

Willamette Heritage Area Speculative Design Guide

Landscape Architecture Department
University of Oregon, Eugene Oregon

Edited by Robert Ribe and Rena Schlachter
2009



Scenic viewpoint of Rock Island

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Department of Landscape Architecture
School of Architecture and Allied Arts
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Introduction

This document is intended to offer speculative strategic changes in the Willamette Falls Heritage Area landscape. The aim is to enhance the magnetism of the falls and the history associated with the area surrounding the falls, for tourism and economic development. It includes studio work of graduate and undergraduate students in the Landscape Architecture Department at the University of Oregon conducted in 2008 and 2009.



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Willamette Heritage Area Speculative Design Guide Map

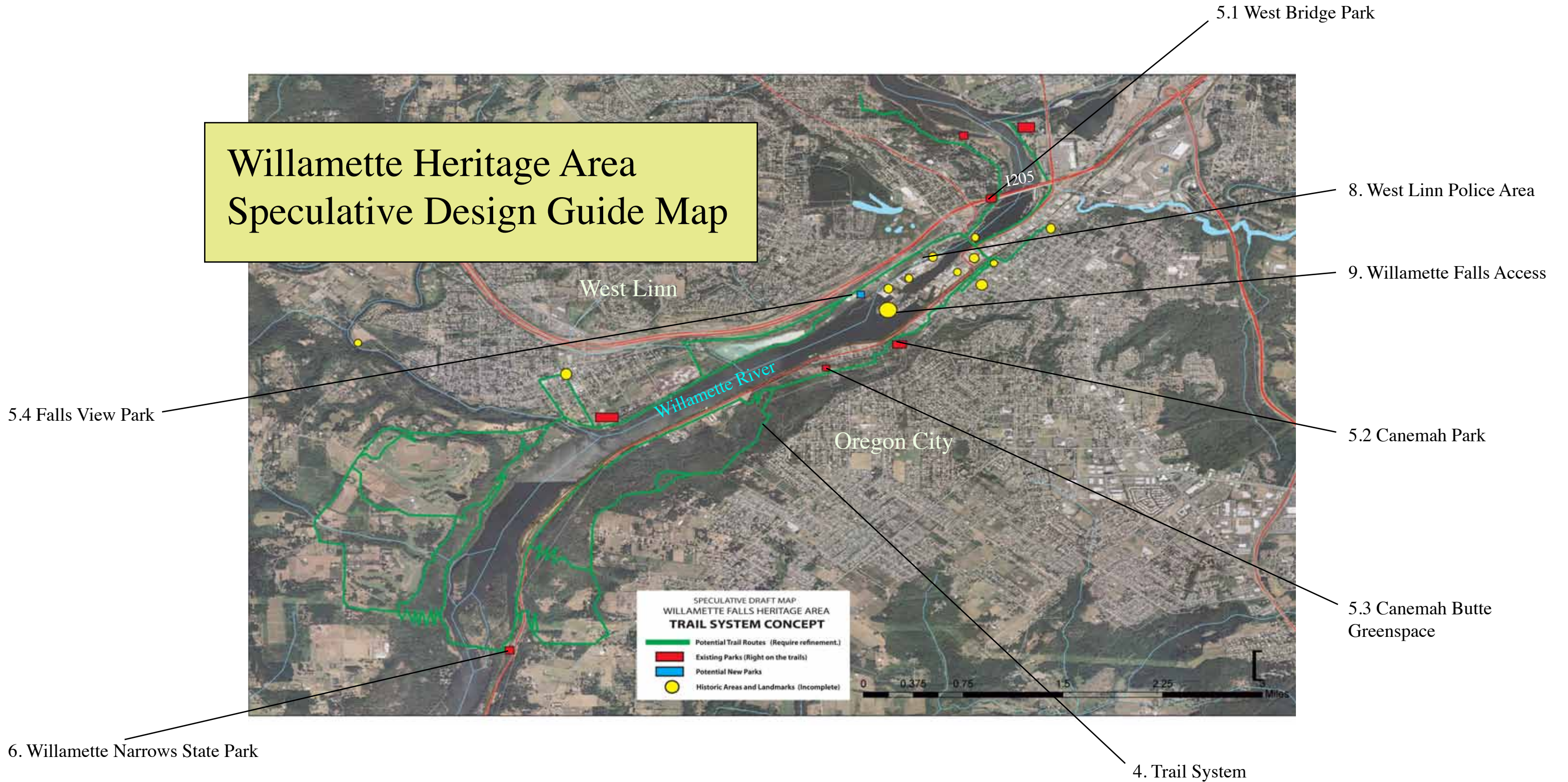


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1.1 Example Current Conditions Analysis

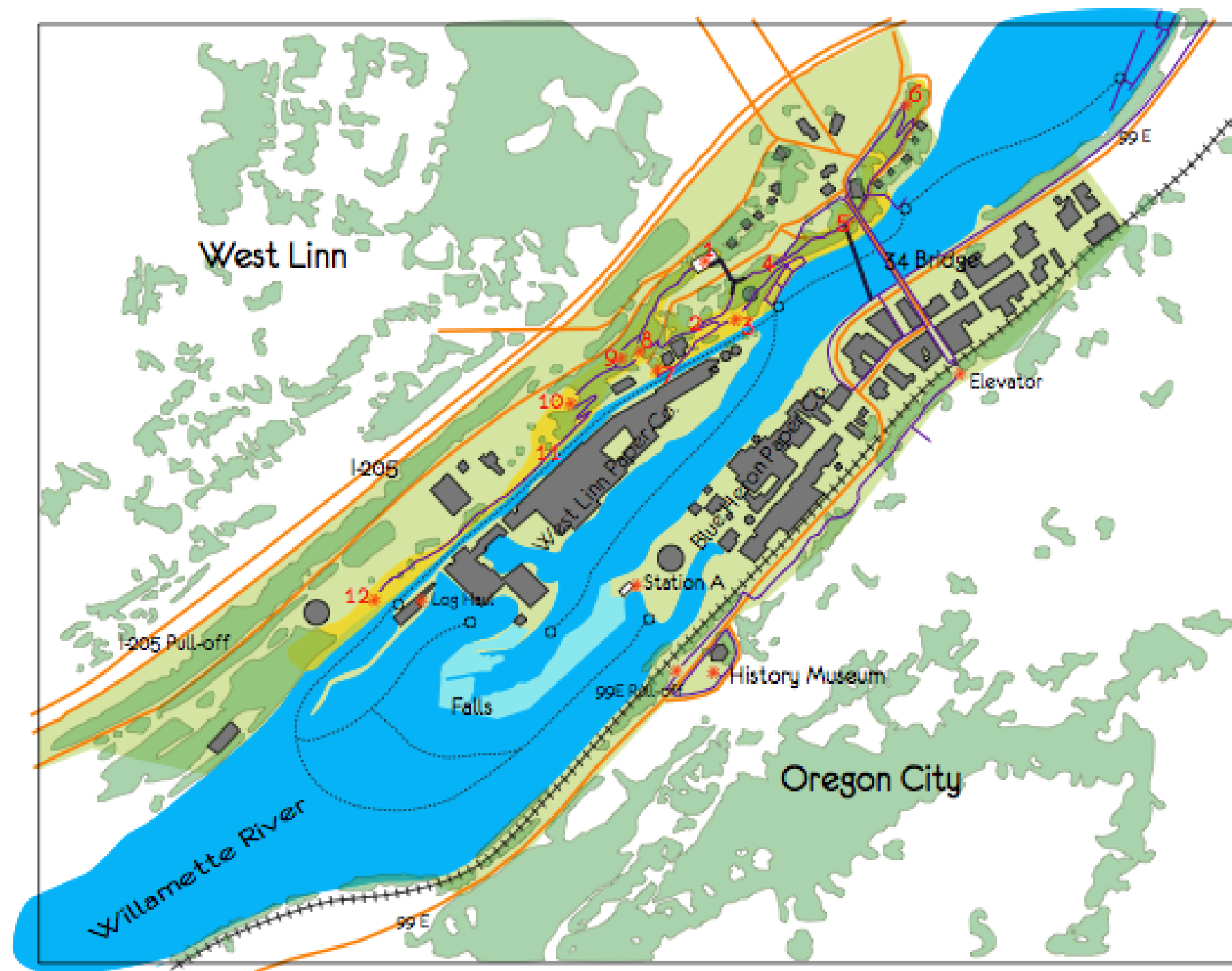
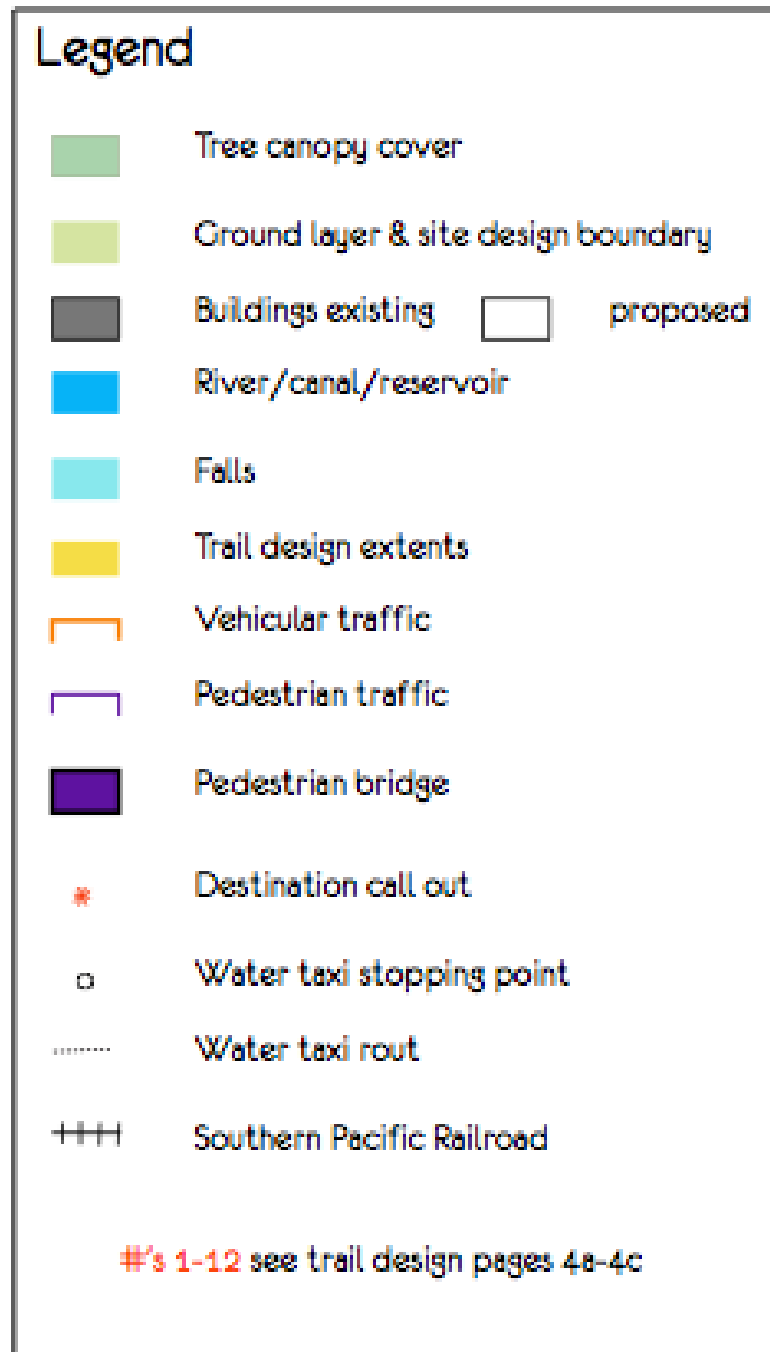
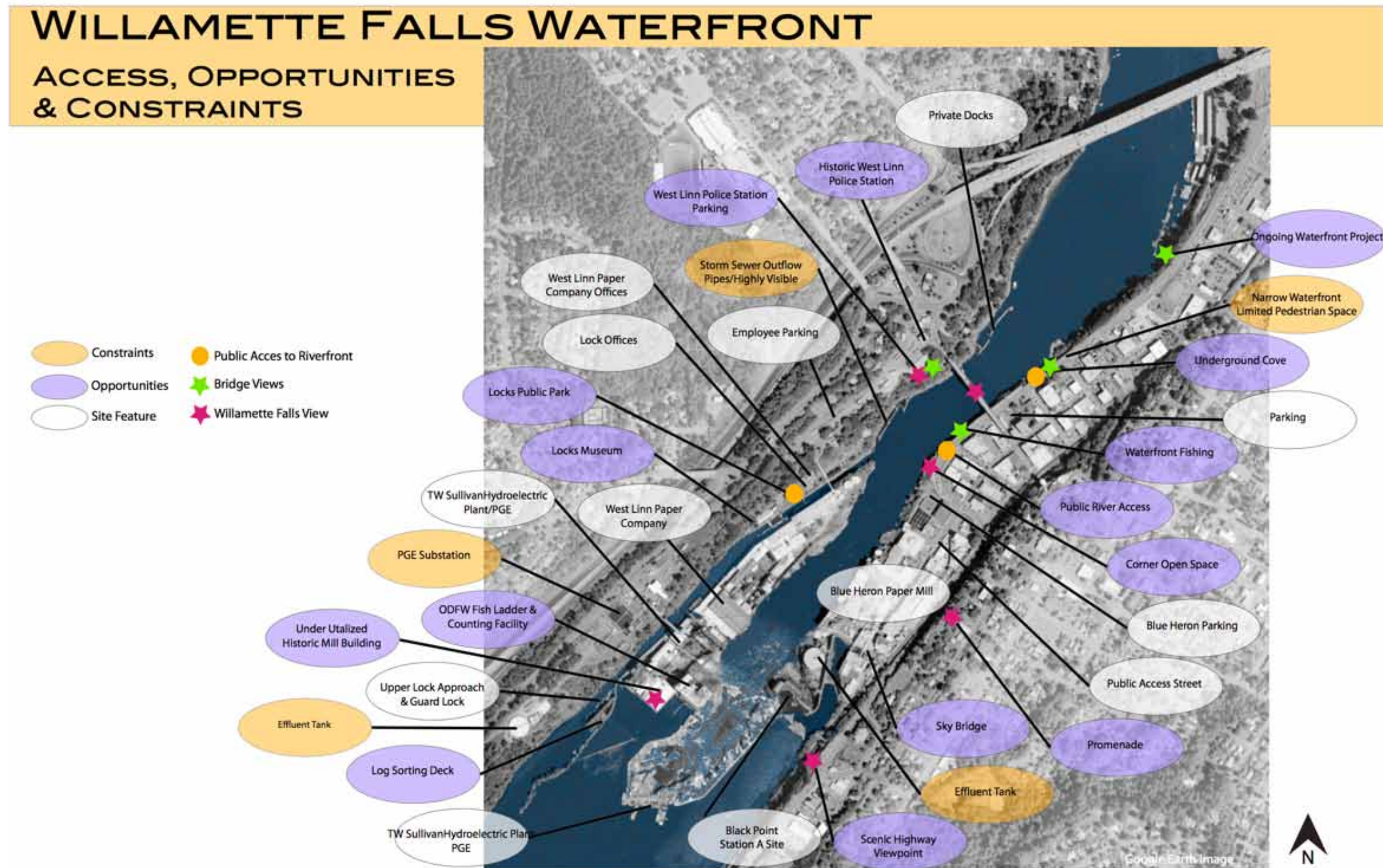


Diagram by Zach Rix

1.2 Example Opportunities and Constraints Analysis



1.3 Example Transportation Analysis

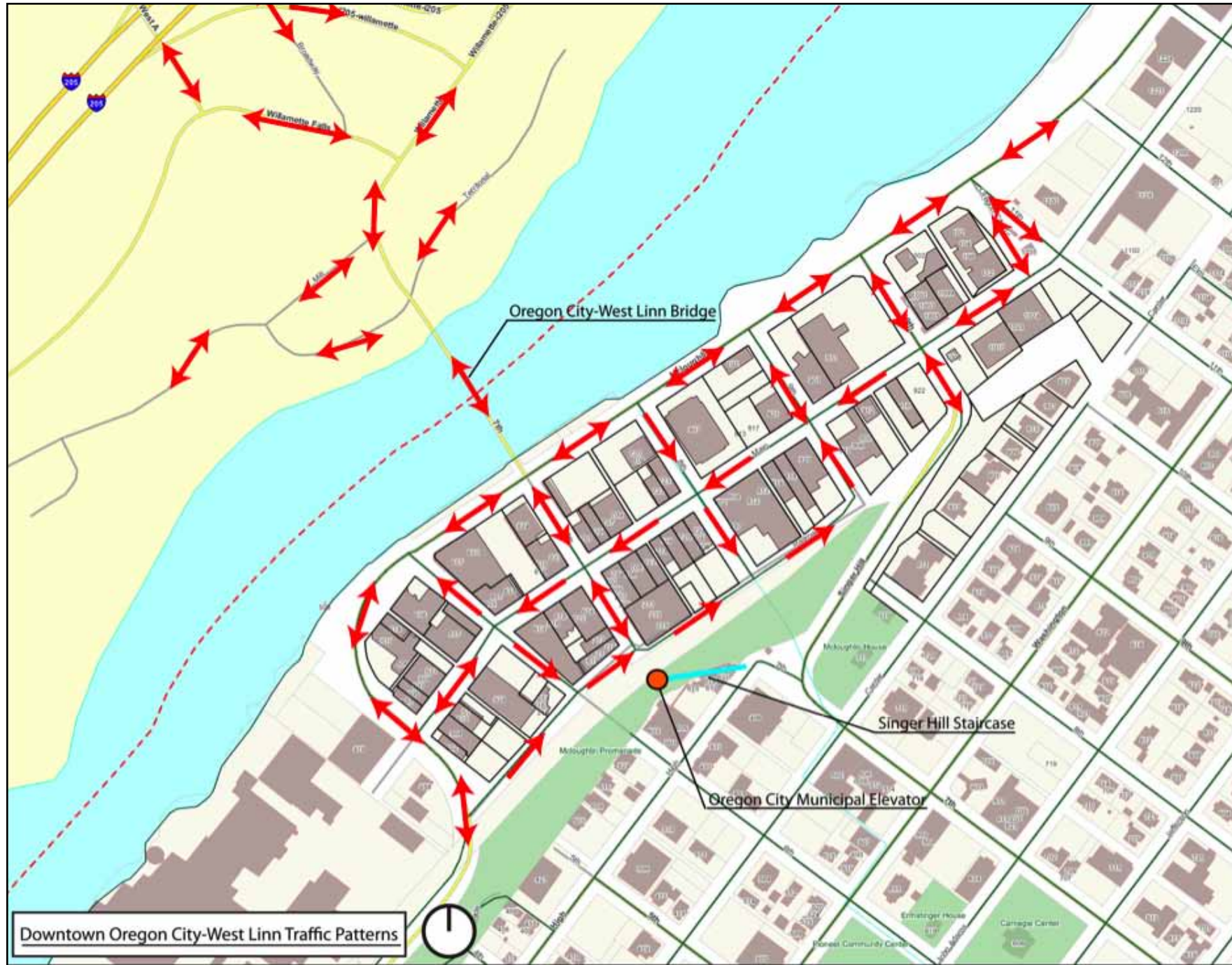


Diagram by Anya Dobrowolski

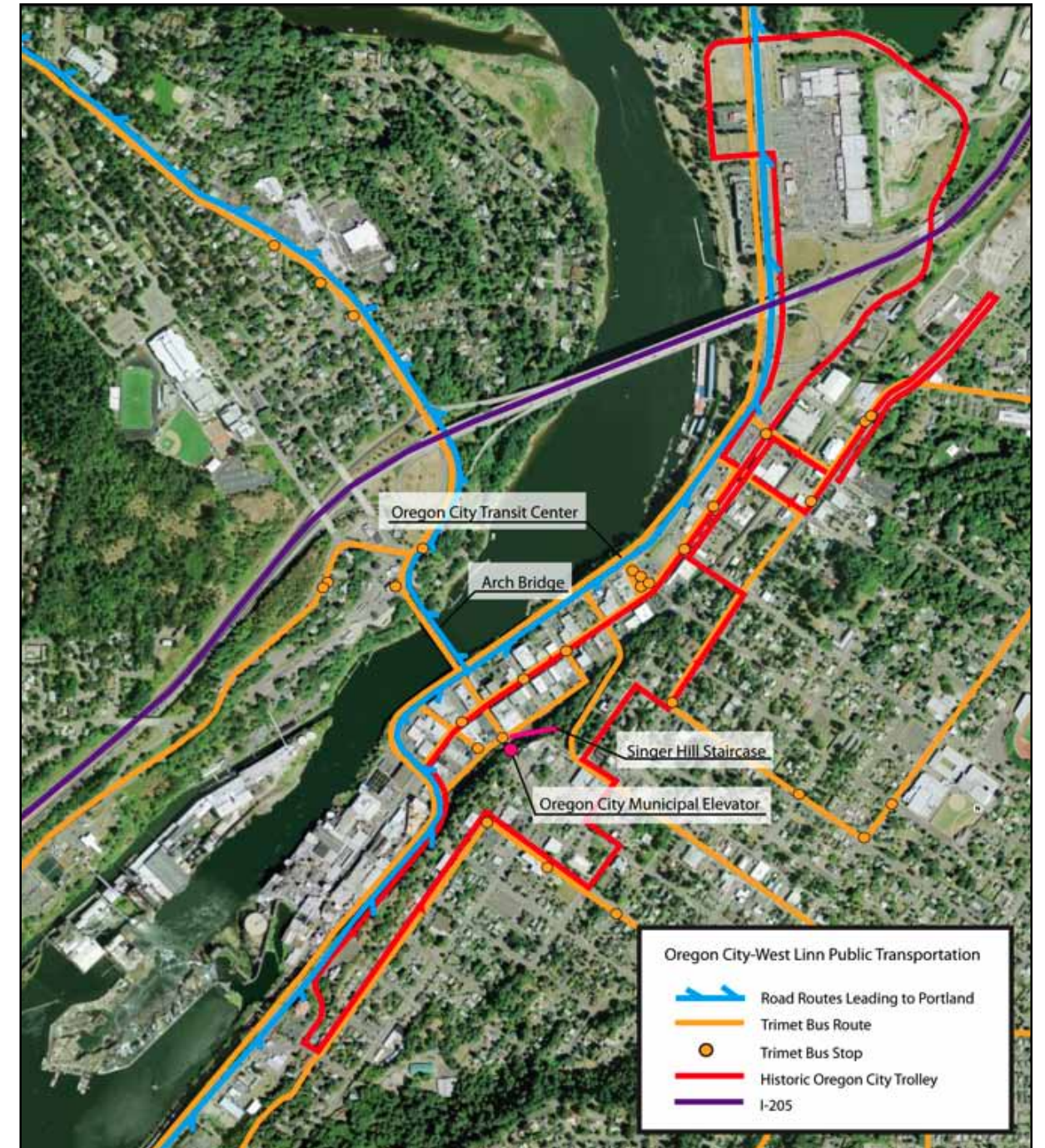


Diagram by Anya Dobrowolski

1.4 Example Ecological Analysis

Willamette Falls Area Riparian Habitat Map



Diagram by Zach Rix

Willamette Falls Area Ecological Zones

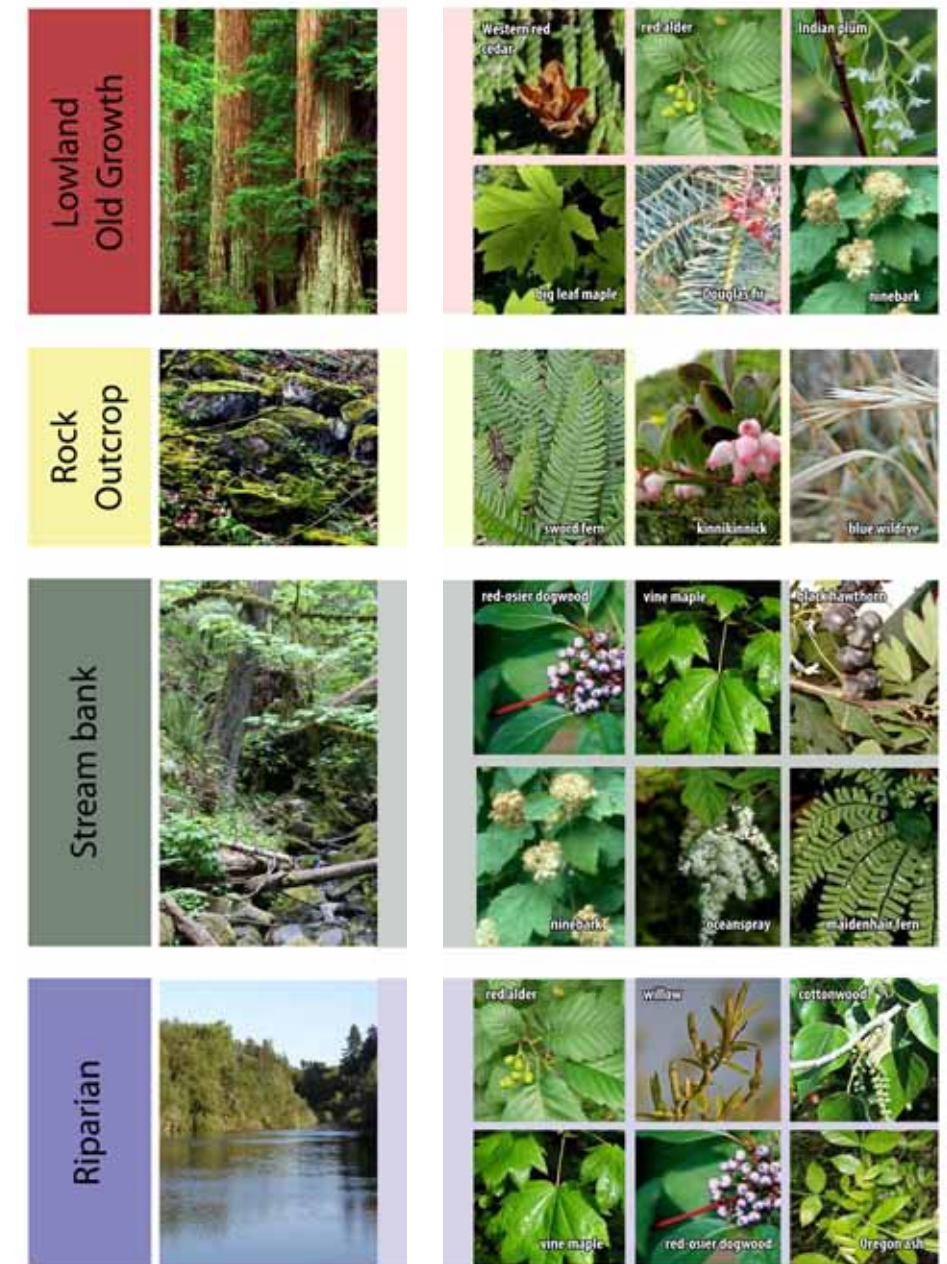


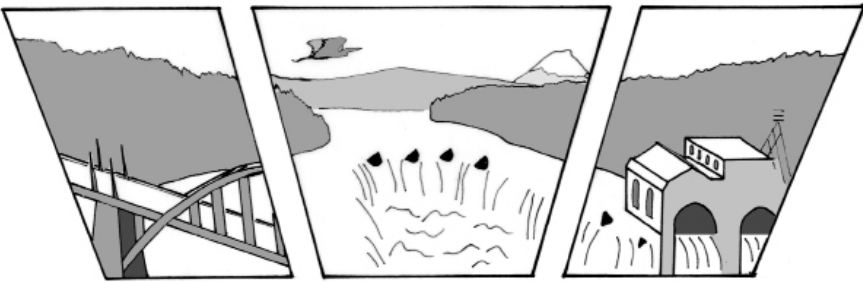
Diagram by Rena Schlachter

2.1 Selected Potential WFHA Logos



By Eric Robertson

WILLAMETTE FALLS HERITAGE AREA



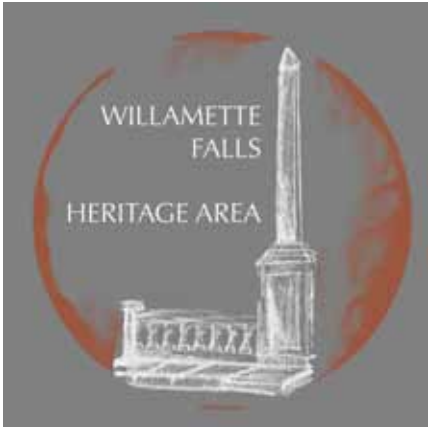
By Charlotte Goldman



By Alex Misar



By Claire Grist



By Christo Brehm



By Amy Ueno



By Kristina Koeing

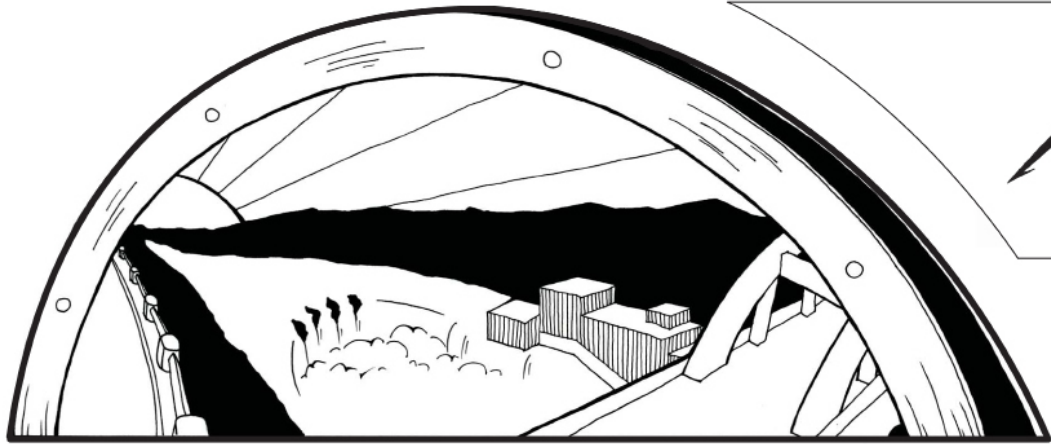


By Lauren Schwartz



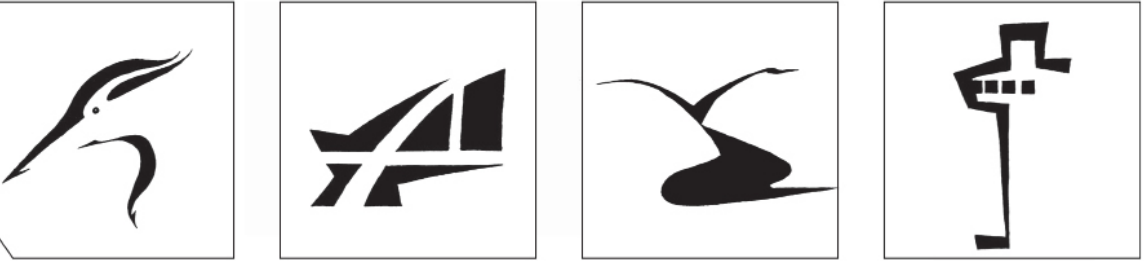
By Rena Schlachter

2.2 Selected Supporting Logo Sets

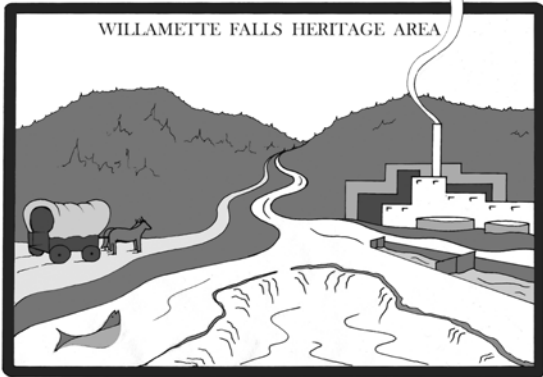


Willamette Falls Heritage Area

By Kristie Anderson



These logos were developed to capture the essence of the Willamette Falls Heritage Area. The main logo (left) aims to capture elements of different locations, character, and times that contribute to the Heritage Area as a whole. Among these represented are the Willamette Falls, the Oregon City Bridge, the paper mill, the McLoughlin Promenade, and the wagon wheel, symbolic of the end of the Oregon Trail. Subsidiary logos were intended to capture individual elements of the Area: the heron, the bridge, the Willamette River, and the Oregon City Municipal Elevator.



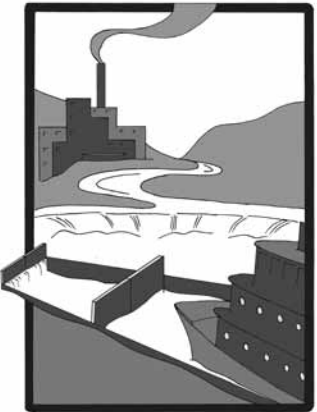
By Amy Annino



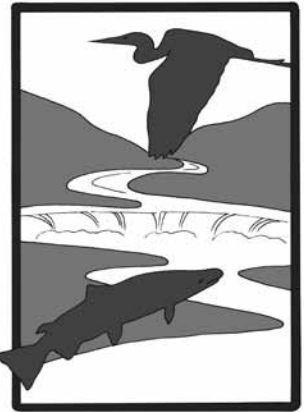
Courtesy of Lynda Reid



Courtesy of Amy Annino and Lynda Reid



Courtesy of Amy Annino and Lynda Reid

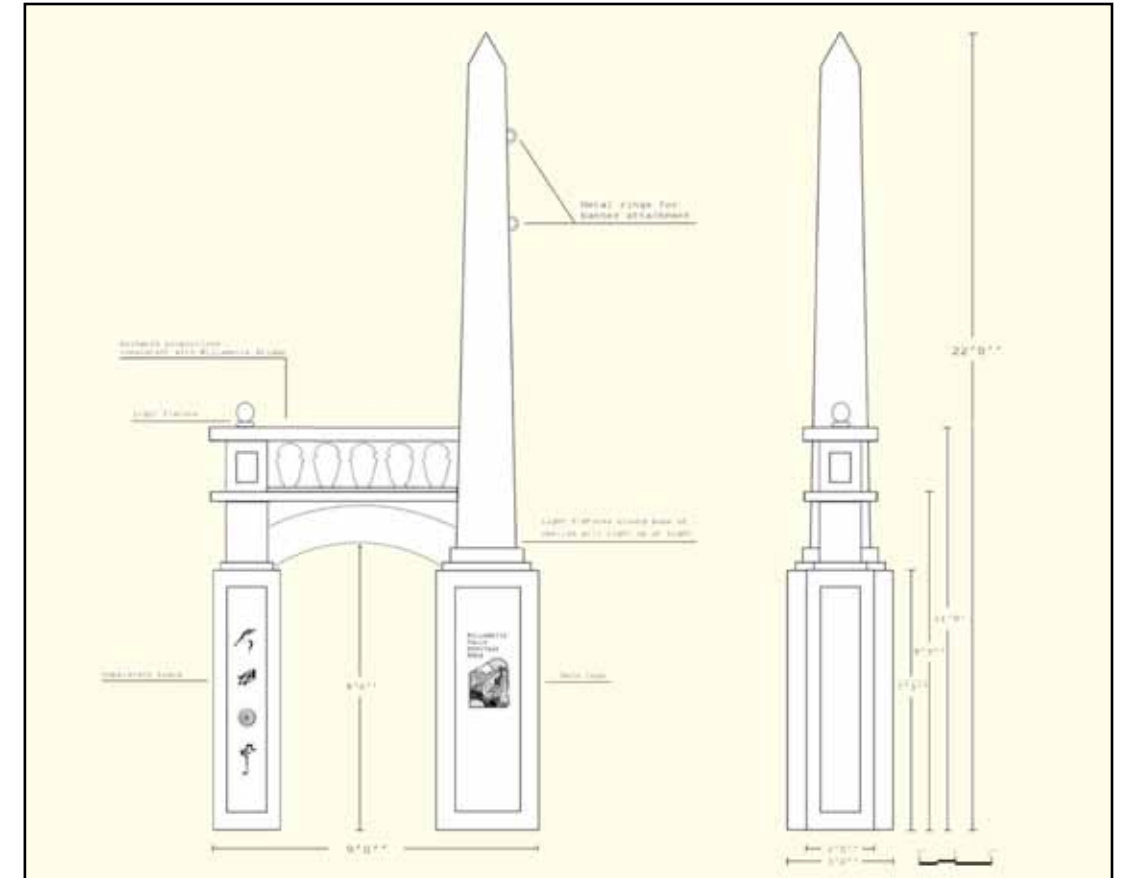


Courtesy of Lynda Reid

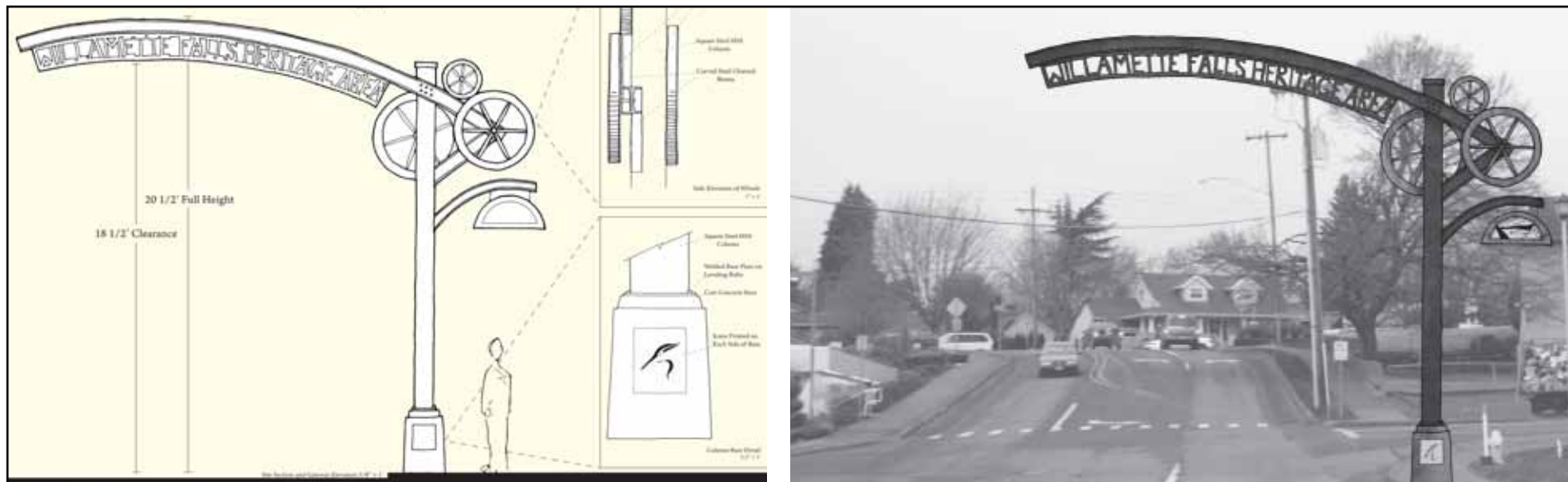
3. Selected Heritage Area Gateway Designs



Design Proposal 1
by Alex Misar

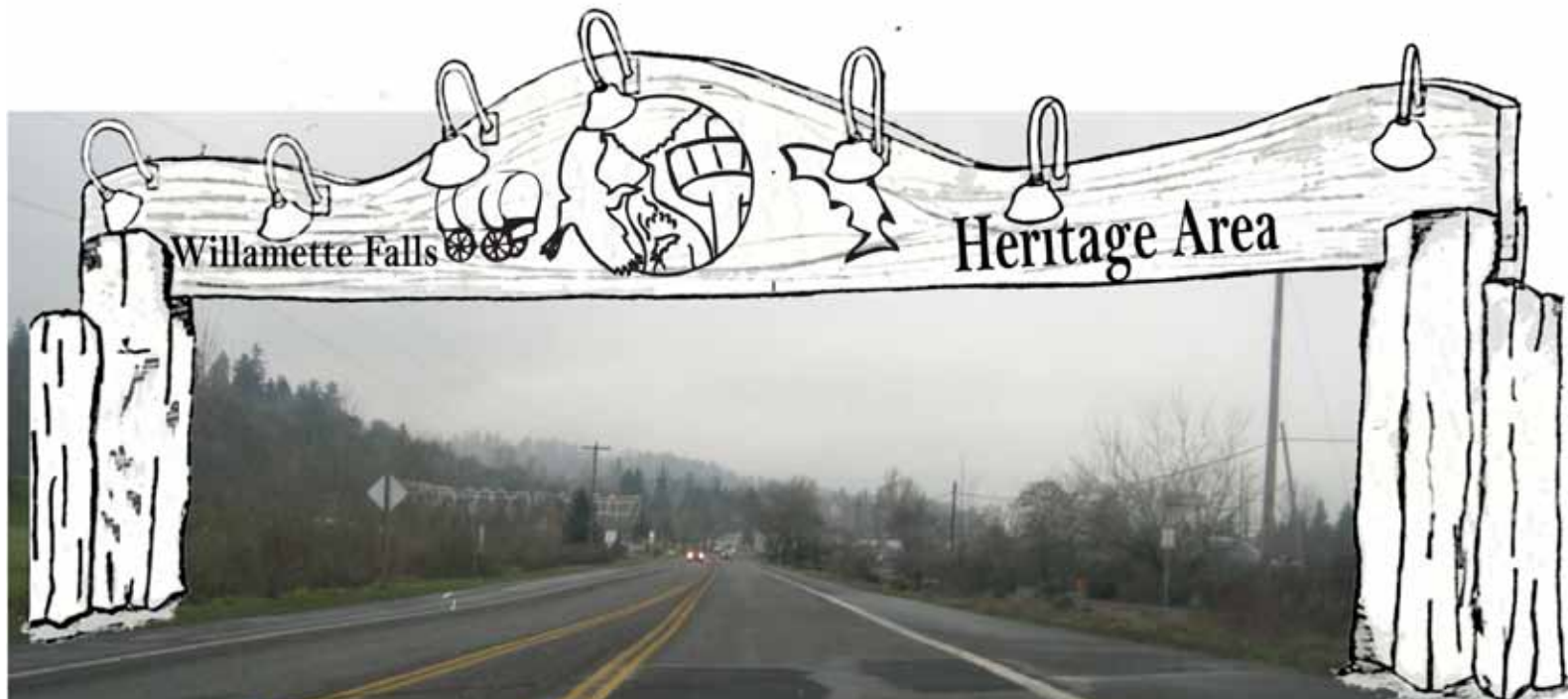


Design Proposal 3
by Rena Schlachter

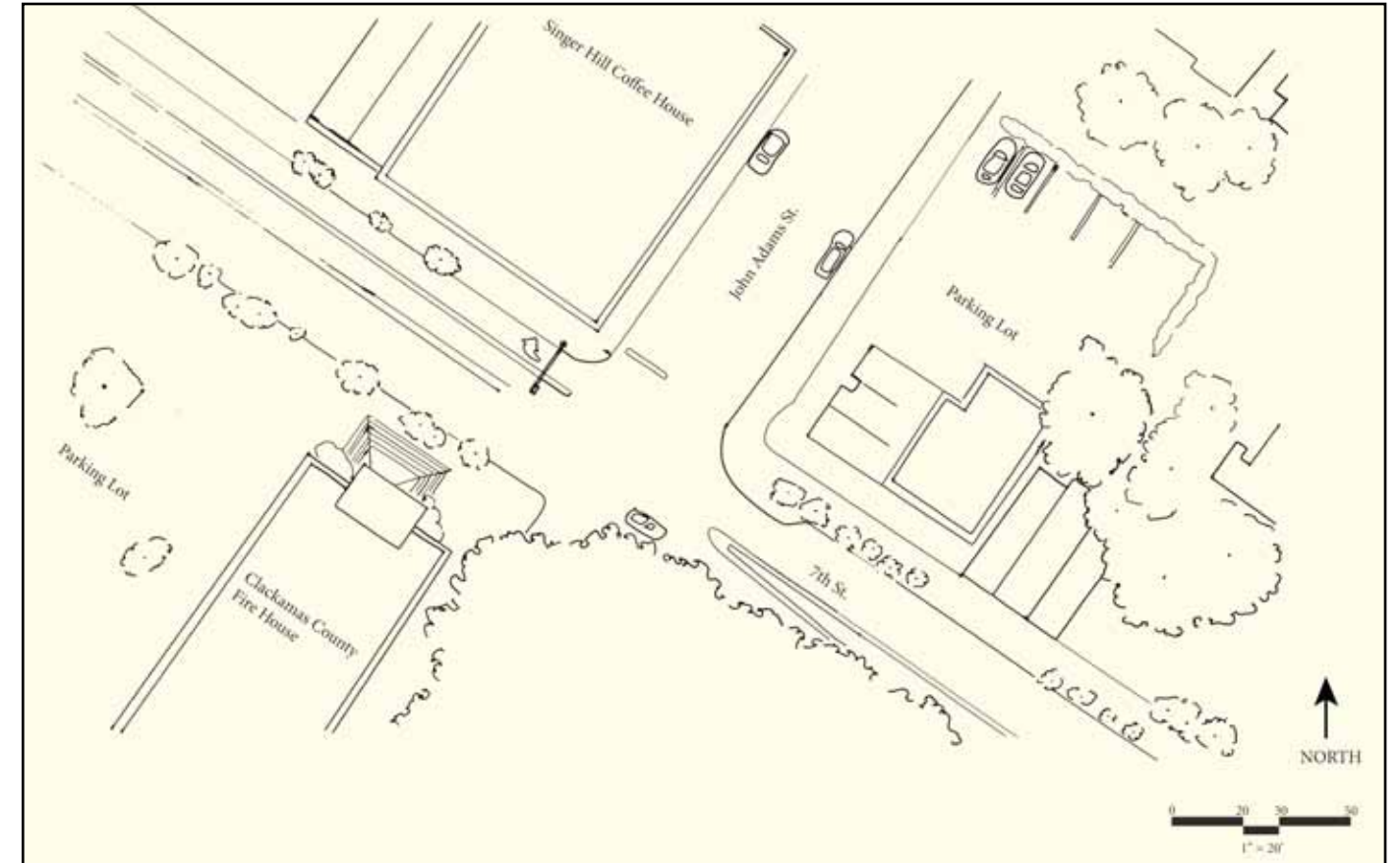


Design Proposal 2
by Kristie Anderson

3. Selected Heritage Area Gateway Designs

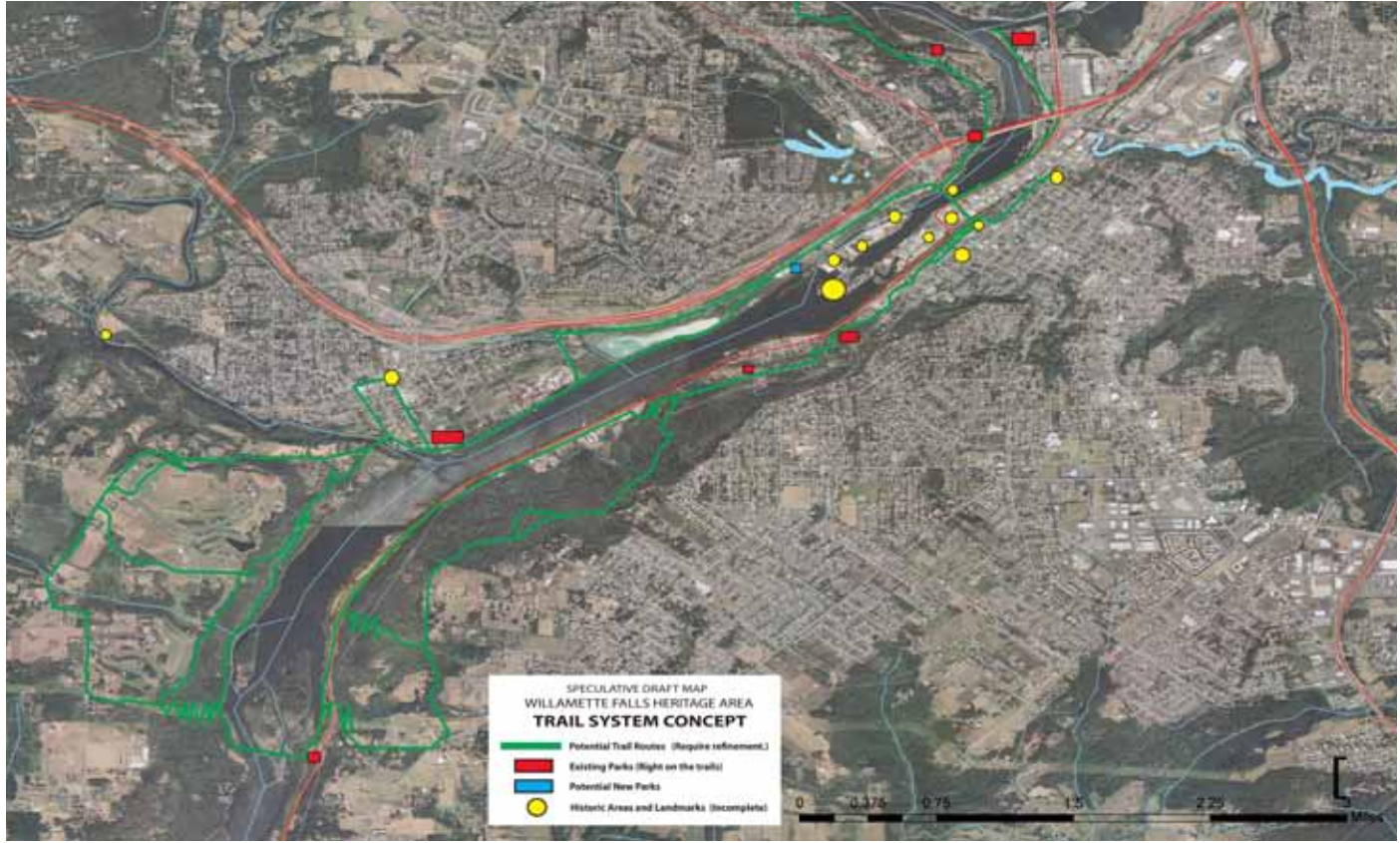


Design Proposal 4
by Lauren Schwartz

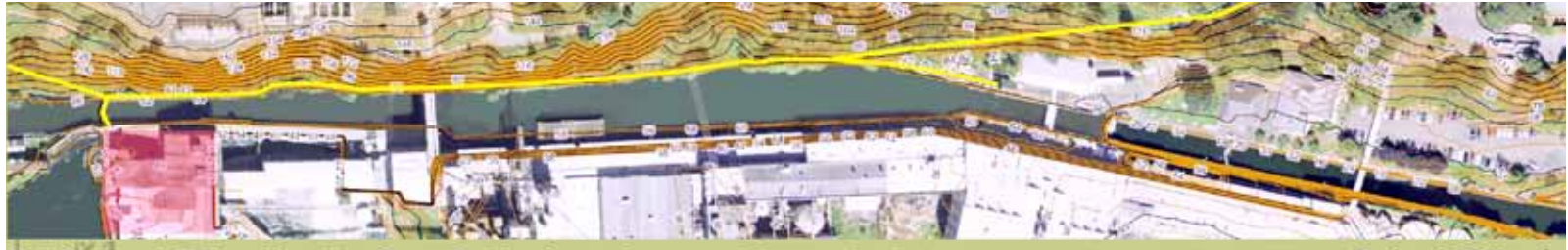


Design Proposal 5
by Shawn Sanes

4. Trail System Design



It is possible that a regional bike loop might be developed upstream from the falls.

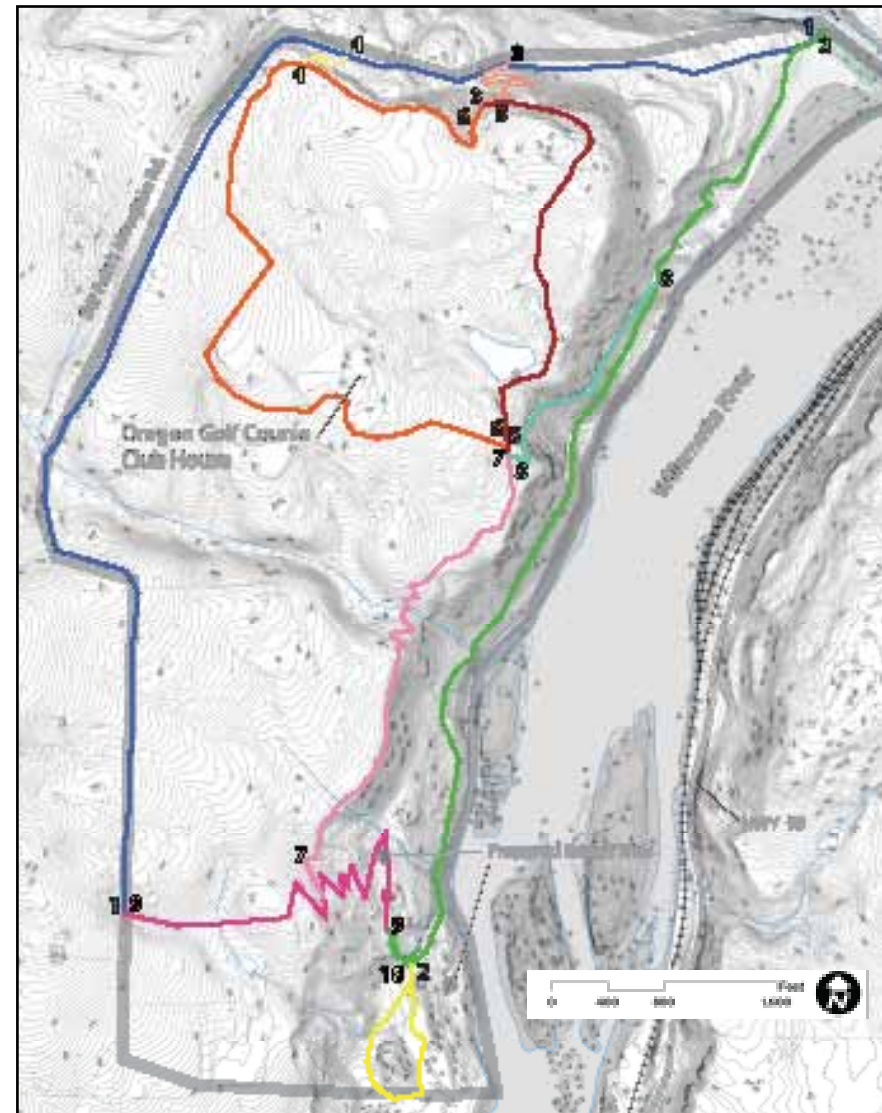
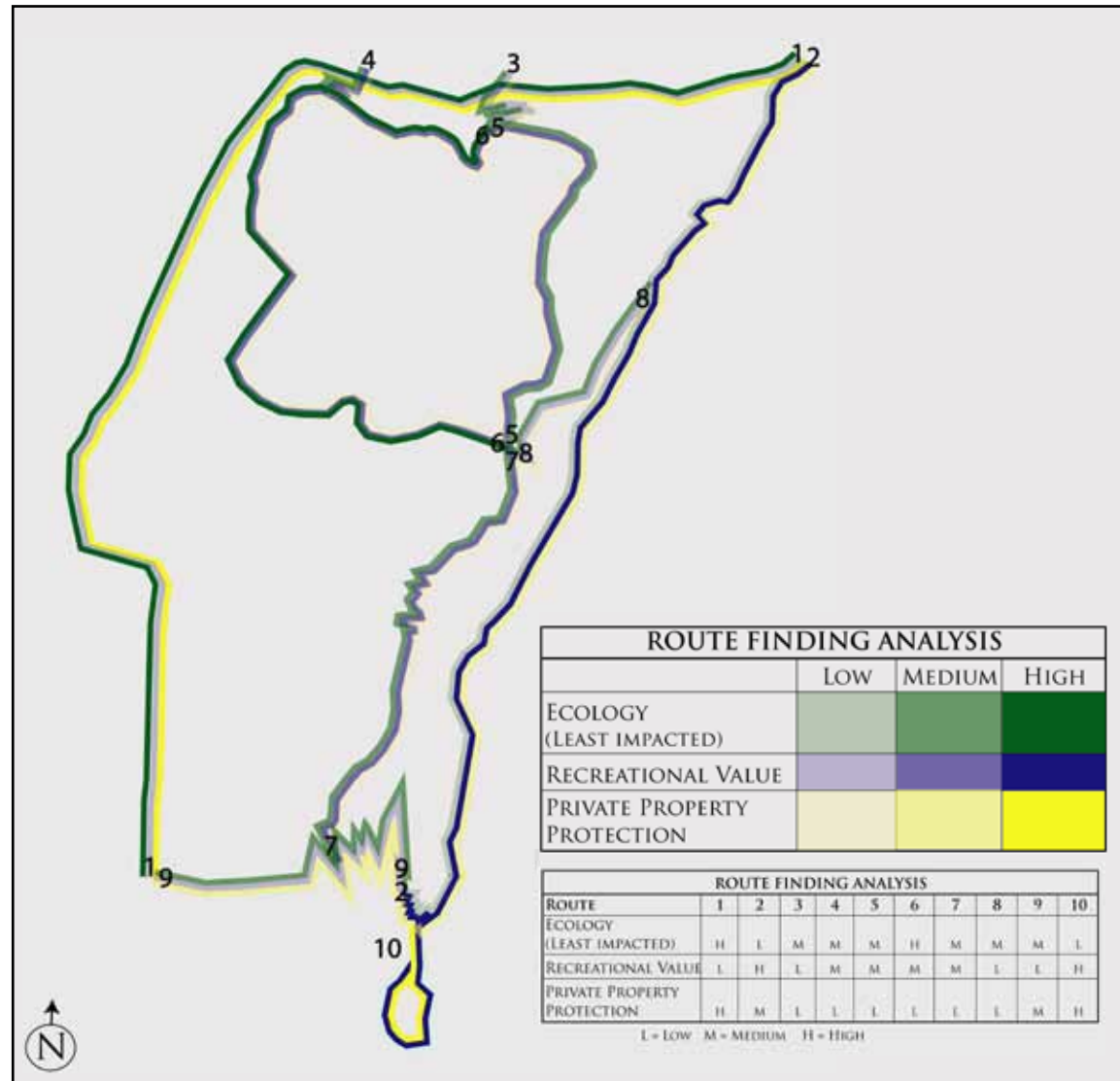


Speculative trail design from West Linn Police Station area to historic district, by Karl Dietzler.



4. Speculative Willamette Narrows Greenspace Trail Planning

For bicycle route finding along the Willamette Narrows Greenspace a combination of approaches were implemented. Information gathered during site analysis, along with personal experience and aerial photography, was used to create potential routes (or links) within the site boundary. The overall goal was to get bicyclists from the Tualatin Bridge (north) to the proposed pedestrian bridge (south). Each link of trail was then assessed from three perspectives: Ecology, Recreation (experiential), and Private Property. links were ranked accordingly for their value and the diagram below displays the results. Links with high, and some medium values were recommended for each perspective.



Rendering by Chris Guliey



EXPERIENTIAL EVALUATION OF ASSESSED LINKS

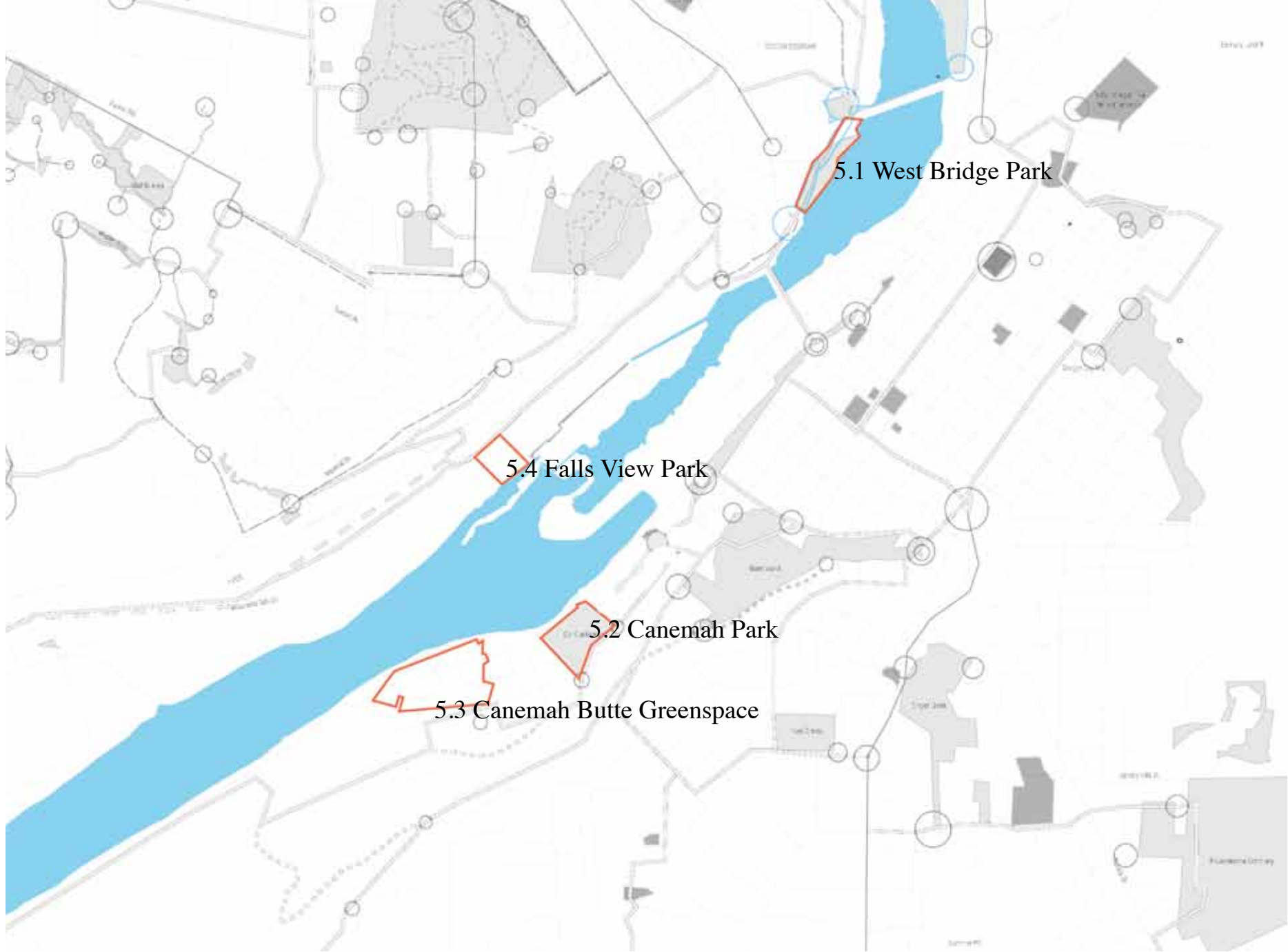
| LINK # | EXPOSURE | | TRAIL FORM | | VISTA OPPORTUNITIES ALONG ROUTE | | | | | | | | | | NEGATIVE EXPERIENCES | | | | | | | | | | | |
|--------|----------|----------|------------|------|---------------------------------|------------------|-----------------------|----------|----------|---------|------------|-------------|-------------------|-------|----------------------|----------------|----------------------|-------------|-----------------------|--------------|---------------|-------------|--------------|------------------|--|--|
| | ENCLOSED | FILTERED | OPEN | SPIN | WATER CROSSING | GOLF COURSE ROAD | AGRICULTURE/ WETLANDS | WOODLAND | INDUSTRY | ISLANDS | POWERLINES | GOLF COURSE | PRIVATE RESIDENCE | CREEK | WILLAMETTE RIVER | ROCKY OUTCROPS | WILLAMETTE ENCOUNTER | SWITCHBACKS | LONG STRAIGHT LENGTHS | STEEP CLIMBS | PRIVATE ROADS | LOW TRAFFIC | PUBLIC ROADS | MODERATE TRAFFIC | | |
| 1 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 2 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 3 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
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| 5 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 6 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 7 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 8 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 9 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 10 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |

FREQUENCY OF OCCURRENCE: = N/A = LOW = MODERATE = HIGH

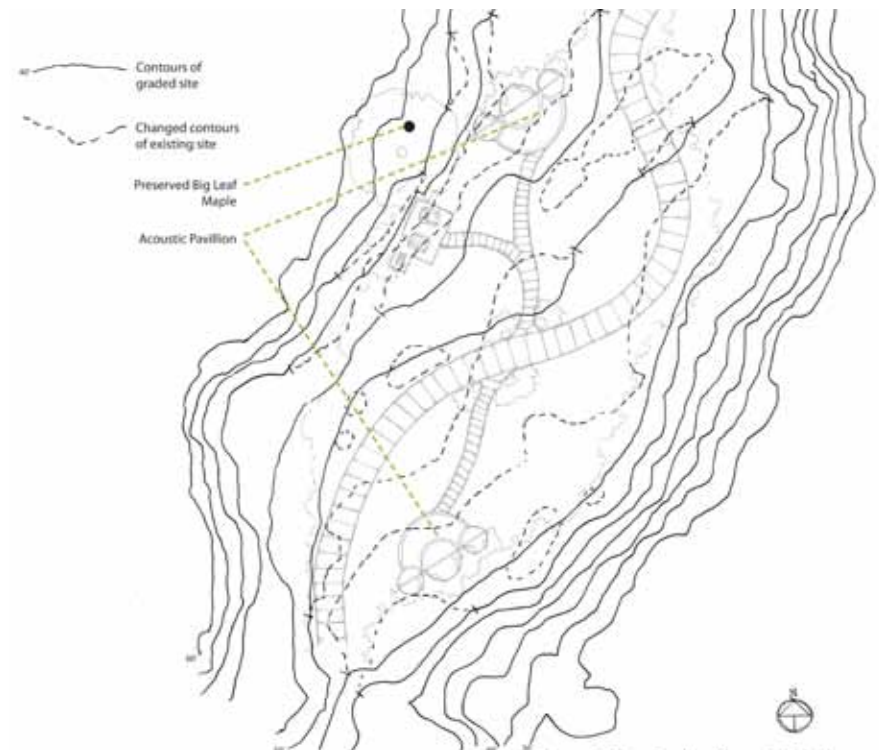
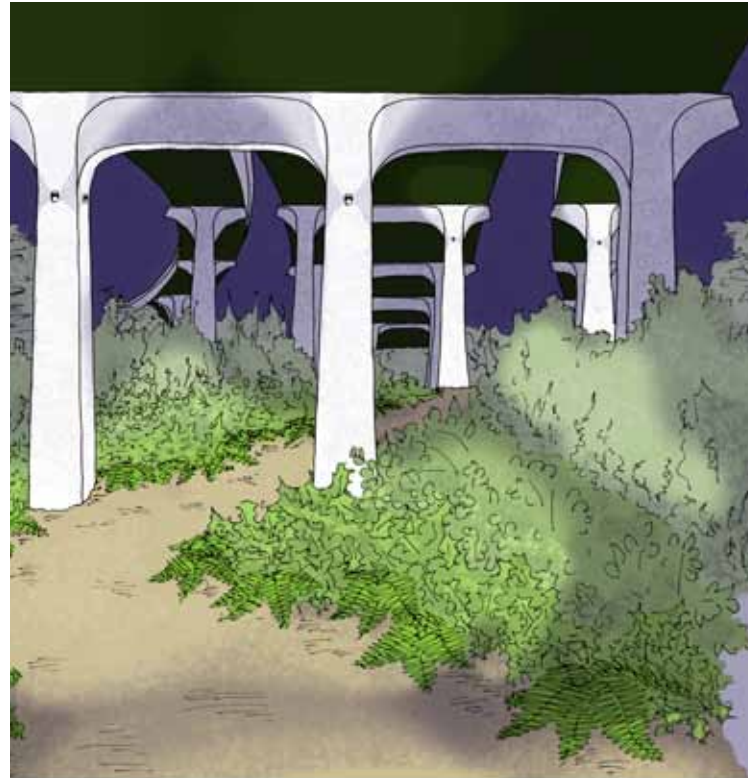
Speculative trail design diagrams and information gathering to link Willamette Park to Willamette Narrows State Park, by Amy Anino, Chris Guliey, and Kristina Koeing

5. Trail Park Designs - Location Map

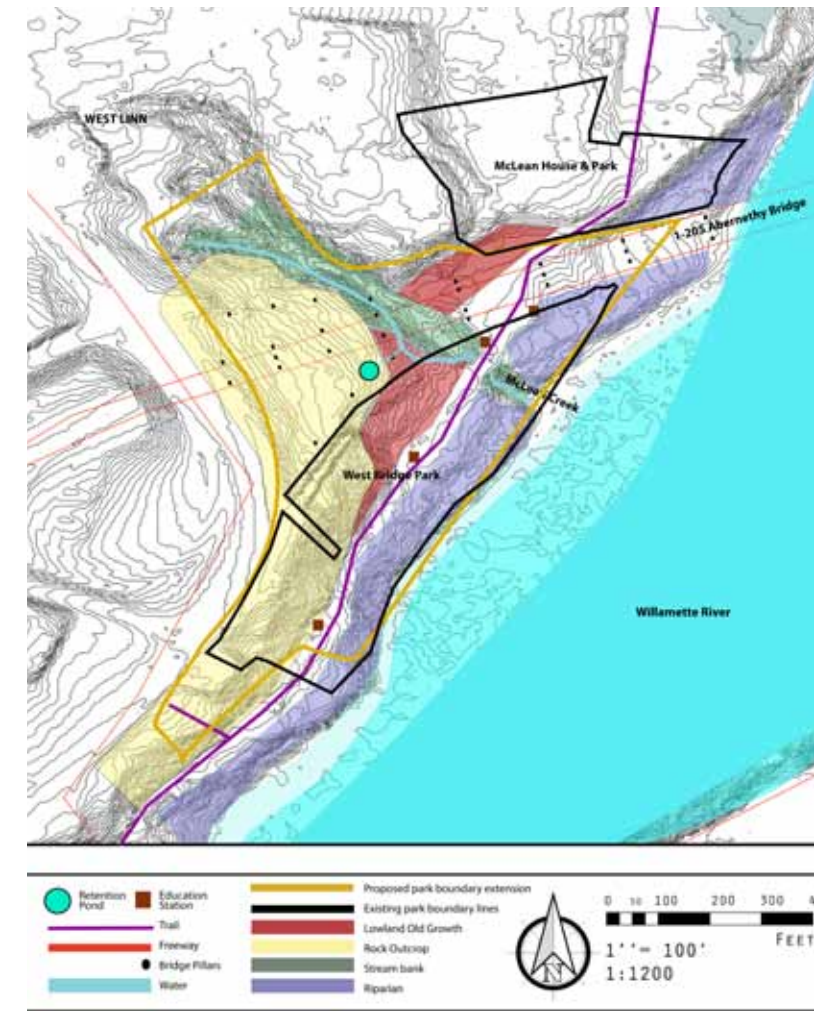
- 5.1 West Bridge Park
- 5.2 Canemah Park
- 5.3 Canemah Butte Greenspace
- 5.4 Falls View Park (proposed)



5.1 West Bridge Park



West Bridge Park sits along the Willamette River in West Linn, Oregon under the 1-205 Abernethy Bridge. North of the park is the McLean House and Park also owned by the City of West Linn. Design Proposal 1 focuses on activities and accompanying infrastructure for the park. Design Proposal 2 defines ecological areas and proposes reestablishment of native species.



West Bridge Park

Canemah Park

Canemah Butte
Greenspace

Falls View Park



Design Proposal 1
by Kristie Anderson

Design Proposal 2
by Rena Schlachter

5.2 Canemah Park

West Bridge

Canemah Park

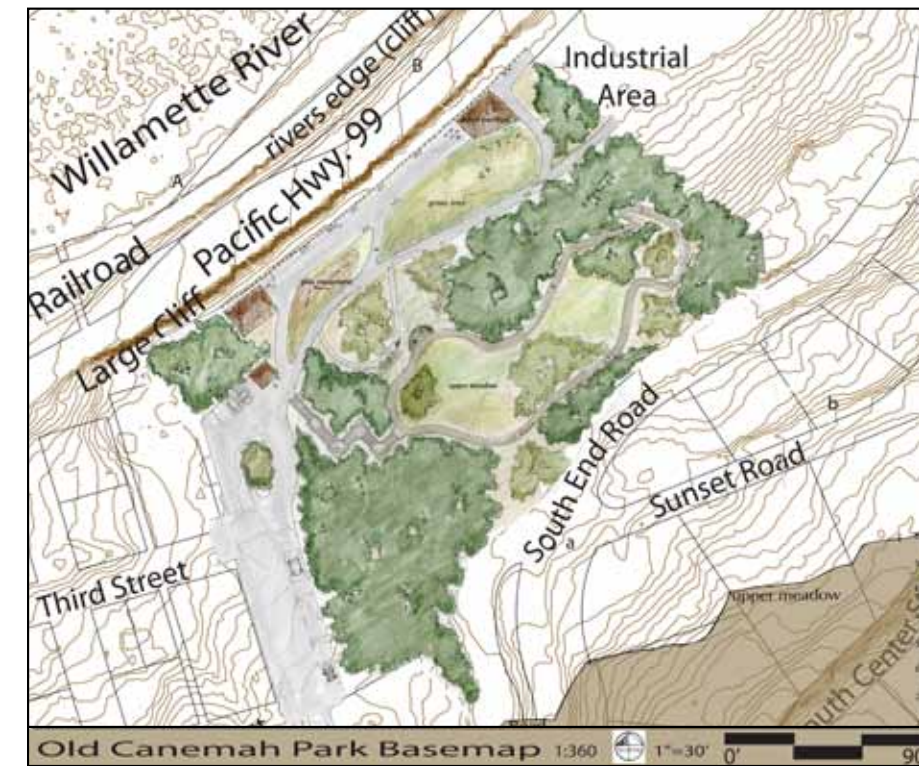
Canemah Butte
Greenspace

Falls View Park

Canemah Park is an old park with a rich history as a prime place from which to overlook the Willamette River and falls. It used to be accessible by stairway from the railroad, highway, and barge toe-path before Highway 99 East was expanded. It was the site of many concerts, chatequah events, and social gatherings and dances. Today the park is only accessible via residential streets in Canemah and is little known but retains good views of the river and upper falls. Looking over the escarpment above the highway, this park has had little investment



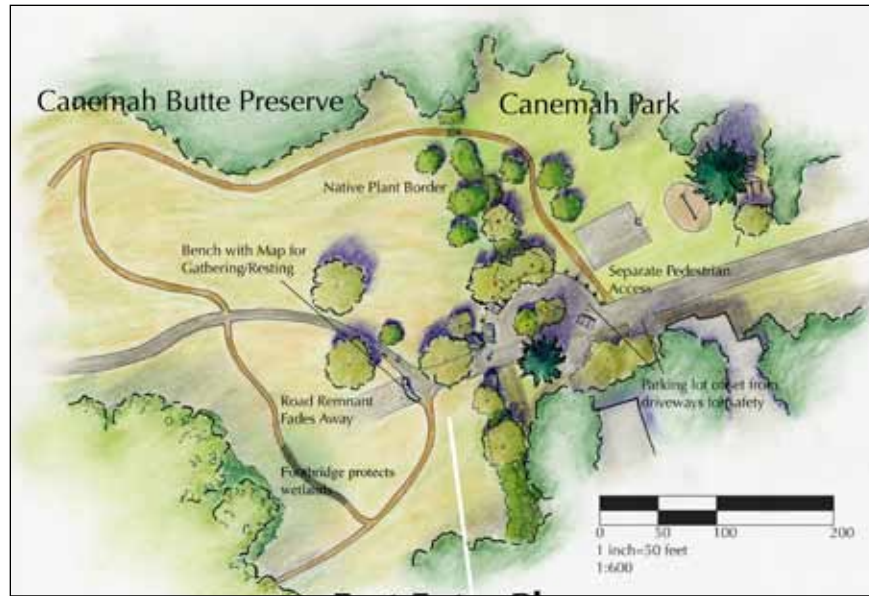
Design Proposal 1
by Lisa Koch



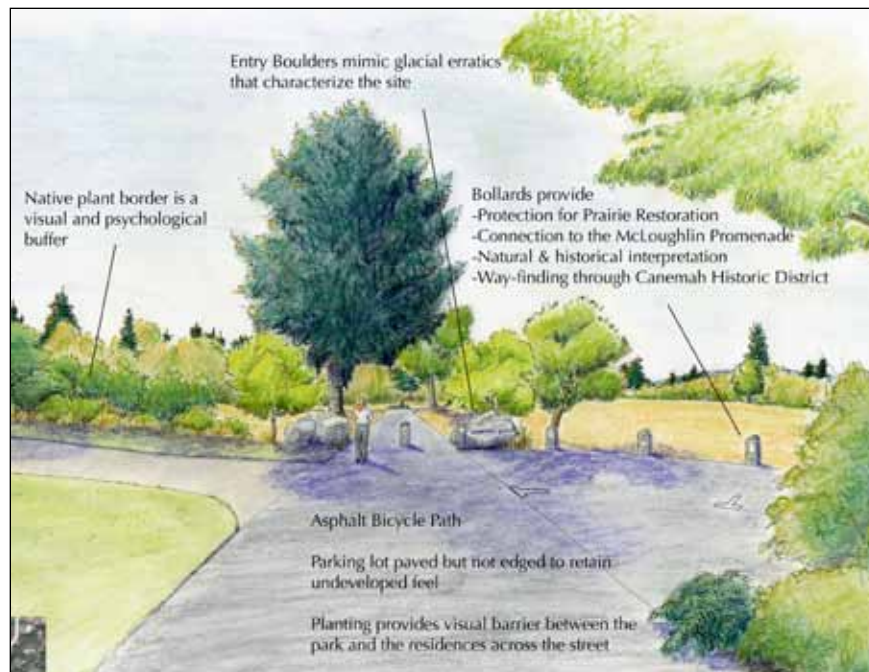
Design Proposal 2
by Claire Grist



5.3 Canemah Butte Greenspace

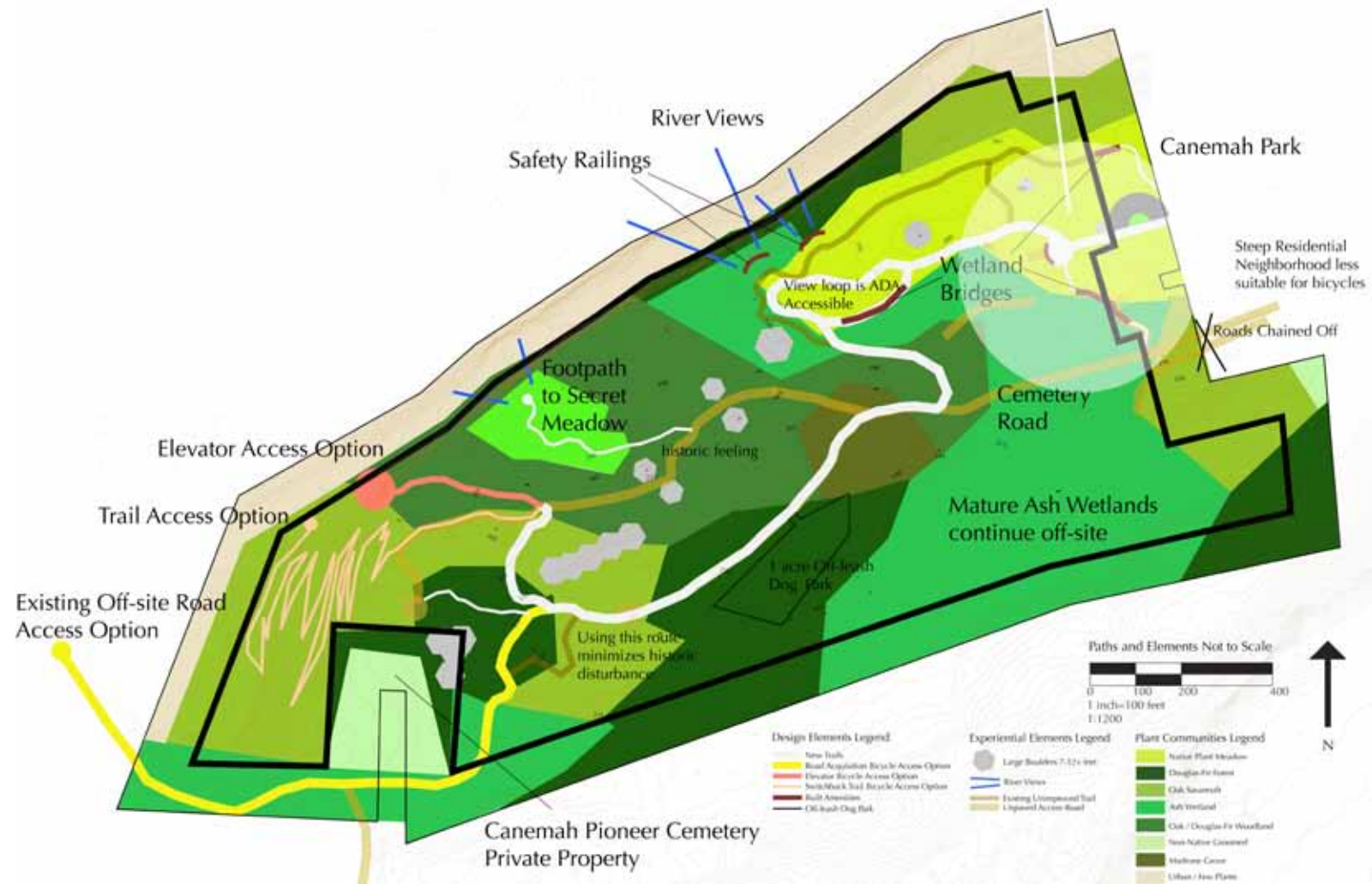


East Entry



Looking at East Entry

Canemah Butte is a metro greenspace with some upland wetland and prairie habitats. With sensitive plant species of a rocky bald upland habitat with vernal pools, it contains abandoned streets, foundations, and an old cemetery. It has a small city park at its northeast edge near residences, nice vista views of the Willamette River between trees, interesting examples of glacial erratics, and is popular as a place for short hikes and dog walking. It has potential to become a strong amenity along a WFHA trail that could follow the ridgetop along the south side of the river above the falls.



Canemah Butte Greenspace Plan Proposal
by Charlotte Goldman

- West Bridge
- Canemah Park
- Canemah Butte Greenspace**
- Falls View Park



5.4 Falls View Park

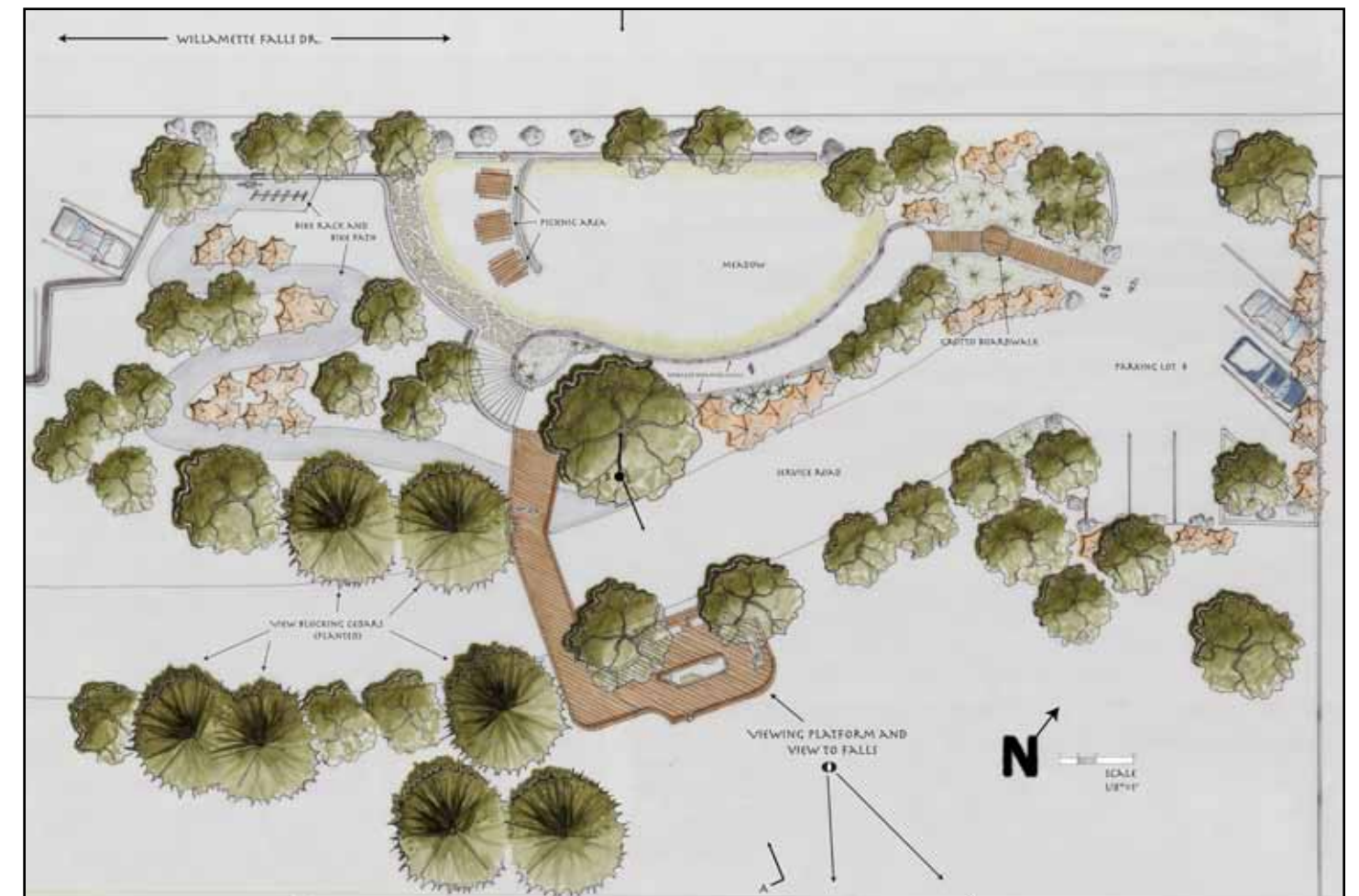
West Bridge

Canemah Park

Canemah Butte
Greenspace

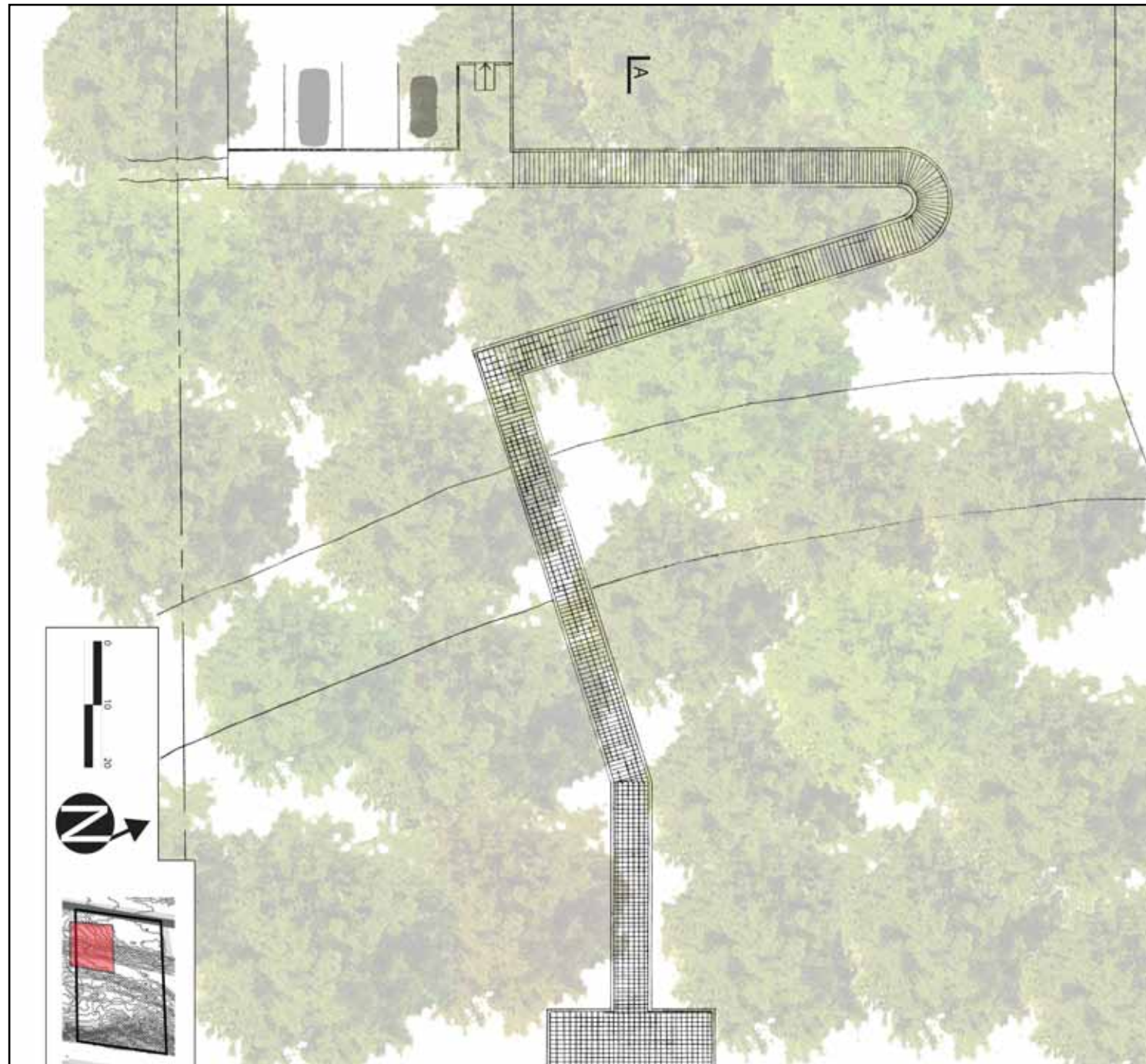
Falls View Park

Falls View Park does not yet exist. It is a prime site for a park because it offers probably the best view of Willamette Falls compared to any other potential park site on the shores of the Willamette River. The class proposes that the portion of PGE property between the sub-station and mill effluent treatment tank, and above effluent pipeline, be fenced off. This could be a great place for people and bicyclist to park and walk on an extended deck out beyond the trees to view the falls. Alternatively, they could walk on a bridge all the way out to the state owned fish ladder deck right next to the falls, or, a suspended cable car (teleferique) to carry people from this park to that deck then directly on to the Museum of the Oregon Territory.

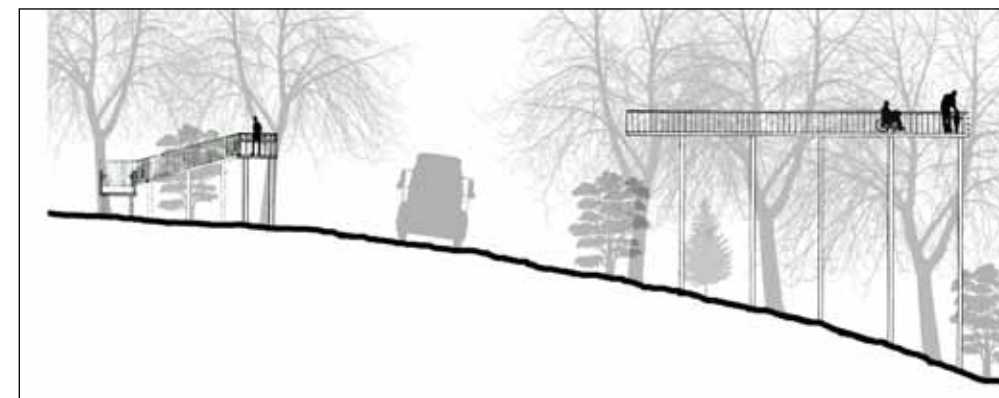


Design Proposal 1
by Eric Robinson

5.5 Falls View Park



Design Proposal 2
by Alex Misar



Site Design Goals

- Create a scenic viewpoint of the falls that emphasizes the juxtaposition between the natural environment and the industrial environment.
- Preserve the existing trees and plantlife.
- Restore the existing oak savannah for historical and ecological purposes. This includes removing invasive plants.
- Create a historical interpretive area.
- Create a contained area that protects PGE utilities and the public.
- Connect the site to the proposed trail system.
- Create a parking lot for 3-4 cars that manages storm water in a way which is ecologically and hydrological advantageous.
- Allow for continued truck access to West Linn Paper Company and PGE facilities.

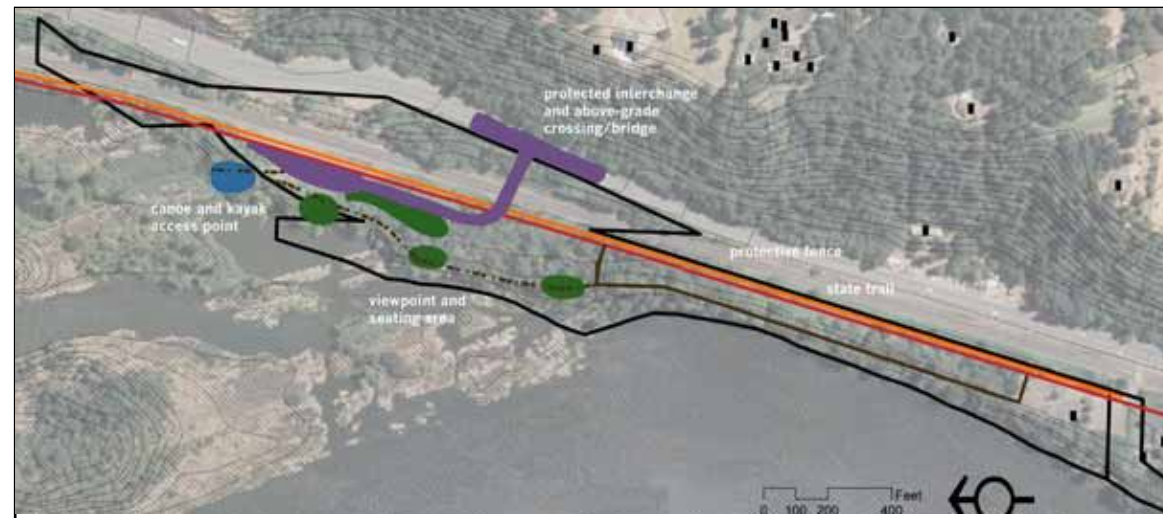
West Bridge
Canemah Park
Canemah Butte
Greenspace
Falls View Park



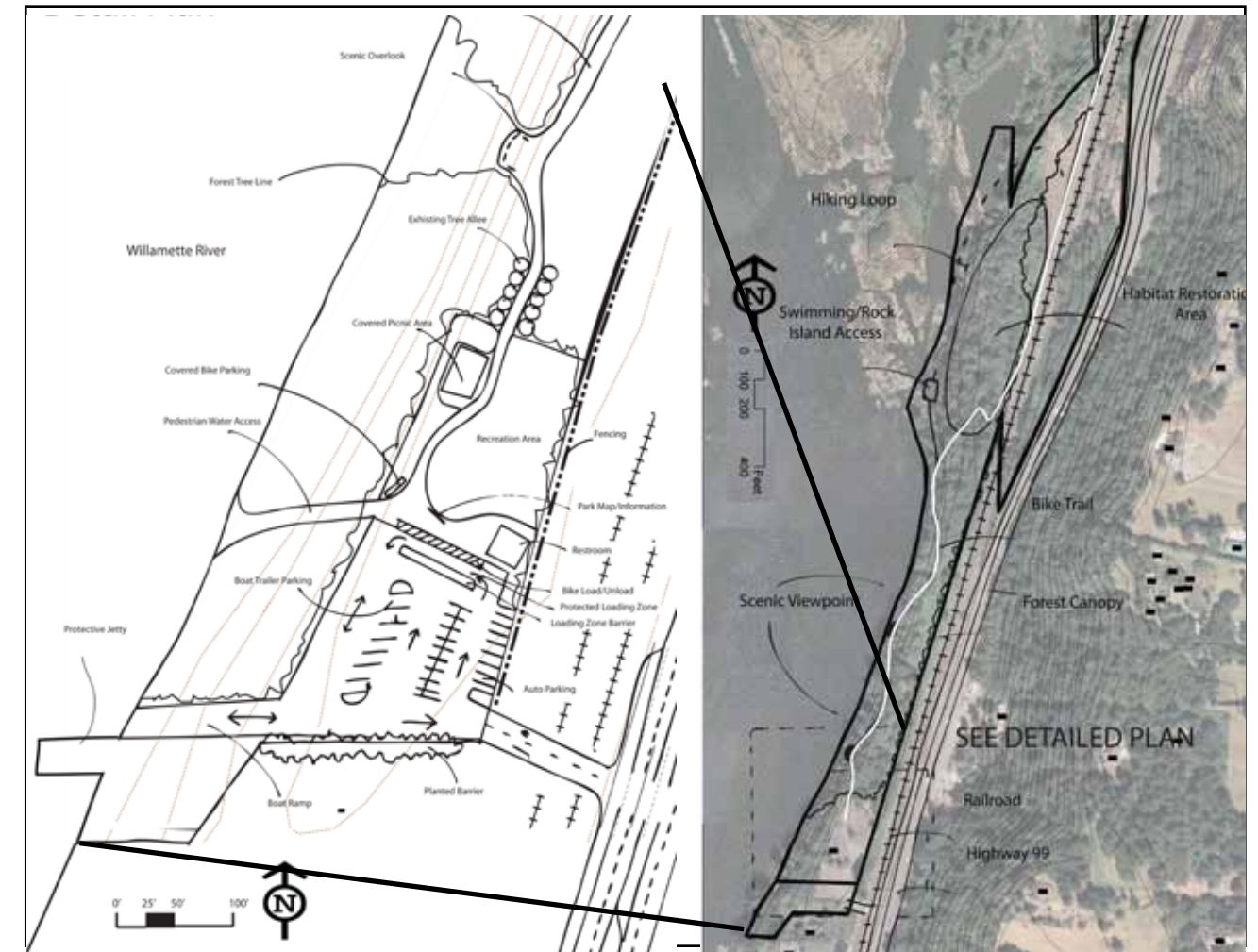
6.1 Willamette Narrows State Park

Willamette Narrows State Park & Bridge

Willamette Narrows is a state park that is closed. It adjoins metro greenspace properties and Nature Conservancy property and other state lands on both sides of the river and on islands. All of these properties could be combined, except island owned by nature conservancy could be combined and reopened and as diverse, day-use state park. This would entail building a bridge between both shores of the Willamette River and the main island. This park might be a bicycle staging area along a regional trail system. It could also be the southern end of a local WFHA trail down from the falls.



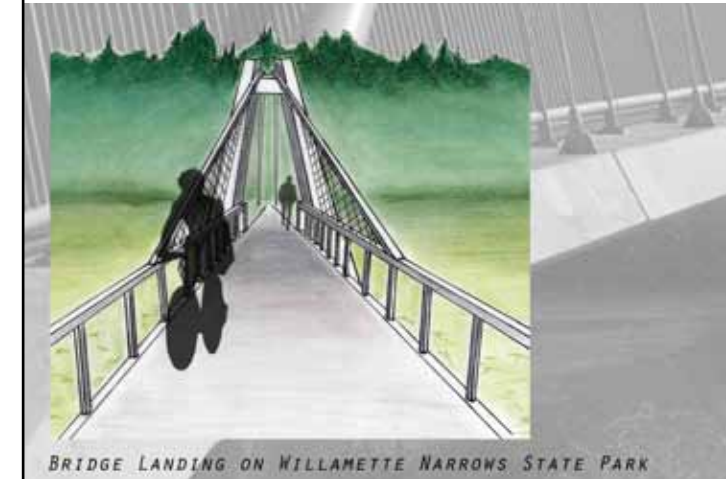
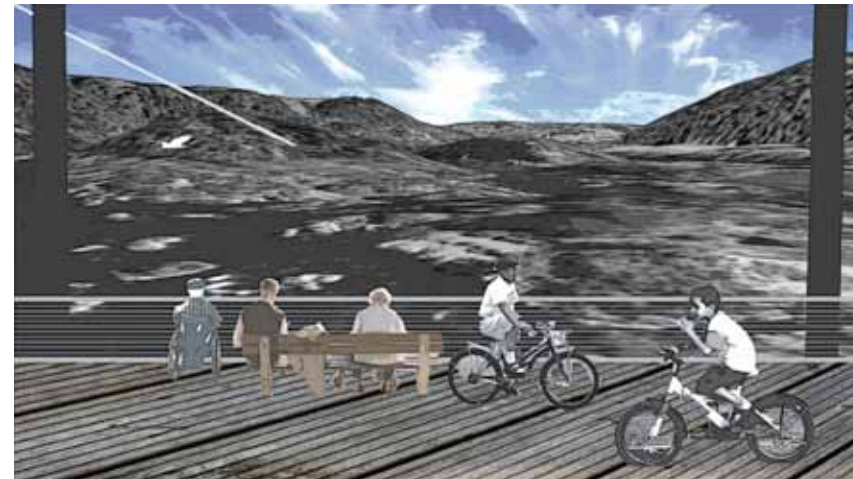
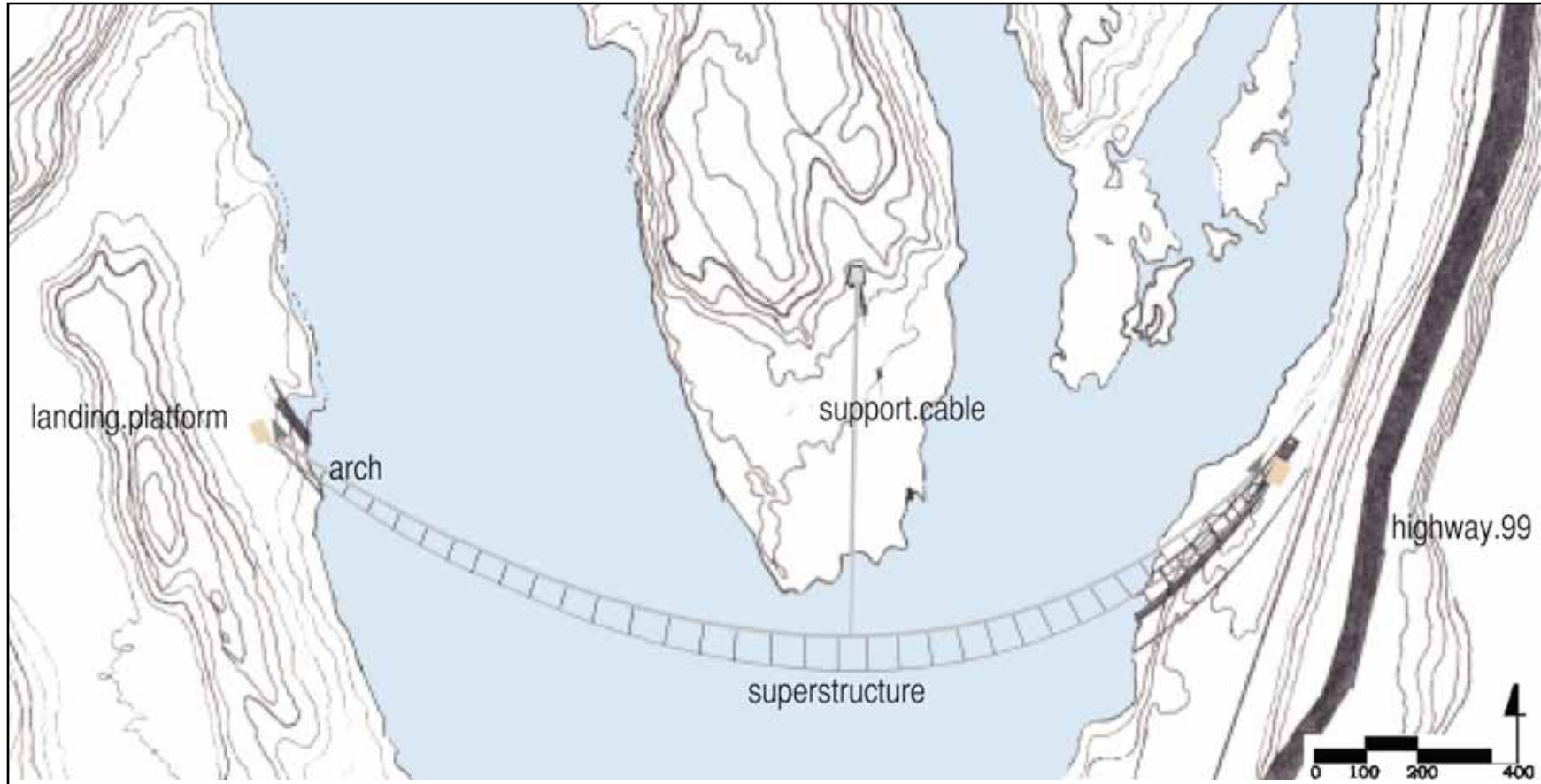
Design Proposal 1
by Christo Brehm



Design Proposal 2
by Lauren Schwartz

6.2 Willamette Narrows Park Pedestrian Bridge

Willamette Narrows State Park & Bridge



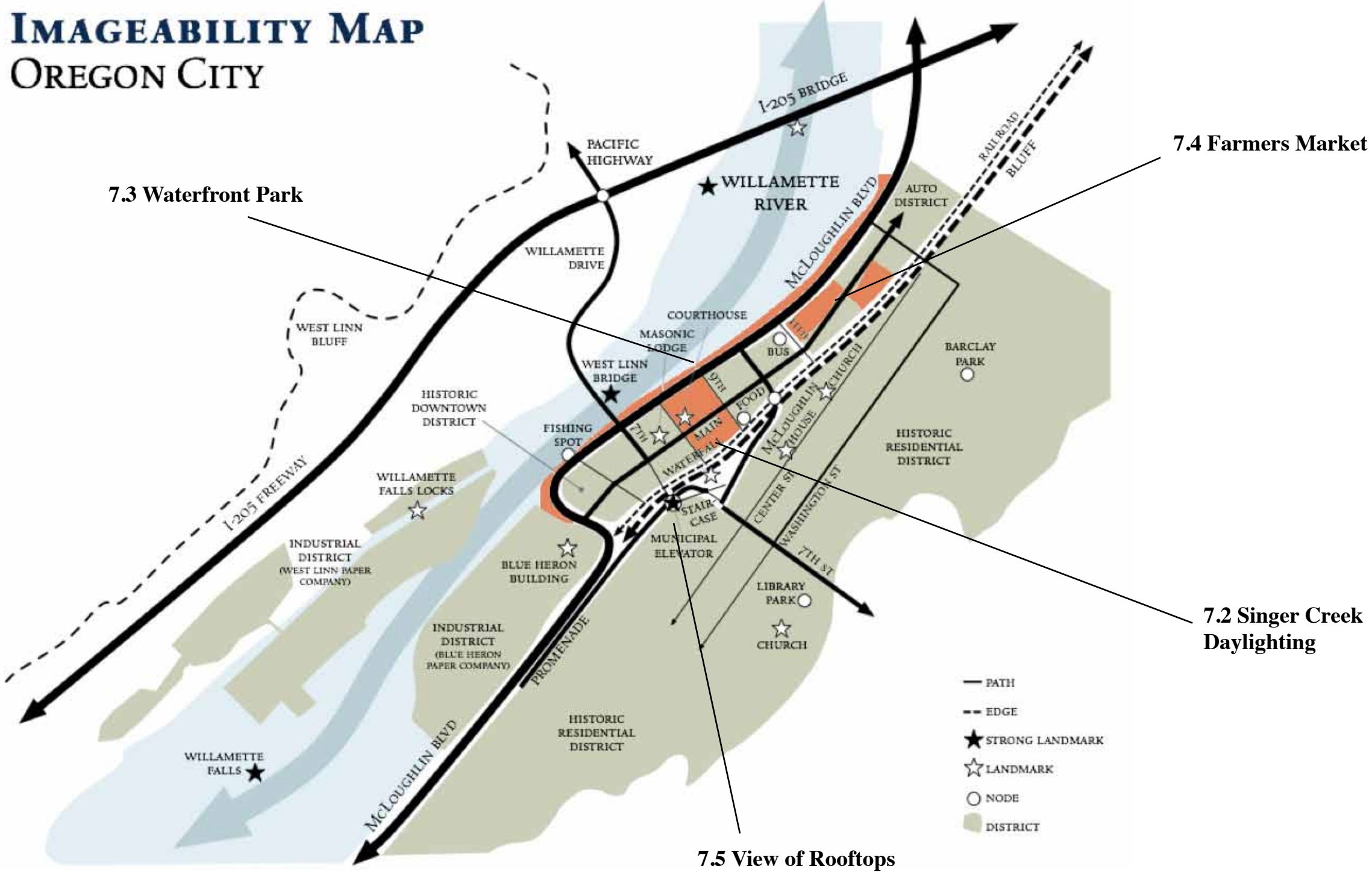
Design Proposal 1
by Matt Sillaman

Design Proposal 2
by Shawn Sanes

7. Downtown Oregon City Design

- 7.1 Downtown Design Guide
- 7.2 Singer Creek Daylighting
- 7.3 Waterfront Park
- 7.4 Farmers Market
- 7.5 Rooftops

IMAGEABILITY MAP OREGON CITY



7.1 Important Historic Downtown Design Details

When making decisions about the future of a downtown, it is helpful to record and understand existing conditions. It is also important to understand what historic resources remain, not only buildings and the cumulative changes that occur over time, but at the streetscape level as well. These collective resources are tangible portals into the past and a way we can begin to understand what historic stories and events can be told.



McCald Building



Petzold Building



Masonic Building



Basalt Curb



Horse Hitching Ring

Downtown Design Guide

Singer Creek Daylighting

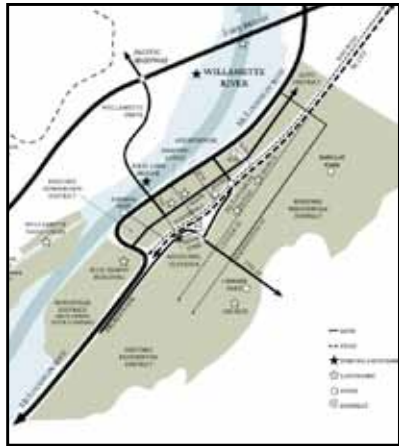
Waterfront Park

Farmers Market

Rooftops



Historic information and images gathered and assessed by Karl Dietzler



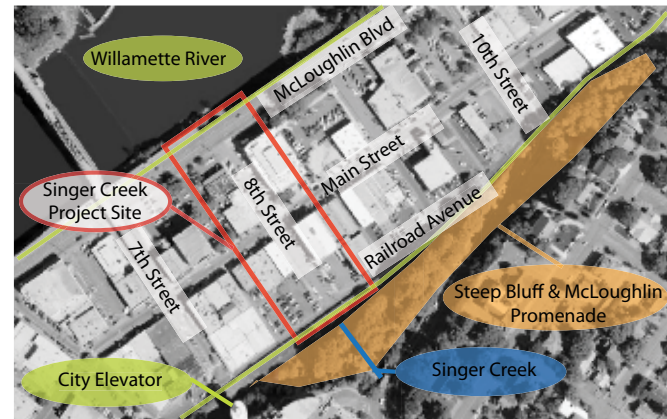
7.2 Singer Creek Daylighting - Design Goals and Inspiration

Downtown Design Guide

Singer Creek Daylighting

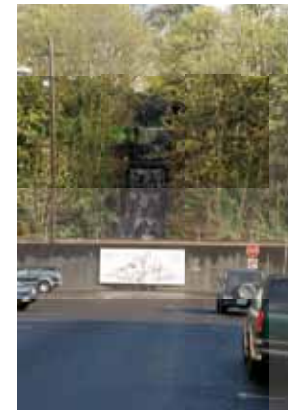
Waterfront Park
Farmers Market

Rooftops

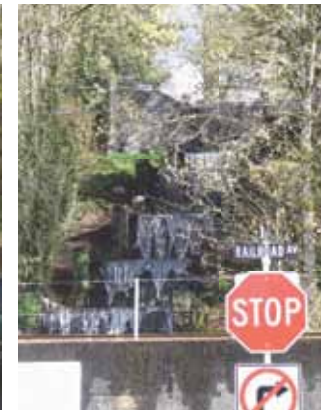


Proposed Site

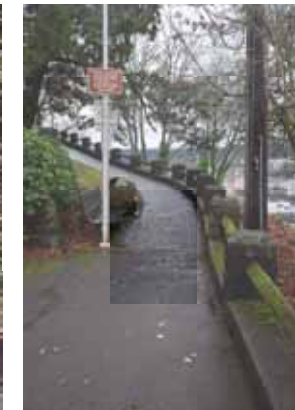
8th Street between Railroad Avenue and McLoughlin Boulevard



View Down 8th Street toward Singer Creek and the bluff.



The stepped design of the WPA Singer Creek project.



McLoughlin Promenade.



Singer Creek Stair



McLoughlin Promenade.

Urban Design Goals:

Create a pedestrian plaza in the heart of Oregon City's historic downtown that will help revitalize retail businesses, restaurants, and residential uses.

Create a unique and memorable feature that will uniquely distinguish Oregon City's historic downtown.

Create a visual connection between the historic downtown and Singer Creek Falls.

Historic Design Goals:

Reconnect residents and visitors to Singer Creek Falls, a currently underplayed historic element of Oregon City.

Incorporate the historic design vocabulary used by the WPA at Singer Falls Stair and McLoughlin Promenade into Oregon City's Historic Downtown.



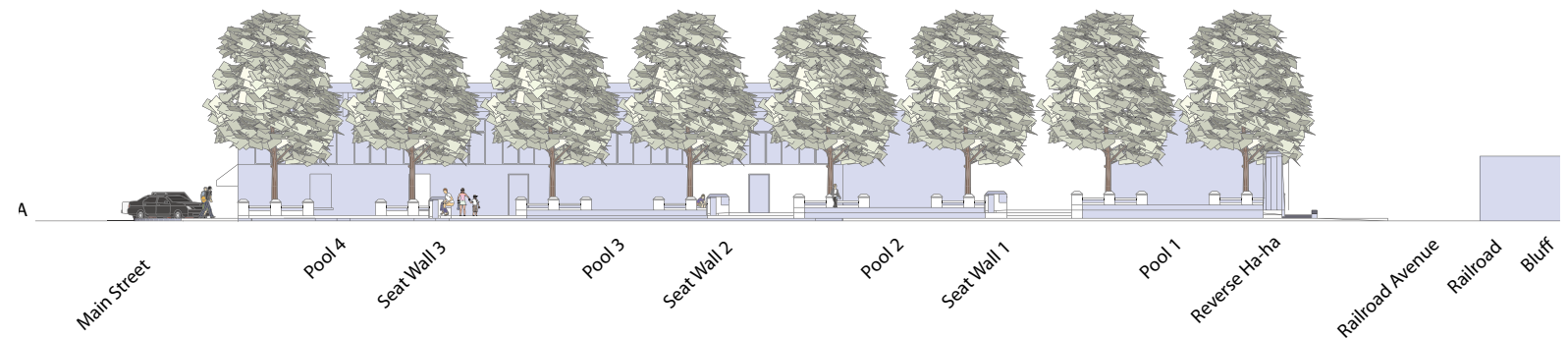
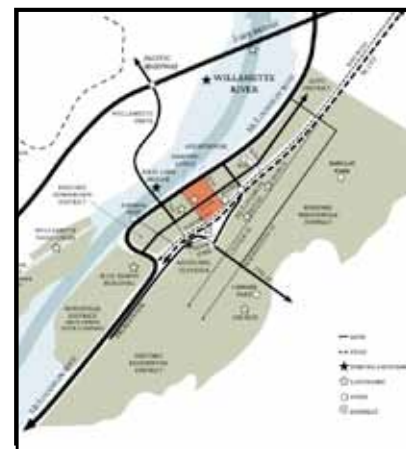
Stepped Cascading pools of proposed design.



Singer Creek Falls.

Design Inspiration

The design and its elements were inspired by the historic McLoughlin Promenade, Singer Creek Falls and Singer Creek Stair. The stepped pools create a visual connection to the existing Singer Creek Falls. The seat wall design refers to the railing of the McLoughlin Promenade.



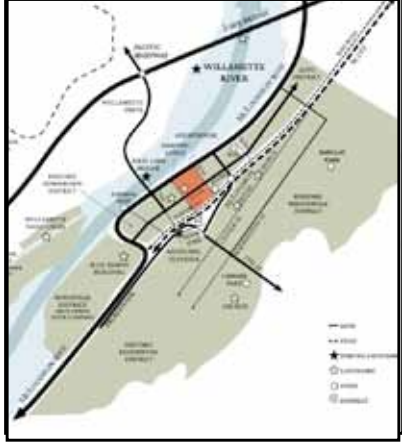
Design Proposal by Sara Robertson

7.2 Singer Creek Daylighting - Design Proposal



Downtown Design Guide
Singer Creek Daylighting
Waterfront Park
Farmers Market
Rooftops

Renderings by Sara Robertson



7.3 Waterfront Park

Downtown Design Guide

Singer Creek Daylighting

Waterfront Park

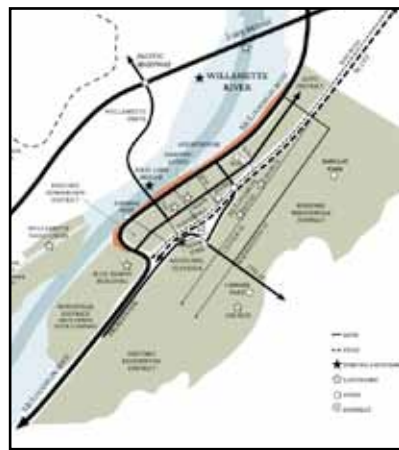
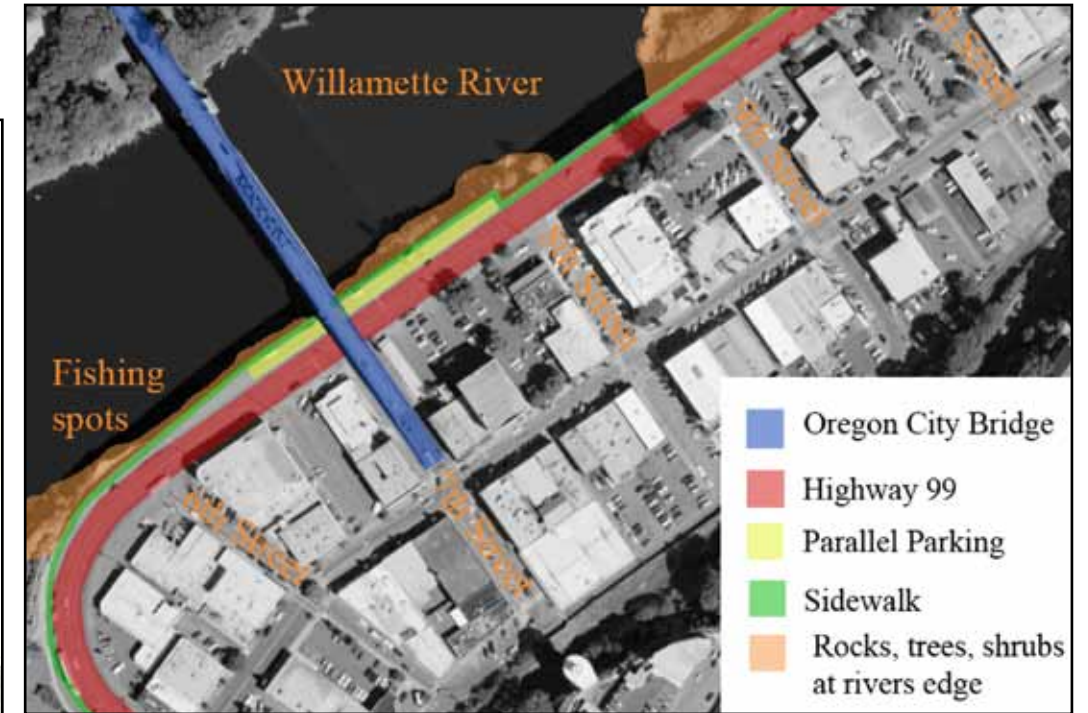
Farmers Market

Rooftops

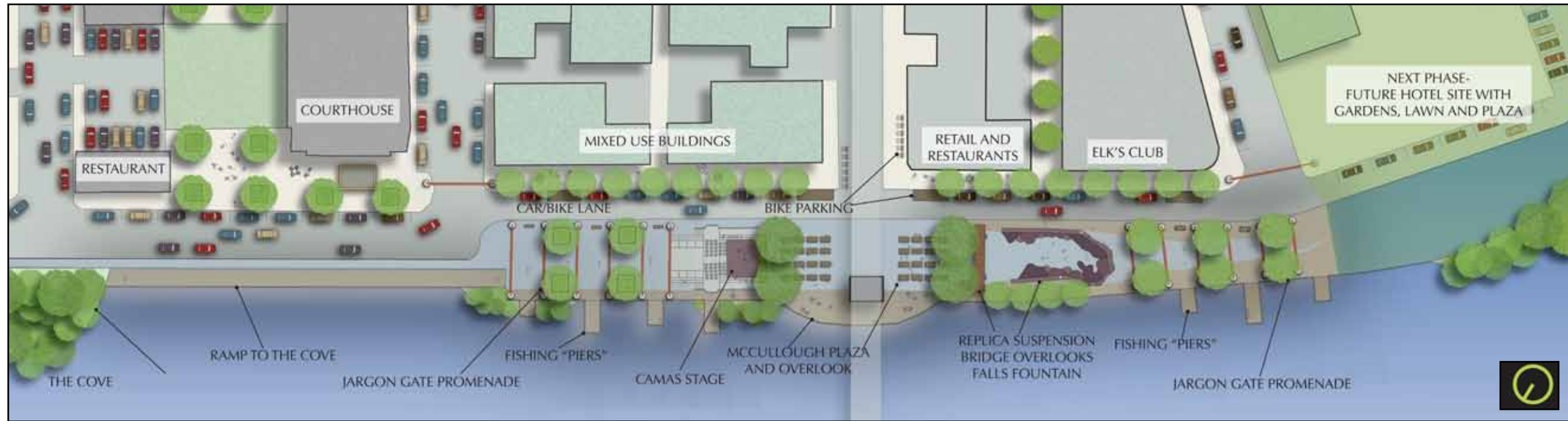
The three waterfront park designs differ according to whether and how traffic on Highway 99E is moved from the waterfront. Design Proposal 1 assumes all traffic remains on the current rivershore right-of-way (a continuation of the McLoughlin Blvd. project). Design Proposal 2 entails a couplet solution where the northbound traffic switch to Railroad Ave. and ninth street, and the southbound traffic remains in the current row. Design Proposal 3 entails moving all 99E traffic off the waterfront (both directions) to Railroad Ave. and 9th Street.

Design Proposal 1

by Leah Lyons

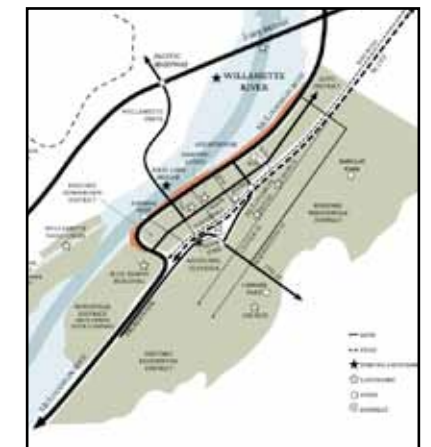


7.3 Waterfront Park



Downtown Design Guide
 Singer Creek Daylighting
 Waterfront Park
 Farmers Market
 Rooftops

Design Proposal 2
 by Anya Dobrowolski



7.3 Waterfront Park

Downtown Design Guide

Singer Creek Daylighting

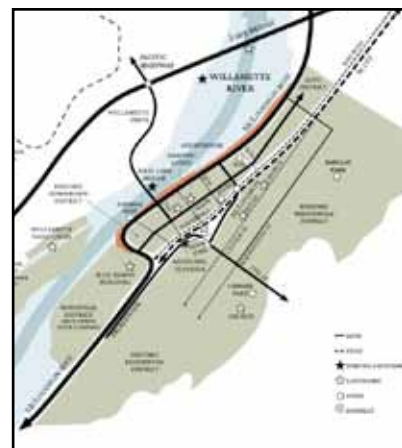
Waterfront Park

Farmers Market

Rooftops



Design Proposal 3
by Harlan Justice



7.4 Potential Farmers Market in Downtown Oregon City

This urban park can serve as a catalyst for new strategies in downtown. It is intended to serve as an anchor for a new market corridor along Main Street. The site is home to a new mixed-use development which provides retail and restaurant space downstairs, and office space upstairs. Next to it, an urban plaza attracts visitors during the week, and becomes highly active during lunch times.

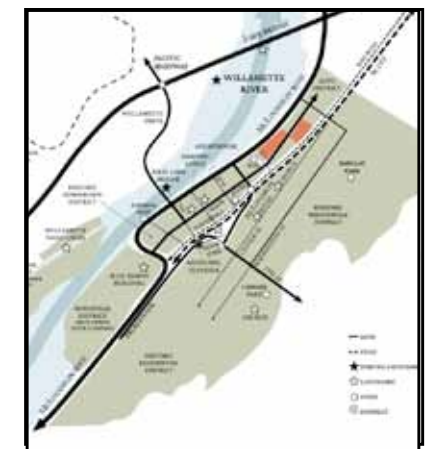
On days when the site plays host to the Farmer's Market, the site anchors a Main Street corridor which becomes activated by extended outdoor markets. These markets are a venue for Oregon City's retail and restaurant community, flea markets, craft fairs, and other outdoor markets. Retail along Main Street is encouraged to open their front doors and spill into the street.

New plantings of larger trees and native plants in the curb and crosswalk areas serve to make the downtown more verdant and attractive.

The entire design can be extended to include and future development which may occur at the current mill site, further anchoring the corridor with the city's greatest asset - views of Willamette Falls.



- Downtown Design Guide
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Design Proposal by Schuyler Warren

7.5 Rooftops of Oregon City's Downtown - Design Proposal

Downtown Design Guide
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The rooftops of Oregon City's Downtown are uniquely visible to the public eye, from the top of the City's iconic Municipal Elevator and along the bluff-top promenade. Today's Main Street rooftops are functional, if not particularly attractive. Tomorrow's Main Street rooftops could be so much more. They could enhance the aesthetic, economic and ecological values of Oregon City.

Proposed Economic Benefits:

- Create a tourist draw: Entice visitors to Oregon City who are intrigued by the novelty of seeing large collection of decorated roofs and green roofs from the unique vantage point of the Promenade. These visitors will support downtown businesses.
- Green roofs save money over the long term on roof replacement and maintenance costs.
- Green roofs save money over the long term on heating and cooling costs.
- Green roofs save money on stormwater treatment.
- Green roofs could attract businesses involved in green technology and green services.
- Qualify for grants and financial incentive programs related to environmental sustainability and public art.
- Create jobs related to designing, installing, maintaining decorated and green roofs.
- Create additional retail and residential amenities - rooftop gardens, restaurants, event spaces, and so on.

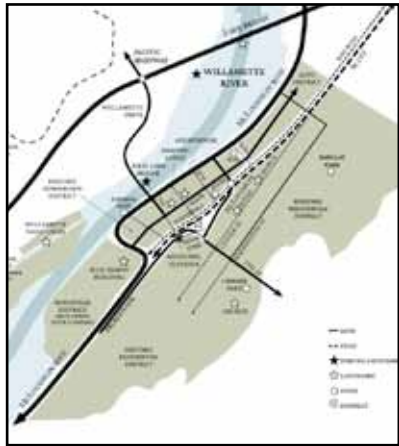


Photos at right by Anya Dobrowolski

Photo below by Robert Ribe



Design Proposal by Jennifer Marx



7.5 Rooftops of Oregon City's Main Street - Scenarios

Scenario: People of Oregon City

Oregon City's rich history lies in its landscape and in its people. Painted murals line Main Street, telling stories of the pioneers and early settlement. Why not also sing Oregon City's history from the rooftops, and celebrate the people who have defined the place over the years? The original Native Americans of the Cashhooks, Clowwewalla and Molalla tribes; the pioneer settlers arriving via the Oregon Trail; Oregon City leaders beginning with John McLoughlin; and outstanding individuals who have made the City proud through their contributions in the areas of business government, arts and sports.

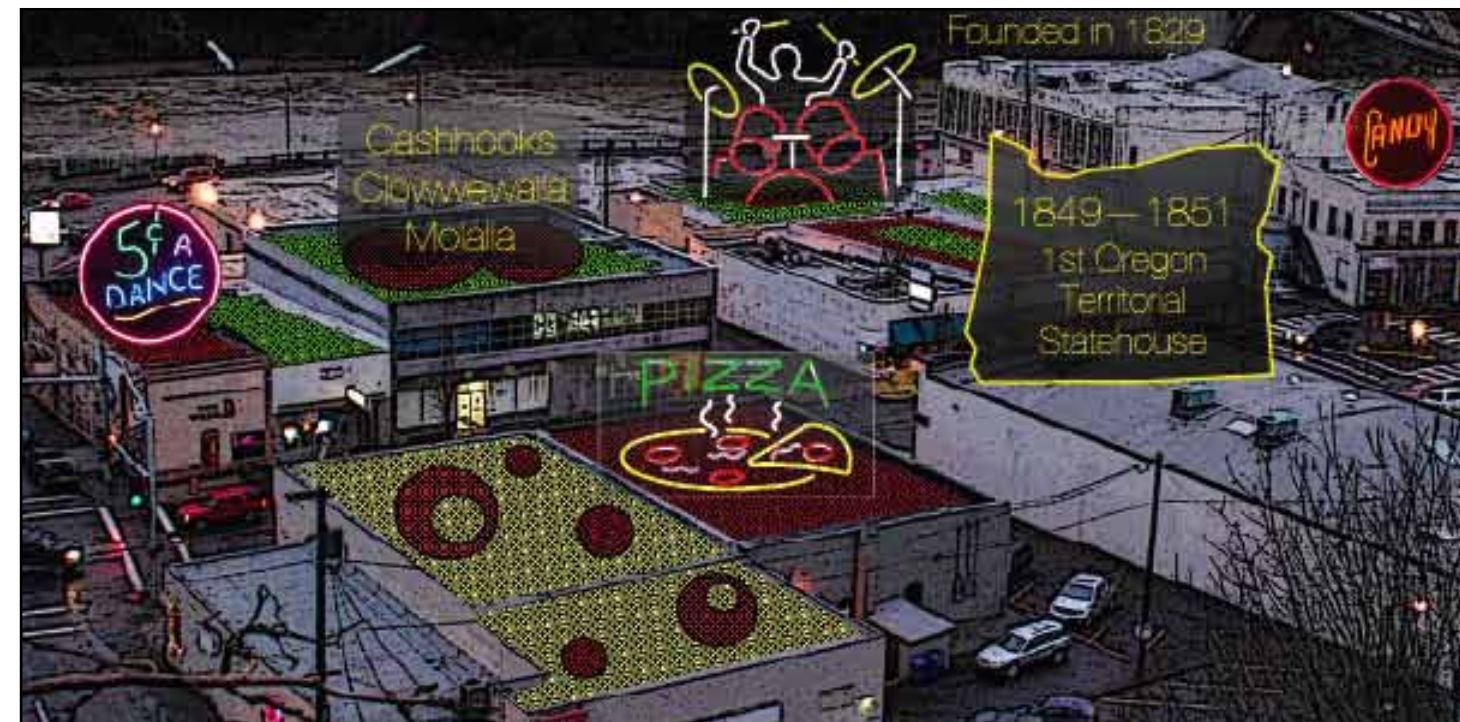
One approach to making history more visible would be to create iconic portraits of these people and mount these images so that they can be enjoyed from the promenade, enhanced by signage that enables visitors to identify the faces and learn the stories behind them. Perhaps the portraits could even be lit up at night.



Scenario: Bright Lights

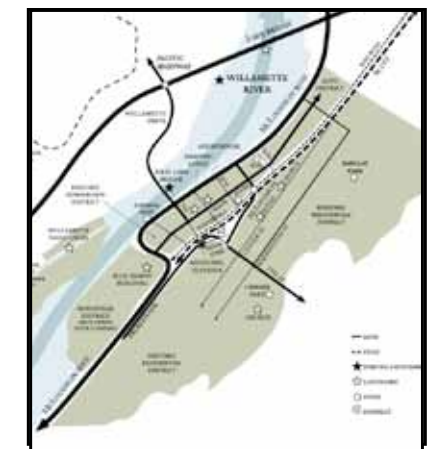
Celebrating Oregon City from the rooftops doesn't have to end at dusk. Neon or LED lights can tell viewers not only what is inside a building today but what used to be there - a popular meeting place such as a dance hall or theater, an old general store, or the location of Oregon's First Territorial Statehouse. Lights can also mark significant times in Oregon City history, such as the year it was founded, the years when it served as the State Capitol, and the year the iconic suspension bridge was built.

City lighting is a challenging visual medium, and must be carefully designed and coordinated so that the results are exhilarating and aesthetically pleasing, not tacky and garish. The illustration below is intended only to suggest potential lighting themes, and is not intended to suggest a particular design scheme.



Design Proposal by Jennifer Marx

- Downtown Design Guide
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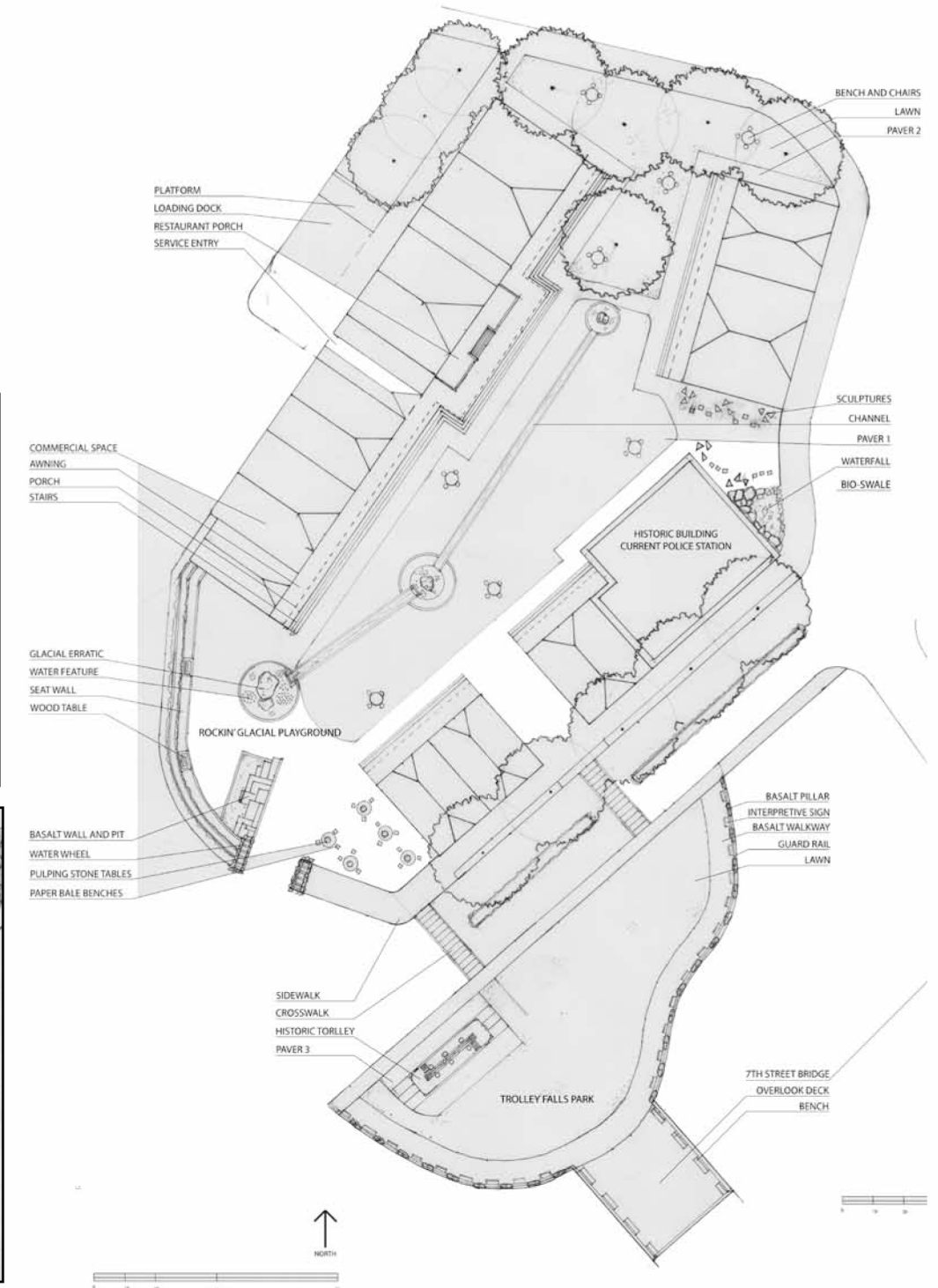
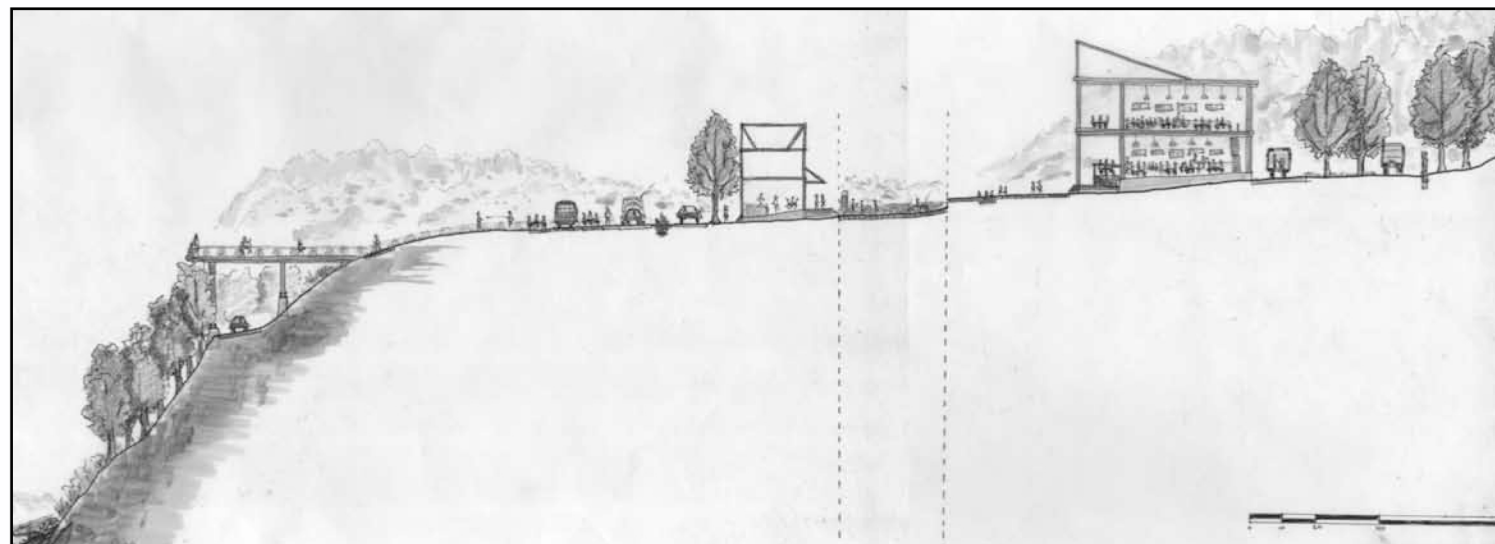
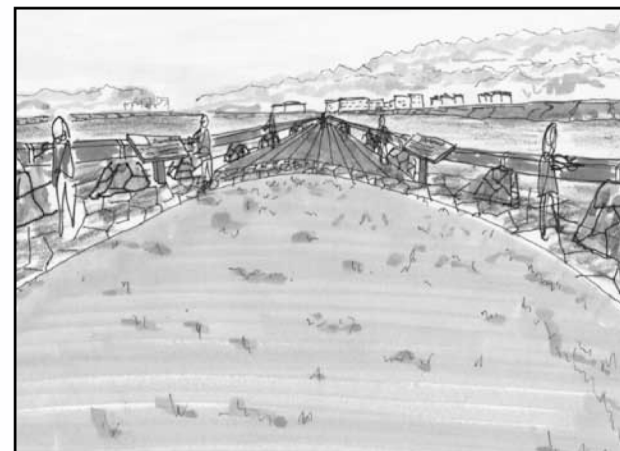
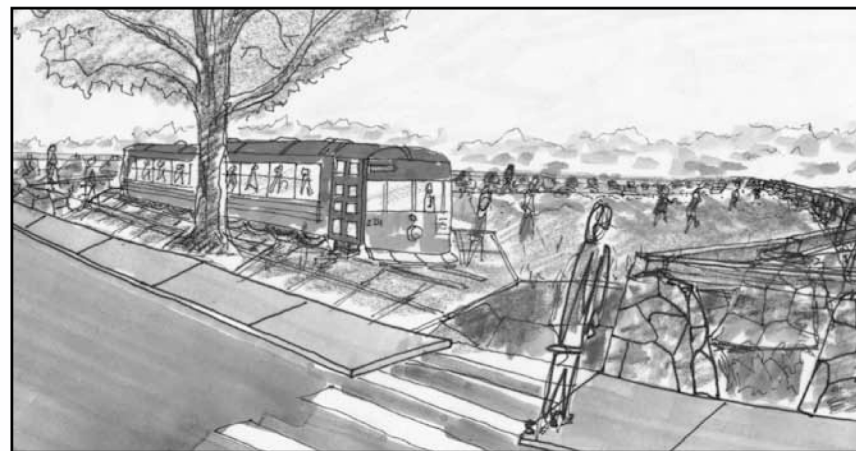
8.1 West Linn Police Area Design - Blufftop

Police Station
Blufftop

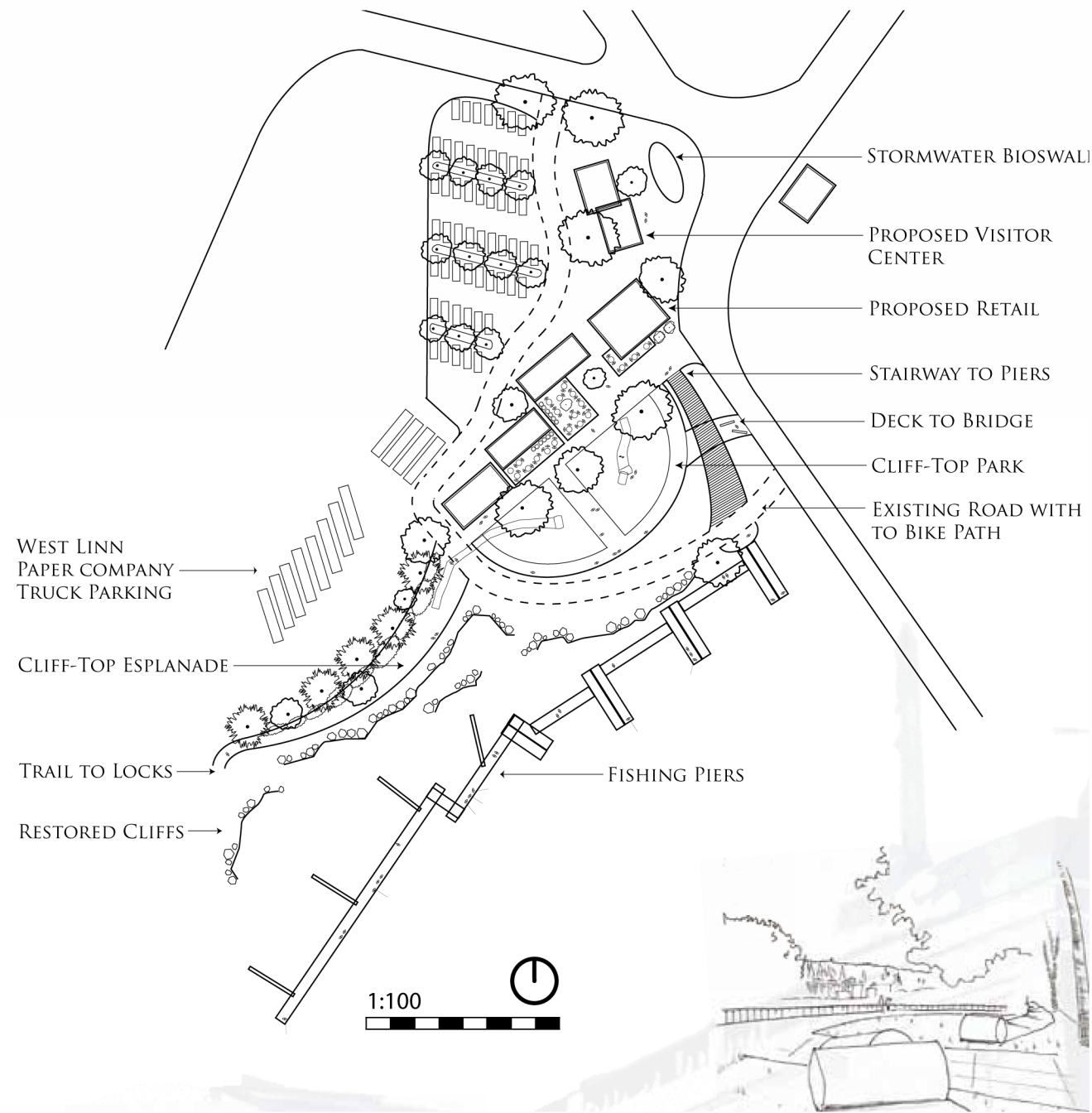
Police Station
River Access Down
Bluff

The West Linn Police Station is in the historic West Linn City Hall. The police department will be relocating soon. The future of this site is unknown. One option is to develop uses that celebrate the Heritage Area in relation to Willamette Falls and the Arch Bridge. This was a popular picnic area in the early days of Oregon City linked by private ferries. These two pages offer speculative designs for this.

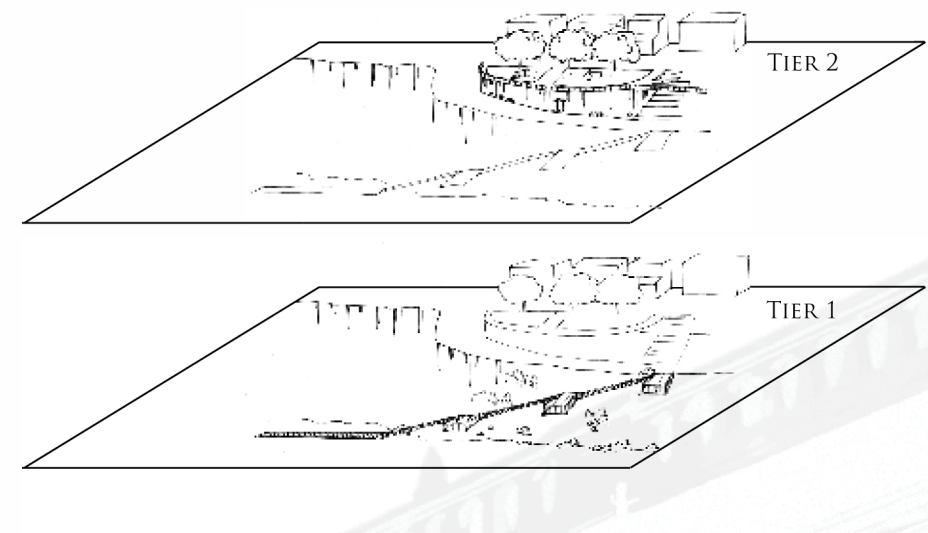
Shopping Center with Picnic Area and Viewdeck by Ryan Watson



8.2 West Linn Police Area Design With River Access Down Bluff



Visitors Center that Links to River and Bridge
by Nate Ulrich



Police Station
Blufftop
Police Station
River Access Down
Bluff



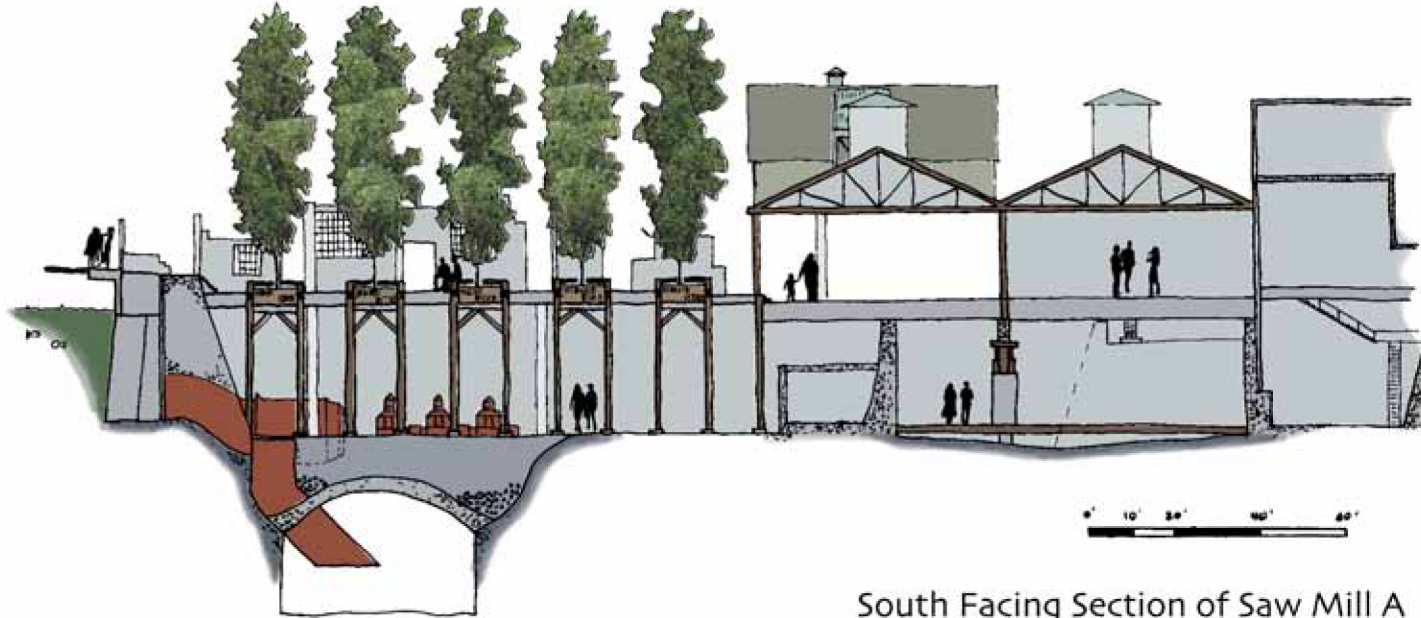
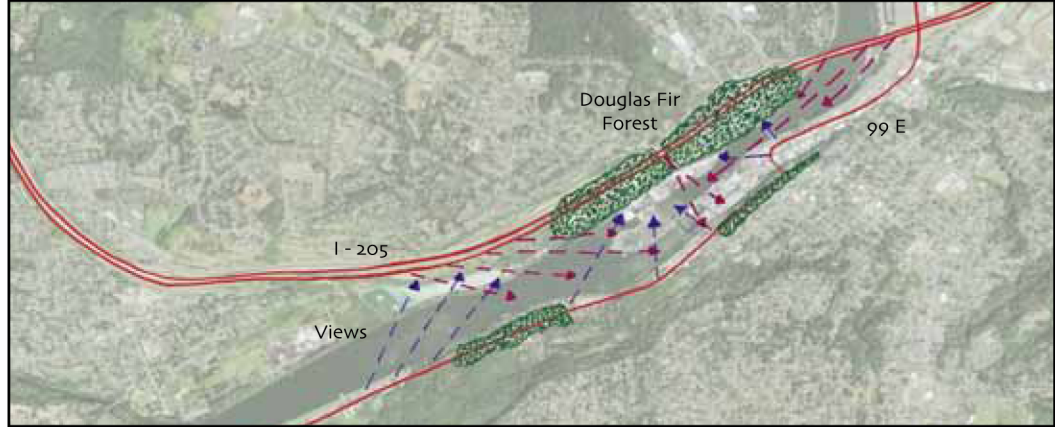
9.1 Willamette Falls Access from West Linn

Falls Access from West Linn

Falls Access from Oregon City

Access to Falls

Willamette Falls is one of the largest waterfalls in the continental United States but is not easily accessed up-close by the public. The following three pages show a few selected approaches to providing the public with vivid experiences of the sounds and sights of the falls.

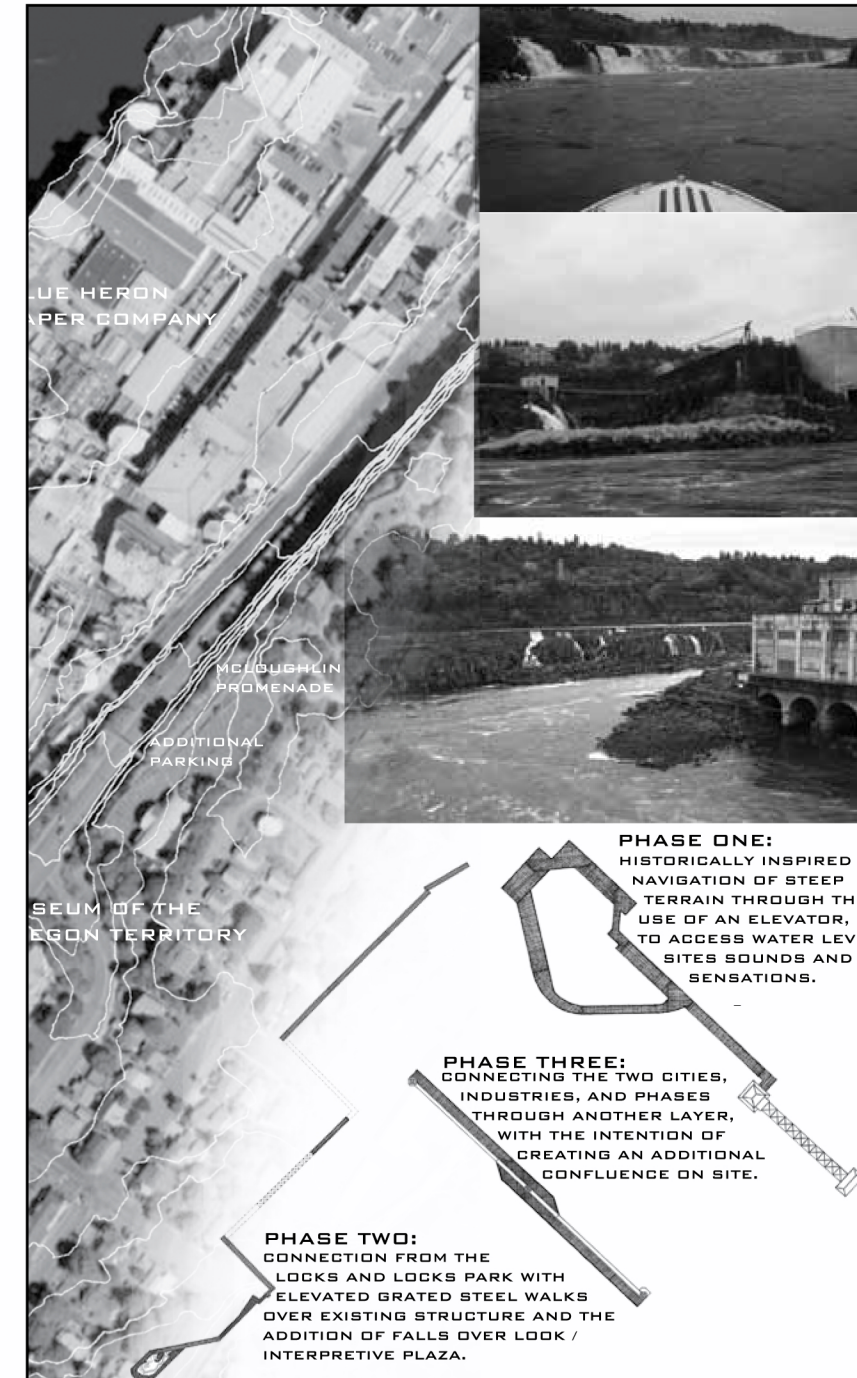
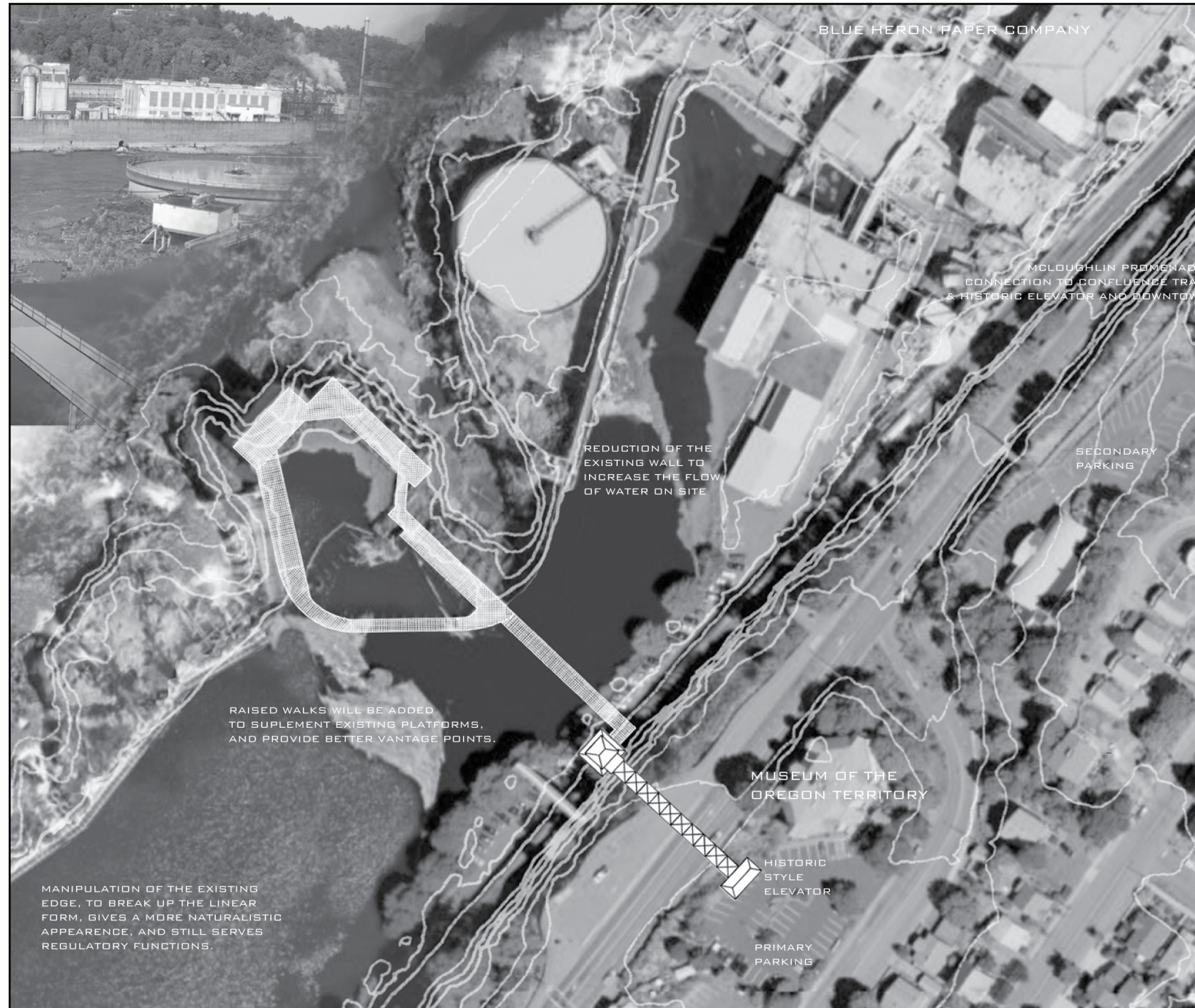


South Facing Section of Saw Mill A



Design Proposal 1 by Darcy Anders The power of the falls could not be appreciated from inside the building so it has been designed here as an open plaza. The remaining buildings are filled with cafes, a community center, a museum, and other public gathering space.

9.2 Willamette Falls Access Design from Oregon City



Falls Access from West Linn

Falls Access from Oregon City

Access to Falls

Design Proposal 2
by Cameron Morris

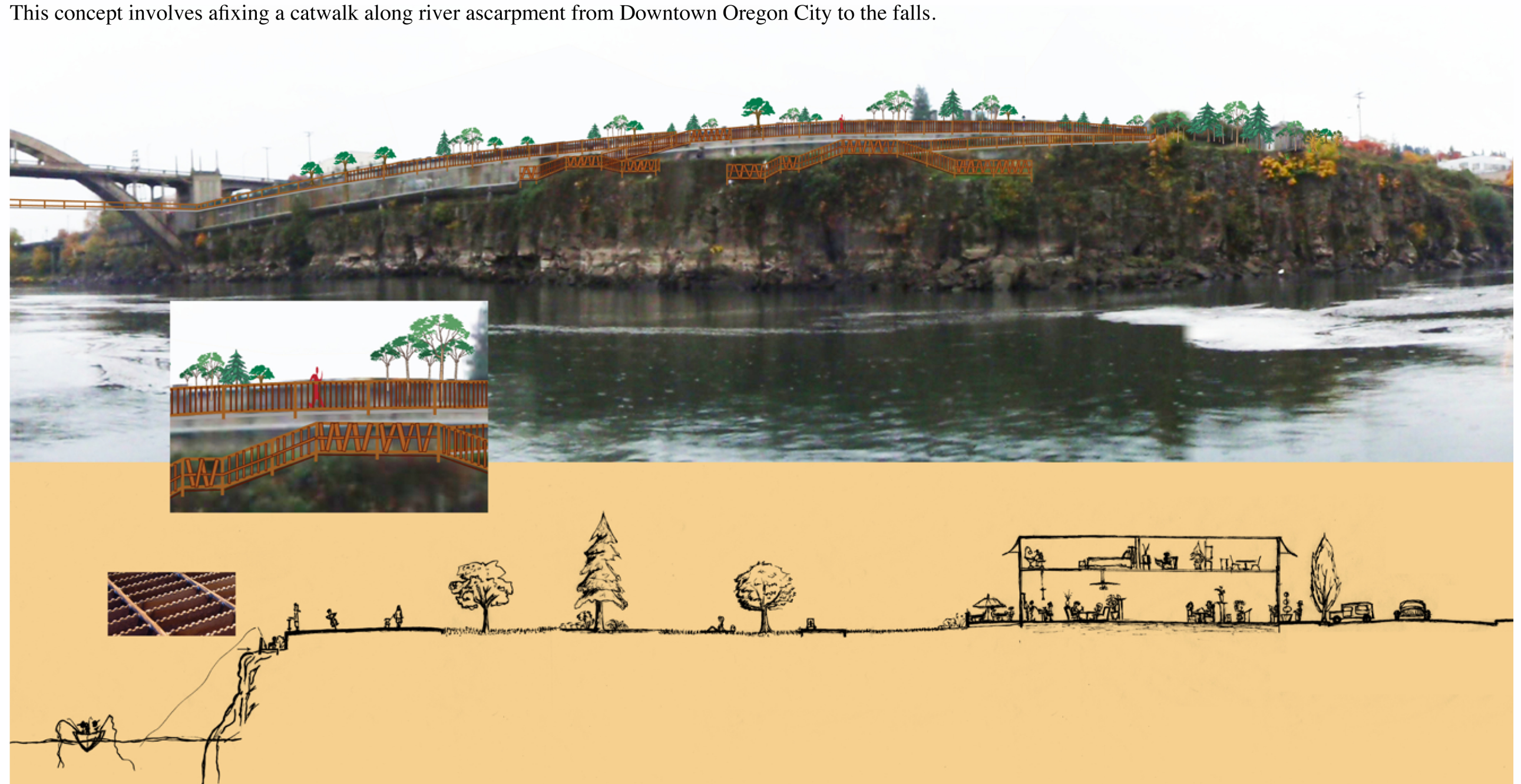
9.3 Willamette Falls Access Design

Falls Access from West Linn

Falls Access from Oregon City

Access to Falls

This concept involves affixing a catwalk along river ascarpment from Downtown Oregon City to the falls.



Design Proposal 3
by Roxane Como