

For Immediate Release

Town of Wilton

October 9th, 2019

Wilton Riverwalk Design Plans to be Unveiled

Wilton, NH – On October 18th from 4:00-6:00 p.m. in the Town Hall Courtroom, the Wilton Economic Development team, in conjunction with Landscape Architect Robert White of GPI, will share the design plans for the downtown Wilton Riverwalk. The public is welcome, and light refreshments will be served.

The Wilton Riverwalk Project began two years ago with the opening of a walkway along the Stony Brook River near the Police Station downtown. Since then, the Economic Development Team has sponsored a design charrette with Plan NH, a comprehensive Riverwalk Study with the Nashua Regional Planning Commission, and held numerous public input workshops and an online survey to gather residents' feedback on what features they would like to see in a Riverwalk.

Wilton residents later approved funding to hire an architect to develop a plan for the Riverwalk, and after a competitive RFP process, chose GPI with a project team of landscape architects and civil engineers from their offices in Wilmington MA. and Portsmouth, NH.

Starting at the current Riverwalk, the plan creates a design for a complete loop path: an overlook and pavilion by the falls, a pedestrian bridge over the river from the parking lot to the Wilton House of Pizza, a segment of the Riverwalk pathway with additional overlooks and outdoors spaces, and continuing behind the historic livery and an improved Memorial Park. Crossing Main Street at the intersection of Forest Road, the plan engages Main Street with an overlook and stairs to the riverside at the convergence of Stony Brook and the Souhegan, and then proceeds along the front doors of our Main Street businesses and the current Main Street Park. The Riverwalk concludes with a proposed riverbank walkway that goes around the Riverview Mills complex and parking areas, creating greenspace and stormwater treatment landscaping.

The intent of the Riverwalk is to create an attractive amenity for residents and visitors alike to encourage people to come and spend more time downtown, to walk and enjoy the rivers as a downtown asset and - as they stay longer - patronize our downtown businesses. The plan is designed to be built in phases with a variety of creative funding

strategies including local fundraising, state and federal grants, and private-public partnerships.

For more information on the studies and surveys mentioned above, along with the Riverwalk plans, please visit

https://www.wiltonnh.gov/government/boards_and_committees/economic_development_leadership_team. Maps, illustrations and information about the future Riverwalk will be posted in the Kiosk at the start of the current Riverwalk on Stony Brook.

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