



Grant Proposal

Seekonk Shoreline At Gano Park





Grant Proposal ~ March 11, 2011

To The Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management
The 2011 Earth Day Clean Up/Beautification Grant
Seekonk Shoreline At Gano Park



Fox Point Neighborhood Association



While the Providence River's development on the western side of Fox Point has been amazing, re-claiming our neighborhood's eastern border—the Seekonk River shoreline—has been slower.



*View of
Washington Bridge
from Gano Park.*

Besides the Providence Soccer League, Gano Park is home to Little League teams, city gardeners, dog park enthusiasts and Fox Point residents. Last year, a committee of the Fox Point Neighborhood Association was formed to give the park back its view--something that had been hidden for years by weeds, untrimmed trees and illegal garbage dumping.

Along with opening up a spectacular view, a more scenic Seekonk River at Gano Park would unify it as a single entity and increase public enjoyment. FPNA is interested in the development of a mechanism to restore this amenity to our neighborhood, city and state.



*Crooks Point
Bridge, View
looking North.*

Seekonk Shoreline Initiative at Gano Park

FPNA set up an advisory committee to assist with its long-term goal of giving the park a single identity and a more functional riverfront. The committee includes representatives from DEM, the Narragansett Bay Commission, Save the Bay, De-

partment of Parks, Brown University, Fox Point's three elected officials and leaders of the various groups using the park. An interim plan for Gano Park will involve shoreline clean ups and rudimentary beautification. FPNA hopes that exposing the scenic area could result in continued community interest and improvements similar to the Blackstone Park area.

In late summer of 2009 an initial assessment of the area to be cleaned was made. There were the scattered concrete and construction materials, reportedly part of the "old red bridge," a predecessor to the Henderson Bridge. Invasive weeds and vines added the confusion to trees in need of pruning and a large dumping ground had formed near the bridge.



Closer to Bridge.

The Earth Day 2010 event, sponsored by FPNA, was made possible through the assistance of Councilman Seth Yurdin's Office and Providence Parks Department. It also received a \$500 Earth Day Grant from the Rhode Island's Department of Environmental Management, (DEM), and contributions from Dunkin Donuts at Gano Street, Patriot Disposal Company and the Rhode Island Resource Recovery Corporation's Recycling Program.

Abstract
Seekonk Shoreline At Gano Park



A second clean up was held in late spring of 2010, returning more of the view—from the dog park to the service road that runs by the baseball field and along the Seekonk Shoreline. Also, the parks department removed another dumpster full of concrete and other materials from the dumping area.

This year's Earth Day, FPNA in conjunction with Providence Department of Parks, is planning a third volunteer-driven clean up for Saturday, April 30, 2011. FPNA hopes to continue the view from the park's back parking lot to the Crooks Point Bridge—a lingering reminder of the age of the locomotive.



Location for planned picnic tables.

Gano Park is Getting a Facelift

The shoreline initiative coincides with news that the proposed East Transit Street Boat Ramp, to be located at the southern end of the park, is back on track. Stymied for three years by the discovery of a former landfill on the boat ramp site, PDP and DEM have now lined up necessary funding for the project to start, according to Robert A. McMahon, parks director. The boat ramp's targeted completion date is scheduled for May 2011.

At some point in future, plans call for the Seekonk River to be part of Rhode Island's extensive bike paths and greenways system. In 2010, FPNA began a positive e-mail discussion between RIDOT bike path personnel and the East Coast Greenway Alliance regarding the railroad tracks that connect Gano Street with the park. The railroad bed, if re-claimed could offer a scenic pathway, or jogging course from Gano Street to the park's riverfront.

Soon, the Narragansett Bay Commission, www.narrabay.com, will begin underground construction on Phase II of its Combined Sewage Overflow tunnel, along the Seekonk shoreline.



View of East Providence across river.

At this particular time of change for the park, FPNA hopes to be a conduit of communication, offering periodic updates. We also will be posing questions to the many groups who will be involved in the parks transformation. By improving this amenity on the eastern border of Fox Point, FPNA believes it will drastically raise the quality of life and encourage real estate recovery. The committee mainly communicates through e-mails and seeks input from all advisory committee members.

Abstract
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Clean Ups expose remnants of "Old Red Bridge."

FPNA has applied for a 2011 Earth Day Grant of up to \$750 to assist with clean up and beautification efforts. While the amount of the grant request is high, FPNA would like to point out the importance of the project to the large numbers of the city's residents, who utilize the park. We have a balance from last year of \$250, which will be added to this year's award. One goal is to purchase some picnic tables for the reclaimed areas of the park for the many groups who use it.



A reclaimed railroad bed could offer connection to Gano Street.

To publicize the clean-up day, FPNA will be sending out a news release and following it up additional assistance. It will also post flyers in the neighborhood to promote participation, as we did last year. *(Materials attached.)*

FPNA will again partner with Dunkin Donuts location on Gano Street, which is adjacent to the park. Dunkin Donuts will join in the promotion by providing free coffee and/or donuts to volunteers of the clean up, as they did in 2010.

The before-and after-shots of the riverfront are dramatic and generate positive impressions throughout the community. FPNA will coordinate activities and provide:

- News releases and other materials for promotional purposes.
- Production of a flyer for posting in Fox Point businesses (attached).
- Mention on our web site, *www.fpna.net*
- Help with supervision of volunteers.
- Coordinate necessary arrangements prior to the event.
- Liaison with news media.



Site between baseball field & bridge could be a second dog park to allow for re-seeding of muddy, existing one near the basketball courts.

FPNA will also seek a Media Sponsor for the event and possible components could include:

- Mentions of the event during weather reports prior to event.
- A remote on the day of the event.
- Living Green segments in various media.
- Web Site coverage.
- News report for use during the week of the event.

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Advisory Coalition for Seekonk Shoreline Initiative *(Partial List)*

- Seth Yurdin**, Ward I Councilman
- Chris Blazejewski**, RI House of Representatives
- Rhoda Perry**, RI Senate
- John Rousseau**, FPNA Board
- Bob McMahon**, supervisor, Department of Parks
- Elizabeth Stone & Andrew Manca**, DEM
- John Melo**, Dunkin Donuts
- Doug Stills**, City Forester
- Joe Vaughn**, Growndwork Providence
- Lambri Zerva**, supervising engineer, RIDOT
- Jamie Samons**, public affairs manager, Narragansett Bay Commission
- Ani Haroian**, Director of Community Relations, Mayor’s Office
- David Riley**, Friends of India Point Park
- Jonathan Stone**, Save the Bay
- Liz Downing**, Providence Neighborhood Tree Planting Program
- Albin Moser**, Narragansett Boat Club
- R. I. Wild Plant Society**, office@riwps.org
- Allison Spooner**, College Hill Neighborhood Association
- Jenn Braga**, community relations, Brown University
- Tom Bold**, Associate Athletics Director, Brown University

Volunteer Base

FPNA

- Keri Marion**, Fox Point Community Garden
- Robin A. Bugbee**, Fox Point Dog Park
- Vin Kilbridge**, East Side Little League
- Joffire Vargas**, Providence Soccer League, City Residents

Sponsors & Participants

- Department of Environmental Management
- Department of Parks
- Ward I Councilman Seth Yurdin’s Office
- Dunkin Donuts
- Media Sponsor to be determined.

Program Components for Initial Clean Up

- Organizational Meeting held in August 2009.
- Clean-Up Game Plan decided March 12, 2010.
- Publicity for Clean up is in production, Flyer copy attached.
- Establishment of Annual Clean-up Date & Plan, tba.
- Parks Department (backhoe, trash bags & appropriate personnel).
- Dunkin Donuts to supply coffee and donuts for volunteers.

Gano Park 2011 Earth Day Clean Budget Estimate, March 11, 2011

• Dumpster Rental, Water & Gloves	\$250.00
• RIRRC Dumping Fee	\$250.00
• Picnic Tables (5 tables at 2 locations @ \$100 each)	\$500.00
Subtotal	\$1,000.00
FPNA Existing Funds	\$250.00*
Total 2011 Grant Request	\$750.00

**Money left from 2010 Earth Day funds.*

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Give Gano Park a View

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Give Gano Park a View



Volunteer for an Earth Day Clean Up

Gano Park is home to the Providence Soccer League, East Side Little League teams, city gardeners, dog park enthusiasts and residents from all over the city. But, it remains a room without a view—hidden by weeds, untrimmed trees and illegal garbage dumping. Help us clean up the Seekonk Shoreline and give yourself a view!

Info:

Clean-Up Date: Saturday, April 17th, rain day, April 18th.

Time: 9 a.m. to 12 p.m.

Place: Hospitality Tent near Community Garden

Refreshments: Coffee and Donuts, compliments of Dunkin Donuts, Gano Street.

Volunteers: Please bring garden gloves, hand pruners, limb loppers and trim & bow saws to trim large weeds and trees; tarps to move cuttings. Help us to clean up two decades of trash and illegal dumping. Target Area is from the dog park to the Crooks Point Bridge. If it's drizzling rain, the clean up will proceed.



Sponsored by Fox Point Neighborhood Association, with the assistance of Ward I Councilman Seth Yurdin; the Providence Department of Parks (and Rhode Island's Department of Environmental Management.)

2011 Application Grant
Additional Materials





Nuestro parque Gano es un punto de mucha actividad recreativa y deportiva, desde fútbol hasta béisbol infantil. Sin embargo no estamos aprovechando la vista del río Seekonk debido a la maleza y basura. Ayúdanos a limpiar la orilla del río Seekonk para mejorar nuestro parque.

Info:

Fecha: Sábado 12 de junio (en caso de lluvia sera el 13 de junio)

Hora: De 8:30 AM a 12:30 PM

Lugar: Carpa de bienvenida cerca al jardín comunitario

Refrescos: Café y donuts cortesía del Dunkin Donuts de la calle Gano

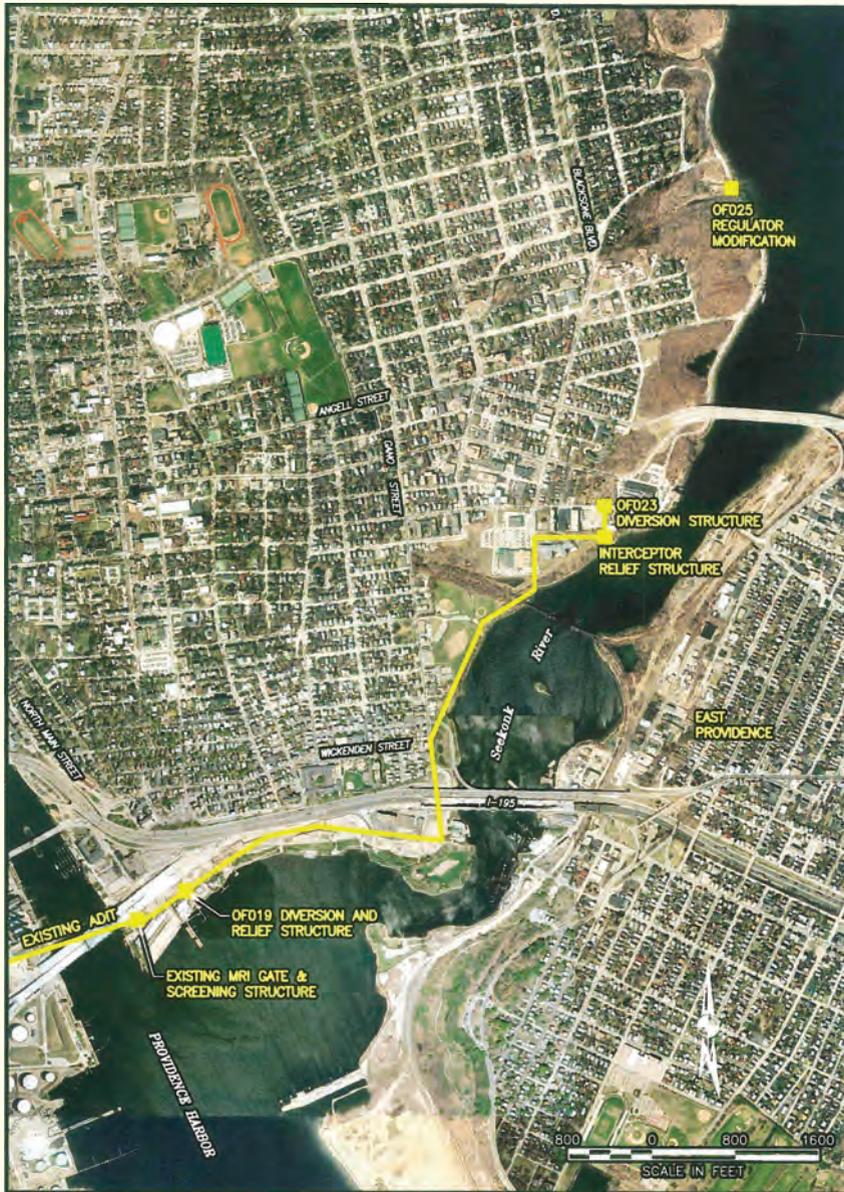
No olvides traer tus guantes y cualquier herramienta que sea útil para limpiar dos décadas de basura y desechos ilegales. Queremos enfocarnos en la zona entre el parque para perros y el puente Crooks Point. Si hay una lluvia ligera continuaremos trabajando.



Auspiciado por Fox Point Neighborhood Association, (Asociación del Vecindario de Fox Point), con el apoyo del concejal Seth Yurdin y el departamento de parques de la ciudad de Providence.

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PHASE II DESIGN
SEEKONK CSO INTERCEPTOR ALIGNMENT



The NARRAGANSETT BAY COMMISSION
 COMBINED SEWER OVERFLOW
 CONTROL FACILITIES PROGRAM



The LOUIS BERGER GROUP, Inc.
 PROGRAM MANAGER

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 Additional Materials

