

Existing Bridges Subcommittee

Goal Development and Outreach Strategy Meeting, 7/16

Below are the goals the subcommittee discussed in the July 16th meeting. This document is meant to be the building blocks for outreach and gathering input from the public. This could be formatted in a tri-fold with the picture taking up the back half.

Project summary:

What's the elevator speech

The two historic bridges connecting Hinsdale and downtown Brattleboro via the Hinsdale Island have served as the main area connector since the '20s. A new bridge will be constructed downstream and the two iron bridges will be refinished and facilitated into bike and pedestrian use. The subcommittee- with members from both towns, police, economic development groups, among others- focusing on the redesign of this space is looking to gain as much public input into this process as possible. The subcommittee met in July to establish some overarching goals, we'd like your feedback.

Here's what we know about the area:

The area has a rich history including certain native American presence, a strong role in the industrial development of the area, and was once home to a generous event space and sporting field. Though the island itself has shrunk significantly over the years primarily due to the introduction of the Vernon Dam, due to the vegetation on the island, it is no longer eroding (or shrinking) but is accreting material (gaining ground). The island is completely in the flood plain except for where the road has been built up. Currently, the space is used primarily as vehicular passage though does have sidewalks on the bridges and a footpath and some parking adjacent to the road.

Rate these Goals



(1 star= eh, this doesn't feel appropriate;
5 stars= Yes! I'm excited about this one.)

<i>Create an active and high use destination to enable and encourage the clean and safe amenities.</i>	
<i>Enhance local recreation networks.</i>	
<i>Enhance space by becoming a cultural resource hosting public art installations.</i>	
<i>Provide user-friendly connection for commuting populations.</i>	
<i>Where feasible, create cultural events space.</i>	

Support low impact recreation on the Island with walking path and river access.

What did we miss?

More of a visual person? Here's a picture, draw your vision on here!