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# CITY OF BIDDEFORD, MAINE

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## PRESS RELEASE

### **Pearl Point Park Public Input Process Moves into Final Stages with New Survey**

BIDDEFORD (January 14, 2022) — The Biddeford community has one final opportunity to be involved in the design process for a new park located on Pearl Street.

In December 2019, Biddeford City Council approved funding to develop a concept plan for Pearl Point Park, to be located along the Saco River on the site of the former Maine Energy Recovery Company plant. The park will connect to the Biddeford Riverwalk.

After engaging the community in a public planning process for the park in 2020 and 2021, Biddeford's Downtown Development Commission is conducting a final survey to collect feedback on the future use of the Park.

“In this stage of the public planning process, we are drilling down to the more specific details of how people will use the park and how they want the atmosphere to feel while they are there,” said Mathew Eddy, the City's Planning and Development Director and staff liaison to the Downtown Development Commission. “We also have heard a lot of suggestions about what amenities should be included in the design and want to know which are the highest priority items to include in the limited space.”

The survey will be open for responses until Friday, January 28 at 11:00 p.m. To access the survey, visit <http://metroquestsurvey.com/e7d2b>. The Downtown Development Commission will review the survey results this winter and make adjustments to the concept plan as needed before seeking an engineer for the project.

At their December 21, 2021 meeting, the City Council unanimously approved the Preliminary Concept Plan submitted by 3-Lincoln LLC for the redevelopment of the MERC site. In addition to the public park area and the recently-constructed parking garage, the development will include five new mixed-use buildings.

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Photo: Pearl Point Park will be located along the Saco River on the former MERC site.