

City of Port Jervis
Downtown Revitalization Initiative (DRI) Grant Project
Riverside Park

Introduction

The City of Port Jervis is seeking proposals from qualified firms to re-design Riverside Park, the City's largest in-city park, and NYS Downtown Revitalization Initiative (DRI) project. Proposals are requested from firms specializing in recreational park design, including architects, landscape architects, recreation planners, environmental engineers/ecologists and other specialists that will result in the design of an overall project that combines various features in design that is engaging, aesthetically pleasing and suitable for a riverbank location.

Project Description

The goal of this project is to refresh and revitalize Riverside Park with new and diverse recreation amenities and facilities that will allow visitors to gather in groups large and small while participating in varied programming, festivals and special events throughout the year. Located in the tri-state area of New York, New Jersey and Pennsylvania, and adjacent to the city's downtown, these improvements will also make the park a stronger regional attraction.

Background

Riverside Park was developed in the early 1990s. This 40-acre area is located directly on the banks of the Delaware River. Initial amenities included a softball field, basketball court and playground equipment. In the late 1990s, additional playground equipment was installed along with a small pavilion and stage. In 2004 a small skatepark was also installed. While a new bike pump track has been installed within the last 10 years and a disc golf course prior, many of these amenities have degraded over the years. Riverside Park is the largest green space in the City of Port Jervis and is separated from the city's downtown by the Norfolk Southern railroad tracks which bisect Port Jervis from north to south.

Based on the description in the Port Jervis DRI Round VI Strategic Plan (SIP), key improvements to Riverside Park may include, but are not limited to the following features.

The project will include more parking areas dispersed throughout the park along with renovating a water tower with "Welcome to Port Jervis" signage, which would be visible to trains entering the city.

The project will also include a new pavilion to replace an ageing and undersized structure; new bathroom facilities, at the other end of the park from the current facilities; a new concession/storage facility to replace an aged and outdated structure; and a new, larger covered stage designed with side walls.

A new concrete skatepark will be added to replace the degraded and outdated skatepark; the addition of a new basketball and/or pickleball and/or tennis courts; a walking loop/path along the perimeter of the facility that could incorporate a trail along the dike; and a new all-inclusive playground with shading.

The project will be rounded out with landscaping, trees, benches and picnic tables as well as new decorative perimeter fencing. Current amenities- the softball field and pump track will remain however may be moved within the park once the project is fully designed.