



JONES FALLS VALLEY, BALTIMORE

SITE PLAN - PROPOSED CONDITIONS

This proposal envisions rebuilding the existing Jones Falls Valley and Jones Falls Expressway into a formal canal lined with a promenade/boulevard, tram network, tree-lined boulevard, and various infill buildings and blocks. The existing elevated corridor serves as a physical and psychological barrier between various neighborhoods - the struggling Johnson Square and underdeveloped Station North and Remington neighborhoods are cut off from the Jones Falls Valley by a roadway, barren no-man's-land railroad tracks, overgrown ditches, drag bridges, noisy surface highway lanes or gloomy elevated highway decks, decrepit warehouses, and a motley arrangement of dirty outlots and vacant expanses of weeds and brush.

The proposed boulevard and canal corridor strives to improve the connections between downtown and uptown Baltimore by unclogging and revitalizing a neglected asset (the Jones Falls) and transforming it into a formal commercial and recreational spine. This spine intends to serve as a pleasant processional route from the Inner Harbor to Druid Hill Park to improve access to the park and spur further revitalization of an urban gem that is still substantially underdeveloped and underappreciated. The new main thoroughfare runs on the southern rim of the park and also reorganizes into a simple, boulevardized grid that can help Reservoir Hill reconnect with Druid Hill Park and hasten the neighborhood's revitalization. Improved access to the park is also improved along the canal, which is also lined with the new canal and intended to enhance the green corridor with life at all times of the day. The tree-lined boulevard along the canal replaces the JFX while the existing rail ROWs are placed inside new, deeper tunnels that serve an expanded Penn Station. The urban promenade/boulevard along the canal serves as an extension of the Jones Falls Trail and is further lined with retail alleys (which may once be farmer's market stalls) to further enliven the area. Finally, the canal (and its bridges) are configured to allow canoes, kayaks, pleasure boats, and even small commercial barges to ply the canal.

