

Area	5.4 square miles
Population	58,092
Open Space Acreage/ROSI	28.94 acres
Public Parks & Rec Facilities along Walkway	no public facilities
Linear feet of Completed Walkway*	2,707 (0.51 miles)
Linear feet of Gap Site(s)*	5,644 (1.07 miles)

\*GIS calculated measurement, does not include walkarounds

## Status of Walkway in North Bergen

Within North Bergen, the Walkway exists at all possible stages of development, from segments that are Complete to those segments with no Walkway whatsoever.

### Access

**Public Access at Roc Harbor** - Roc Harbor residential development has the first stretch of completed walkway within North Bergen but it is a part of a gated community and is not open for public access. The matter is currently under litigation.

**General Access** - As outlined in the NJDOT study, the most accessible route to the Walkway in from Bergen County is by car, but there are no designated public parking lots in reasonable distance to the Walkway. There are many businesses along the Walkway, including the Palisades Medical Center but no official public parking for the Walkway. There is no clearly defined access to the Walkway for any other mode of transportation, such as bus, pedestrian or bicycle.

### Signage

There is no trailblazing signage to lead people to the Walkway coming from outside of the area or leading people along the Walkway itself.

### Interim Walkway at Palisades Medical Center

The current Walkway at the Medical Center is a temporary asphalt path in poor condition with derelict site furniture. Currently there are no plans or permits to construct a permanent Completed Walkway.



## Recommendations for North Bergen

The Walkway in North Bergen has numerous problems, which may need the concerted attention of both Hudson County and NJ DEP to resolve. Several of the segments are unbuilt or in disrepair and possibly even constitute safety hazards for Walkway users who try to navigate through or around them.

North Bergen also has a large portion of Walkway which is either inaccessible to the public or without proper maintenance. The County's Office of Strategic Revitalization (OSR), possibly in partnership with NJDEP, should attempt to negotiate with the current owners for completion and maintenance of, and access to the Walkway.

**Walkarounds.** The sidewalk at River Road is not signed for the Walkway, despite the fact that North Bergen is on the Walkway border with

Roc Harbor

Bergen County. Safety issues would be a concern if children or other less able-bodied users would attempt to walk or bike along this area.

**Construction sites.** Future construction along the waterfront should be in compliance with the most current stormwater regulations and should also be scrutinized by NJDEP for enhanced Hudson River water habitat design. Hudson County should work with North Bergen to designate temporary, clearly marked, "safe" walk around routes past active construction sites and around unbuilt Gap Sites: NB 1, NB 3, NB 4, NB 5 and NB 6. Provision must be made for temporary signage leading users around construction and unbuilt areas.

**Privacy/Security.** No future residential development should be permitted for construction without acceptable buffering elements designed to adequately separate private and public space.

**Specific Recommendations:**

**GAP NB 1.** Follow-up should continue by Hudson County in partnership with NJDEP and North Bergen to ensure that plans for the proposed residential development by K. Hovnanian are in compliance with the Walkway Design Standards, acceptable signage, parking and access are provided for the public to the Walkway, and that the proposed schedule for implementation of the Walkway is acceptable to the County. Note: this parcel is adjacent to Guttenburg Gap G 1, which is currently in litigation.

**INTERIM WALKWAY.** Palisades Medical Center. Interim Walkway was constructed years ago, but although intermittent construction activity has occurred over the years, no further requirement has been put forward by either NJ DEP or the Township of North Bergen for Walkway completion to occur. There is no provision for public parking within the Medical Center attended lots, which charge a fee for all users. At present this is one of the most deteriorated, poorly maintained and inhospitable sections of passable Walkway and should be a focus of County scrutiny.

**COMPLETED WALKWAY.** Frank's Seafood Restaurant. Nearly completed, passable Walkway , developed in conjunction with

waterfront dining amenity. Hudson County should monitor for full completion, including: public parking, signage, and seamless public access, along with any need for buffering that may not have been required when initially permitted.

**GAP NB 2.** NEEDS ACTION. Kingston Pointe townhouses. No public Walkway has been constructed, although the residential development has been built, sold and occupied. Hudson County should work with NJDEP to determine the permit status at Kingston Pointe, and then should actively pursue full build-out and public access to the Walkway along this parcel.

**GAP NB 3.** Planned Walkway at PSE&G electric utility substation. Plans are prepared for Walkway perpendicular access on this property by 2005. Follow-up should continue by Hudson County in partnership with NJDEP and North Bergen to ensure that plans are in compliance with the Walkway Design Standards, acceptable signage, parking and access are provided for the public to the Walkway, and that the proposed schedule for implementation is acceptable.

**GAP NB 4.** Half Moon Harbour private residential condominium tower. Walkway under construction. Follow-up should continue by Hudson County in partnership with NJDEP and North Bergen to ensure

that plans for the proposed development are in compliance with the Walkway Design Standards, acceptable signage, parking and access are provided for the public to the Walkway, and that the proposed schedule for implementation of the Walkway is acceptable to the County.

**COMPLETED WALKWAY** at Roc Harbor. Roc Harbor private residential development was a "Walkway pioneer" and as such should be negotiated with to reach a reasonable solution for Walkway implementation. Public access is prohibited by gate and 24 hour guard. By observation from adjacent properties, the completed Walkway is not in good condition and may have unconstructed portions, which would be in violation of the original permit.

**GAP NB 5.** NEEDS ACTION. Under private ownership with probable NJDEP jurisdiction due to wetlands and riparian considerations, there is no Walkway and no plans for one.

**GAP NB 6** NEEDS ACTION. The northern-most point of the waterfront in Hudson County. Under private ownership with NJDEP jurisdiction due to wetlands and riparian considerations, there is no Walkway and no plans for one

