

Village of Saranac Lake

Project Category: Waterfront Access and Amenities

J - Lake Colby Beach/William Wallace Park Improvements

Project Description

Implementation of the Park's Vision Plan at William Wallace Park (Saranac Lake Village Beach) include improved multimodal access to William Wallace Park as well as improvements within the park itself. Improved connections to the park include the conversion of an existing vehicular drive (access off Lake Colby Dr.) to a pedestrian trail connection, laying the connective foundation to a future walkway (along Lake Colby Drive) connecting to the Town of Harrietstown James A. Latour Park. The vehicular park entrance and exit will be relocated to Moir Drive and include an improved parking area and signage, enhancing visibility of the park. Internal improvements to William Wallace Park include a new, year-round, and universally accessible Beach Pavilion, bathrooms, and entry plaza, with seasonal portable toilets proposed short term. Other internal improvements include, addressing drainage issues, a fenced children's play area with equipment, bike racks, trash receptacles, an improved beach area, and a universally accessible hand boat launch with parking area, seasonal non-motorized boat rentals, and access for ice fishing.

Project Location

Northwest of the Village of Saranac Lake on Broadway, cornered by Broadway and Moir Road. Access to Lake Colby.

Conceptual Design or Other Graphic



LWRP Policies

Policy 1: Restore, revitalize, and redevelop deteriorated and underutilized waterfront areas for commercial, industrial, cultural, recreational, and other compatible uses.

Policy 2: Facilitate the siting of water dependent uses and facilities on or adjacent to coastal water.

Policy 9: Expand recreational use of fish and wildlife resources in coastal areas by increasing access to existing resources, supplementing existing stocks, and developing new resources.

Policy 19: Protect, maintain, and increase the level and types of access to public water related recreation resources and facilities.

Policy 20: Access to the publicly-owned foreshore and to lands immediately adjacent to the foreshore or the water's edge that are publicly-owned shall be provided and it shall be provided in a manner compatible with adjoining uses.

Policy 21: Water dependent and water enhanced recreation will be encouraged and facilitated, and will be given priority over non-water-related uses along the coast.

Policy 22: Development when located adjacent to the shore will provide for water-related recreation whenever such use is compatible with reasonably anticipated demand for such activities, and is compatible with the primary purpose of the development.

Policy 23: Protect, enhance and restore structures, districts, areas or sites that are of significance in the history, architecture, archaeology or culture of the State, its communities, or the Nation.

Policy 25: Protect, restore or enhance natural and man-made resources which are not identified as being of statewide significance, but which contribute to the overall scenic quality of the coastal area.

Cost Estimate for Implementing the Project

Preliminary design for Lake Colby Beach/William Wallace Park improvements was completed as part of the Parks Vision Plan in 2018. Design elements were further refined for the LWRP.

Project Element	Approximate Costs
Final Design and Permitting	233,000
Site Preparation	157,000
Facility Construction and Furnishings	773,000
Mobilization, Bonds & Contingency	347,000
TOTAL	\$ 1,510,000

Potential Funding Sources

- NYS Consolidated Funding Application grants

Benefits

- Improve multimodal access to park with short term/long term planning
- Provide improved public lake access for swimming, boating, fishing
- Universal accessibility of park and amenities
- Enhance visitor experience through amenity improvements including four season features
- Activation of public space
- Water quality improvements to Lake Flower

Timeframe

Undetermined.

Regulatory Requirements

May require regulatory coordination with the NYS Department of Health (DOH).

Village of Saranac Lake

Project Category: Connections

P - Pedestrian Connections to Riverwalk through Dorsey Street Parking Lot

Project Description

This project involves a series of upgrades to the Dorsey Street parking lot to bolster pedestrian access and safety. The Dorsey Street parking lot serves Harrietstown Town Hall and commercial businesses situated along Main Street in the heart of the Village. Pedestrians wishing to access the Saranac Riverwalk linear park from Main Street/Broadway must traverse the Dorsey Street parking lot, which lacks safety and wayfinding amenities targeted toward pedestrians. Features of the project include the construction of a distinctive crosswalk through the parking lot, which will serve to enhance both safety and wayfinding. Other details include the addition of covered bench seating as well as upgrades to onsite stormwater runoff management.

Project Location

The Dorsey Street parking lot is located north of the Route 3/Lapan Bridge, between the Saranac River and the rear walls of Main Street businesses.

Village of Saranac Lake Local Waterfront Revitalization Program
SECTION IV – Proposed Land and Water Uses and Proposed Projects

LWRP Policies

- **Policy 17** – Non-structural measures to minimize damage to natural resources and property from flooding and erosion shall be used whenever possible.
- **Policy 19** – Protect, maintain, and increase the level and types of access to public water related recreation resources and facilities.
- **Policy 33** – Best management practices will be used to ensure the control of stormwater runoff and combined sewer overflows draining into coastal waters.

Cost Estimate for Implementing the Project

Engineering and Construction plans for this project were completed in April 2020 by Barton & Loguidice. Preliminary cost estimates include replacement, grading and drainage improvements, pedestrian connection to the Riverwalk, lighting, signage, and landscaping. Approximate costs are identified below.

Project Element	Approximate Costs
Pedestrian Improvements	200,000 – 250,000
Drainage Improvements	50,000 – 75,000
Riverwalk Connection	50,000 – 75,000
Lot Repavement	200,000 – 250,000
TOTAL	\$ 500,000 – 750,000

Potential Funding Sources

- New York State Consolidated Funding Application grant
- US Department of Transportation Surface Transportation Block Grant (STBG) Program funding

Benefits

- The addition of wayfinding and pedestrian safety infrastructure in the Dorsey Street parking lot will facilitate access to the Riverwalk recreation area from Main Street.
- Enhanced onsite stormwater management in the Dorsey Street parking lot will reduce runoff from impervious surfaces entering the river, thus improving water quality in the Saranac River.
- Increasing pedestrian visibility and safety in the Village-owned parking lot can serve to mitigate the potential for accidents, thus lessening the Village's legal exposure in the event of injury.

Timeframe

Undetermined

Regulatory Requirements

The Village of Saranac Lake adopted a Complete Streets Policy in 2016. The Parks and Trails Advisory Board (PTAB) and the Village Board are responsible for ensuring compliance with the principles and standards of the Complete Streets Policy.

Dorsey Street Parking Lot Redesign

The existing Dorsey Street Parking Lot currently serves as the primary parking facility for the Downtown. In conjunction with grant opportunities to improve the rear facades of the businesses along Broadway, the parking facility has the potential to serve as a key connector between the scenic Riverwalk and business along Main Street and Broadway. Currently the parking lot has no defined pedestrian connection to the businesses above and no formal parking delineation. Essential elements

of the project include three new landscape islands, sidewalks with raised curbs, bioswales, a bus stop, signage, and an pedestrian walkways connecting the Riverwalk to the rear facades. The project will repave the existing parking facility and delineate pedestrian ways up to the Main St. & Broadway business district. Improvements will also include street trees and green infrastructure throughout.

Dorsey Street Parking Lot Cost Estimate

		Source		
Item	Cost	Sponsor	DRI Request	DRI Request
Construction Costs	\$400,437	-	-	\$400,437
Contingency (20%)	\$80,087	-	-	\$80,087
Design & Permitting (15%)	\$60,066	-	-	\$60,066
Construction Oversight & Inspection	\$36,039	-	-	\$36,039
Totals:	\$576,629	-	-	\$576,629

Images of Current and Proposed Conditions



Dorsey Street Parking Improvements-Existing Condition



Dorsey Street Parking Improvements-Proposed Condition (conceptual)