

To: City of Baraboo – Parks and Recreation Committee

From: Marcus Rue, PE and Leah Rhodes, PE

Subject: Oak Street Overlook Design Project

Date: February 8, 2023

The City of Baraboo would like to develop an overlook and an ADA pathway connection from the City's downtown area to the City's Riverwalk through the existing Oak Street right-of-way and use of the remaining roadway abutment. MSA Professional Services was selected by the City to complete a study to conceptualize the overall site to develop an overlook and connection.

Three primary objectives were set prior to considering the site development study focused on providing off-street parking, a scenic overlook of the Baraboo River, and an ADA access pathway between Oak and Water Streets. In December 2022, MSA concluded the Oak Street Overlook Park concept plan project. (Final concept plan for the site is attached in Exhibit A.) The concept plan included a site topographic survey, an ADA accessible walkway from Oak Street to the Kiwanis Park area, off-street parking, preliminary geotechnical site investigation, and existing abutment inspection. The overall topographic survey covers the existing right-of-way and the surrounding City lots to provide the City with information that can be utilized to develop site amenities. The existing site plan can be found in Exhibit C. Upon completion of the topographic survey, the information was used to review ADA accessibility between the upper portion of the site by the intersection of Oak Street and First Street to the lower portion of the site and off-street parking by Water Street. Additionally, structural engineers were consulted with on the existing structure and the proposed scenic overlook and retaining wall recommendations.



Figure 1. Former bridge abutment for Oak Street looking north from Water Street (note the slope failure along the east side of structure)



Figure 2. View of the Baraboo River from the top of the overlook looking southwest

The study included a review of the feasibility of using the existing bridge abutment for the scenic overlook area. After an early on-site inspection of the existing structure by MSA's structural engineer, it was determined that the existing abutment is not structurally sound in its current condition, and re-use of the abutment is not recommended. Structural deficiencies noted on the existing abutment include:

- Tipping of the eastern wall.
- Gaps between blocks due to mortar failure, resulting in a loss of fill material.
- Vertical "stair-step" cracking, indicating movement and settlement.
- Weathering and failure of some existing blocks.



Figure 3. Example of failure along east side of the existing structure (note the gap between the concrete slabs and multiple generations of repairs)



Figure 4. Example of stair step cracking present along southeast corner of structure

Upon this initial review, it was determined further investigation of soil conditions, potential utility conflicts, possible historical impacts, and site layout were needed to further consider the use of the existing abutment or develop a new overlook. If the existing abutment was not to be utilized, then the consideration of a new overlook structure was needed to meet the project goals. With the ability to develop a new overlook structure, this option would then allow the ability to move the structure on the site and provide more space within the site for parking and for grading of the pathway to meet ADA compliance. The extent of the site study was limited to the existing right-of-way and City-owned properties along Water Street, with the exclusion of a city owned lot located off of First Street.

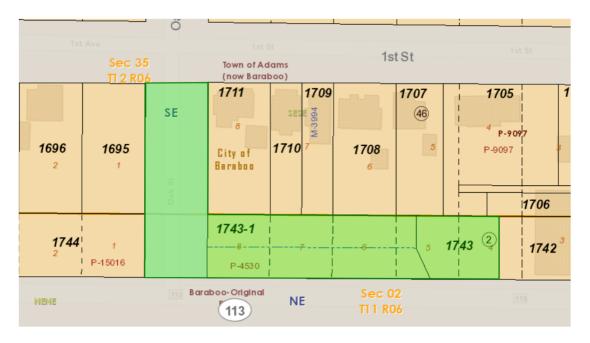


Figure 5. Location of the proposed park (highlighted in green) showing parcels from county GIS

Upon reviewing the site and working with City staff, MSA developed the attached proposed site concept that meets the project goals. Per the project goals and site investigations, below are the site parameters, observations, and recommendations that were utilized to develop the concept plan:

Scenic Overlook Area

- An on-site inspection of the existing bridge abutment was completed by a structural engineer. It was determined that extensive re-use of blocks in their existing configuration was not recommended.
 - In the portions of the abutment wall that remain intact, approximately 5-10% of the existing blocks failed when tested with a hammer in the field. Additionally, the blocks at the southwest corner transition point are structurally unsound due to the vertical and diagonal cracking extending through the blocks, making those blocks unable to be reused for structural applications.
 - It was observed that the overall abutment has structurally failed as it currently stands. The eastern wall shows evidence of tipping, likely made worse by the concrete sidewalk on top of the abutment and site erosion around the structure.

The poor soil layers below the abutment may also be contributing to differential settlement around the structure.

• The existing abutment is unsafe to the public and shall be protected to prevent further access to the site currently.



Figure 6. Distress and shifting of the existing structure resulting in voids and failure along the west wall



Figure 7. Distress along the southeast corner of the existing structure (note the shifting of the east wall, mortar repairs made, and cracking through blocks)



Figure 8. East wall has shifted and is beginning to fail near the top of the structure



Figure 9. Existing stone has weathered and is not structurally sound for a retaining wall of this height. Reuse of the stone for smaller walls, planters, or decorative outcroppings is recommended.

- O Due to the deterioration of the existing stones and overall settlement of the structure, it is recommended to replace the existing abutment with new retaining walls to construct the scenic overlook that would be structurally sound for public use. Existing stone abutment blocks that are deemed to be in good condition shall be considered to be reused for other small landscaping features within the site to maintain some of the site's history.
- A preliminary subsurface investigation was completed for the site consisting of soil borings and data collection for external stability, including sliding, overturning, bearing capacity, settlement, and global stability. Soil borings were completed onsite and associated logs and geotechnical report are attached in Exhibit B.
- A large amount of undocumented fill with inconsistent and low bearing capacities was recorded in the boring logs from the soil exploration near the lower portion of the wall. The geotechnical engineer recommends the fill to be removed and replaced below the proposed overlook. It is advised to use new deep foundation retaining walls at the scenic overlook area. Additionally, during the soil exploration, obstructions were encountered during drilling operations that would rule out steel sheet pile walls as a viable wall type option to develop a new overlook. Attempting to drive steel sheet piles would likely result in damage to the pile tips. The site concept proposes a new retaining wall that matches the height of the existing stone abutment but is shifted to the west to provide space for additional parking along the east end of the site and to better center the overlook along the existing right of way.
- A post-and-panel retaining wall system was selected for the site due to the amount of poor-quality fill located along the lower portion of the site and obstructions encountered during the geotechnical exploration. The post-and-panel retaining wall type offers several aesthetic options that allow for imitation of a natural stone finish that can be stained to match the native stone color of the local Baraboo Quartzite found in and around Baraboo and the Devil's Lake area. The space surrounding the overlook retaining walls can be graded and planted with a natural stone planting wall or a tiered planting system.

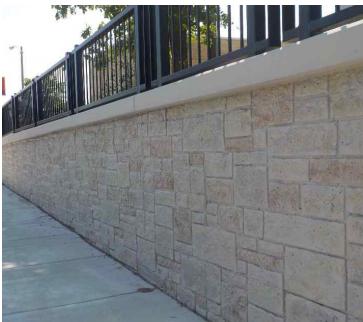


Figure 10. Example of post-and-panel wall system with stone block façade, The finish can be altered to match a natural stone look with staining and concrete forms.

 A cable railing system with underlighting will be installed at the top of the scenic overlook and along the ADA accessible ramps to provide accent lighting. Benches will be installed and bolted down to the patio at the top of the overlook to provide a resting area while viewing from the scenic overlook.



Figure 11. proposed railing system with lighting with day and night images

ADA Accessibility

- A 10-foot-wide multi-use path between First Street and Water Street is proposed to be concrete and ADA compliant with slopes up to a maximum 8% when railings are used. The path shall connect First Street to the upper portion of the overlook while passing through an art garden with work provided by local artists.
- The path shall then continue from the upper portion of the overlook to the lower parking area and access to the Kiwanis Park area though a ramped retaining wall system to provide ADA complaint grades/access. The ramp shall be supported by a similar postand-panel retaining wall system that also features the same stone finish appearance as the overlook.
- Due to the almost 30-foot change in elevation between the First Street access point and the Water Street access point, the slope of the path, and the adjacent side slopes, the lighted cable railing system will extend along the ramp for secure access.
- New and existing park signage and information will be established within the space to make patrons aware of the historical nature of the site and surrounding area. Additionally, an existing monument that is on site will be relocated to a more predominate location near the top of the proposed overlook to allow users to still be able to read it.



Figure 12. Existing monument located at the entrance to the park by the corner of First Street and Oak Street

Off-Street Parking Lot (Water Street Access)

- The proposed parking lot will provide off-street parking for local businesses and patrons using the Kiwanis Park area along with potential access to future commercial and recreational developments in the area.
- o In order to provide access to the path and the adjacent park, the site is proposed to be regraded to allow for additional off-street parking of 24-28 additional stalls and 2 handicap stalls with angle parking and a one-way traffic pattern through the parking lot. The traffic pattern was selected to maximize the parking within the site layout with the allotted space. The new parking lot is proposed to be asphalt pavement along with an entrance and exit driveway along Water Street.
- With the site investigations,
 - The existing sanitary sewer laterals in conflict near the development would need to be relocated to allow for the regrading of the proposed parking lot.
 - The existing storm sewer structures on the site should be able to be modified slightly to allow them to be reused as part of the new development
 - Other onsite private utilities such as telecommunications will need be relocated to maximize the parking spaces within the existing lots.



Figure 13. Location of the proposed parking area looking west from the existing east access point

Summary

All of the above recommendations can be viewed in the attached appendices. Per the recommended site concept plan, MSA has developed a construction cost estimate for the overall project. The cost estimate is attached in Exhibit D for the City to consider for future project funding and timing to complete the proposed plan. No phasing was considered with this project, as the Parks Committee provided recommendations to consider the full project as one and bring the site into compliance for not only safe usage, but ADA accessibility. In addition, with the Concept Plan, it is planned that this site will be the beginning of the access to future commercial development along Water Street and access to future park developments.



Figure 14. Existing structure looking south from the center of the park, note the worn path in the grass and distressed slopes along the backside of the structure



Figure 15. Existing upper portion off the park looking south from First Street July 2022



Oak Street Overlook Concept Plan

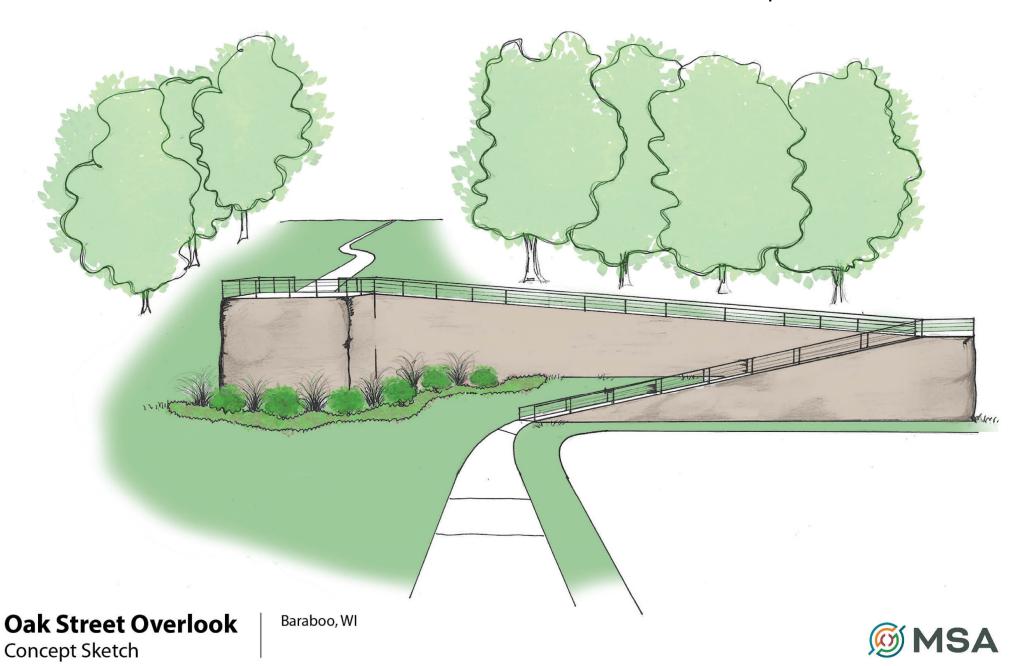
Baraboo, WI 12.2022

Project Boundary





Exhibit A-2 Sketch Concept Plan





Legend

Denotes Proposed Boring Location

Scale: Reduced

Job No. C22445

Date: 9/2022



BORING LOCATION EXHIBIT Oak Street Overlook 100 1st Street Baraboo, WI

Notes:

- 1. Base map Google Maps
- 2. Locations are approximate.



Project Oak Street Overlook
115 Water Street Location Baraboo, WI

Boring No. **B-1** Surface Elevation (ft) Job No. **C22445** Sheet **1** of **1**

	SA	MPL	E.	29	VISUAL CLASSIFICATION	SOIL	PRO	PEF	RTIE	S
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1	12	M	9		8± in. TOPSOIL (OL)	(tsf)				
	12	IVI	9	<u> </u>	FILL: Brown Fine to Medium Sand, Some Gravel, Scattered Clay					
2	10	M	3	<u>↓</u> <u></u> 5–	Medium Stiff, Brown Lean CLAY, Little Sand (CL)	(0.75)				
3	12	M	19	E J	Medium Dense, Brown Fine to Medium SAND,					
	12	171	17		Some Silt and Gravel, Scattered Cobble/Boulders (SM)					
4	16	M	24							
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5	16	M	24	 15−						
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			50/20	- 	Very Hard Drilling and Very Dense Below About					
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Project Oak Street Overlook
115 Water Street Location Baraboo, WI

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1	10	M	12		###	FILL: Brown Fine to Medium Sand, Some Gravel,					
				 		Scattered Clay					
2	14	M	6	<u> </u>	##=						
				<u> </u>	##	FILL: Brown Lean Clay, Some Sand, Trace Gravel					
3	18	M	13	<u> </u>		with Scattered Apparent Coal or Cinder Pieces					
			50/2"	<u></u> ⊢	 -	Intermixed					
4	0	-	50/3"	<u> </u>	333	Very Dense, No Recovery at Sample 4 (8.5 - 10 ft)					
				⊢ ⊢	-						
				<u> </u>		End of Boring/Auger Refusal at 11 ft on Unknown Obstruction.					
				F		Obstruction.					
				 — 15—		Backfilled with Bentonite Chips					
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				<u> </u>		Offset 10'E to B-2A.					
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Project Oak Street Overlook
115 Water Street Location Baraboo, WI

B-2A Boring No. Surface Elevation (ft) 843± Job No. **C22445** Sheet **1** of **1**

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	SA	MPL	E.	_	VISUAL CLASSIFICATION	SOIL	PRO	PEF	RTIE	S
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Project Oak Street Overlook
115 Water Street Location Baraboo, WI

B-2B Boring No. Surface Elevation (ft) 841± Job No. **C22445** Sheet **1** of **1**

					29	21 Perry Street, Madison, WI 53713 (608) 288-4100, FAX (608) 2					
SAMPLE			E		VISUAL CLASSIFICATION	SOIL PROPERTIES					
No.	Y P E	Rec (in.)	Moist	N	Depth (ft)	and Remarks	qu (qa) (tsf)	W	LL	PL	roi
					 	Offset 5'NE of B-2A and Blind Drill (without sampling) to 13.5 ft to Resume SPT Sampling.	(131)				
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Project Oak Street Overlook
115 Water Street Location Baraboo, WI

Boring No. **B-3** Surface Elevation (ft) 840± Job No. **C22445** Sheet **1** of **1**

SAMPLE						VISUAL CLASSIFICATION	AX (608) 28	SOIL PROPERTIES							
No.	Rec (in.)	Moist	N	Depth (ft)		and Remarks		qu (qa) (tsf)	W	LL	PL	LOI			
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1	10	M	24	E		FILL: Brown Fine to Medium Sand, Some G	ravel,								
				_	H	Scattered Clay									
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2	4	N	_	<u> </u>		FILL: Brown Lean Clay, Little Sand, Trace C									
3	4	M	5		H	with Scattered Apparent Coal or Cinder Piece Intermixed	es	(1.0)							
4	8	M	6			Intermixed									
-		171		<u> -</u> 10-	H			(0.75)							
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Boring No. **B-4** Surface Elevation (ft) Project Oak Street Overlook 115 Water Street Job No. **C22445** Location Baraboo, WI Sheet **1** of **1**

2921 Perry Street. Madison, WI 53713 (608) 288-4100, FAX (608) 288-7887

	SA	MPL	E				VISUAL CLASSIFICATION	SOIL	PRO	PEF	RTIE	S
No.	T Y Rec P (in.)	Moist	N		pth		and Remarks	qu (qa) (tsf)	w	LL	PL	roi
1	10	M	7	 			3± in. TOPSOIL Fill / FILL: Brown Sandy Lean Clay, Little Sand, Trace					
2	12	M	1	<u> </u>	5—		Gravel with Scattered Apparent Coal or Cinders Pieces					
3	10	M	5									
4	12	M/W	6		10—		Very Loose to Medium Dense, Brown Fine to Medium SAND, Some Silt and Gravel, Scattered Cobble/Boulders (SM)					
5	6	W	12				Cecelo Bealastis (Civi)					
		VV	12	_ _ _ _ _ _ _	15—							
6	18	W	4	<u> </u>	20—							
7	18	W	8	†_ - -	25—		Loose to Medium Dense, Light Brown Fine to Medium SAND, Little Silt, Some Gravel, Scattered Cobbles (SP-SM)					
8	2	W	12	 								
-				 	30—		Very Dense, Brown Fine to Medium SAND, Some					
9	6	W	50/3		35—		Silt and Gravel, Scattered Cobble/Boulders (SM)					
							End of Boring/Auger Refusal at 36.5 ft on Possible Cobble/Boulder or Bedrock					
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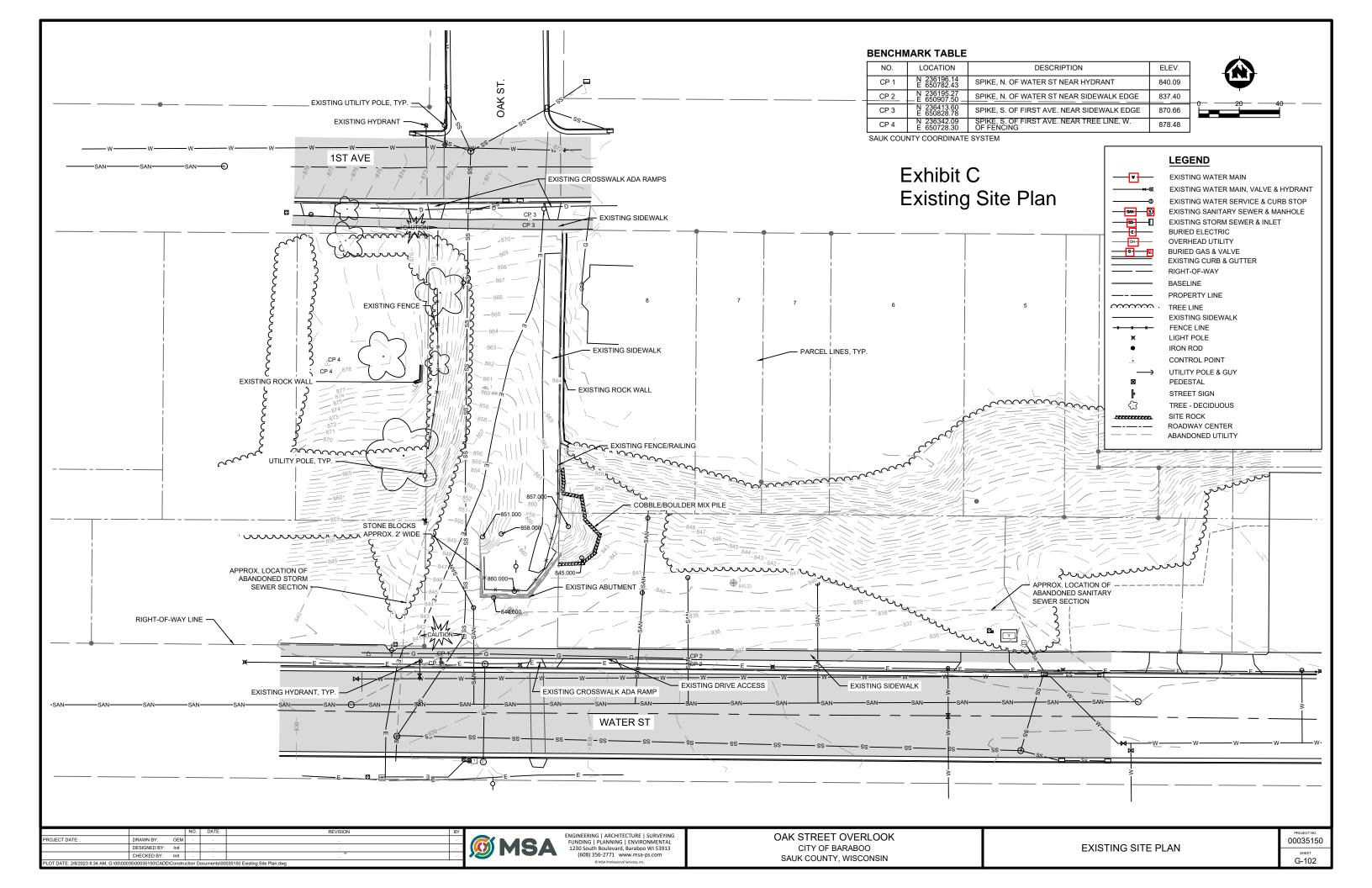


Exhibit D Oak Street Overlook Estimate

ESTIMATE OF PROBABLE COST

CITY OF BARABOO, WI Oak Street Overlook Project

ESTIMATE YEAR: 2022

ITEM NO.	<u>DESCRIPTION</u>	QTY.	<u>UNIT</u>	UNIT PRICE	TOTAL PRICE				
1	Retaining Walls	1	LS	\$550,000	\$550,000				
2	Retaining Wall ADA Ramp And Structue Backfill	1	LS	\$700,000	\$700,000				
3	Railing With Lighting	1	LFS	\$780,000	\$780,000				
4	Asphalt Pavement	300	TON	\$150	\$45,000				
5	Concrete Curb and Gutter	800	LF	\$30	\$24,000				
6	5-inch Concrete Sidewalk with Base	6,045	SF	\$10	\$60,450				
7	Base Course	1,250	TON	\$20	\$25,000				
8	Pavement Markings and Signage	1	LS	\$8,000	\$8,000				
9	Unclassified Excavation	1	LS	\$80,000	\$80,000				
10	Storm Sewer	1	LS	\$25,000	\$25,000				
11	Utility Relocations (Sanitary)	1	LS	\$35,000	\$35,000				
12	Site and Turf Restoration	1	LS	\$7 <i>,</i> 500	\$7,500				
13	Landscaping	1,500	SF	\$12	\$18,000				
14	Erosion Control	1	LS	\$7,500	\$7,500				
15	Clearing and Grubbing	1	LS	\$20,000	\$20,000				
16	Mobilization, Bond and Insurance	1	LS	\$200,000	\$200,000				
		CONS	TRUCTION	SUBTOTAL =	\$2,585,450				
	Contingency 20% =								
	Engineering, Permitting, Construction Admin. 15% =								
			TO	TAL COST:	\$3,567,921				

Note: Local Art shall be procured by City or local Artist. Cost is unknown at this time. Benches for the project will be provided by the City's Memorial Bench Program.