

RECREATION PARK

Located on the northeast bank of the river, Area 4 is largely a wide bank of smooth river rock that slopes upward to the adjacent residential rear yards. There are scenic views of the downtown and the mountains beyond. Area 4 has the largest usable area at the river level, is sheltered from the winds and fronts a slower water flow. It is recommended that Area 4 be developed for recreational uses.

Informal trails have been worn into the hillside by users of the riverbank. These trails should be formalized by creating accessible pathways down to the river's edge. Materials such as shale or crushed gravel should be used to maintain a natural appearance this area. In wider portions of the riverbank, expanses of grass should be planted to create active recreation destinations. The grass pockets should be varied in size to allow for a variety of activities for individuals or groups, including reading, view points, picnic areas, and recreational games.

Lighting in this area should be provided by pole mounted light fixtures that continue the necklace of light that identifies and defines the extent of the River Walk.

To maintain the continuity of the River Walk, an accessible pathway should be cut into the hill near the end of the Old Bridge at Columbia Avenue. Rising up from the riverbank, the pathway should be designed as an accessible ramp to allow ease of use by all. An access point down to Area 4 should be developed at the end of McQuarrie Street. An eroded trail currently exists and should be replaced by a formal stairway and lighting. The stair should be designed to maintain the natural appearance of Area 4, utilizing materials such as wood edging and crushed gravel.