

## **Scope of Work: Memorial Site Enhancement Project and Flint River Trail**

### **Context:**

The St. John Street Neighborhood Memorial pays tribute to the lives, contributions, culture, vibrancy, and history of the St. John Street neighborhood, which was demolished as part of urban renewal which disproportionately impacted Black residents in Flint. The St. John Street Historical Committee is a nonprofit organization of former residents from the neighborhood and is the leading stakeholder for the memorial project. The memorial development process is also part of the Truth, Racial Healing & Transformation work happening in Flint, and it is essential that engagement with former residents be thoughtful and respectful about their history, and that their voices shape the vision and development of the memorial itself.

In 2021, the City of Flint worked with the St. John Street Historical Committee to develop the St. John Street Neighborhood Memorial Plan. (View the plan at: <https://www.imagineflint.com/pages/choice-neighborhoods-initiative>) The Plan provides the foundation for further development of the memorial specifications and some memorial features may be improved through the community-engaged design engineering process given additional considerations since the Plan was finalized in February 2022. For example, page 25 shows an image of a 6-sided park sign to display historical information, however it is important that the site be ADA accessible, and this originally conceived sign format is not ADA accessible. Also, implementation fundraising is secured for most of the memorial elements, except for the bronze statues, and there is interest in exploring alternative public art options to convey the historical information with a more creative and less costly design.

Historically, the park in which the memorial is to be built was called West Boulevard Park in City of Flint plans and parks maps. In 2023, the park was officially renamed the St. John Street Neighborhood Memorial Park. The park runs along the west side of the Flint River from Dort Hwy. to Hamilton Avenue. Trail surface improvements funded by the DNR Spark grant extend along the Flint River Trail beyond the segment of the trail which is the memorial walking path.

### **Memorial Walking Path and Historical Features:**

The memorial walking path, built upon the existing Flint River Trail in West Boulevard Park, will be a central feature of the memorial project. Along the path, visitors will encounter public art such as statues, benches, interpretive historical signs, and a Michigan Historical Marker plaque. ADA-accessible trail connections will be established to connect the path with new park amenities, including the pavilion. The location for each memorial element will be determined strategically, focusing on active spaces within the park. The interpretive signs will emphasize the neighborhood's history, including the streets that were lost during urban renewal. Efforts will be made to design the signs to be interactive and engaging. Additionally, nine benches will showcase the name, original location, and image of a neighborhood church, providing historical context. Partnerships have already been formed with organizations such as the St. John Street Historical Committee, Sloan Museum, the University of Michigan-Flint Design Studio, the Genesee Conservation District, Environmental Transformation Movement of Flint, and the Genesee County Parks' Keep Genesee County Beautiful Program to support the development of the historical

signage and ensure successful planning and maintenance of the memorial features. The contractor will work with the St. Johns Street Historical Committee across all design elements of the project.

### **Flint River Trail:**

#### 1) Signage

- a. Add a new park sign, with the new name, at the memorial entrance and near Dort Highway.
- b. Install a state-approved Michigan Historical Marker plaque at the memorial entrance and near Dort Highway
- c. Add 7 historical interpretive signs describing and illustrating the depth and diversity of the neighborhood's history and its historical significance in Flint. These historical interpretive signs are designed to be ADA accessible, ensuring that everyone, regardless of ability, can read and engage with the captivating stories of the neighborhood's history and its historical significance in Flint. Themes for the information conveyed in the signs are:
  - i. Overall historical summary of the neighborhood, racial and ethnic diversity within the neighborhood, and the history of invitation to participate in the St. John Street Historical Committee.
  - ii. Educational Leaders & Organizations, and the neighborhood's two schools (Fairview Elementary School, and Roosevelt Elementary School)
  - iii. Community leaders & organizations (including the St. John Street Community Center), business leaders & organizations, and medical leaders & organizations.
  - iv. Athletes, Olympians, and athletic teams/programs
  - v. Neighborhood life by season of the year
  - vi. Guide to all businesses from the old neighborhood (e.g., theater, beauty shops, restaurants, skating rinks), streets, churches.
  - vii. A 3D relief model of the St. John Street neighborhood at its peak, as well as overlaying aerial maps depicting different historical periods. Park users will be able to slide overlays to reveal street names and explore the neighborhood's evolution over time, including its peak, urban renewal phase, and present-day.
- d. A Flint River Trail/Watershed Sign like the sign in Lewis Street Park, which is located adjacent to this park on the east side of the Flint River.

#### 2) Benches

- a. Nine benches will be along the walking path and will feature the name, original location, and image of a neighborhood church as important historical sites. These historical details will be displayed in the form of plaques on the benches.

#### 3) Flint River Trail update

- a. Build an asphalt cap on the cracking but structurally sound segments of the paved multi-use Flint River Trail on both sides of the Flint River, starting from where the new state park ends at Hamilton Ave. to the end of East Boulevard Drive (approximately 2.5 miles) to create a safe, ADA-compliant trail surface throughout north Flint.

#### 4) Statues and placements

- a. Develop alternative design options and associated estimated budgets for public art features, such as life-size statues or other creative 3D or interactive designs, to show images and convey the historical significance of 11 neighborhood luminaries within the context of the St. John Street community. These community leaders, described in the Memorial Plan
- b. Ensure that specific spaces are earmarked for installation of the chosen public art features within the overall memorial design. The public art features will be scattered along both sides of the memorial walking path in the area of the park that is activated by other memorial features (e.g. near the playground, pavilion, benches and parking lot). Design and placement of the public art features will encourage park users to walk along the memorial path.

### **Parking Lot:**

- 1) Redevelopment
  - a. Assessment and removal of the existing parking lot: Evaluate the condition and suitability of the current 6,000 sq. ft. parking lot near Massachusetts Avenue.
  - b. Plan and execute the removal of the original parking lot to make way for the redevelopment.
- 2) Design new Parking lot
  - a. Implement one-way traffic flow and angled parking.
  - b. The parking lot should be pervious concrete or asphalt to minimize runoff.
  - c. Reconfigure the new parking lot layout to accommodate safer traffic flow, including approximately 25 regular angled parking spaces, 5 handicap spaces, and 3 longer parking spaces for vehicles with kayak/canoe trailers or buses.
  - d. Ensure the new parking lot design meets local regulations, including proper drainage and accessibility requirements.
  - e. Integrate landscaping features, such as trees, shrubs, and green spaces, to improve the appearance of the parking lot and create an inviting environment for park users.

### **River Overlook Restoration and Kayak/Canoe Launch:**

- 1) Overlooks
  - a. Conduct a thorough assessment of the six overlooks along the river trail to determine the extent of necessary repairs or replacements. Identify any structural issues or damage that may compromise safety or aesthetics.
  - b. Remove existing vegetation surrounding the overlooks to enhance visibility and provide unobstructed views of the structures.
  - c. Focus on repairing the decking and railing of three specific river overlooks that have been identified as damaged. Ensure that these repairs address any structural concerns and provide a safe and stable viewing platform for park visitors.

- d. Replace the existing unsafe overlooks at the memorial site with a new structure that offers an elevated vantage point for visitors.

### **Historically Themed Playground:**

- 1) Playground Description
  - a. Design and construct a historically themed playground that engages multiple generations.
  - b. Incorporate play equipment and features that highlight the historical context of the area, while ensuring inclusivity and accessibility for individuals of all ages and abilities.
  - c. Engage with the St. Johns Street Historical Committee through the design process. They would like to incorporate historic buildings from the neighborhood into the design.
  - d. Install Engineered Wood Fiber (EWF) as safety surfacing to enhance safety and reduce the risk of injuries.
- 2) Playground construction

### **Pavilion Design/Construction**

- 1) Project Overview:
  - a. Develop and construct a 50-foot by 70-foot open air pavilion in the southern end of St. John Street Neighborhood Memorial Park
  - b. The pavilion will serve as a multi-weather gathering space, accommodating various activities such as family gatherings and educational programming.
  - c. The project aims to fill a gap in the City of Flint parks system by providing a unique public outdoor gathering place in north Flint, as well as the only public gathering place in the historic St. John Street neighborhood.
  - d. The budget for the Pavilion is \$500,000.
- 2) Design and Specifications:
  - a. Prepare a detailed design plan for the pavilion adhering to the dimensions of 50-feet by 70-feet.
  - b. Ensure the pavilion is suitable for multi-weather use and can withstand various environmental conditions.
  - c. Ensure that a solar-powered electrical outlet is built into the pavilion design, to enable public gatherings to be enhanced by activities such as a DJ playing music or projector use for educational programming.
  - d. Allocate the space for 15 ADA-accessible picnic tables within the pavilion.
  - e. Allocate the space for 5 steel, group-sized charcoal BBQ grills in the lawn outside of the pavilion.

### **Lighting**

- 1) The lighting throughout the park should be solar LED lighting.
  - a. The lighting should be along the path and at the Pavilion.

## **Project Deliverables:**

Ensure that all drawings, renderings, and plans are provided in both digital and physical formats as dictated by project requirements, and that they are submitted in strict accordance with the project's established schedule and deadlines. Our commitment extends to maintaining exceptional quality standards, guaranteeing that all deliverables faithfully and accurately represent the project's design, vision, and specifications.

- 1) **Concept Drawings:**
  - a. Create concept drawings that illustrate the project's design and vision.
  - b. Revise concept drawings as needed to align with project objectives.
  - c. Present concept drawings for approval and incorporate feedback.
- 2) **Rendering:**
  - a. Produce high-quality, detailed renderings that faithfully depict the project's design and aesthetics.
  - b. Collaborate closely with the St. Johns Street Historical Committee to incorporate any necessary revisions and feedback.
- 3) **Site Plans:**
  - a. Develop comprehensive site plans, including precise layouts, dimensions, and essential details, ensuring alignment with the overall project design.
  - b. Submit site plans for thorough review and timely approval.
- 4) **Construction Administration:**
  - a. Oversee and manage all construction activities, guaranteeing strict adherence to project plans and specifications.
  - b. Promptly address and resolve any construction-related issues that may arise.
- 5) **Scheduling:**
  - a. Develop and maintain a comprehensive project schedule.
  - b. Ensure that all tasks related to rendering, site plans, construction administration, and concept drawings are integrated into the project timeline.
  - c. Regularly update the schedule to reflect progress and any changes.

## **Project Schedule: Anticipated start date October 2023**

<b>Design Development</b>	<b>2 months</b>
<b>Construction Documents</b>	<b>1 month</b>
<b>Plan Review and Permits</b>	<b>1 month</b>
<b>Construction</b>	<b>6- 10 months</b>