

GREAT FALLS STATE PARK OVERVIEW

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This presentation will focus on the master plan and future steps for the Great Falls State Park located in Paterson New Jersey on the Upper Passaic River. In November 2006, Governor Corzine announced Field Operations, a New York based landscape architecture and urban design practice as the winner of a national design competition for the Great Falls State Park master planning contract. Master planning commenced in 2007 and completed in spring 2008.

The proposed 42-acre Great Falls State Park is located in the Great Falls/Society for the Establishment of Useful Manufacturers National Historic Landmark District and comprises a portion of the Great Falls of Paterson – Garrett Mountain National Natural Landmark. The Great Falls, the second largest waterfall by volume and width east of the Mississippi River, was designated by Alexander Hamilton as the nation's first planned industrial city. As the first Secretary of the Treasury, Hamilton sought to bring the United States to a place of economic independence and to implement a paradigm shift from an agrarian economy to an industrial empire. Due to the site's natural and historic significance, it is under consideration by the United States Congress for designation as a unit of the National Park Service.

Great Falls State Park is one of the newest urban state parks to be designated since Liberty State Park's designation in 1976.