



*Feasibility Study & Master Plan*  
*for*  
*Pleasure Beach*  
*Park*

Prepared For:

**City of Bridgeport, Connecticut**

June 27, 2012

Prepared By:



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## All Phases





Each phase of the park restoration strategy will offer a new feature and keep the excitement of the new park alive. Following Phase I completion, users and visitors will utilize new and easily accessible access points to the beach as well as a fully functional restroom. The newly-restored Pleasure Beach pier is sure to draw area fishermen in search of new scenery and their next big catch! Watching the stabilization of existing structures will leave users and visitors with a sense of anticipation for those improvements yet to come.

Phase II completion will welcome visitors to a restored pavilion, complete with restrooms, lockers and concession area to serve their needs. A walkway along the Lewis Gut will offer expansive views and access to new multi-use fields, open space and pavilions. Areas to accommodate storage, first aid and park staff will also begin to take shape. These amenities are sure to leave users awaiting the development of the next phase.

Completion of Phase III will delight the under-12 crowd with the establishment of a nature/ learning center in the former Ballroom, an accessible playground, a learning landscape, and a spray pad area. Both the play area and the spray pads will be conveniently located close to the beach. The construction of multiple trail loops will improve access around Pleasure Beach Park and provide a tranquil and scenic experience and the opportunity to explore areas that have been out of reach for many years.

At Phase IV completion, visitors will enjoy new tennis and basketball courts and a community garden area as well as an outdoor fitness activity space.

Each phase may include additional improvements that tie in loose ends, enhance programming and further wildlife and plant species habitat. Parks are organic and are in a constant flux. The phases outlined herein are intended to provide a means to organize vital physical improvements. Through human stewardship, the natural environment will further the Pleasure Beach Park experience and offer an enriched experience to all who visit.

- Phase I 
- Phase II 
- Phase III 
- Phase VI 

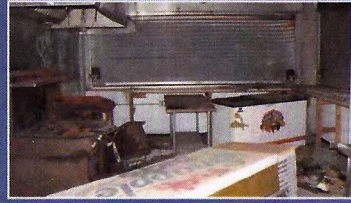




6 Pleasure Beach offers a natural habitat for Osprey



7 The Pavilion's facade has deteriorated, but its frame is structurally sound



8 Kitchen amenities have been vandalized



9 Structure needs further evaluation to determine if it can be salvaged for reuse



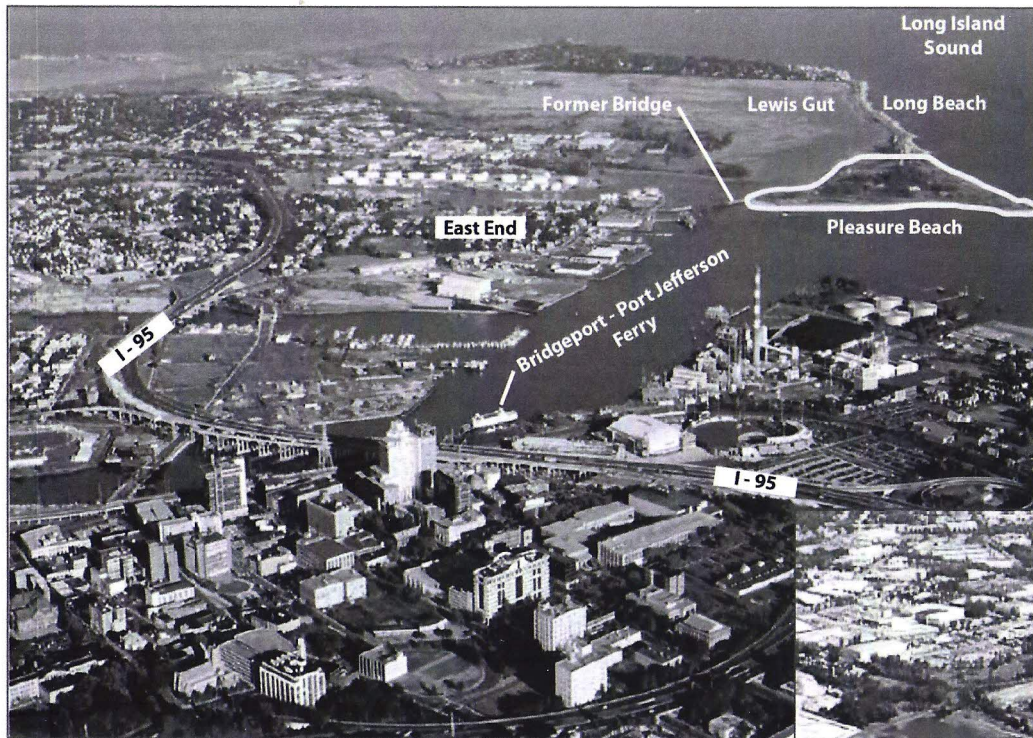
10 Boardwalk needs new railings & floorboards; supporting structure is in good condition



100 feet



## Project Location



Aerial Photo: Downtown Bridgeport and Pleasure Beach

Pleasure Beach is a short distance from Bridgeport's East End. Vehicular and pedestrian access from Bridgeport was abruptly terminated in 1996 when a fire destroyed portions of the only physical connection to the peninsula inland.

Originally thought of as an "island" park, Pleasure Beach Park is the largest portion of a Connecticut barrier beach that extends as a peninsula from the Lordship area of the Town of Stratford to Pleasure Beach in Bridgeport, Connecticut. Access to Pleasure Beach is by boat or a 2 1/2-mile hike along Stratford's Long Beach. The park is surrounded on three sides by water: Lewis Gut to the north, Bridgeport Harbor to the west, and Long Island Sound to the south. Much of the land across Lewis Gut from Pleasure Beach and Long Beach is part of the Stewart B. McKinney National Wildlife Refuge.

Pleasure Beach (View East)  
Study area delineated below

