

June 6, 2023

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RIVERFRONT TRANSFORMATION UNDERWAY AT VALLEY VIEW
Summit Metro Parks begins development of river access at Valley View Area, paving the way for unforgettable adventures on the Cuyahoga River

Summit Metro Parks recently began riverfront construction at the Valley View Area of Cascade Valley Metro Park to create a new, high-quality access point to the Cuyahoga River. Once complete, the area will include a kayak and canoe put-in, walking trail, bike trail, restroom farmhouse and gathering barn with a fireplace.

Acquired by the park district in 2016, the [Valley View Area](#) has undergone a significant transformation over the past seven years. In addition to restoring one mile of the Cuyahoga River and 200 acres of parkland at Valley View, park improvements include amenities like hiking trails, scenic vistas and the popular Himelright Lodge. As the river has been restored over the past several decades and has recently received state water trail designation, members of the community wish to responsibly experience and enjoy it. To bring that idea into reality, Summit Metro Parks has partnered with the Cuyahoga Valley National Park and other local organizations to provide access to the amazing Cuyahoga River.

In addition to significant individual contributions, the project has been awarded a \$450,000 grant through the Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF), administered by the National Park Service and the Ohio Department of Natural Resources. Ohio Capital Improvement Community Park, Recreation and Conservation Project funds of \$98,000 were also awarded. The park district is actively seeking additional funding toward the project, which is slated for completion in spring of 2024.

Summit Metro Parks and its local, state and federal partners have been working on the [Valley View Area restoration and development project](#) for nearly a decade, carefully implementing a master plan that [puts conservation first](#). The final result of the riverfront project will be a beautiful addition to a park that allows visitors to connect with, enjoy and celebrate nature from land and water.

The park district does not anticipate park closures in relation to this project. A portion of [Celebration Trail](#) is rerouted due to construction and periodic closures within the park may occur; visit bit.ly/SMP-Alerts for updates.

Photo: River Development Concept Rendering (details subject to change)



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In 2023, Summit Metro Parks is celebrating the benefits of native plants through Wild Back Yards. The park district manages more than 15,000 acres throughout 16 parks, three nature centers and over 150 miles of trails, including 22 miles of the Ohio & Erie Canal Towpath Trail. Annual attendance is approximately 5.5 million visits. Find us online at summitmetroparks.org.



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