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#### **DEAR FELLOW CHICAGOANS,**

I am proud to share with you the South Lakefront Framework Plan. This plan is a community-based vision for the future of Jackson Park and South Shore Park. Residents and local stakeholders played a pivotal role in designing and shaping a better future for the South Lakefront. Through this planning process, insights from park users helped develop a Framework Plan that is sound and steadfast for the enjoyment of current residents and future generations.

The plan sets a course for the evolution of the south lakefront parks and provides a flexible structure allowing it to evolve with future demands and outlines recommendations for land use and management over the next ten years.

Through an extensive community process, the Park District and its partners have hosted 13 meetings to discuss various topics, including passive and active recreation, water use and ecology, connectivity as well as culture and history on Chicago's south lakefront. Public input from these meetings has resulted in a long-term vision for future park improvements that allows residents and visitors new opportunities to play, learn, and relax.

This framework plan summarizes the ideas and vision of Chicagoans for the South Lakefront, and will be used to guide the design and stewardship of Jackson and South Shore Park. Confirmed park elements include the creation of new playing fields, 16.5 acres of new parkland, 20 picnic groves, 13 acres of new natural area, a hydrological connection of the lagoon to Inner Harbor and improved trail connections and lakefront trail separation.

I invite you to explore this document that your input helped create. This is just the beginning. We look forward to working with the community as future projects emerge and the planning vision is realized.

Sincerely

Chicago Park District | General Superintendent & CEO

## acknowledgement

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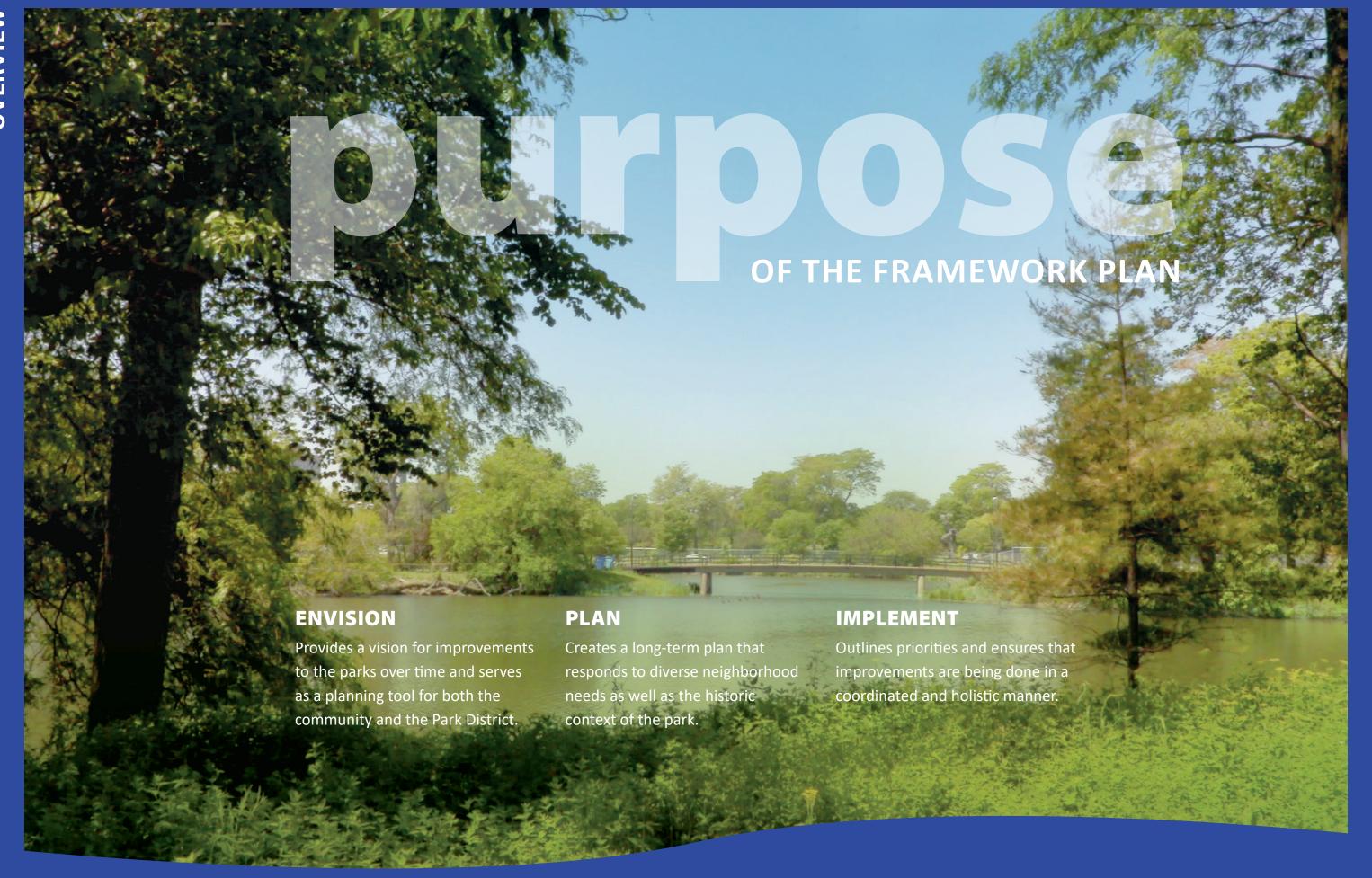
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#### SOLITH LAVEERONIT ERAMEWORK BLAN



The 2018 Framework Plan for the South Lakefront reflects a community-based vision for the combined 628 acres of Jackson Park and South Shore Cultural Center. For nearly 150 years, these two parks have played a vital role in the life of Chicago, providing highly valued recreational spaces for the local community, hosting city-wide events, and attracting visitors from around the globe. The South Lakefront reflects both the continuity of Frederick Law Olmsted's original 1871 vision and the changing needs of park users and the community over time. This plan builds on this legacy of serving contemporary park users within a closely-knit fabric of historically significant cultural, recreational, and natural landscapes.

This Framework Plan respects the 1999 plan for Jackson Park and South Shore Cultural Center. It respects the previous foundation while addressing new needs and opportunities for these cherished community resources. A key impetus for updating the plan was to integrate several major projects that had been proposed for the South Lakefront: the Obama Presidential Center in Jackson Park; the merger and restoration of the Jackson and South Shore golf courses into one premier 18-hole community course; and necessary roadway changes to facilitate these projects. The Park District and the community recognized the need to address these individual projects as part of a comprehensive, holistic vision for the South Lakefront.

Through an intensive 10-month process, the Park District engaged the community to help develop a vision for the South Lakefront's future. The resulting plan reflects the voices and opinions of a multitude of users who deeply value Jackson Park and South Shore Cultural Center. The Plan seeks to balance this broad diversity of park users – from those who use the parks for exuberant recreation to those who seek quiet refuge; from visitors across the street to visitors from across the globe.

The 2018 Framework Plan envisions a future for Jackson Park and South Shore Cultural Center that is fully informed by the communities and people who cherish and use these parks. It is a future that renews the South Lakefront's 10.5 miles of lake and lagoon shoreline, leveraging unique recreational and ecological opportunities along the water. It embraces the commitment to the historic and cultural legacy of the South Lakefront.

## COMPONENTS OF THE FRAMEWORK PLAN

The South Lakefront Framework Plan documents the 10-month-long community-driven process and the resulting recommendations for charting the future of Jackson Park and South Shore Cultural Center. The parks are treasured assets of their communities, and park users were active in shaping the Plan. The voices of community participants are reflected throughout the document, displayed as direct quotes and embodied in every change proposed in the Plan.

In order to create a holistic long-term plan for complex existing parks, a vision was established, and guiding principles developed to enact changes that fulfill the vision. Program elements for the plan, determined by the park users, are knitted together in the design through implementation of design strategies. Changes to the parks are presented by systems which incorporate the guiding principles and design strategies in locating program elements. Each system explains the changes proposed to achieve the future envisioned by the community members.

#### **A VISION**

The community vision describes WHAT the parks should be in the future.

#### THE GUIDING PRINCIPLES

The guiding principles explain HOW the parks will achieve the vision.

### PROGRAM ELEMENTS & DESIGN STRATEGIES

The program is the collection of uses and activities that must be accommodated within the parks. Design strategies guide how the many program elements are best integrated into the physical plan.

#### **SYSTEMS & RECOMMENDATIONS**

This document provides an in-depth look at each holistic park system and identifies recommended actions to shape the future parks envisioned by the community. The images and text describe Jackson and South Shore parks in their envisioned future state, calling out characteristics shaped by the proposed changes integrated with existing structures and landscapes.

Community feedback collected through the planning process is reflected across the systems, represented in speech bubbles. The system recommendations are tied back to the Plan's principles, presented throughout the systems as a constant measuring stick for the Framework Plan.

#### **THE PLAN**

The Plan illustrates how the program elements can fit together in the physical constraints of the parks. This section of the document provides enlarged portions of the plan for a closer look.

#### **IMPLEMENTATION**

The changes proposed by the Framework Plan will be implemented over time, as funding is allocated and design completed. The listed recommendations should be considered by projects for the South Lakefront.



13 community meetings 10 months 860 verbal comments 2300 attendees 24 stakeholder meetings 60 open house boards 333 live poll responses

90 stakeholder participants 65 evaluation notes

254 website comments 430 comment cards 350 post-it notes



#### **COMMUNITY-DRIVEN PROCESS**

The planning process continually engaged community members through meetings with stakeholder groups, a series of interactive public meetings, and a project website. Each phase of the process gathered and synthesized extensive community input to develop and refine the plan.

The **DISCOVERY** phase focused on understanding the concerns of residents and the existing conditions in the parks. Break-out sessions utilized real-time polling to inform community conversations about the South Lakefront's ecology and aesthetics, mobility and transportation, use and programming, and culture and history.

The **VISIONING** phase engaged stakeholder groups to share how they currently use the parks, what works well and what could be improved, and their concerns about proposed changes. These stakeholder sessions helped identify key programmatic needs and shape the overall community vision for the future of the South Lakefront.

A detailed analysis was also conducted during the Visioning phase, mapping the existing conditions of recreation systems, water use and quality, ecology, connectivity, and culture and history. The results of this analysis were shared with the public and used to solicit observations and ideas for park improvements. The feedback from these meetings helped inform a strong understanding of the parks' existing functions and the community's desires and priorities for the future.

The **SCENARIOS** phase synthesized all this input and information to create three distinct options illustrating a range of future possibilities for the parks. Each of the three scenario plans highlighted different unifying themes while still offering a balance of uses reflecting public desires and priorities. A public open house invited participants to evaluate the scenarios and share their preferences for park programming and improvements. Focused stakeholder meetings provided additional feedback on the three scenarios, informing the creation of one preferred framework plan.

This preferred plan was presented to the community during the final **FRAMEWORK PLAN** phase. This document reflects the information shared with the public, and community input gathered in the Framework

#### **THE VISION**

To help inform and build a community vision, participants at stakeholder and public meetings during the Visioning phase were invited to complete this prompt: "In the future, Jackson Park and South Shore Cultural Center should be . . . ."

The diverse responses were collected as a collage of sticky notes, and organized into the three themes:

- A Balance of Activity & Nature
- A Welcoming Place for All
- A Beacon of the Community

The aggregated community responses are depicted in the following visioning graphic. The speech bubbles reflect the aspirational ideas expressed by individual members of the community. These unique perspectives were brought together to create a cohesive, guiding vision for the future of the South Lakefront.

Vegetation around Natural and bird-friendly athletic fields to cut back on high winds Renewing; building Fun space near Lake Quality, maintained facilities, A perfect balance of A case study for natural/ Park filled better community-Michigan spaces at all times culture and nature social healing New state of with active human and the art music ecological physical court activity Natural Recognized as Increased boats and revenue one of the last Open A balance of activities/recreation natural areas and green space; an urban park area, Outdoor concert New and up-graded field house Awesome pickleball courts respecting along the lake area for classical and to share with friends space popular concerts Two football fields. A Balance of baseball complex, turf A progressive model Positive park field, seating, lights, for community-nature A place for concession stand activity in every integration fitness, art, **Activity & Nature** part of the park culture, special events Combined recreation and nature Epicenter Fulfilling the for pickleball A park with spaces for people that are Olmsted ideal of tournaments Natural areas are enhanced relieving tension integrated with natural ecological richness and lessons and access to them developed A space where people can to provide healing experiences access nature balanced with and a full range of activity - active and community needs People-friendly passive - balanced, and in-tune with and lakefront park Upgraded field house Facility for education in-service of its community. Kids Days every day on the 59th Street Harbor as an Richness; needs Wonderful natural Nature and harbors: As much activity as extension of the OPC mission of people and Inviting to nature and the Natural areas that areas supporting quiet open possible!!! of community engagement, nature; a jewel for neighboring community have volunteers birds, butterflies, space training, youth outreach, the city working daily to and elderly walkers boating and beyond maintain Lakefront café with table and Community horse riding days Indoor/ **Ecologically-rich** chairs with umbrellas to enjoy outdoor sports coffee, snacks, food Integrate nature stewardship, Track multi-plex local communities, and historic and field heritage A dog park on the lakefront with storage New state of the art and equipment indoor and outdoor to run full multi-use multiplex Facilities to provide more meets **Exhibit hall classes** programs, leagues, tournaments, Fun, and special events active. natural harbors





The guiding principles for the South Lakefront Framework Plan are a product of community input, the 1999 Framework Plan, contemporary planning best practices, and the mission of the Chicago Park District.

The guiding principles for the Plan integrate new thinking and community input while carefully considering the South Lakefront's planning legacy and historic role in the city. The 1999 South Lakefront Framework Plan was carefully reviewed, carrying over many of the relevant ideas identified there. Input from community members established important themes early in the planning process. Contemporary best practices in park planning and design were factored in, accounting for changes over the past 20 years. Finally, the principles were vetted to ensure that they align with the mission of the Chicago Park District.

The guiding principles served as a tool to guide and evaluate proposed changes throughout the planning process. The design elements incorporated into the plan shape spaces that embody the guiding principles, and deliver on the community vision.

The 11 guiding principles of the Framework Plan outline actions for making the vision for the future become a reality. The principles are grouped into three categories to highlight overarching themes.

#### SERVE THE COMMUNITY, **INSPIRE THE WORLD**

- Maximize recreation and leisure opportunities for children and families.
- Serve the local community through a balance of diverse programmatic spaces
  - active to contemplative, athletics to arts.
- **Strengthen connections** within the parks and with the community through improved programming, access, and

engagement.

#### **STEWARD ENVIRONMENTAL INTEGRITY & BEAUTY**

- **Establish healthy ecosystems** supporting a diversity of green spaces, wildlife, and water systems.
- Integrate buildings and landscapes to shape **beautiful parks** that provide an enhanced quality **of life** for their users.
- Underscore the many natural assets of the lakefront park landscape.
- Celebrate and reconnect with the water

#### **RENEW & MAINTAIN PARK LEGACY**

- Reinvigorate the parks as a global attraction with cultural destinations and historically significant landscapes.
- Draw on historic use, character, and design **philosophy** to inform the future.
- Leverage infrastructure improvements and catalytic projects to springboard the parks to another century of greatness.
- Continue to promote spaces that connect the **community** with nature.

#### **DESIGN STRATEGIES**

The South Lakefront Framework Plan is centered on the people who use the parks, serving a broad spectrum of users fishermen and athletes, historians and boaters, festival attendees, school groups, and families. The Plan strives to serve the needs of these many users with a balance of activity and nature for visitors from near and far.

The program for Jackson Park and South Shore Cultural Center was developed through input from the community during the planning process. During the Visioning phase, park users shared their desires for specific programming and activities in the parks and made suggestions for how best to balance them. The Scenarios phase combined these program elements into three distinct plan options. Each option illustrated a range of possibilities for the future, emphasizing different aspects of the parks while offering a balance of uses to provide the greatest public benefit. Community feedback on the three scenarios informed the balance of uses and programmatic elements included the Framework Plan.

Several design strategies emerged during the detailed site design of the parks as the vision, guiding principles and program were applied and tested. These strategies help shape the parks' physical design, recognize the many competing needs of future users, and provide flexibility to evolve over time.

#### **PLAN PARKS FOR PEOPLE**

The South Lakefront's legacy is rooted in the idea that parks serve a democratic and restorative role in city life. The framework plan embraces this philosophy, and the mission of the Chicago Park District, to create spaces that enhance the quality of life for their users. The framework plan keeps park users at the forefront as it shapes a future for Jackson Park and South Shore Cultural Center. Natural areas allow visitors to experience the restorative value of reconnecting with nature while supporting stewardship and education. Playing fields, picnic groves, park paths, and programming invite users to relax in the park through social interactions, physical activity, appreciation of the arts, or simply an escape from city life.

#### **INTEGRATE LAND AND WATER**

The intersection of land and water in the South Lakefront pre-dates human settlement here and captivated Frederick Law Olmsted in his designs for Jackson Park. The South Lakefront has 6.5 miles of interior shoreline and 3.9 miles of Lake Michigan coastline. 16% of the South Lakefront planning area's 628 acres is made up of interior water bodies. The interface of land and water is a defining and foundational feature of the South Lakefront, and celebrated through the framework plan.

#### **MAXIMIZE EVERY MOVE**

In order to serve the widest range of users and realize the greatest community benefit, the South Lakefront maximizes every proposed change to serve multiple end-goals. For example, the Framework Plan proposes lakefill park space at 63rd Street Beach that addresses the wave impacts and sedimentation that occur at Jackson Outer Harbor, while also providing improved parking, a new promontory nature sanctuary, and new waterfront picnic groves and fishing access. Maximizing every move will allow more of the goals for the South Lakefront to be realized.

#### **ESTABLISH PERFORMANCE LANDSCAPES**

The South Lakefront is a part of a network of integrated ecosystems serving the environment and public health. In Jackson Park and South Shore Cultural Center, soccer fields and picnic groves can help absorb and hold stormwater to prevent flooding. The lagoons that offer natural beauty and animal habitat can also filter stormwater to remove pollutants before they reach Lake Michigan. Thoughtful design can embrace design principles while also integrating the level of performance engineering that is required by the modern urban landscape.

#### **PROGRAM ELEMENTS**

#### **ABOUT THE PLAN**

The Framework Plan resulted from an intensive consensus-building process. The Plan is a guide for the future development of the parks, reflecting the vision of the community and balancing diverse user needs. As a framework, this document does not go to the same level of detail as a development master plan. Rather, it depicts the built-out potential of the parks to realize the community vision for the South Lakefront. The plan serves as a guide for integrating, phasing, and funding the proposed improvements over time.

The overall program and plan for Jackson Park and South Shore Cultural Center is illustrated here. Recommendations for steps to realize the plan are summarized in the sections that follow, each focusing on one of the park systems of recreation, water and ecology, connectivity, and culture and history.

Each system reflects the community input collected through the planning process, applies the design strategies, and outlines recommendations for physical changes to achieve the principles and goals.

#### **RECREATION**



**Basketball Courts** 



**Senior Baseball Diamonds** 



Track and Turf Field 400m Track with Multi-Sport Field



Soccer/ Football Fields



**Tennis Courts** 



**Pickleball Courts** 



**Bowling & Croquet Greens** 



**Field House** Renovate Existing Alternate for New Construction



**Special Events** East Meadow & Hayes Fields, 63<sup>rd</sup> Street Beach, Museum of Science & Industry, South Shore **Cultural Center** 



Dog Park Adjacent to Inner Harbor



**Picnic Groves** 



**Formal Gardens** 



**Play Areas** 



**Spray Pads** 56<sup>th</sup> Street Playground 63<sup>rd</sup> Street Beach



**Restrooms at Comfort Stations and Community Buildings** 



**Driving Range Expanded in Current Location** 370 yards



**Combined 18-hole Course** 7,161 yards, par 70



**Golf Pavilion with Parking** New Golf Pavilion on Jeffery Avenue



**Teaching Facility with Parking** Short Course at Cecil Partee

#### **WATER & ECOLOGY**



**Bayou Connection with Islands** Connecting Lagoon & Harbor



**New Peninsula Breakwater** +7.0 acres at 63rd Street Beach



La Rabida Shoreline

+9.4 acres of Habitat Beach and Stone Breakwater



**Natural Area** 90 acres



**Fishing Points** 



**Non-Motorized Craft** Inner Harbor and Bayou



**Outer Harbor Slips** 130 Slips + Transient & Fuel Dock



**Inner Harbor Slips** 120 Slips + Rentals



59th Street Harbor

Water Taxi Dock 125 Slips New Harbor Building



Columbia Basin Paddle Boats



**Beach House at South Shore** 

#### CONNECTIVITY



**Regional Bike Trail** 5.3 miles



**Sidewalks & Paths** 18.9 miles



**Nature Trails** 2.7 miles



**New Underpasses** 



**Boardwalk** 

#### **CULTURE & HISTORY**



**South Shore Cultural Center** Renovated



**Coast Guard Building** Relocated, Restaurant



**Obama Presidential Center** New Museum and Grounds



**Historic Structures** Adaptive Reuse of Burnham and Iowa Buildings

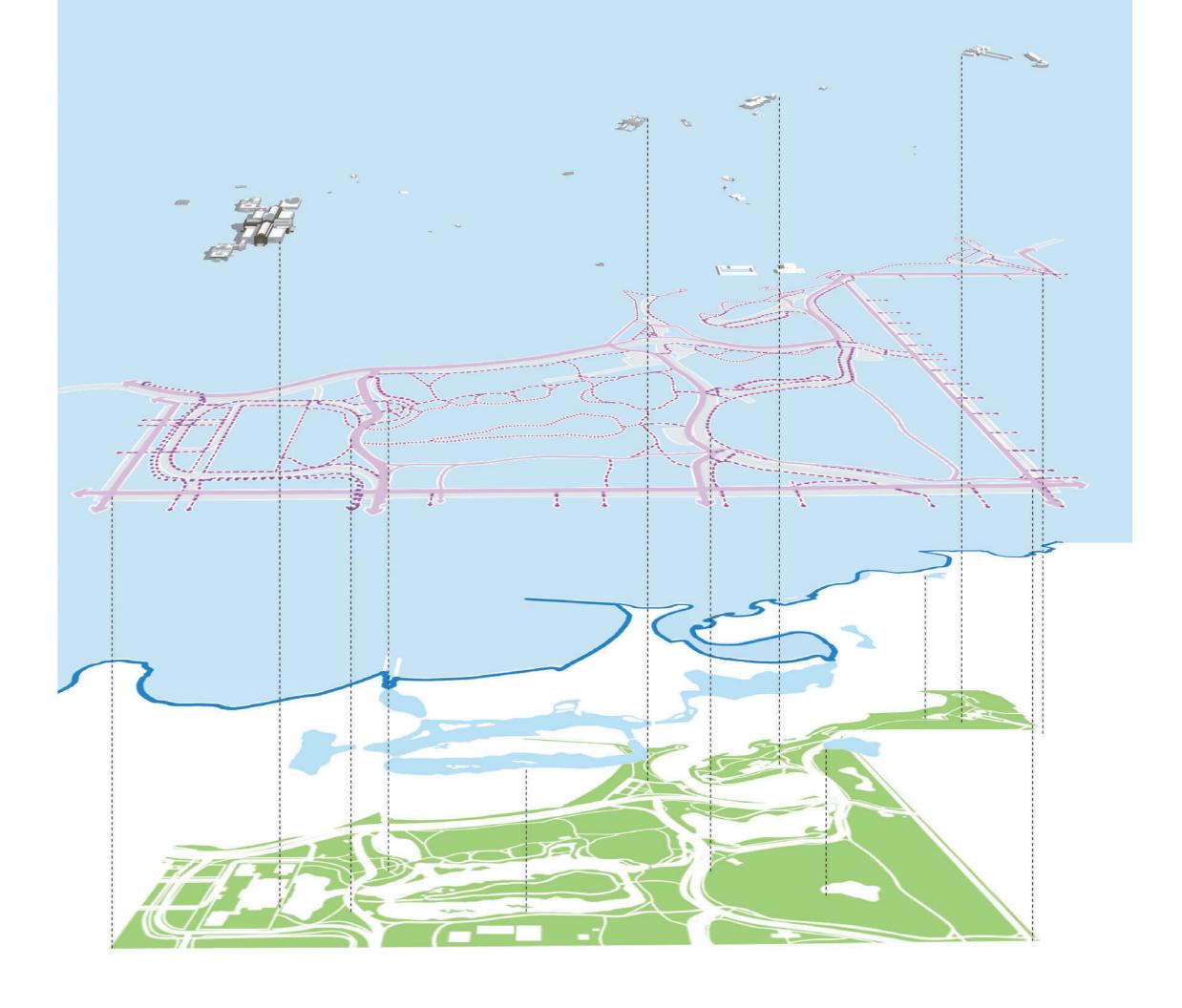


**CULTURE & HISTORY** 

**CONNECTIVITY** 

**WATER & ECOLOGY** 

**RECREATION** 



The Framework Plan synthesizes its recommendations for park use and improvements into four distinct yet interconnected systems: Recreation; Water and Ecology; Connectivity; and Culture and History. This system-based organization of recommendations was developed and refined during the public process to better focus and clarify the complex range of improvements required to achieve the plan vision.

#### RECREATION

Jackson Park and South Shore Cultural Center support a wide range of recreational spaces and activities, making Recreation a key system for the framework plan. Active recreation spaces include the running track and interior turf field, baseball/softball diamonds, soccer/ football fields, basketball courts, tennis courts, lawn bowling/croquet greens, pickleball courts, the golf course and driving range, playgrounds, and the field house. The diverse areas for passive recreation include picnic groves, gardens, and natural areas, as well as open meadows and walking paths. The ability to host special events such as the Chosen Few music festival or the Chicago Half Marathon is also addressed as part of the Recreation system, as they share spaces that must support multiple uses.

#### **WATER & ECOLOGY**

The Lake Michigan coastline and internal water bodies in the South Lakefront offer a unique assortment of programming and activities, from its three different beaches and three distinct harbors to its lagoons, bayou, and basin. Water activities span beach-going, motor boating and sailing, kayaking, canoing and paddle boarding, paddle boating, fishing, and passive activities that are specifically related to being near the water. The water bodies are also intrinsically linked to the ecology of the parks, the two working in unison to shape the South Lakefront's ecosystems. Considered as part of a unified system, the Plan's recommendations for integrated shoreline, Lake Michigan coastline, and land-based improvements maximize landscape performance potential along with environmental stewardship and beauty.

#### CONNECTIVITY

Connectivity in the South Lakefront occurs on many different levels and scales. The Plan's mobility-centered system addresses how people come to the parks and how they move through them. The Framework Plan examines vehicular movement through the street hierarchy and parking; transit options currently serving the parks; and a network of multi-use paths and pedestrian connections ranging from regional scale to more intimate nature trails and boardwalks. Programmatic uses are also addressed in relation to Connectivity, and the capacity of the South Lakefront's systems to bring together runners, walkers, cyclists, horseback riders, students, and seniors from adjacent neighborhoods and around the region.

#### **CULTURE & HISTORY**

Dating back to Frederick Law Olmsted's design for the Columbian Exposition of 1893, the South Lakefront has long been a destination for national and international visitors. This legacy continues today and into the future. School groups, families, artists, and educators come to Jackson Park and South Shore Cultural Center. They visit the Museum of Science and Industry, take classes or attend performances at the South Shore Cultural Center, walk through the historic Wooded Island and Osaka Garden, and may soon visit the Obama Presidential Center. Cultural uses and historic legacy represent a key system for the South Lakefront Framework Plan.





dog walkers **golfers** tennis players **kids** coaches **ball players lawn bowlers seniors** picnickers **festival attendees students athletes campers** pick-up game players **families** 



#### **RECREATION SUMMARY**

The Framework Plan builds upon the success of recreation in Jackson and South Shore parks through a variety of spaces for activity, from active to social to contemplative and restorative. These spaces abut and blend together, uniting a diversity of users.

**The urban edge** – the periphery of the park close to the neighborhoods – functions well as passive space, its form dating back to the Olmsted plan. The gentle berms and trees shape spaces comfortable for picnicking, casual games, family gatherings, and playgrounds. Neighboring residents value this unprogrammed space. The Framework Plan builds on the successes of the urban edge. A new splash pad adds to the **56th Street playground.** Activation of the lowa Pavilion offers a new picnic pavilion.

The Music Court and Bowling Green offer another mix of recreation spaces. The Music Court provides picnicking, bird watching, and community gathering space supported by the new 59th Street Harbor building. The Bowling Green continues its long history and value as the city's only lawn bowling and croquet greens. The addition of pickleball in this area creates a balanced center of activity with sports that cater to an older generation. Proximity of bathrooms and parking contribute to a successful activity zone.

The **East Meadow** is home to the Jackson Park Driving Range, expanded Bobolink Meadow, and flexible meadows. The expanded driving range meets the contemporary needs of golfers. Bobolink Meadow's expanded natural area encompasses the driving range, and offers more habitat, bird watching, stewardship, and educational opportunities. The flexible meadows can accommodate up to two full soccer/football fields, host special events, and contain picnic groves. An access road places parking close to the areas of activity while the Driving Range Building provides restrooms nearby.

The **Hayes Fields** provide a complex of playing fields and flexible meadows. The meadow can host three senior baseball fields and a soccer/ football field. The baseball backstops are tucked into the edges of the meadow to create wide open spaces that can serve athletics, or host large events. Natural areas and shaded lawn surround the meadows to create picnic groves and blend together the active and passive recreation spaces.

Sports courts, playgrounds, and the track and field are clustered close to Stony Island Avenue where they are easily accessible to the nearby schools and residents. The **Jackson Park Track and Field** is grouped with tennis courts to provide a synergy for camps and coaches. The **Field House** grounds offer tennis, basketball, and a playground creating an activity zone for all ages. Should funds become available for a new field house, the plan designates a location for the new facility. Building a new field house north of Hayes Drive creates a strong relationship between the active recreation spaces and field house. Removal of the existing structure could open more flexible space close to the adjacent neighborhood.

The renovated **golf course** merges Jackson Park and South Shore courses into a single 18-hole course meeting contemporary play and safety standards. Park trails weave through and around the course. The edge along 67th Street maintains park space for the community of South Shore. The golf pavilion on Jeffery Avenue enlivens the street edge and engages the community. Cecil Partee becomes a golf education facility.

**South Shore Cultural Center** boasts a mix of recreation spaces. It has dramatic lakefront golf holes; natural areas for habitat, bird watching, and stewardship; a formal garden; lawn for picnicking and gatherings; and nature play for the children.

#### **PROGRAM ELEMENTS**



**Picnic Groves** 



**Formal Gardens** 



Senior Baseball Diamonds



Soccer/ **Football Fields** 

#### **SERVE THE COMMUNITY INSPIRE THE WORLD**

Strengthen connections within the parks and with the community through improved programming, access, and engagement.

> "Creating it in a way so that you feel like you're in a natural space to get away from the city...if we can start creating small, natural, communal spaces within this large space that would be fantastic."

barbecuing/gathering."

#### **RENEW & MAINTAIN PARK LEGACY**

Draw on historic use, character, and design philosophy to inform the future.



#### **RECOMMENDATIONS FOR PICNIC GROVES** & UNPROGRAMMED SPACE



#### **Build upon the existing success** of picnic groves.

Continue the parks' legacy of great picnicking through improving connection between picnicking spaces and other park amenities. Access to parking and restrooms or adjacency to the neighborhood makes groves desirable and successful.



#### Maintain unprogrammed areas in the parks.

The users of Jackson and South Shore parks desire flexible park space without a specific function — a place for people to enjoy the outdoors, sit on a bench, talk with a neighbor. A mix of lawn and shade, benches, and paths shape successful unprogrammed park spaces.



#### **RECOMMENDATIONS FOR FLEXIBLE MEADOWS**

Integrate passive and active use spaces.

> Integrating picnicking and natural areas with playing fields contributes to longer visitor stays in the parks and to use by people of all ages.

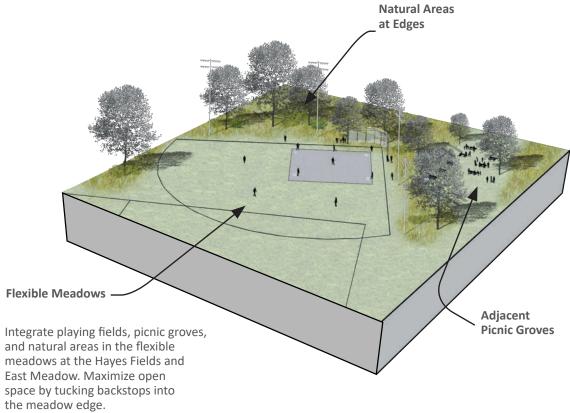
**Provide restrooms close** to areas of activities.

> Engagement with park users revealed that access to restrooms can determine the success of spaces in the parks. Comfort stations encourage longer stays and multi-generational enjoyment of the parks.



#### **Accommodate larger** special events.

Contiguous open space provides large footprints for special events, such as Chosen Few, Bike the Drive, and the Chicago Half Marathon. A mix of shaded spaces and open lawns shape ideal spaces for all-day events.



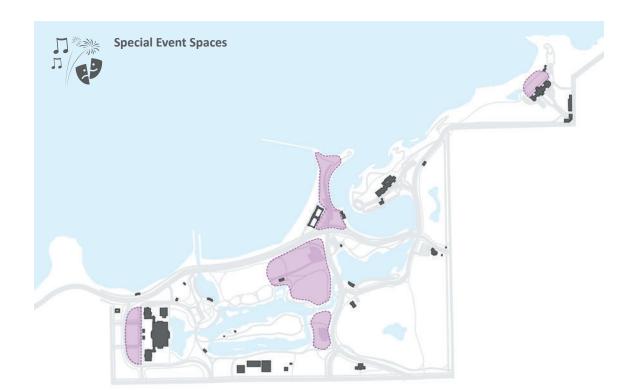


Urban edge along 56th Street





Picnic grove at South Shore Cultural Center



The area outlined indicates open space ideal for permitting special events.





The overlapping colors represent spaces within a five minute walk to a restroom of the proposed plan. A darker color indicates access to more restrooms.

Restroom Location

Restrooms at

Color scale indicates the number of restrooms within a 5-minute walk.



#### **PROGRAM ELEMENTS**



**Basketball Courts** 



**Senior Baseball** Diamonds



Track and Turf Field 400m Track w/ Multi-Sport Field



Soccer/ Football **Fields** 



**Tennis Courts** 



**Pickleball Courts** 



**Bowling/ Croquet** Greens



**Field House** Renovate Existing

Alternate to Build New

"If a good facility is built and well maintained, people will keep coming back."

#### **SERVE THE COMMUNITY INSPIRE THE WORLD**

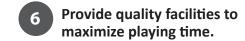
Maximize recreational and leisure opportunities for children and families.

#### **RENEW & MAINTAIN PARK LEGACY**

Continue to promote spaces that connect the community to nature.



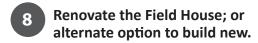
#### **RECOMMENDATIONS FOR COURTS & PLAYING FIELDS**



Lights, field drainage, and flexibility of use will extend the hours of use of facilities and serve the needs of many users.

**Group recreation facilities along** Stony Island to allow for easy access from the schools and neighborhoods.

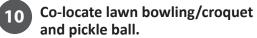
> Locate the track and turf field and tennis together provides a complex to better serve the nearby schools and community users.



Renovate the existing Field House in place. If funds become available, a new Field House could be constructed north of Hayes to connect with the adjacent recreation facilities.

Design the track and field to accommodate a multi-sport turf field.

> A wider field can host more sports, including soccer, football, and lacrosse. The wider track will allow for faster running speeds and include more field events.



Diversifying the bowling green area will maximize the use of the building and serve more users.

Create a baseball/softball field complex in meadow near Hayes Drive.

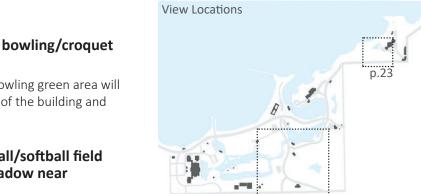
> Contiguous fields allow for multiple school teams to practice together.



The Hayes Fields, Field House, track and field, and tennis courts will create a recreational spine

along Hayes Drive from Stony Island Avenue to

Lake Shore Drive.



#### RECOMMENDATIONS FOR THE GOLF COURSE

**Combine the Jackson and South Shore** courses to create one 18-hole course that meets contemporary levels of safety and play standards.

> The flow of play will allow for a returning nine-hole course to maintain the short game option that many locals enjoy at the current course.

The routing plan allows for park paths through and around the course and maintains unprogrammed park space at the edges.

A teaching facility at Cecil Partee will introduce new generations to the legacy of golf in Jackson Park.

Integrate biodiversity throughout the golf course.

> Natural areas and biodiversity throughout the course will contribute to a healthy ecosystem overall, and create natural beauty on the course for golfers and neighbors.

Create visual and physical community connections.

> Provide paths around the golf course to allow community use at the perimeter. Minimize fencing where compatible with safety measures.

Locate golf facilities strategically to serve the golf course and the community.

> Placing the golf pavilion on Jeffery Avenue will bring together the adjacent community, golfers, and other park users.

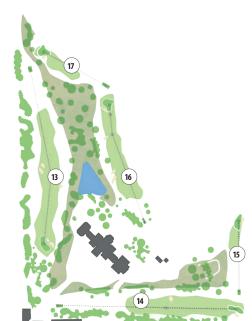
Cecil Partee becomes a educational center for the next generation of golfers.

Keep the golf course accessible to Chicago residents and youth.

> Consider tiered pricing structure to ensure the course remains accessible to the community and residents of the city of Chicago. Residents outside of Chicago will face premium fees.



SCORECARD								
Hole	Par	Tee 1		Tee 3			Tee 6	
1	5	667	634	581	520	471	281	
2	4	441	432	412	351	307	203	
3	4	429	408	373	328	299	176	
4	4	453	430	384	353	316	216	
5	3	204	193	177	161	142	71	
6	4	467	444	406	364	325	225	
7	5	579	551	514	452	404	259	
8	3	136	131	123	104	89	52	
9	4	425	412	370	328	296	106	
FRONT	36	3801	3635	3340	2961	2649	1589	
10	4	368	350	319	287	256	139	
11	3	189	180	161	147	132	63	
12	4	382	363	332	298	266	164	
13	4	488	464	418	381	340	229	
14	4	504	479	436	393	351	246	
15	3	211	200	184	165	147	80	
16	4	365	359	334	301	254	152	
17	3	199	191	168	155	125	68	
18	5	654	618	552	507	449	268	
ВАСК	34	3360	3204	2904	2634	2320	1409	
TOTAL	70	7161	6839	6244	5595	4969	2298	



trail passes through the

If course at South Shore

Score card and routing plan for the new 18-hole golf course.



"I am a huge supporter of the golf course renovation plan in the city. As a young child my grandfather and father taught me the game. The game's cornerstone is one of integrity and the lessons from golf are lessons I live by. "

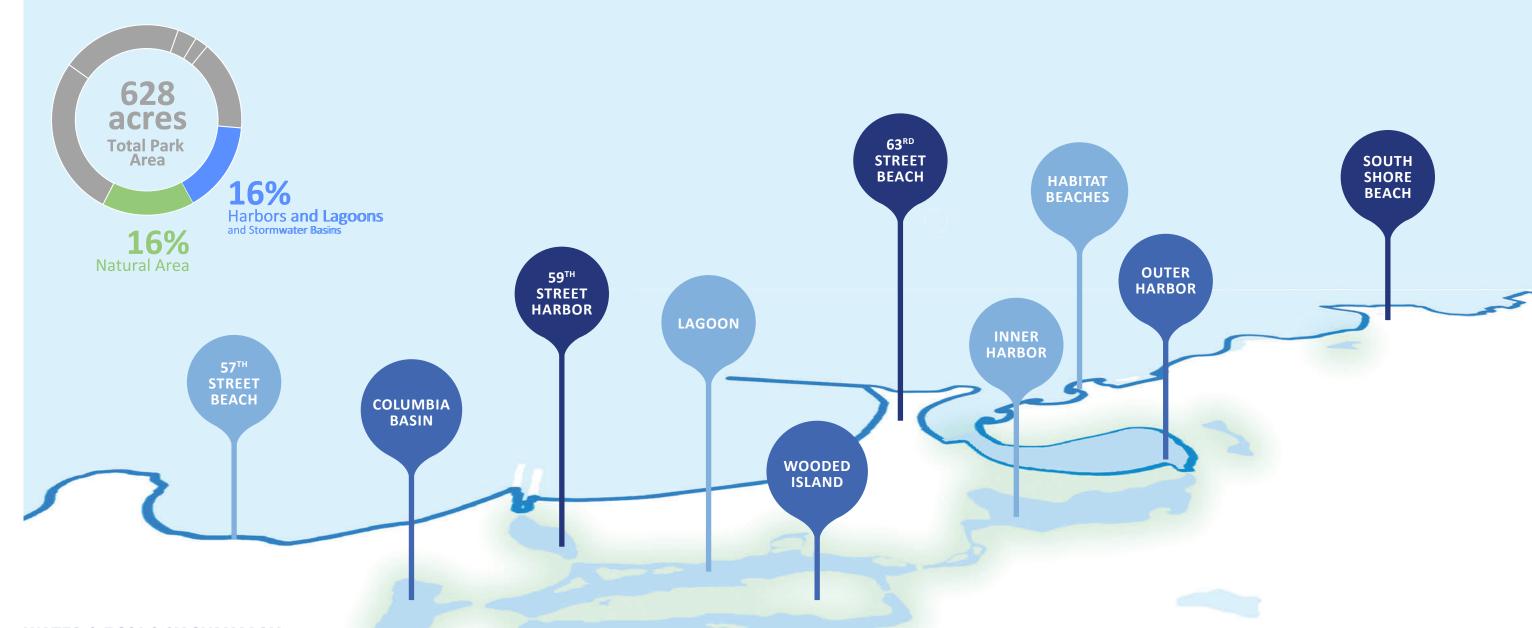
> "Excited about the restoration, looking forwarded to a challenging course with beautiful scenery. I look forward to safer trails throughout."

#### **STEWARD ENVIRONMENTAL INTEGRITY & BEAUTY**

Establish healthy ecosystems supporting a diversity of green spaces and water systems.



beach-goers kayakers park stewards *fishermen seniors* ecologists *families* nature enthusiasts boaters kids educators bird-watchers



#### WATER & ECOLOGY SUMMARY

Water use, quality and ecology throughout the parks are intrinsically intertwined. Together the water bodies and land area provide habitat for many species of birds, animals, fish, and plant life. These spaces also support activities in a wide range of boating and bathing, stewardship, and education. Each portion of the parks offers a range of experiences to support users and steward healthy environments.

The **57th Street beach** continues its success as a lakefront destination with a beach house and close proximity to the Hyde Park neighborhood.

The **Columbia Basin** builds on its popular activities of picnicking and fishing. Deepening the basin allows for paddle boats to introduce new recreational activity while creating better fish habitat.

The **59th Street Harbor** is home to the Museum Shores Yacht Club. The plan calls for repairing the breakwall at the harbor mouth. A new harbor building is located on the edge of the Music Court to serve both the needs of the yacht club and be an amenity to the community.

The **lagoon** and **Wooded Island** are treasures of Jackson Park. Recent work by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers restored the banks of the lagoon. A new boardwalk connects Bobolink Meadow to the Darrow Bridge, inviting park users to experience the lagoon without disturbing the restoration work or habitat areas. A new physical connection, called the bayou, unites the lagoon and the Inner Harbor. Naturalized shorelines along the bayou and parts of the Inner Harbor provide canoers or kayakers the intimate experience of a water body while protecting the restoration of the

lagoon shores. A small dam called a weir keeps the paddle craft and fish from entering the lagoon, maintains the precise water levels, and harnesses the lagoon's role in water treatment. Paths and bridges around and across the bayou connect users with nature and a variety of experience near, over, or on the water.

The **Inner Harbor** strikes a balance of motorpowered and human-powered boating. The slips for the South Shores Yacht Club are right-sized to match anticipated demand, with the addition of a dock for rental boats. Paddle craft such as canoes, kayaks, and paddle boards will have access to the calmer waters of the Inner Harbor with parking, a rental concession, and restrooms. The Inner Harbor blends paddle craft, motor boating, and water safety and educational opportunities. Reflecting its growth, the **Outer Harbor** increases in slips for

the Jackson Park Yacht Club, with a dock designated for transient boaters and fuel. Minimal lakefill along the mouth of the harbor creates space for expansion of harbor parking, close to the docks. Both harbors adopt contemporary harbor best-practices for security and access from head piers. This allows for less fencing, improved integration into the park, and a continuous harborwalk bringing people to the water's edge on a hardscaped walk.

To address the existing problem of sedimentation and wave action in the Outer Harbor, new lakefill creates habitat beaches and a peninsula at the 63rd street beach to temper wave action. Rubble breakwalls along the Lake Michigan coastline by La Rabida will naturally form cellular beaches to support wildlife. Trails lead to look-out points, offering quiet moments on the lake. The lakefill at

**63rd Street Beach** supplements a popular beach destination with new picnic groves, improved parking, and promontory nature sanctuary to support migratory birds and offer views of the city. The peninsula creates an ideal fishing location.

Both 63rd Street Beach and South Shore Cultural Center offer balanced beach destinations for families. Lakefront beach, natural areas, picnic groves, a play area, and a new beach house with restrooms and concessions at South Shore invite users to stay the whole day.

#### **PROGRAM ELEMENTS**



**Bayou Connection** with Islands

Connecting Lagoon & Harbor



**Non-Motorized Craft** Inner Harbor and Bayou



**Outer Harbor Slips** 130 Slips Transient & Fuel Dock



**Inner Harbor Slips** 120 Slips + Rentals



**Bayou Connection** with Islands



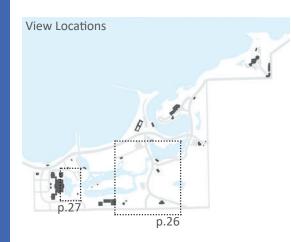
Non-Motorized Craft

Inner Harbor and Bayou

creating more water space – revitalizing an

#### **SERVE THE COMMUNITY INSPIRE THE WORLD**

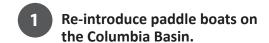
Maximize recreation and leisure opportunities for children and families.

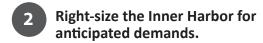




Connecting Lagoon & Harbor

#### **RECOMMENDATIONS FOR HARBORS & LAGOON**





Provide a slip-count reflecting current and anticipated demand, and incorporate a dock for power boat rentals.



Kayaks, canoes, and paddle boards can be rented or launched in the Inner Harbor and into the bayou. The quiet waters of the Inner Harbor are ideal for water safety and boating education.

**Expand the Outer Harbor to** accommodate on-going growth. Increase slips, modify dock access through a head pier configuration and

adjacent to docks.

**Construct new harbor building** at Museum Shores Yacht Club.

> Support yacht club's efforts to construct new harbor building.

Provide secure access for yacht clubs, opportunities for rental or transient docks, and access for the whole community to engage with the water.

Use of head piers can facilitate security

**Create publicly** accessible harborwalks.

The Inner Harbor is right-sized to accommodate power boats and paddle craft. The bayou connects the lagoon to the harbor with control structures to

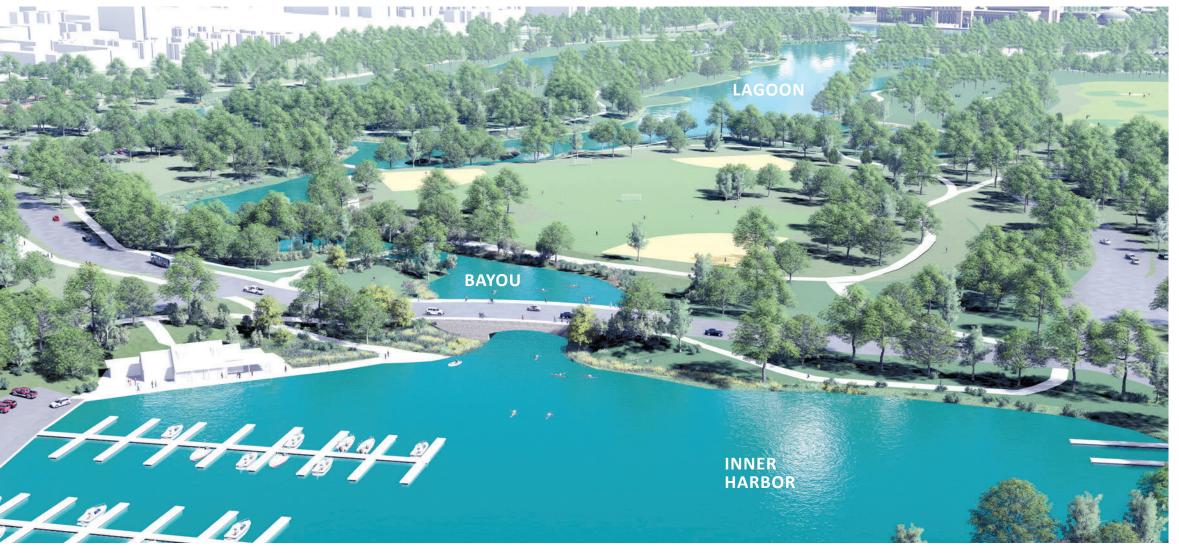
protect the sensitive ecology of the

lagoon and its shores.

Harborwalks bring people to the water's edge on a hardscaped surface, connect with the yacht clubs, and create a variety of ways to experience the water from land.

Provide boardwalks and bridges on the lagoon.

> These create opportunities to connect to nature without disturbing shoreline habitat and offer vantage points for viewing the lagoons and educational moments.



#### **STEWARD ENVIRONMENTAL INTEGRITY & BEAUTY**

Underscore the many natural assets Island and Bobolink of the lakefront park landscape.

#### **PROGRAM ELEMENTS**

**Columbia Basin** Paddle Boats

Fishing





#### **RENEW & MAINTAIN PARK LEGACY**

Draw on historic use, character, and design philosophy to inform the future.

#### **RECOMMENDATIONS FOR BEACHES & LAKEFRONT**

Provide well-rounded beach destinations.

> Beach houses with restrooms and concessions serve beach-goers for the entire day.

Blending beach with adjacent lawn for picnicking, nature areas, and play spaces provide a multi-generational park space.

- Build a new beach house at South **Shore Cultural Center.**
- Support the fishing community. Designated locations identify ideal places for recreational fishing.
- Build new lakefill at the 63rd Street Beach/mouth of the Outer Harbor to minimize wave action and sedimentation in the harbors.

The lakefill peninsula will protect the Outer Harbor and provide new park space for the community.

**Create habitat beaches** along the La Rabida peninsula coastline.

> Rubble breakwaters will address littoral drift and reduce wave impact in the Outer Harbor. Created beach cells will provide new lakefront habitat, paths, and educational opportunities for park-goers. The breakwater and habitat beaches will create a new edge at one of the oldest segments of lakefront revetment.





Continue to promote spaces that connect the community to nature.

Water quality and access are extremely important to me, as is green space and a healthy, extensive tree canopy."

## **INSPIRE THE WORLD**

Serve the local community through a balance of diverse programmatic spaces — active to contemplative, athletics to arts.

#### **PROGRAM ELEMENTS**





**63rd Street Beach** 7.0 acres of new park at Lakefill Peninsula



Fishing



Natural Areas



"I would like the changes to maintain or increase the natural areas, and leave space for butterflies and birds so that they can thrive just as people do, when they have contact with nature."

#### **STEWARD ENVIRONMENTAL INTEGRITY & BEAUTY**

Establish healthy ecosystems supporting a diversity of green spaces and water systems.



**Beach at South Shore Cultural Center** 



**STEWARD ENVIRONMENTAL INTEGRITY & BEAUTY** 

Integrate buildings and landscapes to shape beautiful parks that provide an enhanced quality of life for their users.

#### RECOMMENDATIONS FOR PERFORMANCE LANDSCAPE

**Enhance natural areas to** provide measurable sustainable performance benefits.

> The naturalized areas of the South Lakefront can serve the Olmsted aesthetic of framing space and views while also serving an important environmental function. These zones play a vital role in stormwater management, strengthening the parks' capacity to handle heavy rainstorms while improving water quality within the lagoons, harbors, and basin.

Add native plant communities to provide critical habitat while increasing natural area acreage in the parks.

> Increasing the park's natural areas will contribute to the Park District's goal of adding 2,020 acres of natural areas to Chicago's park and open space system by the year 2020.

Manage and treat stormwater through natural green infrastructure systems.

> Expand and integrate best practices in performance landscape design throughout the South Lakefront.

Increase green infrastructure capacity to slow, hold and filter stormwater runoff before it enters Lake Michigan.

> Leverage land and water-based practices to provide educational opportunities for park visitors as well as to enhance aesthetics and sense of place.

**Create landscape features** that can temporarily provide stormwater detention during heavy rain events.

> Integrate bioswales, biofiltration basins, and rain gardens with the parks' flexible meadows, picnic groves, and natural areas. These systems can capture runoff from playing fields and parking lots, enhancing stormwater infiltration and filtration.

**Build stormwater structures** as an integrated part of streets and parking lots.

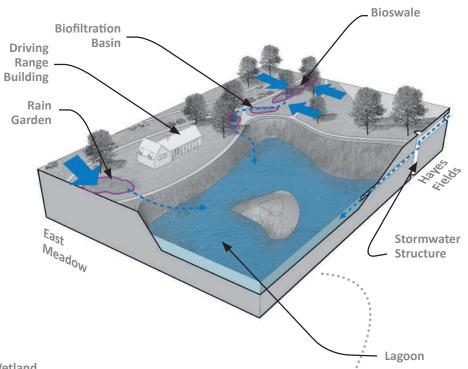
> These structures collect and separate debris and pollutants from runoff before it enters the water bodies.

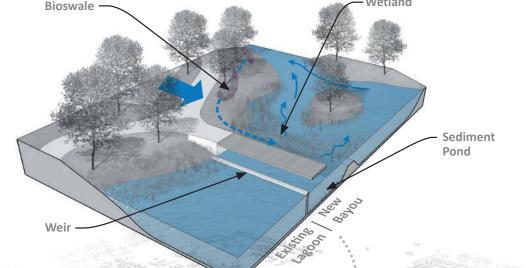
Use living shoreline strategies, wetlands, and sediment ponds along the South Lakefront's bayou, lagoons, and harbor.

> Aquatic plants help clean the water, sediment ponds collect runoff particles, and wetlands provide filtration and aeration benefits.

These diagrams use specific park locations to demonstrate how land and water-based features can be incorporated with park design to handle heavy rains and stormwater runoff, remove water-borne pollutants, and improve ecological and human health. The application of these features creates a performance landscape.

At the junction of the bayou and the lagoon, a low dam, call a weir will control the flow of water, fish, and paddle craft from the lake into the lagoons. A sediment pond can be integrated with the weir. Features such as the bioswale and wetlands are shown edging the bayou, but can be applied in multiple locations along the living shoreline. Rain gardens and biofiltration basins can be integrated with natural areas or around picnic groves and playing fields, like the example of the East Meadow shown.





Integrated water and land systems form a network of ecological spaces along the South Lakefront. The network establishes healthy ecosystems and integrates green infrastructure features to create a performance landscape.

#### RECOMMENDATIONS FOR LAGOON, BAYOU, AND HARBOR SHORELINES

#### **Expand the network of living** shorelines within the parks.

Ecological planting strategies will naturalize the edges of the bayou and parts of the existing harbors. A twolevel riparian edge supports various plant, animal, and insect species as a resource for food, shelter, and/or mating. A mix of Sedge Meadow, Savanna Woodland and Fringe Wetland communities on the shore extends the recent habitat restoration along the

lagoon edges and Wooded Island. Underwater aquatic plant-beds and habitat structures support various fish and amphibian species in the lagoon, bayou, and inner harbor.

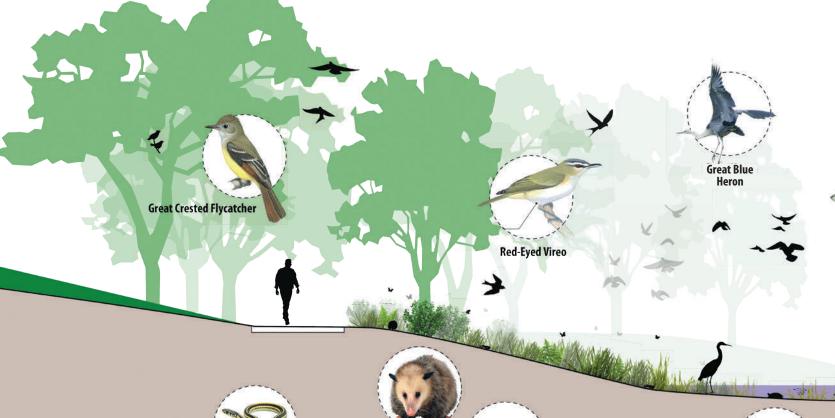
#### Align habitat improvements with potential funding opportunities.

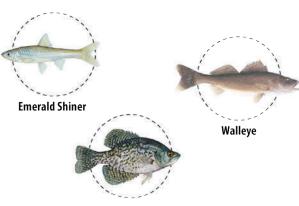
New waterfront edges along the bayou and rebuilt shorelines at La Rabida Peninsula and South Shore Cultural Center present opportunities to further naturalize riparian and coastal edges.

These environments support great lakes conservation efforts for water quality, habitat and fishery health, and align with the priorities of regional conservation organizations like the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative and the Great Lakes Protection Fund to help pre-position future implementation projects for funding opportunities.



Naturalized edges of the lagoon, bayou, and sections of the Inner Harbor comprise the living shorelines.





animal, and plant habitat, and provide park users with nature paths, stewardship opportunities, and educational opportunities.



**American Toad** 



Salamander





**Painted Turtle** 

**Passive and Active Recreation** 

**Garter Snake** 

**Extension of USACE Restoration** 

**Treatment & Habitat Wetlands** 

**Open Lagoon** 

#### **RECOMMENDATIONS FOR LAKE MICHIGAN COASTLINE**



## Protect and soften lakefront areas with nature-based shorelines.

Offshore breakwaters along the La Rabida peninsula will absorb and deflect the impact of waves from Lake Michigan, creating spaces of "quiet" water behind them that form the conditions for "softer" and more bio-diverse waterfront environments to flourish. These areas of calm water

serve as nursery habitat for certain species of fish, and the crevices and gaps in the breakwaters serve as protective cover for mudpuppies and aquatic reptiles. The establishment of gravel beaches and grassland dune communities will provide critical and unique lakefront habitat for a variety of bird, mammal, reptile and insect species.



## Reconstruct the Lake Michigan coastline at South Shore Cultural Center with stone revetment.

As the La Rabida peninsula transitions to the coastline of South Shore Cultural Center, a more armored revetment is recommended to best protect against wave erosion and provide the experience of a lakefront golf course.

#### SHORELINE

Edges of interior water bodies: the harbors, bayou, lagoon, and basin

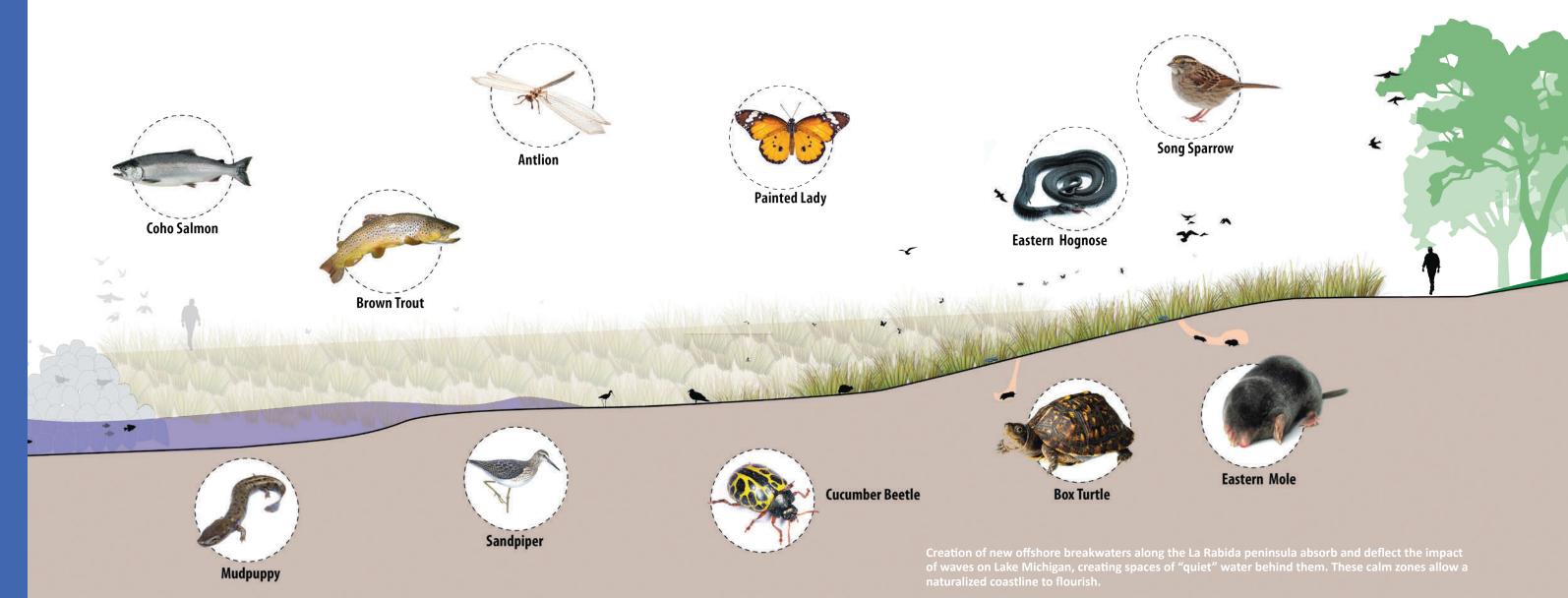
#### 6.54 mi

#### COASTLINE

Lake Michigan water's edge

#### 3.95 mi

The Lake Michigan coastline and internal water bodies are defining features of the South Lakefront. New lakefill, breakwalls forming habitat beaches, and the bayou connection add to the overall length of water's edge in Jackson and South Shore. In total, the parks contain more internal shoreline than Lake Michigan coastline.

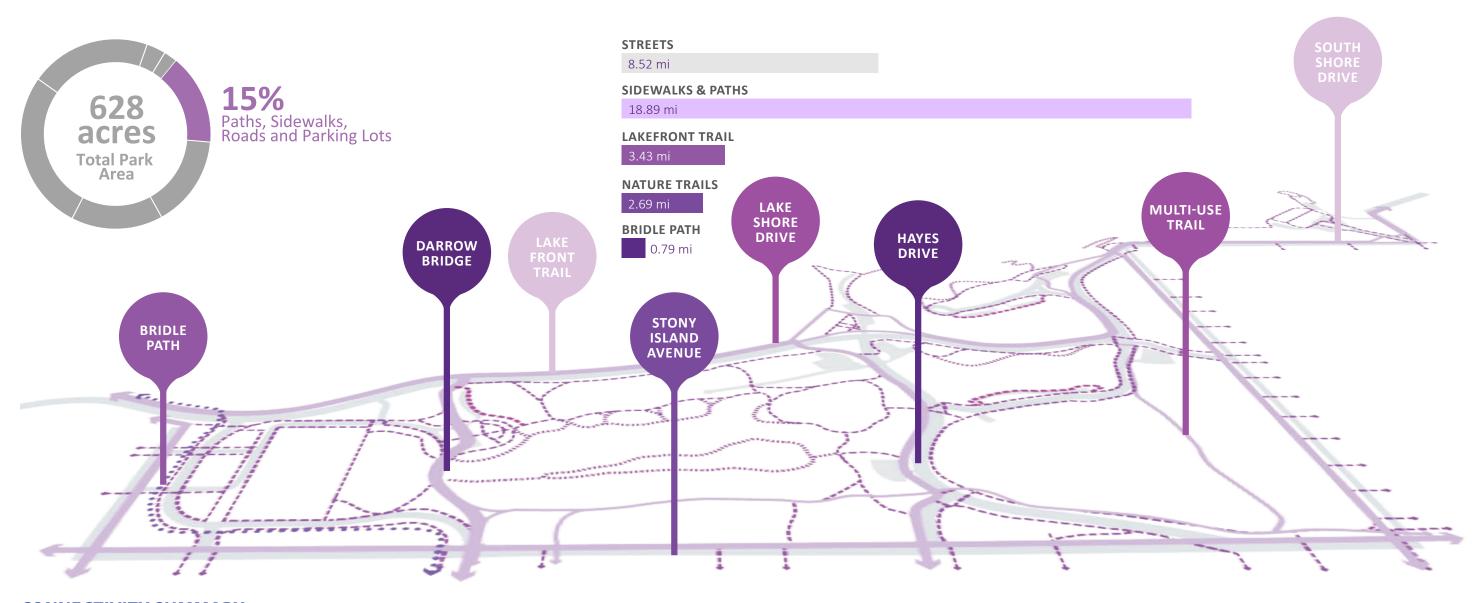


Lake Michigan Gravel Beach Natural Coastline





drivers bike riders youth transit riders walkers horseback riders families *runners* neighbors joggers students cyclists *seniors* 



#### **CONNECTIVITY SUMMARY**

The Framework Plan provides a holistic look at connectivity to, through, and within the parks. The connectivity systems includes the street network, transit, parking, multi-use trails, sidewalks and park paths, and specialty trails.

The Framework Plan illustrates proposed changes to connectivity within the parks including the closure of four roadway segments: eastbound Midway Plaisance between Stony Island and Cornell Drive, Cornell Drive between Midway Plaisance and Hayes Drive, Marquette Drive between Stony Island and Richards Drive, and northbound Cornell Drive between 65th and 67th Streets. Concurrent to this framework plan, the Chicago Department of Transportation is proposing targeted improvements to mitigate traffic impacts resulting from the roadway closures. The roadway closures were presented and discussed with the public during the framework planning process. With the roadway closures, the Park District

anticipates improved park cohesiveness through better connected parkland; opportunities for expanded multi-use trails within the park; and improved accessibility within the park as a result of this increased trail system.

The regional Lakefront Trail parallels **Lake Shore** and **South Shore Drives**, providing 3.43 miles within the parks of bike and pedestrian paths for recreational use and active transportation. The plan incorporates the **Lakefront Trail** separation project and proposes enhancements to alleviate pinch points.

A multi-use trail will connect the Lakefront Trail to Stony Island over the **Darrow Bridge.** A multi-use path will bring cyclists and pedestrians past the lagoon and the proposed Obama Presidential Center from the Midway Plaisance to 63rd Street. Marguette Drive is proposed to become a multi-use trail through the golf course from **Stony Island Avenue** to

Richards Drive. Planned restoration of the Darrow Bridge will enable better east-west connections through Jackson Park for pedestrians and cyclists.

Sidewalks and park paths are unified in a hierarchy of connections through the parks. **Primary paths** are made up of sidewalks following the major roads and multi-use paths forming non-vehicular east-west connections. **Sidewalks and paths** knit together the primary paths, forming loops throughout the park to provide a variety of interconnected pathways for walking, running, or biking. Specialty trails offer unique experiences in the parks; nature **trails,** and harborwalks offer park users an intimate experience with nature and the water, while bridle paths continue the legacy of horseback riding in the parks.

The Framework Plan includes four new **underpasses.** In addition to the existing connections, the proposed underpasses facilitate better connectivity and safety. An underpass at Hayes Drive and Lake Shore Drive connects the 63rd Street Beach, to the East Meadow and Inner Harbor while accommodating a free-flowing right-hand turn from Lake Shore Drive onto Hayes Drive. At the intersection of 63rd Street, Hayes Drive, and Cornell Drive a new underpass provides a continuous connection for the multi-use path. New underpasses at 67th Street and South Shore Drive, and mid-block on Jeffery Avenue allow for safe connections for all park users, including pedestrians, cyclists, and golfers.

The function of roads has changed since the early designs of the South Lakefront, and as the needs of the parks and streets evolve they must balance traffic concerns with park functions. Lake Shore Drive (US 41) weaves through Jackson Park and continues along the bounding

edge of South Shore Cultural Center as South Shore Drive. Changes proposed include widening Lake Shore Drive by one southbound lane from 57th Street to Hayes Drive. Portions of Cornell Drive and Marquette Drive are proposed to be closed with multi-use trails for walking and biking connections. Stony Island Avenue and Hayes Drive would also see changes with the proposed roadway improvements.

**Parking** close to areas of activities bolsters successful park spaces. Stewarding beautiful parks requires balancing spaces for cars with spaces for people and nature. The Framework Plan gives careful consideration to parking, outlining locations for additional parking and reconfiguration of existing lots to increase parking needed by park users. Continued collaboration with transit operators can offset the need for parking through a diversity of mobility options to serve the parks.

#### **PROGRAM ELEMENTS**



**Regional Bike Trail** 5.3 miles



**Sidewalks & Paths** 18.9 miles



**Nature Trails** 2.7 miles



New Underpasses

#### RECOMMENDATIONS FOR CONNECTIVITY

1 Implement lakefront trail separation.

Relieve pinch points of the Lakefront Trail to accommodate better trail alignment for safety and enjoyment of trail users.

#### Create a hierarchy of paths.

Use intuitive wayfinding through path hierarchy and paving materials to build clarity to park circulation.

Integrate signage and wayfinding.

Locate interpretive signage for history and nature, and wayfinding throughout the park.

Construct new underpasses to improve safety and connectivity.

New underpasses will seamlessly link areas of high activity across streets.

Emphasize park gateways.

Incorporate signage, artwork, and open space design to highlight the gateways, identified by primary entry points from all means of connectivity.

Provide specialty trails for a diversity of park experiences.

Provide nature trails, harborwalks, and bridle paths to invite a broad array of users and provide different experiences for park visitors.

Integrate streets and parking lots into the landscape.

Incorporate streets and parking lots into comfortable, safe, and beautiful park spaces with walkways, signage, and plantings.

Provide parking close to areas of activity.

Locate dispersed parking lots close to areas of high activity to minimize the distance from parking to park destinations, improving user experience.

9 Encourage multi-modal access.

Strategically incorporate recent and growing transportation modes—bikeshare nodes, rideshare drop-off points—to create better internal park connections, and complement and promote transit and pedestrian travel to the park.

Design spaces that are safe, comfortable, and accessible for everyone.

Projects in the parks are subject to review and compliance with best practices for universal accessibility.

Strengthen urban connections by positioning the park for future generations.

Continue to incorporate innovations that can deliver connectivity and urban mobility, including WiFi in the parks, bikeshare infrastructure and app-based rideshare accommodations such as geo-fencing and clear ride share pick-up/drop-off locations.





"Increased access to the lakeshore and sanctuaries for bikes."

> "Please consider safe access for pedestrians/ kids crossing Stony Island it's a big road!"

#### **SERVE THE COMMUNITY INSPIRE THE WORLD**

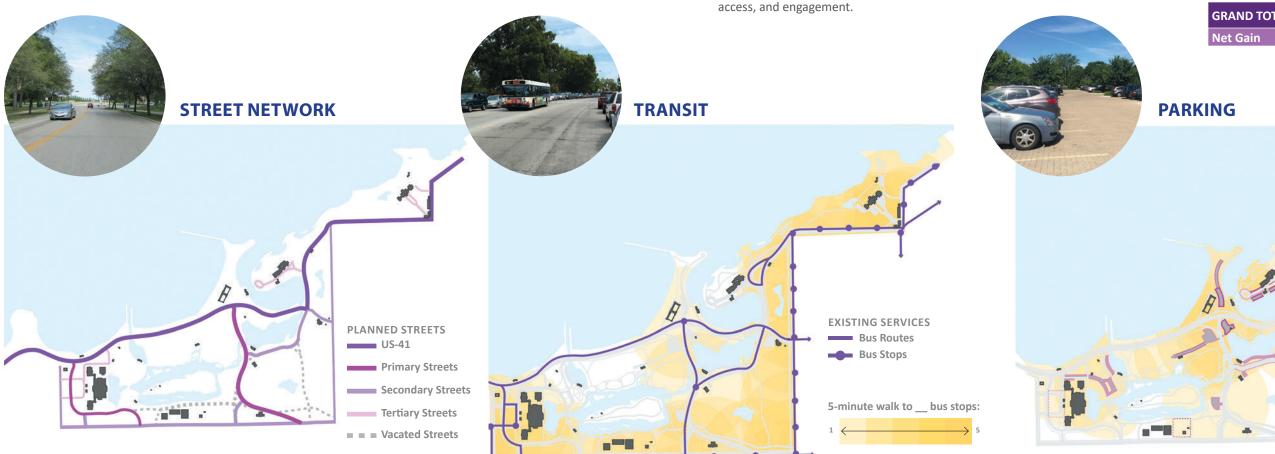
Strengthen connections within the parks and with the community through improved programming, access, and engagement.

#### **RENEW & MAINTAIN PARK LEGACY**

Leverage infrastructure improvements and catalytic projects to springboard the parks to another century of greatness.

OFF-STREET PARKING	EXISTING CONDITIONS	FRAMEWORK PLAN
MSI East	85	85
Music Court	215	215
Bowling Green	4	0
Tennis & Dog Park	20	0
East Meadow (Driving Range)	20	80
Hayes & Lake Shore	205	205
63rd Street Beach	150	320
Hayes & Cornell	180	160
Golf: Cecil Partee	20	40
Golf: Pavilion	-	180
Boat Launch	-	90
La Rabida Peninsula	220	340
Promontory Drive Lot	99	200
Promontory Drive	121	140
South Shore Cultural Center	260	300
TOTAL	1599	2355
Net Gain		756
PASSHOLDER PARKING	EXISTING CONDITIONS	FRAMEWORK PLAN
59th Street Harbor	80	90
Inner Harbor	65	65
Outer Harbor	75	150
TOTAL	220	305
Net Gain		85

GRAND TOTAL	1819	2660
Net Gain		841



NEW OR IMPROVED Parking Lot On-Street Parking Underground Garage

**EXISTING** 

Parking Lot

On-Street Parking

Underground Garage

5-minute walk to \_\_ parking lots:





#### **CULTURE & HISTORY SUMMARY**

The framework plan builds on the legacy of serving contemporary park users while respecting a fabric of historically significant cultural, recreational, and natural landscapes.

Historic buildings and institutions contribute to the cultural value of the parks and attract visitors from near and far.

#### **CULTURAL INSTITUTIONS**

Jackson and South Shore parks are home to several noteworthy cultural destinations. The Museum of Science and Industry occupies a building from the Columbian Exposition. Its exhibits and events attracted 1.5 million visitors in 2016.

The Obama Presidential Center, in design at the time of this planning process, will bring a new influx of visitors from around the globe while bolstering the local community.

The South Shore Cultural Center hosts classes in the arts and cooking, holds performances and concerts, serves as a hub for the local community, and is a popular wedding and event venue.

The Osaka Garden on Wooded Island is another historic treasure that dates to the Columbian Exposition and continues a longlasting relationship with Japan. The plan looks to foster connections with its cultural institutions, continuing the legacy of cultural destinations and balanced activity in the parks. A detailed action plan for Osaka Garden lists desired improvements to the perimeter fence and main gate, tea house, plantings, lighting,

gardens, shoreline, and arched bridge as well as adding interpretative elements, and staff for security and education.

#### **HISTORIC BUILDINGS & STRUCTURE**

The South Lakefront parks are home to many historic buildings, structures, and objects. The buildings include many small comfort stations, the Iowa Pavilion, Cecil Partee, the 9th Hole Golf Shelter /Burnham Building, and the 63rd Street Beach House. Historic structures include the Promontory Drive (La Rabida) seawall and the six bridges in Jackson Park. On-going preventative maintenance of these structures will ensure their longevity. The **Statue of the Republic,** the Osaka Torii Gate, and a few specific lamp posts and lanterns comprise the historic objects.

The plan integrates these objects and structures into a cohesive landscape and breathes new life into some of the historic buildings. Many of the historic comfort stations throughout the park continue to serve park users as public restrooms. Buildings such as the **Iowa Pavilion, Cecil Partee,** and the **Burnham Building** are rehabilitated to serve contemporary park users as a picnic pavilion, golf education center, and comfort station respectively. Any rehabilitation work will follow applicable state and federal review processes.

**South Shore Cultural Center** has on-going plans for building improvements. These include restoring the outdoor theater, pergola, balustrades, and stucco; repairing and repainting all windows and doors; repainting the dining room; repairing water damage in the

entry and lobby; repairing the roof; and replacing the north elevator and service entry doors. The Plan anticipates the implementation of these improvements. An additional facility study is recommended to assess space utilization within the building and identify potential programming.

#### **PROGRAM ELEMENTS**



**South Shore Cultural Center** 



**Coast Guard Building** Relocated, Restaurant



**Obama Presidential Center** New Museum and Grounds



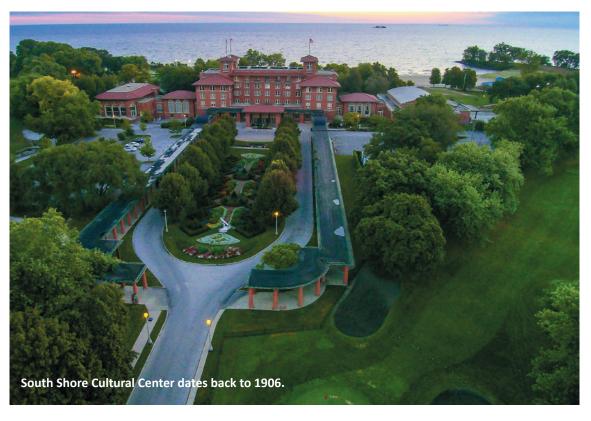
**Historic Structures** Adaptive Reuse of Burnham and Iowa Buildings

#### **SERVE THE COMMUNITY INSPIRE THE WORLD**

Serve the local community through a balance of diverse programmatic spaces: active to contemplative; athletics to arts.

#### **RENEW & MAINTAIN PARK LEGACY**

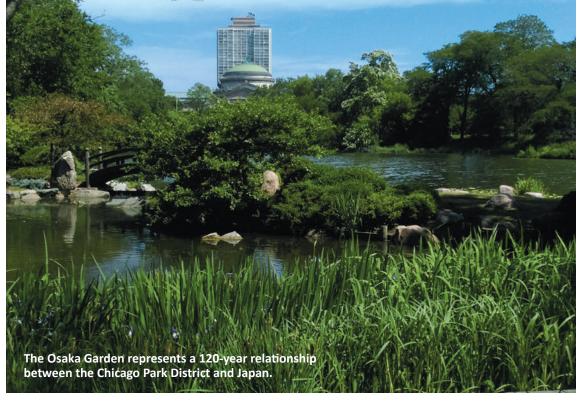
Reinvigorate the parks as a global attraction through cultural destinations and historically significant landscapes.



La Rabida Children's Hospital is another historic South Lakefront building with a unique purpose. Situated on a promontory, the building reflects infrastructure and roadways plans dating back to 1906. Much like the park it is located in, the building has evolved over time to serve the changing needs of its users while retaining its historic value. The Framework Plan seeks to embrace and enhance the functions of the institution. Improved parking on the La Rabida peninsula will better serve hospital staff, patients, and visitors, and the naturalized coastline will be designed to be sensitive to the hospital's function and security.

While the Jackson Park Maintenance Building has occupied the corner of 63rd Street and Stony Island since the 1930's, it does not serve a highest and best use for the park and its patrons. Its position at a prominent park gateway could be better utilized through adaptive reuse or demolition of the building to make way for more flexible lawn. The proposal to remove the building in favor of open lawn space received community support. This open space would provide an offset to the reduction in field space from the golf course redevelopment. The future use or demolition of this building should be carefully studied, and any subsequent work completed in accordance with state and federal review processes.

The Coast Guard Building, dating back to the early 1900s, sits near the mouth of Jackson Outer Harbor. This location has limited its adaptive reuse potential due to lack of parking and access for deliveries and operations. Vehicles serving the building often park on the Lakefront Trail, obstructing recreational users. The plan suggests relocating the Coast Guard Building, moving it a few hundred feet to be closer to 63rd Street Beach. This move would locate the building closer to parking and areas of activity. It would relieve a pinch point for the Lakefront Trail, allowing for a greater separation of bicycle and pedestrian trails. This relocation would still preserve the building's historic legacy as a guardian of the mouth of the Outer Harbor, but better positions the building for successful adaptive reuse to serve the community moving forward.



#### **NATURAL LANDSCAPES**

The landscape of Jackson Park is itself a noteworthy historic and cultural asset. Frederick Law Olmsted selected and designed the site for the 1893 Columbian Exposition, and again in 1895 to transition from the fair grounds to an urban park. While only partially implemented, the key elements of Olmsted's design - long vistas across the landscape, large tree-lined flexible meadows for recreation, and a celebration of the lakefront, lagoons, harbor, and basin- have been a consistent component in the historic development of the park. The role of these historic design elements will continue to guide this living landscape as it evolves to meet the contemporary needs of its users. Future projects should be selected and located to preserve and maintain areas of high historical integrity to continue the design inspiration and legacy of Jackson Park.

The landscape of **South Shore Cultural Center** is the product of a different design intent, reflecting its history as a private club turned public park and community center. The building architecture and site design represent a highly formal core of carefully framed open spaces surrounded by a more informal golf landscape of turf lawns and trees. Continuity with this design aesthetic will sustain the park's history while also supporting evolution to better serve contemporary users.



#### **HISTORIC SIGNIFICANCE**

Jackson Park plays a role in Chicago that is very typical of significant historic sites in the United States. It is listed on the U.S. National Register of Historic Places and continues to provide a living reflection of Chicago's urban transformation as well as park trends over the past century. While much of its renowned design remains intact, its active and highly utilized public landscapes will continue to evolve over time to serve the changing needs and priorities of park users and the surrounding community. This plan seeks to balance the park's historic significance while striving for forward-looking strategies to ensure its legacy as an active, living landscape serving its community.

#### **RENEW & MAINTAIN PARK LEGACY**

Draw on historic use, character, and design philosophy to inform the future.

#### **STEWARD ENVIRONMENTAL INTEGRITY & BEAUTY**

Integrate buildings and landscapes to shape beautiful parks that provide an enhanced quality of life for their users.

# View Locations

#### **RECOMMENDATIONS FOR CULTURAL DESTINATIONS**

Welcome the Obama **Presidential Center.** 

> Integrate the Obama Presidential Center with Jackson Park to create a cohesive, continuous park environment to serve the local community and worldwide visitors.

Foster relationships with cultural institutions in the parks.

> Collaborate with institutions in the park for indoor/outdoor programming.

Conduct a facility study for the **South Shore Cultural Center.** 

> Utilize the facility study to identify ways to strengthen cultural and arts programming.

Implement the planned construction improvements for **South Shore Cultural Center.** 

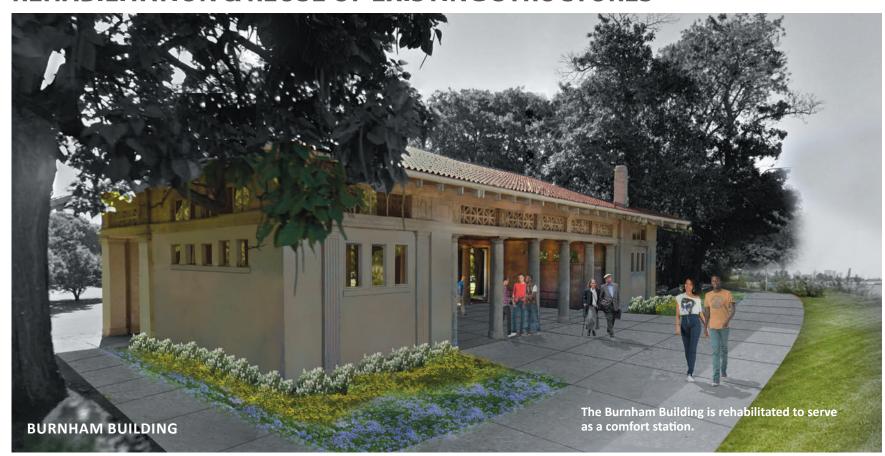
> As funding is allocated, implement the planned interior and exterior improvements to ensure longevity of the structure.

**Relocate Coast Guard Building.** Facilitate adaptive reuse of the Coast Guard Building by locating closer to parking and park activities near the 63rd Street Beach.

- Activate the Iowa Pavilion as a picnic pavilion.
- Continue improvements to the Osaka Garden.

On-going maintenance and improvements outlined in the Osaka Garden detailed action plan will continue a world-class cultural experience and century-long relationship with Japan.

## REHABILITATION & REUSE OF EXISTING STRUCTURES





## INTEGRATING OLMSTED'S PRINCIPLES







#### **RECOMMENDATIONS FOR HISTORIC STRUCTURES & LANDSCAPES**

Recognize the role of parks as adaptive landscapes.

> Parks, as cultural landscapes, continually evolve in the way they respond to community and cultural needs. The South Lakefront Plan responds to the need to adapt over time to serve the park users.

Draw on historic use, character, and design philosophies.

> Refer to Olmsted's principles of urban park design in shaping spaces to serve the contemporary needs of the parks.

Rehabilitate and adaptively reuse existing structures.

> Embrace existing and historic structures in the parks through regular maintenance, rehabilitation, and adaptive reuse in ways that serve the community now and for the future.

Position the parks for future greatness.

> Integrate innovative strategies in landscape design, recreation, and cultural destinations to embrace the spirit of greatness established by the Columbian Exposition and continue the legacy of the parks.

Consider development of a **Cultural Landscape Report** for the parks.

> A Cultural Landscape Report (CLR) documents the history, existing conditions, and historically significant landscapes and offers recommendations for future treatment.

> Proposed changes in the parks should be evaluated in the context of the CLR to understand potential adverse effects and determine the appropriate preservation, restoration, rehabilitation, or reconstruction strategies in accordance with the U.S. Department of the Interior standards.

**Consider updating the existing National Register Nomination.** 

**Consult with the State Historic** Preservation Officer (SHPO).

> Work with the SHPO regarding changes to park landscapes, buildings, structures, or objects.

IMPROVED SEPARATION LAKEFRONT TRAIL • ADDITIONAL WATER RECREATION • IMPROVED PLAYING FIELDS CONTEMPORARY HARBORS • WORLD CLASS CULTURAL DESTINATIONS • RICH HISTORY • INTERCONNECTED WATER

+13
ACRES NATURAL AREA

380
HARBOR SLIPS

+16.5
ACRE PARK VIA LAKEFILL

20
PICNIC GROVES

258
MILES TRAILS & SIDEWALKS



# **JACKSON PARK NORTH**



The illustrative plan demonstrates how the many program elements come together in the physical bounds of the parks. The systems of recreation, water and ecology, connectivity, and culture and history are intertwined, each contributing to the cohesive whole of Jackson Park and South Shore Cultural Center. These enlarged views of the plan give a closer look at the composition of the future of the parks shaped through the Framework Plan.

#### **PROGRAM ELEMENTS**



#### **Picnicking**

6 Picnic groves Existing: 5 picnic groves



#### **Bowling Green**

2 Lawn bowling/croquet greens 8 Pickleball courts



#### **59th Street Harbor**

New harbor building at to serve yacht club and community Repaired breakwall Water taxi dock



#### Lagoon

Boardwalk connecting Bobolink Meadow to the Lagoon



#### **Columbia Basin**

Deepen for paddle boats and fishing Existing: Seasonally stocked fishing



# Museum of Science & Industry Lawn

Hosts Special Events
Existing: Lawn is host for
Bike the Drive



#### Multi-Use Path

Ped/Bike trail connection across Darrow Bridge



# Play Areas

1 Play Area 1 Splash Pad Existing: 1 play area





Existing program elements



# **JACKSON PARK CENTRAL**

#### **PROGRAM ELEMENTS**



#### Picnicking

7 Picnic groves Existing: 4 picnic groves



#### Football/Soccer Fields

Existing: 5 fields



#### **Driving Range**

370 yards



#### Dog Park

At Inner harbor Existing: on tennis courts



#### **Ball Diamonds**

3 Senior Diamonds Existing: 2 senior, 6 junior



#### Track & Field

400m Track and Multi-Sport Turf

Existing: 400m Track and Turf Football Field



#### **Natural Area**

Expanded Bobolink Meadow and new living shoreline natural areas



#### **Lagoon Connection**

Bayou connection with islands



#### Multi-Use Path

Ped/Bike trail west of lagoon



#### Underpass

2 underpasses along Hayes Drive



#### **Play Areas**

1 Play Areas



#### **Tennis Courts**

9 Courts Existing: 20 courts



#### **Basketball Courts**

4 Courts Existing: 4 courts



#### **Field House**

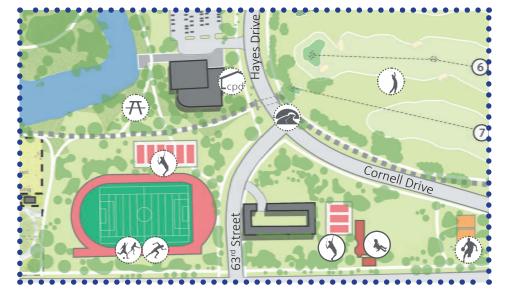
Renovate in place; site for potential new construction



# **Obama Presidential Center**

Museum & Grounds

#### **Alternate: New Field House**





# **JACKSON PARK HARBORS**



#### **PROGRAM ELEMENTS**



#### Picnicking

2 Picnic groves Existing: 1 picnic groves



#### Dog Park

Adjacent to Inner harbor Existing: on tennis courts





#### **Inner Harbor**

125 Slips + Dock for Rentals Non-motorized Craft share the water Existing: 149 slips



#### **Outer Harbor**

130 Slips + Dock for Transients and Fuel Improved Wave and sediment protection Expanded parking Existing: 92 slips



#### **Natural Area**

Naturalized lagoon edges and increased natural area; new nature sanctuary at 63rd Street Beach



#### Coastline

Nature-based coastline with rubble breakwater to form habitat beaches Lakefill at 63<sup>rd</sup> Street Beach



#### **Coast Guard Building**

Relocated along harbor mouth



#### **Lakefront Trail**

Improved separation of Lakefront Trail



#### Underpass

1 on Jeffery, 1 at 67th Street & South Shore Drive



#### Fishing

2 Fishing Locations Existing: 1 fishing location



#### Harborwalk

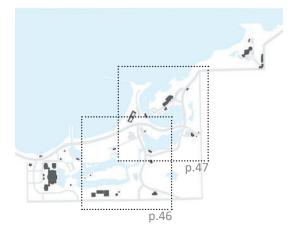
Publicly-accessible promenade along Inner and Outer Harbors



New program elements



Existing program elements



# **JACKSON PARK SOUTH**

#### **PROGRAM ELEMENTS**





#### **Golf Course**



Combined 18-hole course 7,161 yards, Par 70

Teaching facility & short course at Cecil Partee Pavilion building on Jeffery Avenue Existing: 18-hole course & 9-hole course



#### **Natural Area**

Natural area integrated into the course



#### Park Paths

Trail through golf course at Marquette alignment Walking path around golf course perimeter



#### Multi-Use Trail

Off-street ped/bike trail connecting to Stony Island



#### **Play Areas**

2 Play Areas Existing: 2 play areas



**Underpass at Jeffrey** 



# **SOUTH SHORE CULTURAL CENTER**



#### **PROGRAM ELEMENTS**



#### Picnicking

4 Picnic groves Existing: 4 picnic groves



#### **Natural Area**

Nature sanctuary wetlands and dune habitat New natural area integrated with golf course



#### **Park Paths**

Trail through golf course at to Cultural Center



#### **Lakefront Trail**

Enhanced Lakefront Trail separation



#### Underpass

1 at 67<sup>th</sup> Street & South Shore Drive



#### **South Shore Cultural Center**

Implement planned renovations Conduct space planning study





#### **Golf Course**

Combined 18-hole course 7,161 yards, Par 70 Teaching facility & short course at Cecil Partee Pavilion building on Jeffery Avenue Existing: 18-hole course & 9-hole course



#### Play Areas

1 Nature Play Area



#### **Beach House**

New beach house



New program elements



Existing program elements



# implementation

This Framework Plan serves as a guide to future development in Jackson Park and South Shore Cultural Center. The Plan looks forward to the next 10 or more years of the parks. It anticipates that changes will be implemented over time; some projects will begin sooner than others that may come years into the future. This plan establishes the community's collective vision for the future of the parks and provides a method of evaluating changes through the guiding principles.

Projects will be implemented as funding becomes available. At that point, each individual project will proceed with design and any applicable local, state, or federally mandated review processes. Design of a specific project may vary from what is shown in the illustrative plan for the framework, but will be weighed against the principles to make sure they are in alignment with the Plan. As any design evolves, the Park District will continue to engage with the community.

While the Framework Plan does not identify funding, it does include design elements that align with potential funding sources. The plan's systems of Recreation, Water and Ecology, Connectivity, and Culture and History also reflect potential funding sources. Recommendations identified under Water and Ecology may coordinate with U.S. Army Corps of Engineer (USACE) initiatives. For example, the USACE Great Lakes Restoration Initiative (GLRI) aligns funding to plan, design, and construct restoration projects in the Great Lakes watershed. Elements of the Framework Plan, such as the living shoreline and nature-based coastline reflect this type of project. Recommendations captured in Culture and History may be applicable for grants from the US Department of the Interior.

The Plan recommendations, grouped by system, provide a holistic guide for Jackson and South Shore parks. The Plan does not outline a specific schedule for phasing each change. Rather, implementation of any single recommendation may trigger others from the interconnected systems. In this way the Plan's systems provide strategies for comprehensively achieving the principles and making the vision a reality.

#### LIST OF ALL THE RECOMMENDATIONS

#### RECREATION RECOMMENDATIONS

- **1** Build upon the existing success of picnic groves.
- 2 Maintain unprogrammed areas in the parks.
- 3 Integrate passive and active use spaces.
- 4 Provide restrooms close to areas of activities.
- **5** Accommodate larger special events.
- **6** Provide quality facilities to maximize playing time.
- **7** Group recreation facilities along Stony Island to allow for easy access from the schools and neighborhoods.
- 8 Renovate the Field House; or alternate option to build new.
- **9** Design the track and field to accommodate a multi-sport turf field.
- **10** Co-locate lawn bowling/croquet and pickle ball.
- 11 Create a baseball/softball field complex in meadow near Hayes Drive.
- 12 Combine the Jackson and South Shore courses to create one 18-hole course that meets contemporary levels of safety and play standards.
- **13** Integrate biodiversity throughout the golf course.
- **14** Create visual and physical community connections.
- **15** Locate golf facilities strategically to serve the golf course and the community.
- **16** Keep the golf course accessible to Chicago residents and vouth.

#### **WATER & ECOLOGY RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 1 Re-introduce paddle boats on the Columbia Basin.
- 2 Right-size the Inner Harbor for anticipated demands.
- **3** Embrace a diversity of boating on the Inner Harbor with recreational amenities and educational opportunities.
- 4 Expand the Outer Harbor to accommodate on-going growth. Provide expanded parking on lakefill adjacent to docks.
- **5** Construct new harbor building at Museum Shores Yacht Club.
- 6 Provide secure access for yacht clubs, opportunities for rental or transient docks. and access for the whole community to engage with the water.
- 7 Create publicly accessible harborwalks.
- **8** Provide boardwalks and bridges on the lagoon.
- **9** Provide well-rounded beach destinations.
- 10 Build a new beach house at South Shore Cultural Center.
- **11** Support the fishing community.
- 12 Build new lakefill at the 63rd Street Beach/ mouth of the Outer Harbor to minimize wave action and sedimentation in the harbors.
- 13 Create habitat beaches along the La Rabida peninsula coastline.

- **14** Enhance natural areas to provide measurable sustainable performance benefits.
- **15** Add native plant communities to provide critical habitat while increasing natural area acreage in the parks.
- **16** Manage and treat stormwater through natural green infrastructure systems.
- 17 Increase green infrastructure capacity to slow, hold and filter stormwater runoff before it enters Lake Michigan.
- **18** Create landscape features that can temporarily provide stormwater detention during heavy rain events.
- **19** Build stormwater structures as an integrated part of streets and parking lots.
- 20 Use living shoreline strategies, wetlands, and sediment ponds along the South Lakefront's bayou, lagoons, and harbor.
- **21** Expand the network of living shorelines within the parks.
- 22 Align habitat improvements with potential funding opportunities.
- 23 Protect and soften lakefront areas with nature-based shorelines.
- **24** Reconstruct the Lake Michigan coastline at South Shore Cultural Center with stone revetment.

#### **CONNECTIVITY RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 1 Implement lakefront trail separation.
- **2** Create a hierarchy of paths.
- 3 Integrate signage and wayfinding.
- **4** Construct new underpasses to improve safety and connectivity.
- **5** Emphasize park gateways.
- **6** Provide specialty trails for a diversity of park experiences.
- 7 Integrate streets and parking lots into the landscape.
- **8** Provide parking close to areas of activity.
- **9** Encourage multi-modal access.
- **10** Design spaces that are safe, comfortable, and accessible for everyone.
- **11** Strengthen urban connections by positioning the park for future generations.

#### **CULTURE & HISTORY RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 1 Welcome the Obama Presidential Center.
- **2** Foster relationships with cultural institutions in the parks.
- **3** Conduct a facility study for the South Shore Cultural Center.
- 4 Implement the planned construction improvements for South Shore Cultural Center.
- 5 Relocate Coast Guard Building.
- 6 Activate the Iowa Pavilion as a picnic pavilion.
- **7** Continue improvements to the Osaka Garden.
- **8** Recognize the role of parks as adaptive landscapes.
- **9** Draw on historic use, character, and design philosophies.
- **10** Rehabilitate and adaptively reuse existing structures.
- **11** Position the parks for future greatness.
- 12 Consider development of a Cultural Landscape Report for the parks.
- 13 Consider updating the existing National Register Nomination.
- **14** Consult with the State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO).









