

6446/D-297

ROCKAWAY GATEWAY GREENWAY
Gateway National Recreation Area

Wayside Exhibit Proposal
Phase I

Prepared by:

National Park Service
Division of Wayside Exhibits
Harpers Ferry Center

Plan written by:

Richard B. Hoffman
Senior Planner
Division of Wayside Exhibits



Chief, Division of Wayside Exhibits

JUNE 21, 1996
Date

SCANNED

11/1/01

PLEASE RETURN TO:

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DSC RECORD COPY

United States Department of the Interior

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

Harpers Ferry Center

P.O. Box 50

Harpers Ferry, West Virginia 25425-0050

IN REPLY REFER TO:

**D6215 (HFC-WE)
GATE**

September 13, 1996

**Received DSC-LA
Landscape Architecture**

SEP 19 1996

Park: _____
Pkg. # _____ P.T. _____
Area: _____
Subject: _____

Memorandum

To: General Superintendent, Gateway National Recreation Area

From: Chief, Division of Wayside Exhibits, Harpers Ferry Center

Subject: Revised Wayside Exhibit Proposal, Rockaway Gateway Greenway, Phase I

Enclosed for your review and approval is the finalized wayside exhibit proposal for the Rockaway Gateway Greenway, revised according to the combined park/DSC comments of July 23. The proposal has been expanded to include two duplicates of the Greenway orientation exhibit.

To achieve a May 1, 1997 delivery date, giving the park four weeks for installation, we have outlined the following schedule:

Action

Due Date

Submit preliminary layout design for review	October 7, 1996
Review comments on preliminary design	October 21, 1996
Submit final design (text and layouts)	November 4, 1996
Review comments on final design	November 18, 1996
Decisions on final base design	November 18, 1996
Preparation of production files, film work, maps, at HFC	January 6, 1997

**Fabrication of exhibit panels and bases
through contracts administered by HFC**

January - April 1997

**Delivery of exhibit panels and bases to
Floyd Bennett Field**

May 1, 1997

Opening Ceremony

Memorial Day

To accomplish the production schedule, we need all funds to be available by December 1, 1996, either through an HFC direct-charge to a park or DSC account, or through transfer of funds to an HFC account. We are attaching a revised cost estimate sheet, which includes an additional \$1,000 to redesign the parkwide orientation panel and an additional \$3,000 to produce two duplicates of the Greenway orientation exhibits. Please note that we are already in the process of obligating approximately \$10,000 for planning and design.

We have received some good photo resources from John Lancos and Liam Strain to launch wayside exhibit design; only a few gaps remain, which we hope to fill within the next two weeks. We are eager to push the project swiftly into production, and we will depend on your timely reviews to help us stay on schedule.

Please contact Senior Planner Dick Hoffman at (304) 535-6434 if you have any questions or concerns.


Phillip Musselwhite

Enclosure

cc: Chief of Interpretation, GATE (w/ enc)
/Hugh Duffy, DSC (w/enc)
Paul Lee, DSC-HFC (w/enc)

ROCKAWAY GATEWAY GREENWAY
Gateway National Recreation Area

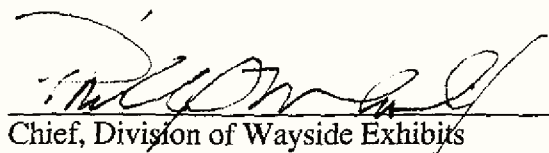
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INTRODUCTION

The Rockaway Gateway Greenway will provide many opportunities for interpretation of unique natural, cultural, and historical features around Jamaica Bay. Because visitor services and facilities are limited, wayside exhibits will be the primary medium for on-site interpretation. During Phase I planning along Floyd Bennett Field and Flatbush Avenue, the planning team identified the need for six (6) original wayside exhibits and five (5) duplicate exhibits. This wayside exhibit proposal describes the content, locations, and site design considerations for each of these exhibits.

Design

Wayside exhibit design for the Greenway sites will build upon the parkwide design criteria developed for the new wayside exhibits at Gateway's Fort Wadsworth. Because Gateway NRA is comprised of such farflung units and sites, wayside exhibits must present a family appearance to help establish a unified NPS identity throughout the park. Wayside exhibit bases and interpretive panels will have certain common design elements such as type style, color scheme, and materials, while at the same time allowing interpretive content to dictate the specific graphic approach for each panel.

Materials

Wayside exhibits for the Greenway will employ fiberglass embedded screen-printed panels. In an area that has high potential vandalism, fiberglass embedded panels offer inexpensive replacement and a relatively tough, scratch-resistant surface. These panels also have full-color capability for a wide range of interpretive subjects and graphics.

Site Development

The Rockaway Gateway Greenway project offers an excellent opportunity to coordinate site design with interpretive design. By relating landscaping considerations to wayside exhibit siting issues, this plan ensures that each exhibit site will be optimally accessible, aesthetically pleasing and attractive to visitors, safely located in relation to multiple-use traffic, and effectively blended with the scene. DSC and HFC will coordinate from initial concept through wayside exhibit installation.

Directional and identity signing should be an integral part of design considerations for the Greenway. Although directional signs are not usually within HFC's purview, interpretive exhibits in this instance should have a visual, graphic relationship to all signs along the Greenway. DSC, HFC and the park will continue to consult on this issue.

Accessibility

The wayside exhibits will incorporate current NPS media guidelines to ensure interpretation to all visitors. All exhibits will be installed on hard-surfaced pads at the appropriate height and angle to serve visitors using wheelchairs. For more information, refer to the NPS accessibility guidelines for wayside exhibits on the next page.

Installation

The park will be responsible for wayside exhibit installation, based on drawings, instruction, and consultation provided by the Division of Wayside Exhibits, Harpers Ferry Center. Denver Service Center will also provide consultation on wayside exhibit siting issues.

Accessibility Guidelines for Wayside Exhibits

National Park Service, Harpers Ferry Center, Division of Wayside Exhibits

A. Guidelines Affecting Mobility-Impaired Visitors

1. Wayside exhibits will be installed at accessible locations wherever possible.
2. Wayside exhibit panels will be installed at heights and angles favorable for viewing by most visitors, including those in wheelchairs. For standard NPS low-profile units the recommended height is 34" from the bottom of the exhibit panel to finished grade; for vertical exhibits and bulletin boards the height is 24-28", depending on panel size.
3. Trailhead exhibits will include an accessibility advisory.
4. Wayside exhibits will have level, hard-surfaced exhibit pads.
5. Exhibit sites will offer clear, unrestricted views of park features described in exhibits.

B. Guidelines Affecting Visually-Impaired Visitors

1. Exhibit type will be as legible and readable as possible.
2. Panel colors will be selected to reduce eye strain and glare, and to provide excellent readability under field conditions. White should not be used for a background color.
3. Selected wayside exhibits may incorporate audiostations or tactile elements such as models, texture blocks, and relief maps.
4. For all major features interpreted by graphic wayside exhibits, the park should offer non-visual interpretation covering the same subject matter. Examples include cassette tape tours, radio messages, and ranger talks.

C. Guidelines Affecting Hearing-Impaired Visitors

1. Wayside exhibit panels will communicate visually, and will rely heavily on graphics to interpret park resources.
2. Essential information included in audiostation messages will be duplicated in written form, either as part of the exhibit text, or in a publication.

D. Guidelines Affecting Learning-Impaired Visitors

1. Topics for wayside exhibits will be specific and of general interest. Unnecessary complexity will be avoided.
2. Wherever possible, easy-to-understand graphics will be used to convey ideas, rather than text alone.
3. Unfamiliar expressions, technical terms, and jargon will be avoided. Pronunciation aids and definitions will be provided where needed.
4. Text will be concise and free of long paragraphs and wordy language.

ROCKAWAY GATEWAY GREENWAY
Gateway National Recreation Area

Wayside Exhibit Plan

<u>Exhibit Number</u>	<u>Subject</u>	<u>Location</u>
1	History of Floyd Bennett Field	Flatbush Avenue Greenway, near Ryan Center
2	Airfield Admin Center	Flatbush Avenue Greenway, near Ryan Center
3	North Forty Nature Trail	Belt Parkway trailhead
4	North Forty Nature Trail	North Runway trailhead
5	Forest Succession	Flatbush Avenue Greenway, southeast of North Forty trailhead
6	Greenway Orientation	Flatbush Avenue and Floyd Bennett Blvd.
7	Gateway NRA Orientation	Floyd Bennett Blvd., Visitor Contact Station parking area
8	Orientation to Floyd Bennett Field	Floyd Bennett Blvd., Visitor Contact Station parking area
9	Greenway Orientation	Belt Parkway / Flatbush Avenue access
10	Greenway Orientation	Ryan Center parking area
11	Greenway Orientation	Across Flatbush Avenue, opposite Floyd Bennett Boulevard
12	Greenway Orientation	Southwest side of Flatbush Avenue at Shore Parkway

Content

Gateway NRA
Rockaway Gateway Greenway
Wayside Exhibit Plan

Exhibit 1

Subject	History of Floyd Bennett Field: the Golden Age of Aviation
Location	Flatbush Avenue Greenway, _____ yards southeast of Floyd Bennett Field Administration Building plaza axis
Orientation	Northeast (visitor reading exhibit will be facing northeast)
View	Runways of Floyd Bennett Field, with Admin Building to left and hangers to the right
Purpose	To interpret the historic airfield's role in ushering in the modern era of air travel, by focusing on the historic scene and historic landings, and including the field's civilian, commercial, and military history.
Comments	Site development will include a pedestrian / cyclist pullout -- a scalloped area off the bike path. The exhibit site should provide an unobstructed view of the historic airfield, framed by the Admin Building and hangers
Base type	Standard low profile, in-ground mount, 36" x 24"

Content

Gateway NRA
Rockaway Gateway Greenway
Wayside Exhibit Plan

Exhibit 2

Subject	Floyd Bennett Field Administration Center
Location	Flatbush Avenue Greenway, _____ yards southeast of plaza axis
Orientation	Northeast
View	Airfield Admin Center
Purpose	To interpret the building's historic functions during the heyday of Floyd Bennett Field, focusing on such features as the underground ramps to the runway and historic photos of the building's interior. Primary emphasis will be on the period of 1931-1941.
Comments	Site development will include a pedestrian / cyclist pullout along the Greenway path. The exhibit site should provide an unobstructed view of the Admin Center, from just southeast of the plaza trees. The trees help screen the view of the chronologically distracting Bluenose Hangar.
Base type	Standard low profile, in-ground mount, 36" x 24"

Content

Gateway NRA
Rockaway Gateway Greenway
Wayside Exhibit Plan

Exhibit 3

Subject	North Forty Nature Trail
Location	North Forty Loop Trailhead, Belt Parkway entrance
Orientation	Northeast
View	Start of trail
Purpose	To provide trail information and orientation (distance, configuration, degree of difficulty) and to introduce the significance of the trail landscape with concise discussion of plant succession and wildlife habitat on recovered land.
Comments	Because the trailhead is not immediately contiguous to the bike path, supplemental signing is needed to provide directions from path to trail. Throughout the Greenway, directional and identity signs should be related to and coordinated with interpretive exhibits.
Base type	Single panel upright trailhead, in-ground mount, 36" x 48"

Content

Gateway NRA
Rockaway Gateway Greenway
Wayside Exhibit Plan

Exhibit 4

Subject	North Forty Nature Trail
Location	North Forty Loop Trailhead, North Runway entrance
Orientation	West
View	Start of trail
Purpose	To provide trail information and orientation, and to introduce the significance of the trail landscape.
Comments	This exhibit will be a duplicate of Exhibit 3 , except for the "YOU ARE HERE" locator.
Base type	Single panel upright trailhead, in-ground mount, 36" x 48"

Content

Gateway NRA
Rockaway Gateway Greenway
Wayside Exhibit Plan

Exhibit 5

Subject	Forest Succession
Location	Flatbush Avenue Greenway, _____ yards southeast of North Forty trailhead.
Orientation	North
View	North Forty Environmental Study Area
Purpose	To interpret the succession story on this stretch of sand fill, from coastal upland to coastal forest.
Comments	Site development will include a pedestrian / cyclist pullout. The exhibit site will provide a clear view of plant succession, from open meadow toward denser vegetation of coastal upland habitat.
Base type	Low-profile trailside panel, in-ground mount, approximately 24" x 24"

Content

Gateway NRA
Rockaway Gateway Greenway
Wayside Exhibit Plan

Exhibit 6

Subject	Orientation to Rockaway Gateway Greenway
Location	Northeast corner of intersection of Flatbush Avenue and Floyd Bennett Boulevard
Orientation	Northwest
View	Bike path
Purpose	To provide trail information and orientation (distance, configuration, access points, key features), and to introduce the significance of the Greenway as a link between important features and resources around and within Jamaica Bay. The exhibit will communicate the variety of recreation options and the significance of partnerships (NPS, City, State, Citizens, Greenway users) in preserving open space in the midst of urban congestion.
Comments	Site development will include a pedestrian / cyclist pullout. This exhibit may be duplicated at other key access points around the Greenway.
Base type	Single panel upright, in-ground mount, 36" x 48"

Content

Gateway NRA
Rockaway Gateway Greenway
Wayside Exhibit Plan

Exhibit 7

Subject	Orientation to Gateway National Recreational Area
Location	In vicinity of Visitor Contact Station near intersection of Flatbush Avenue and Floyd Bennett Boulevard. Exact site to be determined.
Orientation	To be determined
View	To be determined
Purpose	To orient visitors to the parklands, historic and natural features, and diverse recreation opportunities preserved and included in Gateway NRA. The exhibit will provide a geographic orientation to the park's disparate areas and will also introduce visitors to the significance of this urban national park.
Comments	Site development will be predicated on an exhibit location that provides maximum exposure to visitors arriving at this key parking area and access point. This exhibit will be a duplicate of the parkwide orientation exhibit at Gateway's Fort Wadsworth.
Base type	Double-unit upright panel, in-ground mount, 36" x 48". To be mounted in conjunction with Exhibit 8.

Content

Gateway NRA
Rockaway Gateway Greenway
Wayside Exhibit Plan

Exhibit 8

Subject	Orientation to the Floyd Bennett Field area of Gateway NRA
Location	In vicinity of Visitor Contact Station near intersection of Flatbush Avenue and Floyd Bennett Boulevard. Exact site to be determined.
Orientation	To be determined
View	To be determined
Purpose	To orient people to the significant features and wide range of recreation opportunities available in the Floyd Bennett Field park area, including nature trail hikes, fishing, picnicking, bird and wildlife viewing, bicycling, etc.
Base type	Double-unit upright panel, in-ground mount, 36" x 48". To be mounted in conjunction with Exhibit 7.

Content

Gateway NRA
Rockaway Gateway Greenway
Wayside Exhibit Plan

Exhibit 9

Subject	Orientation to Rockaway Gateway Greenway
Location	Greenway access parking area at boundary of NPS and City lands near Belt Parkway - Flatbush Avenue interchange.
Orientation	To be determined
View	To be determined
Purpose	To provide bike trail information and orientation, to introduce the significance of the Greenway, and to communicate the variety of recreation options.
Comments	This exhibit will be a duplicate of Exhibit 6. Site development will be needed to provide safe, optimal exhibit viewing, and to blend it with the access area.
Base type	Single panel upright, in-ground mount, 36" x 48"

Content

Gateway NRA
Rockaway Gateway Greenway
Wayside Exhibit Plan

Exhibit 10

Subject	Orientation to Rockaway Gateway Greenway
Location	Ryan Center parking area
Orientation	To be determined
View	To be determined
Purpose	To provide bike trail information and orientation, to introduce the significance of the Greenway, and to communicate the variety of recreation options.
Comments	This exhibit will be a duplicate of Exhibit 6 The exact, optimal exhibit site has yet to be determined. Site development will be needed to blend the exhibit with the area.
Base type	Single panel upright, in-ground mount, 36" x 48"

Content

Gateway NRA
Rockaway Gateway Greenway
Wayside Exhibit Plan

Exhibit 11

Subject	Orientation to Rockaway Gateway Greenway
Location	Across Flatbush Avenue, opposite Floyd Bennett Boulevard
Orientation	To be determined
View	To be determined
Purpose	To provide bike trail information and orientation, to introduce the significance of the Greenway, and to communicate the variety of recreation options.
Comments	This exhibit will be a duplicate of Exhibit 6 except for the "You Are Here" locator. Site development will be needed.
Base type	Single panel upright, in-ground mount, 36" x 48"

Content

Gateway NRA
Rockaway Gateway Greenway
Wayside Exhibit Plan

Exhibit 12

Subject	Orientation to Rockaway Gateway Greenway
Location	Southwest side of Flatbush Avenue at Shore Parkway
Orientation	To be determined
View	To be determined
Purpose	To provide bike trail information and orientation, to introduce the significance of the Greenway, and to communicate the variety of recreation options.
Comments	This exhibit will be a duplicate of Exhibit 6 except for the "You Are Here" locator. Site development will be needed.
Base type	Single panel upright, in-ground mount, 36" x 48"