherings. Connect the lawn areas with a nature trail. Install benches, trash receptacles and picnic tables near the path. Plant high-canopied shade trees to define the space and native flowering



Eastwood Fields

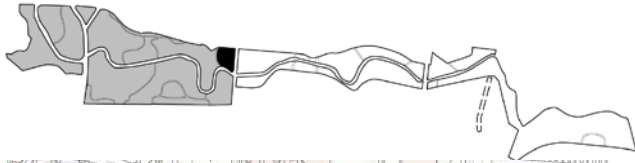
trees adjacent to the woodlands for a layered, diversified plant community. Maintain mowed lawn areas within the play islands and along Eastwood Drive to provide a manicured environment along the park perimeter. At a minimum, this mowed lawn edge should be 20' in width.

- Maintain a network of “nature” trails and mountain bike trails throughout Walther Woods and East Woods consistent with State and Federal Trail guidelines to provide access to the woodlands, greenway and the stream. Evaluate soil type and slope when determining trail alignment to avoid the most erodible soils
- Install a new “ADA” switchback trail using permeable pavers to connect Eastwood Drive with the Herring Run Greenway. Shift the alignment of the trail to the edge of the sloped meadow to avoid the steep “sledding” hillside. The steep hillside should be maintained as a meadow with mowing occurring once or twice a season.

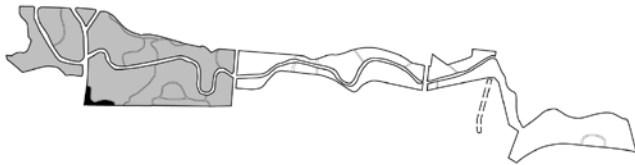
U6. Eastwood Fields

Renovate the Eastwood Drive athletic field area to improve playing field conditions and allow expansion of the riparian buffer.

- Develop detailed design alternatives to explore renovation of the multi-use playing area. Consider use options such as permitted athletic fields, informal game areas, or dog areas. Work with Herring Run Park Master Plan Advisory Board to shape uses and resolve neighbor concerns. Include bio-retention swales in the lawn renovation high-canopied native shade trees, to provide park-like setting and to further define an “outdoor room”. These trees should be planted in groupings near edges of the lawn, particularly where they could provide shade for park visitors. Native flowering trees can be planted in masses near edges of woodland expansion areas.
- Remove fencing and benches from three existing baseball areas to allow reforestation.
- Expand the Riparian Buffer on the north side of the stream near the athletic fields by planting native trees and shrubs. Remove invasive trees and vegetation in the existing woodlands in conjunction with installation of new plantings. Establish a “mow line” to define the mowed playing field area and the meadow edges mowed less frequently along the tree line of the riparian buffer.



Camp Overlook / Parkside-Belair West Gateway Park



Chesterfield West Gateway Park

U7. Camp Overlook/Parkside-Belair West Gateway Park

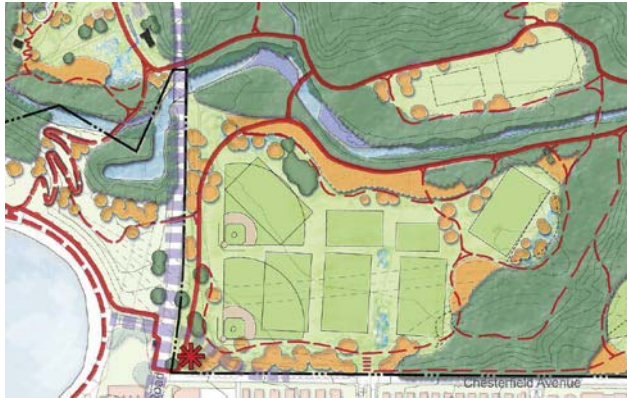
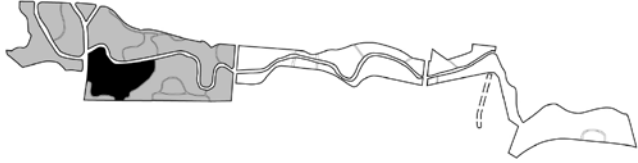
Renovate the former Boy Scout camp and enhance the adjacent park gateway.

- Create a Gateway entry for the Park and Greenway including park signage with landscaping for seasonal plantings.
- Install a new section of the Herring Run Greenway connecting the original park path layout with the intersection of Parkside and Belair Road to provide a safe crossing. Create a nature trail loop along Parkside Drive to provide access to Camp Overlook.
- Renovate the existing stone structure in Camp Overlook as an open-air picnic pavilion overlooking the stream valley. Install benches, picnic tables, trash receptacles and a small gated parking area with vehicular access to pavilion utilizing permeable paving. Maintain a nature trail connection to the greenway alignment near the stream, utilizing a boardwalk with decks to reduce trail impact on the steep slope between the camp and greenway.
- Restore the woodlands near Camp Overlook. Remove invasive plant species and selectively thin plants around the structure to open up visibility. Enhance the existing woodland with native plantings. Plant groves of new trees in the park while maintaining open lawn areas for community events and passive play. Tree plantings should emphasize native high-canopied shade trees to preserve sight lines. Lower, flowering trees could be massed along the woodland edge adjacent to Parkside Drive.

U8. Chesterfield West Gateway Park

Renovations near Harford Road will improve pedestrian safety and create a landmark to identify the park and greenway.

- Create a Gateway entry for the Herring Run Park and Herring Run Greenway including park signage with landscaping for seasonal plantings. The design of the Gateway Sign in this location should include the place name for Father Hooper Fields as well as space for temporary information signs that display park or community events. Install benches and trash receptacles in a small park overlook near the top of the slope. Tree planting near the gateway should emphasize high-canopied shade trees



Father Hooper Athletic Fields Renovation – Showing two of several potential alternatives for field organization.

and preservation of vistas to Father Hooper Fields. Install an interpretive sign to with the field dedication to Father Hooper as well as stories of baseball legends describing “home run” hits over the City Champion tree.

- Request assistance from the Department of Transportation to evaluate the intersection of Harford Road and Chesterfield Avenue for improved pedestrian and bicycle safety while designing the Herring Run Greenway connection between the park and Lake Montebello.
- Request assistance from the Department of Transportation to evaluate the possibility of a future re-alignment of the intersection of Harford Road, Chesterfield Road, Lake Montebello Terrace, and Curran Drive to eliminate the double traffic signals on Harford Road and improve pedestrian and bicycle safety. This will need to be studied in conjunction with the renovation design of Father Hooper Athletic Fields as described below.

U9. Father Hooper Athletic Fields Renovation

Renovate the athletic fields to improve field conditions and enhance the park.

- Renovate the existing park path adjacent to the stream to create the Herring Run Greenway from the base of the Harford Road Bridge to the Chesterfield Woods. Bridge (the existing pedestrian bridge at Hall Spring will be removed as part of the bridge replacement). Install a “nature trail” loop around the perimeter of the playing fields, connecting the Herring Run Greenway and with Norman Avenue. Install benches, trash receptacles and picnic tables near the path.
- Renovate the playing field area to improve the field drainage and layout of regulation size fields for baseball and soccer. Develop detailed design alternatives to explore field layout alternatives for a minimum of 6 soccer (including one junior field 40 x 60 yds. for youth under 10 years of age and one junior field 50 x 80 yds. for youth under 12 years of age) and 2 baseball fields to provide enough playing fields to meet current demand while allowing space for forest expansion. Locate baseball fields outside the 100 year flood plain elevation to reduce infield washout. Integrate bio-retention swales in the field renovation design to manage any storm water runoff from the playing fields. Install black vinyl fencing for backstop and team bench areas in the



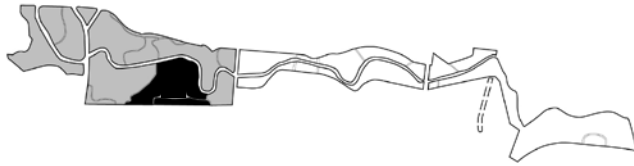
Steep slope adjacent to Chesterfield offers potential to utilize grass terraces for spectator seating.



Example of grass terraces.

baseball diamonds. Landscape the athletic field area with high-canopied native shade trees, to provide a park-like setting for multi-purpose fields and to further define “outdoor rooms”. These trees should be planted in groupings near baseball backstops, paths and beyond during breaks. Where possible, specimen shade trees and shade tree groupings should be provided between fields to create focal points and reduce the broad expanse of open lawn. Native flowering trees can be planted in masses near edges of woodland expansion areas. The field layout alternatives should allow the flexibility of accommodating the realignment of the Harford Road/Chesterfield Road intersection as described in the preceding recommendation.

- In conjunction with the renovation of the playing fields, evaluate alignment of the greenway trail to allow the expansion of the Riparian Buffer on the south side of the stream where it is too narrow. In addition, enhance buffer by planting native trees and shrubs. Remove invasive trees and vegetation in the existing woodlands in conjunction with installation of new plantings. Protect and preserve the champion Swamp White Oak within this expanded natural buffer. Establish a “mow line” to define the mowed playing field area and the meadow edges mowed less frequently along the tree line of the riparian buffer.
- Work with DPW to remove gabions and restore stream banks.
- Install an interpretive sign along the Greenway to identify the Swamp White Oak champion and describe the Olmsted Brothers 1904 report and the history of land acquisition of Herring Run as a stream valley park in the expanding Baltimore City park system.
- Install a small park pavilion that can securely hold portable restroom units. The pavilion should be an attractive design, suitable for a park setting. In conjunction with this, install drinking fountains.
- Renovate the steep grassy slope along Chesterfield Avenue with a series of grass terraces to enhance spectator seating on the hillside. Provide a wider setback area along Chesterfield Avenue to allow for passive park areas along the perimeter of the groupings on the slope.
- Request assistance from the Department of Public Works to explore the possibility of re-directing storm water from Chesterfield Avenue into bio-retention swales and



*Chesterfield Woods / Woodstock Neighborhood Park /
Woodstock Softball Fields*

small ephemeral wetland areas between the fields and Chesterfield Woods, east of Norman Avenue.

- Install an interpretive sign establishing the close connection between Herring Run and Clifton Park through the Olmsted design for Norman Avenue.

U10. Chesterfield Woods/Woodstock Neighborhood Park

Enhance wooded edges along Chesterfield Avenue and down into the Park. Enhance and expand neighborhood access points into the park while preserving community use and Woodstock Softball Fields as described in recommendation U11.

- Expand and restore the Riparian Buffer and woodlands on the south side of the stream from the Father Hooper Fields to Belair Road by planting native trees and shrubs. Remove invasive plant material in the woodlands in conjunction with installation of the new plantings. Enhance the northwestern edge of the Chesterfield woods with native over-story and under-story tree/shrub plantings. Native flowering trees should be used in groupings at the woodland edge to create a colorful background for the open areas associated with Father Hooper Fields
- Renovate the existing paved park path to create the Herring Run Greenway between Father Hooper Fields and Belair Road. Follow the current alignment of the path as closely as possible to reduce the impacts of construction. Create nature trails with stepping-stones to provide access to the stream.
- Design and complete restoration of the stream banks of the small tributaries on the Chesterfield slopes at the same time as construction of the Herring Run Greenway improvements. Replace deteriorated culverts as the Greenway crosses small tributaries.
- Design a series of small open lawn areas near Chesterfield Avenue to create views into the park and “play islands” for small community gatherings. Connect the lawn areas with a nature trail from Father Hooper Fields along Chesterfield Avenue to Belair Road. Install benches, trash receptacles and picnic tables near the path. Plant high-canopied shade trees to define the space and native flowering trees adjacent to the woodlands for a layered, diversified plant community. Maintain mowed lawn



Chesterfield East Gateway Park

areas within the play islands and, where possible, along Chesterfield Avenue to provide a manicured environment along the park perimeter. This mowed lawn edge should be 10'-20' in width minimum, depending upon adjacent conditions.

- Maintain a network of “nature” trails and mountain bike trails throughout Chesterfield Woods consistent with State and Federal Trail guidelines to provide access to the woodlands, greenway and the stream. Evaluate soil type and slope when determining trail alignment to avoid the most erodible soils. Install a switchback trail connection at the eastern edge of Chesterfield Woods, near Cardenas Avenue and the western edge near Norman Avenue.

U11. Woodstock Softball Fields

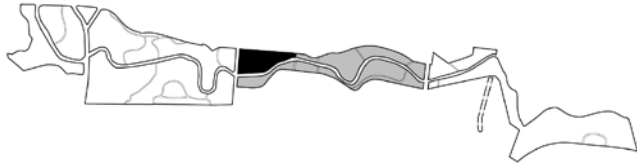
Renovate existing ball fields adjacent to the Woodstock Neighborhood Park to improve playing field conditions. This work should be coordinated with recommendation U10.

- Renovate the ball field area to create two regulation size softball fields. Install black vinyl fencing for backstop, team bench areas and trash receptacles for the softball diamonds. Remove the invasive vines and trees on the edge of the woodlands as part of the field renovation project. Include bio-retention swales in the field renovation design to manage any storm water runoff from the playing field. Landscape the athletic field area with high-canopied native shade trees, to provide park-like setting and to further define an “outdoor room”. These trees should be planted in groupings beyond edges of field, particularly where they could provide shade for spectators and players during breaks. Plant additional native flowering trees and evergreen trees along the woodland edge to provide seasonal interest and backdrop. Establish a “mow line” to reduce lawn maintenance and allow for some meadow areas adjacent to woodland edge.
- Install a small park pavilion that can securely hold portable restroom units. The pavilion should be an attractive design, suitable for a park setting.

U12. Chesterfield East Gateway Park

Preserve and enhance this area as a neighborhood park and gateway to Herring Run Park.

- Create Gateway entries for the Park at the intersections of Chesterfield Avenue /Belair Road and Shannon Drive/Belair Road, including park signage with landscaping for seasonal plantings. The design of the Gateway Signs in these locations should include a place for temporary information signs that display park or community events. The new gateway signs should combine, or be compatible with existing community name signs.
- Renovate the existing path to create the Herring Run Greenway. Adjust the trail alignment to lead to the intersection at Shannon Drive and Belair Road.
- Request assistance from the Department of Transportation to evaluate the intersections of Shannon Drive, Chesterfield Avenue and Belair Road for improved pedestrian and bicycle safety while designing the Herring Run Greenway.
- Provide secondary trail connections to the greenway trail by creating a “loop” within this area that leads to the stream and creates a footpath link under Belair Road Bridge.
- Maintain existing movie shed and open lawn area to allow for passive play and community events. Preserve the open hillside /natural amphitheater leading down to Herring Run west of the shed. This area should not be used for woodland expansion, rather selective canopy tree planting to preserve lawn underneath and maintain views into the park and trail. Install benches, trash receptacles, and picnic tables in a picnic grove near the movie shed.
- Restore woodlands and tree groves in the park by planting native trees and shrubs. Remove invasive trees and vegetation in the existing woodlands in conjunction with installation of new plantings. To maintain views into the park, evaluate “limbing up” of existing evergreen trees. Establish a “mow line” to define the mowed open lawn area and the meadow edges mowed less frequently. Landscape the picnic area with high-canopied native shade trees, to provide park-like setting and to further define an “outdoor room”. These trees should be planted in groupings near street edges and around the picnic grove, particularly where they could provide shade for the picnic tables. Native flowering trees can be planted in masses near edges of woodland areas. Plant high-canopied shade trees along the streets to maintain sight lines into the park.



2. MASTER PLAN RECOMMENDATIONS FOR THE MIDDLE PARK

The Middle Park is located on both sides of the Herring Run Stream, between Belair Road and Sinclair Lane. The woodland areas are more interrupted than in the Upper Park and there are less recreation features because the parkland between the stream and adjacent roadway is much narrower than in the Upper Park. For the Middle Park, the master plan recommends significant areas of reforestation as well as upgrades to recreation features. The recommendations for the Middle Park are denoted “M-1”, “M-2”, etc. and correspond to the numbered recommendations in *Exhibit N-2*.

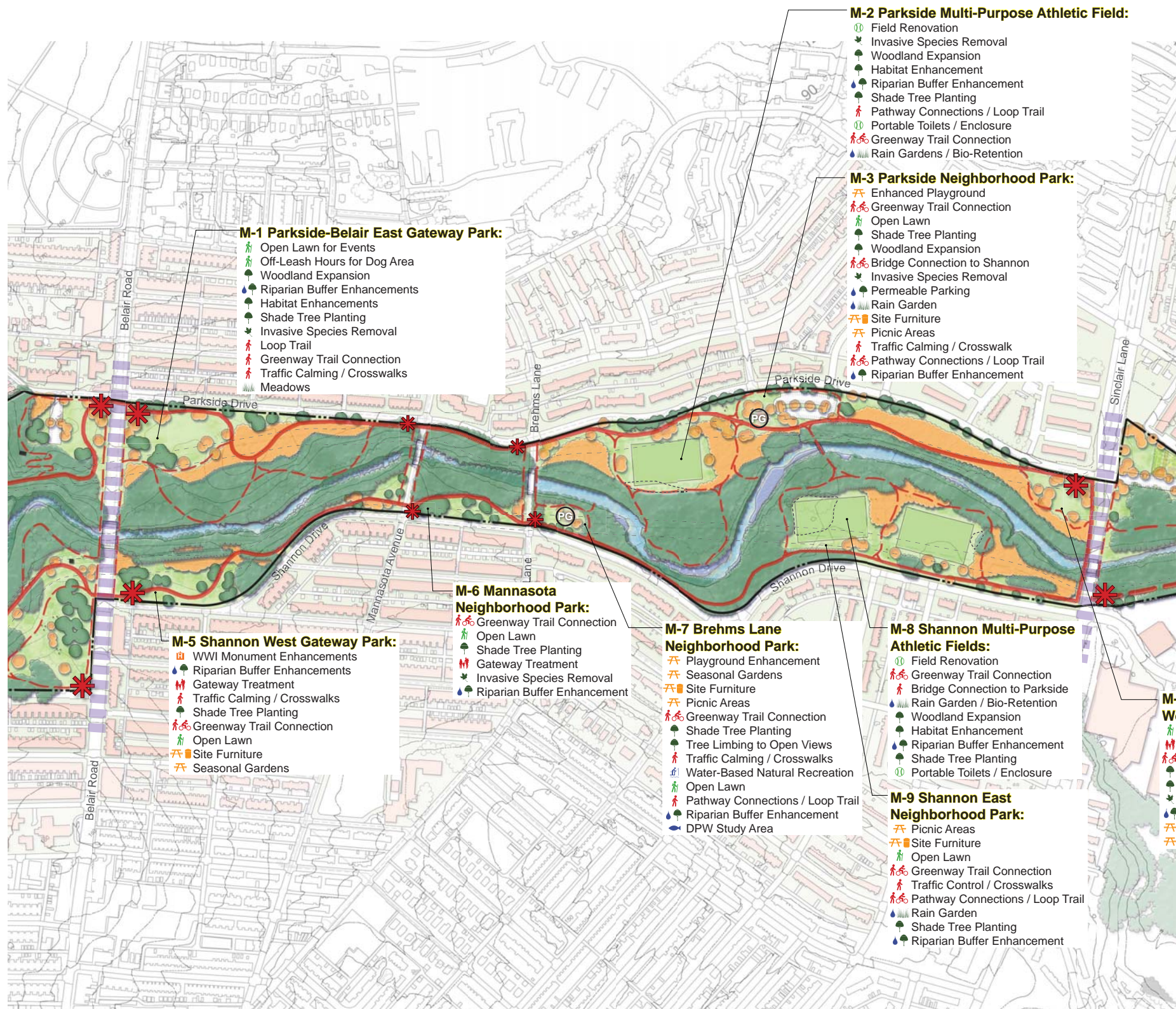
M1. Parkside-Belair East Gateway Park

A Gateway Sign in this area of gentle hills and open lawns at the southeast corner of Belair Road and Parkside Drive will create a landmark for the park and greenway on Belair Road.

- Create a Gateway entry for the Park and Greenway including park signage with landscaping for seasonal plantings. The design of the Gateway Sign in this location should include a place for temporary information signs that display park or community events.
- Install a new section of the Herring Run Greenway from Belair Road to Brehms Lane, keeping the greenway trail alignment close to the Parkside Drive street edge to maximize the uninterrupted useable lawn area. Create a nature trail loop from the greenway trail to provide access to the stream.
- Expand the Riparian Buffer on the north side of the stream from Belair Road to Brehms Lane, by planting native trees and shrubs. Remove invasive trees and vegetation in the existing woodlands in conjunction with installation of new



Parkside-Belair East Gateway Park



LEGEND:

- ✳ Gateway Sign / Treatment
- Proposed Greenway Trail Alignment
- - - Greenway Trail Extension (Future)
- - - Secondary Trail / Nature Trail
- Major Utility R.O.W.
- ▭ Recommended Traffic Calming
- ▭ Permeable Parking Lot / Gated Access
- P Parking to be Studied
- ▭ Neighborhood Park
- ▭ Recreation Field (Conceptual Layout)
- ⊙ Playground
- ▭ Stream Channel
- ▭ Bio-Retention Area
- ▭ Wooded Bio-Retention Area
- ▭ Existing Woodlands
- ▭ Expanded Woodlands (~22 Acres)
- New Shade Tree Plantings
- Woodland Removal (~6 Acres)
- ▭ Meadow
- ⊙ Champion Tree
- Contour Interval - 10 ft.
- U-1 Upper Park Recommendation
- M-1 Middle Park Recommendation
- L-1 Lower Park Recommendation

ICON LEGEND:

Sustainability Principle #1: The Natural Oasis: *Protecting and Enhancing the Park's Natural Resources*

- Water Quality
- Woodland Expansion / Tree Plantings / Habitat Enhancement
- Invasive Species Removal
- Meadow / Bio-Retention / Rain Garden
- DPW Study Area for Passage Over Fish Barriers
- Future Stream Channel Gabion Removal / Repair by DPW

Sustainability Principle #2: A Place to Play: *Recreation*

- Recreation Fields
- Land-Based Natural / Passive Recreation
- Water-Based Natural Recreation

Sustainability Principle #3: A Place with a Past: *Revealing the Park's History*

- Historical / Cultural Elements

Sustainability Principle #4: The Herring Run Link: *Connecting Baltimore*

- Pedestrian Access
- Bicycle Access
- Traffic Calming

Sustainability Principle #5: The Emerald Necklace: *One Park, Many Jewels*

- Neighborhood Park Elements

Sustainability Principle #6: A Clean, Safe, and Functioning Park: *Attention to Maintenance and Safety*

- Maintenance Opportunity (Throughout Park)

Sustainability Principle #7: Everybody's Park: *Building Stewardship*

- Park Gateways

HERRING RUN PARK MASTER PLAN Baltimore, Maryland

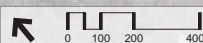
EXHIBIT N - 2

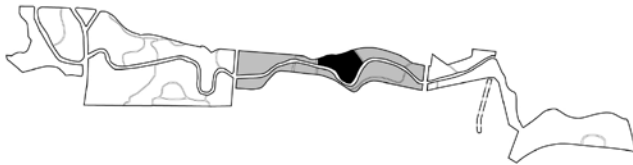
Illustrative Master Plan - Middle Park

Revised April 29, 2010

MAHAN RYKIEL ASSOCIATES, INC. 800 Wyman Park Drive, Suite 100 Baltimore, MD 21211

DEPARTMENT OF RECREATION & PARKS 2600 Madison Ave Baltimore, MD 21217





Parkside Multi-Purpose Athletic Field

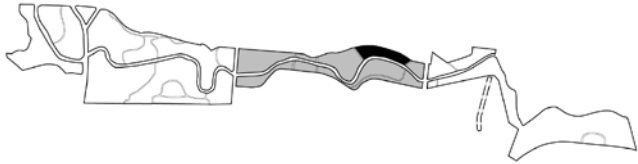
plantings. Establish a “mow line” to define the mowed open lawn area and the meadow edges mowed less frequently along the tree line of the riparian buffer.

- Maintain an open lawn for informal play near the corner of Belair and Parkside. Plant trees along the perimeter of the area, particularly Belair Road and Parkside Drive to reinforce and define the open space. Trees should be native high-canopied shade trees to maintain views into and out of the area.
- Evaluate the open lawn as a possible “off leash” area for dogs in Herring Run Park.
- Request assistance from the Department of Transportation to evaluate the intersection of Parkside and Belair Road for improved pedestrian and bicycle safety while designing the Herring Run Greenway. Request assistance from DOT in a study of the potential for on-street parking on the south side of Parkside.

M2. Parkside Multi-Purpose Athletic Field

Renovate the Parkside Drive athletic field area to improve playing field conditions and allow expansion of the riparian buffer.

- Install a new section of the Herring Run Greenway from Brehms Lane to Sinclair Lane, keeping the greenway trail alignment close to the Parkside Drive street edge. Create a nature trail loop from the greenway trail to provide access to the stream.
- Renovate the multi-use athletic field to create a regulation size field that can accommodate football, soccer and lacrosse. Include team bench areas, bleachers for spectators and trash receptacles, but no sports lights due to the close proximity of residential areas. Include bio-retention swales in the field renovation design to manage any storm water runoff from the playing field. Landscape the athletic field area with high-canopied native shade trees, to provide park-like setting for multi-purpose field and to further define an “outdoor room”. These trees should be planted in groupings near street edges and beyond edges of field, particularly where they could provide shade for spectators and players during breaks. Native flowering trees can be planted in masses near edges of woodland expansion areas.



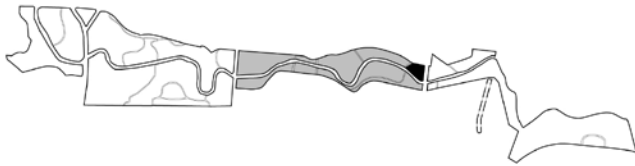
Parkside Neighborhood Park

- Install a small park pavilion that can securely hold portable restroom units. The pavilion should be an attractive design, suitable for a park setting. In addition, install drinking fountains.
- Remove fencing and benches from two existing baseball areas to allow reforestation.
- Expand the Riparian Buffer on the north side of the stream across the former baseball fields by planting native trees and shrubs. Remove invasive trees and vegetation in the existing woodlands in conjunction with installation of new plantings. Establish a “mow line” to define the mowed playing field area and the meadow edges mowed less frequently along the tree line of the riparian buffer.
- Install an interpretive sign to supplement the Furley Hall historic marker located near Brehms Lane. Include historic images and maps in the interpretive sign.

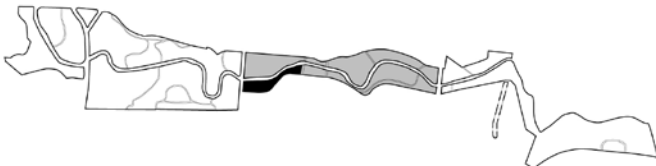
M3. Parkside Neighborhood Park

Expand and enhance the playground near Parkside Drive and Robertson Avenue.

- Renovate and expand the existing playground using metal modular playground equipment and rubber safety surface.
- Create a picnic grove between the playground and the athletic field. Landscape the playground and picnic area with high-canopied native shade trees, to provide park-like setting and to further define an “outdoor room”. These trees should be planted in groupings near street edges and around the picnic grove, particularly where they could provide shade for the playground equipment and picnic tables. Native flowering trees can be planted in masses near edges of woodland expansion areas.
- Install an “in-ground” water hydrant and access to electric power to accommodate community events.
- Install a permeable parking area east of the playground to accommodate park users. The design should include a gated entry so the parking area is only opened for permitted field games or special park events.



Parkside-Sinclair Woodland Expansion Project



Shannon West Gateway Park

- Maintain a nature trail in the woods and a stepping stone path, using substantial stones, to provide access to the stream.
- Coordinate with Shannon Multi-Purpose Athletic Fields project (M8) to establish a pedestrian bridge crossing, linking the two areas.

M4. Parkside-Sinclair Woodland Expansion Project

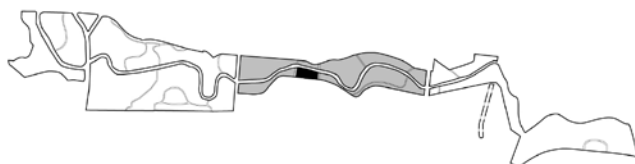
Removal of a baseball field will allow Expansion of the Riparian Buffer for Herring Run.

- Remove fencing and benches from an existing baseball area to allow reforestation of some of this area.
- Expand the Riparian Buffer on the north side of the stream across the former baseball field by planting native trees and shrubs. Remove invasive trees and vegetation in the existing woodlands in conjunction with installation of new plantings.
- Create a Gateway entry for the Park and Greenway including park signage with landscaping for seasonal plantings near the corner of Parkside Drive and Sinclair Lane. Maintain mowed lawn areas along Parkside Drive to provide a manicured environment along the park perimeter and to allow visibility into the park from the adjacent road. At a minimum, this mowed lawn area should be 20' in width. Maintain a larger lawn area near the intersection of Sinclair Lane and Parkside Drive and install picnic tables. Landscape the picnic area with high-canopied native shade trees, to provide park-like setting while maintaining views into the park.
- Install a new section of the Herring Run Greenway from the Parkside Playground to Sinclair Lane, allowing the greenway trail alignment to pass through the newly reforested area. Create a nature trail loop from the greenway trail into the woodlands to provide access to the stream.
- Install interpretive signs along the greenway to describe the reforestation process and the value of riparian buffers.

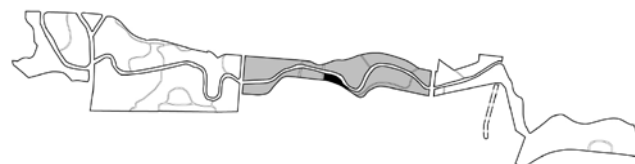
M5. Shannon West Gateway Park

The historic monument and the pathways on the west side of the intersection of Belair Road and Shannon Drive will be improved.

- Create a Gateway entry for the Park and Greenway including park signage with landscaping for seasonal plantings.
- Design landscape enhancements for the WWI monument including removal of dense eye-level shrubby plant materials to open up views into the park from Belair Road. Planting should be replaced with low masses of seasonal color. Include site furniture such as benches and trash receptacles, near the WWI monument.
- Install interpretive signs to provide history of the WWI Monument and honor community contribution to relocation of the monument and continued maintenance.
- Renovate the existing path to create the Herring Run Greenway. Adjust the trail alignment to lead to the intersection at Shannon Drive and Belair Road and by the WWI monument.
- Request assistance from the Department of Transportation to evaluate the intersection of Shannon and Belair Road for improved pedestrian and bicycle safety while designing the Herring Run Greenway.
- Provide secondary trail connections to the greenway trail by creating a small “loop” within this park area that leads to the stream and creates a footpath connection under Belair Road Bridge.
- Expand the Riparian Buffer on the south side of the stream from Belair Road to Mannasota Avenue, by planting native trees and shrubs. Remove invasive trees and vegetation in the existing woodlands in conjunction with installation of new plantings. Establish a “mow line” to define the mowed open lawn area and the meadow edges mowed less frequently along the tree line of the riparian buffer.
- Maintain an open lawn for informal play and community gatherings near the corner of Belair and Shannon. Plant trees along the perimeter of the area, particularly Belair Road and Shannon Drive to reinforce and define the open space. Trees should be native high-canopied shade trees to maintain views into and out of the area. Plant high-canopied shade trees, with lower flowering tree masses at woodland edges.



Mannasota Neighborhood Park



Brehms Lane Neighborhood Park

M6. Mannasota Neighborhood Park

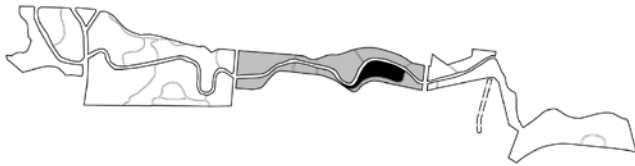
Enhance the open lawns along Shannon Drive.

- Create a Gateway entry for the Park and Greenway including park signage with landscaping for seasonal plantings near the corner of Shannon Drive and Mannasota Avenue.
- Renovate the existing path to create the Herring Run Greenway. Adjust the trail alignment to meet ADA standards for gentle grades.
- Request assistance from the Department of Transportation to evaluate the intersection of Shannon and Mannasota Road for improved pedestrian and bicycle safety while designing the Herring Run Greenway.
- Enhance the Riparian Buffer on the south side of the stream from Mannasota Avenue to Brehms Lane, by planting native trees and shrubs. Remove invasive trees and vegetation in the existing woodlands in conjunction with installation of new plantings. Establish a “mow line” to define the mowed open lawn area and the meadow edges mowed less frequently along the tree line of the riparian buffer.
- Maintain open lawn area to allow for passive play. Limb trees and selectively create planting more native trees and shrubs to create an overall expansion of the riparian buffer. Native flowering trees can be planted in masses near edges of woodland expansion areas. Plant high-canopied shade trees along the streets to maintain sight lines into the park.

M7. Brehms Lane Neighborhood Park

Expand and enhance the playground located at the northeast corner of Brehms Lane and Shannon Drive.

- Create a Gateway entry for the Park and Greenway including park signage with landscaping for seasonal plantings near the corner of Shannon Drive and Brehms Lane.



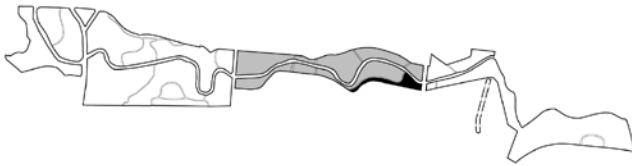
Shannon Multi-Purpose Athletic Fields

- Renovate the existing path to create the Herring Run Greenway. Adjust the trail alignment to meet ADA standards for gentle grades.
- Request assistance from the Department of Transportation to evaluate the intersection of Shannon and Brehms Lane for improved pedestrian and bicycle safety while designing the Herring Run Greenway.
- Renovate and expand the existing playground using metal modular playground equipment and rubber safety surface.
- Create a picnic grove near the playground, including benches, trash receptacles, and picnic tables.
- Landscape the playground and picnic area with high-canopied native shade trees, to provide park-like setting and to further define an “outdoor room”. These trees should be planted in groupings near street edges and around the picnic grove, particularly where they could provide shade for the playground equipment and picnic tables. Native flowering trees can be planted in masses near edges of woodland expansion areas. Plant high-canopied shade trees along the streets to maintain sight lines into the park.
- Maintain open lawn area to allow for passive play. Limb trees and selectively create openings in the woodland edge along the stream to open up views to the stream, while planting more native trees and shrubs to create an overall expansion of the riparian buffer. Maintain a nature trail in the woods and a stepping stone path to provide access to the stream.

M8. Shannon Multi-Purpose Athletic Fields

Renovate the Shannon Drive athletic field area to improve playing field conditions and allow expansion of the riparian buffer. This recommendation should be coordinated with recommendation M9 described below.

- Renovate the pathway along Shannon Drive street edge to create the Herring Run Greenway. Maintain a nature trail loop from the greenway trail through the woods and a stepping stone path to provide access to the stream. Install a pedestrian bridge



Shannon East Neighborhood Park

to create a link between the Shannon Multipurpose Fields and the Parkside Neighborhood Park (coordinate with M3).

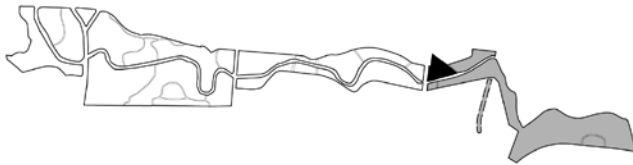
- Renovate the multi-use athletic field area to create two regulation size fields that can accommodate football, soccer and lacrosse. Include team bench areas, bleachers for spectators and trash receptacles, but no sports lights due to the close proximity of residential areas. Include bio-retention swales in the field renovation design to manage any storm water runoff from the playing field. Landscape the athletic field area with high-canopied native shade trees, to provide park-like setting for multi-purpose field and to further define an “outdoor room”. These trees should be planted in groupings near street edges and beyond edges of field, particularly where they could provide shade for spectators and players during breaks. Native flowering trees can be planted in masses near edges of woodland expansion areas.
- Install a small park pavilion that can securely hold portable restroom units. The pavilion should be an attractive design, suitable for a park setting. In conjunction with this, provide drinking fountains.
- Remove fencing and benches from two existing baseball areas to allow reforestation.
- Expand the Riparian Buffer on the south side of the stream between the new playing fields by planting native trees and shrubs. Remove invasive trees and vegetation in the existing woodlands in conjunction with installation of new plantings. Establish a “mow line” to define the mowed playing field area and the meadow edges mowed less frequently along the tree line of the riparian buffer.

M9. Shannon East Neighborhood Park

Removal of a baseball field will allow creation of a picnic grove and expansion of the Riparian Buffer for Herring Run. This recommendation should be coordinated with recommendation M8 described in the preceding paragraphs.

- Renovate the existing path to create the Herring Run Greenway. Adjust the trail alignment to lead to the intersection at Shannon Drive and Sinclair Lane. Install a new pedestrian bridge just west of the existing Sinclair Lane automobile bridge to carry the greenway to the north side of the park.

- Request assistance from the Department of Transportation to evaluate the intersection of Shannon and Sinclair Lane for improved pedestrian and bicycle safety while designing the Herring Run Greenway.
- Create a picnic grove and open lawn for informal play and community gatherings near the athletic fields, including benches, trash receptacles, and picnic tables.
- Landscape the picnic area with high-canopied native shade trees, to provide a park-like setting and to further define an “outdoor room”. These trees should be planted in groupings near street edges and around the picnic grove, particularly where they could provide shade for the picnic tables. Native flowering trees can be planted in masses near edges of woodland expansion areas. Plant high-canopied shade trees along the streets to maintain sight lines into the park.
- Expand the Riparian Buffer on the south side of the stream near Sinclair Lane by planting native trees and shrubs. Remove invasive trees and vegetation in the existing woodlands in conjunction with installation of new plantings. Establish a “mow line” to define the mowed open lawn area and the meadow edges mowed less frequently along the tree line of the riparian buffer.



Sinclair Lane Community Garden and Park

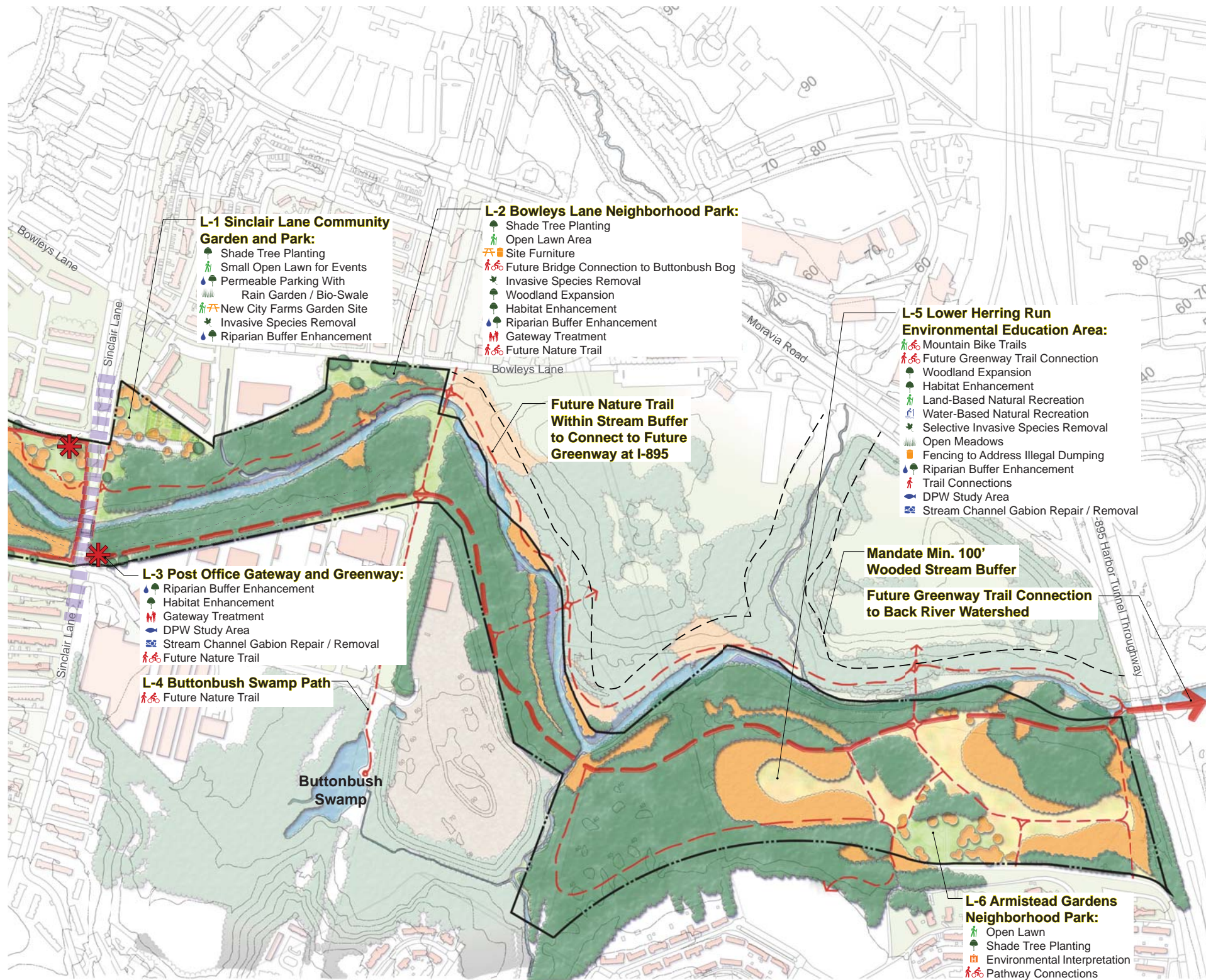
3. MASTER PLAN RECOMMENDATIONS FOR THE LOWER PARK

The Lower Park is the least developed portion of the park. For the Lower Park, the master plan recommends enhancing the natural features and increasing public access. The land closest to the community of Armistead Gardens was used as a landfill until 1962 when it was capped with soil. Athletic fields and courts were installed in the 1970s, but later failed due to unstable soils. Currently the land is reverting to a woodland and meadow state with unique habitats. The recommendations for the Lower Park are denoted “L-1”, “L-2”, etc. and correspond to the numbered recommendations in *Exhibit N-3*.

L1. Sinclair Lane Community Garden and Park

The existing open area east of Sinclair Lane and north of the stream provides an opportunity for a large community garden and passive recreation area.

- Install a new community garden with individual garden plots, water access, and attractive storage of mulch, soil and composting bins. Incorporate a black ornamental steel fence to enclose the community garden and provide an attractive edge.
- Maintain an open grassy area for young neighborhood children to play near the garden. Include benches and trash receptacles adjacent to community garden.
- Install a Parking Area for 20 cars along the existing abandoned roadway. Parking will utilize permeable paving and will provide parking access to the community garden as well as the greenway trail.
- Expand the Park Tree Canopy with a new tree planting along street edges and north of the new garden to provide spatial definition. Select tree species that are high canopied shade trees to maintain sight lines.
- Expand and Restore the Riparian Buffer on the north side of the stream from Sinclair Lane to the BGE easement by planting native trees and shrubs. Remove invasive plant material in the adjacent woodlands in conjunction with installation of the new plantings.



- LEGEND:**
- ✱ Gateway Sign / Treatment
 - Proposed Greenway Trail Alignment
 - - - Greenway Trail Extension (Future)
 - - - Secondary Trail / Nature Trail
 - - - Major Utility R.O.W.
 - ▨ Recommended Traffic Calming
 - ▨ Permeable Parking Lot / Gated Access
 - P Parking to be Studied
 - ▨ Neighborhood Park
 - ▨ Recreation Field (Conceptual Layout)
 - ⊙ Playground
 - ▨ Stream Channel
 - ▨ Bio-Retention Area
 - ▨ Wooded Bio-Retention Area
 - ▨ Existing Woodlands
 - ▨ Expanded Woodlands (~22 Acres)
 - ▨ New Shade Tree Plantings
 - ▨ Woodland Removal (~6 Acres)
 - ▨ Meadow
 - ⊙ Champion Tree
 - Contour Interval - 10 ft.
 - U-1 Upper Park Recommendation
 - M-1 Middle Park Recommendation
 - L-1 Lower Park Recommendation

ICON LEGEND:

- Sustainability Principle #1:** The Natural Oasis: *Protecting and Enhancing the Park's Natural Resources*
- ▨ Water Quality
 - ▨ Woodland Expansion / Tree Plantings / Habitat Enhancement
 - ▨ Invasive Species Removal
 - ▨ Meadow / Bio-Retention / Rain Garden
 - ▨ DPW Study Area for Passage Over Fish Barriers
 - ▨ Future Stream Channel Gabion Removal / Repair by DPW

- Sustainability Principle #2:** A Place to Play: *Recreation*
- ▨ Recreation Fields
 - ▨ Land-Based Natural / Passive Recreation
 - ▨ Water-Based Natural Recreation

- Sustainability Principle #3:** A Place with a Past: *Revealing the Park's History*
- ▨ Historical / Cultural Elements

- Sustainability Principle #4:** The Herring Run Link: *Connecting Baltimore*
- ▨ Pedestrian Access
 - ▨ Bicycle Access
 - ▨ Traffic Calming

- Sustainability Principle #5:** The Emerald Necklace: *One Park, Many Jewels*
- ▨ Neighborhood Park Elements

- Sustainability Principle #6:** A Clean, Safe, and Functioning Park: *Attention to Maintenance and Safety*
- ▨ Maintenance Opportunity (Throughout Park)

- Sustainability Principle #7:** Everybody's Park: *Building Stewardship*
- ▨ Park Gateways

HERRING RUN PARK MASTER PLAN

Baltimore, Maryland

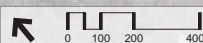
EXHIBIT N - 3

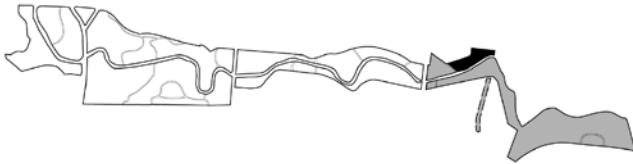
Illustrative
Master Plan -
Lower Park

Revised April 29, 2010

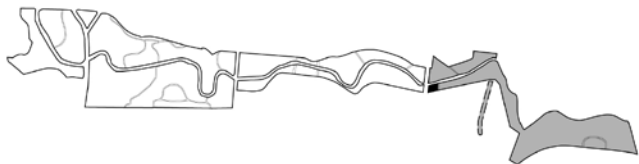
MAHAN RYKIEL ASSOCIATES, INC.
800 Wyman Park Drive, Suite 100
Baltimore, MD
21211

DEPARTMENT OF RECREATION &
PARKS
2600 Madison Ave
Baltimore, MD
21217





Bowleys Lane Neighborhood Park



Post Office Gateway and Greenway in the Lower Park

L2. Bowleys Lane Neighborhood Park

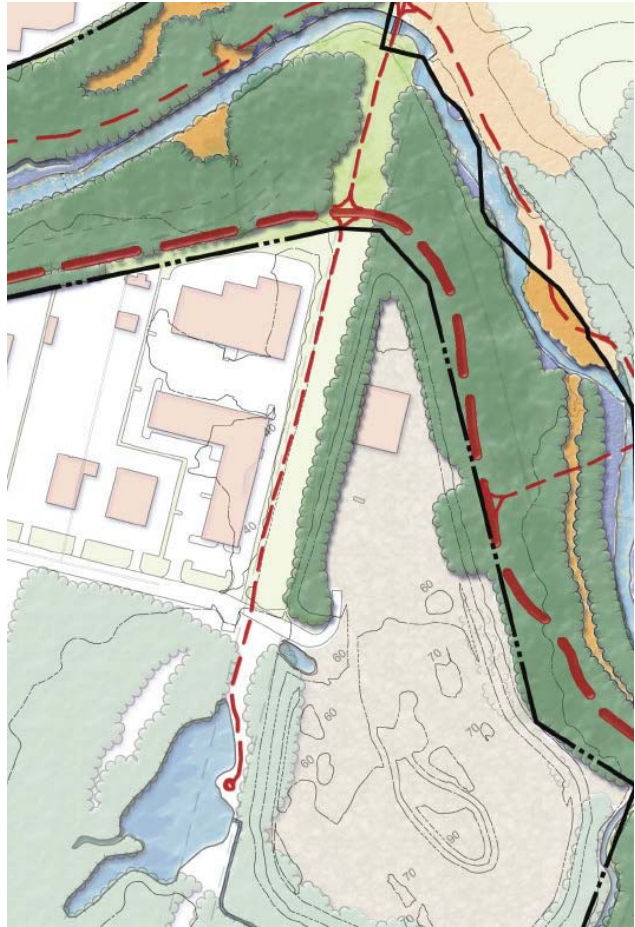
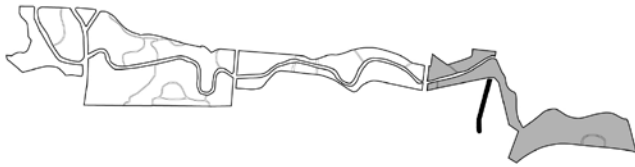
Enhance a passive park area located along Bowleys Lane, just north and west of the existing BGE easement, and restore the park woodlands near the stream.

- Design an open lawn area to allow for passive play adjacent to the neighborhood including a picnic grove for small community gatherings. Plant high-canopied shade trees to define the space and low flowering trees adjacent to the woodlands.
- Maintain a “nature” trail in the woods to on the north side of the stream from Sinclair Lane to Bowleys Lane and south along the BGE easement, including a “stepping stone” path to access the stream.
- Expand and Restore the Riparian Buffer on the north side of the stream from Sinclair Lane to the BGE easement by planting native trees and shrubs. Remove invasive plant material in the adjacent woodlands in conjunction with installation of the new plantings.

L3. Post Office Gateway and Greenway in the Lower Park

A Gateway Sign at this location will create a landmark for the park and greenway for Sinclair Lane.

- Create a Gateway entry for the Lower Park and Herring Run Greenway including signs, benches, trash receptacles, and landscaping.
- Plant high-canopied shade trees, with lower flowering tree masses at woodland edges near the Gateway and along the route of the Greenway
- Extend the Herring Run Greenway through the park and promote future connections beyond I-895 east into Baltimore County, south to the Buttonbush Swamp and Bayview Hospital, and north to the Monrovia Business Center.
- Expand and Restore the Riparian Buffer on the south side of the stream from Sinclair Lane to the BGE easement by planting native trees and shrubs. Remove invasive plant material in the adjacent woodlands in conjunction with installation of the new plantings.



Buttonbush Swamp Path

L4. Buttonbush Swamp Path

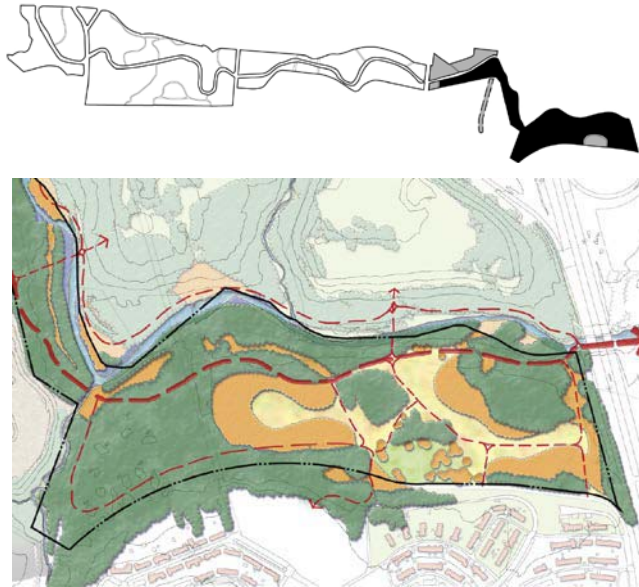
The Buttonbush Swamp is a unique resource in close proximity to Herring Run Park. Baltimore City Department of Recreation and Parks should coordinate with BGE to allow public access in the BGE right-of way.

- Maintain a “nature” trail along the BGE easement to provide a connection to the Buttonbush Swamp. Install a viewing platform to observe wildlife with minimal disturbance or intrusion into the wetland.

L5. Lower Herring Run Environmental Education Area

Preserve and enhance much of the lower park as the Lower Herring Run Environmental Area with an emphasis on enhanced and expanded woods, meadows, nature trails and environmental education with no disturbance to the existing landfill cap.

- Extend the Herring Run Greenway following the existing pathway alignment between Sinclair Lane and Armistead Creek, with a bridge connection over Armistead Creek. West of the creek, align the trail midway between Herring Run and the adjacent community of Armistead Gardens. Coordinate trail design with future links into Baltimore County or Southeast Baltimore City. (Install a temporary footbridge over Armistead Creek as soon as possible to allow continued use of the existing nature trail until the Greenway is extended to this area).
- Restore the stream banks of Armistead Creek including restoration of the gabion bank of Herring Run at the mouth of Armistead Creek. (If possible coordinate this project with installation of the Greenway and the Armistead pedestrian bridge to reduce disturbance).
- Expand the Wooded Riparian Buffer by planting native trees and shrubs to increase the tree canopy over the stream as well as increase the diversity of tree types in the existing woodlands.



Lower Herring Run Environmental Education Area

- Establish a series of open meadows away from the stream to enhance wildlife habitats and provide a variety of landscape settings and environmental experiences. Enhance meadows with native herbaceous plantings.
- Restore the existing woodland by removing invasive vines and herbaceous plants. Prioritize removal of invasive trees with consideration to the contribution of the tree canopy for overall water quality. The woodlands in this area of the park include significant stands of invasive trees, particularly Chinese Elms and Siberian Elms. Complete removal of these would have a negative effect on water quality by opening soils to erosion and reducing the amount of closed tree canopy that cools the stream. Therefore, the emphasis here is to enhance species diversification by introducing native trees into the woodland mix. Selective clearing and native tree planting in combination with healthy, viable seed sources upstream from Armistead Creek will feed healthy viable wooded areas downstream.
- Provide barriers/fencing to help control illegal dumping from access point from the BGE easement, Armistead Garden's roads and park trails.
- Create a network of nature trails and mountain bike trails throughout Lower Park area consistent with State and Federal Trail guidelines to provide access to the woodlands and the stream.
- Install a series of interpretive signs along the nature trails to describe the historic, cultural and environmental features of the Lower Park such as: the historic Kingsbury Furnace and Bishop's Driving Park, restoration of the park woodlands, plants and wildlife in the woods and meadows, reclaiming former landfills for parkland, the value of riparian buffers and the simple steps residential areas can take to improve water quality downstream in the Herring Run.
- Coordinate with the Baltimore Development Corporation and Moravia Business Center to preserve a 100' wooded riparian buffer with a nature trail along the north shore of the Herring Run including a new pedestrian bridge across the stream and a pathway connection to the new Moravia Business Park.



Armistead Gardens Neighborhood Park

L6. Armistead Gardens Neighborhood Park

Enhance a passive area located near the intersection of Alricks Way and Evans Way with connections to the community.

- Design an open lawn area to allow for passive play adjacent to the neighborhood including a picnic grove for small community gatherings or use as an outdoor classroom for environmental education groups. Plant high-canopied shade trees to define the space and low flowering trees adjacent to the woodlands.
- Provide benches, trash receptacles, and picnic tables.
- Include nature trail connections to the main greenway trail.
- Install an interpretive sign and map with an overall plan of the nature trails and the environmental features of the Lower Park.

PART VI: IMPLEMENTATION

Implementation of the Herring Run Park Master Plan will occur over many years, even decades, and will be an on-going effort. Successful implementation will depend upon the efforts of many partners and stakeholders and will require many small, but highly visible, successes early in the implementation process.

Following is an implementation matrix which summarizes the master plan recommendations outlined under Park-Wide Recommendations, Recommendations for the Upper Park, Recommendations for the Middle Park and Recommendations for the Lower Park. Recommendations are listed under “Short-Term”, “Mid-Term” and “Long-Term” categories. In addition, there is a column identifying “Successes”. Each year, as projects are implemented, these actions can be moved into the “Successes” column. Many recommendations will be on-going and, therefore, may appear in all columns. The recommendations and prioritizing of these was based upon input received at the April 23, 2009 community draft review meeting.

In addition to the Implementation Matrix, the following paragraphs outline the roles of park advocate groups who will continue to work in conjunction with the Department of Recreation and Parks in on-going maintenance, park programming, volunteer support, park advocacy and park promotion.

1. PARK MAINTENANCE, PARK PROGRAMMING AND VOLUNTEER SUPPORT

Herring Run Park Advisory Board (HRPAB)

The Herring Run Park Advisory Board (HRPAB) was formed to streamline communication between city agencies and community organizations near Herring Run Park on issues related to park improvements, street and bridge reconstruction, stream restoration and upgrades to public utilities. The HRPAB has assisted the Department of Recreation and Parks during the Herring Run Park Master Plan process and will continue to work with the Department as individual park implementation projects occur.

Friends of Herring Run Parks (FHRP) as an Advocate for the Park

While the Baltimore City Department of Recreation and Parks (BCRP) is responsible for park maintenance and restoration, the Friends of Herring Run Parks (FHRP) can support the park by advocating for improving conditions in the park, increasing park use and promoting the park master plan. As such, the FHRP, as a committee of the Herring Run Watershed Association, should continue its work through the Baltimore City Office of Partnerships and should include board representation from all of the neighborhoods, major athletic organizations that hold Herring Run field permits and major institutions abutting the park. Like other successful “friends of the park” organizations, FHRP can support the park by organizing volunteers to promote park use by sponsoring programs and events such as environmental education programming, natural resource based recreation (hiking, climbing, birding, biking, etc.), historic walking tours, tree planting and tree care, picnics, concerts, movie nights and other events to encourage children and families to spend more time in the park.

HRWA, FHRP and other community volunteer groups, should continue to partner with Baltimore City to host monthly events to promote the natural resources of the park, especially addressing the continuing need for removal of trash and invasive vegetation in the park and stream. Cleanups should focus on specific areas of the park and utilize volunteers from adjacent community organizations and business sponsors.

FHRP should partner with Friends of Clifton Park to promote the unique features of both parks. Northeast Baltimore is fortunate to have two major parks (Herring Run Park and Clifton Park) in such close proximity to one another. As the master plans for these parks are implemented, the Friends groups can support each other by coordinating events, festivals and programming between the parks.

In addition to boasting park attendance through new park programs, FHRP events can support the park by building momentum for implementation of the master plan. Implementing a park master plan can take decades and those involved can often get frustrated or discouraged at the pace. One way to build enthusiasm and energize the stakeholder base is to celebrate each success with an event. Depending upon the scale of the project, the event could be small or large and might include a cookout for the opening of a new playground, a

concert in a new gathering area, a hike along a new trail or along a new woodland expansion area, or a neighborhood vs. neighborhood softball game on a new field. Organizations that currently hold annual or repeating events in the park are encouraged to rotate their event to a different location within the park to highlight a new project. Consideration should also be given to establishing a branding/promotion campaign for Herring Run Park. This campaign could reinforce a variety of themes including: rediscovering Herring Run and Northeast Baltimore; the common thread that weaves through so many neighborhoods; multiple parks within a park; nature in the city, etc.

Continue Coordination Between Improved Park Maintenance and Master Plan Implementation - Park Maintenance Audit and Annual Herring Run Park Summit

Recreation and Parks staff and the HRPAB should conduct a quarterly and an annual audit of park maintenance and park permitted activities to identify successful and unsuccessful operations and to help inform practices outlined in the park maintenance plan. These sessions will help the Chief of Parks focus on Herring Run Park as a separate item in the city-wide park maintenance plan and set a standard for grass cutting, trash pickup, restroom operations, athletic field preparation and issues related to permitted activities in parks.

In addition to hosting programs and events to celebrate the park, an annual “Herring Run Park Summit” should be held among park partners to review the Master Plan Implementation Matrix. During this summit, partners will highlight accomplishments for the year and identify target projects for the coming year. Participants may also shift priorities and goals to reflect current conditions including funding opportunities and other influences that may have emerged since the previous summit. While an important function of the summit is to focus on goals for the upcoming year and to stay on track with implementation, a significant benefit is that the review of accomplishments can energize stakeholders. The summit could be held in the Herring Run Watershed Association headquarters or could be rotated to different neighborhoods or underutilized park structures from year to year.

Promoting the Park by Improving Visibility

As described above, increasing awareness of the park and its resources is important for building park stewardship. In addition to creating positive gateways, making the park more

“visible” in general is important and can be achieved in a number of ways. For new bridge construction, the use of railings on bridge overpasses as opposed to completely solid walls allows motorists (and pedestrians/bicyclists) to see down into the park and stream valley. Recognizing that a broad riparian buffer is important for the health of the stream, it is also important to allow some open vistas to the water in highly visible areas to call attention to the stream. The use of high canopied trees along park edges allow views into and out of the park underneath their canopies and help to visually draw one into the park without any reduction in overall tree canopy cover. Conversely, dense, low-canopied plantings at the street edge create a wall or barrier. The most effective way of increasing visibility is through site specific appropriate planting and maintenance of plant materials. A few straightforward design guidelines for planting are outlined in Section VI of this report.

Another way to increase visibility of the park, park resources and park issues is to co-locate certain activities close to one another. For example, a pathway loop around recreation fields will allow park users who don’t participate in sports to experience some of the excitement of the game as they walk, jog, or exercise their dog. Also, interpretive signage announcing woodland expansion areas near a ball field backstop help to make players and spectators aware of others’ efforts toward environmental stewardship.

Herring Run Park is fortunate to interface with so many communities and neighborhoods. Continuing to host neighborhood events – both large and small - in the park is another way to increase awareness of the park. Throughout this report, the master plan describes where to incorporate open lawn areas that would be suitable for neighborhood-scale and community-scale gatherings, events and festivals. Exposing the park to more people opens up opportunities for increased feelings of ownership of the park and encourages more involvement and care for the park.

2. Improving the Health of the Park and Stream by Promoting Environmentally Sound Choices in the Surrounding Neighborhoods

Long-term stewardship begins with educating the public about the strains placed upon natural systems as a result of development and measures needed to reduce the stresses. Public

awareness of the connections between urban development and the declining quality of the water in our streams and the Chesapeake Bay will foster appreciation, care and ownership to protect the remaining natural resources within Baltimore City. Studies of storm water runoff and pollutants in streams in fully developed urban environments such as Baltimore City have shown that pollution can be attributed to three main sources. Approximately 45% of water pollution is related to activity on privately held residential, commercial and industrial lands: (airborne pollutants that settle on rooftops or parking areas and wash off with rain as well as pollutants generated by residential, commercial and industrial activities), approximately 30% related to sanitary sewer pipes in need of repairs, and approximately 25% related to storm water structures that direct rain water and pollutants from streets into streams. Environmental education, including promotion of simple structures such as rain barrels for residential properties, is the most cost effective tool to reducing water pollution in watersheds such as the Herring Run where the dominant land use is residential property. Environmental activities in the park should always include a component that educates the public in the opportunities to contribute towards the overall health of the watershed by improving environmental conditions on their own property because individual practices have the greatest impact on water pollution (45%) and are the most cost effective strategy to impact stream health.

Herring Run Park Master Plan Recommendations
Implementation Matrix

Updated May 1, 2011

Recommendation	Success	Short-Term	Mid-Term	Long-Term	Implementation Responsibilities
		(0-6 Years)	(6-12 Years)	(12+ Years)	
Park-Wide Recommendations					
1. Natural Resource Protection and Enhancement					
P1. Natural Resource Recommendations Common for the Entire Park:					
Woodland Restoration		■	■	■	BCRP; BCOS, HRWA, FHRP
Expand Riparian Buffers		■	■	■	BCRP; BCOS, HRWA, FHRP
Water Quality Enhancements		■	■	■	DPW; BCRP, HRWA
Interpretive Signs		■	■		BCRP; HRWA; FHRP
P2. Woodland and Riparian Buffer Enhancements:					
Invasive Plant Removal		■	■	■	HRWA; BCRP
Woodland Expansion		■	■	■	BCRP; BCOS, HRWA, FHRP
P3. Stream Channel Restoration Recommendations within Herring Run Park:		■ (Assessment)	■	■	DPW; BCRP; HRWA
P4. Storm Water Retrofit Projects Recommended for Herring Run Park:		(Demonstration)	N/A	N/A	DPW; BCRP; HRWA
2. HERRING RUN GREENWAY & LINKED NATURE TRAILS					
P5. Herring Run Greenway:					
Phase I		■			BCRP
Phase II			■		BCRP
Phase III				■	BCRP
Trail Head Signage		■	■	■	BCRP
Pedestrian Underpass		■			BCRP; DOT
Alternate Alignments and Connections			■	■	BCRP
P6. Nature Trail System:		■	■	■	BCRP; FHRP
P7. Mountain Bike Trail System:		■	■	■	FHRP; BCRP
3. TRAFFIC-CALMING ENHANCEMENTS					
P8. Pavement Markings:		■			DOT
Crosswalks		■			DOT; BCRP; BCPD
Bike Lanes		■			DOT; BCPD
P9. Modifications to Road Sections:					
Road Alignment Evaluations		■ (Study)		■ (Implement)	DOT, BCRP, BCPD

Recommendation	Success	Short-Term	Mid-Term	Long-Term	Implementation Responsibilities
Traffic Circles		■ (Study)		■(Implement)	DOT, BCRP, BCPD
Lane Narrowing			■	■	DOT, BCRP, BCPD
Curb Extensions			■	■	DOT, BCRP, BCPD
P10. Streetscape Enhancements:			■	■	DOT, BCRP, BCPD, Other
Recommendations by Park Area					
1. MASTER PLAN RECOMMENDATIONS FOR THE UPPER PARK					
U1. Morgan/Montebello Woods:					
Restore Existing Woodland		■	■	■	BCRP; BCOS, HRWA, FHRP
Nature Trail		■	■	■	BCRP; BCOS, HRWA, FHRP
Expand Riparian Buffer		■	■	■	BCRP; BCOS, HRWA, FHRP
Bridge / Switchback Connections				■	BCRP, DPW, FHRP
U2. Hall Spring/Argonne Gateway:					
Gateway Entrance		■			BCRP; FHRP
Bollards/Gate Installation		■			BCRP
Replace Circulation Route		■			BCRP; DOT
Parking Alternatives		■(Study/Build)			BCRP, DOT
Argonne/Parkside/Harford Intersection		■ (Study)	■ (Implement)		DOT; BCRP
Nature Trail		■			BCRP; BCOS, HRWA, FHRP
Expand Riparian Buffer		■	■	■	BCRP; BCOS, HRWA, FHRP
U3. Hall Spring Restoration:					
New Section of Greenway / Trails		■			BCRP
Hall Spring Restoration		■			BCRP; FHRP
Renovate / Expand Playground		■			BCRP; FHRP
Renovate Basketball Court		■			BCRP
Wetland Demonstration Project		■			BCRP; BCOS, HRWA, FHRP
Expand Riparian Buffer		■	■	■	BCRP; BCOS, HRWA, FHRP
U4. Heinz Park:					
Gateway Entrance		■ (Sign)			BCRP
Parkside/Walther/Harford Intersections				■	DOT; BCRP
New Benches		■	■		BCRP; FHRP
Columbus Monument Landscape		■	■		FHRP; BCRP
Interpretive Signs		■	■		BCRP; HRWA; FHRP
Tree Groves		■	■	■	BCRP; BCOS, HRWA, FHRP
U5. Walther Woods/Eastwood Neighborhood Park/East Woods:					
Expand/Restore Riparian Buffer / Woodlands		■	■	■	BCRP; BCOS, HRWA, FHRP
Renovate Path for Greenway		■			BCRP
Tributary Stream Banks		■			DPW; BCRP, HRWA

BCRP – Department of Recreation and Parks
HRWA – Herring Run Watershed Association

DPW – Department of Public Works
FHRP – Friends of Herring Run Parks

DOT – Department of Transportation
BDC – Baltimore Development Corporation

BCPD – Planning Department
BCOS – Office of Sustainability
MBC – Monrovia Business Center

Recommendation	Success	Short-Term	Mid-Term	Long-Term	Implementation Responsibilities
Open Lawns along Eastside			■		BCRP
Nature / Mountain Bike Trails		■	■	■	BCRP; BCOS, HRWA, FHRP
Switchback Trail			■		BCRP
U6. Eastwood Fields:					
Alternative Studies for Field Renovation		■	■		BCRP; HRA
Remove Fencing and Benches (Baseball)		■			BCRP
Expand Riparian Buffer		■	■	■	BCRP; BCOS, HRWA, FHRP
U7. Camp Overlook/Parkside-Belair West Gateway Park:					
Gateway Entrance		■ (Sign)			BCRP
New Section of Greenway		■			BCRP
Renovate Stone Structure				■	BCRP
Restore Woodlands		■	■	■	BCRP; BCOS, HRWA, FHRP
U8. Chesterfield West Gateway Park:					
Gateway Entrance		■ (Sign)	■		BCRP
Harford / Chesterfield Intersection		■			BCRP;DOT
Realignment of Intersection				■	BCRP;DOT
U9. Father Hooper Athletic Fields Renovation:					
Renovate Path for Greenway		■			BCRP
Expand Riparian Buffer		■	■	■	BCRP; BCOS, HRWA, FHRP
Interpretive Sign (Swamp White Oak / Olmsted's)		■			BCRP; FHRP
Renovate Play Field Area		■	■		BCRP; HRA
Renovate Grassy Slope along Chesterfield			■		BCRP
Bio-Retention Swales / Wetland		■	■		DPW; BCRP, HRWA
Interpretive Sign (Olmsted/Clifton Park Link)		■			BCRP
U10. Chesterfield Woods/Woodstock Neighborhood Park:					
Expand/Restore Riparian Buffer /Woodlands		■	■	■	BCRP; BCOS, HRWA, FHRP
Renovate Path for Greenway		■			BCRP
Restoration of Tributary Stream Banks		■			DPW; BCRP, HRWA
Open Lawn Areas / Passive Play		■	■		BCRP
Nature / Mountain Bike Trails		■	■	■	BCRP; BCOS, HRWA, FHRP
U11. Woodstock Softball Fields:		■	■		
U12. Chesterfield East Gateway Park:					
Gateway Entrance		■(Sign)			BCRP
Renovate Path for Greenway		■			BCRP
Shannon/Chesterfield/Belair Intersection		■			BCRP; DOT
Secondary Trail Connections		■	■		BCRP; BCOS, HRWA, FHRP
Enhance Movie Shed / Lawn Area		■	■		FHRP
Restore Woodlands, Riparian Buffer		■	■	■	BCRP; BCOS, HRWA, FHRP

BCRP – Department of Recreation and Parks
HRWA – Herring Run Watershed Association

DPW – Department of Public Works
FHRP – Friends of Herring Run Parks

DOT – Department of Transportation
BDC – Baltimore Development Corporation

BCPD – Planning Department
BCOS – Office of Sustainability
MBC – Monrovia Business Center

Recommendation	Success	Short-Term	Mid-Term	Long-Term	Implementation Responsibilities
2. MASTER PLAN RECOMMENDATIONS FOR THE MIDDLE PARK					
M1. Parkside-Belair East Gateway Park:					
Gateway Entrance		■(Sign)			BCRP
Install New Section of Greenway		■			BCRP
Expand Riparian Buffer		■	■	■	BCRP; BCOS, HRWA, FHRP
Open Lawn Area/Passive Play		■	■		BCRP
Evaluate Potential for Off-Leash Dog Area		■	■		BCRP; HRA
Parkside / Belair Intersection		■			BCRP;DOT
M2. Parkside Multi-Purpose Athletic Field:					
Install New Section of Greenway / Trails		■			BCRP
Renovate Multi-Purpose Athletic Field		■	■		BCRP; HRA
Remove Fencing/Benches from Baseball Fields		■			BCRP
Expand Riparian Buffer		■	■	■	BCRP; BCOS, HRWA, FHRP
Interpretive Sign (Furley Hall)			■		BCRP:FHRP
M3. Parkside Neighborhood Park:					
Renovate and Expand Playground		■	■		BCRP
Create Picnic Grove		■	■		BCRP
Install Hydrant and Electric Power		■	■		BCRP
Permeable Parking Area		■	■		BCRP; HRA
Nature Trail		■	■	■	BCRP; BCOS, HRWA, FHRP
M4. Parkside-Sinclair Woodland Expansion Project:					
Remove Baseball Fencing and Benches		■			BCRP
Expand Riparian Buffer		■	■	■	BCRP; BCOS, HRWA, FHRP
Maintain Mowed Lawn Areas		■	■	■	BCRP
Install New Section of Greenway		■			BCRP
M5. Shannon West Gateway Park:					
Renovate Path for Greenway		■			BCRP
Shannon/Belair Intersection		■			BCRP; DOT
Secondary Trail Connections		■	■		BCRP; BCOS, HRWA, FHRP
WWI Monument Landscape Enhancements		■	■		BCRP; BCOS, HRWA, FHRP
Interpretive Signs			■		BCRP:FHRP
Expand Riparian Buffer		■	■	■	BCRP; BCOS, HRWA, FHRP
Passive Play Area		■	■		BCRP
M6. Mannasota Neighborhood Park:					
Renovate Path for Greenway		■			BCRP
Shannon/Mannasota Intersection		■			BCRP; DOT
Gateway Entry		■ (Sign)			BCRP
Expand Riparian Buffer		■	■	■	BCRP; BCOS, HRWA, FHRP
Passive Play Area		■	■		BCRP

BCRP – Department of Recreation and Parks
HRWA – Herring Run Watershed Association

DPW – Department of Public Works
FHRP – Friends of Herring Run Parks

DOT – Department of Transportation
BDC – Baltimore Development Corporation
BCPD – Planning Department
MBC – Monrovia Business Center
BCOS – Office of Sustainability

Recommendation		Success	Short-Term	Mid-Term	Long-Term	Implementation Responsibilities
M7. Brehms Lane Neighborhood Park:						
	Renovate Path for Greenway		■			BCRP
	Shannon/Brehms Intersection		■			BCRP; DOT
	Renovate / Expand Playground		■	■		BCRP
	Picnic Grove		■	■		BCRP
	Tree Planting		■	■	■	BCRP; BCOS, HRWA, FHRP
	Passive Play Area		■	■		BCRP
M8. Shannon Multi-Purpose Athletic Fields:						
	Renovate Path for Greenway		■			BCRP
	Renovate Multi-Purpose Field			■		BCRP; HRA
	Remove Baseball Field Fencing/Benches		■			BCRP
	Expand Riparian Buffer		■	■	■	BCRP; BCOS, HRWA, FHRP
M9. Shannon East Neighborhood Park:						
	Renovate Path for Greenway		■			BCRP
	Shannon/Sinclair Intersection		■			BCRP/DOT
	Picnic Grove/Open Lawn		■	■		BCRP
	Tree Planting		■	■	■	BCRP; BCOS, HRWA, FHRP
	Expand Riparian Buffer		■	■	■	BCRP; BCOS, HRWA, FHRP
3. MASTER PLAN RECOMMENDATIONS FOR THE LOWER PARK						
L1. Sinclair Lane Community Garden and Park:						
	Community Garden		■			BCRP
	Open Play Area			■		BCRP
	Parking Area		■			BCRP
	Tree Canopy		■			BCRP; BCOS, HRWA, FHRP
L2. Bowleys Lane Neighborhood Park:						
	Open Lawn Area		■			BCRP
	Nature Trail			■	■	BCRP; BCOS, HRWA, FHRP
	Expand / Restore Riparian Buffer		■	■	■	BCRP; BCOS, HRWA, FHRP
L3. Post Office Gateway and Greenway in the Lower Park:						
	Gateway Entrance		■(Sign)	■		BCRP
	Tree Planting		■	■		HRWA, BCRP
	Extend Greenway Trail			■		BCRP
	Expand/Restore Riparian Buffer		■	■	■	HRWA, BCRP
L4. Buttonbush Swamp Path:				■	■	BCRP, BGE, HRWA, FHRP
L5. Lower Herring Run Environmental Education Area:						
	Extend Greenway Trail			■		BCRP
	Temporary Footbridge over Armistead Creek		■			BCRP, DPW
	Restore Stream Banks of Armistead Creek		■	■		DPW, BCRP, HRWA

BCRP – Department of Recreation and Parks DPW – Department of Public Works DOT – Department of Transportation BCPD – Planning Department BCOS – Office of Sustainability
HRWA – Herring Run Watershed Association FHRP – Friends of Herring Run Parks BDC – Baltimore Development Corporation MBC – Monrovia Business Center

Recommendation	Success	Short-Term	Mid-Term	Long-Term	Implementation Responsibilities
Expand the Wooded Riparian Buffer		■	■	■	BCRP, HRWA
Establish Open Meadows			■		BCRP, HRWA
Restore Existing Woodland		■	■	■	BCRP, HRWA
Provide Barriers/Fencing to Control Illegal Dumping		■			BCRP, DPW
Network of Trails			■	■	BCRP, FHRP
Interpretive Signs			■		BCRP, FHRP, HRWA
Plan/Preserve 100' Wooded Riparian Buffer		■			BCRP; BDC; MBC
L6. Armistead Gardens Neighborhood Park:			■		BCRP
Provide Open Lawn Area			■		BCRP
Provide Benches, Trash Rec. and Picnic Tables			■		BCRP
Include Nature Trail Connections in Greenway				■	BCRP, FHRP
Provide Interpretive Signage and Maps				■	BCRP, FHRP, HRWA

PART VII: DESIGN GUIDELINES

1. OLMSTED DESIGN PRINCIPLES

While the Olmsted Brothers firm was hired to provide guidance for a comprehensive park system in Baltimore, including recommendations for land acquisition along the Herring Run and other stream valleys, there is no evidence that the firm designed any elements of Herring Run Park itself. A search of the Olmsted archives found that the only design completed by the Olmsted Brothers firm for Northeast Baltimore is a connecting road from Clifton Park to Herring Run Park that aligns to the current Norman Avenue. It is appropriate, however, to incorporate the Olmsted design philosophy as the recommendations of this master plan are implemented. Following is a summary of the Olmsted design principles, as described by American Social and Urban Historian, Charles E. Beveredge, in his article, *"Toward a Definition of Olmstedian Principles of Design: 'The Seven S's'"*. These design principles serve as an overall foundation for the recommendations outlined in this report, and should carry through implementation.

SCENERY

Design of "passages of scenery" even in the small spaces and in areas intended for active use. Creation of designs that give an enhanced sense of space: indefinite boundaries, constant opening up of new views. Avoidance of hard-edge or specimen planting, creating instead designs that have either "considerable complexity of light and shadow near the eye" or "obscurity of detail further away."

SUITABILITY

Creation of designs that are in keeping with the natural scenery and topography of the site: respect for, and full utilization of, the "genius of the place."

STYLE

Designing in specific styles, each for a particular effect. Primarily in the "Pastoral" style (open greensward with small bodies of water and scattered trees and groves) for a soothing, restorative atmosphere, or in the "Picturesque" style (profuse planting, especially with shrubs, creepers and ground cover, on steep and broken terrain), for a sense of the richness and bounteousness of nature, with chiaroscuro effects of light and shade to produce a sense of mystery.

SUBORDINATION

Subordination of all elements, all features and objects, to the overall design and the effect it is intended to achieve. The "Art to conceal Art."

SEPARATION

Separation of areas designed in different styles, so that an "incongruous mixture of styles" will not dilute the intended effect of each: separation of ways, in order to insure safety of use and reduce distractions for those using the space; separation of conflicting or incompatible uses.

SANITATION

Provision for adequate drainage and other engineering considerations, not simply arranging of surface features. Planning or designs so that they promote both the physical and mental health of users.

SERVICE

Planning of designs so that they will serve a "purpose of direct utility or service;" that is, will meet fundamental social and psychological needs: "So long as considerations of utility are neglected or overridden by considerations of ornament, there will be no true Art."



Example of standard bench



Example of standard trash receptacle to be adapted for recycling and used as doubles (left) and trash receptacle to be used without recycling (right).

2. SIGNAGE PROGRAM

Baltimore City has hired an environmental graphics firm to develop a park signage system and provide a clear consistent signage system for all city parks. The sign graphics are centered on the themes of entrance, historic, interpretational, and directional. The sign/gateway ideas developed for the master plan are organized by similar ideas and would include the new city park signage system for Herring Run Park. The basic park sign will be adapted to create a sign “family” that is easy to recognize. Signage will include:

- Gateway signs, indicating major gateways to the park;
- Trailhead signs, indicating trailheads for the greenway;
- Neighborhood signs, identifying adjacent neighborhoods;
- Interpretive signs, describing environmental and cultural conditions/characteristics;
- Stream Crossing signs, located at bridges and identifying that one is crossing the Herring Run
- Other park signs, including regulatory and information signs.

Refer to the images on the following page for examples of how the new park sign standards are being applied to Druid Hill Park.

3. PARK FURNITURE STANDARDS

Park furniture includes typical features such as benches, picnic tables, trash receptacles, and fencing. When choosing park features, the Department of Recreation Parks has selected styles that meet the need for ADA codes, durability, ease of maintenance and compatibility with both modern and historic park features.

Bench

Baltimore City has adapted a new bench standard for use in the city’s large parks. The bench supports are made of iron painted black and the bench slats are cedar colored recycled plastic (DuMor 57 series or equivalent).

Concept 1

Finish Option C

Selected Sign Types
Scale: 1"=1'-0" & 1/2"=1'-0"

Example: New sign standards by Apple Designs for Baltimore City Parks as they apply to Druid Hill Park. These standards will apply to all new signage at Herring Run Park.



Example of Standard Drinking Fountain with pet bowl.

Trash / Recycle Receptacle

To meet the high volume of trash generated by events in large parks as well as create opportunities to encourage recycling, Baltimore has adapted a new trash receptacle standard. (Victor Stanley or equivalent).

Picnic Tables

A traditional style picnic table, constructed of recycled plastic materials is the city standard. (DuMor 77 series or equivalent)

Drinking Fountains

Murdock or equivalent with a dog bowl option is the preferred type of drinking fountain for use in the city's large parks.

Athletic Field Fencing

Black vinyl covered chain link fencing should be used for all baseball backstops and team bench areas to reduce the visual impact of the fencing.

Park Pavilion for Portable Restrooms

The restroom pavilion structure will resemble a small park gazebo and securely hold two to four portable restroom units. Locking grates will secure the units when not in use



Example of Park Pavilion for Portable Restrooms

4. PLANTING GUIDELINES

The most effective way of increasing visibility is through site specific appropriate planting and maintenance of plant materials. Planting is also an activity that can involve everyone interested in enhancing Herring Run Park, as well as attracting new interest and building new stewardship. It is an activity that must occur as an on-going basis to expand woodlands and riparian buffers, increase tree cover, reduce the threat of invasive plant material, and establish replacements for trees that die. It is also a tangible activity that provides volunteers with



Example of how canopy trees such as these Oaks near the intersection of Belair Road and Chesterfield Avenue provide ample shade while allowing unobstructed views into and out of the park.



Example of how low ornamental trees planted along the street (Chesterfield Avenue) block views into the park, while providing little useful shade.

options to make short, one-time commitments or more involved commitments. Because it is such a straightforward activity, without proper guidance planting can often occur in the wrong locations or utilize inappropriate plant material. This can result in the need to remove or relocate plantings, frustrating volunteers who got involved and discouraging them from participating in the future. The master plan report and drawing include recommendations for several types of planting and their appropriate locations within Herring Run Park. Each type was selected purposefully, to promote expansion of the woodland, create an attractive park entrance, create community identity or improve visibility/safety within the park.

Woodland Expansion

The focus for woodland expansion areas should be to expand the existing woodlands with new forest. Planting should utilize native materials and should predominantly include native (and non-invasive) species that are included in the adjacent existing woodlands. Care should be given to providing understory groundcovers, shrubs and trees in addition to overstory.

Tree Planting

Tree planting within the park should be treated differently than creating new forests and woodlands. The focus for tree planting is to define and reinforce park spaces, reinforce circulation routes, provide shade for park users, and provide for general aesthetic interest.

- **Canopy Trees:** Generally, tall canopy trees are the most effective trees for park spaces and should comprise the majority of new tree plantings as they provide significant amounts of shade, provide spatial definition and they allow for clear sightlines underneath their canopies. The use of “legacy trees” that are long-lived and have great stature should also predominate. These include many of the Oaks, Beech, Tulip Poplar, London Plane and Elms. Often, fast-growing trees are used to achieve “instant canopy”, however, fast growing trees are often weak-wooded, short-lived and lack the classic form of some of the Legacy Trees. In areas where it is important to get quick growth/canopy, fast-growing trees can be planted in conjunction with longer-lived but slower growing trees.
- **Ornamental Trees:** Low to medium height ornamental and flowering trees are often mis-used, as too much attention can be given to their seasonal appeal, with little consideration



The Chesterfield East Gateway Park could benefit from selective removal or limbing of some of the dense evergreens that block views into the park.

given to their other characteristics. They are often planted along edges of parks, creating visual barriers into and out of the park. This negatively impacts safety (and perceptions of safety) as well as park “visibility” and community awareness of the park resource. Therefore, the majority of ornamental trees should be planted adjacent to woodland edges or in small groupings where they might frame – rather than block – vistas to and from the park. The temptation to “fill” open spaces with low canopied ornamental trees should be avoided.

Tree Pruning and Removal

While there is a lot of much-needed attention given to tree planting, consideration must also be given to tree pruning and removal. In areas where trees are blocking important views from an aesthetic as well as a safety perspective, trees can be limbed up to open up important views while still maintaining the overhead canopy. This can also result in a more pleasing character where the distant view is framed by a composition of tree trunks in the foreground, rather than the distant view blocked by a wall of foliage. In other instances, trees may need to be removed to eliminate an obstruction or safety hazard.

Shrub Planting

As with ornamental tree planting, shrub planting should be done carefully so as not to create adverse effects related to views and also maintenance. For the most part, shrubs should be restricted to woodlands, riparian buffer expansion areas, and bio-retention/rain garden areas using native shrubs with habitat value. In a few instances, shrubs can be used in conjunction with plantings associated with monuments, gateways and other highly visible areas where it should be used and planted in masses. As with ornamental trees, the temptation to “fill” open spaces with large shrubs should be avoided. In addition, planting beds will be more effective visually if comprised of large massings of a few shrub types as opposed to being comprised of individual plantings of a large variety of types.

Gateways

Gateways will include signage as well as planting. Because most park gateways are along major roadways, they must be legible for people in automobiles as well as on foot.



Examples of mow lines distinguishing between lawn areas and meadow areas.

Therefore, simple, bold plantings are encouraged emphasizing simple masses of low shrubs, groundcovers and seasonal planting (if not just lawn). In addition, gateways should take into consideration the backdrop of the park as part of the gateway “composition” rather than creating a fussy backdrop of evergreens and ornamental trees that block views into the park.

Monument Plantings

As with gateways, plantings (if any) around monuments should be simple, emphasizing bold masses of low shrubs, groundcovers and seasonal color. Fussy plantings with a wide variety of species and forms are discouraged as they tend to detract from and visually compete with the monument.

Memorial Plantings

Memorial plantings (with the exception of tall canopy trees) should be incorporated into overall planting beds and located where people will gather and where these plantings will have visibility as well as add to the quality of the space, such as in park gateway areas. All memorial plantings shall be reviewed with the Department of Recreation and Parks and Friends of Herring Run Park prior to planting to avoid planting inappropriate species or in be located in the middle of open spaces.

Mowed Lawns

Minimizing the amount of mowed lawn areas will help to minimize maintenance costs as well as provide more visual interest in the park. Consideration should be given to providing an undulating “mow line” to distinguish between lawns and meadows in open grassy areas where all of the lawn is not needed for passive play. The meadow areas could be mowed once or twice a season. Where meadows are utilized, it is important to provide a “clean” edge of mowed lawn. For example, a mower-width of mowed lawn adjacent to walkways through meadow areas and a minimum of 20’ of mowed lawn adjacent to street edges.

Seasonal Color

Seasonal color is important to provide visual interest throughout the year. The majority of seasonal color should be accomplished with the use of native trees, shrubs and groundcovers, with attention given to flowering characteristics, fall color and winter color/form. Annual flowers should be limited to areas where they will make the most visual impact and where

they can be maintained by volunteer groups. These areas include park gateways, significant gathering areas and monuments.

Bibliography:

*The City as Suburb: A History of Northeast Baltimore Since 1660. Chicago: Center for American Places, 2008
updated. By Eric Holcomb*

PART VI: APPENDICES

APPENDIX A: STAKEHOLDER PARTICIPATION

APPENDIX B: BUDGET ESTIMATES

APPENDIX C: MASTER PLANT LIST

APPENDIX D: SUMMARY OF DATA FROM ENVIRONMENTAL STUDIES

APPENDIX E: HERRING RUN PARK-A SURVEY TO INFORM US

APPENDIX A: STAKEHOLDER PARTICIPATION

As part of the master planning process, Mahan Rykiel and or the Baltimore City Department of Recreation and Parks met with the following identified stakeholders to solicit their input during the inventory phase their vision or wishes for Herring Run Park.

Arcadia Improvement Assn.	Met 5/7/08 at the Hilltop House
Armistead Gardens	Met 4/3/08 in the park
Belair-Edison Community Assn.	Met 4/28/08
Belair-Edison Healthy Community Coalition, Inc.	Met 4/28/08
BENI	Met 4/23/08 at their offices
Beverly Hills Improvement Assn.	Met 5/27/08 at Board/ community-wide meeting
Frankford Improvement Assn.	Met 6/3/08 at their board meeting
Friends of Herring Run Parks	Met 5/16/08 at their monthly meeting and ongoing
Hamilton Community	Met 4/29/08 in the park
Herring Run Watershed Association	Met 5/7/08 at the Hilltop House and 6/12 - MRA office
Lauraville Improvement Assn.	Met 4/22/08 at monthly board meeting
Mayfield Improvement Assn.	Met 5/15/08 at general meeting
Morgan Park Improvement Assn.	Met 5/2008
Morgan State University	Ongoing
Morgan State University-Survey Info.	Ongoing
Neighborhoods of Greater Lauraville, Inc.	Met 5/28/08 at Exec. Board Meeting
Parkside Improvement Assn.	Met 4/23/08 at the Red Canoe
St. Francis of Asissi - Athletics	Met 4/25/08 at the Red Canoe
Northeast Police- info on patrol policy, crime activity	Met with Dickson 6/2008
Historic- CHAP	Met with Eric Holcomb 6/19/08
BCRP Director Tour with FHRP and Athletic Groups	Fall, 2008

APPENDIX B: BUDGET ESTIMATES

The following highlights budget ranges for planning purposes. The budgets do not include improvements to public roadways. The budget for Phase I of the Herring Run Greenway is included under Park Wide recommendations rather than individual park projects.

Park Wide

Phase I Herring Run Greenway \$3,500,000-4,000,000

Upper Park

U1-Morgan/Montebello Woods	\$ 751,000-1,127,000
U2-Hall Spring/Argonne Gateway	\$ 219,000 - 329,000
U3-Hall Spring Restoration	\$ 600,000 - 900,000
U4-Heinz Park	\$ 139,000 - 209,000
U5-Walther Woods/Eastwood Neighborhood Park/East Woods	\$ 230,000 - 346,000
U6-Eastwood Fields	\$ 339,000 - 509,000
U7-Camp Overlook/Parkside-Belair West Gateway Park	\$ 190,000 - 286,000
U8-Chesterfield West Gateway Park	\$ 152,000 - 228,000
U9-Father Hooper Athletic Field Renovation	\$2,816,000-3,379,000
U10-Chesterfield Woods/Woodstock Neighborhood Park	\$ 475,000 - 713,000
U11-Woodstock Softball Fields	\$ 480,000 - 720,000
U12-Chesterfield East Gateway Park	\$ 179,000 - 269,000
<i>Subtotal</i>	<i>\$6,570,000-9,015,000</i>

Middle Park

M1-Parkside-Belair East Gateway Park	\$ 524,000 - 786,000
M2-Parkside Multi-Purpose Athletic Field	\$ 553,000 - 829,000
M3-Parkside Neighborhood Park	\$ 400,000 - 600,000
M4-Parkside-Sinclair Woodland Expansion Project	\$ 78,000 - 116,000
M5-Shannon West Gateway Park	\$ 161,000 - 241,000
M6-Mannasota Neighborhood Park	\$ 122,000 - 184,000
M7-Brehms Lane Neighborhood Park	\$ 138,000 - 206,000
M8-Shannon Multi-Purpose Athletic Fields	\$ 462,000 - 692,000

M9-Shannon East Neighborhood Park	\$ 130,000 - 194,000
<i>Subtotal</i>	<i>\$2,568,000-3,848,000</i>
Lower Park	
L1-Sinclair Lane Community Garden and Park	\$ 282,000 - 424,000
L2-Bowleys Lane Neighborhood Park	\$ 206,000 - 308,000
L3-Post Office Gateway and Greenway in Lower Park	\$ 34,000 - 50,000
L4-Buttonbush Swamp Path	\$ 35,000 - 52,000
L5-Lower Herring Run Environmental Education Area	\$1,265,000-1,866,000
L6-Armistead Gardens Neighborhood Park	\$ 170,000 - 256,000
<i>Subtotal</i>	<i>\$1,992,000-2,956,000</i>
 Total	 <i>\$14,630,000-19,819,000</i>

APPENDIX C: MASTER PLANT LIST

The woodlands of Herring Run Park include areas that have been impacted by invasive perennials, vines and trees. These must be removed as part of every forest restoration or riparian buffer expansion project. Invasive removal should include those plants recognized by State and Federal Agencies to negatively impact native species and degrade natural ecosystems, and have a harmful effect on human health. As a reference, the list developed by the Invasive Species of Concern in Maryland can serve as a guide. The list includes those plants currently regulated by State and Federal Agencies: Wild Garlic, Plumeless Thistle, Musk Thistle, Canada Thistle, Bull Thistle, Giant Hogweed, Purple Loosestrife, Shattercane, Phragmites and Johnsongrass.

When designing forest restoration and riparian buffer expansion project, a predominantly native and non-invasive plant palette is recommended for use throughout the park. The following is a suggested palette of plants, which can be supplemented with that, provided by the Department of Planning and is based upon a native plant list of the US Fish and Wildlife Service

1. Plant Species Recommended for Wooded Slopes

Overstory:

<i>Acer rubrum</i>	Red maple
<i>Carya tomentosa</i>	Mockernut hickory
<i>Diospyros virginiana</i>	Common persimmon
<i>Fagus grandifolia</i>	American beech
<i>Liriodendron tulipifera</i>	Tulip poplar
<i>Nyssa sylvatica</i>	Blackgum
<i>Quercus alba</i>	White oak
<i>Quercus rubra</i>	Northern red oak
<i>Ulmus americana</i> ‘Princeton’	‘Princeton’ American elm

Understory- Shrubs

<i>Hamamelis virginiana</i>	Common witchhazel
<i>Ilex glabra</i>	Inkberry (evergreen)
<i>Ilex verticillata</i>	Winterberry

Lindera benzoin
Rhododendron catawbiense
Rhododendron periclymenoides
Rhododendron viscosum
Vaccinium pallidum
Viburnum acerifolium
Viburnum dentatum
Viburnum prunifolium

Spicebush
 Catawba rhododendron
 Pinxterbloom azalea
 Swamp azalea
 Low-bush blueberry
 Maple-leaved viburnum
 Arrowwood viburnum
 Black haw

Understory- Groundcovers:

Asarum canadense
Aster cordifolius
Onoclea sensibilis
Osmunda cinnamomea
Polystichum acrostichoides
Parthenocissus quinquefolia
Senecio aureus
Solidago caesia

Wild ginger
 Common blue wood aster
 Sensitive fern
 Cinnamon fern
 Christmas fern (evergreen)
 Virginia creeper
 Golden ragwort (evergreen)
 Blue-stem goldenrod

2. Plant Species Recommended for Base of Slopes/Transition

Overstory:

Acer rubrum
Carya tomentosa
Diospyros virginiana
Fagus grandifolia
Liriodendron tulipifera
Nyssa sylvatica
Quercus alba
Quercus rubra
Ulmus americana 'Princeton'

Red Maple
 Mockernut hickory
 Common persimmon
 American beech
 Tulip poplar
 Blackgum
 White oak
 Northern red oak
 Princeton' American elm

Understory- Trees

Amelanchier canadensis

Serviceberry

Cercis canadensis
Chionanthus virginicus
Cornus florida
Ilex opaca var. *opaca*
Magnolia virginiana

Eastern redbud
Fringetree
Flowering dogwood
American holly
Sweetbay magnolia

Understory- Shrubs:

Ilex verticillata ‘Red Sprite’
Itea virginica ‘Little Henry’
Rhododendron periclymenoides
Vaccinium angustifolium
Viburnum acerifolium

‘Red Sprite’ winterberry
‘Little Henry’ Virginia sweepspire
Pinxterbloom azalea
Low-bush blueberry
Maple-leaved viburnum

Understory- Groundcovers:

Asarum canadense
Aster cordifolius
Onoclea sensibilis
Osmunda cinnamomea
Polystichum acrostichoides
Parthenocissus quinquefolia
Senecio aureus
Solidago caesia

Wild ginger
Common blue wood aster
Sensitive fern
Cinnamon fern
Christmas fern (evergreen)
Virginia creeper
Golden ragwort (evergreen)
Blue-stem goldenrod

3. Plant Species Recommended for Meadow Plantings

Lower-branched understory for meadow foraging birds:

Amelanchier canadensis
Aronia arbutifolia
Aronia melanocarpa
Calycanthus americana
Cornus florida
Comptonia peregrina
Cornus racemosa

Serviceberry
Red chokeberry
Black chokeberry
American beautyberry
Flowering dogwood
Sweetfern
Grey dogwood

<i>Ilex opaca</i> var. <i>opaca</i>	American holly
<i>Ilex verticillata</i>	Winterberry holly
<i>Sambucus Canadensis</i>	American elder
<i>Viburnum acerifolium</i>	Mapleleaf viburnum
<i>Vaccinium angustifolium</i>	Low-bush blueberry
<i>Viburnum dentatum</i>	Arrowwood viburnum
<i>Viburnum acerifolium</i>	Maple-leaved viburnum

Meadow Grasses and Flowering Shrubs in full sun:

<i>Andropogon virginicus</i>	Broom sedge
<i>Andropogon scoparius</i>	Little bluestem
<i>Heliopsis helianthoides</i>	Ox eye sunflower
<i>Liatris spicata</i>	Spiked gayfeather
<i>Lupinus perennis</i>	Wild blue lupine
<i>Echinacea purpurea</i>	Purple coneflower
<i>Rudbeckia hirta</i>	Black eyed susan
<i>Solidago</i> spp.	Goldenrod
<i>Asclepias syriaca</i>	Common milkweed
<i>Aster laevis</i>	Smooth blue aster

4. Plant Species Recommended for Riparian Buffer

Shade Trees:

<i>Asimina triloba</i>	Pawpaw
<i>Betula nigra</i>	River Birch
<i>Carpinus caroliniana</i>	American Hornbeam
<i>Carya cordiformis</i>	Bitternut Hickory
<i>Celtis occidentalis</i>	Common Hackberry
<i>Liquidambar styraciflua</i>	Sweetgum
<i>Platanus occidentalis</i>	American Sycamore
<i>Populus deltoides</i>	Cottonwood
<i>Quercus nigra</i>	Water Oak
<i>Salix nigra</i>	Black Willow
<i>Taxodium distichum</i>	Bald Cypress

Flowering Trees:

Amelanchier arborea
Amelanchier canadensis
Hamamelis virginiana
Crataegus viridis
Diospyros virginiana
Magnolia virginiana

Downy Serviceberry
Shadblow Serviceberry
Witchhazel
Hawthorn
Common Persimmon
Sweetbay Magnolia

Evergreen Trees:

Ilex opaca
Pinus taeda
Thuja occidentalis

American Holly
Loblolly Pine
Arborvitae

Shrubs:

Alnus serrulata
Aronia arbutifolia
Cornus amomum
Cornus racemosa
Corylus americana
Ilex glabra
Ilex verticillata
Itea virginica
Viburnum dentatum
Viburnum prunifolium

Smooth Alder
Red Chokeberry
Silky Dogwood
Grey Dogwood
Hazelnut
Inkberry Holly
Winterberry
Virginia Sweetspire
Arrowwood Viburnum
Blackhaw Viburnum

Herbaceous:

Aster novae angliae
Chelone glabra
Eupatorium maculatum
Helianthus angustifolius
Iris versicolor
Lobelia cardinalis

New England Aster
Turtlehead
Joe-Pye Weed
Swamp Sunflower
Blue Flag
Cardinal Flower

Phlox divaricata
Pontederia cordata
Osmunda regalis
Saururus cernuus

Wild Blue Phlox
Pickerelweed
Royal Fern
Lizard's Tail

Ornamental Grasses:

Andropogon gerardii
Carex crinita
Craex stricta
Chasmanthium latifolium
Panicum amarum
Panicum virgatum
Sorgastrum nutans

Big Bluestem
Fringed Sedge
Tussuck Sedge
River Oats
Coastal Panicgrass
Switchgrass
Indian Grass

5. Ornamental Plantings

Low-growing, carpet-like substitute for lawn in areas of shade

Asplenium platyneuron
Liriope muscari
Osmunda claytoniana
Pachysandra terminalis
Phegopteris hexagonoptera
Polystichum acrostichoides
Sisyrinchium angustifolium
Thelypteris noveboracensis

Ebony spleenwort
Lilyturf
Interrupted fern
Pachysandra/Japanese spurge
Broad beech fern
Christmas fern (evergreen)
Blue-eyed grass
New York fern

APPENDIX D: SUMMARY OF DATA FROM ENVIRONMENTAL STUDIES

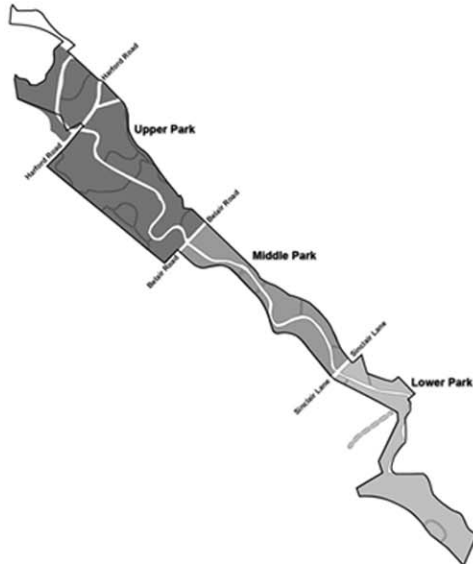
**Herring Run Watershed Report for DPW:
Stream Assessment and Restoration Concept Plan 2004
Summary of Existing Conditions**

Park Location	Reach	Length in Feet	Length in Miles	Measures of Stream Bank & Channel Conditions							
				Overall Channel Condition		Channel Incision (stream connection to floodplain)		Bank Stability		Human Intervention	
Total		26,108	4.95	Score	Description	Score	Description	Score	Description	Score	Description
Upper Park: Argonne/Hall Spring	H	7,557	1.43	Good/8	Channel Largely Stable	Good/7	Channel Largely connected to floodplain	Good/9	Banks moderately stable - infrequent small areas of erosion	Good/7	Significant recovery from past channel alteration
Upper Park: Chesterfield	I	5,656	1.07	Fair/5	Channel Largely Stable	Fair/6	Portions of channel moderately incised	Good/8	Banks moderately stable - infrequent small areas of erosion	Fair/4	Artificial Embankment significant/ streambank altered
Middle Park: Belair/Brehms	J	2,145	0.41	Good/8	Channel Largely Stable	Fair/5	Portions of channel moderately incised	Excellent/10	Banks are Stable	Good/8	Significant recovery from past channel alteration
Middle Park: Brehms/Sinclair	J-2	3,968	0.75	Good/7	Channel Largely Stable	Good/7	Channel Largely connected to floodplain	Good/7	Banks moderately stable - infrequent small areas of erosion	Good/6	Significant recovery from past channel alteration
Lower Park: Sinclair/BGE line	K	3,785	0.72	Poor/1	Channel Actively Downcutting or widening	Fair/5	Portions of channel moderately incised	Excellent/10	Banks are Stable	Poor/1	Engineered Banks predominant/ significant alteration
Lower Park: BGE line/Biddison	M	1,273	0.24	Poor/2	Channel Actively Downcutting or widening	Good/7	Channel Largely connected to floodplain	Good/7	Banks moderately stable - infrequent small areas of erosion	Poor/1	Engineered Banks predominant/ significant alteration
Lower Park: Biddison/I-895	Q	1,724	0.33	Fair/4	Altered Channel > 50%	Fair/6	Portions of channel moderately incised	Good/6	Banks moderately stable - infrequent small areas of erosion	Fair/4	Artificial Embankment significant/ streambank altered



**Herring Run Watershed Report for DPW:
Stream Assessment and Restoration Concept Plan 2004
Summary of Existing Conditions**

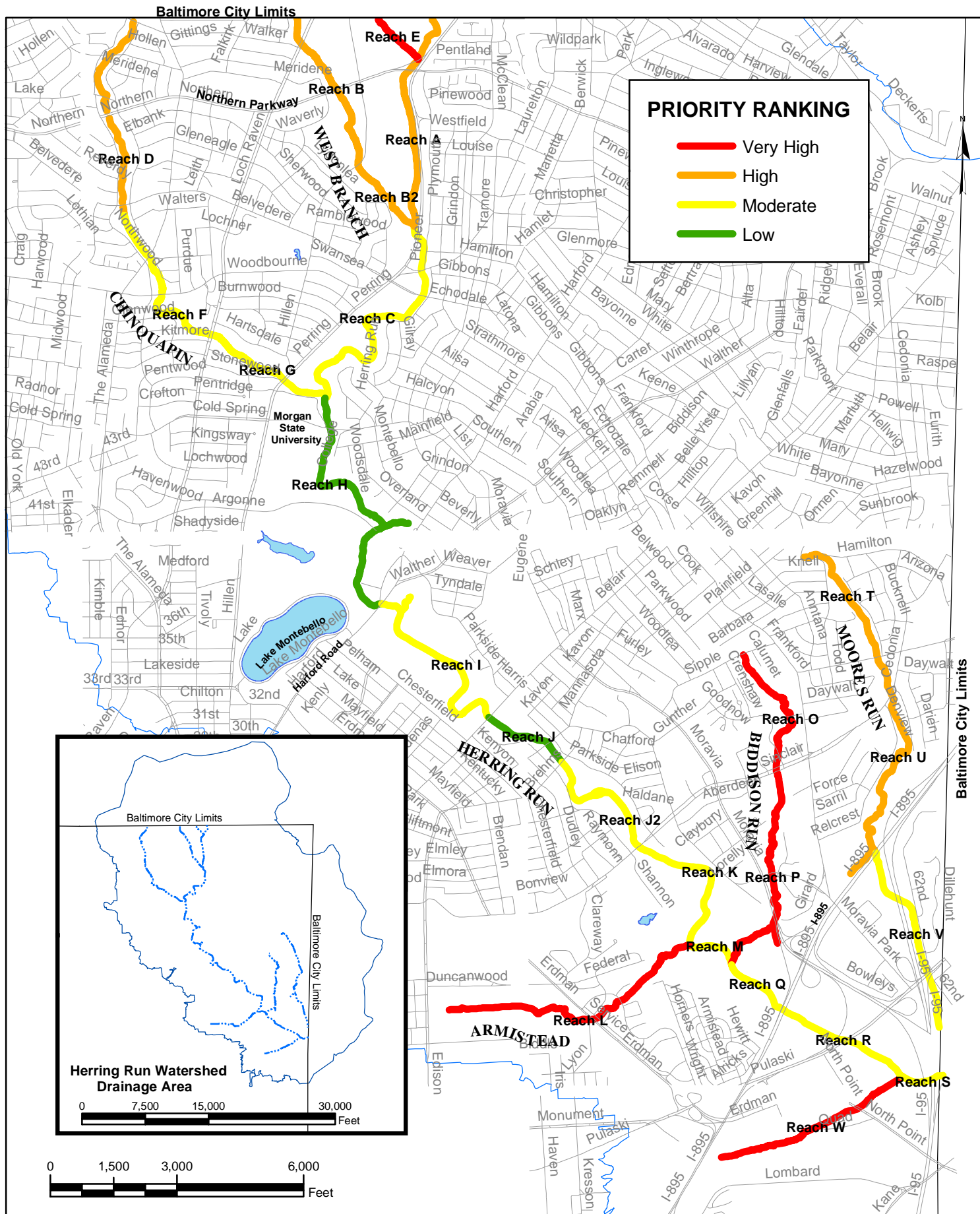
Park Location	Reach	Length in Feet	Length in Miles	Measures of Vegetative Habitat: Tree & Shrub & Groundcover Conditions									
				Left Bank Riparian Width		Right Bank Riparian Width		Terrestrial Habitat		Invasive Plants		Canopy Cover	
Total		26,108	4.95	Score	Description	Score	Description	Score	Description	Score	Description	Score	Description
Upper Park: Argonne/Hall Spring	H	7,557	1.43	Excellent/10	Vegetation Buffer twice channel width	Excellent/10	Vegetation Buffer twice channel width	Excellent/10	All 3 vegetative canopy layers present	Poor/3	Invasive Species very frequent: Over 50%	Good/7	95-70% Closed Tree Canopy
Upper Park: Chesterfield	I	5,656	1.07	Excellent/10	Vegetation Buffer twice channel width	Good/9	Vegetation Buffer equals channel width	Excellent/10	All 3 vegetative canopy layers present	Fair/6	Invasive species frequent: 20-50%	Fair/5	70-50% closed Tree Canopy
Middle Park: Belair/Brehms	J	2,145	0.41	Good/8	Vegetation Buffer equals channel width	Good/8	Vegetation Buffer equals channel width	Excellent/10	All 3 vegetative canopy layers present	Good/8	Invasive species generally absent	Good/7	95-70% Closed Tree Canopy
Middle Park: Brehms/Sinclair	J-2	3,968	0.75	Fair/2	Vegetation buffer one third channel width	Fair/2	Vegetation buffer 1/3 channel width	Excellent/10	All 3 vegetative canopy layers present	Fair/5	Invasive species frequent: 20-50%	Good/7	95-70% Closed Tree Canopy
Lower Park: Sinclair/BGE line	K	3,785	0.72	Fair/5	Vegetation buffer half channel width	Fair/5	Vegetation buffer 1/2 channel width	Excellent/10	All 3 vegetative canopy layers present	Poor/3	Invasive Species very frequent: Over 50%	Poor/1	25% or less Closed Tree Canopy
Lower Park: BGE line/Biddison	M	1,273	0.24	Excellent/10	Vegetation Buffer twice channel width	Excellent/10	Vegetation Buffer twice channel width	Excellent/10	All 3 vegetative canopy layers present	Poor/3	Invasive Species very frequent: Over 50%	Poor/1	25% or less Closed Tree Canopy
Lower Park: Biddison/I-895	Q	1,724	0.33	Excellent/10	Vegetation Buffer twice channel width	Good/9	Vegetation Buffer equals channel width	Excellent/10	All 3 vegetative canopy layers present	Poor/2	Invasive Species very frequent: Over 50%	Poor/1	25% or less Closed Tree Canopy



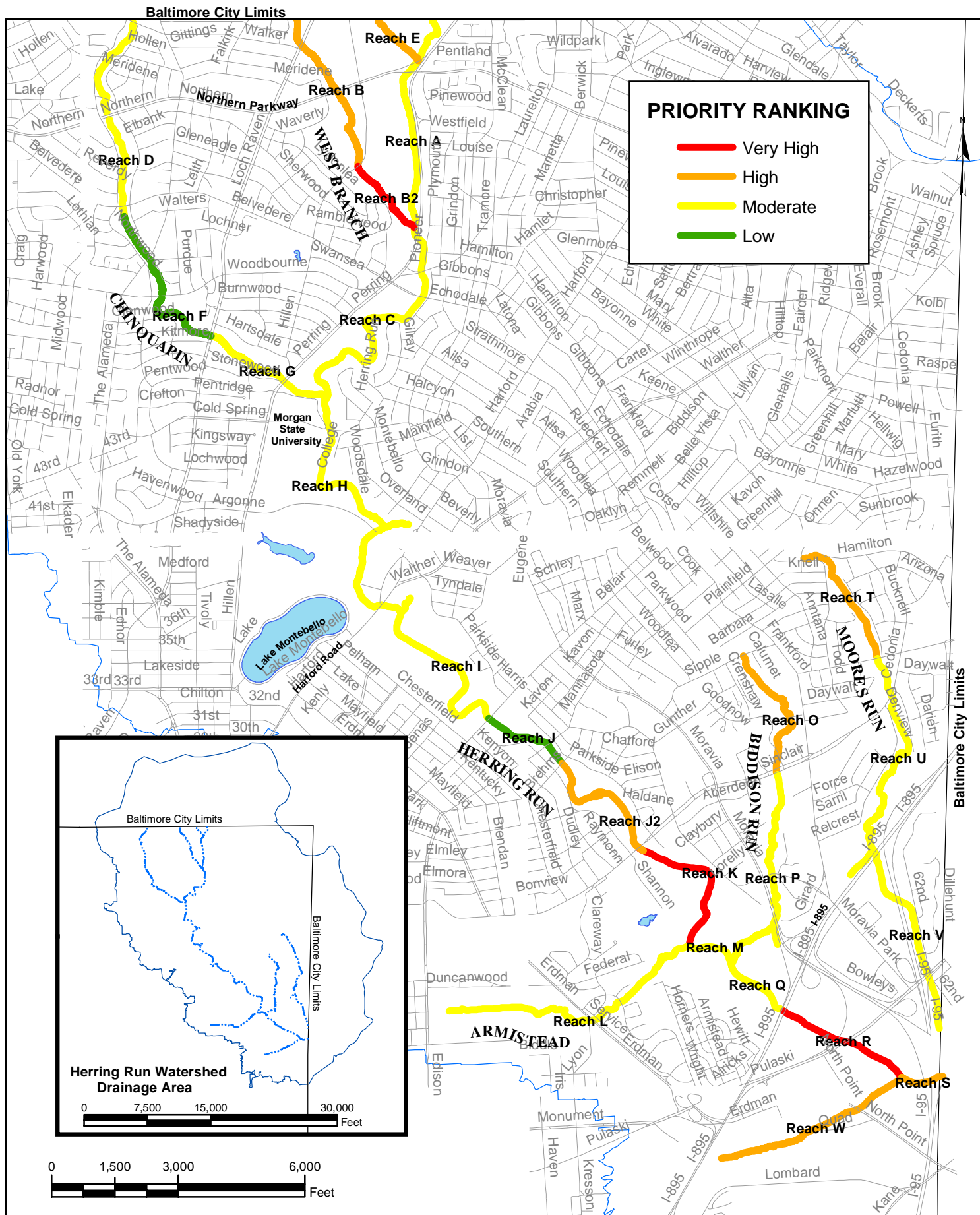
**Herring Run Watershed Report for DPW:
Stream Assessment and Restoration Concept Plan 2004
Summary of Existing Conditions**

Park Location Reach Length in Feet Length in Miles				Measures of Aquatic Habitat: Water Quality & Stream Bed Conditions											
				Nutrient Enrichment		Riffle Embeddedness		Fish Barrier		Instream Fish Cover		Pools		Insect/Invert Habitat	
Total															
Upper Park: Argonne/Hall Spring	H	7,557	1.43	Good/5	Water fairly clear/moderate algal growth	Good/9	25-50% of living space in gravel bed filled with fine sediment	Poor/1	across stream/ barriers to fish movement > 1 ft drop in water	Fair/5	Many types of cover for fish	Fair/4	Pools present but shallow	Good/7	Several types of habitat for insects
Upper Park: Chesterfield	I	5,656	1.07	Poor/1	grey water/thick algal growth	Fair/4	50-75% of living space in gravel bed filled with fine sediment	Poor/1	across stream/ barriers to fish movement > 1 ft drop in water	Fair/6	Many types of cover for fish	Good/9	Pools present	Good/7	Several types of habitat for insects
Middle Park: Belair/Brehms	J	2,145	0.41	Fair/3	brown-green water/abundant algal growth	Good/9	25-50% of living space in gravel bed filled with fine sediment	Good/9	seasonal low water levels may become barrier to fish movement	Good/9	Several types of cover for fish	Good/8	Pools present	Good/7	Several types of habitat for insects
Middle Park: Brehms/Sinclair	J-2	3,968	0.75	Fair/3	brown-green water/abundant algal growth	Fair/5	50-75% of living space in gravel bed filled with fine sediment	Poor/2	single structure across stream/ barrier to fish movement >1 ft drop in water	Fair/5	Many types of cover for fish	Good/6	Pools present	Good/8	Several types of habitat for insects
Lower Park: Sinclair/BGE line	K	3,785	0.72	Fair/3	brown-green water/abundant algal growth	Poor/2	Over 75% of living space in gravel bed filled with fine sediment	Poor/2	single structure across stream/ barrier to fish movement >1 ft drop in water	Poor/3	Few types of cover for fish	Fair/3	Pools present but shallow	Fair/3	Many types of habitat for insects
Lower Park: BGE line/Biddison	M	1,273	0.24	Fair/3	brown-green water/abundant algal growth	Good/8	25-50% of living space in gravel bed filled with fine sediment	Poor/2	single structure across stream/ barrier to fish movement >1 ft drop in water	Fair/5	Many types of cover for fish	Good/5	Pools present	Fair/4	Many types of habitat for insects
Lower Park: Biddison/I-895	Q	1,724	0.33	Fair/3	brown-green water/abundant algal growth	Fair/5	50-75% of living space in gravel bed filled with fine sediment	Excellent/10	No barriers to fish movement	Fair/4	Many types of cover for fish	Good/5	Pools present	Fair/4	Many types of habitat for insects





HERRING RUN WATERSHED
Stream Assessment and Restoration Concept Plan



HERRING RUN WATERSHED **Stream Assessment and Restoration Concept Plan**

Summaries and Recommendations from recent Forest Quality Studies for Herring Run Park

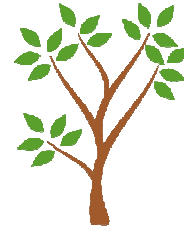
Forest Enhancement Recommendations form Recent Studies of the Woodlands in Herring Run Park									
Study Area & Location within Park	Park Area Location Park Area Name	Upper Argonne	Upper Halls Spring	Upper Chesterfield	Middle Brehms Ln	Middle Parkside	Lower BGE west	Lower BGE east	Lower Armistead
	2008 Forestry Study Tree Stand Areas	1	2	3	4	5	6		7
	2004 DPW Stream Reach Areas	H	H	I	J	J2	K and M		Q
	Acres	15.9	50.6	144.5	27.1	45.1	23.3		64.7
Department of Recreation and Parks Forestry Division: Sampling of Forest Quality within Woodlands of Herring Run Park (2008)	Study Area: Tree density (# Tree/Acre)	105	74	149	132	139	89		55
	Diameter of Trees in Study Area								
	12-14 "	55	40	65	50	90	50		40
	15-17"	15	5	5	30	5	15		5
	18-20"	20	10	45	0	15	15		10
	21-23"	0	5	5	0	0	0		0
	24-26"	15	10	15	10	5	10		5
	27-29"	10	5	0	10	5	0		0
	> 30"	5	5	15	30	10	0		5
	Study Area: Dominant Tree Species	Tulip Poplar	White Oak	Tulip Poplar	Red Oak	Black Locust	Sycamore		Black Locust
	Number of Tree Species	12	16	26	6	9	10		20
	Number of Invasive Species	1	0	1	0	1	1		3
	Conclusions	Forest Quality is good. Meets standards for tree density and diversity. Has sufficient young trees for regeneration. Management required to protect from invasive species & vines			Forest Quality can be improved. Middle Park tree density is good but tree planting needed to increase diversity of species in Middle Park. tree planting in Lower Park will improve tree age distribution and improve species diversity, especially near BGE. Management required to protect from Invasive Species in Middle and Lower Park				
Study Area & Location within Park	Park Area Location Park Area Name	Upper Argonne	Upper Halls Spring	Upper Chesterfield	Middle Brehms Ln	Middle Parkside	Lower BGE west	Lower BGE east	Lower Armistead
	2008 Forestry Study Tree Stand Areas	1 and 2		3	4	5	6	6	7
	2004 DPW Stream Reach Areas	H		I	J	J2	K	M	Q
	Miles of Stream	1.4		1.1	0.4	0.8	0.7	0.2	0.3
Department of Public Works: Herring Run Watershed Stream Assessment& Restoration Concept Plan (2004)	Left Riparian Buffer Width	10		10	8	2	5	10	10
	Right Riparian Buffer Width	10		9	8	2	5	10	9
	Terrestrial Complexity (1-10)	10		10	10	10	10	10	10
	% Invasive Species in Buffer Area	> 50%		20%	< 20%	20%	> 50%	> 50%	> 50%
	% Canopy Closure in Buffer Area	> 70%		> 50%	> 70%	> 70%	< 25%	< 25%	< 25%
	Conclusions	Riparian Buffer Conditions are good. Buffer is wide enough to protect banks. Vegetation is dense and diverse enough to cool stream and support wildlife habitat. Management is needed to remove invasive species and vines				Riparian buffer conditions should be improved. Tree planting is needed to widen the riparian buffer to protect stream bank, close the canopy to cool the water and increase plant diversity for wildlife habitat. Management is needed to remove invasive species and vines			

APPENDIX E: HERRING RUN PARK-A SURVEY TO INFORM US

Herring Run Park A Survey to Inform Us

By

**The Friends of Herring Run Park
Herring Run Watershed Association
December 2008.**



Introduction:

In the Spring and Summer of 2008 the Friends of Herring Run Park conducted a survey of Neighbors in order to document the needs and issues concerning the Herring Run and the City Park, in north central Baltimore, to which it gives name. We conducted this survey to express the needs, vision and nature of use of the Park to help inform the City of Baltimore, Department of Parks and Recreation Master Planning activity for the Herring Run Park. In total we have 200 responses which were collected .at two community meetings, several sessions of FHRP setting up stations in the Park and at Lake Montebello, and by means of the FHRP list serve. All surveys were collected between April 30, 2008 and September 1, 2008. The responses were then entered into “Survey Monkey” and from the electronic copy a binary-response database was produced. By using this method, each response was treated as a variable and data coding assigned no relative- weights to the answer. This report presents Part I of the analysis of that database. It uses Microsoft Excel to present a table and chart description. Part II of the analysis, a separate and forthcoming report, presents an advanced-methods statistical analysis. The second report examines the data after generating univariate (descriptive) statistics; tests for relationship among measures and statistical significance by correlation analysis; and looks at results by selected Cross tabulation analysis. This survey was designed and its data analysis was performed with assistance from Faculty and Graduate Students from Morgan State Universities’ Department of City and Regional Planning . The Survey itself was administered by the Friends of Herring Run Park, a subcommittee of the Herring Run Watershed Association, Baltimore Maryland.

Survey Design:

There were certain goals set out by the FHRP for the design of the survey. The first goal was to present the community with a short survey. This way we could minimize the time-burden required to complete it. We also sought to reduce the data analysis load. The survey contained 34 questions which can be categorized as follows:

- Identifiers
 - Neighborhood of residence
 - Gender
 - Race
 - Age
- Park Usage
 - Which areas of the Park are most frequently used
 - What time of day do they use the Park
 - Which members of the household use the park and how frequently
 - Season of use
 - Time of day of use
- Park Problems
 - Conditions of facilities
 - Environmental problems observed
 - Perception of safety
 - The behavior of other users.
- Types of Activities the person usually does in Herring Run Park
- What Activities they would like to see in Herring Run Park

A second goal was to combine visual and text treatment to the document. In addition to enhancing its appearance we decided to use a map to ask which areas of the Park you use. This strategy compensated for the problem of minimal signage in the park and the problem that everyone does not know the names for different parts of the Park. That map is shown in Fig. 1.

A third goal was to use both directed and open-ended questions. We wanted our neighbors to know that we were passing forward their opinions.

A fourth goal was to balance the survey's focus on environmental issues, recreation/activity issues and facility condition issues. In an attempt to reduce bias or to not impose ranking or priority on certain types of issues, the survey uses both explicit and embedded questions. For example an explicit question on environmental issues was:

26. Have you ever observed any natural environment problems relating to Herring Run or Herring Run Park such as?

- | | | |
|--|---------------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Flooding | <input type="checkbox"/> Soil erosion | <input type="checkbox"/> Dust |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Heavy Insects | <input type="checkbox"/> Odors | <input type="checkbox"/> Rodents |

Among the embedded or implicit questions that would illuminate similarities or differences issues focus, were questions 11 to 22 where individuals were asked to rate as either Excellent, Good, Fair, Poor or Very Poor, elements of the Park and its facilities. The questions on “**Park Conditions—Current**” cover environment, recreation facilities and safety. A copy of the survey appears in the appendix of this report.

The Survey Results

Just over 59% of the participants in the survey were Women. Participants in the survey identified themselves as White (67%), African American (22.5%) Hispanic (1%) and Other Race (5%). Nine Respondents (4.5%) did not identify their race or ethnicity. Strikingly, an overwhelming majority of the responses are equally divided between two age groups: persons ages 25 to 44 (46.5%) and 45 to 65 (46.5%). There were only 9 responses (4.5%) from individuals age 65 and above; and only 3 from people ages 18 to 24.

Herring Run Park is flanked by 17 neighborhoods. Our survey responses come from all of them and beyond. Everyone shown in the Table below is either a Neighbor of the Park or a user of the Park.

Table 1. Neighborhoods in the Herring Run Park Survey			
		No.	Percent of Surveys
1	Alameda	2	1.0%
2	Arcadia	20	10.0%
3	Belair-Edison	27	13.5%
4	Belair-Edison/Mayfield	2	1.0%
5	Beverly Hills	7	3.5%
6	Cedmont	3	1.5%
7	near Chinquapin	1	0.5%
8	Ednor Gardens	6	3.0%
9	Fells Point	2	1.0%
10	Gardenville	1	0.5%
11	Gilford	1	0.5%
12	Hamilton	9	4.5%
13	Hamilton Hills	1	0.5%
14	Hillen	1	0.5%
15	Idlewood	1	0.5%
16	Lauraville	35	17.5%
17	Lavender Hill	1	0.5%
18	Loch Raven Village	1	0.5%
19	Mayfield	20	10.0%
20	Moravia	1	0.5%
21	Morgan Park	1	0.5%
22	Morgan State	1	0.5%
23	Northwood	1	0.5%
24	Original Northwood	1	0.5%
25	Parklane/Greenspring	1	0.5%
26	Parkville (Northern Hamilton)	2	1.0%
27	Pikesville	1	0.5%
28	Ramblewood	1	0.5%
29	Rodgers Forge	1	0.5%
30	Waltherson	9	4.5%
31	Waverly	1	0.5%
	no answer	38	19.0%
	Total	162	

Park Usage.

Which parts of the Park do you Use?

Respondents were asked to mark a map, like the one shown here in Fig. 1, to indicate which areas of the park they and their families use. They could mark as many areas as they pleased. The 200 returned surveys resulted in 516 responses as to areas of the park used.

Ave

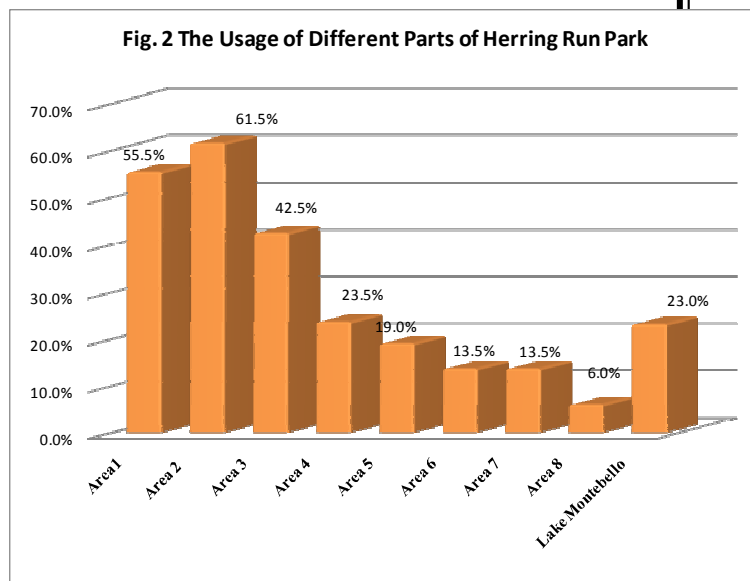
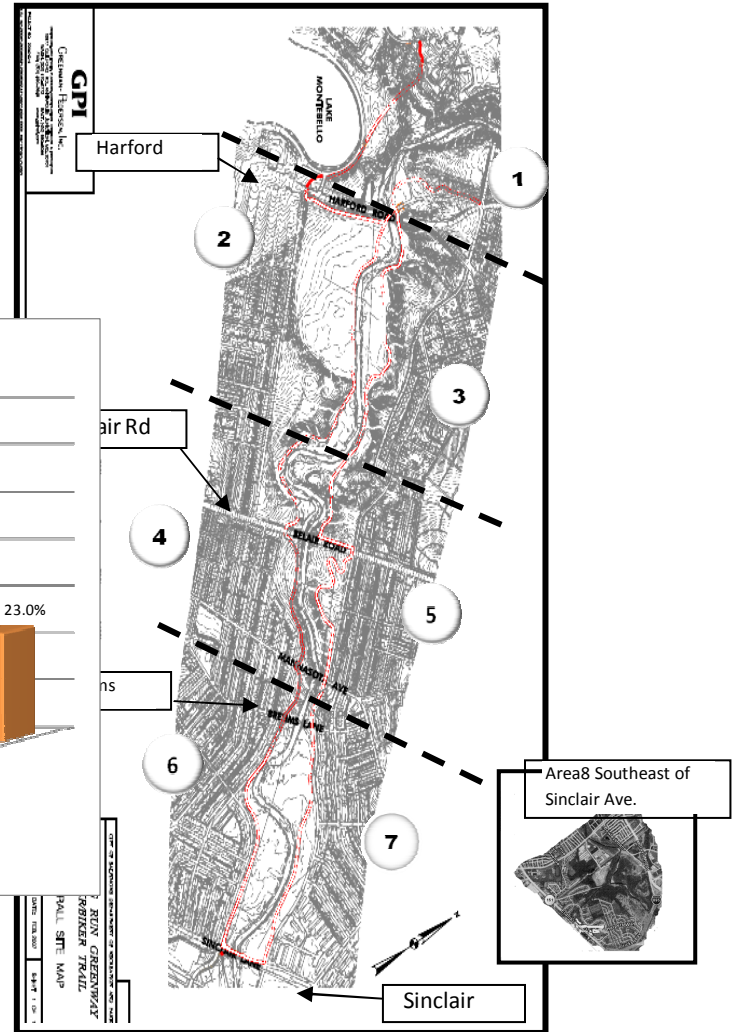
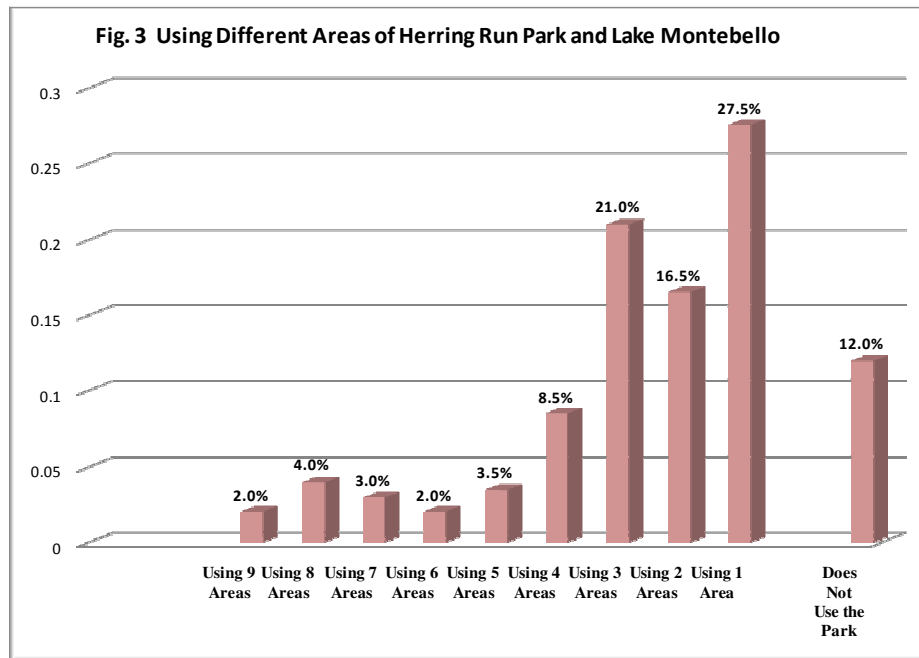


Fig.1 Map of Herring Run Park



Most Neighbors indicated that they use Areas 1, 2, and 4. It is possible that a number of people answering Area 1 were including the adjacent Lake Montebello in that area. The number of responses indicating Lake Montebello, while significant, was lower than expected. The low number of responses for Area 8, which is southeast of Sinclair Avenue may indicated the distance of that portion of the Park, or the locations of Park-related meetings being at a distance from Armistead Gardens. We may need to make more contacts in Armistead Gardens so that we know that they are aware of the Herring Run activities.

As shown in Figure 3 over 60% of the Neighbors use more than one area of the park.



Frequency of Use

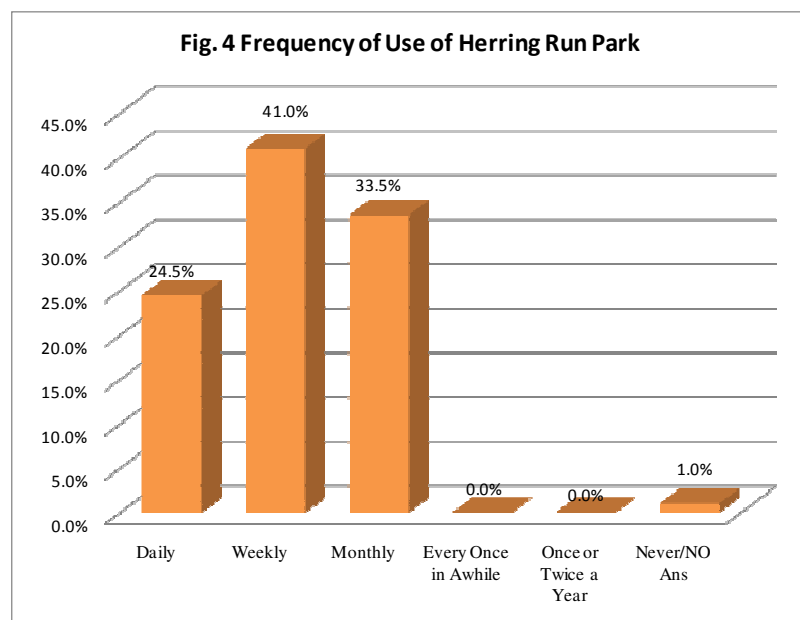
Everyone was asked: How often, on average, do you use Herring Run Park?

Daily
Weekly
Monthly
Every once in awhile
Once or Twice a Year
Never/No Answer

Over 65% of the Neighbors use the Park weekly and on a monthly basis over 99 % will normally use the park.

Frequency of Use by Family members.

We asked". . .As far as you know, which members of your family use Herring Run Park and how often?"



The purpose of this question was to get information that would help shape activity and facility development for different members of each household. Some respondents had multiple responses, some had none. This was the most complex question in the survey. It is possible that some people found it tedious to answer. The possible responses “Every once in a while” and “Once or Twice a Year” did not work well in this question. Overall the following Table gives a profile of the frequency of family use of the park. The table shows the percentage of people who answered under each family member category and the number of responses for each frequency of use category.

Table 3. Frequency of Family Use of Herring Run Park									
		Preteen		Teenage		Adult		Elder*	
	Spouse/Partner	Daughter	Son	Daughter	Son	Daughter	Son	Female	Male
Was Aware of Use by this family member									
	60.5%	13%	10.5%	9.5%	9%	5.5%	4.5%	13%	8%
Number of Responses									
Daily	21	4	3	3	4	2	3	3	3
Weekly	39	14	12	7	8	3	2	4	3
Monthly	61	8	6	9	6	6		19	10
Every Once in awhile	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Never/ No Answer	79	174	179	181	182	189	191	174	184

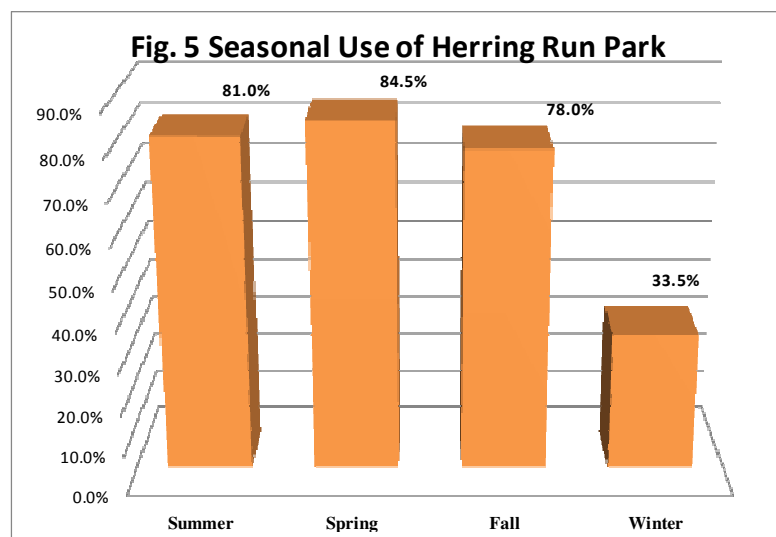
**Elders on the Survey asked about parents, grandparents, aunts and cousins.*

There were several other questions , appearing later in the survey that related to family members using of Herring Run Park. People were asked when they go to the Park are they “almost always”, “sometimes” or” every once in a while” accompanied by a child. Ninety-seven percent (97.5%) answered yes to one of these categories. Of that group, 41 persons said they were bringing a child under the age of Five years. Please note that **ONLY 31% OF THE FULL SAMPLE FOUND SUFFICIENT ACTIVITIES FOR IN THE PARK FOR THEIR CHILDREN TO DO WHEN THEY ACCOMPANY THEM.**

Seasonal Use of Herring Run Park

Over 28% of the Surveyed Neighbors use the Park year round. Fig. 5 shows, as expected during the Spring months the Park is most intensely used. But this was only slightly greater than the usage in the Fall and Summer.

As shown in the following table, most people indicated that they



use the Park most frequently in the 4pm to 8 pm and the 9 am to noon time periods. Most Neighbors indicated that when they use the Park, it is usually a visit lasting from one to two hours.

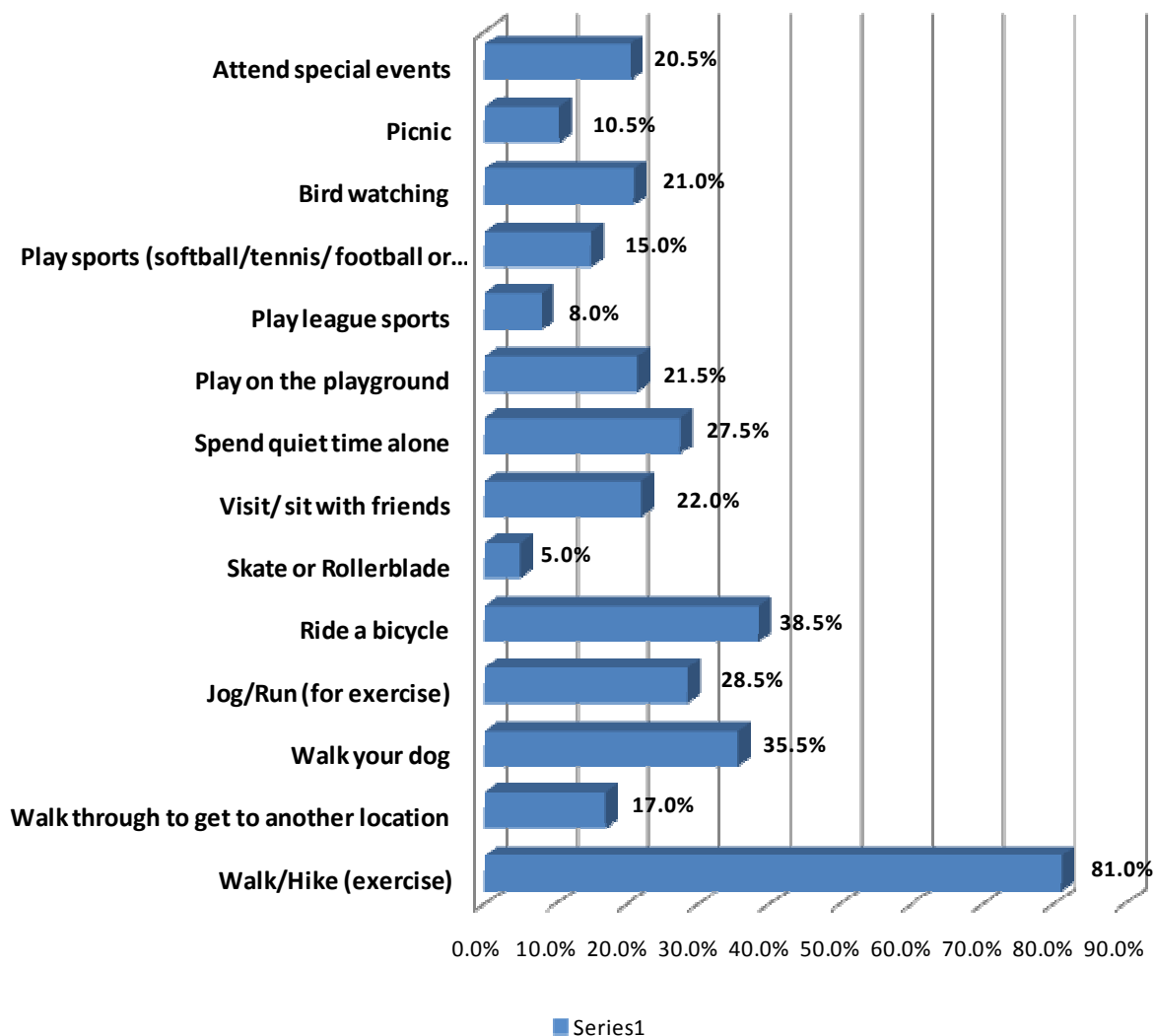
Table 4.						
Times of Day for Using Herring Run Park.						
6 am to 9 am	9 am to 12 noon	12 noon to 4 pm	4 pm to 8 pm	After 8 pm	No specific time	
23.0%	31.5%	26.5%	63.0%	3.5%	13.5%	
How much time do you generally spend at the Park on each visit?						
Less than an hour	1 – 2 hours	2 – 4 hours	Over 4 hours			
24.0%	63.5%	13.5%	1.0%			

What activities do you do most often in Herring Run Park?

This question was asked by both a pre-set schedule of answers and the opportunity was provided for the individual to write-in any activity that was not listed. Fig.6 and Table5 show the answers to this question.

Table 5. Activity in Herring Run Park, Open-end Response	
Walk	3
Trash pickup	3
Bike	1
Photography	1
Basketball	1
Cmty events	2
Children's Sports	1
Plant/Horticulture	2
Swimming in Stream	2
Cross-country Skiing	1

Fig. 6. Activities Done Most Often in Herring Run Park



Park Conditions

Two types of questions were asked to gain community opinions about the current condition of the Park and its facilities. In the first question, everyone was asked to rate conditions of the Park and facilities according to the following scale:

Excellent	Poor=	None Available
Good	Very Bad	Don't Know/No Opinion *
Fair		

*When no answer was given, this was scored with the Don't Know/No Opinion responses.

Figure 7 and Table 6 show the top concerns. The condition of the Stream and its waters was rated in the most problematic. It was rated as "Very Bad" by 29.2%, "Poor" by 28.7% and only "Fair" by 21%. Public Facilities were viewed as being strongly negative by 59% of the Neighbors. Of this group, 29% evaluated them as being in "Poor" condition, while 13.8% viewed them as being "Very Bad". Parking areas and Lighting in parking areas were also features that elicited dissatisfaction with conditions. The combined "Fair" and "Poor" for each of these respectively was 45.3% and 37.6%. Likewise, the Lighting on paths was viewed by most Neighbors (52.1%) to range from "Fair" to "Very Bad".

Fig. 7 Opinions on Herring Run Park Conditions, 2008

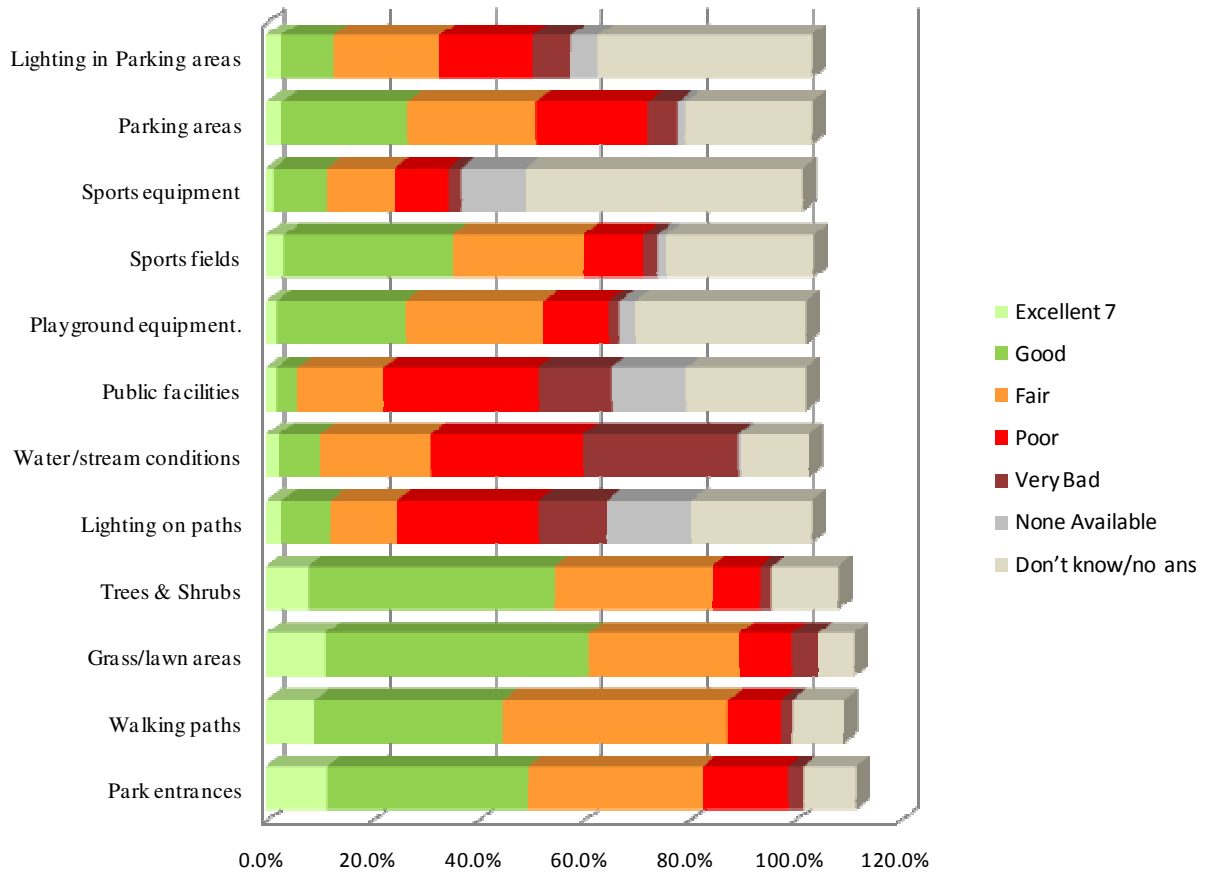
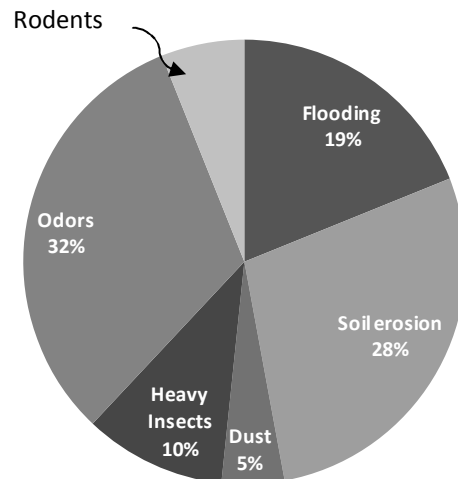


Table 6. Opinions on the Current Park Conditions of Herring Run Park															
		Excellent		Good		Fair		Poor		Very Bad		None Available		Don't know/no ans	
	Total	No.	Percent	No.	Percent	No.	Percent	No.	Percent	No.	Percent	No.	Percent	No.	Percent
Park entrances	179	21	11.7%	68	38.0%	59	33.0%	29	16.2%	5	2.8%	0	0.0%	18	10.1%
Walking paths	183	17	9.3%	65	35.5%	78	42.6%	18	9.8%	4	2.2%	0	0.0%	18	9.8%
Grass/lawn areas	180	20	11.1%	90	50.0%	51	28.3%	18	10.0%	9	5.0%	0	0.0%	12	6.7%
Trees & Shrubs	185	15	8.1%	86	46.5%	55	29.7%	17	9.2%	4	2.2%	0	0.0%	23	12.4%
Lighting on paths	194	6	3.1%	18	9.3%	24	12.4%	52	26.8%	25	12.9%	31	16.0%	44	22.7%
Water /stream conditions	195	5	2.6%	15	7.7%	41	21.0%	56	28.7%	57	29.2%	1	0.5%	25	12.8%
Public facilities	196	4	2.0%	8	4.1%	32	16.3%	57	29.1%	27	13.8%	28	14.3%	44	22.4%
Playground equipment.	196	4	2.0%	48	24.5%	51	26.0%	24	12.2%	4	2.0%	6	3.1%	63	32.1%
Sports fields	193	7	3.6%	61	31.6%	48	24.9%	22	11.4%	5	2.6%	3	1.6%	54	28.0%
Sports equipment	197	3	1.5%	20	10.2%	25	12.7%	20	10.2%	5	2.5%	24	12.2%	103	52.3%
Parking areas	194	6	3.1%	46	23.7%	47	24.2%	41	21.1%	11	5.7%	3	1.5%	46	23.7%
Lighting in Parking areas	194	6	3.1%	19	9.8%	39	20.1%	34	17.5%	14	7.2%	10	5.2%	78	40.2%

The Second question about condition focused attention on Environmental Conditions. Neighbors were asked: Have you ever observed any natural environment problems relating to Herring Run or Herring Run Park ? This question first asked them about four particular problems which have been discussed at community meetings. It then provided an opportunity for them to write-in environmental problems they have observed.

Fig 8 Environmental Problems Observed in Herring Run Park

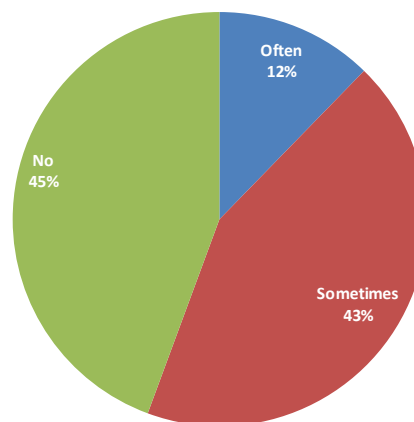


The third group of environmental questions were about Safety and the perception of Safety.

- Do you feel safe walking in the park during the day?
- Do you feel children are safe walking or playing in the park during the day?
- Do you ever face any conflicts about how you want to use the park and how others want to use it?

At the time of the survey, which was the Spring of 2008 and the early Summer of 2008, 81.35% said that they felt safe in the park during the day; and 81% felt that it was safe for children to walk in the Park during the day.

Fig. 9 Do you Ever Face Conflict in the Park?



What do you think is the biggest problem in Herring Run Park? p1 of 6**Open-Ended Response**

Sewage spills, loud parties no water fountains at Lake Montebello. Need water fountain turned on in Halls Spring.

Maintenance Needed. Repair paths

Water pollution, Trash, security

ATVs. Stream quality. Invasive Plants

People are people. Security and civic ownership are not always apparent. Trash must be controlled

Dog waste. Dog walkers not picking up behind dogs Flooding

People

In the section bordered by Harford Road and Chesterfield, dirt bikes would be the biggest problem. We use the fields for league play and they are not well maintained.

limited or lacking maintenance on everything.

General upkeep and keeping the park available for multiple uses at a time.

Stream Condition,

Dirt bikes; night usage - drugs? Sex? I only feel safe in the open areas not along the walkways towards Belair Road.

Noise in Hall Springs - sound travels up the valley to neighborhoods

Threat of development

Trash - left by others & trash cans overflowing - not enough trash collection - need lids on trash cans

Dirt bike/ATV use in the park. It's not the ATVs themselves, but how they are operated that is the problem. The users have no regard for others in or adjacent to the park.

Pollution of the stream Off-leash dogs

Trash

misuse of path, roaming dogs, dirt bikes, thugs

Water condition, poor lighting

dirt bikes; sewage odor/stream contamination; poor condition of bike path

Dirt bikes, ATVs, litter

Trash is prevalent, no lighting, safety issues

the polluted water, trash dumping, lighting at night, drug & prostitution activity

noise at Hall Springs on weekends

Poor perception as a desirable neighborhood

Trash, not picking up after dogs, maintenance

fecal matter deposits and unleashed dogs

Tall grass

Right now - mowing is a problem People [not] picking up trash after a sporting event @ parkside and eastwood Dirt Bikes

accessability,mostly we use lake montebello!!! that should be the direction the whole park is going!!!

Herbicide and pesticide spraying

Trash

What do you think is the biggest problem in Herring Run Park? p 2 of 6**Open-Ended Response**

maintenance is terrible, overgrown areas, lacks natural surveillance

Montebello needs better lightning. Paths need better lighting. Emergency call boxes along paths. More playground equipment. The water needs to be safe so dogs and kids can touch it.

1. Not maintained: trash, trees, shrubs, stream 2. Structures (bridges) are worn, falling apart 2. Dirt bikes 3. Dogs not on leashes 4. Loud music from vehicles

The fact that the water is so horribly polluted that you're forced to put signs up on the bank, warning people against swimming in it. It's not really your fault, either; it's simply something that you're forced to tolerate due to the watershed of the City that Reads.

to get to the park, you have to walk through "drug city" (typically congregates around the side road to the old church), the trees are too dense close to the paths-- makes it feel unsafe, not sufficient parking on weekends, no 1

Nearly no police - Selfishdog owners W/Dogs off leash! Young adults drinking and smoking drugs!!!

Kids need adult for safety, Trash, Tend to not be available when clean-ups happen - perhaps they could be held more often.

Sewer system, unsafe areas of park (crime)

Water quality, Forest invasive species

Garbage

Playing fields are very worn

Sewage

Dirts bikes and loose dogs

Sewer overflows and self absorbed people

Football on Parkside Drive of park- running on the hill by players kills the grass, parent attendees are hostile to anyone with a dog- even on leash, promise at meeting with community last year that they would "share the Field"by coming only 4 days- they will be there 5 days/week according to coach Bear.

Too much mowing and grass-I'd rather the park be more of anture sancuary with more woods/reforestation. Way too much mowing.

One of the biggest problems is the amount of trash one sees throughout Hall Spring section; it is extraordinarily annoying to watch people toss bottles, fast food containers, and other pieces of trash right on the grass. The amount of trash automatically makes the place look unappealing and unsafe. Another problem is the presence of motor bikes and the loud music that sometimes comes from the park during the summer. I also am disturbed by the number of cars and vans that are parked on the sports fields during various league games; it simply cannot be good for the grass. These problems could be alleviated if we actually had a full time park ranger or at the very 1 in the park.

illegal uses esp. ATV/motorbikes

crime

Insufficient maintenance and landscaping

It is such a vast, spread-out park for those unfamiliar with it, there is not enough signage - should be all around the periphery showing the way in the various areas and where to park

condemned water

trails, motor bikes

need maintenance on the children's playground and benches in the park

poorly lit and maintained paths, no maps of the park

I moved in the area last month.

What do you think is the biggest problem in Herring Run Park?. p3of 6

Open-Ended Response

stream pollution, unmanaged dogs

I think the pollution of the stream is by far the biggest problem in the park. Also the lack of park rangers to observe/report the problems in the park.

people using picnic area and playground leave too much trash

none of above

Gas odors

Water quality, natural gas leak at Harford Road

Junk going into the stream

See drug activity, litter, Fix playground and add more stuff, get rid of the bigger kids and teens that hang out at the playground

I don't like to cross the street with kids and dog. hildren are not safe alone in the park. Entry exit on Argonne needs a light, garbage cans are overflowing/people leave. Feels dangerous.

Safety - need security and marked trails.

maybe trash

Poor lighting on paths, no emergency phones

Get clean water (so dogs can swim and we can too

Many downed trees. Don't always feel safe

Lack of \$ for park/trail/programming/improvements

Trash

At the lake, people not following directional arrows

As a cyclist, riding at the lake is very dangerous on the southside where the median is. A lot of foot traffic encrouaches on the bike lane. It would be good if vehicular traffic was made one way all around the lake, allowing cyclists to ride outside of the median.

Dirty, dogs run wild

No bathrooms available at Lake Montebello

No bathrooms

Keep trails clean and repaired next to the stream, need 1 at sunset and early darkness

Sprinkler or irrigation system causes water to wash across the path. This causes me to leave the park because water ruins inline skate bearings.

Cleanliness, rodents nightly

The bikers think they own the bike lane and people don't follow the arrows.

Stream, no walkway to lake Montebello

No bathrooms or play area for children

pollution, crime, lack of signs on the bike trail

Lots of trash in stream

Noise, loud events, need bathrooms at Lake Montebello, do not overdevelop park

pollution, too many mosquitos

Parking

What do you think is the biggest problem in Herring Run Park?, p. 4 of 6

Open-Ended Response

Lack of 1 to address misuse of park facilities - including street bikes through park endangering those using the park for acceptable activities.

No bathroom

Can't get to the lake from any other location on foot without traffic. Bathroom location

No environmental monitoring and little concern for wildlife. We don't need more trails, too many trails now, some areas should be restricted off limits to people. Want more environmental programs, water quality monitoring and invasive plant removal

Poor water quality, cars driven in park, non-native invasive plants, very concerned at lack of environmental impact studies, there are no studies planned for the impact of more developed area, new trails, or new recreation programs, why aren't there concerns about more vegetation or wildlife

Not clean, dog waste, bugs, high grass

not safe for children not enough police officers lack of lighting parking paths not maintained erosion of water beds

not enough people use it so it can be risky to walk around by myself or with small children..so i think the things have to be done to the park to make it a much more desirable place to spend time so that it is used all the time. the playground needs to be shaded and could be better. there should be more than one playground. there is a VERY strong gas odor on the walking path between chesterfield ave/harford rd headed towards under the bridge. has anyone visited the parks in nyc? there are fantastic playgrounds which are maintained by the parks system (they do not count on volunteers), zoos (even in small prospect park), lakes, outside carousel's etc etc. we have got to get the motor bikes OUT of the park.

Safety and Water Quality

Trash, motor bikes in park

Underutilization

Connectivity to Lake Montebello

Stream Not natural, want trails not asphalt

Stream Lack of programs City doesn't care - except about paying customers

Very poor maintenance of the grass, only cut in summer after its too high, too much trash after events, Korean soccer is the only group that leaves the fields immaculate, weeds, lack of drinking fountains

Water Pollution Safety in some areas Everyone's park, but no one is responsible (team use fields, leave trash) Motorbikes

It is dirty and doesn't feel safe. I never go alone.

unauthorized vehicles in park, dirt bikes, sports teams using field and path as parking lot. litter from large sporting events, not enough trash cans, cans not emptied in timely fashion, parking spills inot neighborhood (Mayfield) and cars park in intersections.

The poor health of the stream itself. It's suffering from sewage contamination, litter, too much sediment and overall neglect.

Poor Upkeep

lack of maintenance/security water pollution/inability to use water

Public safety

cars

The park is utilized too much for illegal and negative activities. The road into the park and the road along the playground allow for it to occur too easily. The activities includes pot smoking, loud cussing, prostitution and mini-bikes on the trail.

poor physical conditions conflict with teens in early evening hours

Too many dogs. Especially off-leash.

Pollution, trash,

What do you think is the biggest problem in Herring Run Park? p.5 of 6

Open-Ended Response

Not maintaining the land by mowing, except for areas designated for sports events. Trying to overdevelop and commercialize it that affects the serenity, wildlife and the essential beauty of the park. Security when walking trails (Call boxes would be nice, considering that at some points you are considered to be in deep forest). Just maintain it!

Just the ATVs.

safety

Safety, I don't feel safe there alone, I've heard of muggings and vicious dogs not being leashed, as well as the people on dirt bikes hurting dogs or people

safety

growing use by dirt-bikers and othes who do not respect others park visitors

Stories of gang related activity.

Problematic use of the public space. I have witnessed illicit drug purchases.

That i can not use the river. . . I can not let my childern play near it for the fear of sewege. . . CARS. . . The cars drive to fast. . . The cars sometimes are on the trails.

Motor bikes, trash, pollution

Trash used to be, now it seem clean

Cleanliness

I hate what kids on ATV's do to the park, obnoxious noise, ride too fast for children to be safe, and they damage the grass. I know there isn't much that can be done to stop them, possibly only an increased 1. I don't think they are bad kids, just high spirited with access to the horrid machines.

Littering

The polluted water. If we made an effort we could have a put and take trout stream similar to Gunpowder Falls (NCR Ashland, MD)... I talked to a guy once who drives down from PA to fly fish there.

Littering by people who use it and by unsupervised children.

Stream quality/trash.

the polluted state of the herring run

Keeping stream clean and safety

The bathrooms are often locked -- we usually end up leaving before we'd like to for that reason. We often pick up trash and sometimes find the receptacles full so we have to carry the bags home with us.

Litter. Also, do I feel safe question? Sometimes yes;sometimes no. I hear of attacks. One man has a permanent hearing loss because of attack at Herring Run. Also, area I use is entrance off Argonne Drive. Not on map. It exists and is used by LOTS of people. I put area 1, because it is the closest to where I use the park. But I hardly ever walk around Lake Montebello.

cityworkers should pick up trash ,and cutgrassmoreinthespringand summer.

dirt bikes!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

It is not maintained - trash, grass not cut regularly, has a overgrown look to it, very poor natural surveillance, Dogs not on leashes is a big problem, at time it is a "dog park". I have been bothered by dogs not on a leash while jogging, During warme weather, Hall Springs area is a hangout adults drinking, gambling.

Keeping the playgrounds free of trash

More and better Playground Equpt.

water quality and condition of bike path

What do you think is the biggest problem in Herring Run Park? p. 6 of 6

Open-Ended Response

Illegal motor bikes. They are dangerous, scary, and ridden by potentially dangerous youth. The last time I visited the park I left without even getting out of the car because I saw 3 illegal motor bikes.

neglect

illegal motorbikes on the path

trash - 1 not open

Trash, poison ivy overgrowing, safety (incl. dirt bikes)

Trash littering the ground and in the stream destroy the natural feel of the park.

Lack of trash cans; dirt bikers, lately - I like that they're playing but hate that they have to steal space/time to do it - wish we could dedicate hours/place for them.

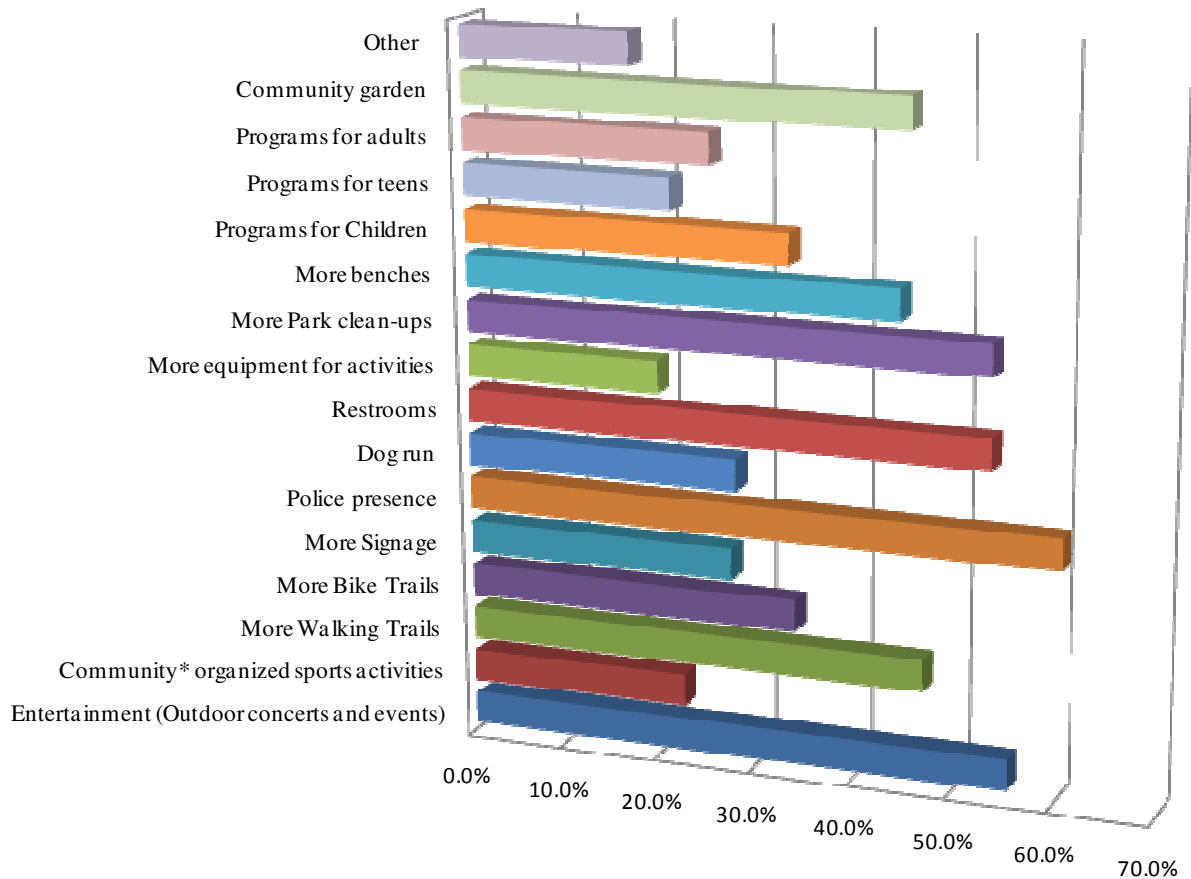
Trash and the water quality

Dogs off leash and poison ivy

stream

Finally we asked the big question. What would each person like to see in the Park? How would they use it.? The results are shown in Fig. 10 and the chart is self-explanatory. This was a two part question with a set of directed potential responses based on what we have been hearing at our various neighborhood associations for some time; and an open-response in case we didn't capture an interest.. There were 35 written responses, which appear as "Other" in the Chart. . In fact it is the written responses in different parts of survey that show our sentiment and commitment to the Herring Run Park and Stream.

Fig. 10 What would you like to see more of in Herring Run Park? (Please check all that apply)



Column1	What would you Like to See -In Herring Run Park
	Other (please specify)
1	A park ranger presence. Attractive landscaping for perimeter.
2	Agriculture
3	Amphitheatre . Arboretum, interpretive signage
4	Better planned trails
5	Distance markers around the loop from halstead around belair and back
6	Dogs on leashes
7	emergency phones
8	enjoy the opportunities for small group activities such as the park walks, would love to see yoga or tai chi offered in the park- quiet activities
9	Exercise Course
10	Exercise equipment
11	exercise stations
12	Extend the trail system above Harford Road
13	Guided Nature Walks
14	I would like to use the park instead of driving to the county.
15	Landscaping, Police horse stables
16	maintain as is
17	maintain it & leave it natural
18	More playground equipment
19	more programs like community organized sports activites
20	More rangers, open 1
21	More signs and banners at park location
22	more trash cans
23	more tree canopy
24	More trees and areas for natrual regeneration
25	not too much more because the community feel is nice, but enhance what is there, as listed above.
26	organized youth job programs
27	picnics where you walk/carry your stuff, tug of war
28	Please add bathroom access to Lake Montebello
29	skateboarding facility
30	Street cleaning on roads surrounding park
31	Trails for runners
32	trash receptalces
33	Want Lake and Herring Run Park connected
34	Wildlife markers, exercise equipment
35	working water fountains

