



MEMORANDUM

TO: Mayor Laurel L. Prussing and Members of the City Council
FROM: William R. Gray, Public Works Director
Gale L. Jamison, Assistant City Engineer
Bradley M. Bennett, Senior Civil Engineer
DATE: July 21, 2011
RE: Boneyard Creek Improvements Project (Griggs Street to Broadway Avenue)
And Race Street Streetscape Project

Introduction

The purpose of this memo is to present to the Mayor and City Council:

- 1.) Wall surface treatment recommendations for the Boneyard Creek Improvements
- 2.) Creek edge treatment recommendations for the Boneyard Creek Improvements
- 3.) Site benches, paving, and railing recommendations for the Boneyard Creek Improvements
- 4.) A recommendation for the replacement of the brick pavement on North Race Street between University Avenue and Park Street with new concrete pavement.

Background and Facts

At the May 9th Committee of the Whole meeting Public Works Staff were directed to prepare a revised set of wall surface treatments, creek edge treatments, site benches, paving, and railing design elements for the Boneyard Creeks Improvement Project. Public Works Staff worked with the design team of Foth Infrastructure & Environment and Wenk Associates to prepare a revised set of those design elements which are included in Exhibits A to E. Color options for the wall surface and creek edge treatments are provided as part of those exhibits.

The Race Streetscape Project includes intersection improvements at Race Street and University Avenue. Approximately 75-feet of brick pavement on Race Street north of University Avenue will have to be removed and replaced to provide a taper for the intersection improvements with new concrete pavement that would match the new concrete pavement on Race Street south of University Avenue. Public Works Staff recommend replacing the remaining 200-feet of brick on Race Street between University Avenue and Park Street with new concrete pavement as part of the Streetscape project. The replacement of the remaining 200-feet of brick pavement on Race Street north of University Avenue was not included in the original project limits for the Race Street Streetscape Project.

Financial Impact

The cost of the additional engineering required for the brick street pavement removal on Race Street is \$5,000. The additional engineering and construction costs for the brick street removal on Race Street would be paid out of TIF District II funds.

Recommended Action

The Public Works Department seeks acceptance of the proposed wall surface treatments, creek edge treatments, site benches, paving, and railing element design elements attached in Exhibits A to E. The Public Works Department also seeks a recommendation on the color selection for wall surface and creek edge treatments presented in those exhibits.

The Public Works Department also seeks approval by motion for replacement of the existing brick street pavement on Race Street between University Avenue and Park Street with new concrete street pavement.



ASSOCIATES
PLANNERS &
LANDSCAPE
ARCHITECTS

MEMORANDUM

Date: July 20, 2011

Project: BONEYARD CREEK

RE: Wall and Paving Materials Selection

The purpose of this submittal is to inform the Urbana City Council of the proposed materials (walls and paving) for the Boneyard Creek project, as well as communicate the methodology for selecting materials. The attachments include a sketch plan and photo images of materials proposed for this project. The attachment also includes alternative materials for walls which focus primarily on different colors and textures of materials, and the material itself. (Example: a buff colored stone vs. a grey colored stone). The "exact" location of materials has not yet been finalized, although final material locations will be determined as the final design progresses during the next several months.

Although this submittal does not specify exactly where wall/surface treatments will be implemented, it describes the proposed materials palette for your consideration.

Wall Materials Methodology

- The concept plan and materials palette were presented to Council on May 9, 2011. Generally speaking, City Council preferred the use of stone and textured concrete.

Council members stated that gabion wall, “plain” concrete walls, and Corten steel walls would be less desirable.

- These revisions presented here utilized a revised palette of stone, a refined concrete (with textured form liner), and green screen wall that will be planted with vines and other plants to create a series of “living walls” within the project area.

Wall types

- **Stone Walls:** A buff/sand colored stone will be used throughout the project on the creek edge, accent walls (highly visible), the Race street Bridge and the trestle bridge abutment. Generally speaking, these walls are more visible and thus more important aesthetically than other wall types throughout the project—they should be treated special.
- The stone coursing, size, thickness, and pattern will change throughout these wall types, but color should be the constant that holds the project together.
- A buff to sand color is selected because it is lighter in color than most surrounding building materials in Urbana (predominantly brick). In addition the buff/sand color will closely match the color of the sediment in the channel, therefore after a flood event sediment deposits will be less noticeable.
- **Textured Concrete Walls:** will be used for perimeter retaining walls that are less visible and the design intent is that these walls “recede” such that they do not take attention away from the stone accent walls.
- These walls will utilize a natural color concrete with a textured form liner such that it casts a pattern on the wall. This will help cast shadows along the walls, so they don’t appear “flat”
- At the same time, the walls are not level and smooth, and will hopefully help deter graffiti and vandalism.
- **Green Screen Living Walls:** The plan will incorporate a living wall “green screen” with vines and other plants. This is both cost effective and provides an opportunity to incorporate artist metalwork into the project.
- It will also help “soften” the project with plants

Utilizing City Standards

- The project will utilize City standards (benches, trash receptacles, lighting and brick pavers where the project abuts the street or is at street level.
- Below the street grades or away from the street, the project will utilize non standardized furniture and materials to create a unique look and feel for the Boneyard Park area. This will include benches that are built into site walls, stone seat walls, and lighting fixtures (not yet selected) that meet the look and feel of the project.
- Lighting features will be full cut off to meet dark sky criteria. The project will also include the subtle use of accent lighting to highlight the Race street Bridge, trestle bridge, and other key design features.

Surface Materials

- The project will re-use the City’s brick street pavers at the Station Theater Plaza

- Adjacent to Race Street the plazas will be surfaces with new brick pavers (type and color) that match the City's current streetscape paver.
- The primary path surface along the creek will be standard concrete, and will have scoring patterns, paving bands of exposed aggregate or cobble to add interest and hopefully deter skateboarding.
- The trestle bridge will be resurfaced with a durable hardwood decking material, such as IPE, that will be built over the existing trestle structure.
- Deck and sidewalks will be ADA compliant



- LEGEND**
- Bridge Walls (stone)
 - Site Accent Walls (stone)
 - Perimeter Walls (textured concrete)
 - Planter/Seat Walls
 - "Green Screen" Walls
 - Overlooks
 - Recycled Brick Pavers
 - Brick Pavers - City Standards

FOR APPROVAL ONLY
NOT FOR CONSTRUCTION

BRIDGE WALLS: STONE VENEER



PLANTER WALLS & STEPS



BRICK PAVERS - CITY STANDARDS



GREENSCREEN WALL



PERIMETER WALLS : WOOD PLANK CONCRETE FORM LINER



EXAMPLE OF TEXTURING OF CONCRETE WALK



BUILT-IN RETAINING WALL BENCHES



SITE ACCENT WALLS



RECYCLED BRICK PAVERS



TRESTLE BRIDGE & OVERLOOK WOOD DECKING



PROPOSED MATERIALS

BRIDGE WALLS: STONE VENEER



PERIMETER WALLS : BOARD FORMS & COLOR ALTERNATIVES



SITE ACCENT WALLS



PROPOSED MATERIAL ALTERNATIVES

