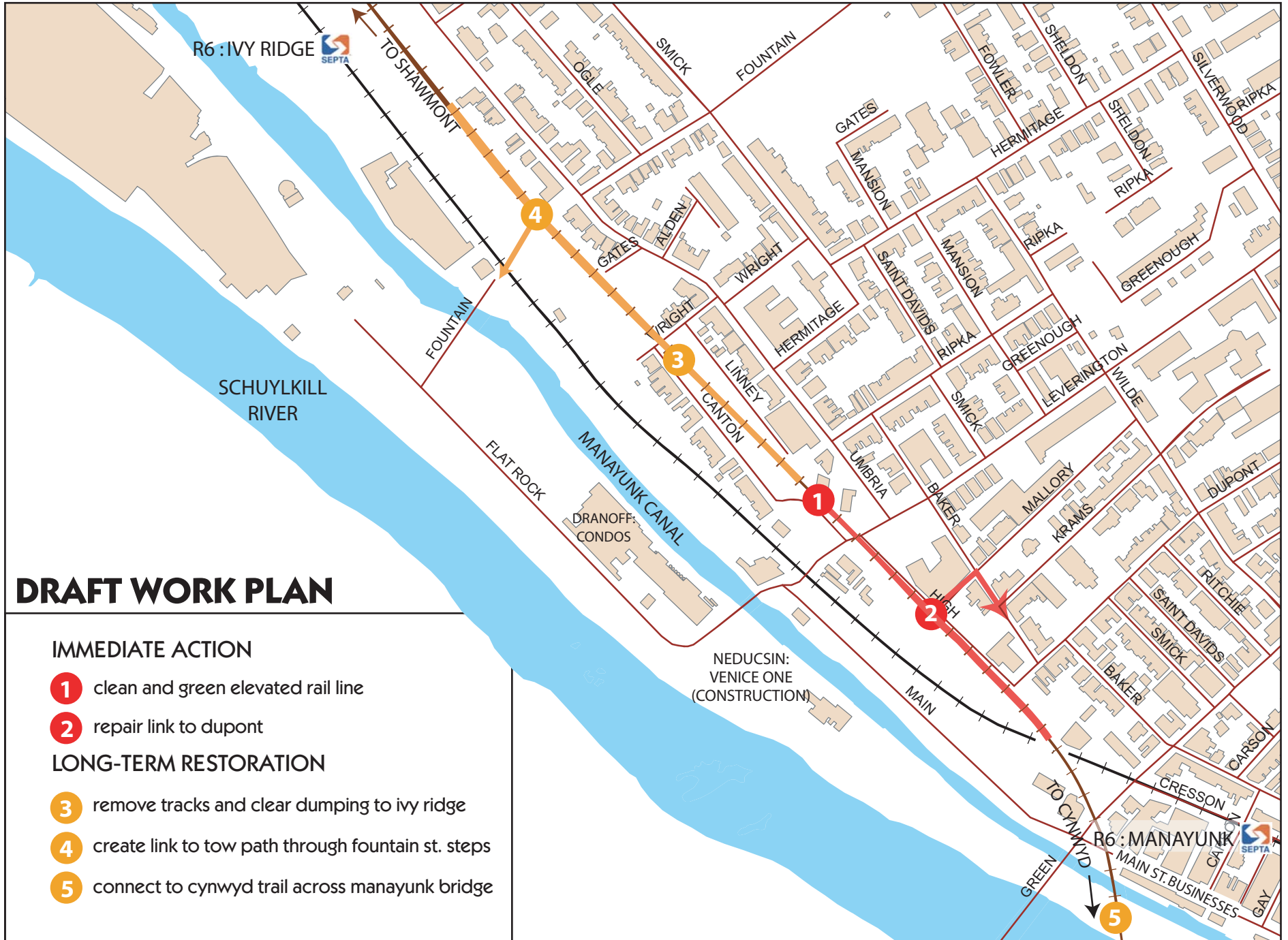


CLEANING & GREENING THE IVY RIDGE TRAIL



IMMEDIATE ACTION

(1) Clean and Green Elevated Rail Line

The out-of-use R6 line in Philadelphia is elevated from the Manayunk Bridge to Canton and Ripka Streets, southwest of Dobson Elementary. This 300-yard stretch passes over Leverington Avenue and is jammed with scrub, trees, and debris. Clearing this line will remove an eyesore that affects three residential blocks, Mt. Zion Baptist Church and several area businesses. It will also remove a vector for graffiti and dumping.

Work can be accomplished by volunteers using light equipment to remove overgrowth and with access to dumpsters for vegetative waste and garbage.

(2) Repair Link to Dupont

Dupont Street is the site of an old stop along the R6 line. Here the path broadens and links to the neighborhood through a parking lot and down a short set of stairs. Once cleared, the steps and railing here can be repaired, the overhead lights restored to brighten and secure both the lot and the rail line.

Work can be accomplished by volunteers to clear the steps and lot, make minor repairs, paint, and post signage. The stop's broken lights appear to be wired, but further consultation will be needed to determine on what condition they can be used or replaced.

LONG-TERM RESTORATION

(3) Remove Tracks & Clear Dumping to Ivy Ridge

From where the path makes land-fall at Ripka Street to the Ivy Ridge R6 station spans 600 yards, straight and at-grade. If the rails and ties can be removed, the remaining trash can be cleared off of the line and this will connect Manayunk Bridge to Ivy Ridge. It will also serve as a bypass for Manayunk's many bicyclists to avoid Umbria Street.

SEPTA may be willing to remove these rails and ties, as they did on the Cynwyd trail in April 2008. Trash and debris can be removed by volunteers, landscaping and light grading can be conducted by the neighbors who back this section of rail.

(4) Create Link to Tow Path Via Fountain Street

At this location, the out-of-use R6 passes immediately over the steps linking Umbria Street and the Tow Path, referred to as the Fountain Street Steps. Stairs or ramping here could very easily link the R6 trail (which would likely be the preferred route for bicyclists passing through this area) to the Tow Path and the streetscape (the preferred route for pedestrians).

(5) Connect to Cynwyd Trail Across Manayunk Bridge

Timeline and course of action TBD.