

MEMORIAL DRIVE THE LANDSCAPE OF MEMORY

5.0 PROPOSED PILOT PROJECT

The Phase II work program included the exploration and development of a “signature” element for the Memorial Drive corridor. The following parameters were considered by the design team in the process of selecting a suitable element to act as the project “signature”.

Visibility

The selection needs to have some critical mass for it to perform as a “pilot” for the project.

Representation

The selection needs to represent the spirit of the project; elicit an emotional response to both garner support for the project implementation and sustain this support over time. To this end, the element needs to be potentially newsworthy.

Cost

The selection needs to be cost effective and sponsored by the City’s budget. This will demonstrate civic commitment, accountability and responsiveness on the part of the City in the process of identifying and supporting the importance of urban place making.

Timing

The selection needs to be able to be constructed in 2006.

Logistics

The selection needs to be an independent element, thereby managing potential project “risks” and expectations. The selection should not require future commitments or development for its completion.

Given these parameters, the design team is recommending that the idea of a “signature” element for the project be redefined as a “pilot” for the project. A “pilot” element can be formative to the process but not necessarily formulating. This is an important distinction given the scale of the project and important design considerations have yet to be determined.

5.1 Commemorative Node Pilot Project

A schematic design for a ‘signature’ node has been developed to illustrate the components, functions and spatial relationship to pathways and the river. The concept of a commemorative node rated relatively high as a development priority enhancement.

Figures 5.1 and 5.2 illustrate the concept for a typical commemorative node along the pathway. This concept illustrates the potential for incorporating many of the features prioritized during the charrettes and open house, such as:

- Space for both larger groups events and enclosure for contemplative and rest functions
- Tree planting - memorial grove
- Protection from the elements and year-round comfort
- Connection and access to the river, possibly constructed with a sewer outfall upgrade
- Visible landmark
- Interpretive opportunities: sculptural, symbolic, photo-panels, metaphorical

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- Improvements to pathway functions (safety) and separations of pedestrian and wheeled modes

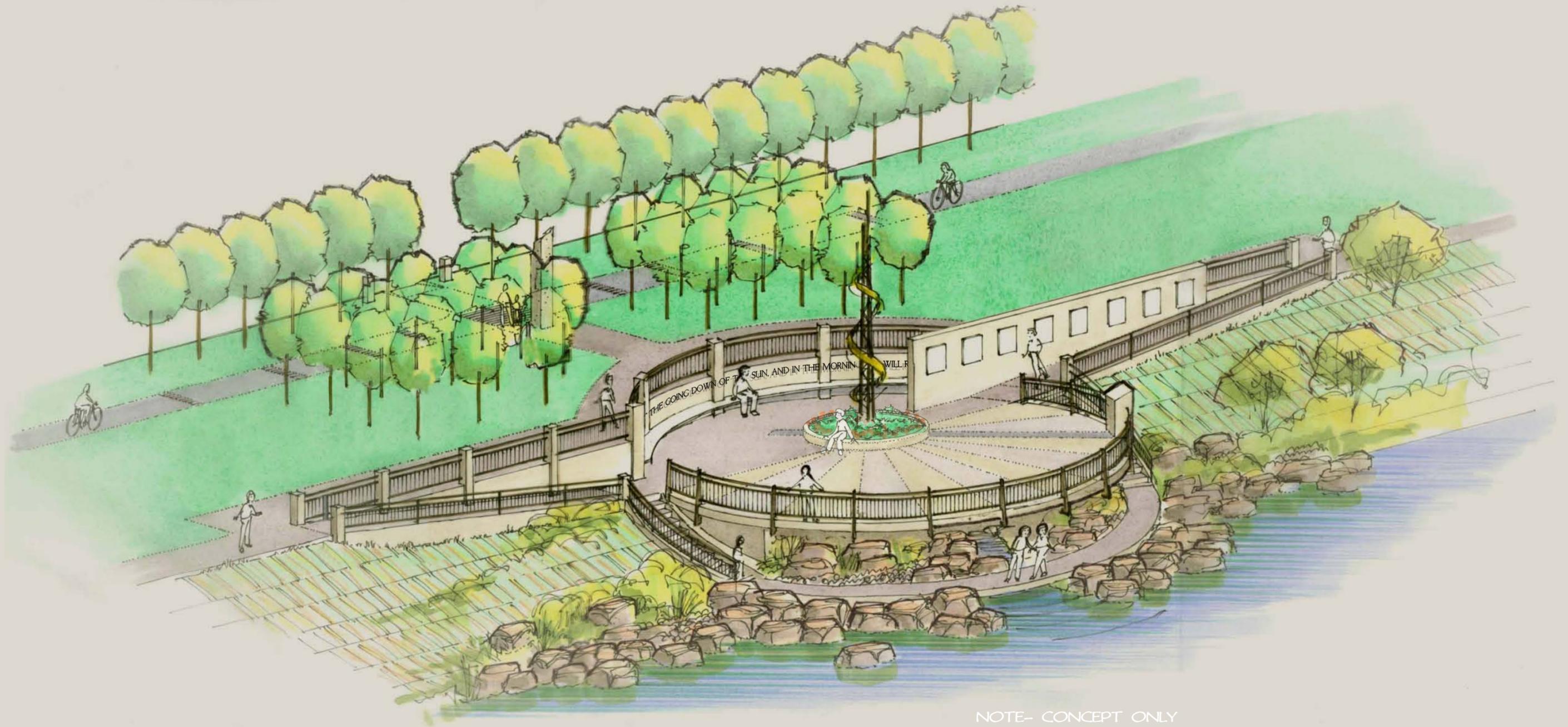
The concept also illustrates options for legacy landmarks and interpretive story telling.

The following is a list of the components that could be included in the node:

- Sunken plaza area accessible by pedestrian path and connected to regional pathway
- Enclosure and heat sink created by seating wall on North side
- Central landmark sculptural focal feature
- Opportunity for three dimensional human interest story
- Belvedere “lookout” provides visual contact with the river, steps lead down to the water’s edge
- Handrail to be designed as a unique repetitive element for all corridor handrails
- Use of paving materials and insets such as datum lines to represent historical geographic countries or battles

Construction of this signature node may set the precedent for future commemorative and public amenities. Furnishings and materials require further review in the final design since they may be the basis for a common palette throughout the corridor.

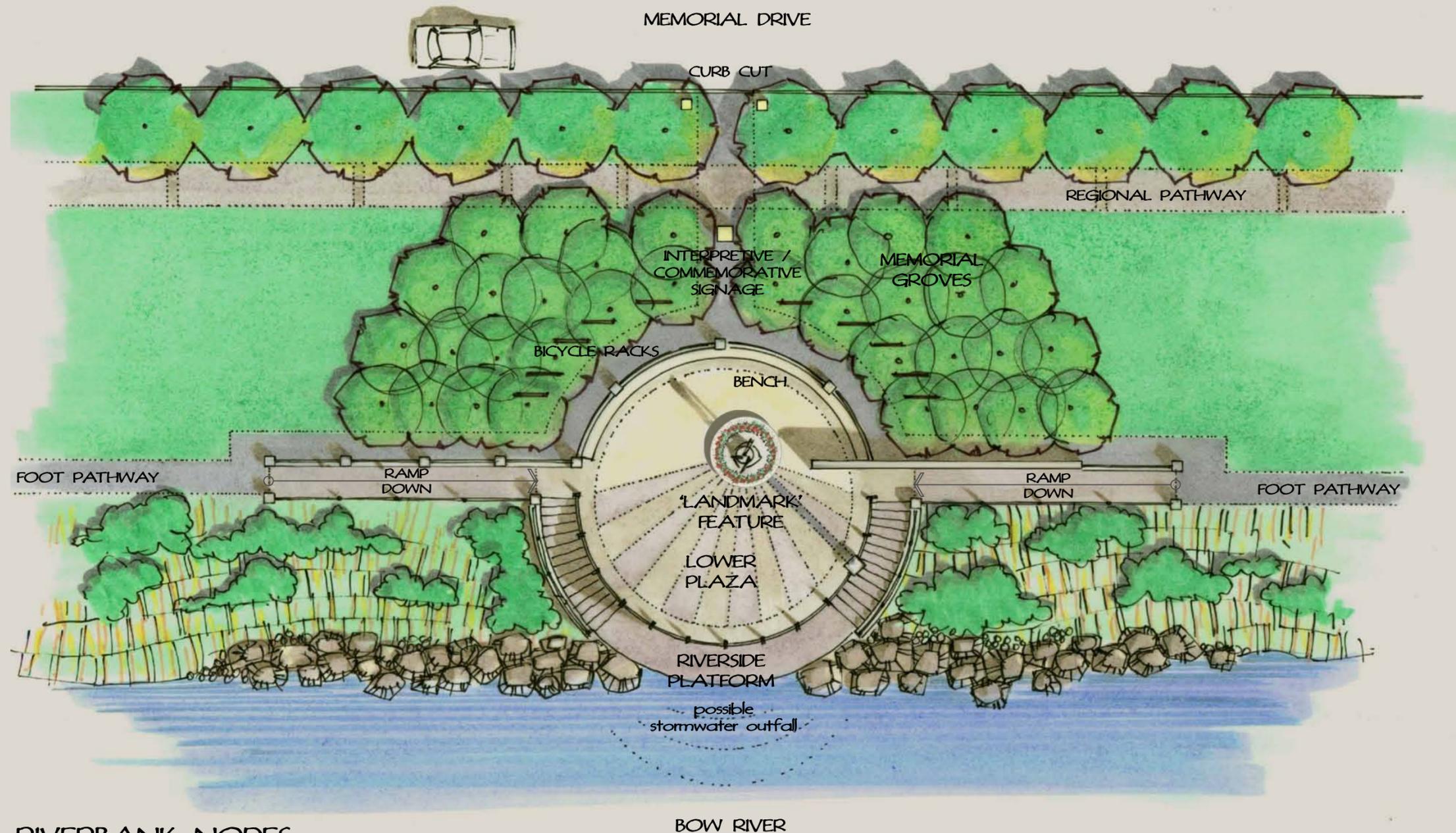
Memorial Drive Node Concept



NOTE- CONCEPT ONLY
NODE SCALE, MATERIALS, & LOCATION TO BE DETERMINED

FIGURE 5.1
NODE AXONOMETRIC VIEW
NOT TO SCALE

Memorial Drive Node Concept



RIVERBANK NODES

NODES ARE PORTALS INTO THE EXPERIENCE OF THE CORRIDOR

BOW RIVER

NOTE- CONCEPT ONLY

NODE SCALE, MATERIALS, & LOCATION TO BE DETERMINED

FIGURE 5.2
NODE PLAN VIEW
NOT TO SCALE