

STUDIO|BRYAN HANES



# SHERADEN PARK MASTER PLAN

## STEERING COMMITTEE KICKOFF MEETING



# I. INTRODUCTIONS

## CONSULTANT TEAM:

### LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE

#### STUDIO BRYAN HANES

Bryan Hanes: Principal  
Marshall Secord: Project Manager  
Rebekah Armstrong: Designer

### COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

#### BREAN ASSOCIATES

Karen Brean: Principal

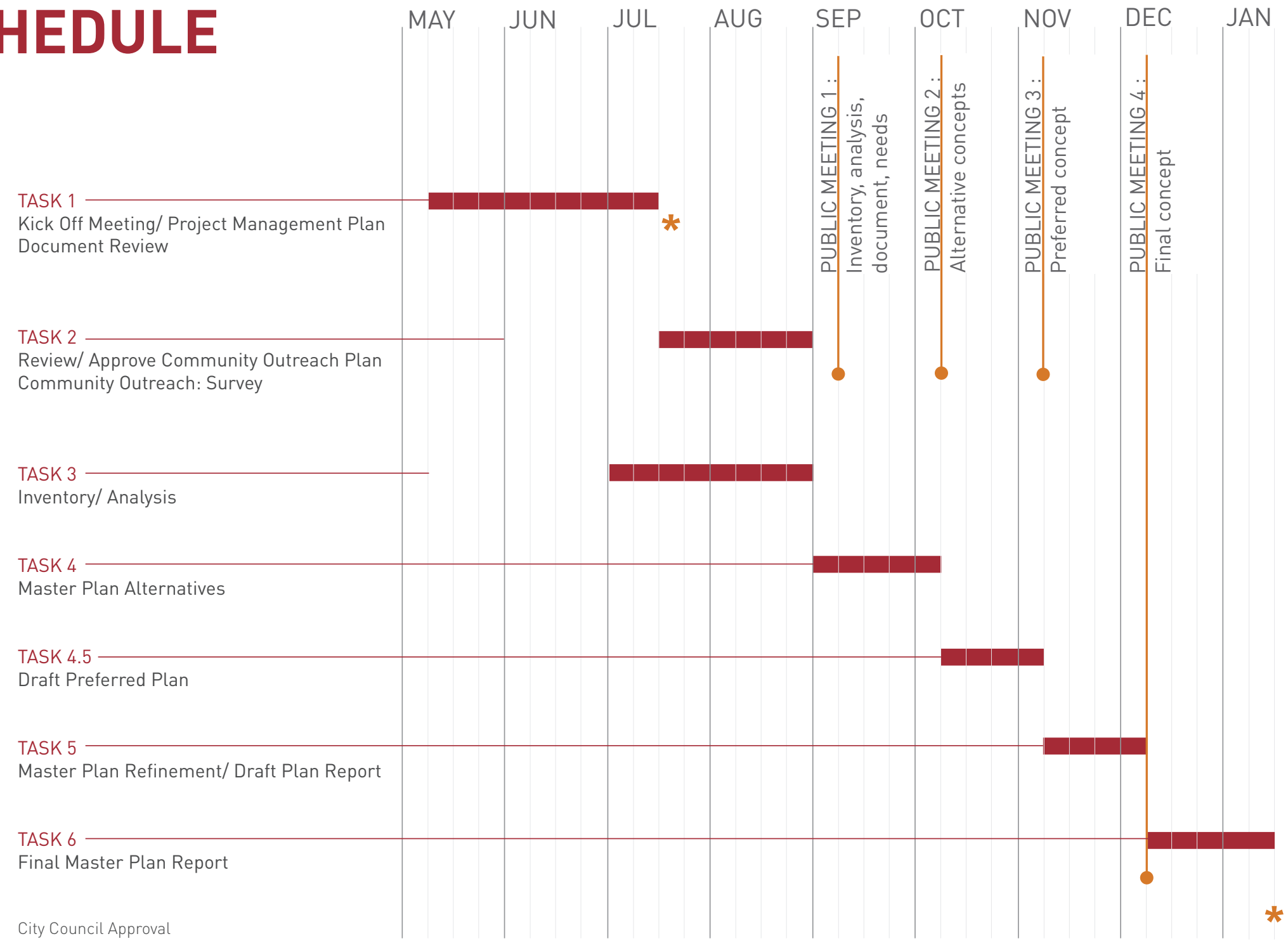
### ENVIRONMENTAL / STORMWATER ASSESSMENT

#### SCI-TEK CONSULTANTS

Jack Harding: Senior Civil Engineer  
Gary Van Balen: Senior Civil Engineer

# II. PROCESS OVERVIEW

## PROJECT SCHEDULE



NOTE:  
Schedule is flexible and can be condensed or extended if necessary

- DELIVERABLES:
- TASK 1  
Approved plan of work and engagement  
Presentation materials for review
  - TASK 2  
Engagement results (may include survey results, interview and public meeting notes)  
Presentation materials for review
  - TASK 3  
Presentation materials for review  
Needs assessment (program)
  - TASK 4  
Plan alternative graphics (plans and renderings)
  - TASK 4.5  
Preferred alternative draft plan documents for review
  - TASK 5  
Draft plan report for review
  - TASK 6  
Final plan report, including cost estimate, implementation plan, funding graphics, maintenance plan

# II. PROCESS OVERVIEW

## PROJECT SCHEDULE

### DELIVERABLES

#### STAGE 1:

Research, Preparation,  
Inventory, Analysis



#### STAGE 2:

Intensive community engagement,  
Master Plan alternative concepts  
and refinement



#### STAGE3:

Final design and report



**TASK 1** —————  
Kick Off Meeting/ Project Management Plan  
Document Review

**TASK 2** —————  
Review/ Approve Community Outreach Plan  
Community Outreach: Survey

**TASK 3** —————  
Inventory/ Analysis

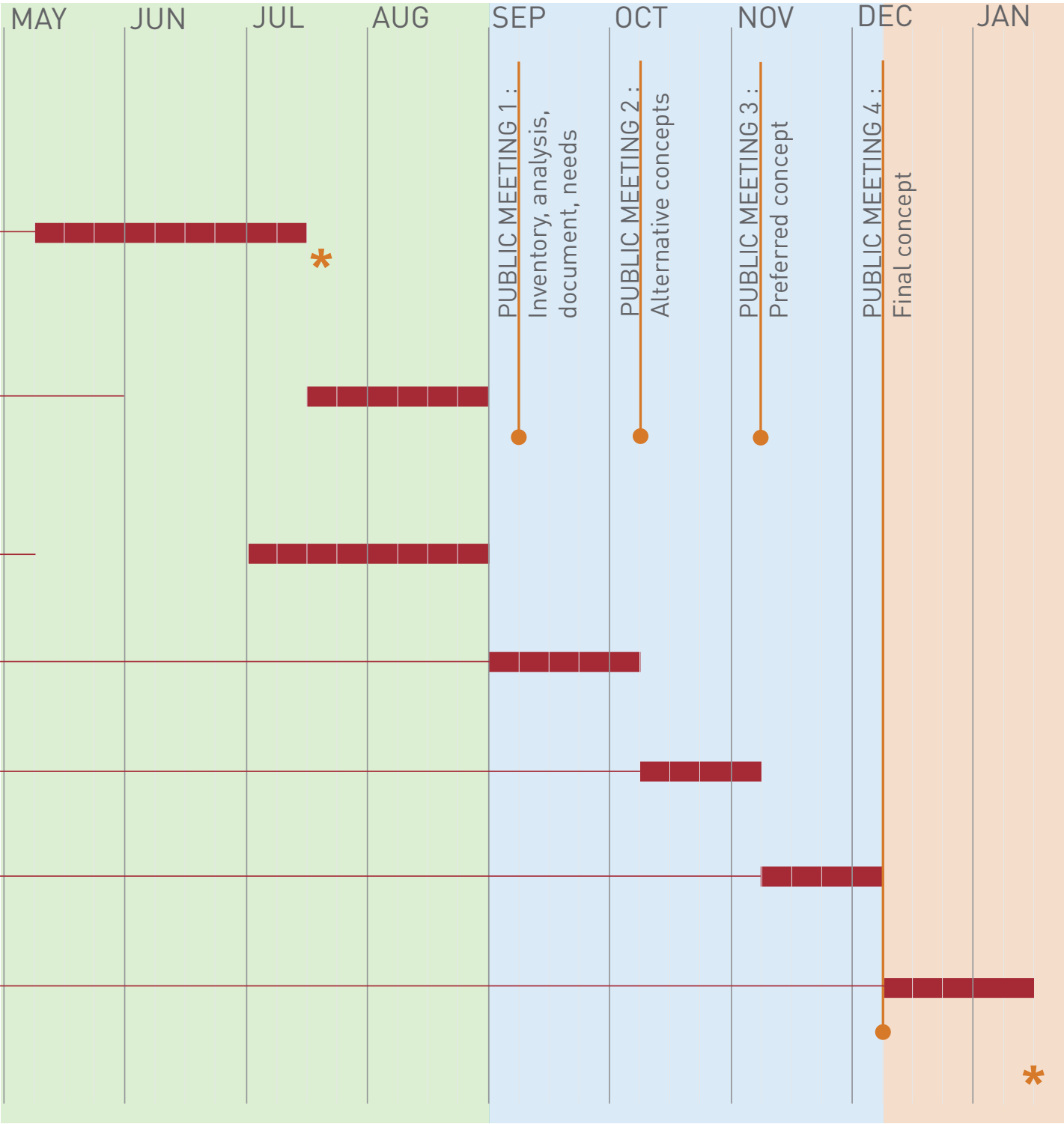
**TASK 4** —————  
Master Plan Alternatives

**TASK 4.5** —————  
Draft Preferred Plan

**TASK 5** —————  
Master Plan Refinement/ Draft Plan Report

**TASK 6** —————  
Final Master Plan Report

City Council Approval



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Needs assessment  
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**TASK 4**  
Plan alternative graphics  
(plans and renderings)

**TASK 4.5**  
Preferred alternative draft  
plan documents for review

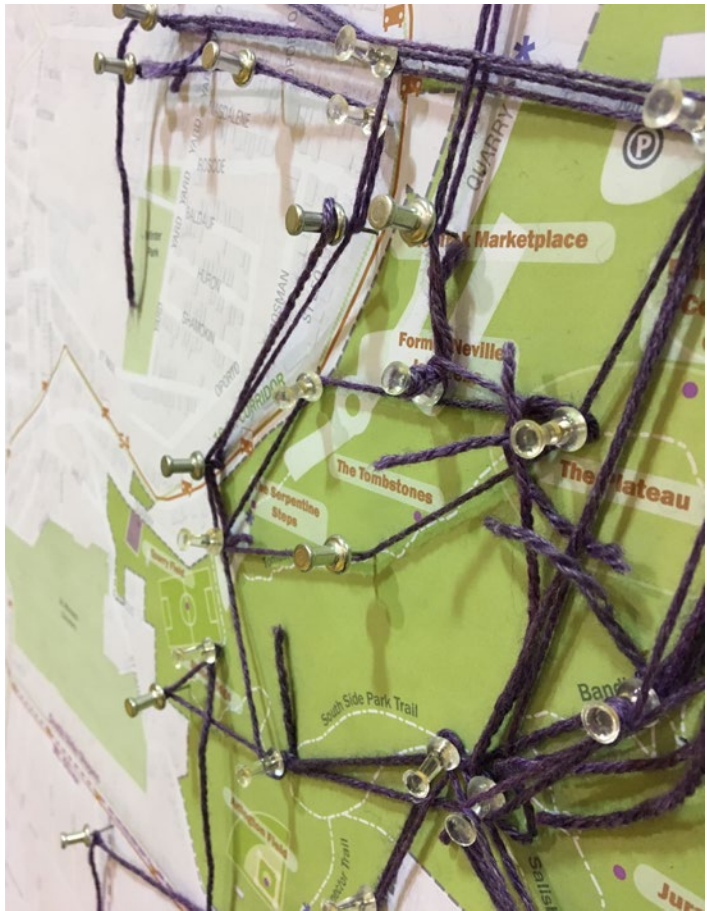
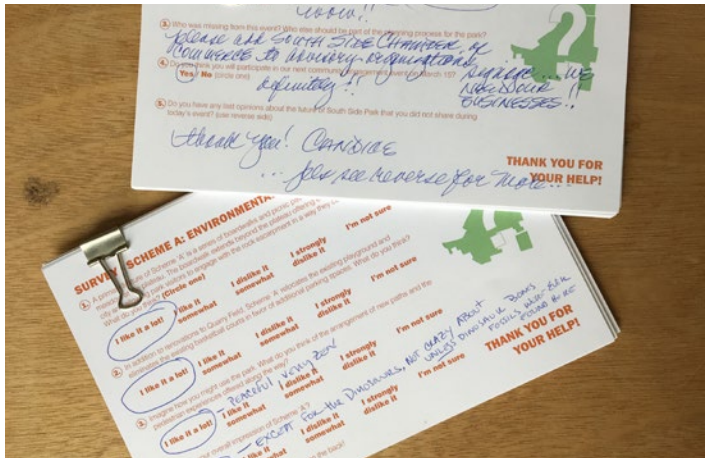
**TASK 5**  
Draft plan report for review

**TASK 6**  
Final plan report,  
including cost estimate,  
implementation plan,  
funding graphics,  
maintenance plan



# II. PROCESS OVERVIEW

## COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT





# II. PROCESS OVERVIEW

## COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

### Stakeholder Networks & Interview Possibilities

- Planning & Regional Agencies
- Community Organizations
- Advocacy Organizations
- Key Constituencies

### Informing Vs. Engaging

- Inform the community about the Master Plan process & upcoming events (Social media pages? Pittsburgh Post Gazette? KDKA CBS Pittsburgh? Upcoming festivals/events to promote at?)
- Community wide engagement events (3 engagement + 1 final presentation)
- Targeted engagement to address smaller groups with quick activities

### Steering Committee Collaboration

- Identifying user groups to involve
- Working together to organize & facilitate events

Event Flyers →



# II. PROCESS OVERVIEW

## PROCESS & PROJECT GOALS

### OPENSOURCE PGH RECOMMENDATIONS:

#### EXPAND / REDEVELOP

- Develop Master Plan using community park design guidelines to provide vision for an expanded park
- Designate as signature community park
- Recognize unique ability to take advantage of forests & topography
- Expand Sheraden Park to include McGonigle and Tuxedo Skate Park through connecting adjacent public parcels
- Work with Alcosan to purchase Duquesne Light Property for park expansion & river access
- Address the relationship of scattered facilities, and evaluate elimination of defunct or remote facilities
- Consider new facilities that take advantage of the site's expansiveness and sinuous character.
- Consider the addition of a dog park

### Other RFP Priorities:

- Stormwater (manage much of C-07 sewershed within park & consider daylighting existing stream in park)
- Environmental restoration (manage invasive species & native plant community restoration)
- Neighborhood Support (engage surrounding neighborhood through innovative outreach)
- Programming (to serve immediate neighborhoods & entire City park system. Explore revenue generation)
- Recreation (explore unique facilities to create a destination & account for surrounding assets in West Pitt region)
- Illegal activities (address issues with ATVs, vandalism, hunting, dumping and general safety concerns)

# II. PROCESS OVERVIEW

## PROCESS & PROJECT GOALS

### STEERING COMMITTEE GOALS

What are your goals for the Sheraden Park Master Plan process?

What are your goals for McGonigle & Tuxedo Park?

What are your goals for the Surrounding Community?  
(Sheraden, Esplen, Chartiers, McKees Rocks)

How does Sheraden Park stand out from other parks in Pittsburgh?



# III. DOCUMENT REVIEW

## EXISTING PLANS

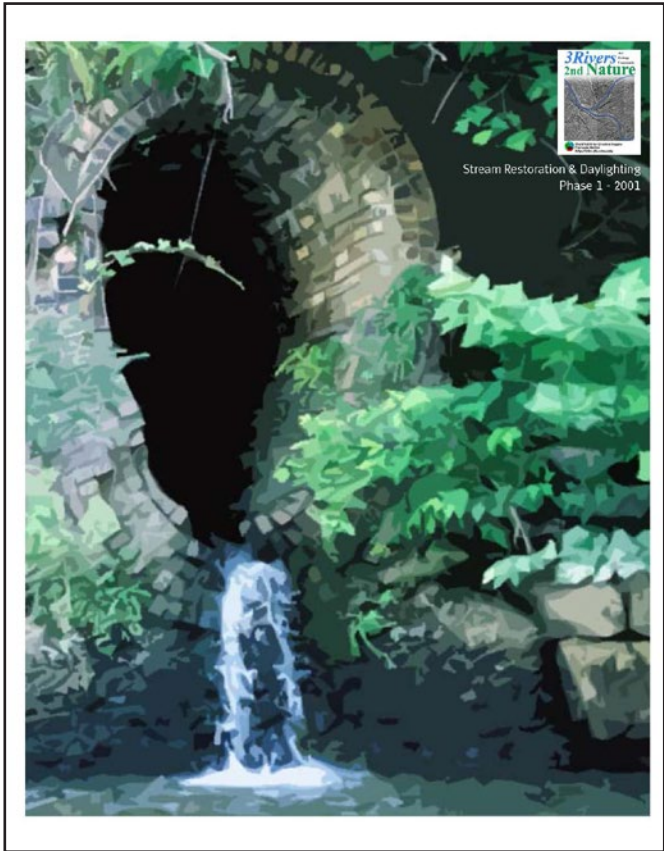


# III. DOCUMENT REVIEW

## EXISTING PLANS

### 3 Rivers - 2nd Nature: Stream Restoration & Daylighting

STUDIO for Creative Inquiry Carnegie Mellon University (2001)



**Goal:** To identify daylighting opportunities in Allegheny County and encourage development of daylighting demonstration sites.

**Short Term:** Develop efficient and effective expert and public processes to identify high-potential daylighting sites and encourage initiation of appropriate projects.

**Long Term:** Change expert and public consciousness about the benefits of open waterways and functioning urban aquatic ecosystems, and effect the protection and restoration

#### Stream Solutions:

- Use portion of main ball field as stream corridor and wetland complex,
- Canalize daylit stream along edge of ballfield to retain field size
- Waterfall feature or structured step pool system to bring water from upper ball field to playground area
- Install new pipe to carry stream water, keeping it out of the sewer system
- Install a new pipe for sanitary and combined sewage coming from the developed area above the park, and convert the existing combined sewer line underneath the ball fields and facilities to carry clean dry weather stream flow and wet weather runoff from the side valleys.

#### Public Comments:

- McKees Rocks was a former destination for Sheraden residents. People would walk down through the flood plain and over a bridge to get there.
- A full time care taker used to live on site in the building next to the play area.
- The pool used to be where the playground is now. Its current location is a bad one, mudslides from the hillside occasionally ruin the water.
- United Way / America Cares used to have a park cleanup day twice a year.

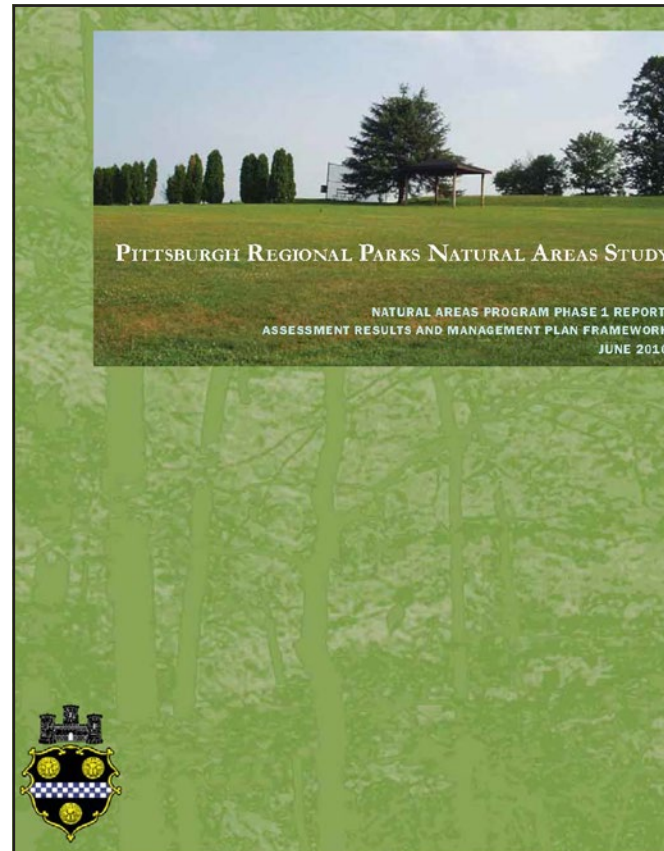


# III. DOCUMENT REVIEW

## EXISTING PLANS

### Pittsburgh Regional Parks Natural Areas Study

Department of City Planning (2010)



**Goal:** To provide an ecological assessment and analysis of Pittsburgh's Regional Parks' natural resources and to identify needs and opportunities. This analysis then acts as a baseline assessment to guide the development of a management plan framework that can inform the future phases of the Natural Areas Program.

#### Study Components:

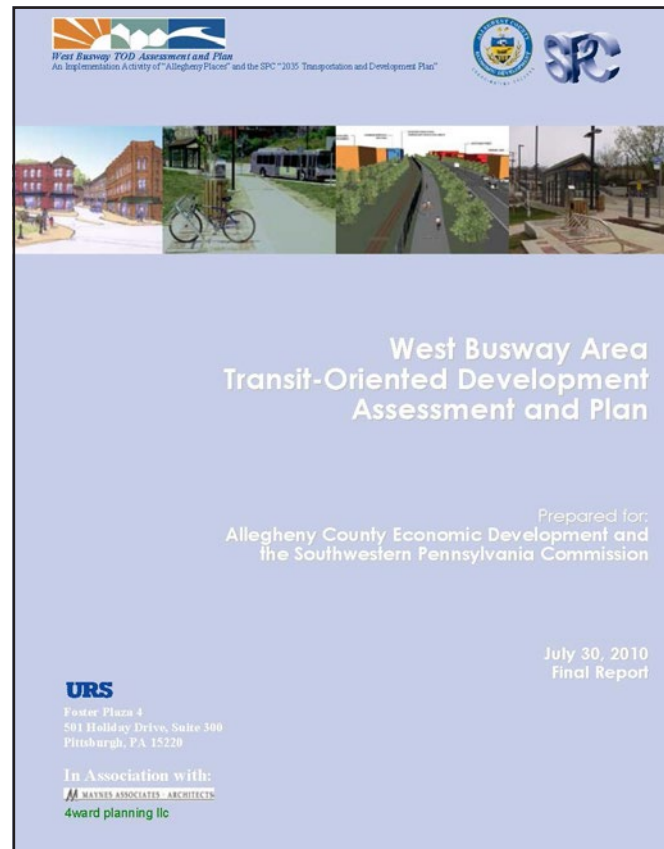
- Analysis & natural resource management needs
  - Reforestation & Supplemental Forest Plantings
  - Stream Restoration
  - Wetland Restoration
  - Meadow Restoration
  - Invasive Species Management
  - Soil Rehab
  - Stormwater management Integration
- Ranking & prioritization
- Broader context & future efforts
- Pilot project identification

# III. DOCUMENT REVIEW

## EXISTING PLANS

### West Busway Transit-Oriented Development Assessment

URS Corporation + Matnes Associates (2010)



#### Goal:

To explore the revitalization potential of the West Busway and adjacent area communities that will support public transportation solutions to the region's transportation and land use challenges.

To help shift development activities into established communities as a result of enhanced understanding of development opportunities and site characteristics in the vicinity of transit-served stops and park-and-ride locations along the Busway and in the vicinity.

#### TOD Plan Principles:

- Renovate and construct new mixed use buildings along the small commercial zone of Sheraden (Chartiers Ave. & Sheraden Blvd)
- Attract new destination restaurant, daycare center and grocery store to the Sheraden commercial district
- Create a central plaza in front of Langley High School, preserving and incorporating the existing war memorials.
- Improve the streetscape including wayfinding and crosswalks to facilitate walking within the Sheraden downtown district and improve the public realm
- Construct a pedestrian bridge that would provide additional connections between the neighborhood and the busway station
- Improve and enhance the busway station
- Improve bike access to the area by installing bike racks and evaluating the potential placement of shared lane on Chartiers Avenue

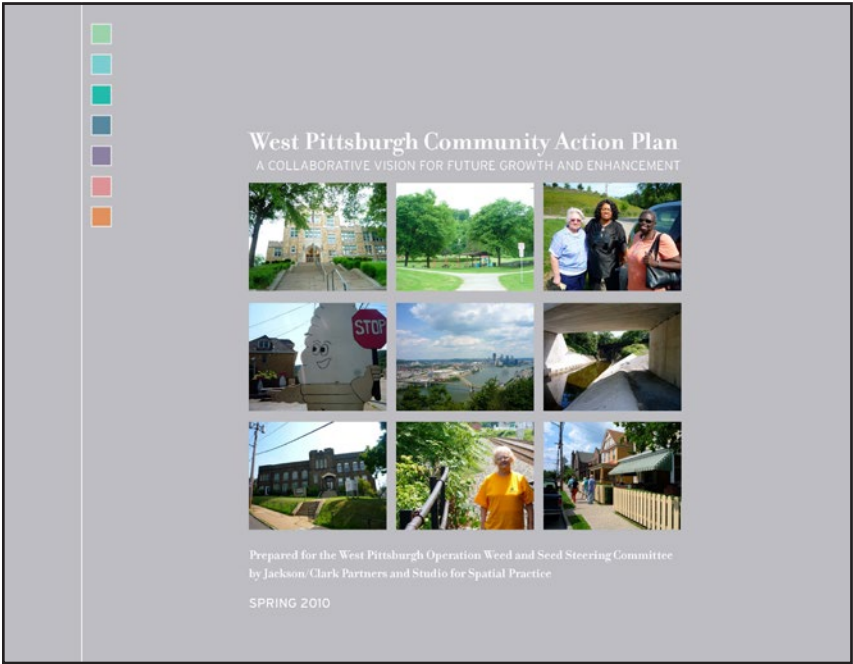


# III. DOCUMENT REVIEW

## EXISTING PLANS

### West Pittsburgh Community Action Plan

Jackson/Clark Partners & The Studio for Spatial Practice (2010)



**Goal:** To create a unified strategy for progress in the West Pittsburgh communities that builds on our past successes, leverages our assets and utilizes the combined strengths of our neighborhoods to build a greater community that can better achieve each of our goals.

#### Weed and Seed Overview

Operation Weed and Seed is a comprehensive, joint law enforcement and community investment strategy designed to help make communities safer, so that other resources will be attracted to those communities.

#### Findings & Recommendations (Sheraden):

- Work with the City to address code violations, problem landlords and hazardous properties
- Clean up the mouth of Chartiers Creek to provide improved public access
- Enhance neighborhood gateways
- Leverage railroads and flat land towards green development and job creation
- Engage the local community and retailers to enhance the local business district offerings
- Develop a transit-oriented retail strategy for Sheraden Station

# III. DOCUMENT REVIEW

## EXISTING PLANS

### Sheraden Stream Removal & Aquatic Habitat Restoration Project ALCOSAN + Army Corps of Engineers (2011)



ALCOSAN, Army Corps of Engineers lead Sheraden Park Green Revival

Project benefits the park, community and the region's Clean Water Plan

Drainage from streams add an estimated 2 billion gallons of water into the ALCOSAN sewer system. It takes up capacity in sewers intended for sewage and causes operation and maintenance problems for the municipal and regional sewer systems by clogging the sewers with gravel, rocks, sticks and other garbage. It increases combined sewer overflows (CSOs). Regulations were mandated to reduce CSOs and eliminate direct stream inflows wherever feasible.

In a cooperative effort, the municipalities and ALCOSAN have taken steps to locate, evaluate, prioritize, plan and implement stream removal projects, including one in Sheraden Park. Sheraden Creek is a spring-fed stream in the wooded uplands of the park. For decades, the stream was piped under the park into a Pittsburgh Water and Sewer Authority (PWSA) combined sewer that connected to the ALCOSAN system and overflowed into Chartiers Creek during wet weather.

In 2002, a partnership was formed between the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, ALCOSAN, the City of Pittsburgh, PWSA and neighborhood groups to re-route the sewer and to daylight the stream in the park. The project received partial federal funding, secured by Congressman Mike Doyle who has worked tirelessly to help the agencies and the project move forward. Theresa Kail-Smith has been an indefatigable supporter of the project as a member of the City of Pittsburgh Council and as a former member of the ALCOSAN Board of Directors.

In Phase I of the Sheraden Stream Removal and Aquatic Habitat Restoration Project, the groundwater springs and area stormwater drains were separated from the combined system. New storm sewer and combined sewer piping was installed through a partnership between PWSA and the Army Corps.



Original Sheraden Creek inflow point



New combined sewer pipe installation

Phase II was designed to reduce harm to Chartiers Creek from polluted stormwater runoff and sediment erosion from the valley that would degrade the ecosystem functions, disrupt the habitat quality of the flood plain forest, create a dominance of non-native plants, and cause low wildlife suitability.

This phase of the project called for constructing a stream channel in the valley and ponds on the flood plain, restoring the native plants, and controlling the non-native invasive plant species. To accomplish this, ALCOSAN and the Army Corps gained cooperative agreements with the Ohio Central Railroad System, Duquesne Light Company, Verizon, Equitable Gas, the City of Pittsburgh and W.J. Beitler Entities for access to and ownership of the property in the flood plain.

**Goal:** To re-route the sewer and to daylight the stream in Sheraden park.

**Phase 1:** Groundwater springs and area stormwater drains were separated from the combined system. New storm sewer and combined sewer piping was installed through a partnership between PWSA and the Army Corps.

**Phase 2:** Construction of a stream channel in the valley and ponds on the flood plain, restoring the native plants, and controlling the non-native invasive plant species. To accomplish this, ALCOSAN and the Army Corps gained cooperative agreements with the Ohio Central Railroad System, Duquesne Light Company, Verizon, Equitable Gas, the City of Pittsburgh and W.J. Beitler Entities for access to and ownership of the property in the flood plain.

**Project Benefits:**

- Decreased CSO overflows

-Decreased debris in the system

-Consent Decree compliance

-Less operations and maintenance

-Increased sewer capacity
- Improvement of the aquatic habitat

-Decreased pollution from CSOs

-Recharged groundwater

-Erosion control

-Reduced invasive species
- Compliance with municipal orders

-Increased recreational opportunities

-Increased green space and park lands

-Environmental education opportunities



# III. DOCUMENT REVIEW

## EXISTING PLANS

### Pittsburgh Urban Forest Master Plan

Davey Resource Group & Tree Pittsburgh (2012)



**Goal:** To protect and restore the city’s urban forest through community tree planting and tree stewardship, education and advocacy.

#### Study Components:

**Connect**

Give priority to at risk communities currently gaining the least benefit from the urban forest.

**Engage**

Concentrate volunteer efforts on disadvantaged neighborhoods where tree canopy is lowest.

**Manage**

Implement a cyclical public tree maintenance schedule that provides for a 7 year cycle of inspection.

**Plan**

Develop achievable, minimum canopy cover goals for each land-use type, neighborhood and watershed utilizing UTC & i-tree data.

**Project**

Educate city staff, stakeholders and the general public about exotic pests, and disease threats. Provide information about identification and treatment.

# III. DOCUMENT REVIEW

## EXISTING PLANS

### Open Space PGH

Department of City Planning (2013)



**Goal:** Optimize Pittsburgh's open space, parks, and recreation system & provide design guidelines for future work

#### Public Involvement Findings

- Connections and access issues
- Environmental issues
- Maintenance and funding
- Quality of life and parks

#### Needs Assessment and Sustainability Analysis

- Park distribution and access
- Park quality and equity
- “A mis-matched system”
- Underfunded system
- Vacant and opportunity lands

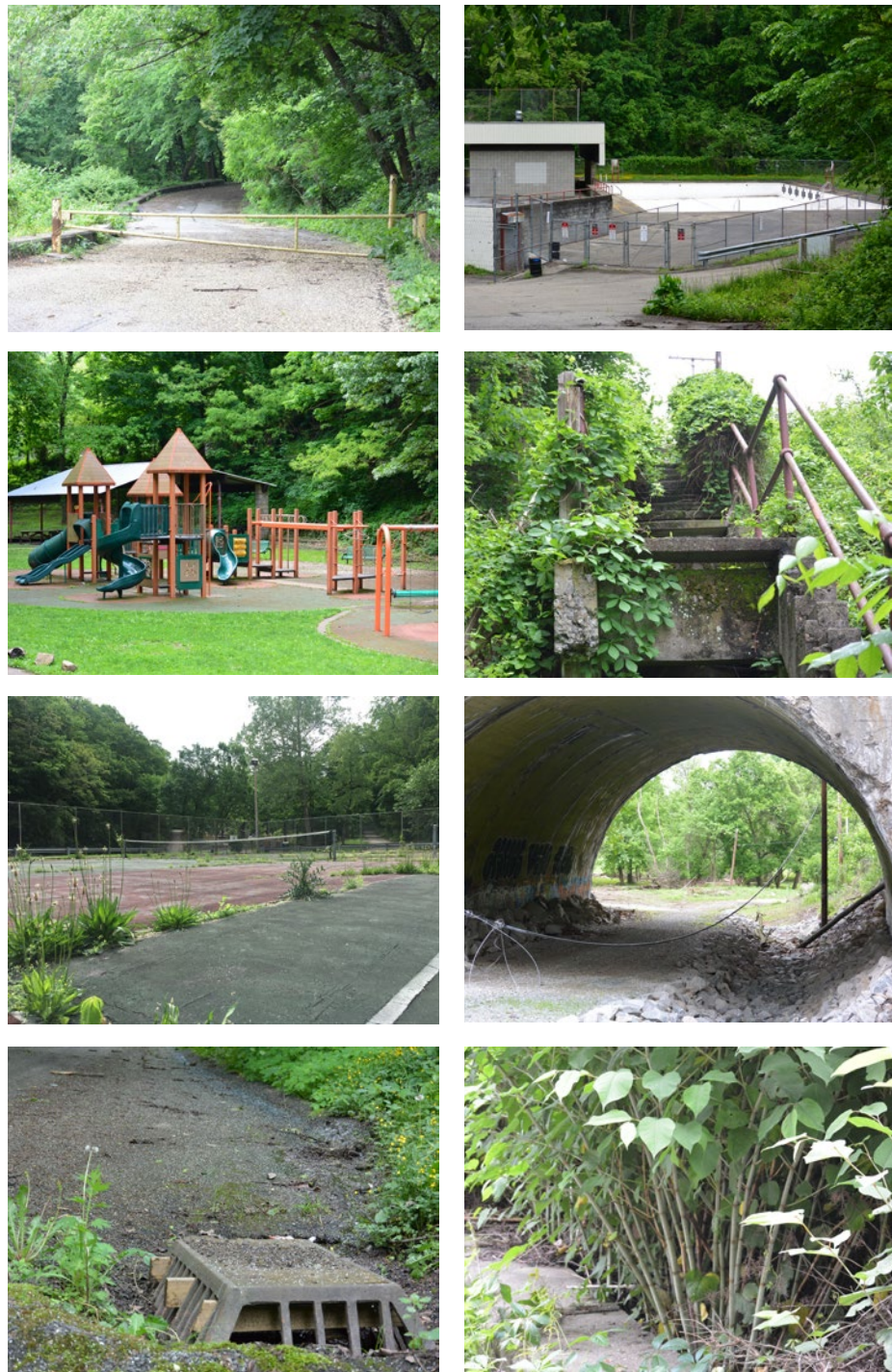
#### Sheraden Park Needs Assessment Results

- Has access issues
- In “good” condition
- Outside Green Premium boundary
- Prime candidate for redevelopment & expansion



# IV. PHYSICAL CONDITIONS

## EXISTING CONDITIONS





# IV. PHYSICAL CONDITIONS

## SITE ANALYSIS

### DATA WE HAVE:

#### ENTIRE CITY OF PITTSBURGH

- Streets
- Park boundary
- Building footprints
- Parcel data
- Bicycle lanes
- Bus routes
- Topography
- Rivers/creeks
- FEMA floodplains
- National wetlands inventory
- Wooded areas
- Major watersheds
- Soils
- Landslide prone areas
- Neighborhoods
- Public pools
- Formal trails

### DOES DATA EXIST FOR:

#### SHERADEN PARK

- Trails?
- Stormwater infrastructure?
- Surface water (streams/seeps)?
- Pervious vs impervious area?
- Historical farming data (William Sheraden)?

#### ENTIRE CITY OF PITTSBURGH

- Demographic data?
- Ride share densities?
- Dog parks?
- Sport courts (basketball, tennis)?
- Sport fields (baseball, soccer, football)?
- Playgrounds?
- Invasive species mapping?
- Stair mapping?
- Sewersheds?



SHERADEN PARK SLOPES ANALYSIS



SHERADEN PARK SOILS MAP

# IV. PHYSICAL CONDITIONS

## SITE ANALYSIS

### CONSULTANT TEAM WILL ASSESS & DOCUMENT:

#### SHERADEN PARK

- Natural / Cultural resources
- Stormwater infrastructure
- Surface water (streams/seeps)
- Pervious vs impervious area
- Vegetation
- Sewersheds
- Views
- Furnishings/lighting
- Historical connections



# V. NON-PHYSICAL PARK ATTRIBUTES

## PARTNERS / STAKEHOLDERS / INTERESTED PARTIES

- Department of City Planning (DCP)
- Department of Public Works (DPW)
- Pittsburgh Water and Sewer Authority (PWSA)
- Sheraden Community Council
- CitiParks
- Army Corps
- Pittsburgh Parks Conservancy
- Allegheny County Sanitary Authority (ALCOSAN)
- SW Pittsburgh CDC
- McKees Rocks CDC
- Friends of West Side Parks
- Sheraden Baseball
- Sheraden Kiwanis Club
- American Legion

# V. NON-PHYSICAL PARK ATTRIBUTES

## FUNDING

### CITY BUDGET

- Planning (DCP)
- Maintenance (DPW)

### GRANTS

- Heinz, Dick’s, UPMC
- PWSA
- PA DCNR
- PA DCED
- RACP
- Allegheny County Conservation District
- Colcom Foundation
- ALCOSAN Grow Grants
- Steelers may have interest

## WHAT DID WE MISS?

# V. NON-PHYSICAL PARK ATTRIBUTES

## ROLES & RESPONSIBILITIES

### DCP:

- Planning
- Trails, Bicycle lanes & Connectivity
- Signage & Wayfinding

### DPW:

- Construction
- Park & Street maintenance
- Tree planting, removal & upkeep

## WHAT DID WE MISS?



# V. NON-PHYSICAL PARK ATTRIBUTES

## EVENTS & RECREATION

### EVENTS & PROGRAMMING

- Sheraden baseball leagues?
- Summer camp/daycare?
- Swim classes?
- Volunteer cleanup events?
- Food programs?
- Senior programs?
- Art programs?

### PARK USES & ACTIVITIES

- |                       |                                     |
|-----------------------|-------------------------------------|
| -Running              | -Tennis?                            |
| -Walking/Hiking       | -Bicycling?                         |
| -Dog Walking          | -River access (boating)?            |
| -Wildlife observation | -Skateboarding?                     |
| -Playgrounds          | -Fishing?                           |
| -Picnicking           | -Moveable games?                    |
| -Baseball             | (badmitton, volleyball, bocce, etc) |
| -Basketball           | -Classes?                           |
| -Swimming             | (yoga, dance, bootcamp, etc)        |

### WHAT DID WE MISS?

### ILLEGAL ACTIVITIES

- Dumping
- ATVs
- Hunting
- Alcohol consumption

# VI. NEXT STEPS

- Steering Committee site walk
- Continuing inventory, analysis & need assessment
- Set up stakeholder interviews
- Arrange, advertise and prepare for community events