

# PHILADELPHIA PARKS & RECREATION

## Bartram's Mile

*Dinner Conversation*

*Civic Engagement Recap*

*November 5, 2012*

### Park Space/Public Health (Maitreyi, Patty, Harris)

- Direct interaction with river
  - Place to literally touch the river
  - Access water via boat
- Softer spaces to walk on (i.e. pebbles)
- Define programs/activities
- **Preserve the tranquility of Bartram's Garden and its river's edge**
  - Don't get too crowded, overwhelmed
  - Ensure that "wear and tear" on historic site is minimal
- Heighten natural experience that exists
  - Retain bird habitat/nature experience
  - Opportunity for wetland education
- **Union of the genteel/serene nature with the gritty industrial surroundings**
  - Historic character of the site: natural and industrial
  - Celebrate industrial heritage—iconic artwork
- Trail as bridge to the north and south of Bartram's Garden
- Ecologically responsible parking
- Make Bartram South site a park landscape on the river's edge
- **Don't make the 100' feet like a standalone—make it feel like a park that is expanded and integrated into the future development of the PIDC site**
- **Create destinations at south and north to bookend Bartram's with unique activities that have its own draw**
- Access for groups of children
  - Schools
  - Churches
  - Local community
- **Public transportation access: loop to the river via 49<sup>th</sup> or 58<sup>th</sup> Street?**
- **Animate space with innovative programs**
- Prep trail to go further north to Woodlands in the future
  - Visual connections
  - Interpretive opportunities
  - Tie through USP property?
- Discourage/eliminate illegal dumping
- **Make neighborhood connections through greening—as important as the trail itself!**
  - Beautiful, inviting links for community
- **Create multiple experiences along the trail**
- Safety
  - Lighting

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- Security
- **Integrate art with the landscape**
  - Though if done well, the trail design itself is the public art
  - Functional art
  - Opportunity for Mural Arts? i.e. paint walls with art that links to the trail
- Fishing

## Public Access/Connectivity (Mark, Jose, Andrew, Chris)

- Importance of cross-river connection: make it iconic, don't settle.
- 100 feet is wide enough for standard trail and "whimsical" ways to experience nature, the river
  - Make it unique and creative
- **Interpret the nexus of industry and botany**
  - Use old structures to tell that story
  - Interpretive signage
  - Healing landscapes: bioremediation, showcase Philadelphia's union of environmental and industrial innovation
  - Research for historic resources on site (i.e. archaeological dig)
  - Industrial "bones" make for interesting accents along the trail
  - Connect to active industry as well, not just former; views of boat, rail, etc.
- Boat access: current dock at Bartram's Garden is problematic (no vehicular parking, can't launch motor boats)
  - Perhaps there is another spot on the Lower Schuylkill for improved access
- **Open/extend/improve existing street connections to park (49<sup>th</sup>, 51<sup>st</sup>, 56<sup>th</sup>, 58<sup>th</sup>)**
  - Crucial neighborhood links
  - Cannot wait for the PIDC development for this to happen
  - Lighting, treatment, security
  - New riverfront road could help access, if built.
- Increase access to nature
  - Migratory bird habitat
- **Building orientation to the park/trail is crucial: how they relate to the river and each other**
  - Not just a setback in a vacuum: make it seamless
  - Could Streets Department site redevelopment set the tone as a model?
    - Reuse of some old buildings for revenue generation purposes
  - Campus feel
  - River Life!
  - Integrate park with the fabric of the neighborhood, future development
  - Don't fence it off; make it porous.
- **Access to the 36 trolley: connects Center City, UCity, West Philly to this new park**
  - Improved station (i.e. sheltered, better lit)
- Preserve historic character of 49<sup>th</sup> Street
- Create a new "river living" community
  - Fill development gaps between here and Woodland Avenue
  - Better connect the park/landscape to neighbors

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- Balance **naturalized/unpaved** experience with only the most necessary of paving
  - Make it as unpaved as possible.
- **Give adjacent communities some identity/stamp in this new park space**
  - Gathering space
  - Crucial in order to have sustained use of the parks
- Connection between Bartram's and Woodlands
  - Heritage tourism opportunity?
- Reduce the perceptual barrier: this trail connects SW Philly to the rest of the Fairmount Park system. Shrinks the city through a relatively small link.
  - Southwest Philadelphia as gateway

# PHILADELPHIA PARKS & RECREATION

## **Bartram's Mile**

*Design Workshop*

*Civic Engagement Recap*

*November 10, 2012*

The workshop was divided into three groups according to the geography along Bartram's Mile: the northern section (Grays Ferry to 52<sup>nd</sup> Street), central section (through Bartram's Garden), and southern section (56<sup>th</sup> Street through 58<sup>th</sup> Street). Each group spent one hour brainstorming and one other coming up with one cohesive vision for their section.

### Northern Section (Harris, Patty)

#### Idea Brainstorm

- Canoe/fishing potential
- Lookout/great views
- Connections to Center City and West Philadelphia
- Connections to students in University City (particularly USciences, which is just two blocks away)
- Balance natural/rural feel with industry (active and historic)
- Connection to Schuylkill River Trail
- Bridge connections across the river
- Importance of the look and feel of the western landing of the Schuylkill Banks "swing bridge" that will take pedestrians and cyclists across the river
- Union of post-industrial land and the natural process of taking over those lands
- Streets Department facility along Botanic Avenue as a destination/nexus ("49<sup>th</sup> Street Terminal")
  - Site comes right up to the river!
- Draw of the water: educational, aesthetic links
- "North Woods" as naturalistic site to be preserved
- Respect the needs and priorities of Southwest Philadelphia residents
- View of the city skyline/access north of Grays Ferry Avenue
- Historic Civil War connections
- Create a new relationship between the river and its neighboring industry
- Stormwater management
- Complete "The Circuit" bike trail
- Relationship between trail as recreation and transportation
- Access to the river
- Industrial archaeology
- Combine the naturalized edge with river access for recreation

### Central Section (Jose, Stephanie)

#### Idea Brainstorm

- Access to Bartram's Garden core vs. protection of the historic resources
- Where should the trail go? Maybe have portions as pedestrian only (i.e. not for bikes)

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- People should have the opportunity to experience the river. Foot path?
- Control the wetlands area. More bike racks to visitors can park their bikes and walk to certain areas.
- Questions
  - How to manage the movement of the “Mile” through Bartram’s Garden?
  - What other activities do we want to see?
  - Where are the potential conflict points?
  - Are there commercial opportunities here?
- Trail activity should be self-contained. Required amenities should be developed and not depend on Bartram’s Garden resources. Each activity should be self-supporting.
- How do we engage new users? What does the trail look like when it meets the Garden? Right now, just meets the parking area...not a very signature entrance.
- What about creating a space near the river where people can sit and enjoy the view?
- Mown path in certain areas of the meadow with interpretation.
- Integrity of the historic house and garden is paramount.
- Using the river
  - Fishing
  - Kayaking
  - Bird watching
  - Educational programs
  - Bike rental station
- Strengthen/promote the Bartram’s Farm (community and professional)
- Keep the spirit of Bartram’s Garden throughout the mile
- Engage educational institutions (college, high school, etc.) with the restoration of the landscape, especially the meadow, forest, wetland, and farm.
- Signage: directional as well as historical.
- 24/7 trail access: significant issue because Bartram’s Garden is not 24/7
  - Maybe two alternate paths?

## Design Concept

- Access to the existing boat and fishing dock
- Three paths through Bartram’s Garden property
  - Pedestrian access through meadow/historic core Gateway
    - Observation area
    - Interpretation area
    - Contemplation area
  - Multi-use trail
  - River’s edge trail/boardwalk
- Signage throughout
- Connections linking all these paths together on site
- Observation areas in the naturalized settings. Maybe boulders for seating.
- Benches along paths
- Alternate access for site after Bartram’s Garden regular hours

# PHILADELPHIA PARKS & RECREATION

- Shown outside of Bartram's Garden property, using a bridge across the freight rail cut.
- Wetland area
  - Boardwalk that takes you through the wetland (educational opportunity here)
  - Manage the vegetation along the 56<sup>th</sup> Street edge for views of the wetland and boardwalk access from the southwest
  - Bike racks
  - River access

## Southern Section (Andrew, John)

### Idea Brainstorm

- The riverfront open space in this section begins with its two potential neighborhood links: 56<sup>th</sup> and 58<sup>th</sup> Streets.
- 56<sup>th</sup> Street: the only existing link, needs to be enhanced.
  - Preserve the amazing view at the river's edge at this corner
  - Create unique community link
- 58<sup>th</sup> Street: link back to 58<sup>th</sup> Street Greenway
  - Doesn't exist on PIDC site, but likely is a paper street.
  - Do we push for at-grade crossing over CSX tracks, or bridge over the tracks? Can you use the existing hill to make an easy connection over?
- Signage, visual cues to attract people to Mile and Garden: views from trolley stops, other neighborhood links
  - Think of the Race Street Connector on the Delaware riverfront
  - Art/focal point to guide people
  - Each perpendicular link has some appealing to draw people in
- Seating, benches
- Boat dock access: kayak, motor, paddle, etc.
- Active entertainment center: put further inland to preserve river's edge
  - Potential to fit with the change in topography at 58<sup>th</sup> Street?
- Fitness trail: free exercise opportunities for kids and adults
- Non-traditional play equipment: rocks to climb on
- Create a varied landscape: not just 100 foot width, different widths and conditions to make it interesting
- Since this is the flattest portion of the Mile, put recreation space here
- Public safety, lighting, etc.
- Design for all ages, abilities, walks of life
- Fishing
- Create a transit link: trolley, Regional Rail
- Incorporate art and poetry into the design: High-Line-esque use of different levels, views, planters, etc.
- Interpretive signage: educational, historical
  - For example: show the former Bartram's Garden site boundary and how big it used to be?

# PHILADELPHIA **PARKS & RECREATION**

- Recreator vs. commuter entrance to Bartram's Garden along the trail: using existing service road vs. a boardwalk across the PHL wetland
- Esplanade that leaves river open with more natural interpretation at 58<sup>th</sup> Street

## Design Concept

- "Expansion landscapes" (i.e. beyond 100 feet) along 56<sup>th</sup> and 58<sup>th</sup> Streets: create grand entrances
- 56<sup>th</sup> Street
  - Parallel parking for boaters
  - Meadow, multi-purpose field, and day-lit creek to the south
  - Signature art installation and plaza at the river
  - Boat launch (location still TBD)
  - Visual links with Bartram's (i.e. less dense forestation along 56<sup>th</sup> Street edge)
  - Celebrated pedestrian entrance
- 58<sup>th</sup> Street
  - "pumped up" 58<sup>th</sup> Street Greenway (i.e. grade separated bike path)
  - Nature-themed play equipment
  - Rocks on the river
  - Naturalized edge where bulkhead goes away
  - Performance stage/entertainment center?
  - Access to PIDC development site on 58<sup>th</sup> Street
- Riverfront Trail
  - Separate paths for bikes and peds
  - Boardwalk across PHL wetland *and* service road
  - Boardwalk/esplanade condition
  - Café/concessions/paid recreation activities on PIDC side of the development that is well integrated with the riverfront public space
  - Sloped seating/river wall at 56<sup>th</sup> Street using existing slope to get people close to the river

## BARTRAM'S MILE PUBLIC INPUT: PARK DESIGN AND PROGRAMMING

All feedback except for 11/5 and 11/10 meetings

NUMBER	IDEA	YOUTH	NEARBY
<i>I. OVERALL THEMES</i>			
25	safety, security: lighting, patrol, blue light phones, trash cleanup, etc.	X	X
12	more wild spaces/no paved areas/wooded		X
17	Preserve the serenity one finds at Bartram's		
3	SIMULTANEOUSLY open up Bartram's Garden: right now neighbors assume it's members-only, paid better promote in Southwest Philly: flyer, don't rely on BG members only		X
10	improve wheelchair accessibility of Bartram's Garden!		
10	need improved entrance, links from all transportation modes (highway, trolley, streets, etc.)		
8	Reuse of Botanic Avenue buildings		
15	great views of the river someone suggested a lighthouse		X
2	different "experiences/conditions" along the river		
12	touch the river, put my feet in the water	X	X
5	more events to get the neighborhood out, i.e. concerts, charity walks, etc.	X	X
1	"Park Co-Op" concept: people buy in, investment in the park, rent supplies for free		X
1	cultural heritage tourism with Woodlands		
1	way to highlight cultural diversity of the neighborhood		X
<i>II. ACTIVITIES/ACTIVE SPACES</i>			
22	café/concessions	X	X
23	play equipment for kids "universally designed" i.e. for children of different physical and learning abilities different areas for different age groups "things to climb on" doesn't have to be traditional: could be nature related (big rocks), food related by the farm, etc. sand box (kids in SW Philly don't get to the beach, so we need to bring the beach to them!)	X	X X X X
16	preserve fishing opportunities -- used "informally" as such now		X
13	public stage/entertainment venue (i.e. Robin Hood Dell) concerts, circus/carnival, parties, movie nights	X	X
24	boat access/races/rentals get people in the water...it's amazing to see the river by boat	X	X
6	Animal watching/petting zoo better showcase Bartram's Garden as "wildlife habitat" of sorts	X	X
11	recreation center-like facilities indoor gym, basketball, boxing, etc.	X	X

9 adult "jungle gym" playground/exercise trail		
8 paid recreation: laser tag, bowling alley, arcade, gift shop, amusement park/carnival games, batting cage, mini golf, etc. this brings ENTREPRENEURIAL opportunities for the local community: foster small business enterprises paintball course using abandoned structures	x	x
3 "park games" rental: volleyball nets, bocce balls, chess pieces, etc.		x
4 table games: chess, checkers, mancala		x
1 skating: ice or roller	x	x
3 swimming hole (protected, cleaned, but in the river)	x	x
5 paddleboats	x	x
1 rock climbing wall: could be real or fabricated, as long as it's supervised		x
3 mountain biking trails		
5 throw more parties (i.e. DesignPhiladelphia Data Garden)	x	
3 high-capacity bike parking/future bike share station/bike rental a full-service bike shop was also mentioned: rentals, repairs, etc.	x	x
1 camping/camp grounds		
1 need activities so people don't have to leave the city to get them, keep business local (i.e. mini golf, putting green)		x
5 island or boardwalk into the river so we can "walk" on the Schuylkill	x	x
5 water feature/splash park		
2 dog park		
1 sledding		
1 geocaching		
1 merry go round	x	
1 drag race course		x
2 skate park	x	x
2 kite flying		x

*III. DESIGN*

18 BBQ/picnic/gathering space	x	x
12 versatile public space for programming		
15 nature we can physically touch/ways to experience nature flowers water trees fishes birds insects make it a small nature center?	x	x
18 physically separated path for fast/slow bike/ped traffic	x	x
14 big open grass space for multitude of activities outdoor sports: tennis, dodgeball, kickball, soccer, football	x	x

16 hiking trails -- more "adventurous" than just formal bike trail		
15 passive space for reading, lounging	X	X
21 places to sit	X	X
4 trail should be a standalone loop before Schuylkill Banks gets here. clearly marked with distance markers, soft blacktop		
5 permanent Farmers Market shed/strong connection to farm/prepared food sales opportunities	X	X
4 public art		
5 tented/covered/shaded		X
8 use old piers for migrating birds use plants that will specifically attract these species create signage that draws attention to this nature bird baths was also suggested	X	
6 hard surface, lighted courts for play space at night (basketball, bocce, volleyball, etc)	X	X
3 designed and planted in the same vein as Bartram's Garden		
4 fountain: pretty, place for feeding ducks	X	X
1 park that responds to the tide		
1 boom in the river to prevent all the junk from collecting on the river's edge		
5 re-open the boardwalk along the Bartram's Garden river's edge that used to be there!		
1 manicured, more recreational than industrial (i.e. more like Schuylkill River Park than Washington Avenue Green)		
3 community garden plots near major street access points	X	X
1 cherry blossom trees along the river		X

#### IV. CONNECTIONS

6 water-borne transit--more accessible way to get there besides car		
2 direct pedestrian link from Bartram Village to river's edge bring back the pedestrian bridge from BV to Bartram's Garden!		X
12 Connections to Woodlands Cemetery		
14 Connections to West Philly, Clark Park, USciences		
12 Alternate river crossings besides 50-ft high swing bridge		
5 Connection to 58th Street Greenway		
2 open up 49th Street!	X	X
1 Improved transit connection--maybe covered station at 56th Street?		
2 direct off-road access from Bartram's Garden to the Wissahickon		

#### V. SMALLER/TEMPORAL ELEMENTS

13 water fountains		
13 signage: historic, interpretive, wayfinding, exploratory can show people what to see and do along the river (i.e. scavenger hunt)--make it interactive idea of "living history," which this area has a lot of: showcase it		
14 bathrooms		

- 1 community message board
- 3 wheelchair rentals for people who want to see the "mile" but can't walk that far  
golf carts could also serve this purpose
- 1 jogging tread
- 1 information kiosk
- 1 turbines or solar panels to power whatever is on site
- 1 Cider theme--organize Cider Fest, work with local distilleries
- 2 Big Belly trash cans, and plenty of them!  
related: trash cans specifically for the fishing folks (can create lots of mess)
- 7 more educational opportunities about history and horticulture of the Garden  
example: educational building like Schuylkill Center in Roxborough

# PHILADELPHIA **PARKS & RECREATION**

## **Bartram's Mile**

*More Detailed Public Feedback*

PAGE 1: Catherine Bonier

My thinking is that the key to Bartram's Mile is creating parallel currents that draw in the neighbors and also folks from the wider region. Also, the infrastructure should be set to support the next 50 years of riverfront reclamation and offer a dramatic anchor that keeps the area from being (re) dominated by industry.

1. 56th st - Bartram's Landing - bike and kayak rental. Ecological info center that keeps folks apprised of remediation data. Perhaps build space for cooking school/ cafe that features local produce and farmer's market. This is part of an after school program at 51st (see more below).

2. 51 st - Bartam's Workshops - keep the brick building fronting botanical and the south side industrial warehouse. Strip the north asbestos building down to steel or level it. Wall off the compound in a bemuraled brick wall. Set up an arts, crafts, shop program. Fund a council of arts fellows annually - metal, wood, fabric, paint, sculpture (theater, dance and yoga?). Fellowships give stipends to local artists to work at the Workshop 2-6 daily teaching arts to local primary and secondary students. (The Workshop is an after school program that gives priority to Bartram students) I envision younger students and soft arts in the Botanic building, older students dance, theater, woodshop metal etc in the 51 St shop. the Bartram's Workshops would allow artists to teach classes for adults and use studios for their own work in the non-after school hours.

3. 51st Bartram's Arts+Gifts - an anchor retail that sells work by the kids and local artists. (Like Emily Dorn's Vix shop at 50 and Baltimore but with student work and staffed by students.)

4. 49st Bartram's Gallery + Performance Center - turn the framework of the north Building into an indoor/outdoor gallery and performance center. Build some new minimal enclosure for bike security officer HQ, first aid, cafe outpost. The cafe sells goods from 56st Landing which hosts an after school culinary program much like the Workshops. OR the culinary center is also in the large 51st building and the 56st Landing is just for physical rec.

5. The bridge at Wharton - I love old steel and reclamation more than anyone, but I also bet it will be much cheaper and easier to build a new lighter bike and foot bridge perhaps a little south of Wharton to link to the Workshops.

# PHILADELPHIA PARKS & RECREATION

PAGE2: Chariss McAfee

*NOTE: McAfee's firm was the lead on the Community Design Collaborative Infill Philadelphia grant on the National Heat and Power site that helped shed light on the recreation potential of the site beyond just beyond the landing for the bridge ramp.*

We did quite a bit of work on the National Heat & Power site and on bridge connection considerations from the Dupont Crescent. The existing topography, although not 'original,' offers quite an interesting starting point and easily lends itself to layering recreational uses along the river and another use more inland. Connection from the existing Gray's Ferry Bridge is also an alternative, as that bridge should also be considered when discussing the site access options. We did feel strongly that river access, both visual and physical, was imperative -- having a lower, closer-to-the-water ped/bike bridge, trail access to the existing/renovated dock sites, 'beach' access for small boat access nearer to the City-owned property (adjacent to National Heat & Power and on the river) as the bank height is a bit high near the swing bridge abutment. The river could be quite beautiful here, both from land and from the water. We spent some time in kayaks and yes, the tide is very noticeable.

The CSX property, the City-owned river-front property, the City-owned parcel on 51st and Gray's Avenue, the large parcel currently used for recycling (?), and the small, privately owned parcel on to the west of the CSX tracks @ 49th and Gray's Ave all come under a larger look at the area. The fact that 49th Street is blocked (I think this is a City/CSX deal that somehow allowed that ???) to remove the on-grade crossing should be addressed. (51st Street has a RR overpass.) We spoke to Jon Edelstein (I'm fairly sure and would have to go back to my notes) in Commerce/Manager of Brownfield Redevelopment who knew a bit about it.

The CSX property – the land that runs along the tracks and under the Gray's Ferry Bridge – would be helpful to be able to include in any discussion of the future use and development of the Heat & Power Site – and any possible vertical connection to the Gray's Ferry Bridge. That said, the CSX parcel would not necessarily need to be part of the discussion of the recreational use along the river, if the bike/ped bridge crossed at its existing height and landed where it currently lands.

What I would really like to see it the discussion of the possibilities of the crossing (and I think it is possible) at a local, very Philadelphia level and at a level where it can be placed securely with other projects of sensitivity and elegance. This is to say that we should make good decisions here, that we should look to making something worth the effort, something about the water, something about the crossing the water and being along the river.

Last item here: I am not sure where the thread of talk went about other possible crossing locations. I know that there are other routes for bike paths and have talked to Sarah Stuart about this many times, so there is the distinction about the River Trail and the city/streets. There is also the option for a river crossing further up-river – between Penn and somewhere around Locust Street – and the South Street Bridge ... but the west bank of the river below the 34th Bridge and below the Rehab Facility (which, by the way, is in a lovely river-front location!!! and looks like a future eco hotel possibility) gets very tight to the CSX bulkhead. Hmmm.

# PHILADELPHIA **PARKS & RECREATION**

PAGE3: CHERYL PADGETT

Autistic Support Teacher

Tilden Middle School

67<sup>th</sup> and Elmwood

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215-492-6454 EXT 1090 or 1100

Safe places

Off-road trails for biking and jogging

Bike rentals

Picturesque

Cultural diversity: gathering space that's open to all

Option for physical fitness: make it safe and attractive

Pre-fabricated rock climbing wall (would have to be supervised)—small scale, like a carnival game

For kids and adults?

Paddle boats

Picnic tables

Big belly trash cans: plenty of them

Playground area: universally designed for children with multiple activity levels, disability levels

Volleyball net, Bocce balls, etc – rent them out to people for the day?

“Park co-op” – have people buy in

Unique UCD parklet ideas, i.e. using logs for the planters

Non-traditional play equipment, i.e. rocks to sit on

Chess tables for seniors

Mancala table

Have to make it free and open: people think Bartram's Garden as a members-only, education-only

Animal watching

Different events, activities, festivals—have some and flyer in the neighborhood

Promote it well...flyer the neighborhood, USciences

i.e. read about the Interpretive Center in my water bill

wheelchair rentals for seniors (many of them can get on and off trolley but don't like to walk long distances, still would want to see the river)

mini golf

batting cage

enough with the traditional...let's get something new!

# PHILADELPHIA **PARKS & RECREATION**

PAGE4: YOUTH FROM BARTRAM FARM (18-person focus group)

Rec-center like facilities: indoor sports more like Kingsessing and Myers Rec

- Basketball courts; Boxing; Indoor gym

Outdoor sports

- Tennis; Dodgeball; kickball; Soccer; football

Ice or roller skating rink

Walkway: make it pretty!

- Flowers
- Benches
- Running trail
- Safe
- Well lit
- Blue-light phones for emergencies

Build bridge over 49<sup>th</sup> Street tracks (like what they did at Locust Street)

River as entertainment: bring attractions to draw people to the river

- Circus/carnival
- Parties
- Concerts
- Movie nights

Safe bike access/off-road

Bigger boat dock

Paid activities for entrepreneurs/upkeep money

- Paddleboats
- Laser tag
- Bowling alley
- Amusement park/carnival games
- Arcade
- Bike rentals
- Gift shop
- Café/places to eat

Fountain: nice, planted, place for feeding ducks

Swimming hole in the Schuylkill (protected, cleaned)

Exercise trail (i.e. chin-up bars along the trail)

Large gathering space: BBQs, summer events, live shows

Lighthouse/something to showcase views of the river

Skate park

Animal showcase/petting zoo

Golf carts for easier accessibility

Ways to showcase/strengthen the Farm

- Permanent farmers market shed (i.e. Headhouse Square)
- Concession stand where you could buy prepared foods that came from the farm

# PHILADELPHIA **PARKS & RECREATION**

PAGE5: ADMIN SGT JOE McBRIDE, 12<sup>th</sup> POLICE DISTRICT (attended Design Workshop but did not participate in a group)

- There needs to be more education about the dangers of swimming if the river becomes more accessible.
- Because 49th Street was a dumping site, people are pre-conditioned to put their bulk trash there.
- When he patrolled 49th street he would leave for a break and come back to find a burned out car or couch, etc. Can't fine people because they have no money.
- There needs to be lighting that promotes security. He questioned the idea of fences.
- We talked a little about whether a ReStore type facility would prevent dumping. He thinks that the restore concept is for wealthy people, but there are other examples in the city that prove otherwise: <http://planphilly.com/something-old-begets-something-new-habitat-humanity-store-aims-recycle-items-raise-money-homes>.
- Most of the crime that happens in the area along the river is “victimless,” i.e. dumping, “smoking dope.”
- There is a dump that people could use at 62nd street?
- He seemed to be in total agreement that more people would bring more safety.
- On a side note, we did talk about Bryant Park and how security can be different with private management.

# PHILADELPHIA **PARKS & RECREATION**

PAGE6: Shawn S. Megill Legendre (participant in the “Central” design workshop group)

I had a couple follow-up thoughts on Bartram’s Mile that I wanted to send your way for consideration by those analyzing the results of the public meetings. In Saturday’s charette I participated in the “central” (Bartram’s Garden) group. In that group, the idea of a secondary after-hours route for the trail was discussed. This after-hours route would pick-up at the end of the constructed trail on the north part of Bartram’s Garden and take the trail over the bridge that serves as the entrance to the historic core of the Bartram’s site. The trail would then proceed south somewhere west of the railroad tracks and trench that separate Bartram’s Garden from Bartram’s Village. It then would connect back to the trail proper at 56th Street.

After walking the site following the charette, I no longer believe such an after-hours route is necessary and implementation of such a route could detract from the overall trail experience. It would seem that Bartram Drive (the service road on the east side of the railroad tracks) with its fencing between the road and the historic core of Bartram’s garden would pose no more risk to the site than is already inherent in having the trail approach the site. There are obviously multiple considerations that Parks and Recreation will have to weigh, but it does not seem necessary to spread relatively sparse resources even more thinly by planning for and constructing two cycling trail alignments along this section of Bartram’s Mile.

One additional consideration that our group did not specifically discuss was how a cycling trail would interface with the community agriculture activities occurring on the site. Currently, the community garden has compost bins and other infrastructure immediately adjacent to Bartram’s Drive. This makes a great deal of sense at this point when the road is effectively a controlled, dead end service road. However, through bicycle traffic could give rise to conflicts. This seems easily surmountable by reorienting some of the agricultural infrastructure away from Bartram’s Drive, but will require some important forethought to avoid unnecessary conflicts between users.

Overall, I think this section of Bartram’s Mile is impressive in its ability to support multiple user groups engaged in a variety of activities. I really appreciate the opportunity to contribute my thoughts and knowledge to the process.