FRIENDS
OF THE
WISSAHICKON

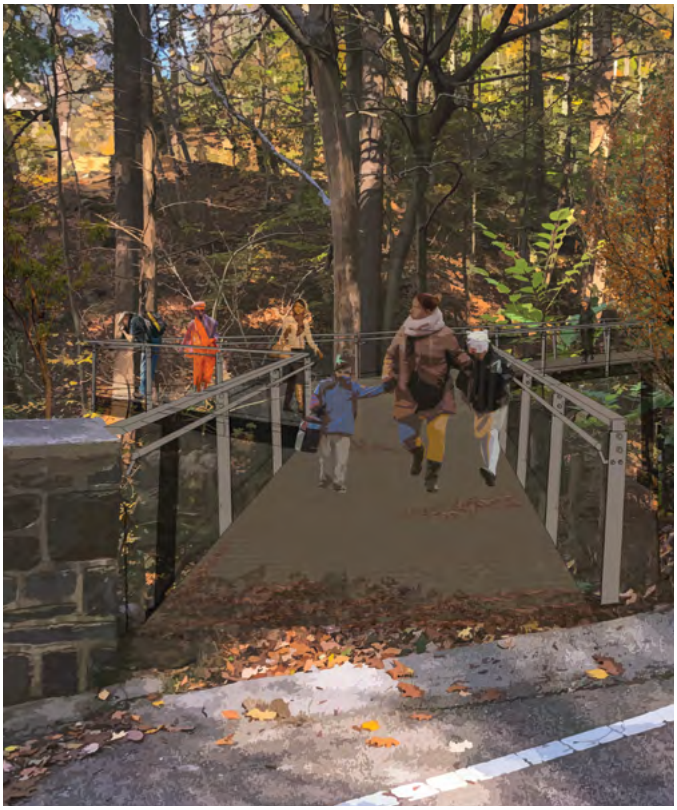
VALLEY GREEN RUN PEDESTRIAN BRIDGE

THE CASE FOR SUPPORT

JOIN US AS WE BUILD A GATEWAY FOR THE FUTURE CONSERVATION OF THE WISSAHICKON VALLEY PARK.

As the stewards of Wissahickon Valley Park, Friends of the Wissahickon's goals are straightforward: Conserving our precious 1,800-acre urban forest for the long term through effective stormwater management while preserving that quintessential Wissahickon experience for our more than 2 million annual visitors. The Friends are making a capital investment in both these critical areas with the launch of our capital campaign for the **Valley Green Run Pedestrian Bridge**.

Friends of the Wissahickon was founded in 1924 and this is a critical juncture for the organization and the Wissahickon. Your support is vital as we usher in the next century of stewardship and seek to ensure the preservation and prosperity of the Wissahickon Valley Park.



OPPORTUNITIES FOR SUPPORT

$1 Million	Permanent naming recognition of the walkway **RESERVED**
$500,000	Viewing platform along the boardwalk length
$250,000	Pavilion overlooking Valley Green Inn
$250,000	Connecting bridge
$100,000	Entrance /exit trailhead kiosks
$50,000	Stone benches at trailhead
$25,000	Benches along or near the boardwalk corridor
$25,000	Laser cut metal planks along boardwalk
$10,000	On-site recognition
$5,000	**For more details contact Sarah Marley at marley@fow.org**

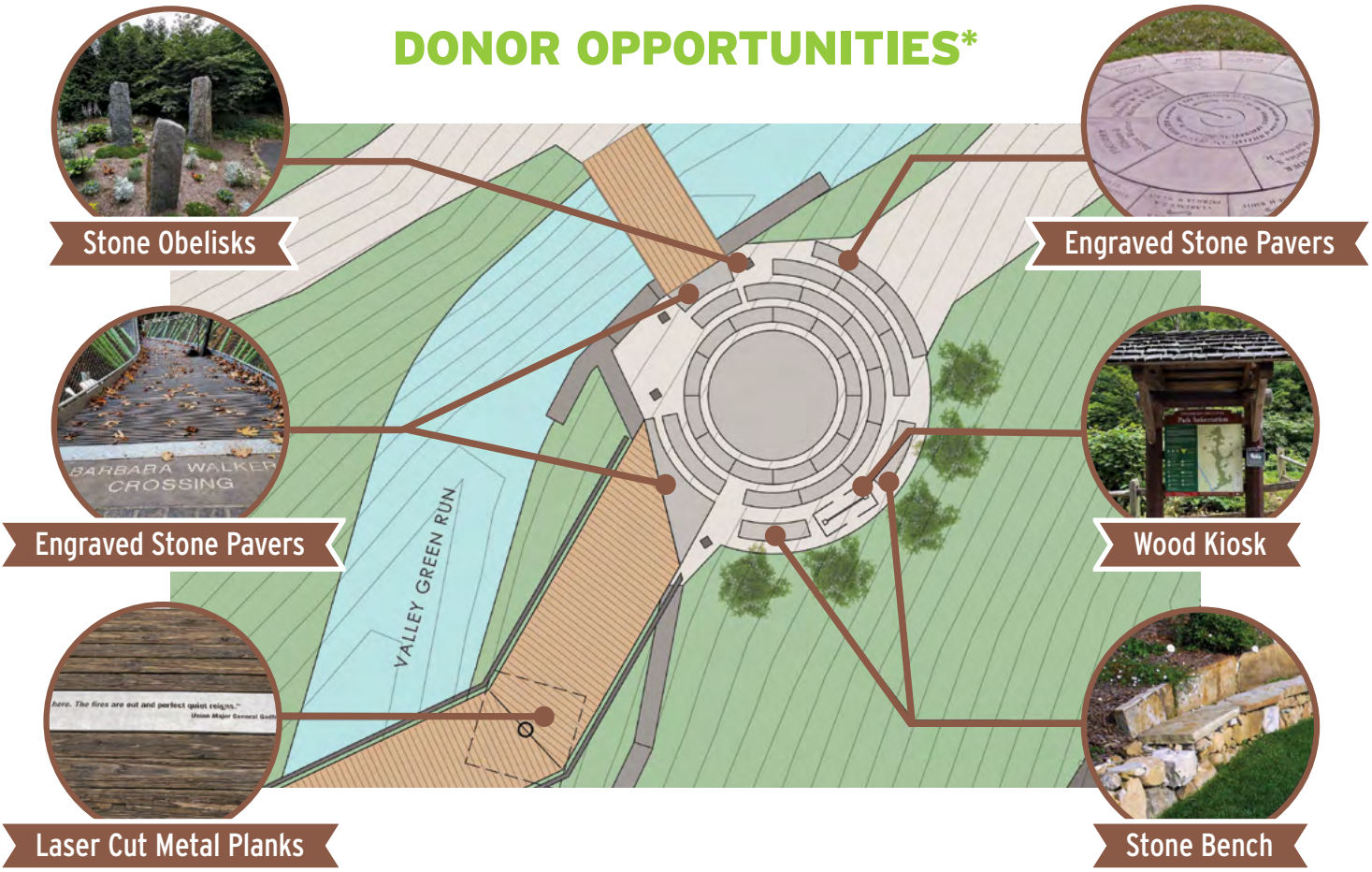
City and State Partners

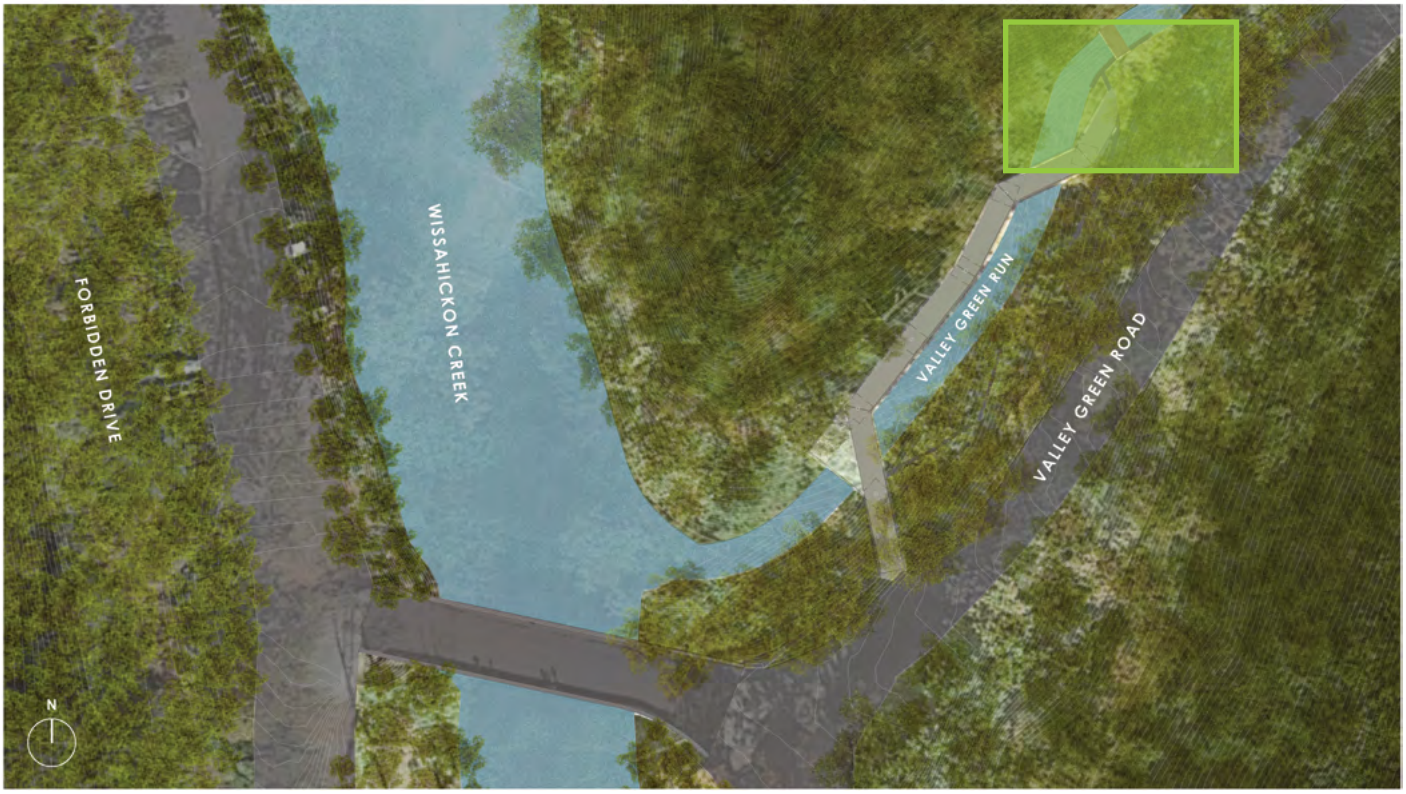
- Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection
- Pennsylvania Commonwealth Financing Authority
- Philadelphia Water Department
- Philadelphia Parks & Recreation

Major Donors

- Anonymous
- Horace W. Goldsmith Foundation
- The McLean Contributorship
- National Fish & Wildlife Foundation
- Wyncote Foundation

DONOR OPPORTUNITIES*





*Placement and final design may be subject to change

VALLEY GREEN RUN PEDESTRIAN BRIDGE DONOR OPPORTUNITY

Laser Cut Metal Plank

Sample Donor Recognition

THE CHALLENGE

Wissahickon Valley Park was created to protect the drinking water supply for the City of Philadelphia in 1868. Since that time, while still protecting the city's drinking water supply, the Valley has become a nationally noted place of wild beauty in an urban setting. Today, Wissahickon Valley Park ("the Wissahickon") draws an estimated 2 million visitors a year to the 57 miles of trail and 6.8 miles of the Wissahickon Creek that forms the backbone of this 1,800-acre forested gorge.

Valley Green Road and its adjacent Wissahickon tributary, Valley Green Run, serve as a primary point of access into the park for thousands of park visitors. The stream channel of Valley Green Run has experienced years of increasingly damaging storms, flooding and erosion, causing the degradation of WPA-era stonework and the collapse of the adjacent natural surface trail and wooden footbridge along Valley Green Road. Visitors to this area are now forced to travel along the heavily trafficked road leading to the popular Valley Green Inn and Forbidden Drive.

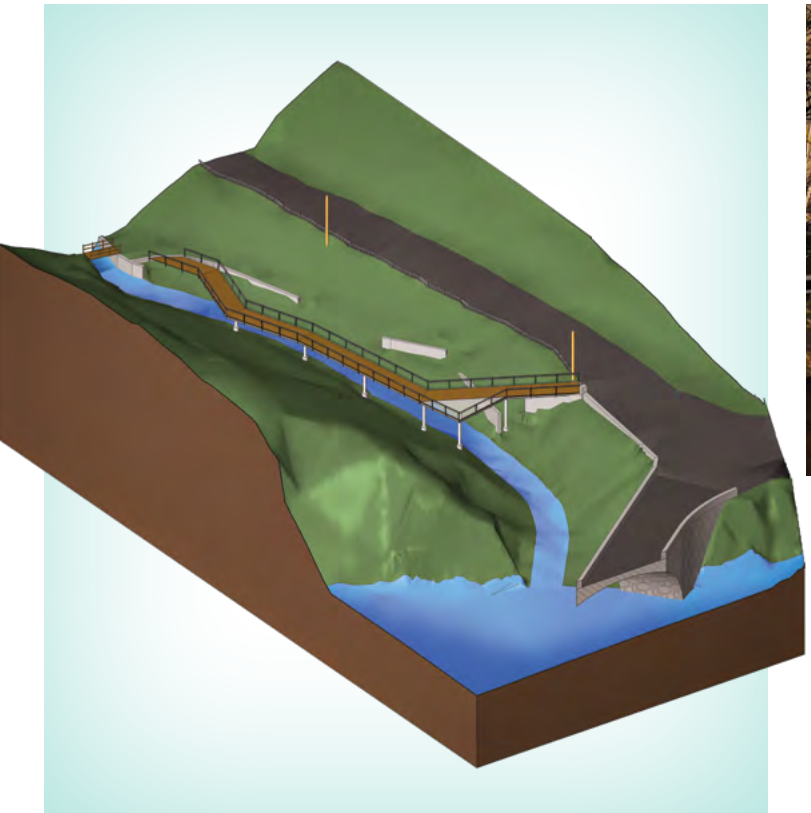
THE SOLUTION

In order to move pedestrians off this busy thoroughfare, FOW is undertaking **two simultaneous projects:**

- Stabilize the severely eroding banks of Valley Green Run, the stream running along the existing bridge. This key step will slow the stormwater runoff that undermined the existing bridge and will improve the water quality of the Wissahickon Creek by reducing sediment flow into the waterway.

- Install a resilient new pedestrian bridge and restore an essential trail link from the main parking lot upstream on Valley Green Road to the greater Valley Green area and Forbidden Drive. This new architectural feature will provide a safer route, moving pedestrians off the narrow road onto the footbridge.

The Valley Green Run Pedestrian Bridge will be much more than a conveyance from one place to another.



WELCOME TO WISSAHICKON VALLEY PARK

Valley Green and Wises Mill Roads provide the only vehicular public access route to the Valley Green area, and are undoubtedly the park's most popular destination and its "front door".

With an estimated length of approximately 200 feet, the new Valley Green Pedestrian Bridge will be a focal point for this entrance and welcomevisitors into an immersive Wissahickon experience by gently meandering across the newly restored stream below.

An observation platform will allow park visitors expansive views of the Wissahickon's schist outcroppings and the historic Valley Green Bridge. The new walkway is designed for ADA access, ensuring we are building towards future accessibility for all park visitors.

Black Locust wood has been selected for its low environmental impact, strength and beauty, with a galvanized steel chosen for the main structure, to ensure this new architectural feature in the Wissahickon will be enjoyed for generations to come.

Visitors to the Wissahickon have their own unique memories of, and connections to this special place. Perhaps the most exciting aspect of the Valley Green Run Pedestrian Bridge project is the opportunity it offers to acknowledge your loved ones and their connection to this unique community asset. This project allows FOW to recognize the individuals and institutions who make our conservation mission possible as we look towards a century of stewardship in the Wissahickon Valley Park.

As we near our centennial year in 2024, FOW is creating the next great landmark in the Wissahickon. With over $1 million in donations already committed and an overall goal of $3 million to be raised, your support is indispensable to restore safe park access for all. Every dollar raised will be well spent, its impact multiplied by the enormous commitment of volunteer efforts to move this endeavor forward.

FOW needs investment commitments in the form of both modest donations and leadership gifts. We need investment from individuals and foundations, from those who have long counted themselves Friends of the Wissahickon and from those new to the cause.

The return on investment will be immeasurable. But it will be valued in the form of an irreplaceable treasure, preserved for generations to come.

To make your gift today, contact:
Sarah Marley, Development Director, at 215-381-2942 or marley@fow.org

FRIENDS OF THE WISSAHICKON

VALLEY GREEN RUN PEDESTRIAN BRIDGE

Highlights

- Construction of a raised pedestrian bridge and viewing platform
- Donor recognition opportunities along the entire bridge span
- Stream channel stabilization
- Restoration of safe access into the heart of the Wissahickon
- Stabilization and re-vegetation of the road embankment slope

40 W EVERGREEN AVE #108 // PHILADELPHIA, PA 19118-2717 // *p* 215.247.0417 // *f* 215.247.9329 // *fow.org*

Let's be friends. @FOWissahickon

VALLEY GREEN RUN RESTORATION & PEDESTRIAN BRIDGE PLEDGE

Give today. Help the Wissahickon tomorrow.

Please fill out the form below and return to the FOW office or contact Sarah Marley at marley@fow.org

FRIENDS OF THE WISSAHICKON
40 W. EVERGREEN AVENUE // SUITE 108
PHILADELPHIA, PA 19118-3324
fow.org

I'm ready to make my gift today! Gift amount: $_____

☐ Please follow up with me about recognition opportunities for this donation level

☐ I'm not interested in recognition opportunities

I'd like more information!

☐ Please contact me about gift recognition opportunities. The best way to reach me is: ☐ Email ☐ Phone

Contact information

Name _____ Recognize this gift from _____

Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____ Email _____

What is the best time for us to reach you? Weekdays, ☐ 9am-12pm ☐ 12-5pm ☐ After 5pm

I'm ready to support today! *This commitment will be made in the following manner:*

ONE-TIME GIFT in the amount of $_____

RECURRING GIFTS ☐ Monthly ☐ Quarterly ☐ Semi-Annually ☐ Annually | Please charge my credit card $_____

PLEDGE

I (we) wish to make a total pledge of $_____ fulfilled in equal payments of ☐ Monthly ☐ Quarterly ☐ Semi-Annually ☐ Annually of $_____ beginning _____ (Date) Pledges can be no longer than 5 years.

☐ I am atttaching/enclosing my first pledge payment of $_____ (Optional)

☐ Please do not publish my/our names as donors

☐ I wish to remain anonymous.

Payment method

☐ Personal check made payable to FRIENDS OF THE WISSAHICKON is enclosed *(For one-time gifts or first pledge payment)*

☐ Credit card *(For one-time gifts, recurring gifts, or pledge payments)*

☐ Credit card online – If you prefer, you can also make a secure gift at ***fow.org/donate***

☐ Other *(Please describe the method of payment, e.g., stock transaction, etc.)* _____

☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐ | ☐☐☐☐ | ☐☐☐

Credit Card Number: ☐ Visa ☐ MasterCard ☐ AmEx ☐ Discover | Expiration Date (MMYY) | CVV

Gift Designation

This gift is in ☐ **memory of** ☐ **honor of** _____

Notify _____

Address _____

Return completed form to:
Friends of the Wissahickon | 40 W Evergreen Ave #108 | Philadelphia, PA 19118-2717
Make checks payable to: Friends of the Wissahickon

Or you can make your pledge online here:

fow.org/vgbridge