



Presentation to the City of Hamilton General Issues Committee

Update and Activities
April 16, 2014

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Shared Commitment

The Board formation in 2005, signified the Haudenosaunee and City of Hamilton commitment to working together on environmental guardianship of the Red Hill Valley.

In 2007 the Haudenosaunee presented the Mayor of the City with three strings of Wampum:



- The **First String** represents the **mutual respect** shown in the re-establishment of the historic relationship.
- The **Second String** represents the **trust** developed by the Joint Stewardship Board.
- The **Third String** represents the **friendship** developed that will endure.



Joint Stewardship

- Conservation, restoration, mitigation and ecosystem protection
- Grounded on Haudenosaunee and conventional planning and management approaches
- Combine elements of science-based approaches and Traditional Ecological Knowledge
- Involve sharing of knowledge, and strengthening and building new relationships
- Respectful of the dynamic nature of complex social ecological systems



Our Vision

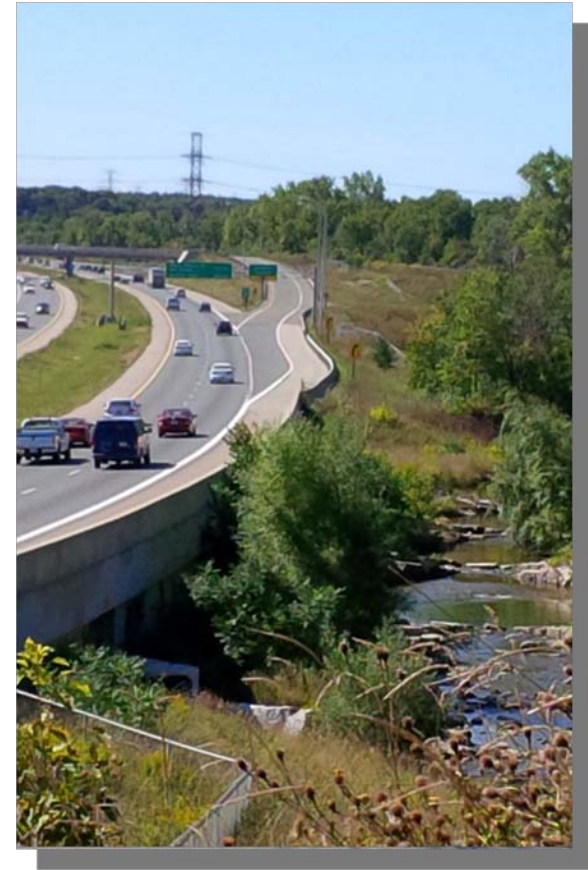


To facilitate a deeper connection to the cultural landscape of the Red Hill Valley watershed in order to promote human and environmental well being.



Objectives

- ① Acknowledge and honor ancestral experiences
- ② Provide a link between the Haudenosaunee and Hamilton residents
- ③ Enlighten the access to the Valley for all
- ④ Protect and enhance the ecosystem and the environment
- ⑤ Understand human impacts in the Red Hill Valley ecosystem
- ⑥ Capitalize on economic opportunities without compromising the ecological integrity of the Red Hill Valley



Work Plan 2014-2016

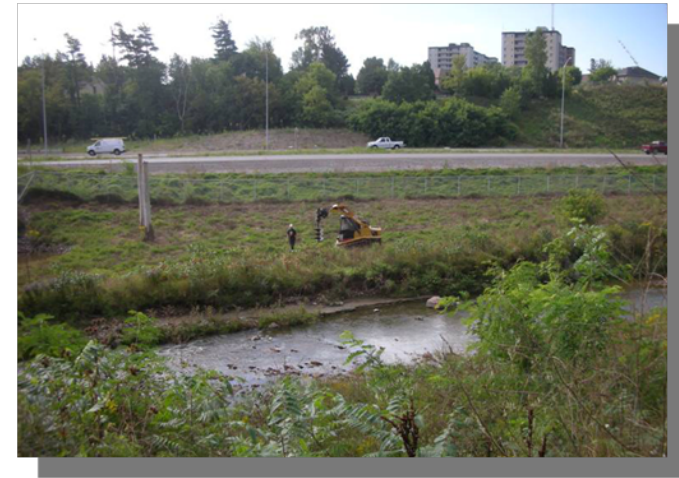
- ① Valley Access and Education
- ② Community Engagement
- ③ Coordination and Partnership
- ④ Assessment and Monitoring
- ⑤ Planning and Reporting



Success and Activities Showcase...

Valley Restoration

- Design Build with Kayanase, Six Nations
- 313 distinct restoration units
- Local wild-type seed collected within 75 km
- Over 1,000,000 native trees, shrubs, and forbs
- “Free to grow” restoration of over 100 hectare of green



One of the largest ecological restoration projects ever undertaken in a major urban setting in North America—Turtle Island



Medicine Plant Recovery

To understand the **type and health of indigenous medicine plants**, the Joint Stewardship Board contracted Indigenous Consulting and Training to conduct **an inventory and develop a recovery plan** for medicines in the Red Hill Valley.



Haudenosaunee plant specialists searched the valley and determined the **availability and absence of numerous medicine plants**.

Protection efforts for threatened plant stands involved seed recovery, replanting or relocation of some rare or significant species, for example:

Sweet Fern



Lady Fern



Sassafras



Deer Inventory

In 2011, the Board brought together contemporary ecological science and environmental practices, and indigenous ecological knowledge to conduct research on the state of the deer population.



Two deer inventories were completed:

- ① Biodiversity Management Group results determined there was **not an over population of deer in the valley.**
- ① Collaborative survey by Hamilton Conservation Authority, Kayanase and Six Nations added there was **minimal deer impact on the ecological restoration** at the time of the survey.

Environmental and Ecological Monitoring

From 2007 to 2012, the City undertook a post-construction multi-year environmental monitoring program as per regulatory approvals for the Red Hill Valley Project.

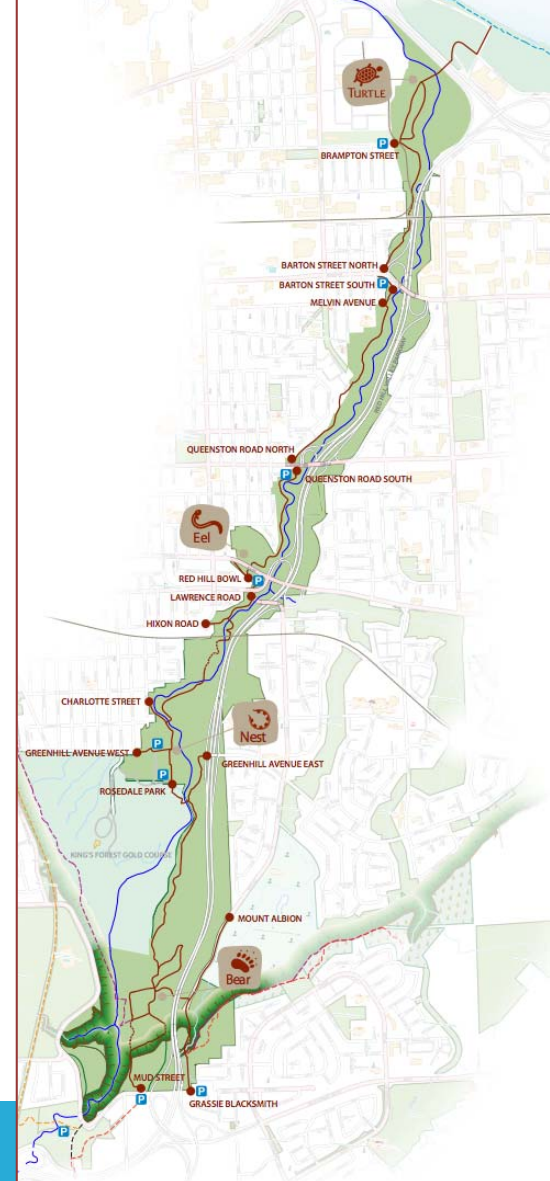
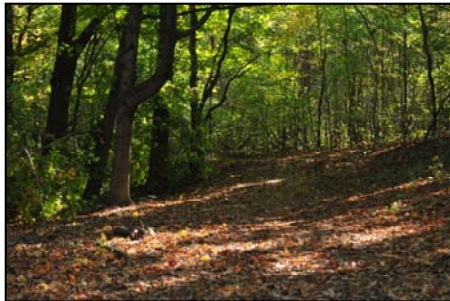
The **Integrated Environmental Monitoring Plan (IEMP)** examined, at various frequencies and durations, the following components:

- Rainfall and stream flow
- Groundwater
- Fluvial geomorphology
- Surface water quality
- Natural heritage systems, and
- Fish and fish habitat



The final 5-year Executive Summary Report will be available in April 2014.

Red Hill Valley Trail System



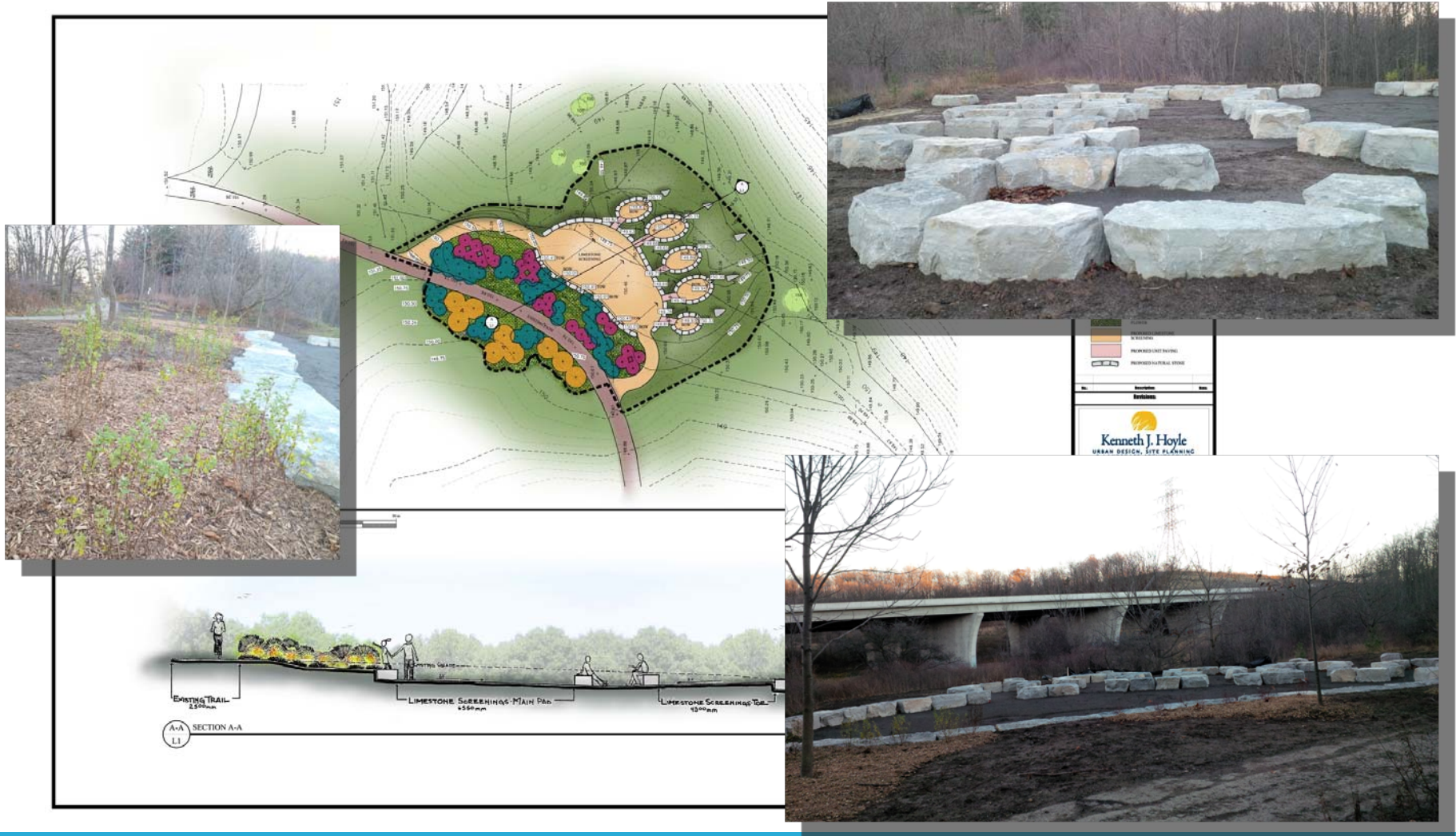
Enhanced Web Content and Functionality

The screenshot shows the homepage of the Red Hill Valley Joint Stewardship Board website. At the top is a navigation menu with links for HOME, ABOUT US, VISION, SUCCESSES, EXPLORE THE VALLEY, CONTACT, and MEMBERS. Below the menu is a large banner image of a bridge over a river with trees in the background. The main heading is "Working Together for Future Generations". Below this is a "Draft Version - Minor Revisions Underway" notice. The main text describes the board's commitment to environmental guardianship and mentions a recent board meeting. At the bottom, there are four icons for "INTERACTIVE MAP", "VIEW THE PHOTO GALLERY", "ENVIRONMENTAL INTERPRETIVE CENTER DEVELOPMENTS", and "LEARN ABOUT THE VALLEY". A "Quick Links" section is also visible, with a link to download the Red Hill Valley Trail Map and another to download the Annual Report.

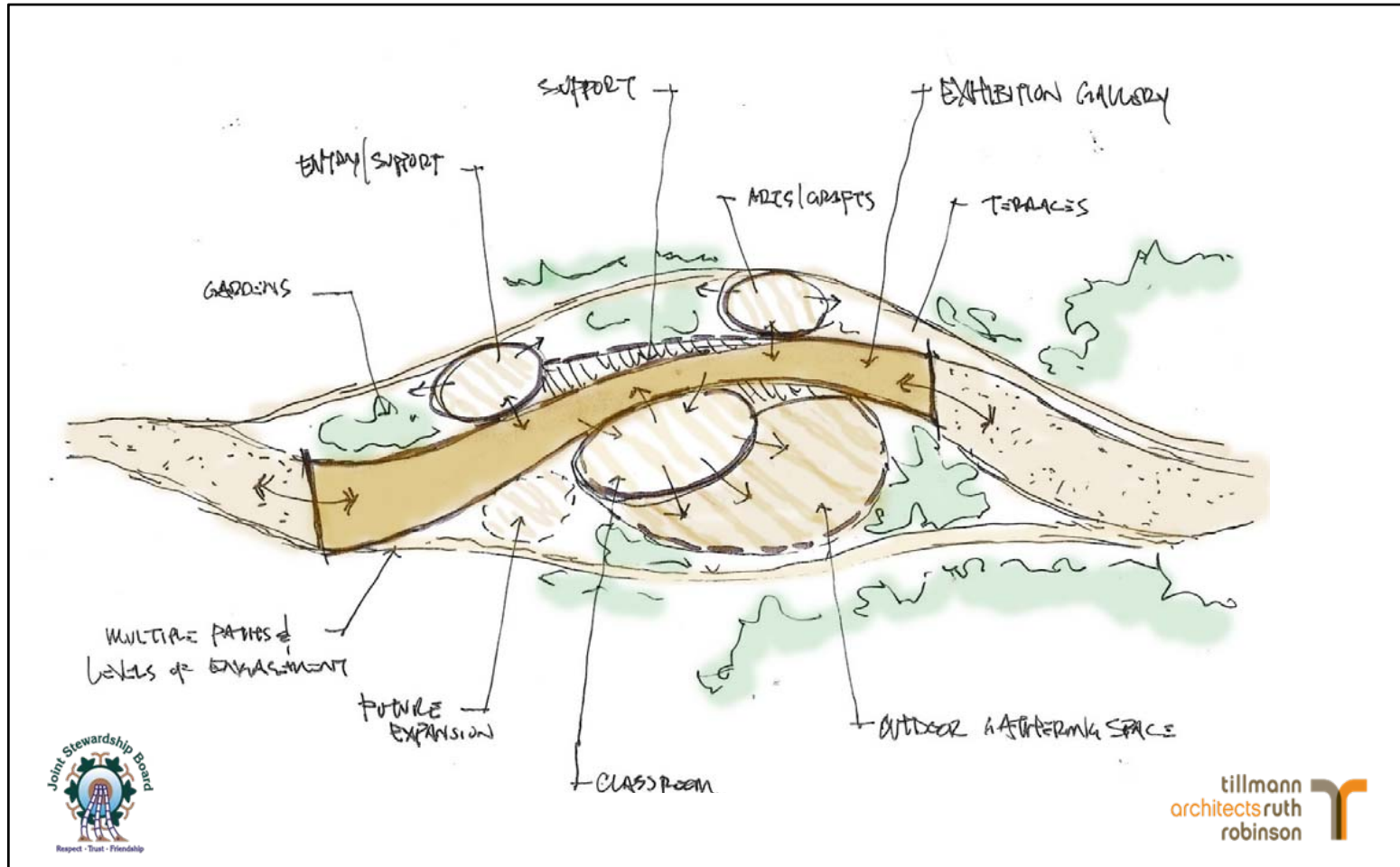
The screenshot displays the "Red Hill Valley Trail Interactive" map interface. On the left, there is a legend titled "Red Hill Valley Trail Interactive ..." listing various trail entry points and parking lots, such as "Arbour Road - Parking Lot", "Albion Falls - Parking Lot", "Trail Entry", "Mount Albion - Entry Point", "Hixon Road - Entry Point", "Rosedale Park - Parking", "Rosedale Park - Entry Point", "Greenhill Avenue West - Entry Point", "Greenhill Avenue East - Entry Point", "Red Hill Bowl - Entry and Parking", "Queenston Road - Entry and Parking", "Melvin Avenue - Entry Point", "Barton Street - Entry and Parking", "Brampton Street - Entry and Parking", "Van Wagner's Beach Trail Entrance", and "Van Wagner's Beach - Parking Lot". Below the legend is a section for "Red Hill Valley Significant Sites" with a list of sites like "Mud Road - Interpretive Area", "Grassie Blacksmith Shop - Interpretive", "Viaduct/Mt. Albion Road - Interpretive", "Heritage Site - King's Head Inn", "Heritage Site - King's Forest", "The Bear Meeting Place (2013)", "The Nest Meeting Place (future)", "The Eel Meeting Place (future)", "The Turtle Meeting Place (future)", "Expressway Stormwater Management", "Stormwater Management", and "Stormwater Management". A "Tour the Valley - Image Gallery" section lists items like "Van Wagner's Beach", "Trail Entry", "Scenic View", "Scenic Resting Spot", "Highway Crossing", and "Wetlands". The main part of the interface is a satellite map of the Red Hill Valley area, with various colored markers (blue, yellow, red) indicating the locations of the sites listed in the legend. A pop-up window titled "Rosedale Park - Parking" is open, showing a photo of a parking sign and a "1 of 1" indicator.

<http://jointstewardshipboard.com>

Landscape Architecture Features - Bear Meeting Place



Environmental Interpretive Centre – Concept Design



What's Next?

- Archaeological artifacts procurement and display
- Research and educational material development
- Explore collaboration and funding opportunities
- Detailed schematic designs for Environmental Interpretive Centre
- Community events, conference presentations, guest speaking
- Monitoring results review and long-term monitoring plans
- Annual review and presentations to Councils





Acknowledgements

City of Hamilton
Haudenosaunee Confederacy Chiefs Council
Six Nations of the Grand River

Board Members

Aaron Detlor, Haudenosaunee
Brian Doolittle, Haudenosaunee
Chad Collins, Councillor, City of Hamilton
Hazel Hill, Haudenosaunee
Russ Powers, Councillor, City of Hamilton
Terry Whitehead, Councillor, City of Hamilton

Board Resource

Andrew Grice, City of Hamilton
Guy Paparella, City of Hamilton
Robert Norman, City of Hamilton

Nia:wen; Thank you!

Questions?