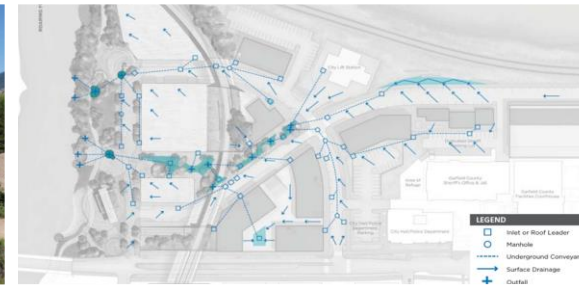


The Perfect Place for a Park

A former treatment plant finds new life where two culturally significant rivers meet in Glenwood Springs, Colorado



Project Summary

Community: Glenwood Springs, Colorado

Technical Assistance: Site Design

Former Use: Wastewater Treatment Plant

Future Use: Riverfront Park

Known for its natural beauty, the city of Glenwood Springs hopes to continue its strong history of preserving its resources by revitalizing a former wastewater treatment plant that is centrally located at the confluence of the Roaring Fork and Colorado rivers.

Under a 2017 Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Brownfields Area-Wide Planning Grant, the city developed a plan to convert the former wastewater treatment plant into a riverfront community park. The key objectives of the plan were to enhance connectivity to the Roaring Fork River, prioritize the needs of pedestrians, and create interactive community spaces. Brownfields redevelopment in the overall confluence area is envisioned as infill development that will extend the city's downtown to the river, celebrate the area's natural surroundings, and create a mixed-use neighborhood that is compatible with surrounding architecture.

The Community's Challenge

While the Area-Wide Plan set the groundwork for brownfields redevelopment of the riverfront park, the city needed additional site design details, including community-desired amenities, in order to secure funding and begin work on the project.

EPA's Land Revitalization Technical Assistance

In 2019, EPA's Land Revitalization program provided contractor technical assistance to prepare conceptual

designs of the signature riverfront park along the Roaring Fork River. To do this, the team held workshops with city leaders, key stakeholders, and community members to inform the design process. Realizing the potential of the site, a Riverfront Park Plan was prepared based on the city's and community's vision to link the historic downtown core to the river and provide an interactive destination focused on passive recreation, social interaction, reflection, utilizing green infrastructure to manage stormwater, and caring for the city's natural resources. The Riverfront Park Plan included an Essential Elements Plan and a Community Upgrades and Amenities Plan.

With the Riverfront Park Plan in hand, the city has a solid reference to both the foundational framework necessary for the brownfields in the confluence area to be a publicly accessible space, as well as amenities that significantly enhance the full potential of the waterfront.



Confluence Riverfront Park Essential Elements Plan

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