



## DIRECTIONS

**Hyde Park Community Center,**  
1179 River Street, Hyde Park, MA 02136

The Hyde Park Community Center is located on River Street between Hyde Park Cooperative Bank and Hyde Park Savings Bank and is within walking distance of the Fairmount Station (commuter rail).

There is parking available on River Street and in the municipal lot off Winthrop Street between Hyde Park Avenue and Harvard Avenue across from the Police Station (exit by the library to walk to the Community Center). There is also a municipal lot behind the Hyde Park Savings Bank.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, or to add your name to the mailing list, contact Cathy Garnett, Neponset Project Manager/  
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EOEA Secretary



Stephen H. Burdington  
DCR Commissioner



Mitt Romney Lt. Governor  
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# NEPONSET RIVER RESERVATION

Spring 2006

Master Plan Phase II

The Department of Conservation and Recreation (DCR) began work in February on a master plan for a major section of the Neponset River Reservation from Central Avenue in Milton to Paul's Bridge in Hyde Park and Milton. This area is approximately 125 acres of parkland with over 11 miles of river banks. Guiding principles in developing the plan include the protection and enhancement of the ecological systems along and in the Neponset River and enhancement of recreation opportunities. The master plan reflects public participation and input received throughout the planning process. The plan also includes recommendations for management, operations and public and private funding sources.

## Draft Plan Prepared

The Draft Master Plan has been developed. The river corridor trail location, as well as the location of other facilities, was refined based on input from the public meetings. Key recommendations (illustrated on Page 2) include:

- ▷ Continuous river corridor path system from Central Avenue to Paul's Bridge: The Plan represents a synthesis of the recreation and conservation options presented at the Community Meeting in April.
- ▷ Access to the path system from the MBTA Red Line and commuter rail stations.
- ▷ Connections to local pedestrian pathways and bicycle trails.
- ▷ Improvements at key destinations: Proposed improvements to destinations within the reservation include new plantings, play equipment, continued inside ▷



Participants at the April 26, 2006 Community Meeting reviewed draft plans and made recommendations for modifications.

## COMMUNITY MEETING

PLEASE JOIN US

for the project's third open house.

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 14, 2006

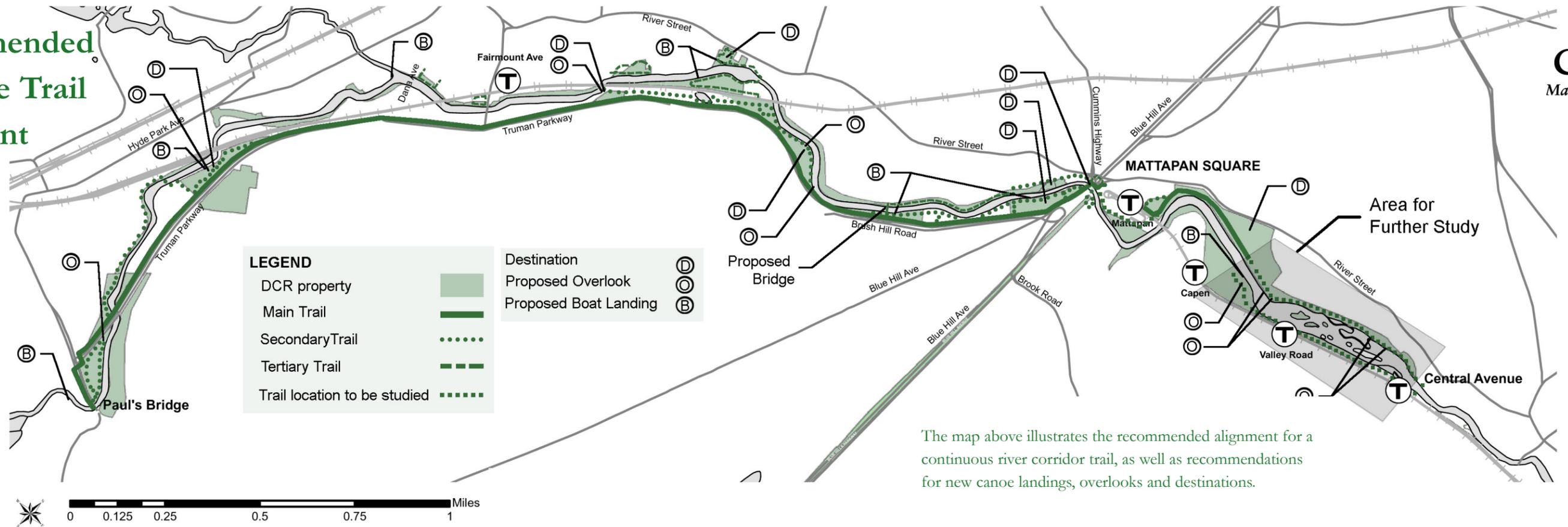
7:00 - 9:00 p.m.\*

AT THE HYDE PARK COMMUNITY CENTER

\* Stations will be set up illustrating the plan elements, with Project Team Members available to talk with attendees. A brief presentation at 7:15 p.m. will be followed by discussion groups and a Question and Answer period. (Map of meeting location on back page)

# NEPONSET RIVER RESERVATION MASTER PLAN

## Recommended Riverside Trail Alignment



The map above illustrates the recommended alignment for a continuous river corridor trail, as well as recommendations for new canoe landings, overlooks and destinations.

signage, parking, picnic tables, scenic overlooks, canoe launches and general maintenance activities. Highlighted destinations are:

- o Ryan Playground
- o McGiver Square
- o Kennedy Park
- o Truman Parkway Field Office
- o Doyle Playground
- o Martini Shell
- o South side of river by Bay State Paper Company (new destination)

- ▷ Water trail: A series of eight new canoe landings along the river will allow canoers to pull out, enjoy the view and perhaps have a picnic. Parking improvements at four of these locations will provide opportunities to begin and end at various points for trips of different lengths.
- ▷ Overlooks: A series of eight proposed overlooks will provide scenic views of the river. In many cases these are sited in locations where long views up or down the river are possible. Some sites are easily accessible from the adjacent road while others are accessible only from the path system.
- ▷ Signage: A signage system will help to “announce” the river and the

reservation and will encourage passersby to use the trails and other resources. Interpretive signage will highlight important cultural and natural resources along the trail.

- ▷ Conservation areas: Conservation measures focus on vegetative communities, including areas of habitat preservation. Additional or replacement vegetation is suggested for areas that have been impacted in the past or will be by the future implementation of the plan. Nuisance and invasive vegetation is identified for preservation (where important for habitat protection), eradication or species management.
- ▷ Management and Maintenance: A long-term management plan includes recommendations for maintenance of the reservation, as well as recommendations for reservation clean-up and ongoing operations.
- ▷ Safety and security: A safety and security plan, outlining coordination between DCR and Boston and Milton police departments will ensure that the trails and adjacent destinations are well monitored.
- ▷ Recommendation for further study: It is recommended that funding be provided to further study the location of the trail and bridge locations between Central Avenue and Ryan Playground. The study will take into account community concerns related to safety and security, as well as issues related to wetlands and environmental constraints for bridge approaches and length, accessibility and cost. The final location of the

path in this area as well as the resolution of issues related to getting into and out of Mattapan Square will be determined in this study.

- ▷ Early Action item: The plan is a long-term plan which will be funded and implemented incrementally over a number of years. The next step in the project will be to secure funding to develop final designs for the path system in the area southwest of Mattapan Square and begin a study of bridge and trail locations as described above. The distance from Mattapan Square to Fairmount Avenue is just over two miles; constructing a path this length would provide access to a long stretch of the river and would be a desirable and cost effective early action project. As part of the early action program, the DCR hopes to improve bicycle and pedestrian safety, mobility and access along Truman Parkway.

## NEXT STEPS

Based on input from the public meeting, the Master Plan will be finalized and published by early July. An executive summary, prepared in a brochure format, will be developed for broad distribution. The DCR will pursue funding for the early action path design.

## PROJECT SCHEDULE

**March 8, 2006**  
Public Meeting Held to Discuss Existing Conditions Inventory & Analysis

**April 26, 2006**  
Public Meeting Held to Discuss Master Plan Alternatives

**June 14, 2006**  
Public Meeting to Discuss Recommended Master Plan