

Committee(s):	Date(s):	Item no.
Streets and Walkways Sub-Committee	17 September 2012	
Projects Sub-Committee	18 September 2012	
Subject: Riverside Walk: Millennium Bridge Area Enhancements	Public	
Report of: Director of the Built Environment	For Decision	
<p><u>Summary</u></p> <p>This report is a Gateway 3/4 Options appraisal that follows the 'Streamlined' process, as agreed with the Town Clerks Department. It relates to the enhancement of two areas adjacent to the Millennium Bridge; the bridge approach from the north, and the Riverside Walkway beneath (See Appendix A for plan). The recommended option has a total estimated cost for both areas of £1,473,305 subject to finalising paving options, inclusive of 5 years of maintenance funding. However, several variations to the recommended option are also presented for consideration. The scheme is proposed to be primarily funded from Section 106 receipts (91%) with the remaining 9% funded from the City's On-street Parking Reserve.</p> <p>Should approval be granted for this Gateway report, it is proposed to seek Chief Officer approval for detailed design and the Town Clerk's Authority to Start Work in accordance with the 'streamlined' procedure.</p> <p>The proposals include the Millennium Bridge approach that links the Millennium Bridge with Queen Victoria Street and a 200 metre long section of Riverside walkway at Paul's Walk that spans the frontage of the City of London School; including the area under the bridge.</p> <p>The scheme involves the improving of the Millennium Bridge Approach to create a more useable and pleasant gateway for the benefit of the millions of visitors that use this area each year. The removal of the HSBC gates is also recommended, as they have become obstacles to movement and no longer sit comfortably in the space. Members should be aware that options to ascertain the market value of the HSBC gates and their possible relocation are being investigated and will be reported as part of the City Arts Initiative process in a subsequent report.</p> <p>On the Riverside, it is proposed to create a linear promenade that will form a green frame around the City of London school and provide much needed amenity space for the public to rest and enjoy views of the Thames. The recommended option includes measures to contribute to climate change mitigation through</p>		

sustainably managing rainwater run-off. The recommended option has been amended since this project was first considered by Members in May 2012. This is because the Environment Agency's latest advice suggests that excess surface water can be drained into the Thames which means that water storage tanks that were previously recommended would no longer offer significant benefits. This change delivers a saving of £85,000.

The proposals have been developed in consultation with the City of London School and will improve the area to meet the needs of its many users. The scheme will also add significant greenery, in line with the core aims of the enhancement strategy.

Recommendations

It is recommended that Members:

- (i) Approve the progression of Options 1 and 2a to authority to start works stage at a cost of £45,000 (staff costs and fees) to be funded from 20 Fenchurch Street Section 106 contribution.
- (ii) Approve the environmental enhancements and sustainable urban drainage system (Option 1 and 2a) at an estimated total cost of £1,393,805 funded through the 20 Fenchurch Street, Watermark Place and Riverbank House Section 106 contributions (£1,263,805), and the On-Street Parking Reserve (£130,000) subject to finalising the paving options for Millennium Bridge Approach;
- (iii) Approve the design and installation of the play/sports equipment on Paul's Walk in advance of the main works, funded by the London Marathon Charitable Trust (£34,500)
- (iv) Approve that the additional staff costs of £10,292 incurred to date be funded from the Riverbank House S106 Agreement.