Riverspace – Nyack High School
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• SITE HISTORY •
Riverspace was originally home to Rockland’s largest indoor movie screen before the owners opened the Helen Hayes Performing Arts Center in 1996. In 2009, a proposal to turn the area into the Riverspace Superblock failed. Since then, there have been other proposals to repurpose the Riverspace site, but none have been acted on.

• WATER SMART INITIATIVES •
Our new parking lot will include permeable pavers and nature strips. The pavers and nature strips will both provide runoff protection, while the nature strips will also remove Carbon dioxide from the air and produce oxygen while improving the natural ambience.

• ENERGY SMART INITIATIVES •
We will include charging stations in the parking lot to encourage the use of electric cars. Solar panels on the roof of the Riverspace building will be a good way to provide some clean energy, right from the middle of town.

• SOCIAL OPPORTUNITIES, BUSINESS, • & SERVICE FEATURES
Improving the parking lot by adding nature strips will create a nicer farmer’s market experience. It will be surrounded by trees, creating shade and a lovely inviting environment. With improvements to the Veterans Memorial Park, more live music and small outdoor events could be held there, aimed at any demographic.

Another important improvement we could make to the building is to turn the unused space into a homeless shelter. Nyack has a large homeless population but all the shelters are over 5 miles away. Having one in the community will be very important.

• WORKING WITH STAKEHOLDERS & COMMUNITY •
An ideal group to work with on this project is Keep Rockland Beautiful. Their work to protect and beautify Rockland’s environment would make them a good fit for this project.

We would also work with Nyack Homeless Project to set up the homeless shelter.

• MAKING CONNECTIONS •
The plan to create a homeless shelter in the back section of the Riverspace building will provide a much-needed home for Nyack’s homeless population. The renovation of Riverspace and the addition of permeable pavers and solar panels will create jobs in the community, which will also benefit the homeless population.

The improved Veterans Memorial Park will draw more people to the center of town and provide an environmentally friendly gathering place.

• SITE PLAN •

Project Summary: We want to provide more ways of helping the community socially, while helping to improve environmental friendliness. We incorporated planter strips, permeable pavement sections and solar panels, which satisfy the improvement of environmental friendliness. We also incorporated charging stations, improved the park, and created a homeless shelter which will satisfy the improvement of the community in our overall goal.