

Camden Riverwalk and Public Landing: Public Forum #1

Monday April 1, 6:30 -8:30 pm, Camden Rockport Middle School

GOAL: Clarity of intent and support for Trail/Riverwalk

(Please note Public Forum #2 April 22nd at Town Offices will be focused on Public Landing)

Quote from Portland Trails: *“Trails link people to greenspaces, neighborhoods, schools and waterfront. Trails connect people by getting them out of their cars and onto a community link to each other. Trails allow us to live in proximity to one another. Trails make conservation relevant to people’s everyday lives. PT continues to succeed and grown not only because we are building a system of trails linking open spaces, but because of all the different people who keep contributing their time and passion for a cause in which they believe.”*

Agenda:

1. Introductions & Background (BH 6:30)

- Town staff and reps from RW/PL Working Group
- Stakeholders
- Design Team
- All Interested residents & business persons
- Communicate work done to date: Downtown Master Plan

2. Overview of process envisioned, today and for duration of our project (DB/KK/SW 6:35)

- Project goal: master plan for phased implementation over time
- Will give everyone a common ground working knowledge
- Opportunities for comment and involvement: what is right for Camden
- At this time no set alignment or preconceived plan!
- Belief in public process and collective wisdom
- Public Landing project scope and meeting April 22nd
- Project overview:
 1. Inventory existing conditions and uses, gather data, base mapping
 2. Community input and participation
 3. Schematic Plans
 4. Assess Economic Impacts (+/-)
 5. Preliminary Cost Estimate
 6. Implementation Plan: Funding, Easements, Permits
- Upcoming Forum April 22 re. Public Landing

3. Orientation to the Megunticook Corridor and potential Riverwalk (SW 6:50)

- “Emerald Necklace” concept (background: Boston’s EN plus Camden’s Olmsted landmark spaces)
- Tour from Shirttail Point to Harbor, highlighting ‘gems’

4. Design approach with visual examples (SW 7:00)

- See corridor in terms of SEGMENTS
- CONTEXT sensitive design: neighborhoods, systems
- PLACES and SPACES along the pathway.
- SAFETY for users, depends on visibility.
- ACCESSIBILITY for all users: information and detailing
- MAINTAINABILITY by Town
- CONNECTIVITY and vision for expansion
- AMENITIES: seating, picnic areas, interpretive signs, trail markers, artwork
- PHASING: be bold and then be patient
- Local talent: Public works and utilities
- NATURAL RESOURCES orientation, coordination with schools
- GREEN DESIGN: what does this look like for Camden?

5. Opportunities and constraints: Whole Group format (SW 7:10)

- Pathway users: Safety, accessibility, information
- Private properties: Privacy & Security
- Environmental: wetlands, floodplains, steep slopes

6. Break-out groups (Fac.'s 7:25 5 min break, 7:30 gather in groups)

- Focus on problem solving for specific zone, overall alignment concept, connections to network of Camden trails and open space, or discuss areas of concern.
- Each group will have a facilitator, and should select a scribe and a reporter

7. Gather and report: (SW 8:00, back in whole group)

- Group's strongest thoughts and feelings?
- Concerns? Questions? Big ideas?

8. Wrap-up. (BH/DB/KK/SW 8:20)

- Working group and consultant team will summarize, offer thematic synthesis
- Describe next steps.

Many thanks for your time, energy, and commitment!