Enhancing the Waterfront:  
A Development for Argosy Hotel and Casino  
Lawrenceburg, Indiana

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LA 404 Comprehensive Project

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For the opportunity to pursue my dreams, I would like to thank Mom and Dad. For being my very best friend and always making me laugh, I thank my sister, Shell. For unconditional love and support, thank you Justin. And for making our five years at Ball State University an experience that I will never forget, I would like to thank my very good friends and fellow Landscape Architecture graduates.
ABSTRACT

A waterfront development for the area immediately surrounding Argosy Hotel and Casino in Lawrenceburg, Indiana will create positive connections between the gaming complex and the neighboring communities.

An entertainment structure including restaurant and shopping venues will provide both leisurely and entertainment opportunities for visitors to the space that are not interested in gambling. A waterfront plaza and overlook will act as the gambling boat’s front door to the community, while details such as "poker chip" planters give identity to the development, pedestrian streetscapes provide for open-market and festival venues, and interactive water features and iron, smokestack artwork add interest and character to the space.

A waterfront entertainment district for Argosy Hotel and Casino will encourage people back to the waterfront, allowing the visitors to connect physically and experientially with the natural elements, creating a successful, memorable landscape.
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INTRODUCTION

Waterfront redevelopment is a typology of landscape architecture that mainly focuses on the revitalization of abandoned ports and docklands and other underutilized waterfront properties such as lake and riverfronts. In addition to this invaluable location are the issues of practicality, sociability, and usability that contribute to the inevitable success of the redevelopment.

According to Steiner + Associates, a design firm out of Columbus, Ohio that specializes in the design, construction, leasing and marketing of new town centers, a waterfront redevelopment can create a new space that produces a social aspect focusing on the development of community.

The redevelopment of aged and underutilized waterfront space can combine the natural aesthetics of the waterfront and its urban environment with positive social encounters.

Waterfront redevelopment seeks to revitalize aged, abandoned, or underutilized spaces that can bring a new sense of community to its environment. Stated adequately by Gottfried Boehm, Professor of Architecture at the University of Pennsylvania, “I think the future of architecture does not lie so much in continuing to fill up the landscape as in bringing back life and order to our cities and towns.”

This project was chosen because of my interest in waterfront spaces and the possible connections between the natural element of water and the social interactions of people.
PROJECT BACKGROUND

LITERATURE REVIEW

The economic decline of older, industrial river and portside cities was occurring as a result of larger ships demanding deeper water and a greater area of land needed for containerization handling. This decline led to the opportunity to redevelop these areas for recreational and leisurely activities, returning citizens back to the water’s edge and adding heritage and historic value to the sites. This history plays an important role in the character of the design.

When redeveloping waterfront areas, the site must be respected as a resource; avoid clamoring different uses and activities into one location.

Several precedents were mentioned in the text, including The Rocks, Sydney, which is an example of historic redevelopment that restored old, historic buildings and gave them new uses. In a town such as Lawrenceburg, Indiana, there are opportunities for historic and heritage linked design. Darling Harbour, Sydney was also mentioned as an example of a leisure-based redevelopment, including a mall, resort/casino, aquarium, theater, promenade, Convention Center, and several water-based activities, which will be implemented in the design of my site.

The design of a waterfront redevelopment should follow some sort of scheme such as heritage-based, such as The Rocks, or leisure-based, such as Darling Harbour, which will also be the theme of my design.

While recognizing the importance of tourism, the site must not lose sight of the fact that for the area to survive, it must take into account the needs and aspirations of the local population.
Urban waterfronts present the potential to provide diversified opportunities for economic development, public enjoyment, and civic identity. These issues should be taken into account when redevelopment of such an area occurs in order to create a successful space.

The ultimate success of any development effort will depend upon how responsive it is to the unique qualities defining a specific waterfront. The levee that is present within the site along the Ohio River is a unique feature that will affect the design and character of the site.

Urban context creates a unique set of relationships or linkages that exist between a city and its waterfront. In this particular situation, the city of Lawrenceburg is hidden from the waterfront by the wall of the levee, but has recently implemented a riverwalk on the top of the levee and is in the process of returning to its heritage, the river which is was developed upon.

Accessibility is an important characteristic for any urban development, but is especially important in order to bring in visitors from the local area as well as tourists from other locations. Several types of access are needed for a development of this kind: pedestrian, vehicular, service, and rail. These traffic types must be implemented in a safe and conscious manner.

A diversity of materials such as wood, granite, and brick combined with the movement of boats, flapping of nautical flags and other elements will enhance the visual textures on the waterfront to create a diverse, interesting space. Vegetation softens the hard appearance of the shoreline structures; often vegetation is sparse at the water’s edge. Many construction materials will be implemented in the design such as interesting paving patterns, stamped concrete, and intricate details.
Site specific flags and banners will be hung to announce location and uniqueness to the waterfront space. While lush green vegetation will provide ample shade and vibrant colors, as a soft contrast to the hard construction.

Urban waterfronts were highly altered to keep downtown and industrial areas from flooding. Many of these new projects were overseen by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, which was the case of my site along the Ohio River. During the projects, channels were typically straightened and deepened, vegetation was removed, and bulkheads and floodwalls were added, completely severing the river from its floodplain. This action also severs the city or town from the waterfront, making it almost nonexistent. The purpose of this project is to return the area back to the waterfront, utilizing the unique relationship between the community and the river.

Popular waterfront developments in Baltimore, San Antonio, Chicago and other cities have awakened the public to the value and potential of reclaiming the river’s edge. This is the approach I am taking in the redevelopment of Argosy Hotel and Casino’s waterfront.

Rejuvenating city centers by developing vibrant riverfronts can be a tool in rejuvenating downtowns and counteracting urban sprawl.

Residents and tourists want to enjoy and get close to a river, to learn more about its cultural and natural history, and to see wildlife and engage in various kinds of outdoor recreation. This natural draw to the waterfront will be played upon in the feasibility of the site along the Ohio River.

Cities that pay careful attention to both the needs of the river and the economic and social needs of their communities will reap the greatest rewards.
CASE STUDIES

Development: Newport on the Levee
Location: Newport, Kentucky; adjacent from Cincinnati, Ohio
Designer: Steiner + Associates, Columbus, Ohio

Elements of Success

Feasibility. The development is recognized as a key component of the revitalized Cincinnati riverfront while serving as a gateway to Greater Cincinnati, a region that encompasses 13 counties and three states. The entertainment district makes up a portion of a $1.5 billion riverfront redevelopment, drawing more than 17 million annual visitors.

Accessibility. Newport on the Levee provides incomparable views of the Cincinnati riverfront and superior access for visitors whether they are arriving by car, shuttle, or pedestrian bridge.

Design Elements. The space includes many leisurely and recreational opportunities, such as an indoor shopping pavilion and a two-story open-air promenade that takes advantage of the river walk. The 10-acre leisure time destination is anchored by the Newport Aquarium, an AMC Multiplex Theater, Funny Bone Comedy Club, Barnes and Noble, as well as 21 specialty retail stores, including American Eagle, HOLLISTER Co., PacSun, Outer Limits Sports, Sunglass Station, The Underwater Trading CO., 12 restaurants, including The Bamboo Club, Bar Louie, BRIO Tuscan Grill, Café Istanbul, Claddagh Irish Pub, Cold Stone Creamery, Fat Fish Blue, Mitchell’s Fish Market, Mrs. Fields Bakery Café, and many recreational venues, including GameWorks, Newport Aquarium, and AMC Newport 20 Theaters.

Design Influence. From this case study I have taken into account the influence of the existing levee in the design, the successful river walk, and the community center atmosphere created by the leisurely, social opportunities of the entertainment district.
Development: Cockle Bay, Darling Harbour
Location: Sydney, Australia

Elements of Success
*Feasibility.* The waterfront was transformed in the 1980’s from a derelict dockyard into one of the world’s most popular waterfront destinations. Sydney's Darling Harbour is one of the world's great waterfront destinations and one of Australia's major attractions. Sydney, the capital of New South Wales and its most populated city, enjoys millions of visitors from all over the world, and most of these tourists make their way to Cockle Bay at Darling Harbour to enjoy its food and entertainment opportunities.

*Accessibility.* Darling Harbour is located just minutes from central Sydney; the entertainment district is accessible by many modes of public transportation: boat, vehicle, monorail, subway, and bus, and because of its central location it is easily accessible by foot.

*Design Elements.* The complex offers retail and entertainment opportunities for visitors of all ages, consists of a shopping mall, dozens of unique restaurants from the Meat and Wine Co. to Jordon’s Fish Market, casinos, an IMAX Theater, a children’s’ play area, and several interactive water features. Other opportunities include a convention center, the Sydney Aquarium, and Jet Boat Tours through the harbour. Additional attractions within the area of central Sydney include the Sydney Harbour Bridge, the Opera House, and The Rocks historical area, all within walking distance from Cockle Bay and Darling Harbour.

*Design Influence.* From this case study I have taken into account the influence of the waterfront access by all types of traffic, the water-based activities, and the success of the entertainment district.
SITE AND CONTEXT

REGIONAL CONTEXT

The site is located in Lawrenceburg, Indiana, which is nestled in the corner of southeastern Indiana, bordering both the states of Ohio and Kentucky. Lawrenceburg is located within close proximity to several major cities; it is approximately 25 miles from Cincinnati, Ohio, 90 miles from Indianapolis, Indiana, and 90 miles from Louisville, Kentucky. The site is also located only 20 miles from the Cincinnati/Northern Kentucky International Airport.

Lawrenceburg is the county seat of Dearborn County and has a population of approximately 4,392 citizens. It is home to Argosy Hotel and Casino, owned by Penn Gaming Inc. and Perfect North Slopes, the area's only ski resort, both of which offer unique opportunities to the Greater Cincinnati area.

Lawrenceburg was first settled in the 1790's when travelers first entered Lawrenceburg Township. In 1801 the first land entries were filed in Cincinnati at the Federal Land Office. A year later the rivertown of Lawrenceburg was laid out by Samuel Vance, James Hamilton, and Benjamin Chambers and within a year was named the Dearborn County seat. From 1836 to 1843 the Whitewater Canal was constructed through Dearborn County; river and canal commerce dominated the area until the construction of the Ohio and Mississippi Railroads in the 1850's. In 1937 a severe flood devastated Lawrenceburg, and the city reacted by constructing a high earthen levee surrounding the city. In 1993, Indiana legalized riverboat gambling, and three years later, Argosy Hotel and Casino opened its doors to the Greater Cincinnati area, creating over 2,200 jobs for local citizens.
SITE SPECIFICS

The site is located on the banks of the Ohio River, directly adjacent from the Kentucky state border. It consists of approximately 45-50 acres, part of which is owned by Argosy Hotel and Casino while the other part is government owned Argosy Hotel and Casino brings in nearly 8 million visitors to the space annually, making the Argosy VI the most popular riverboat casino in the world.

The site offers many existing amenities such as the hotel, gambling boat, main pavilion, parking structure and lots, and the newly constructed levee river walk. These amenities combined with the adjacent neighborhoods can be expanded upon to create a complete leisure-based development on the Ohio River for local residents and visitors to the development.
PROJECT REQUIREMENTS

PROJECT GOALS

1. Create a leisurely, entertainment district on the waterfront

2. Achieve and maintain a safe and public pedestrian access within the site

3. Build upon the uniqueness of location by emphasizing the waterfront character

4. Enhance the visual textures throughout the space with a diverse material palette

5. Encourage the public to the waterfront and to explore its heritage

6. Capitalize on unique views that exist throughout the site
PROJECT REQUIREMENTS

CLIENT DESCRIPTION

The client for this project is assumed to be Argosy Hotel and Casino, owned by Penn Gaming Inc., as well as the City of Lawrenceburg, Indiana.

CLIENT GOALS

The clients' overall goal is to revitalize community connections between the gaming complex and the citizens within the surrounding neighborhoods by creating a front door from the gambling boat to the community through a waterfront development initiative.

The clients have requested specific criteria to be applied in the design of a recreational, entertainment district for the area immediately surrounding Argosy Hotel and Casino. An outdoor pavilion-style shopping center including retail shops, and restaurants/cafés will be implemented to provide leisurely, passive entertainment as well as ample park/recreational and pedestrian space for active entertainment for those either underage or uninterested in the gambling amenity. Pedestrian access, the scarcity of vegetation, and safe connections between these amenities will also be addressed.
PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS

DESIGN PROGRAM

1. Design an entertainment pavillion that incorporates the existing levee and provides leisurely activities.

2. Create safe pedestrian pathways throughout the site that provide links between major nodes and amenities.

3. Provide a pedestrian streetscape for open market and/or festival venues.

4. Provide locations on the levee river walk that allow visitors to passively enjoy the sights and sounds.

5. Create unique and aesthetically pleasing hardscapes that add character and interest to the space.

6. Design an outdoor plaza/overlook that provides up-close views of the riverboat, as well as compliments and connects the gambling complex, levee river walk, and entertainment development on the waterfront.
DESIGN PROCESS

SITE INVENTORY

The site currently consists of a three-story gambling boat, the Argosy VI which remains dockside, a large, enclosed tunnel that leads to the main pavilion, which houses several restaurants, grand rooms and extravagant staircases. Directly attached to the main pavilion is a four or five story parking structure; an enclosed catwalk also exists to allow covered pedestrian travel from the hotel complex to the main pavilion. Several additional secure, outdoor parking lots exist for those seeking accommodation at the unique hotel.

Immediately surrounding the site are large amounts of undeveloped floodplain, a constructed levee by the U.S. Army Corp of Engineers, and existing older neighborhoods.

The [aerial] to the left displays Argosy Hotel and Casino in the middle right portion of the image and its context within the city of Lawrenceburg, Indiana. The majority of adjacent land to the north and northwest of the site is undeveloped farmland completely located within a floodplain, while the city of Lawrenceburg is located to the west. Existing neighborhoods surround the site and vary in quality; those located immediately adjacent to the hotel and casino complex are currently being purchased by the gaming company in order to expand their development. A newly constructed river walk is located on the top of the levee spanning the area between the gambling boat and historic downtown Lawrenceburg; the walk allows pedestrian and a small amount of vehicular access in order to allow visitors and residents of the area to view the water's edge.
The rest of the region is made up of a high school complex, industrial areas, pockets of commercial/retail areas, and a majority of residential. The commercial/retail area is also in the process of expanding horizontally to the east and west of the city in an almost non-organized fashion, leading away from a historic, walkable downtown to a large commercial strip that spans west to Aurora, home of the Grand Victoria Hotel and Casino.
1. **Main Entrance.** The image to the left is the first view of Argosy Hotel and Casino complex as the visitor travels southeast by vehicle on Argosy Parkway. The parkway is four lanes, two on either side of the boulevard and is also lined with street trees and red, old-fashioned lampposts. Argosy structures with the white and bright red accents can be seen in the distance.

2. **Parking Structure.** A five-story parking structure can be seen in this image. The garage is the first structure that is viewed as the visitor enters the space. It holds over 5,000 vehicles and is directly attached to Argosy’s main pavilion. A bridge gives access to the garage and is surrounded on each side by accent lighting, colorful vegetation, detention ponds, and spraying water fountains.
3. **Main Pavilion.** The Argosy Hotel and Casino's pavilion and entertainment complex is located next to the parking garage. This image shows the valet parking entrance to the three-story structure, decorative lampposts and a curvilinear stone wall.

4. **Argosy Hotel.** The Argosy 300-room hotel offers class, comfort and convenience, allowing visitors to "stay where you play." The hotel is directly connected to the pavilion by an enclosed corridor. A vegetated median with gazebo is located next to the hotel; paver crosswalks slow traffic through the area.
5. **Service Area and Boat.** The service area that supplies the gambling boat is located just off the levee river walk. It currently eliminates views of the boat by acting as a visual barrier and adds to negative views of the space.

6. **Levee River Walk.** A river walk is currently located on the top of the levee. To the left is Argosy Hotel and straight ahead is the pavilion. From the pavilion, an enclosed corridor stretches over the railway below and leads to the only current entrance to the gambling boat. Just below the levee is the service area again. The Ohio River is located to the right of the levee, just below the rocky slope.
7. **River and Floodplain.** The Ohio River is located on the south side of the levee. Although the levee protects the space from flooding, it also hinders views from the space unless the viewer is on the top of the levee. A large massing of old trees is located in the floodplain between the levee and the river.

8. **Levee River Walk.** This view is located just south of the Argosy complex along the river walk. Iron smokestack artwork has been implemented throughout the area. A small amount of vehicular access is located on the levee. The I-275 bridge spans the Ohio River in the background.
9. **Historic Downtown.** The historic downtown is located just blocks away from the Argosy complex. The old river town character is still displayed through the two-story, brick buildings, lamppost lined-streets and on-street parking.

10. **Iron Gateway.** An iron smokestack gateway is located at the entrance to the historic downtown. The artwork displays the rivertown heritage as well as adds a distinct character and sense of place to the area.
SITE ANALYSIS

Floodplain Analysis

Lawrenceburg, Indiana is located completely within a flood hazard area. After the major flood in 1937, the US Army Corp of Engineers took action and constructed a series of levees that completely surrounded the city, protecting it from the regularly flooding waters of the Ohio River.

The images below were taken in January 2005 when large amounts of rain and snow left the banks of the Ohio River severely flooded. The first image shows the frozen, flooded waters within the floodplain, while the second image shows the flooding water levels nearly reaching the top of the levee.
Topography

The site is located within the Oldtown district in the topographic map to the left. The elevation of the levee is approximately 500 feet on the top surface. The majority of the site on the north side of the levee is relatively flat with an elevation of approximately 470-480 feet, while the normal elevation of the Ohio River on the south side of the levee is approximately 455-460 feet.

The thick burgundy band of contour lines surrounding the city represent the earthen levee that protects the area from the flooding waters of the Ohio River.
Opportunities & Constraints

**Opportunities.**
1. Gateway from the north and main entrance into the site; provides first views of Argosy Hotel and Casino
2. Large open, greenspace directly across from the main pavilion
3. "Front Door" to community; flat area on the waterfront; up-close views of the boat; potential for overlook/plaza and entrance to boat
4. Potential connection between the entertainment space and the levee;
5. Node between downtown historic district and Argosy site; positive views invoke interest and intrigue in site

**Constraints.**
1. High earthen levee restricts views of the riverfront by creating a visual barrier out of the site
2. Large amount of open space, but it is located within a floodplain and is useless
3. Railway runs through the center of the site, complicating pedestrian access and restricting development
Site Analysis

Conclusions.

After analysis of the site several conclusions were reached. Major vehicular traffic circulates to the perimeter of the site and feeds into the site on Argosy Parkway, while pedestrian traffic is primarily limited to the levee riverwalk. More pedestrian access is needed while vehicular traffic is efficient.

A commercial railway, which is currently in use one to two times per day, cuts through the center of the site; this complicates pedestrian access and limits or challenges paths from one amenity to another.

The land within the floodplain is useless for any development other than agricultural purposes.

While the levee protects the site, it also hinders views of the riverfront to and from the space. Views from the surface of the levee must be utilized.

Low to medium quality residential neighborhoods surround the site.

The historic downtown, educational, and industrial zones border the site to the east.
Conceptual Design

**Concept A**

A boulevard vehicular entrance is implemented through the site, while greenspace is left open along the boulevard. The entertainment structure straddles the railway and creates a connection to the levee with a second level entrance to the river walk. A three-story parking structure is located in the rear. A large plaza is located in between the built structures. A plaza/overlook in implemented on the flat, open space near the gambling boat. An outdoor entrance to the boat is located in the area. The boat service area that was located in the front next to the levee is now moved to the back side of the boat out of sight.

**Strengths.**
The concept takes full advantage of the entire site, integrating plazas and greenspace throughout the site. The entertainment structure implements the levee and takes advantage of the views from the river walk. The service area has been moved to the rear of the boat and out of view.

**Weaknesses.**
The concept implements an entertainment structure that straddles the railway and creates unsafe interactions with pedestrians and the commercial rail.
Concept B

A boulevard vehicular entrance is implemented through the site, while greenspace is left open along the boulevard. The entertainment structure creates a connection to the levee with a second level entrance to the river walk. A three-story parking structure is located in the rear. A large plaza/overlook is located on the flat, open space near the gambling boat, while several smaller gathering plazas are located along the river walk. An outdoor entrance to the boat is located in the area. The boat service area that was located in the front next to the levee is now moved to the back side of the boat out of sight.

Strengths.
The concept takes full advantage of the levee and its incomparable views of the riverfront. The railway does not present a clear danger to pedestrians in the space, and the large plaza near the gambling will provide an outdoor access to the boat.

Weaknesses.
The concept does not take advantage of the full space and leaves a large open greenspace to the north of the entertainment structure. The service area is still visible to visitors of the space.
After extensive research, site selection, inventory, analysis, and conceptual design, a master plan was created to enhance the Argosy Hotel and Casino waterfront.
Master Plan

The master plan to the left incorporates several new elements that create unique leisurely and recreational opportunities for visitors to the space.

Visitors are greeted by a (1.) boulevard entrance as they enter the Argosy complex. Existing parking areas near the hotel are (2.) screened with vegetation to eliminate negative views. A large, open (3.) greenspace allows local residents and visitors to the development a place to actively recreate. A section of street is closed to vehicular traffic between the (4.) three-story parking structure and the (5.) two-story entertainment structure, which provides dozens of leisurely activities such as dining and shopping. The pedestrian-only (6.) streetscape provides opportunities for open-market and festival venues. An interactive (7.) water feature provides entertainment as well as the sights and sounds of the waterfront that are lacking because of the restricting levee. The levee is accessed on the (8.) second level from the entertainment structure. Along the levee river walk, (9.) "poker chip" planters provide smaller overlook areas, colorful vegetation, pedestrian seating, and a small amount of shade; they also give identity to the space. Near the gambling boat, a (10.) plaza and overlook provide up-close views of the boat and the waterfront. The (11.) service area that was previously located in this area has been moved to the rear of the boat to free the space for a more suitable use, to eliminate negative views, and to provide incomparable views of the riverboat.
DETAIL DESIGN

"Poker Chip" Detail

The detail below further explains the "poker chip" planters that are located along the levee river walk throughout the development.

- Concrete Levee River Walk
- 18" High Seating Wall
- 2 Pyrus Calleryana
- Parkway Series Pavers
- Annuals - Yellow
- Annuals - Red
- Levee River Rock

The images to the left are sample materials that would be used in the construction of the "poker chip" planters.
Plaza & Overlook Detail

The plaza and overlook area is designed to offer incomparable views of the riverboat from many unique areas.

The walks are lined with street (1.) trees to offer vegetation and shade to the area. In the center a raised, open (2.) greenspace provides active and passive recreational space. Seating (3.) walls are located along the walks, creating a retaining wall for the raised lawn. Providing a retaining wall as well as the aesthetic sights and sounds of running water, is a curvilinear (4.) water wall. Wide, pedestrian (5.) walkways along the waterfront provide ample space for large gatherings and open-market venues. In the center a large, paved (6.) plaza offers more gathering space and displays an iron smokestack piece of art that regularly releases steam for user interest. This plaza provides several (7.) steps that allow the visitor to look out over and water to see the riverboat up-close. Visitors travel over a wooden (8.) boardwalk that leads to a large (9.) overlook. This overlook implements a unique, star paving pattern and is surrounded overhead by a wooden pergola. The entire space is decorated with nautical flags to add, color, movement, and different textures to the space.

The images to the left are sample materials that would be used in the construction of the plaza and overlook area.
PLAZA & OVERLOOK SECTION

The section below displays the plaza and overlook area from the north side of the railway to the south side of the boat slip.

From left to right, the section displays the enclosed pedestrian corridor and the outdoor pedestrian boardwalk that provides safe pedestrian pathways over the occasionally used railway. A retaining wall system is implemented on the levee slope and is detailed with stonework and vegetation. The raised, open greenspace and tree-lined walks lead to the large, paved plaza that displays the iron smokestack artwork. The cantilevered overlook provides up-close views of the riverboat and is decorated with colorful, nautical flags. In the background is the outdoor entrance to the gambling boat and the boat itself. Ending the section is the service area that has been moved to the back side of the riverboat to eliminate negative views in the space.
PEDESTRIAN - RAILWAY RELATIONSHIP

Railway Section

The section below displays the relationship between the commercial railway that is used occasionally and the pedestrian pathways that are used extensively.

From left to right the section portrays the open, greenspace that provides recreational space for visitors. On either side of the railway is a ten foot stone wall and a vegetation buffer made of evergreens, shade trees, and colorful annuals to block pedestrian access to the railway. On the right side of the railway is a pedestrian path with access to the entertainment structure.
PEDESTRIAN - RAILWAY RELATIONSHIP

Pedestrian Pathways Section

The section below displays the relationship between the commercial railway that is used occasionally and the pedestrian pathways that are used extensively.

From left to right the section portrays the two-story entertainment complex with an overhead, glass pedestrian corridor that allows visitors to travel from one side of the railway to the other. The ten-foot stone barrier is portrayed in the foreground. Underground is another pedestrian path that allows visitors to travel from one side of the development to another without having to encounter the railway. The pedestrian-only streetscape is shown between the entertainment complex and the parking structure to the right.
**Entertainment Structure & Levee Connection**

The section below displays the relationship between the entertainment structure and the levee.

From left to right the section portrays the large, open greenspace with a "poker chip" planter. In the background is Argosy Hotel. On either side of the railway is the vegetation buffer and ten-foot stone barrier to restrict pedestrian access to the railway. To the right of the railway is a pedestrian pathway that provides visitor access to the two-story entertainment complex. Within the entertainment structure the visitors travel to the second level where access to the levee is present. Within the plaza, overhead canopies protect patrons from the harsh sun as well as add interest and unique materials to the space. The "poker chip" planters are then portrayed. The cantilever overlook allows visitors to view out over the rocky slope down to the river.
Parking & Entertainment Structure Connection

The section below displays the relationship between the parking and entertainment structures and the levee.

From left to right the section portrays the railway that cuts through the site. The parking structure and entertainment complex are connected by an overhead, glass pedestrian corridor to allow safe and simple movement. The pedestrian streetscape is portrayed between the parking structure and the entertainment complex and below the pedestrian corridor. The streetscape is detailed with vegetation and interactive water features. Outdoor dining areas are provided on the levee for restaurants and bar venues. The "poker chip" planters provide shade and seating areas as well as an overlook to the Ohio River.
**Pedestrian Streetscape**

The pedestrian streetscape is designed to allow visitors to comfortably stroll throughout the entertainment district from the outdoors. Retail shops and restaurants provide indoor and outdoor access for unique opportunities for visitors. The perspective below portrays visitors window shopping along the pedestrian streetscape.

An interactive water feature is designed to allow children and other visitors the opportunity to play in the shallow pools, jump from block to block, and cool off amidst spraying geysers. Sample images are displayed below. This area allows visitors the opportunity to enjoy the sights and sounds of water.
Levee Recreational Opportunities

The levee provides many opportunities for visitors to passively recreate within the space.

The perspective below displays the activities present along the levee river walk. The entertainment complex provides outdoor dining areas for visitors who wish to sit outside and dine while viewing the river and excitement of the space. The "poker chip" planters provide seating for visitors to rest upon while enjoying the opportunity to just be outside or to enjoy an ice cream. Street trees and beautiful yellow and red annuals provide vegetation and unique color and texture palettes for the levee.
CONCLUSION

A waterfront redevelopment for the area surrounding Argosy Hotel and Casino in Lawrenceburg, Indiana, a city that still values its history as a historic river town, would provide an excellent leisurely and recreational development for residents of the city and visitors to the area.

A waterfront redevelopment would be beneficial to this area, revitalizing the riverfront of the Ohio River and allowing visitors the opportunity to return to the water’s edge. An outdoor retail and restaurant pavilion would attract additional visitors to the site, while an expanded river walk and park space would provide local residents with an opportunity for recreation among nature.

The new development on the site would compliment the already successful Argosy Hotel and Casino, fulfilling the demands for a complete and diverse leisure-based complex on the banks of the Ohio River.
“Waterfront development...allows visitors to connect physically and experientially with the natural elements, creating a successful, memorable landscape.”

Krista M. Sams
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