



EAST RIVERFRONT ASSETS STUDY

**The Aretha Franklin
Amphitheatre
(Chene Park)**

Part of the DETROIT
PARKS & REC
STRATEGIC PLAN



April 15th, 2021

What is the purpose of the study?

- To create **vibrant, sustainable destinations** by understanding and unlocking the potential of underused parklands/sites along the riverfront.
- To build upon past riverfront studies
- To develop a **holistic, connective vision** and an **actionable strategic plan** for Detroit's riverfront.
- To learn **how you use and enjoy your favorite spaces along the riverfront now** and how you wish to do so in the future.

➤ WHO is conducting the study?

- City of Detroit General Services Department
- Detroit Parks and Recreation Division
- Consulting team headed by Detroit architecture firm ROSSETTI

➤ WHAT is the focus of the study?

- Assessing the current condition of parks/sites
- Determining the scope and cost of any needed repairs
- Creating an actionable plan for the long-term capitalization (i.e. funding), management, operation and maintenance of each park/site
- Working with stakeholders to develop a cohesive, strategic vision for the riverfront that enhances these public spaces

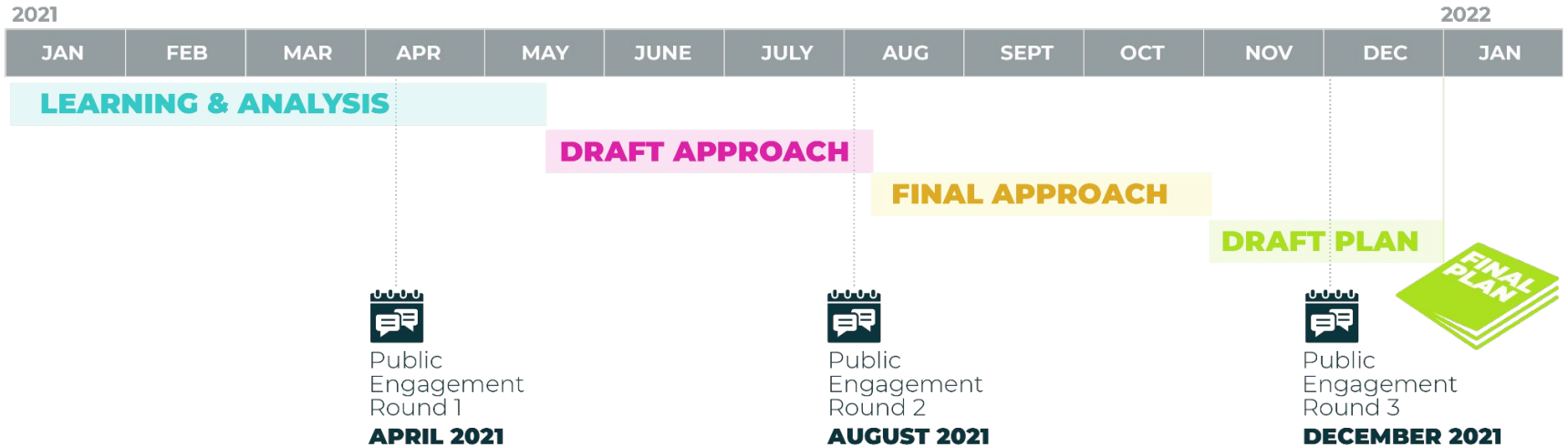
➤ WHEN will it take place?

- Now through December 2021

➤ This is **not** a detailed design study for each asset.



Schedule Overview



THE EAST RIVERFRONT

JEFFERSON VILLAGE

MARINA DISTRICT

RIVERSIDE MARINA,
ST. JEAN BOAT LAUNCH

GOLD COAST

OWEN PARK, ERMA
HENDERSON MARINA & PARK

GABRIEL RICHARD PARK

MT. ELLIOT PARK

ROBERT C. VALADE PARK

THE ARETHA

MILLIKEN STATE PARK AND HARBOR

MILLIKEN STATE PARK WETLANDS
CULLEN PLAZA (+ CAROUSEL!)

RIVERWALK GARDEN ROOMS

GM PLAZA

CIVIC CENTER

HART PLAZA, SPIRIT PLAZA,
JOE LOUIS FIST

Detroit River



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THE EAST RIVERFRONT



How do you use the Detroit Riverfront?

- What are your three favorite sites along the riverfront?
- Of the sites in this study, which ones have you visited?



Our goal is to think about ways to make individual parks and properties better and how to connect them to create a richly diverse yet seamless riverfront experience.

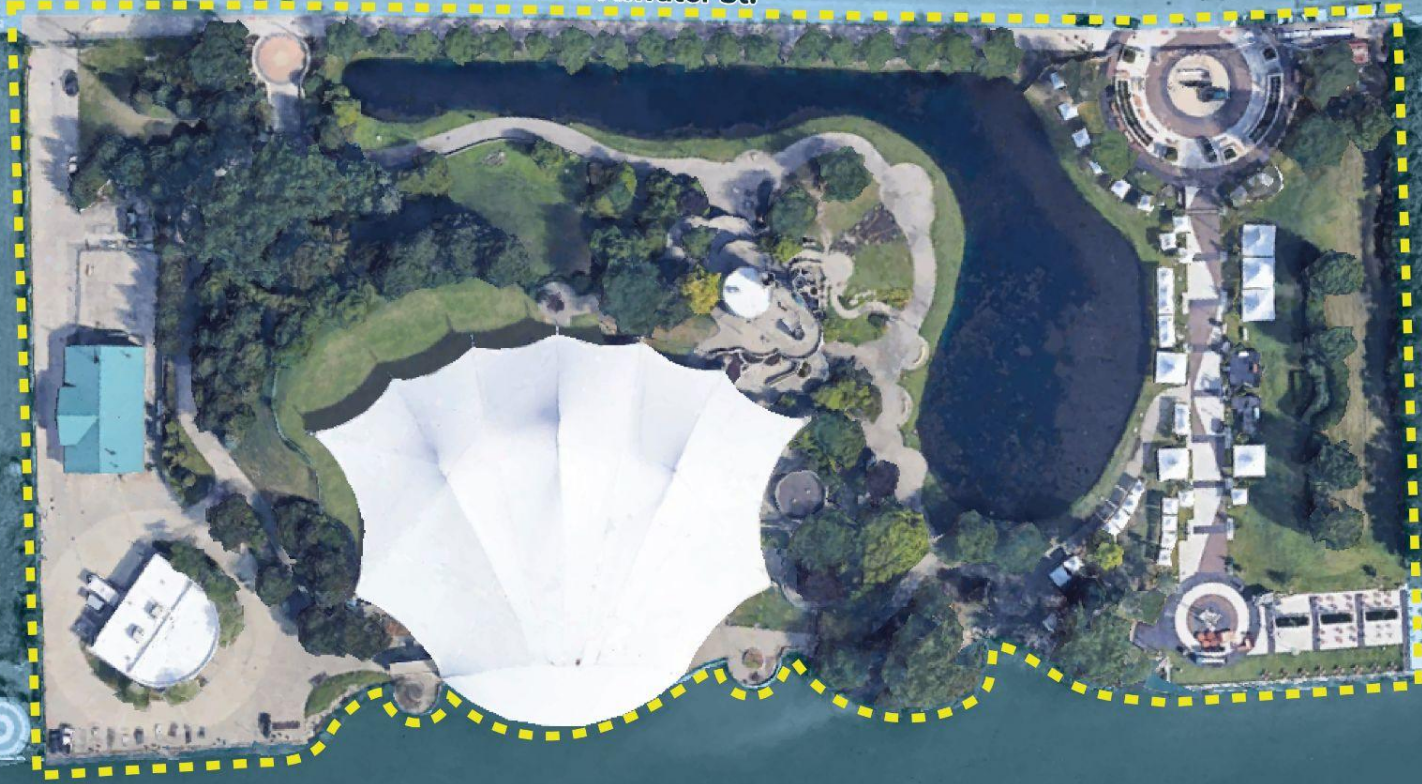
With this in mind, let's explore ...

THE ARETHA FRANKLIN AMPHITHEATER

DuBois St.

Cneme

Atwater St.





The Aretha Franklin Amphitheater

- Renamed in 2019 to honor the Queen of Soul (formerly Chene Park).
- 6,000-seat venue located at the riverfront (about 1.5 miles from Downtown).
- The venue is managed and operated by The Right Productions.
- Active programming includes summer concert series, graduations, and other entertainment events.
- Seawall improvements (coming soon!).



Questions to explore for The Aretha Franklin Amphitheatre

01 Why is the Aretha important to you?

02 How long have you been attending events there, and how often do you go?

03 What specific events have you attended (e.g., concerts, Jazzy Nights Season Series, community events, etc.)?

04 How do you access the facility? If you drive, where do you park?

05 Do we need to improve access? Do we need to improve parking?

06 What do you love about this facility and not want to change?

07 What would you change about this facility if you could?

**What other questions should we
be asking?**

Who else should we talk to?



How Your Input Will Be Used

This final product will be included as part of the Parks & Recreation Strategic Plan and outline funding to sustain these assets for the next 5 years.



Next Steps





Next Steps



Additional focus group:

Civic Center (Hart Plaza, Spirit Plaza, the Fist) April 21, 6:00 – 8:00 p.m

Survey coming soon!

How to Contact Us

By phone: 313-241-4080

By email: Maria Galarza- galarzam@detroitmi.gov

Where to find more information

www.detroitmi.gov/eras

Thank you!