




EMPIRE SK8


an alternative brownfield revitalization strategy

Crystal Surdyk
Trevor Staples
Christian Mercurio

the **flow** for today:

 **radical** redevelopment

 why **skateparks**?

 brownfield **success** story
jamestown, ny

 **transforming** lives



some sites just.....suck.



contamination
soils
geotechnical
traffic
zoning
access
location
perception
vibe
no interest

something's got to give.

Median Household Income:
\$28,117 (<40% of U.S. avg.)

Median Home Value: **\$90,909**
(22% of U.S. avg.)

Households in Poverty: **128**
(120% of U.S. avg.)

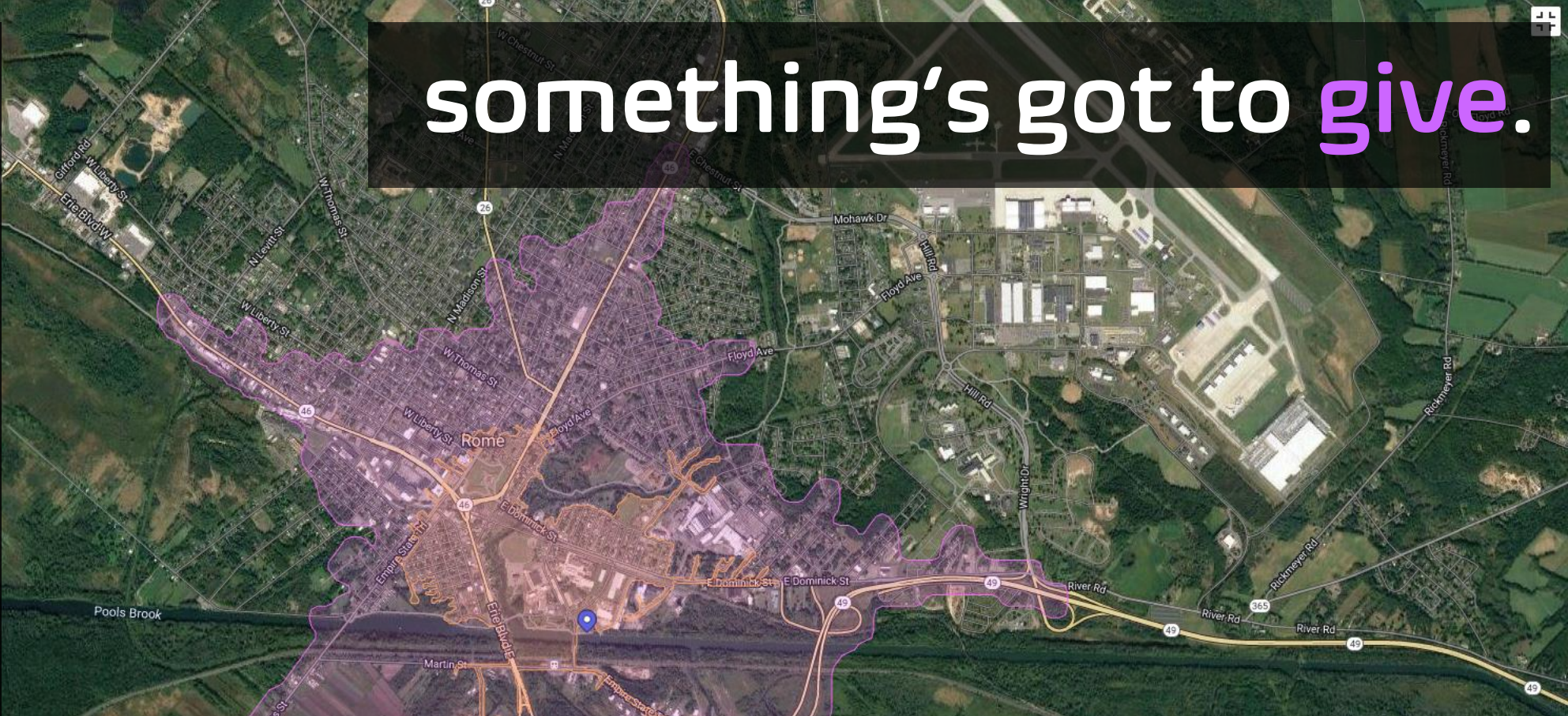
165 households with **NO VEHICLES**
(237% of the national average)

217 Households

604 children under 21

50% with severe cost burden

Poverty Rate: **21 - 40%**



**PROTECT VULNERABLE POPULATIONS
LIVING NEAR BROWNFIELDS**

Plan brownfield cleanup and redevelopment projects to improve the quality of life for children, elderly, impoverished, people of color, immunocompromised and others in the community.

5-15.2%
Increase in
Residential
Property Values

Comparison <

- Drive Time 5 min
- Walk Time 30 min

Map Hybrid



pretty
cool.





THE SKATEPARK PROJECT™

ABOUT THE SKATEPARK PROJECT

Founded by skateboard legend Tony Hawk in 2002, The Skatepark Project (TSP) is a non-profit organization working to increase access to outdoor recreation and free play through the creation of safe and inclusive public skateparks.

Our team provides the resources, advocacy skills, and funding to help guide skaters in creating their own community-focused parks - from conception to construction.



WHO WE ARE

More than skateparks, we build community!



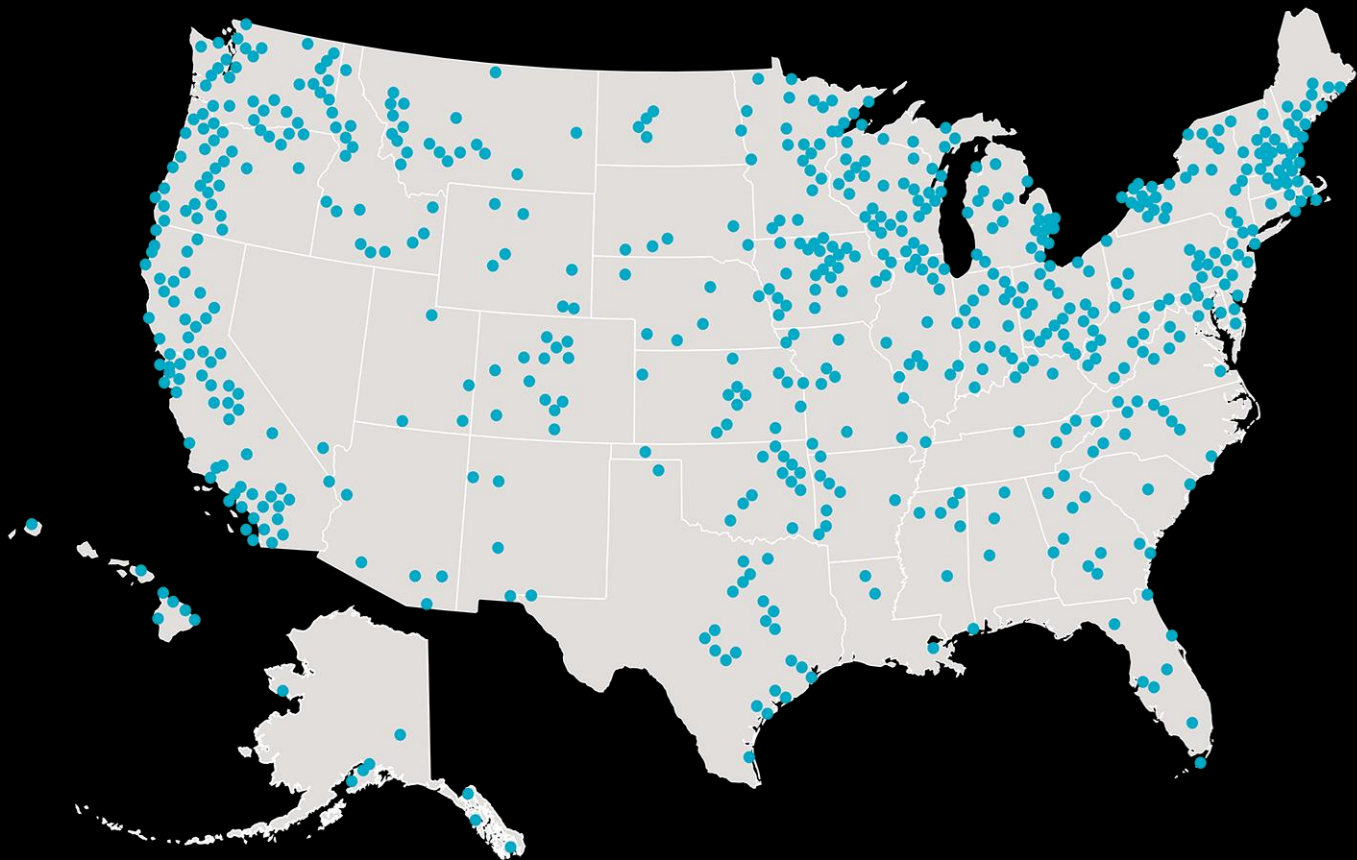
The Skatepark Project is a trusted resource for **guidance, financial support, and information** essential for building technically sound skateparks that serve the unique needs of each community.

We prioritize the input of youth advocates, skatepark users, and community members.

TSP helps communities build **safe, equitable, and accessible skateparks** for people from all backgrounds to gather, form friendships, and participate in healthy outdoor recreation.

IMPACT STATISTICS

- TSP has funded nearly 700 parks across the country
- The Skatepark Project has granted over \$10 million dollars in all 50 states
- Over 8-million people per year use parks funded by The Skatepark Project



WHY SKATEPARKS



Skateboarding is the third most commonly reported interest for high school students (24% of girls, and 17% of boys).

Source: Aspen Institute National Student Survey Analysis 2021

59 Million Americans lack access to a safe skate space on the county level.

There are **8.8 million skateboarders in the US.** A **34% increase** from 2019.

Source: Sports and Fitness Association Single Sport Report on Skateboarding

TSP has seen a **700% increase in project support requests from advocates and municipalities** since the inclusion of skateboarding and BMX in the 2021 Olympics.

SKATEBOARDING & MENTAL HEALTH

Skateboarding improves mental health, fosters community, encourages diversity, and builds resilience.

*Source: University of California "Beyond the Board" Study 2020
Supported by TSP*

76% of youth surveyed said they skateboard to have fun and **62% skateboard to relieve stress.**

45% of youth living in urban settings participated in sports to **improve their mental and emotional well-being.**

Source: Aspen Institute National Student Survey Analysis 2021



TSP PROGRAMS

- Regionally Focused Skatepark Grants
- Fellowship Program
- Native & Indigenous Skatepark Program
- Supply The Ride
- Environmental Impact



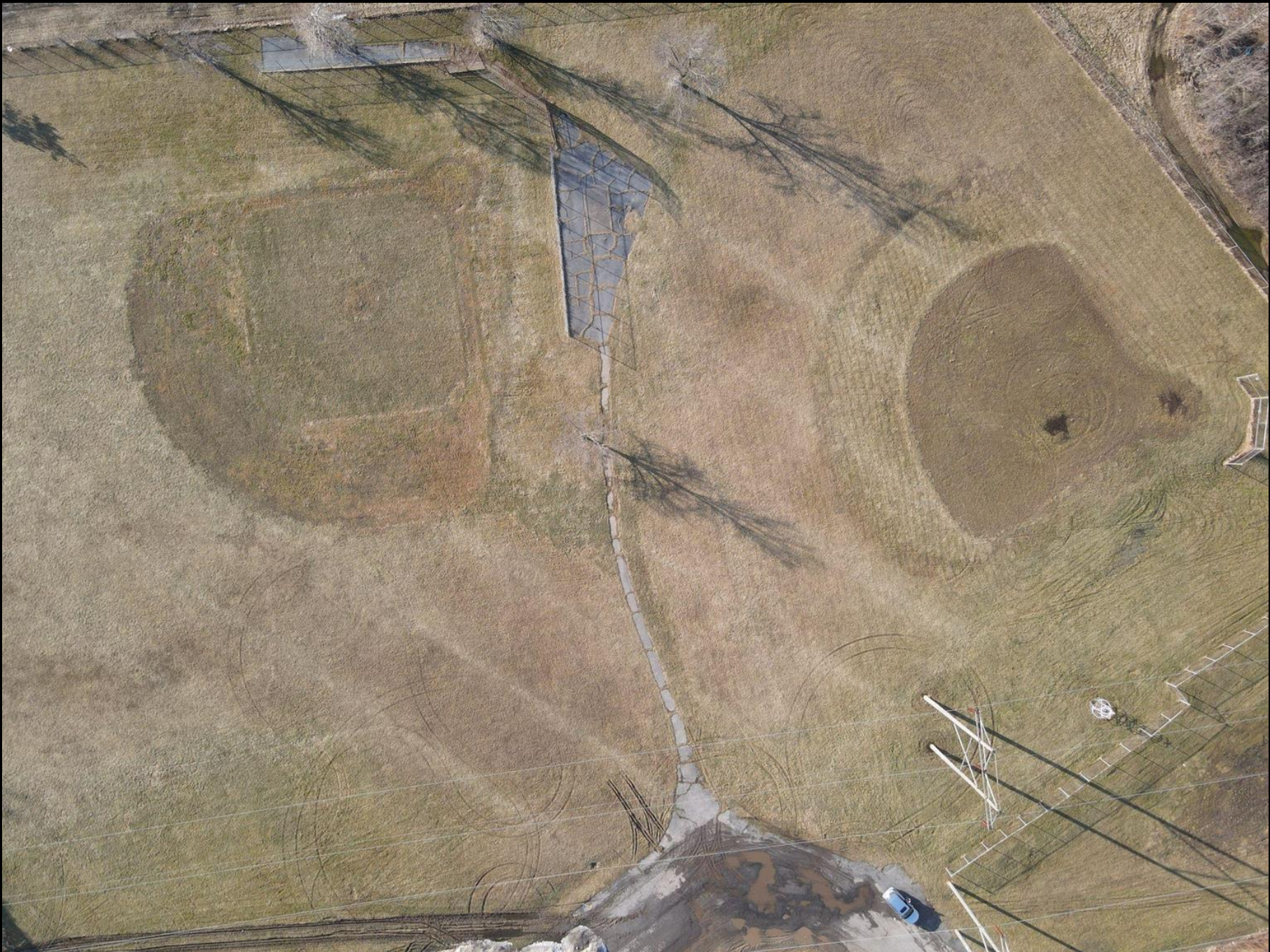












Hamburg Skatepark







THE ANN ARBOR SKATE PARK IS GREEN AND GROWING WITH STORM N. RAIN WATER!

THE LONGER I HANG AROUND AT THE ANN ARBOR SKATE PARK THE BETTER! THESE BIOSWALES, RAINGARDENS, SPILLOVERS AND RETENTION AREAS RESULT IN REDUCED, MANAGEABLE VOLUMES OF CLEANER, FILTERED WATER ENTERING GROUNDWATER SYSTEMS...



--LIKE THE UNDERGROUND TRIBUTARY TO ALLEN CREEK THAT RUNS BELOW THE SKATE PARK--TO THE HURON RIVER AND BEYOND!

YOU WON'T SEE THOSE POLLUTANTS HERE: THEY'VE BEEN TAKEN UP INTO THESE PLANTS!



Pro Tip!
NATURAL STORM & RAINWATER RETENTION AND FILTERING PROCESSES ARE USEFUL ANYWHERE-- THAT'S A LOT OF RUNOFF-- THAT'S ANY OF BUSINESS / YOUR OWN RAINGARDEN AND WATER FROM YOUR RAIN BARRELS WILL HELP YOU GROW FLOWERS, GRASSES AND OTHER NATIVE PLANTS THAT WILL BE LOVED BY BEES, BUTTERFLIES, AND YOUR NEIGHBORS!







Thanks to you our generous donors, without whom this project would not be possible.

- Ralph C. Wilson, Jr. Foundation
- The Skatepark Project
- Michigan DNR Land & Water Conservation
- Community Foundation of St. Clair County
- The Skibbins Family Fund of the Community Foundation of Southwest Michigan
- St. Clair County Parks & Recreation
- Advia Credit Union
- Eastern Michigan Bank
- ITC Holdings, Corp.
- Optimist Club of Port Huron
- Multiple Private Donors
- Skatepark Advisory Committee Fundraisers

Welcome to Optimist Skatepark

Plants of the Bioswale

The Optimist Skatepark was designed to maximize skating and riding sports challenges for people of all ages and skill level. In addition, the skatepark's unique environmental design utilizes bioswale to tunnel stormwater runoff.

This bioswale not only captures and filtrates the runoff naturally, but creates habitat for wildlife, including birds and butterflies.



Formerly known as the William "Bill" Robinson Skate Park
In recognition of 32 years of service to the City of Port Huron





ROC CITY SKATE PARK

NATIVE PLANTS

The design for the skate park includes 11 plant types, all of which are native to the Northeastern United States.

City of Rochester, NY
Lewy A. Warren, Mayor
Rochester City Council

BENEFITS OF NATIVE PLANTS

- A. Provide Wildlife Habitat
- B. Offer Shade
- C. Reduce The Heat Island Effect
- D. Improve Air Quality
- E. Absorb Carbon Dioxide

Native plants are indigenous species that have evolved and occur naturally in a particular region, ecosystem, and habitat. Species native to North America are generally recognized as those occurring on the continent prior to European settlement.



FUN FACT:

Native plants are adapted to the local climate and soil conditions where they naturally occur.

The Roc City Skate Park is a custom concrete, wheel friendly public recreation facility. Concrete is a key component of skate park construction, and a major carbon producer. With funding from The Skatepark Project, the City of Rochester has implemented some key strategies to offset the environmental impacts of concrete use.

ROC THE RIVERWAY



THE SKATEPARK PROJECT™

www.skatepark.org

TOOLS FOR SUCCESS

A Brownfield Success Story in Jamestown




crystal surdyk

BOA, LWRP, and DRI... oh my!

2016 Downtown Jamestown Revitalization Initiative Plan
WNY REGIONAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL
Submitted on behalf of the
City of Jamestown by


Samuel Teresi
Mayor




Gregory P. Rabb
City Council President

plan. prepare. deliver.


June 1, 2016




NATIONAL COMEDY CENTER
WNY REDC Priority Development Project. Develop a construction fund for the final remaining amount necessary to complete construction of NCC campus.




NEW MARKET RATE APARTMENTS
Conversion of historic Hotel Jamestown, unrented, vacant upper four office space to mixed use market rate apartments.




WAYFINDING & TRAFFIC REDESIGN
Downtown has poor wayfinding and connectivity between destinations, making it difficult for visitors to increase length of stay. ACCOM 2015




WATERFRONT ACTIVATION
Design and create an LED illumination program for the Greater Jamestown Riverwalk and the Jamestown BPU Campus




Support Tourism and the Arts




Prepare Workforce for 21st Century Economy



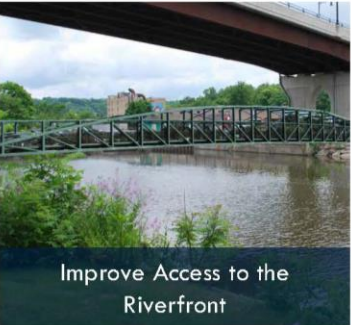
Build Connections to Regional Hubs




Promote Smart Growth



Enhance Quality of Built Environment



Improve Access to the Riverfront



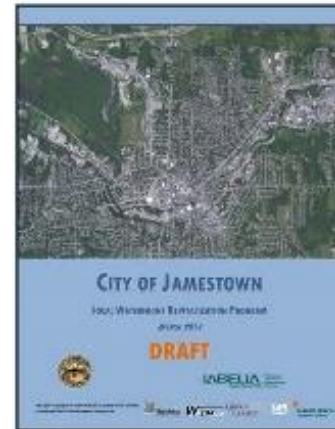
Foster a Culture of Entrepreneurship

HOW IT STARTED



2013-2014

*Chadakoin River West
Pre-Nomination Study
&
Chadakoin River Central-Eastern
Nomination Study*



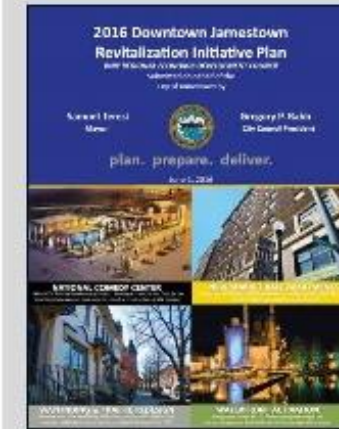
2014

*Local Waterfront
Revitalization Program*



2015

*Downtown Jamestown
Economic Development Strategy*

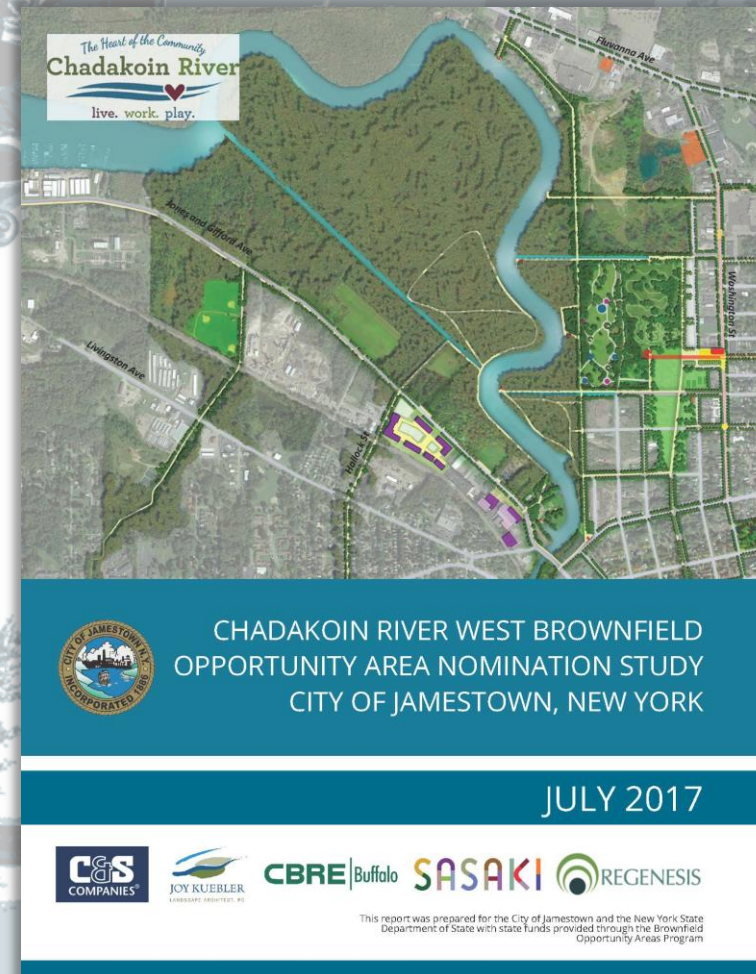
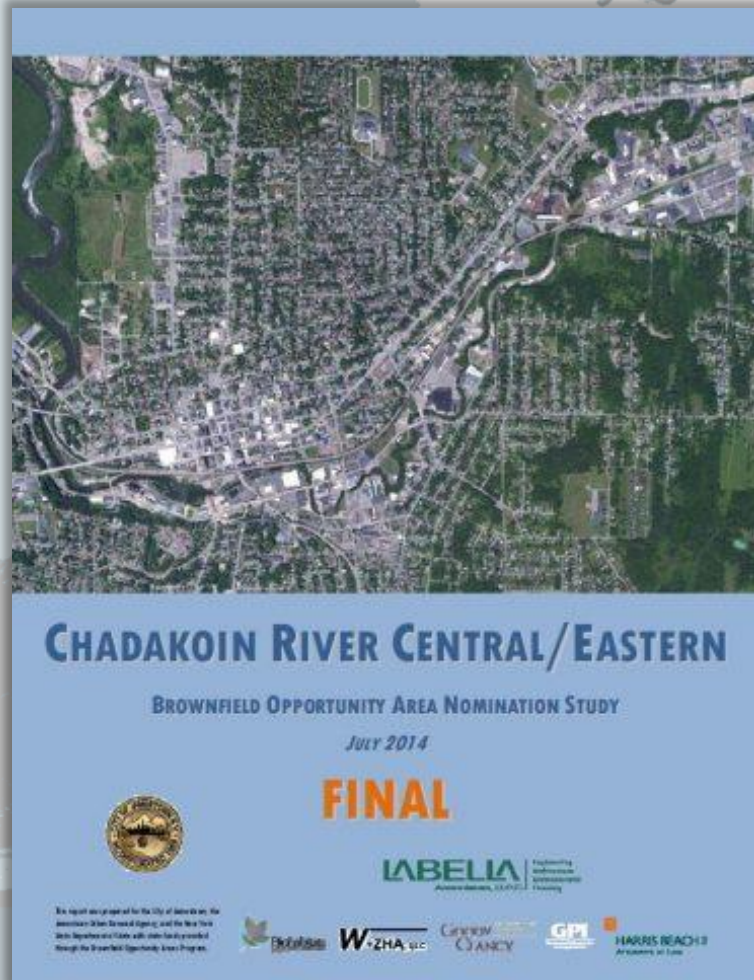


2016

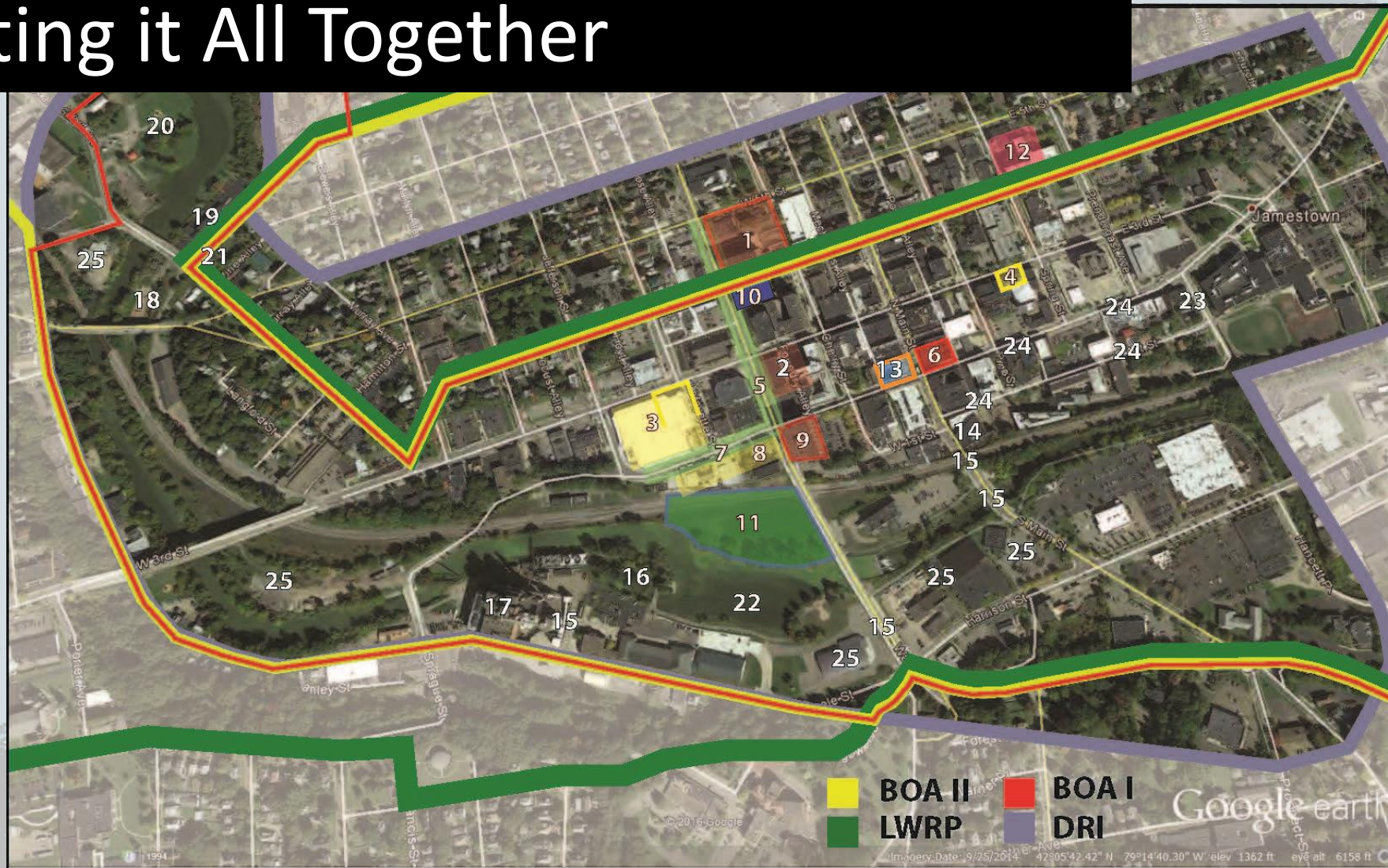
DRI Application

Years of planning studies lay the ground work for public and private investment...

BOA- Comprehensive Planning for “Re”Generations to Come



Putting it All Together



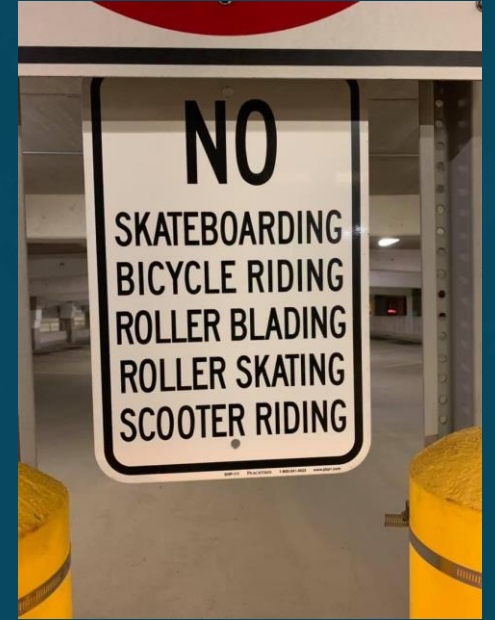
CITY OF JAMESTOWN Downtown & Waterfront Development Projects

- | | | |
|---------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|---|
| 1 DoubleTree Hotel | 12 Robert H. Jackson Center | 23 JPS Capital Improvements Project |
| 2 Jamestown Brewing Co. | 13 Marine Midland Bank | 24 Pearl City Arts District |
| 3 Northwest Arena & Expansion Project | 14 Arcade Building Redevelopment | 25 Priority Waterfront Development Site |
| 4 Reg Lenna Center for the Arts | 15 Riverwalk Lighting Project | |
| 5 Washington Street Corridor | 16 Panzarella Park | |
| 6 Key Bank Redevelopment | 17 Board of Public Utilities | |
| 7 Jamestown Piazza | 18 Riverwalk Community Skate Park | |
| 8 National Comedy Center | 19 Edgewater Art House | |
| 9 Furniture Mart Building | 20 McCrea Point Park | |
| 10 Vikings Temple Lodge Redevelopment | 21 Prendergast Landing | |
| 11 Comedy Center Park | 22 Chadakoin River Basin | |

The Genesis of the JTNY Power House Skate Park



JAMESTOWN
SKATE
PRODUCTS



\$1M Skate Park

- The Skate Park Project with Ralph C. Wilson Jr Foundation: Built to Play grant - \$250k
- CDBG - \$150k
- Urban Development Action Grant administered by the Jamestown Local Development Corporation (JLDC) - \$420k
- Chautauqua Region Community Foundation- \$10k
- Sk8JTNY - \$35k and counting
- Ralph C Wilson Jr Foundation - \$67k
- USEPA Assessment Grant- \$50,750
- \$982,750+ in-kind site work



Trevor Staples is in Jamestown, New York.

Jul 27 · Jamestown · 🌐

Hi #southerntier.

Stopped by #JamestownNY to help them announce their BIG news that the @sk8_jtny skatepark will be BIG! @jamestownparks has secured funding to complete all phases of the skatepark this year, rather than just the first!

... See more



Sk8JTNY

Dec 31, 2019 · 🌐

Happy New Year!!!



The Post-Journal

Dec 31, 2019 · 🌐

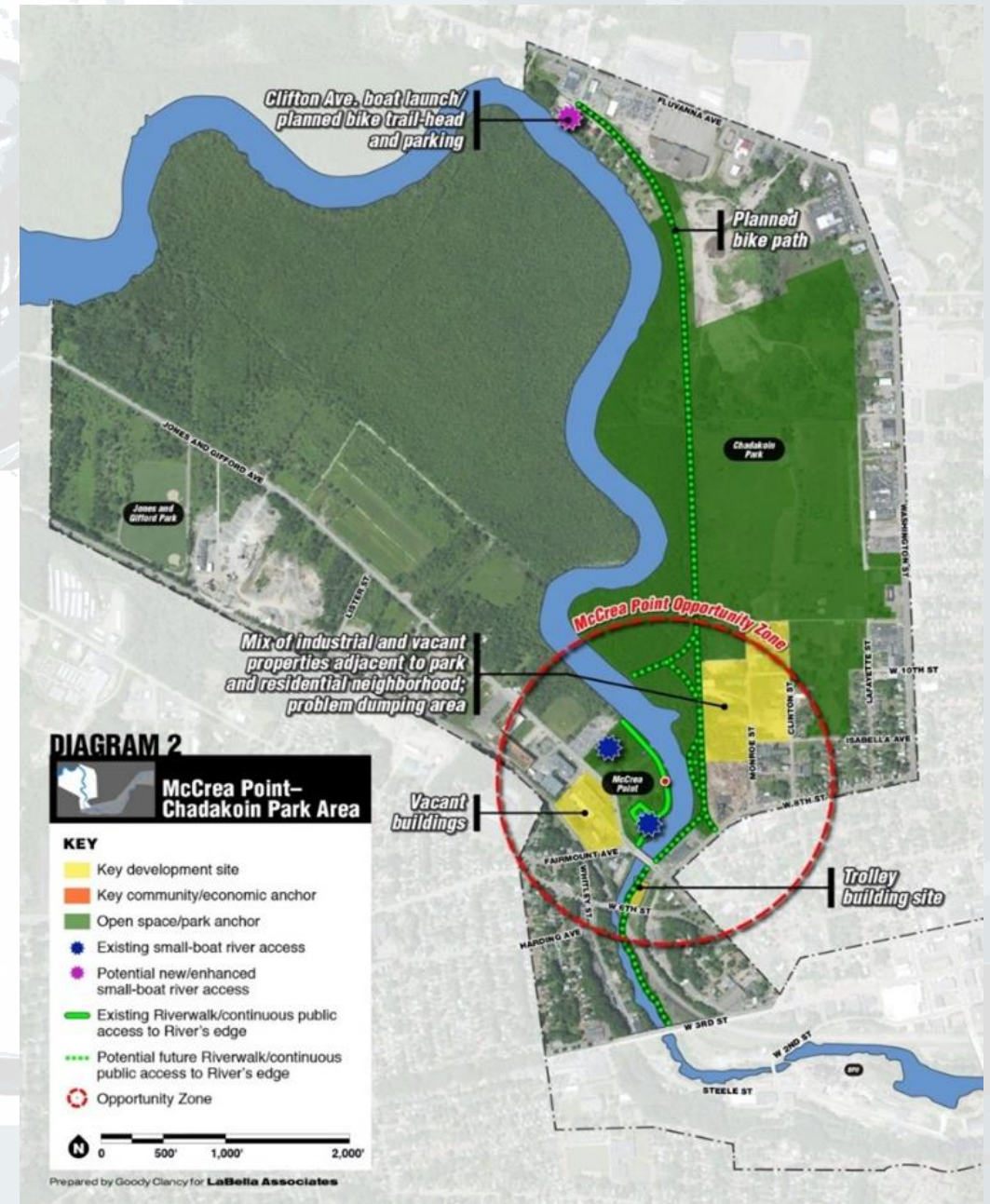
A new Jamestown skate park has found its funding. Click the link to read more.



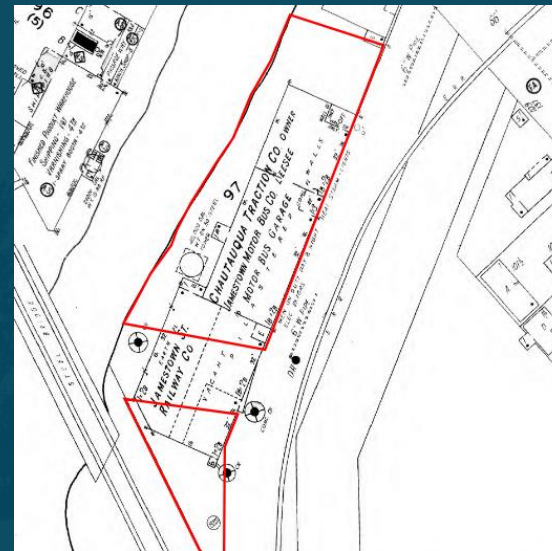
POST-JOURNAL.COM

City Council Approves Funding For Skate Park | News, Sports, Jobs - Post Journal

The Site

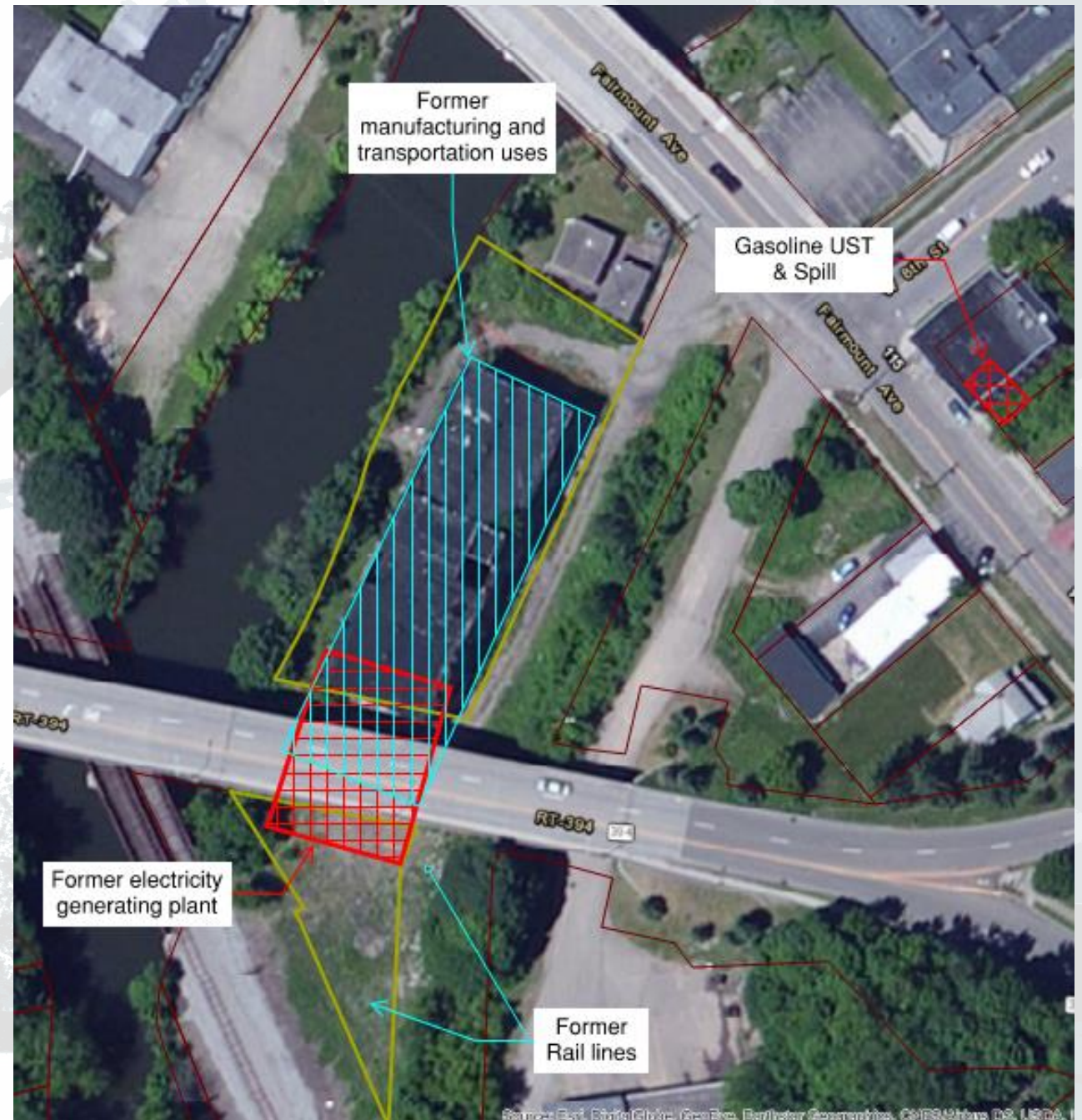


117 Fairmount Avenue – Where Our Story Begins

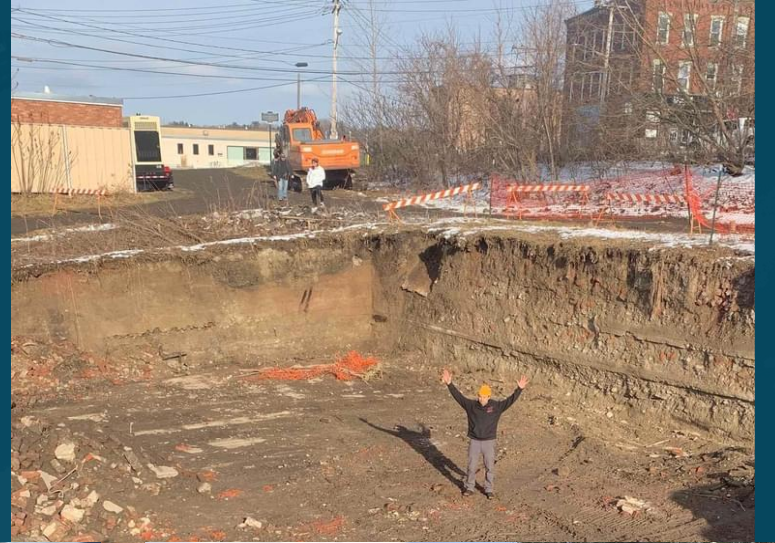


Recognized Environmental Conditions

- Petroleum Spill Cleanup
- Phase I and Phase II ESAs
- NEPA
- Soil Management Plan
- The park IS the remediation!!



From Vision...



...To Construction...

- Remediation completed as a part of redevelopment
- New competition scale destination Skate Park
- Extension of the Riverwalk trail and waterfront redevelopment
- Chadakoin River Strategic Plan



...To Reality



Introducing the JTNY Power House Skatepark









https://fb.watch/f_CEeBzdOX/



transforming lives:

a youth-driven grassroots movement to transform a brownfield into a skatepark is unifying a community and shining a light on the issue of mental health & suicide

LOCAL GOVERNMENT SUPPORT:

„The most important thing is seeing that there is support and involvement from across the community, from the youngest skateboarder to the oldest city council member.“ -Trevor Staples



STATE GOVERNMENT SUPPORT: \$150,000 Regional Economic Development Council Award: NYS CANAL CORPORATION



Canal
Corporation



SMALL BUSINESS SUPPORT:

60+ small businesses have donated, sponsored, and hosted



BLACK MAMBA SKATEPARK

COPPER CITY BREWING CO.

the Ski Company Mountain Sports

KING PIN LANES



Superofficial
216 W. Duane St.

skatepark project
full stoke
nothing boring

Cherry Pie

Hannaford

ADK BANK LOCAL
Member FDIC



DiBella's
CREATIVE GIFT IDEAS
FOR INDIVIDUALS, PROFESSIONALS, BUSINESSES
FRUIT, BEER, & SPECIALTY FOOD BASKETS
UNIQUE WICKER ACCESSORIES
IMPORTED BEES & LILIES
GOURMET FOODS
GENERAL GROCERIES
GOLD DRINKS
WE VER 336-77

MR. GOODBAR
EST. 1986
ELMWOOD AVE., DUFFIN

KrisTech

WOODS VALLEY

DESIGN BY JADE

Taylor's Trailers LLC

Davidson Auto Group

VINE & FIG wine bistro



Rome Up and Running

La Roma Pizzeria

CRUST
kitchen + bar

COLD POINT

RIRI ROME RESTAURANT EQUIPMENT

REVERE



RUBICON

Source Office

HUMAN TECHNOLOGIES

Photos by Larry Rocco

ALWAYS FUNdraISING (nothing boring.)



30+ FUNdraisers held so far in Rome, Buffalo, Potsdam, and beyond !!!



FIRST ANNUAL SFM RAIL JAM ski and snowboard contest hosted by Woods Valley Ski Area...\$5,000 raised in one day!
photo by Larry Rocco

100% Organized and run by Stone's friends, family, and loyal volunteers...

- ✓ Rome Softball & Baseball Games
- ✓ Copper City Soccer Club Final
- ✓ Hannaford Barbeque
- ✓ Varick Street Poster Plaster
- ✓ DeBlassis Foundation Bocce Tournament & Fundraiser
- ✓ Copper City Brewing Company Benefit Concert feat. Hayden Mac
- ✓ Slushies for Stone @ Big Jay's Pizzeria and Bill's Variety Store
- ✓ LaRoma's Loose Change
- ✓ Mya J. Corigliano Foundation
- ✓ First Annual Spike for Stone Spikeball Tournament @ Bellamy Gone Coastal Clam Bake Basket Raffle and Benefit Concert
- ✓ Mr. Goodbar Stone Bueneveza pint sales (Buffalo, NY)
- ✓ Devin Waring Foundation Benefit Golf Tournament
- ✓ T-Shirts, Hoodies, Stickers, & more at pop-up events, local merchants
- ✓ Movie Night @ Rome Capitol
- ✓ Full Stoke Coffee Fundraiser
- ✓ Point-of-Sale roundups campaign
- ✓ First Annual SFM Rail Jam
- ✓ SFM Week @ Clarkson University
- ✓ So many more week-in, week-out

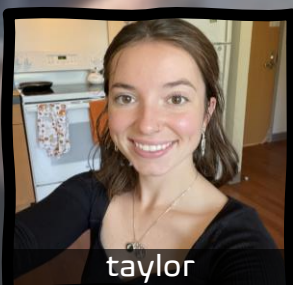
„nothing boring.“ -stone



Kayden



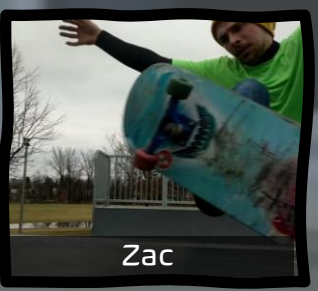
Alex



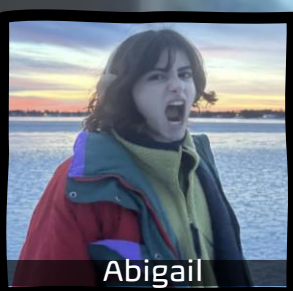
taylor



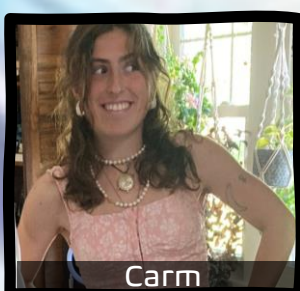
Alex



Zac



Abigail



Carm



Tanner



Dylan



Christian



Andrea



Brandon

Hayden

Mikey

Stone



Eli



Iceman



Cameron



Jade



Corey



Jake

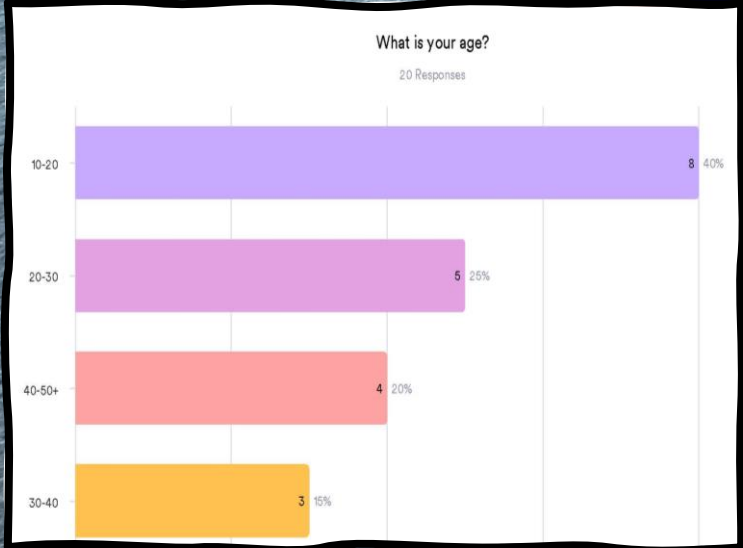
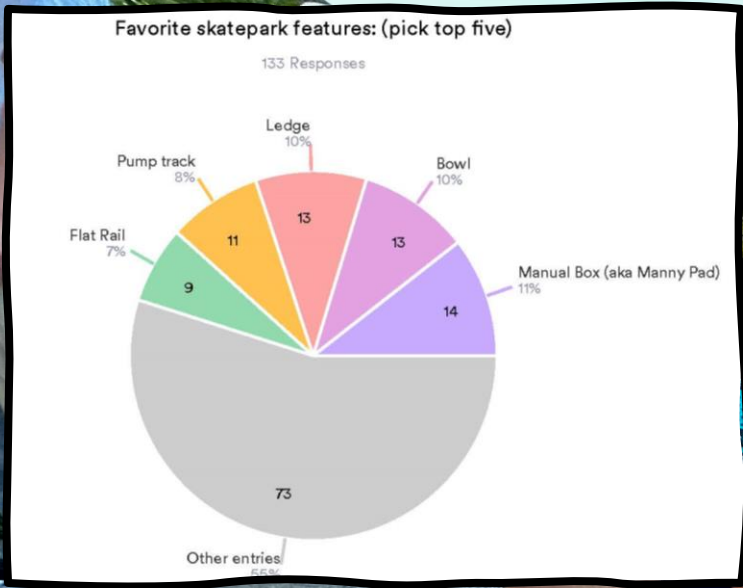


Richie



who is
the **sfm** brigade?

<https://sfmskateparkproject.com/>
contact them anytime at
brigade@sfmskateparkproject.com



by youth. for youth.

Photos by Larry Rocco

„Not only to commemorate a kind soul lost too early, but it's a get away for others that just need an escape for life- to get out feel some freedom, and even maybe to feel one with one's self“

„I am most definitely not an athletic person, nor do I skateboard. BUT I am COMPLETELY ENAMORED with this entire concept for our community!! Especially knowing that Stone's beautiful, bright spirit is leading the way. I frequently bring my dogs to walk at Bellamy Harbor and have visited the location of the future skatepark“

„Let's make this a staple for mental health awareness“

„There are no public (and easily accessed) modern skateparks within a 2 hour drive. There are thousands of skaters in that radius. Let's continue to grow Rome in ways unimaginable at first.“

„this skatepark has the opportunity to change lives“

„I think this is a great idea for skaters and a way to memorialize Stone. I've skated and snowboarded with him many times and strongly believe this is the perfect way to keep his spirit alive.“

„Skateboarding changed my youth and likely kept me out of trouble.“

„I hope we can make a safe place for kids to learn and have fun like we had when I was growing up in Rome.“

„I have been skateboarding for 34 years... When I was younger I'd travel hours to skate a park of this caliber.“

„This skatepark is huge for the upstate Oneida county area! It'll keep our kids out of trouble, away from the streets and drugs. I think it'll be a safer environment where all the kids can go be themselves and enjoy the skatepark..“

„It'll be a great resource and improvement for the kids in this area and surrounding areas!“



Join the movement!
sfmskateparkproject.com/
[@sfmskateparkproject](https://www.instagram.com/sfmskateparkproject)



nothing boring.



...site considerations on **brownfields** in Upstate NY



thank you!

