

## Town of Blowing Rock

### Request for Council Action

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FROM: Jennifer Brown, Director of Parks & Recreation  
SUBJECT: Virginia Tech Conceptual Design  
TO: Council  
DATE: September 28, 2017  
REQUESTED BY: Director of Parks & Recreation, Jennifer Brown

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Public Hearing  Yes  No  Not required  NA  
Properly Advertised  Yes  No  Not required  NA

#### BACKGROUND:

In the Fall of 2016 we applied for a planning grant through NC Forestry Service and received the grant in April of 2017. This grant paid to have a design team from Virginia Tech create a design that included the American Legion bank facing Broyhill Park, the bank in front of the American Legion, the back of Memorial Park, Park Avenue and walkways in between all of those. The project group from Virginia Tech met with Town staff, Blowing Rock Appearance Advisory Commission, and the NC Forestry Service several times to make sure they encompassed as much of the safety concerns as possible, as well as the beautification of these areas. They presented their final plan in August and staff along with BRAAC feel they have designed a plan that harnesses safety, beauty, and functionality.


#### ATTACHMENTS:

American Legion Site Conceptual Design

#### STAFF RECOMMENDATION:

Recommend that the conceptual design be approved so that staff can phase the project as funding becomes available.



- |   |   |  |   |
|---|---|--|---|
| A. Picnic Pavilion  | F. ADA-Accessible Ramp  | K. Parallel Public Parking                                   | P. Rain Gardens   |
| B. Stone Plaza with Seating (at grade with Wallingford Rd.) | G. Pedestrian Walkway & American Legion Service Entrance        | L. Perpendicular Public Parking                              | Q. Raised Pedestrian Crosswalk  |
| C. Stairs with Concrete, Stone, and Pavers                  | H. Pedestrian Crosswalks  | M. Angled Public Parking                                     | R. Visitor Information Kiosk (existing)   |
| D. Stormwater Drainage Waterfall with Boulders              | I. Wooden Fishing Deck (North Existing, South Proposed)         | N. Pedestrian Connection to Memorial Park from Broyhill Park | S. Temporary Dumpster Location  |
| E. Plateau Stone Plaza with Seating                         | J. Pedestrian Corridor Expansion/ Building Entrance Enhancement | O. Pedestrian Walkway with Paver Delineation                 |  Perspective Vantage Point |



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Disclaimer : This drawing is conceptual and was prepared to show approximate location and arrangement of site features. It is subject to change and is not intended to replace the use of construction documents. The client should consult appropriate professionals before any construction or site work is undertaken. The Community Design Assistance Center is not responsible for the inappropriate use of this drawing.

**Blowing Rock, NC: American Legion Site Conceptual Design**

**Final Design Concept**

Final Master Plan  
August 1, 2017



At the base of the backside of the American Legion building is an open green lawn for recreation activities. A stone retaining wall creates a larger lawn and overlook facing Mayview Lake and the gazebo. String lighting is placed under the deck to create a welcoming atmosphere in the evening hours.



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**Blowing Rock, NC: American Legion Site Conceptual Design**

**Final Design Concept**

Perspective 1: American Legion Lawn  
August 1, 2017



An ADA-accessible ramp connects the American Legion building parking lot and public parking garage to the trails surrounding Mayview Lake. Two overlooks along the ramp serve as resting points and social gathering spaces. Lighting allows pedestrians and bicyclists to use the hillside at night.



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Final Design Concept

Perspective 2: American Legion Hillside  
August 1, 2017



The service area of the American Legion building is converted into a pedestrian friendly space with a dedicated crossing, seating walls, plantings, and signage. The asphalt is replaced with pavers and concrete, while still allowing service vehicles to access the bottom floor of the American Legion building.



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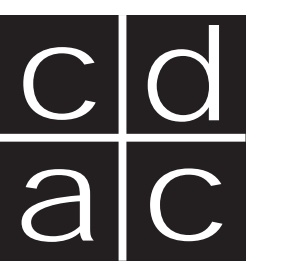
Blowing Rock, NC: American Legion Site Conceptual Design

Final Design Concept

Perspective 3: Service Entrance and Pedestrian Crossing  
August 1, 2017



Wallingford Road parking is reorganized into parallel parking with rain garden planters to slow vehicular traffic in an area of heavy pedestrian traffic. The crosswalk serves as a speed bump to slow down traffic and to create a more ADA-friendly crossing. The plaza serves as a place for picnicking and social gathering along the street.



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Blowing Rock, NC: American Legion Site Conceptual Design

Final Design Concept

Perspective 4: Wallingford Road  
August 1, 2017



The connection from the American Legion building and public parking deck to Memorial Park is widened by removing six feet of the existing tennis court surface. Office entrances on the backside of the building are more welcoming as the landscaping is complimented by a mural and wooden pergola.



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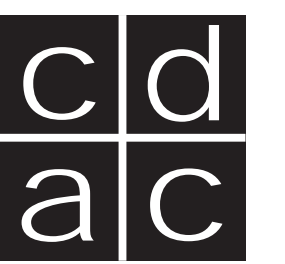
Blowing Rock, NC: American Legion Site Conceptual Design

Final Design Concept

Perspective 5: Broyhill Park Connection  
August 1, 2017



Park Avenue, currently dangerous for pedestrians, is improved by adding rain gardens with street lighting to separate the pedestrian sidewalk from the vehicular traffic. Blowing Rock town vehicles and staff can still access the various service bays and building entrances along Park Avenue as they currently do.



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Final Design Concept

Perspective 6: Park Avenue

August 1, 2017