

Project Overview

Center City District (CCD) is planning to turn a portion of an old elevated train track – that runs from Vine Street to Fairmount Avenue between 11th and 9th streets - into a new park and walking path called **The Viaduct Greenway**. At Callowhill Street, it will connect to the existing Rail Park, which the CCD completed in 2018. The new Viaduct Greenway is about 6/10ths of a mile long, 60 feet wide, and covers about 6.8 acres.

Development will happen in stages. In the initial phases (2025-2027), CCD plans on constructing a trail - with basic amenities - that is half as wide as the viaduct. In later phases (2027+), the width may be extended and enhanced amenities will be added along the entire length of the trail.

Background

The Reading Viaduct used to be a busy train track for commuters and industry, but it has been abandoned for more than four decades, contains contaminated soil and lead paint, and is currently overgrown in vegetation. These abandoned train tracks are deteriorating in real time, while the neighborhoods surrounding the tracks are in need of greenspace. Center City District is working with the City - alongside community partners - to turn the Viaduct into a new park and pathway. CCD has commenced basic design and engineering and is pursuing federal, state, foundation, and donor support to construct the park.

Project Goals

Reclaiming and renovating the Viaduct Greenway aims to:



Create a safe, car-free alternative that connects multiple neighborhoods through an accessible park network.





Provide improved access to recreational, cultural, and natural amenities for neighborhood residents.



Strengthen connections to job, retail, and service opportunities in Center City.



Promote equitable development initiatives through partnerships with community led organizations and the City and develop proposed mechanisms, like tax increment financing, and work together to secure other public funding mechanisms that support anti-displacement and small business retention strategies.

Get Involved

We want to hear from you! CCD is partnering with local organizations Friends of the Rail Park, West Poplar Neighborhood Association, Callowhill Neighbors Association, 14th Community Organization RCO, and Philadelphia Chinatown Development Corporation through a Steering Committee and it's so important to us all that community members are a part of this process.

Your input is important to shape the Viaduct Greenway into a new public space for you and your neighbors. Center City District is excited to listen to your ideas, concerns, and hopes for The Viaduct Greenway. While there will be future phases of community engagement and workshops to come, this first phase will focus on the design of the Initial Phase and your aspirations for the future phases of the Viaduct Greenway.

Pop-Ups

Greening Day with Nehemiah HOA

13th and Parrish Saturday, May 18 from 2-5 pm

Triple Bottom Brewing

915 Spring Garden St. Saturday, May 25 from 3-5 pm

Chinese Christian Church + Center, Vine Campus

1101 Vine St. Sunday, June 2 from 10:30 am - 1 pm Language support in Cantonese

Movement Callowhill

1010 Callowhill St. Tuesday, June 4 from 6-8 pm

The Rail Park

1300 Noble St. Sunday, June 9 from 11 am-2 pm

SCAN ME



Or type tinyurl.com/viaductgreenway into your browser

CENTER CITY DISTRICT





Workshops

Triple Bottom Brewing

915 Spring Garden St.
Saturday, June 8 from 5-7 pm
Language support in Spanish

FACTS Charter School

1023 Callowhill St Monday, June 10 from 5-7 pm Language support in Mandarin and Cantonese

St Paul Community Center

1018 Wallace St, (Entrance at 1019 Lemon St) Tuesday, June 11 from 6-8 pm Language support in Spanish



Take the survey!



Stop by a pop-up!



Attend a workshop!



Tell your story!



14th Community Organization RCO

West Poplar Neighborhood Association