



INSTITUTE PARK PATHWAYS MASTER PLAN

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Worcester's Institute Park is poised to take the next step in its storied history. A master plan for the construction of walkable pathways throughout the park, including walkways entirely surrounding Salisbury Pond, is now at hand. The master plan has come about following significant construction funded from local, state and federal sources. Such improvements include new paving of Salisbury Street, bricked crosswalks at West and Boynton streets, a new concert shell in the park with refined acoustical treatments, new park restrooms and concession complex, new and upgraded electrical power to the park, the relocation and restoration of the historic Tremont Columns, which serve as part of an entranceway plaza into the park, a new park gazebo, construction of a new lighted pathway joining Boynton Street and Humboldt Avenue, and a new sidewalk (by the fall of 2017) that connects Salisbury Street to Grove Street. Improvements to the park and its immediate surroundings total nearly \$5 million. Funding sources include the City of Worcester, Worcester Polytechnic Institute, the Massachusetts Department of Transportation, the Massachusetts Cultural Facilities Fund, and the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development.

The stage is now set to move forward on two major initiatives for Institute Park: implementing recommendations of a master plan for accessible walkways throughout the park, including the ability to walk the entire perimeter of Salisbury Pond, and implementing recommendations of a master plan for dredging Salisbury Pond. As the headwaters of the Blackstone Canal, Salisbury Pond requires cleansing so that it can be fully enjoyed by current and future generations of park visitors.

Institute Park is well positioned to enjoy all of the attention it has received thanks to the non-profit group "Friends of Institute Park, Inc." which was formed in 2005. Since then, Worcester Polytechnic Institute, which virtually surrounds the park, has grown significantly with currently over 6,000 students and faculty members to take advantage of the park's amenities. The park is also at the heart of the newly designated Salisbury Cultural District, a walkable arts district designated by the Massachusetts Cultural Council, a state agency.



The implementation of walkable, accessible pathways around Salisbury Pond and other parts of Institute Park dovetails with citywide health initiatives such as the City of Worcester's Community Health Improvement Plan. That plan promotes physical activity as a priority area including "pedestrian friendly" walkways "connecting...places of interest" and "encouraging people to spend time outside" in "well maintained green spaces [and] parks." A focus on walkways that complement Salisbury Pond dovetails with the city's efforts to spotlight valued water resources known as "blue spaces."

Attached is a map of the Institute Park pathways master plan showing all of the proposed new park walkways including those surrounding Salisbury Pond. Also attached are construction costs associated with each leg of the connected walkways.

Improvements to Institute Park will benefit not only thousands of Worcester residents including those who live, work, study and teach in the immediate vicinity of the park, but also countless visitors to the park who come to any number of events taking place in the park during the year. Such activities also include visits to the many cultural and educational institutions adjacent to the park among them Worcester Polytechnic Institute, the Worcester Art Museum, the American Antiquarian Society, and Tuckerman Hall, to name just a few. Events that regularly attract large crowds to Institute Park on an annual basis include the Massachusetts Symphony Orchestra's Summer Family Concert Series, Black Heritage Juneteenth Festival, the Caribbean Festival, Father's Fest, the Firefighters' annual 6k Run, and the Worcester Telegram & Gazette's Woo Challenge annual Run. All of these activities contribute to the vitality and livability of Worcester and focus attention on Institute Park, a remarkable urban oasis founded 130 years ago in 1887 by Worcester industrialist and philanthropist Stephen Salisbury, III.

Institute Park

MASTER PLAN



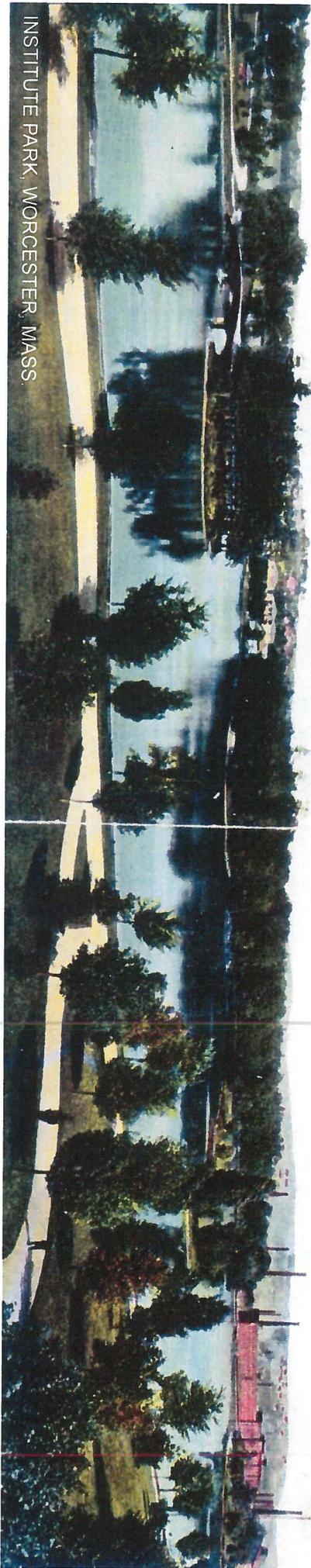
City of Worcester, Massachusetts



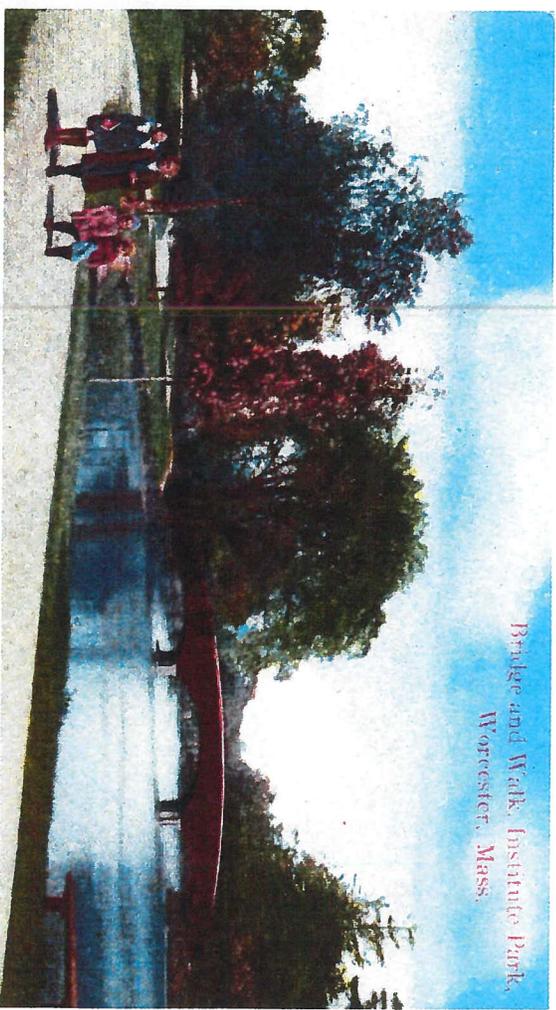
Weston & Sampson
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Institute Park



INSTITUTE PARK, WORCESTER, MASS.

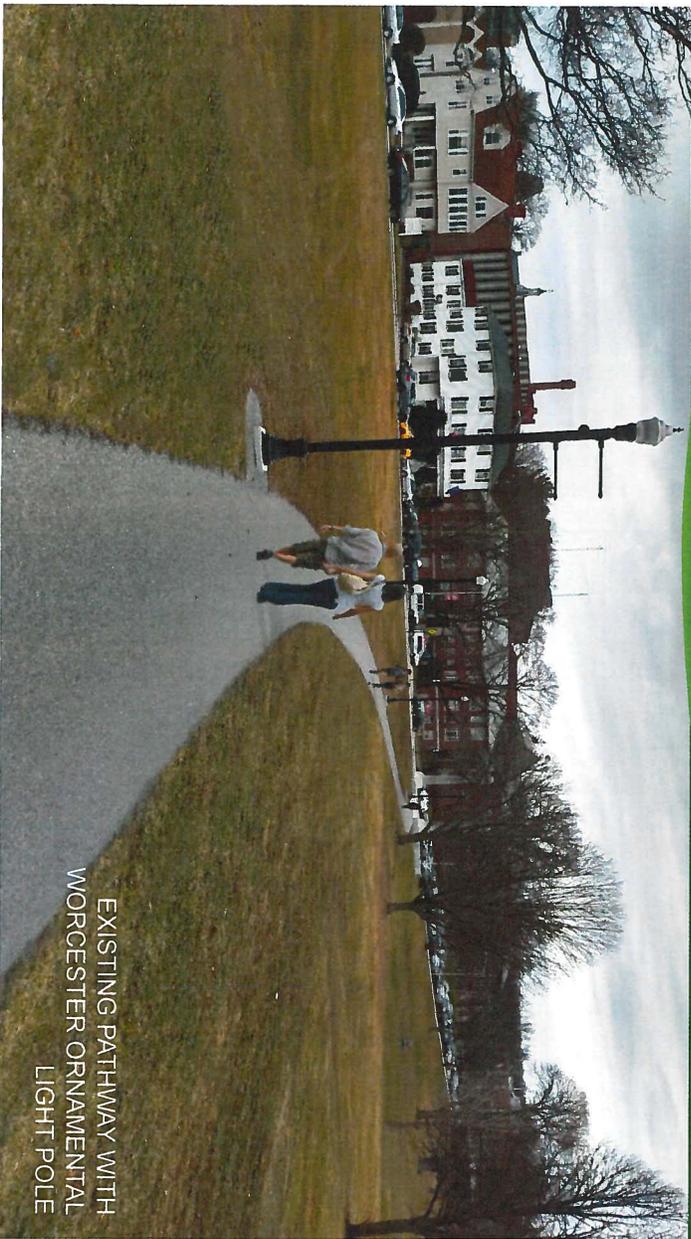


Bridge and Walk, Institute Park,
Worcester, Mass.

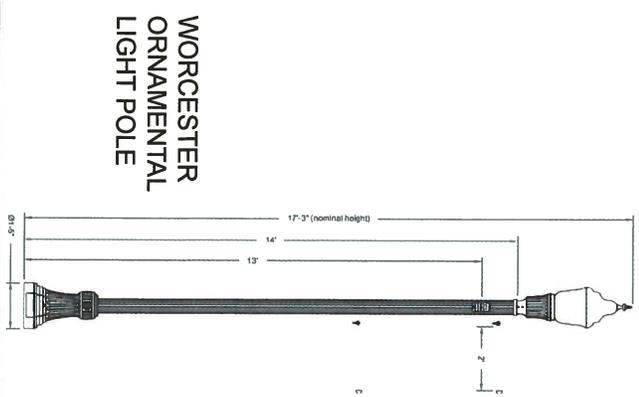
FROM THE COLLECTIONS OF WORCESTER HISTORICAL MUSEUM,
WORCESTER, MA



City of Worcester, Massachusetts



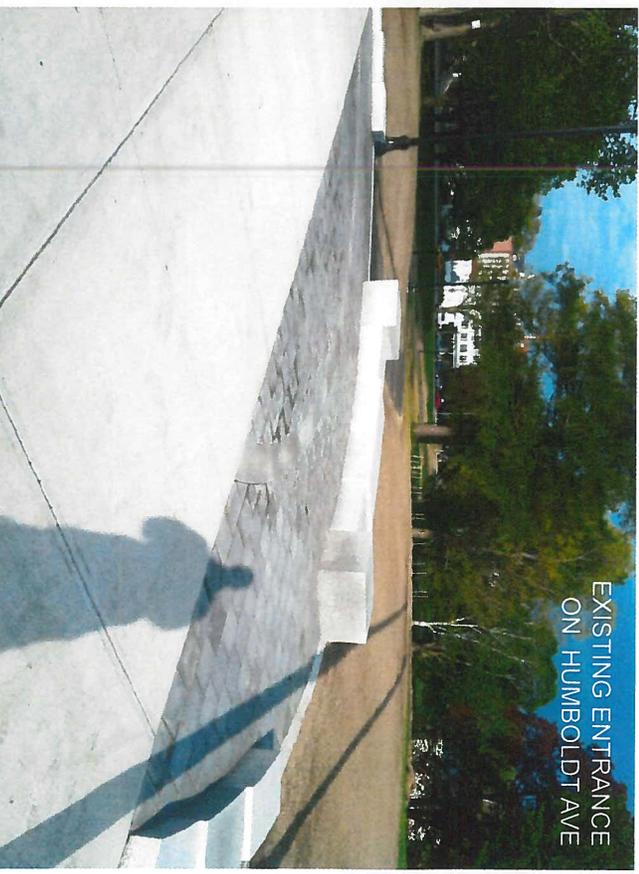
EXISTING PATHWAY WITH WORCESTER ORNAMENTAL LIGHT POLE



WORCESTER ORNAMENTAL LIGHT POLE



EXISTING ENTRANCE ON SALISBURY STREET



EXISTING ENTRANCE ON HUMBOLDT AVE



ILLUSTRATIVE CROSS SECTION VIEW (REINFORCED LAWN WITH PEDESTRIAN PATHWAY)

Institute Park

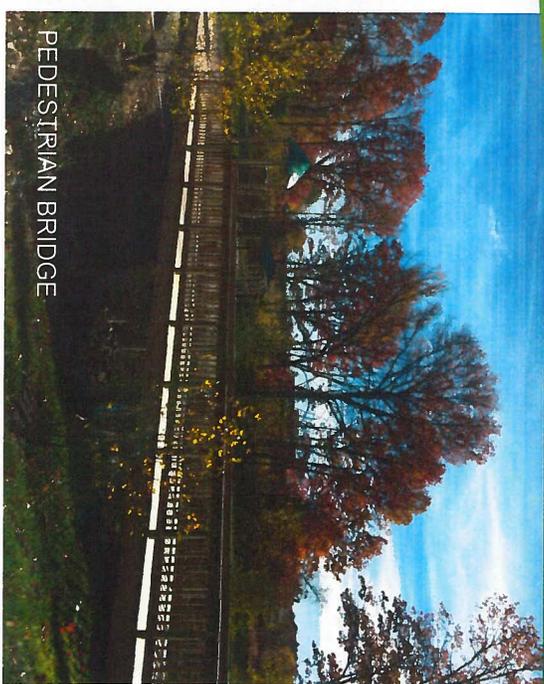
PRECEDENT PHOTOS



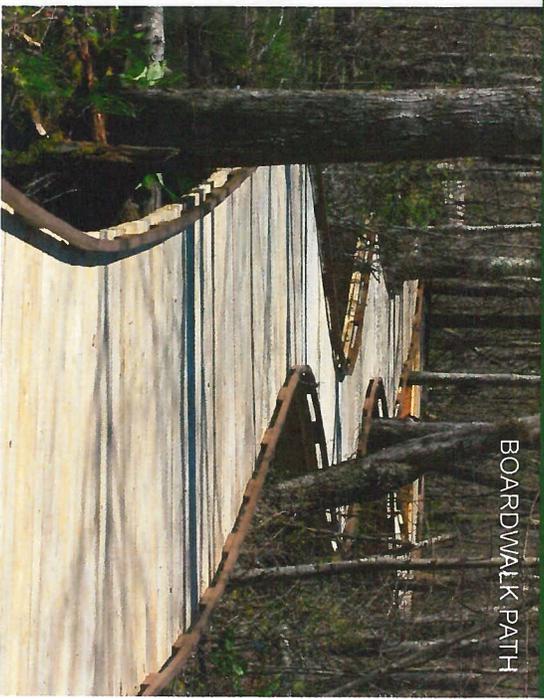
PEDESTRIAN BRIDGE AND SIGNAGE



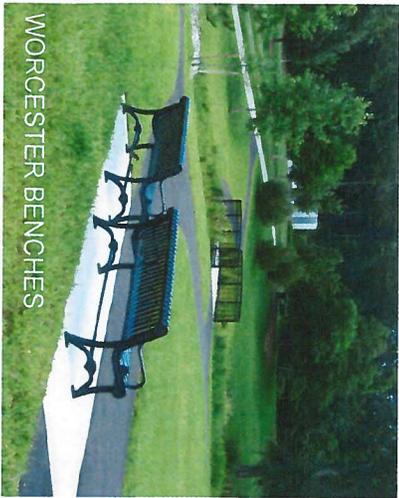
PEDESTRIAN BRIDGE



BOARDWALK PATH



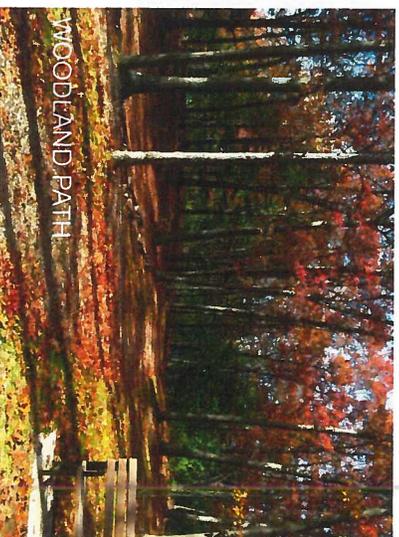
WORCESTER BENCHES



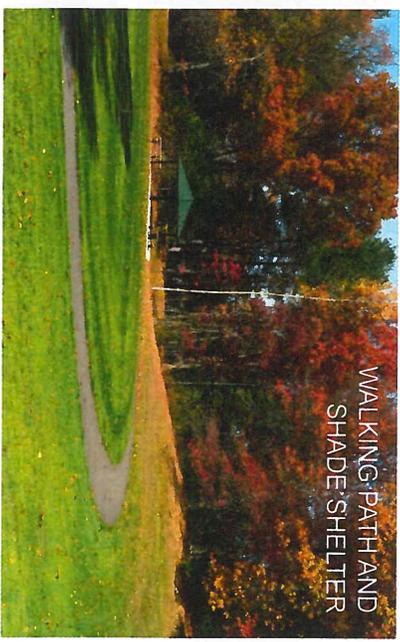
WORCESTER TRASH RECEPTACLES



WOODLAND PATH



WALKING PATH AND SHADE SHELTER



J.J. LANE PARK
NATTICK, MA



City of Worcester, Massachusetts

Institute Park
 General Cost Estimates
 City of Worcester, Massachusetts

AREA	NAME	DESCRIPTION	COST
A	Tennis Area	Includes new tennis courts and shade shelter along Humboldt Ave	\$805,000
B	Pavilion Path	Begins near the intersection of Lancaster St. and Humboldt Ave and follows along the pond to the pavilion	\$530,000
C	Humboldt Plaza Path	Begins at the corner of Humboldt Ave and Salisbury St. going down hill until it reaches the pavilion path	\$440,000
D	Bathroom ADA Path / HC Lookout Nodes	Begins from the existing plaza on Salisbury St to the proposed Salisbury Pond path. Also included is the ADA path, the direct path with stairs from the bathroom to the lookout nodes and the stormwater vortechnic units.	\$1,340,000
E-1	Salisbury Pond Path Option 1 - Chip Seal	Begins at the pavilion and follows along the pond until it reaches the West Street path.	\$445,000
E-2	Salisbury Pond Path Option 2 - Stone Dust	Begins at the pavilion and follows along the pond until it reaches the West Street path.	\$475,000
F-1	Gazebo Maintenance Path / Patio Option 1 - Chip Seal	Begins at Salisbury Street to the left of the bathroom building and curves along the hillside to the gazebo. Also included is the gazebo patio.	\$440,000
F-2	Gazebo Maintenance Path / Patio Option 2- Stone Dust	Begins at Salisbury Street to the left of the bathroom building and curves along the hillside to the gazebo. Also included is the gazebo patio.	\$455,000
G	West Street Path / Plaza	Begins at the plaza on Salisbury Street continuing down hill meeting the Salisbury Estates path. Also included is an ADA route and a path to the gazebo.	\$680,000
H	Salisbury Estates Path / Plaza	Begins at the plaza on Rumford Ave and continues along the pond until meeting the West Street path and the Salisbury Pond path.	\$520,000
I	Park Ave Plaza	Includes the plaza at the corner of Salisbury Street and Park Ave	\$280,000
J	Basin Trail	Begins near the entrance plaza on Rumford Ave and continues through the wetlands and over the basin until meeting the O'Connell Field trail. Forbay must be constructed prior to this phase. Forbay cost is not included.	\$535,000
K	O'Connell Field Trail	Begins at Grove Street and follows along the edge of O'Connell Field until meeting the basin trail. Also includes the lookout decks and pathway on the corner of Lancaster Street and Grove Street.	\$500,000