

# *Downtown Riverfront Park Concept Plan*



Presentation of Draft Concept Plan  
March 2018

# Why a Downtown Riverfront Park?

- Provide a fun, dynamic community gathering spot along the celebrated Wisconsin River
- Enhance safe connections between the community and River
- Stimulate additional downtown revitalization
- Provide for Library and other educational programming
- Serve multiple recreational purposes, including eagle viewing
- Complement other Sauk Prairie area initiatives, especially the Great Sauk State Trail
- Provide link to the community's diverse transportation heritage
- Improve public parking and circulation
- Replace aging and deteriorating structures

# Existing Conditions

- ~1.7 acres, including parking lot but not Library site
- ~370 feet of Wisconsin River frontage
- New Great Sauk State Trail
- Busy, aging, 41-stall parking lot with challenging circulation
- Aging eagle overlook area
- Restricted driveway and hidden stairs to trail/lower area
- Invasive vegetation
- Erosion and drainage problems
- Old retaining walls starting to fail



# Function and Limitations of a Concept Plan

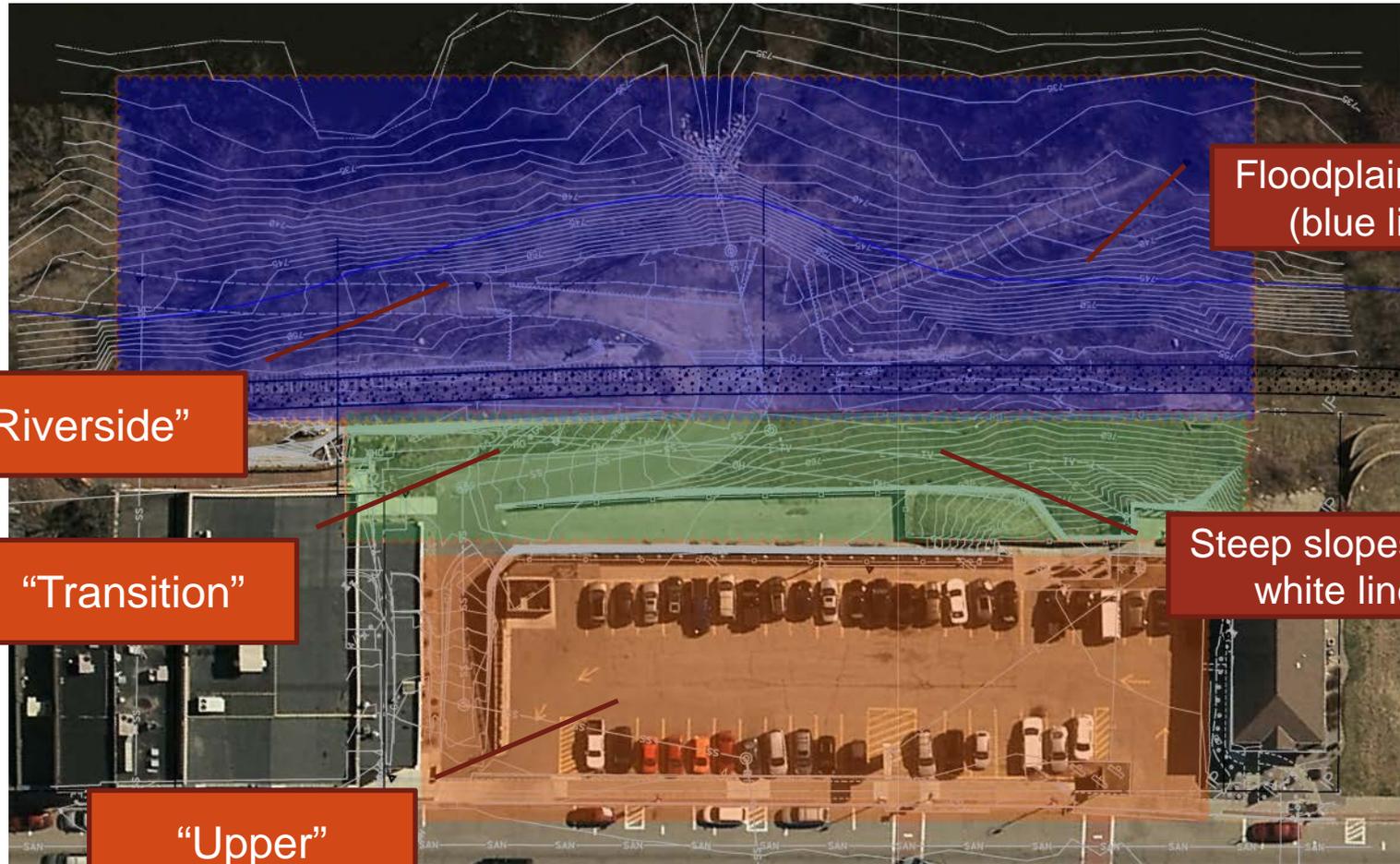
- Share and visualize ideas
- Motivate interest and excitement
- Provide platform for budgeting and fundraising, including grants
- Stimulate additional ideas that could be folded into a detailed plan later
- NOT a detailed plan from which bids would be sought and construction could be based



# Planning Process

- Site analysis
- UW-Madison student assistance, including examples
- Technical team meetings
- Initial Plan Commission discussion of ideas and concerns
- Stakeholder interactions, including Eagle Council, River Arts Inc., Chamber staff
- Concept ideas and plan development
- Preliminary cost estimate for Phase I
- Presentation and finalization of concept

# Conditions and Organization



Floodplain edge  
(blue line)

"Riverside"

"Transition"

Steep slopes (tight  
white lines)

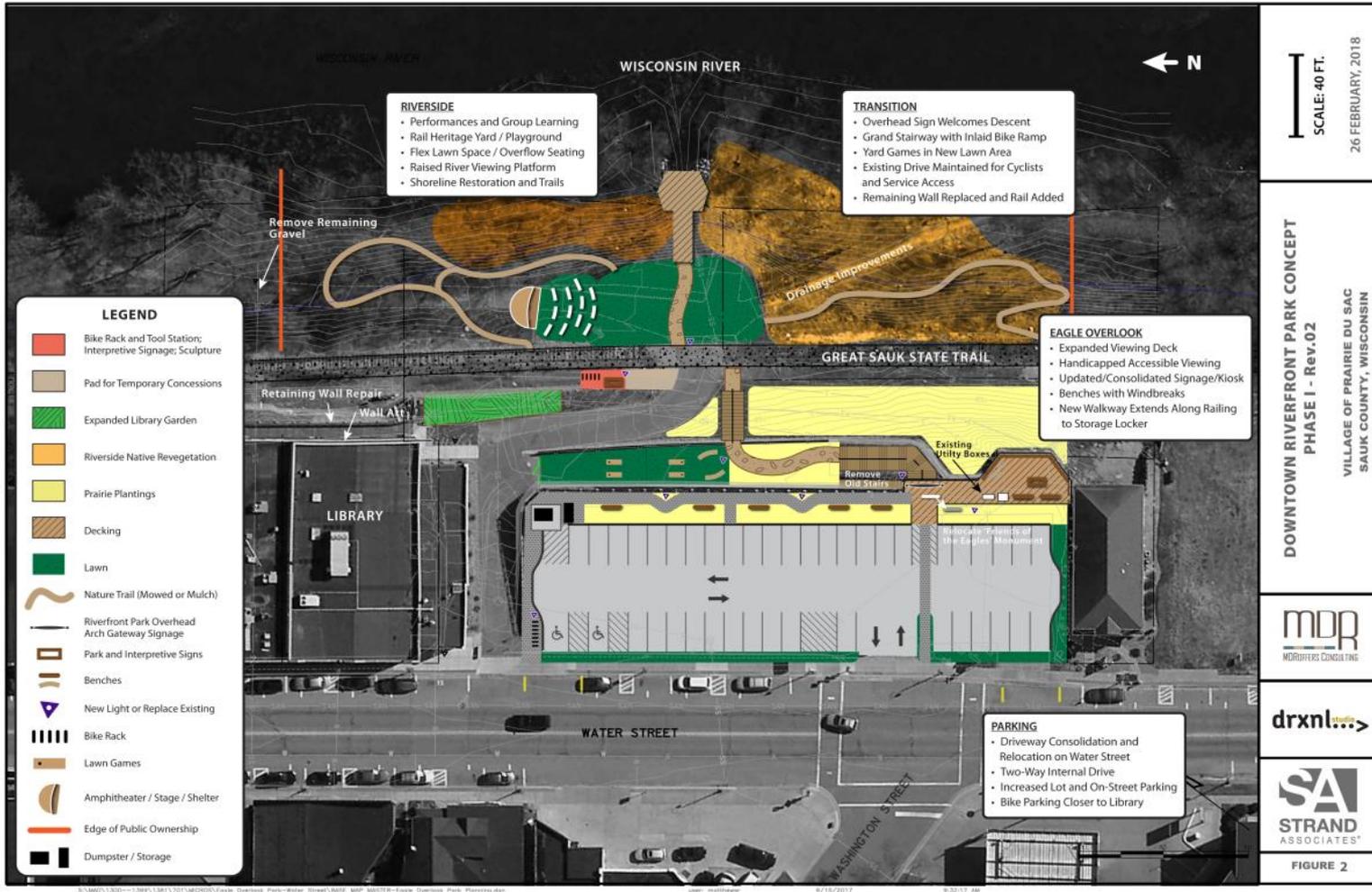
"Upper"

# Proposed Park Phasing

- Phase I
  - Parking/circulation improvements
  - Eagle overlook enhancements
  - Better transitions to riverside space
  - Performance, recreation, and viewing space near river
- Phase II
  - Planned Library expansion
  - Alternate river access
  - Minimize changes to Phase improvements



# Draft Phase I Concept Plan

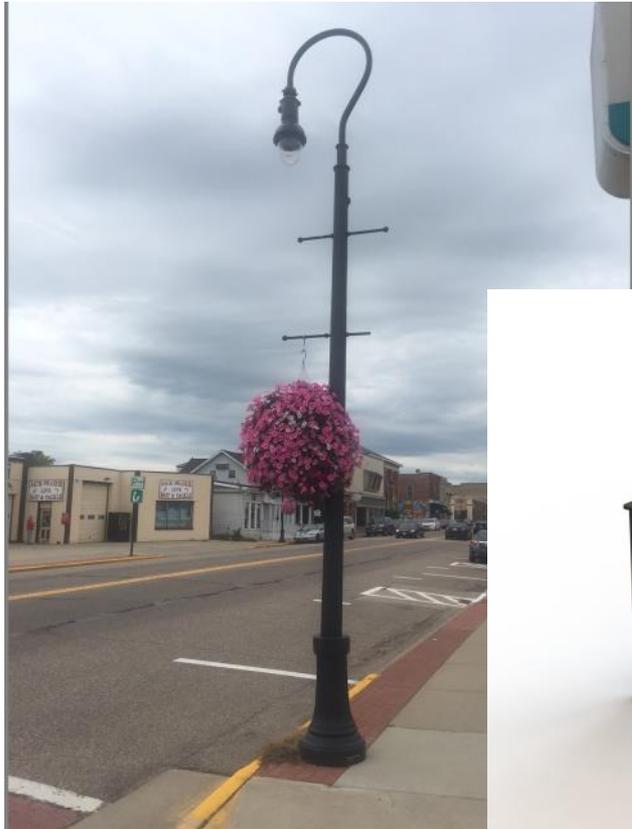


# Phase I Concept—Upper Area (Parking)

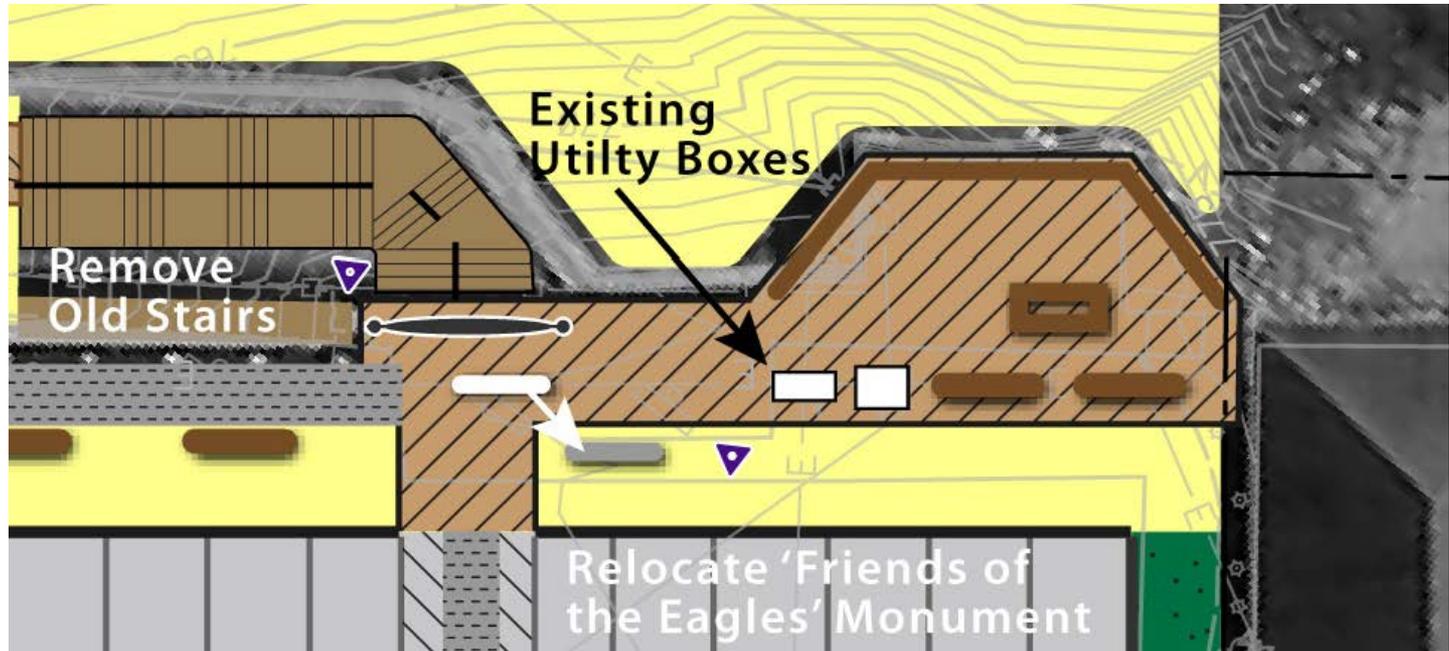


- Driveway consolidation
- Two-way circulation
- Slight parking *increase*
- Parking lot pulled away from street and railing
- Bike rack closer to Library

# Phase I Concept—Upper Area (Parking)



# Phase I Concept—Upper Area (Overlook)

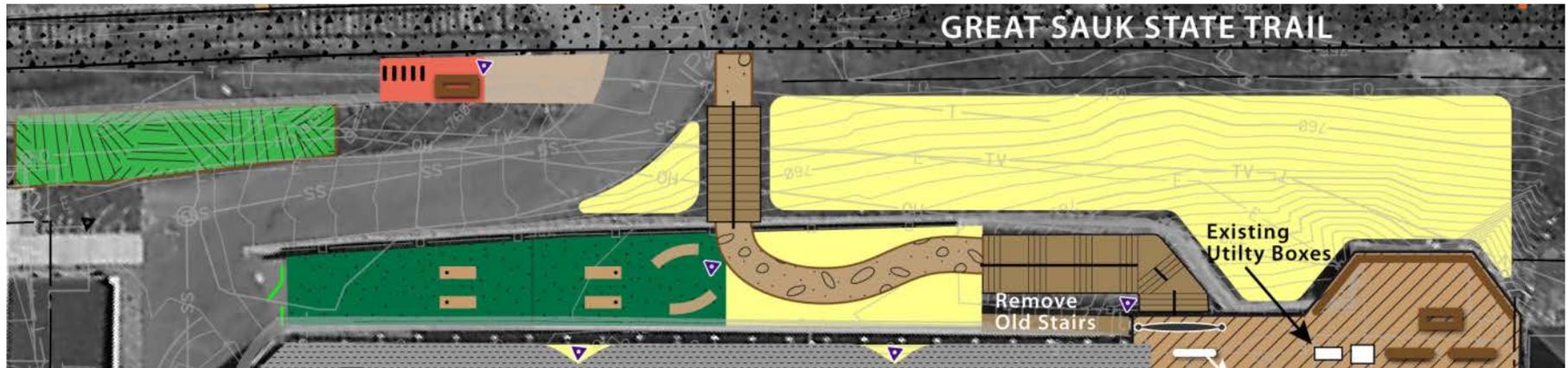


- Expanded viewing deck
- Accessible viewing
- Updated/consolidated signage/kiosk
- Benches with windbreaks
- Relocated utility boxes
- New walkway to storage

# Phase I Concept—Upper Area (Overlook)



# Phase I Concept—Transition



- Overhead sign welcomes descent
- Grand stairways with inlaid bike ramps
- Existing drive maintained for bikes and service
- Yard games, and casual space in new lawn area
- Retaining wall replaced and more railings added

# Phase I Concept—Transition



# Phase I Concept—Riverside

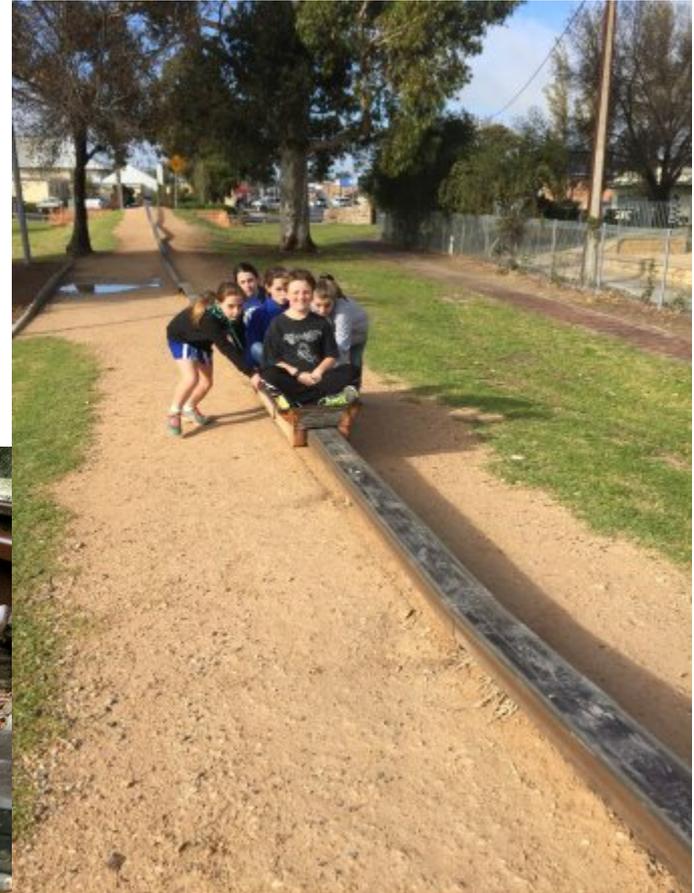


- Designated performance and group learning space
- Flex lawn space
- Rail heritage yard & playground
- Raised river viewing platform with seating
- Shoreline restoration and trails, but no invitation to enter river

# Phase I Concept—Riverside (Performance)



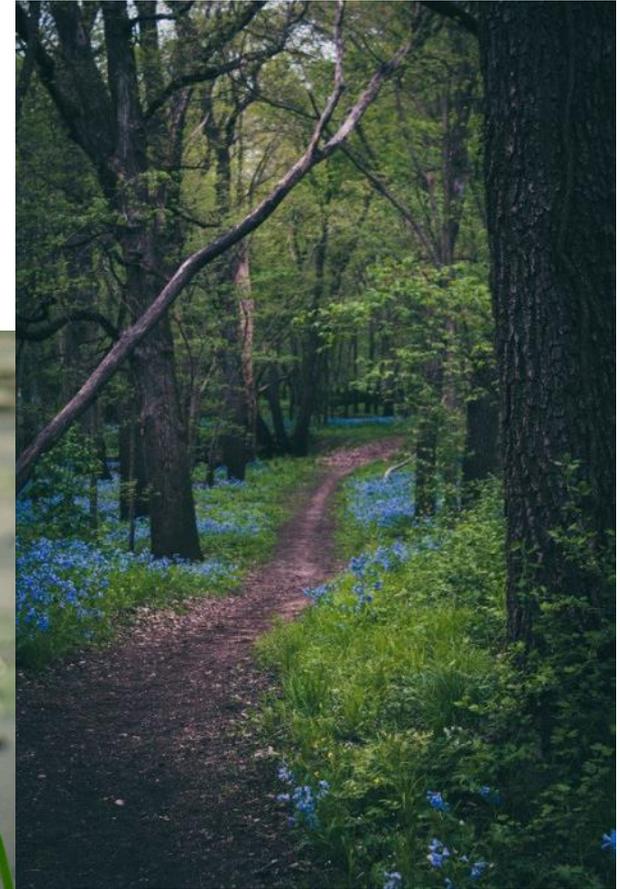
# Phase I Concept—Riverside (“Railyard”)



# Phase I Concept—Riverside (“Overlook”)



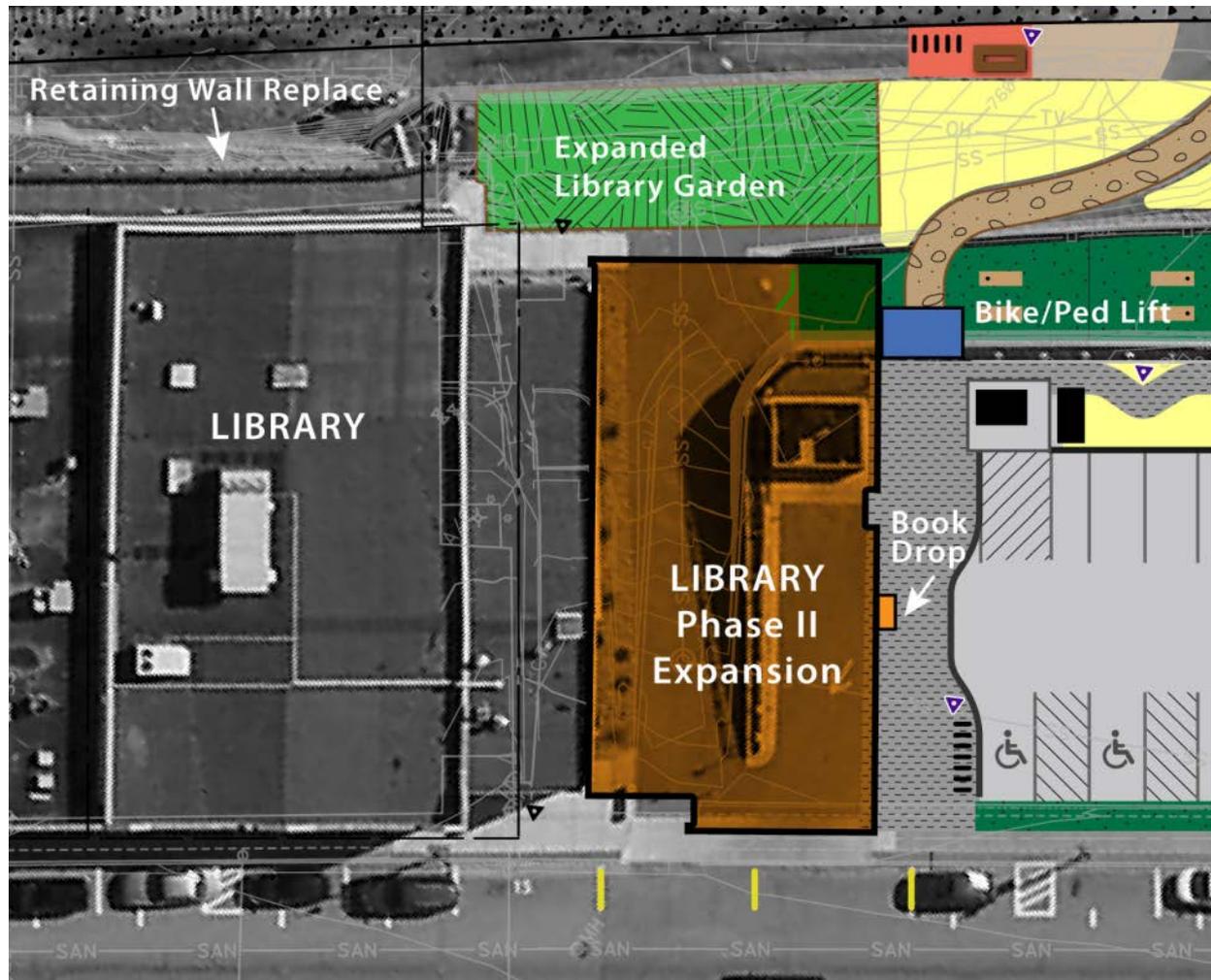
# Phase I Concept—Riverside (Restoration)



# Draft Phase II Concept Plan

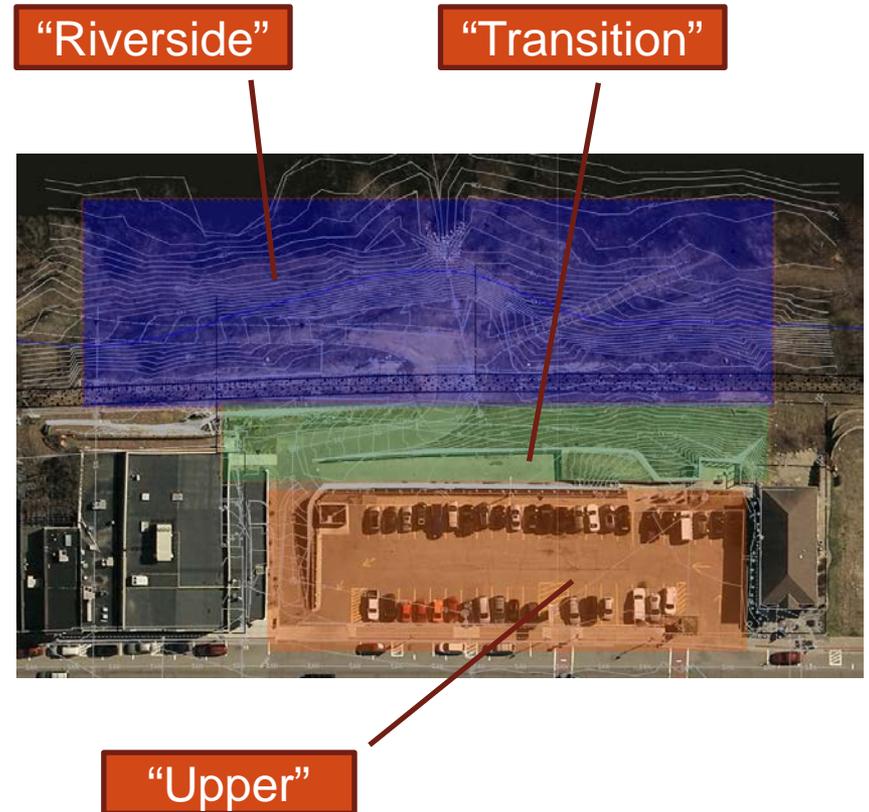


# Draft Phase II Concept Plan



# Preliminary Cost Estimate—Phase 1

Upper	\$268,700
Transition	\$260,650
Riverside	<u>\$177,000</u>
Subtotal	\$706,350
Misc., Eng., Contingency	<u>\$247,223</u>
Estimated Phase 1 Total	<u>\$953,573</u>



# Next Steps

- Refine and finalize concept plan
- Seek Board endorsement and direction on funding
- State grant application deadline: May 1
- Pending funding, detailed engineering and landscape design
- Phase I construction no sooner than 2019