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# WHITEWATER RAFTING

Paddlers navigating the Dan River through downtown Danville, Virginia, will encounter a strikingly different experience in the years ahead. Plans for Riverfront Park, adjacent to the Martin Luther King Jr. Bridge and Main Street Plaza, have been unveiled, signaling the advent of significant changes. A once risky portage around an old dam will be replaced by a beautifully landscaped, gated inlet on the southern bank near the Union Street bridge, leading into a restored historic stone canal. This canal will host a state-of-the-art whitewater park, featuring an Olympic-grade course more than 2,000 feet long with a 13-foot vertical drop, six-foot-tall waves, and numerous whitewater features. Designed by three-time Olympic kayaker Scott Shipley's renowned firm, S2O, and costing approximately \$13 million, the park exemplifies the city's commitment to treating the river as a major asset. This development is part of the larger Dan River Falls project, a nearly 30-acre, \$85 million public-private revitalization effort, transforming the area into a true outdoor destination.

## POTENTIAL STORY ANGLES:

- **From Industry to Recreation** – Explore Danville's ambitious whitewater park to transform the Dan River.
- **Training Ground of the Future** – Detail how Danville's whitewater channel will revolutionize first responder preparation.
- **Engineering Excitement** – Share Scott Shipley's vision for Danville's cutting-edge whitewater facility.
- **A New Current in Danville** – Explore the whitewater park's impact on community engagement and tourism.
- **Jackpots and Rapids** – Highlight how Danville's bold new ventures aim to transform the city's appeal.

## MEDIA CONTACT

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