



City of Naperville

400 S. Eagle Street
Naperville, IL 60540
<http://www.naperville.il.us/>

Meeting Minutes

Riverwalk Planning, Design and Construction Committee

Tuesday, December 2, 2025

7:30 AM

Meeting Room C

A. CALL TO ORDER:

Chair Shields called the December 2, 2025 Naperville Riverwalk Planning, Design and Construction (PDC) Committee meeting to order at 7:32 a.m. The meeting was held in Meeting Room C at the Municipal Center, located at 400 S. Eagle St., Naperville, IL.

B. ROLL CALL:

Present: Grant Cowen; John Cuff; Jan Erickson; Andy Hynes; Tiffani Picco; Leslie Ruffing; Johnna Shields, Chair; Mike Sullivan; and Carl Wohlt

Also Present: Tim Ball, Gary R. Weber Associates (GRWA); Rebecca DeLarme, City staff; Brian Dusak, Engineering Resource Associates (ERA); Mary Hamill, Accessible Community Task Force (ACTF); Jeff Martin, Naperville Riverwalk Foundation; Stephanie Penick, Naperville Riverwalk Foundation; Carl Peterson, GRWA; Nonoka Wachi, North Central College student; and Mary Lou Wehrl, resident

C. PUBLIC FORUM:

SPEAKERS

Mary Hamill (ACTF) - Hamill thanked the Park District for converting the granite trail in Sindt Woods to pavers, noting that it now makes that section of the Riverwalk accessible for people using mobility devices. She reported that members of the ACTF and community worked with North Central College Occupation Therapy students and participated in assessments of various locations in Naperville to include the Riverwalk. Once a report is available, it will be shared with the Riverwalk Commission. Hamill also expressed appreciation that all speakers at the Eagle Street Gateway Grand Opening addressed that the project represented accessibility. Erickson thanked Hamill for attending the event and Chair Shields thanked Hamill for her comments.

Chair Shields noted that John Cuff's last meeting as Riverwalk Commissioner would be December 10th.

D. PROJECT UPDATES:

There were no project updates.

E. OLD BUSINESS:

1. Approval of Minutes - Johnna Shields

Approve minutes from the November 4, 2025 Planning, Design and Construction Committee meeting

Attachments: [25PDCMinutes1104](#)

A motion to approve the November 4, 2025 Planning, Design and Construction Committee meeting minutes was made by Picco and seconded by Erickson.
MOTION CARRIED with Sullivan abstaining

2. Park District Report - Tiffani Picco

Review follow up items from the 2025 Asset Management Plan (AMP) Walk notes

Attachments: [AMP Walk Follow Up Memo](#)

Picco reported that eleven banner poles have been painted black and referenced the photo included in the agenda packet. She discussed the three banner poles along Eagle Street that were brought up during the AMP walk. The nearby maple tree continues to grow into one of the poles and another sits very close to the Plow statue. Her suggestion is to remove two of these poles, leaving one (similar to what is located at Aurora Avenue and at Jefferson Avenue), and utilizing the two in the South Extension instead of purchasing new ones. The group agreed with this suggestion and this item will be included on next week's Riverwalk Commission agenda for approval.

Picco discussed the Mr. and Mrs. Naperville statue, noting that the interpretive sign is currently located on the back of the statue. The sign is part of the statue and moving it is not possible. She discussed the option to draw more attention to the existing sign by redesigning the plaza and referenced the draft illustration included in the agenda packet that Peggy Motta provided. Discussion followed on adding a sign with Penick noting that the original intent was to place a "Mr. and Mrs. Naperville" plaque at the front bottom base of the statue. Penick advised that the Naperville Riverwalk Foundation has discussed paying for the plaque. Picco will work with Motta on a cost estimate for adding the walkways. Discussion followed on using Riverwalk standard pavers in the plaza and pathways, and the possibility of using volunteers for the paver installation.

Picco also noted the photo included in her report of the Sindt Woods granite trail conversion to pavers.

3. Riverwalk 2031 Master Plan Update - Johnna Shields

Review final edits and approve updates to the Riverwalk 2031 Master Plan for recommendation to the Riverwalk Commission

Attachments: [ER0613_RiverwalkMasterPlanDraft\(11.21.2025\)](#)

SPEAKERS

Mary Lou Wehrli - Wehrli expressed appreciation for the improvements and

suggested the following additional edits:

Page 3 - Riverwalk Evolution - 2nd paragraph - capitalize Beach and change Works Progress Association to Works Progress Administration.

Page 5 - Current Attractions - change Warming House to Restrooms.

Page 6 - Master Plan Attractions - Item I - include Main Street to Washington Street Riverwalk & Bridge; and Item J - East Bank Riverwalk & Bridge.

Page 10 - Netzley Overlook - change Small Quarry to Little Quarry; Barrier-free access (see Page 22 PDC standards and Page 13 mobility challenges addressed); Dangerous? How many incident reports? Consider ADA accessibility.

Page 14 - 430 South Washington Street - change graphic, include trees along the Riverwalk. Under Today, last sentence - consider stating that construction of the Riverwalk improvement is planned in 2026. Noted the use of "Stunning" based on the illustration. She inquired if there was an NFR certificate with Hynes advising they are working through the permitting process.

Page 15 - Main Street to Washington Street Riverwalk - include Conceptual Illustration of south riverbank looking west (clarify the illustration).

Page 16 - Main Street to Washington Street - include Conceptual Illustration of north riverbank (identify the left illustration).

Page 19 - South Gateway - under 2031, last sentence - include reference to the bike lane and several benches.

Page 21 - Implementation - under Adopt and Endorse, second paragraph - actively advocate the Riverwalk Golden Anniversary Master Plan *or* actively advocate the Riverwalk 2031 Master Plan honoring Naperville's Bicentennial.

Page 22 - Implementation -second paragraph, last sentence - this Riverwalk 2031 Master Plan.

Shields thanked Wehrli for her comments. Erickson noted an additional correction on Page 10 - Netzley Overlook - under 2031, first sentence - change to north of the plaza. Discussion followed on the steep grade that may not allow for ADA accessibility.

Shields discussed the timeline for design dollars of projects, noting that additional due diligence would occur with the Grand Pavilion project prior to the actual design. It was noted that the Location Map could be updated to illustrate the area east of the Pavilion.

Shields and Erickson will review the suggested edits with the consultants and this item will be included on next week's Riverwalk Commission agenda for approval. Once approved, the revised Riverwalk 2031 Master Plan will be

shared with City Council and the Naperville Park Board, and the updated version will be available on the City's website. Shields thanked everyone for their efforts with the update.

F. NEW BUSINESS:

There was no new business to discuss.

G. MEETING SCHEDULE:

Riverwalk Commission, December 10, 2025, 7:30 a.m.
Municipal Center Meeting Room C, 400 S. Eagle St., Naperville, IL

Riverwalk Planning, Design and Construction, January 6, 2026, 7:30 a.m.
Municipal Center Meeting Room C, 400 S. Eagle St., Naperville, IL

Riverwalk Commission, January 14, 2026, 7:30 a.m.
Municipal Center Meeting Room C, 400 S. Eagle St., Naperville, IL

Riverwalk Planning, Design and Construction, February 3, 2026, 7:30 a.m.
Municipal Center Meeting Room C, 400 S. Eagle St., Naperville, IL

H. ADJOURNMENT:

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Erickson and seconded by Sullivan. The meeting adjourned at 8:16 a.m. MOTION CARRIED by voice vote

/S/ Rebecca DeLarme
Rebecca DeLarme
Program Assistant
Transportation, Engineering and Development Business Group