



Seven Ideas for the Riverfront

“The Emerald Necklace”

“The Port That Built The City and The State”

“The Beautiful Boulevard”

Philadelphia answers the Embarcadero

“The Ecological Riverfront”

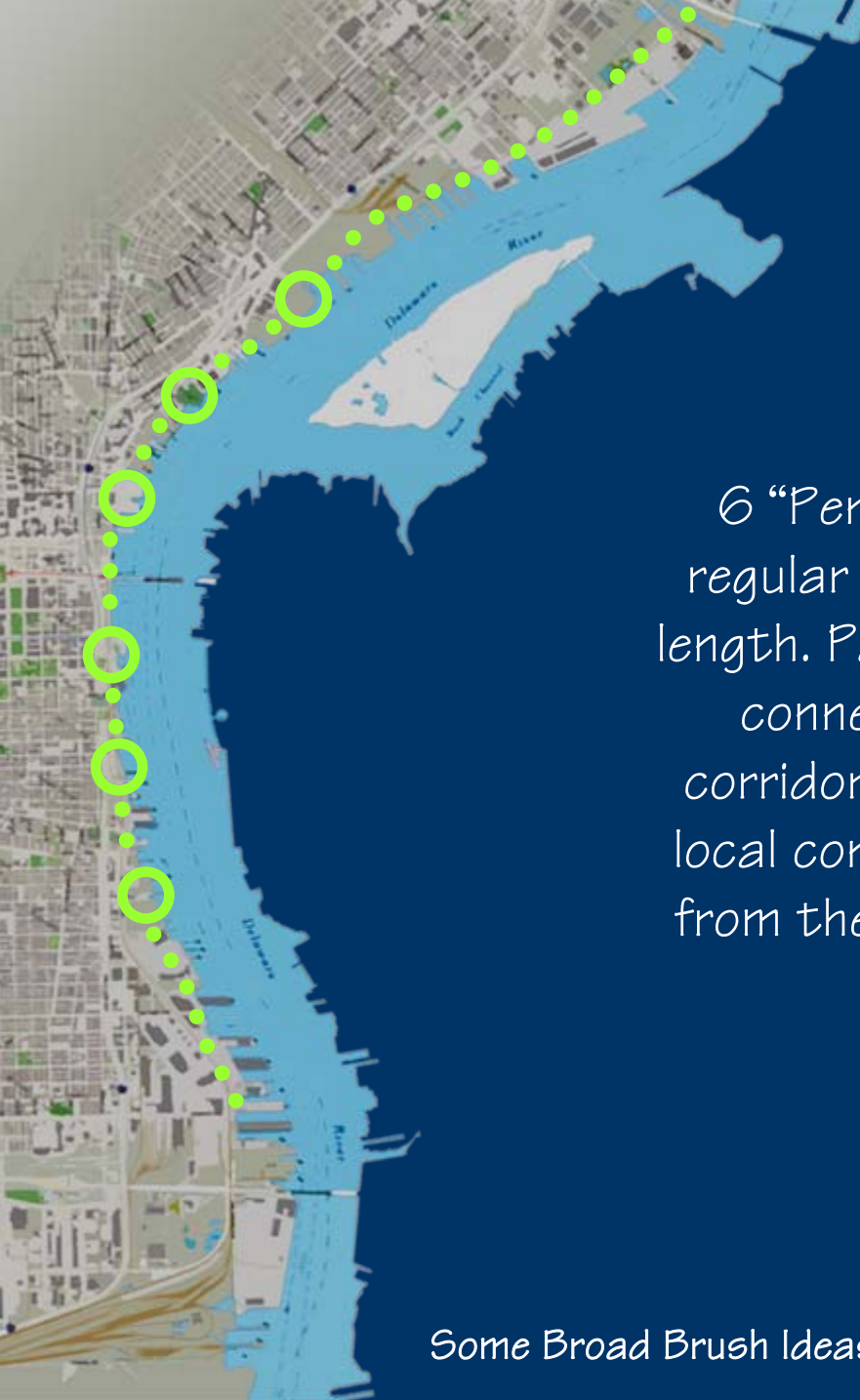
1681 Revisited

“The Entertainment Paradise”

“A Living Riverfront”

“Two Cities ~ One River”

Some Broad Brush Ideas for the Advisory Group Meeting ~ February 5, 2007



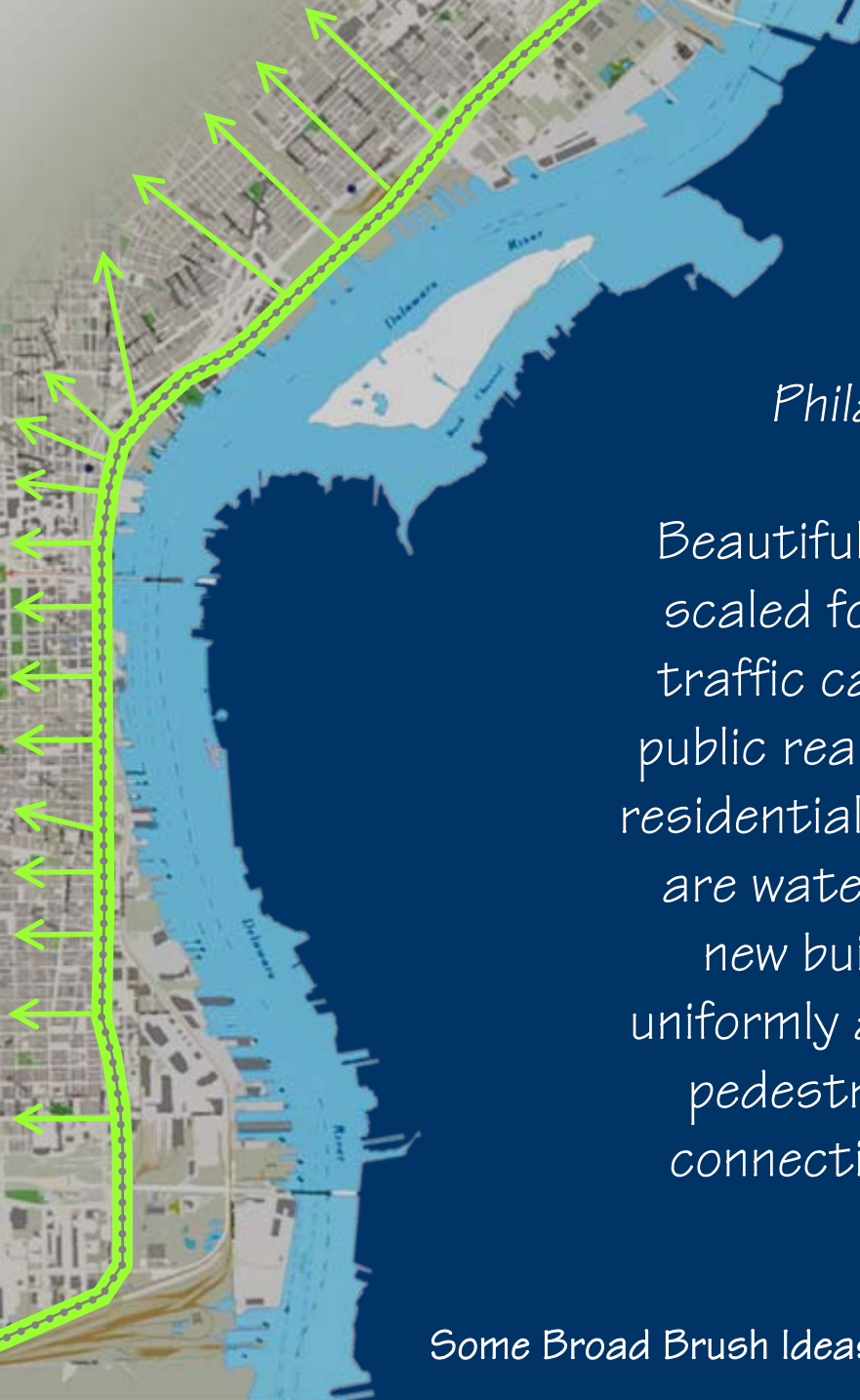
“The Emerald Necklace”

6 “Penn Treaty Parks” placed somewhat at regular intervals along the waterfront’s entire length. Passive and active recreational corridors connect all the jewels in the necklace. The corridors are of differing widths contingent on local constraints. As many streets as possible from the City’s grid connect to the waterfront.



“The Port That Built The City and The State”

Expand Port activities as far north from the proposed new “Southport” as is practicable. This scheme assumes we have a deeper channel in the Delaware River and we can get larger ships north of the Walt Whitman Bridge. The Conrail site becomes a site that accommodates light industry and warehousing. Philadelphia energizes to get a 50 foot channel that equals that of neighboring Baltimore and Newark/Elizabeth.



*“The Beautiful Boulevard”
Philadelphia answers the Embarcadero*

Beautifully-landscaped multi-lane boulevard (but scaled for the pedestrian – with lots of detailed traffic calming elements) parallels the river. The public realm encourages development of even more residential development along the waterfront. There are waterfront controls on height and quality of new buildings. The public realm is established uniformly at the waters edge as a path facilitating pedestrian, bicycle, transit, and perpendicular connections into the neighborhoods of the City.



*“The Ecological Riverfront”
1681 Revisited*

Bring many riverfront sites back to natural conditions that existed when the City was founded. Reopen buried creeks that once flowed to the Delaware River (Cohocksink Creek). Promote ecotourism, Philadelphia’s waterfront becomes a model for sustainability. Repopulate riverfront with native flora and fauna, or with species that once existed here. Harness energy – windmills placed selectively on the waterfront to generate electricity.

An aerial photograph of a waterfront city area, likely Delaware City, showing the Delaware River. A red rectangular box highlights a section of the waterfront. Along the waterfront within this box, there are several yellow dots, suggesting a proposed development or promenade. The text "The Entertainment Paradise" is overlaid on the right side of the image.

“The Entertainment Paradise”

Casinos augment the already-burgeoning entertainment dimension of the waterfront clubs. How far can we take this? Perhaps we go with a theme park (Disney-like). Add an indoor water park. We build a boardwalk as a promenade and collect all the entertainment functions along it.

An aerial photograph of the Delaware Riverfront in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. The Delaware River is visible, flowing from the top left towards the bottom right. The city grid is visible on the left side. A large area of the riverfront, including the area around Center City and the University of Pennsylvania, is overlaid with a semi-transparent orange grid pattern, indicating areas of interest or proposed development.

“A Living Riverfront”

With all of the proposals already laid out for high-density housing, the riverfront should be an extension of the mixed-use character of Center City. By planning for residential neighborhoods along the riverfront and not just housing, the city can reposition itself as a “river city” in the context of 21st Century riverfronts like Vancouver.

“the most Convenient place upon the river for health & navigation” – William Penn



“Two Cities ~ One River”

25 years ago Camden created a riverfront master plan for parks and future development that they have slowly but surely implemented. The Central Delaware Riverfront Vision Plan should image a comprehensive vision of a vibrant river that joins the two cities through transportation, recreation, entertainment and neighborhood development that engages the river.