

Project Timeframe
2013-2014



CASE STUDY Broderick Park

Renovating a waterfront park to embrace Underground Railroad heritage

Located at the foot of West Ferry Street on the scenic Niagara River, Broderick Park is a key site in the history of slavery and freedom on the Underground Railroad and a popular recreational space for the racially and ethnically diverse population on the city's West Side. The park is steeped in history, most notably as a major terminus of the Underground Railroad between the United States and Canada. The park pays tribute to the people who crossed the water from that point to freedom in Canada and is listed as a designated Network to Freedom site by the U.S. National Parks Service, a national network of historic places and educational or interpretive programs associated with the Underground Railroad. Recent renovations to the park include new entrance features, a small performance amphitheater, a waterfront promenade, new shelters, and revised parking facilities--all with the intent to uplift the space as a public memorial to the incredible local history of the Underground Railroad.

Community Partnerships

The City of Buffalo worked closely with community stakeholders on the project. Organizations such as the Buffalo Quarters Historical Society, Niagara River Anglers Association, Buffalo United Front, Rich Products, and the Broderick Park Advisory Committee were important partners on the project. Hundreds of citizens were engaged through a series of community meetings hosted by Mayor Brown and the City of Buffalo Division of Parks and Recreation, sharing ideas, suggestions, and comments about what enhancements they wanted to see in the park.



Keeping the stormwater challenge in check with green infrastructure in Broderick Park

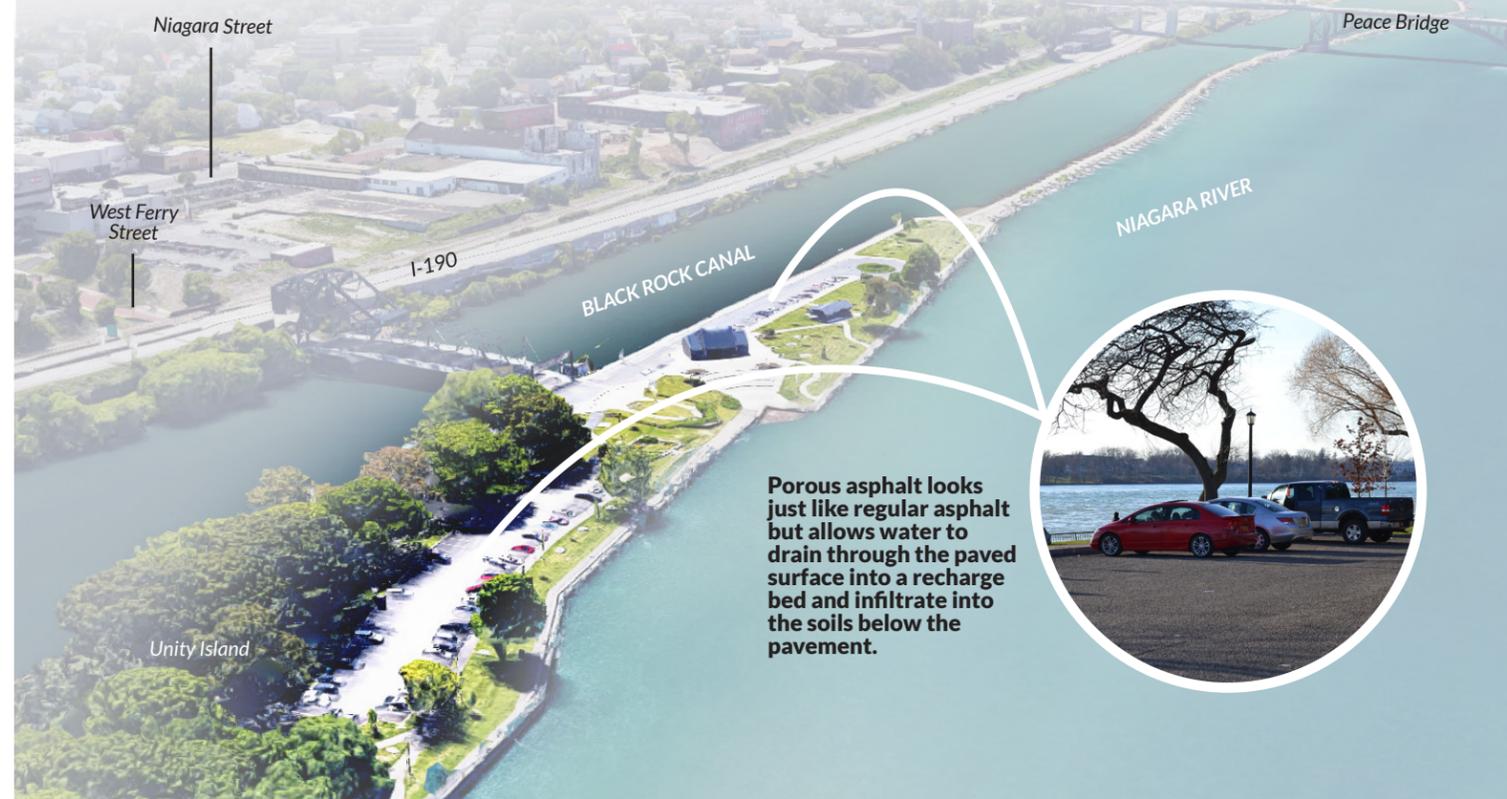
1.0 acre of impervious surfaces removed



These investments in Broderick Park manage stormwater for 4.3 acres of the city.



124,326
gallons of runoff prevented from entering the sewer system in a typical rainfall event.



Porous asphalt looks just like regular asphalt but allows water to drain through the paved surface into a recharge bed and infiltrate into the soils below the pavement.

Green infrastructure in Broderick Park

The City of Buffalo recently invested over \$1 million in a range of renovations to the park, including updated parking facilities with green infrastructure elements. By using porous asphalt in the parking areas, the pavement surface promotes infiltration and keeps over 124,000 gallons of stormwater from entering sewers in a typical rainfall event, improving local water quality.

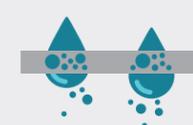


Water moves along an impervious surface

Water drains through a porous surface



Replacing impervious surfaces with porous asphalt can provide cost-effective pavements that promote infiltration and improves water quality.



BRODERICK PARK MASTER PLAN

