

PARK 566 (USX) FRAMEWORK PLAN



CHICAGO PARK DISTRICT



MARCH 2015



This project was funded by a grant from NOAA's Office of Ocean and Coastal Resource Management, U.S. Department of Commerce and Illinois Department of Natural Resources, Coastal Management Program.



This framework plan was prepared by the Chicago Park District under award number NA12NOS4190105 from NOAA's Office of Ocean and Coastal Resource Management, U.S. Department of Commerce. The statements, findings, conclusions, and recommendations are those of the author(s) and do not necessarily reflect the views of NOAA's Office of Ocean and Coastal Resource Management or the U.S. Department of Commerce.



Hey and Associates, Inc.
Engineering, Ecology and Landscape Architecture

 **Primera**



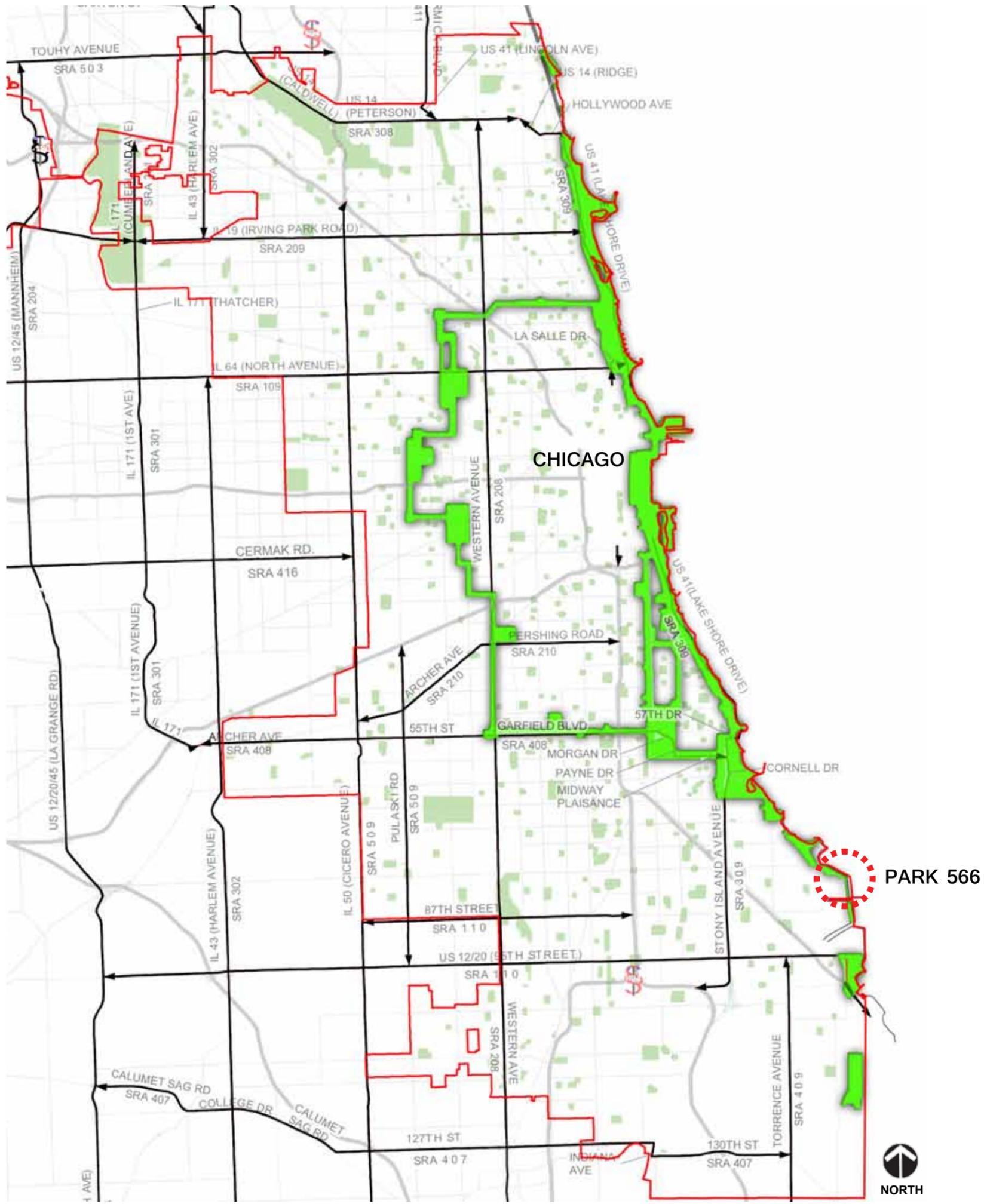


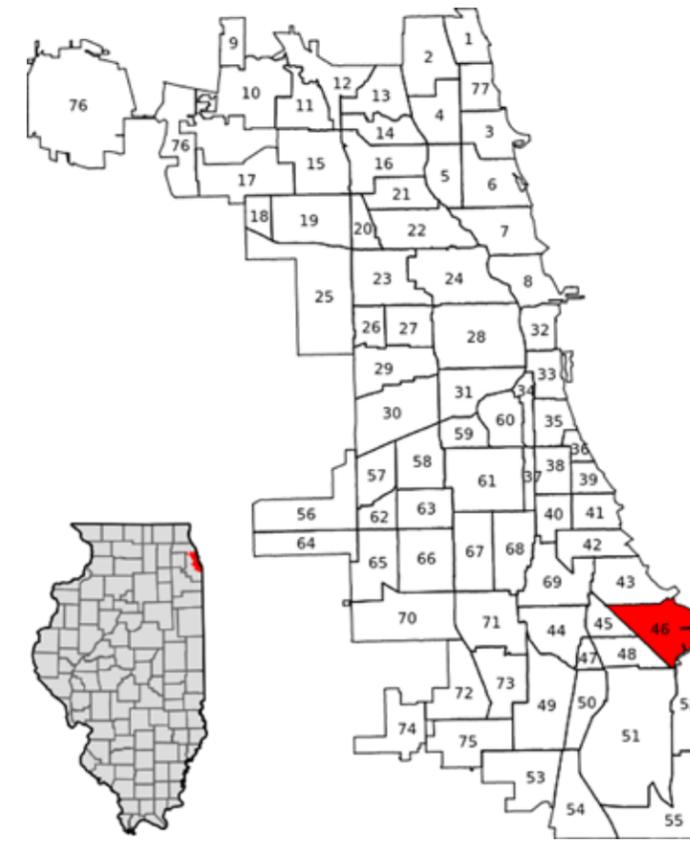
TABLE OF CONTENTS

CONTEXT	1-8
Site Location	1-2
Site History	3-4
Lakefront Parks	5
Millennium Reserve	6
Transportation Networks	7
South Lake Shore Drive	8
EXISTING CONDITIONS	9-12
Legacy of South Works	9-10
Slag	11
Soils & Vegetation	12
VISION	13-30
Community Outreach	13-14
Concept Plan	15-20
Park Elements	21-30
SPECIES LISTS	31-32
Traditional Landscape	31
Native Landscape	31-32



PARK 566

	Square Feet	Acres
Parcel 1a	187,083	4.295
Parcel 2a	481,322	11.050
Parcel 3	617,308	14.171
Parcel 4a	991,638	22.765
Parcel 4b	784,079	18.000
Total Area Surveyed	3,061,430	70.281



COMMUNITY AREA MAP OF CHICAGO
#46 - SOUTHSIDE COMMUNITY AREA





SITE HISTORY

Rolling Mill Company first opened the South Works facility in 1880. The mill eventually became U.S. Steel South Works in 1901. The placement of the mill at the mouth of the Calumet River at Lake Michigan made for easy transport of raw materials and goods. It is interesting to note that although Daniel Burnham's famous 1909 Plan of Chicago called for parkland along the lakefront, 79th Street to 95th Street – South Works – is excluded in discussions and illustrations of public open space.

South Works produced steel for decades until 1992 when it closed due to nationwide changes in the steel industry. By the late 1990's, all of the buildings that made up South Works were demolished.

1880:

Rolling Mill Company opened the South Works facility. Originally outside Chicago's city limits, the site was annexed by Chicago in 1899.

1958:

The mill produced steel that built America's roads, bridges, skyscrapers and cities. In its prime, the mill employed 20,000 people. Generations of South Chicago families grew up in the shadows of the mills, benefitting from the jobs and economic activity generated by the steel industry until the late 1970s and 1980s when steel mills throughout the area began to close.

1901:

After 21 years of operation under the Rolling Mill Company, South Works was acquired by U.S. Steel and grew to be the largest producer of structural steel in the world.

1992:

U.S. Steel at South Works closes their mill due to changes in market forces and technology affecting the entire U.S. steel industry.



“The Lake front by right belongs to the people. It affords their one great unobstructed view, stretching away to the horizon, where water and clouds seem to meet. No mountains or high hills enable us to look over broad expanses of the earth’s surface; and perforce we must come even to the margin of the Lake for such a survey of nature.” – Daniel Burnham

Historical Timeline information obtained from chicagolakesidedevelopment.com.

1997:

More than 100 buildings that once stood on the site were demolished. The closure of this plant and other industries had a devastating impact on the communities of South Chicago.

2004-2007:

Chicago Lakeside Development, LLC, formed by McCaffery interests and U.S. Steel, acquires the site and creates a master plan with SOM, Sasaki Associates and Antunovich Associates.

The Mud-to-Parks program also began the land restoration process by providing topsoil to cover 17 acres of slag.

2010:

The City of Chicago approves Chicago Lakeside Master Plan, proposed by McCaffery Interests and U.S. Steel. The plan includes Phase 1, which calls for the development for residential and business units. The city also approves the Lakefront Protection Ordinance and RDA and TIF Financing (98M) for Phase 1.

1999:

In April 1998, Skidmore, Owings & Merrill LLP and the City of Chicago led a team of planners, community leaders, and concerned individuals in the creation of a vision document to plan for the future of the historic South Works site. The design called for a new lakeside community providing housing, services, economic activities, and open spaces for Southeast Chicago residents. Building upon that vision, in February 1999, the City of Chicago issued *From Steeltown to Hometown: A New Era for South Chicago & South Works*, which presented a framework for future development.

2015:

The Chicago Park District (CPD) is working with Hey and Associates to develop a framework plan for Park 566.

LAKEFRONT PARKS



Dune Habitat - Rainbow Beach Park



Rainbow Beach Fieldhouse



Concrete Ore Walls - Steelworkers Park

Officially named as Steelworkers Park by the Chicago Park District Board of Commissioners in 2014, the park provides a first step towards redeveloping the South Works property and completing a continuous lakefront park network.

RAINBOW BEACH PARK

Located in the South Chicago neighborhood just north of Park 566, Rainbow Beach and Park totals 60.98 acres and features a gymnasium, fitness center and multipurpose rooms, handball courts, beach, athletic fields, trails, and one of the oldest community gardens in Chicago.

A natural area located at the southeast end of the beach includes 9.18 acres of dune habitat.

In 2013, the Park District partnered with the Illinois Institute of Technology and the University of Illinois at Chicago to install a prototype stormwater filter to clean the rainwater that washes off of the parking lot onto the beach.



Rainbow Beach Park

STEELWORKERS PARK

In 2002, the Chicago Park District acquired a 16.5-acre site in the South Chicago community just south of Park 566. Previously part of the US Steel Complex known as South Works, the site was recently transformed into an attractive landscape with natural areas, trees, walking paths and exquisite views of Lake Michigan. The property is edged by remnant elements of the steel industry, most notably a series of enormous concrete ore walls as shown above.



Steelworkers Park

MILLENNIUM RESERVE

In March 2013, Illinois Governor Pat Quinn appointed the Millennium Reserve Steering Committee. This group of civic, community, and business leaders galvanized efforts around opportunities of regional significance. Scores of additional partners are actively stewarding initiatives and on-the-ground projects that help realize the Millennium Reserve vision.

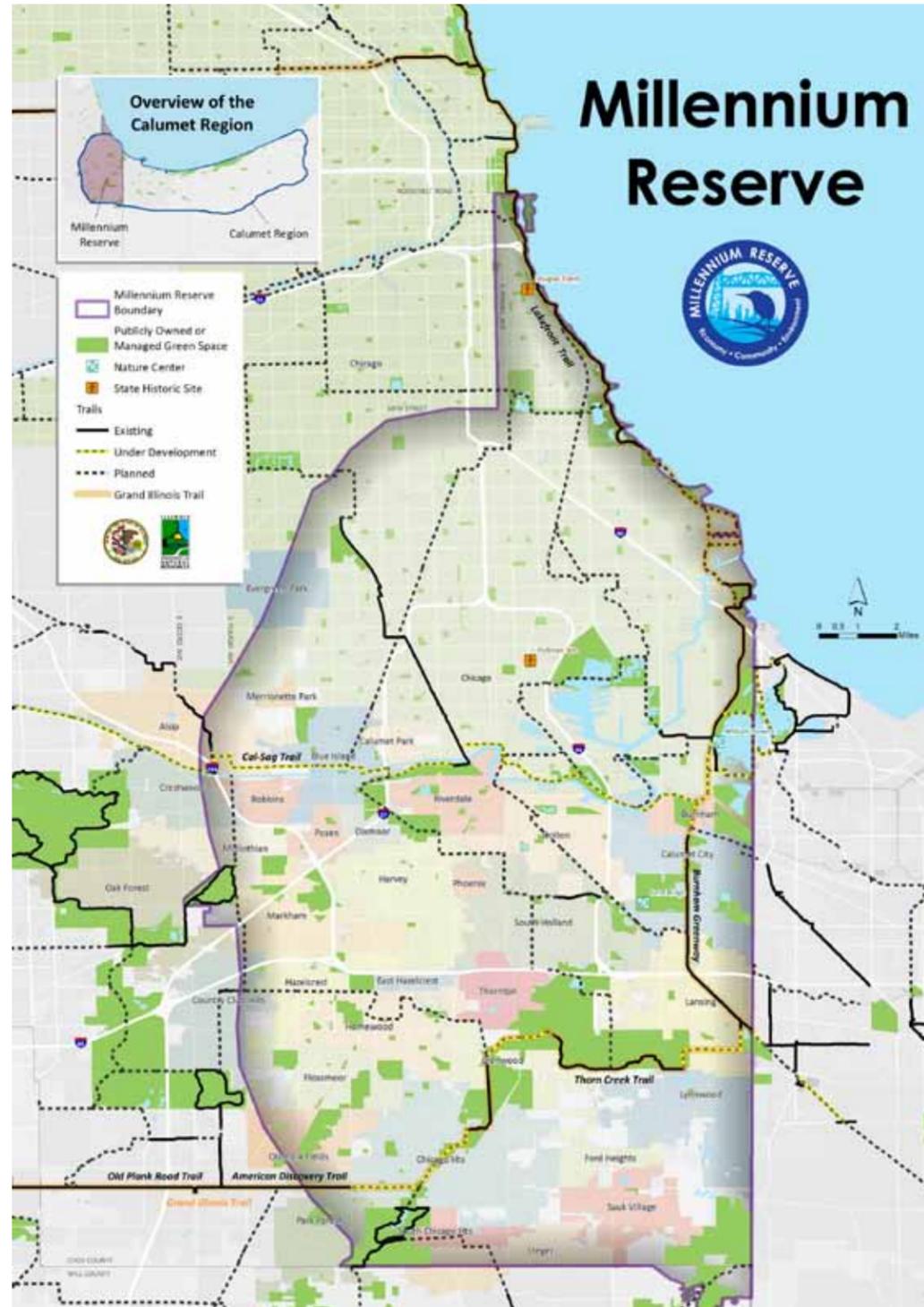
Millennium Reserve is a transforming region in the Calumet and southeast Chicago lakefront areas -- 210 square miles in all -- with thriving commerce, communities, and wildlife. Their goal is to catalyze innovative partnerships and action in the region that:

- I. Honor its cultural and industrial past;
- II. Restore and enhance the natural ecosystems;
- III. Support healthy and prosperous communities and residents; and
- IV. Stimulate vigorous and sustainable economic growth.

The Reserve recognizes that conservation and sustainable land use in urban areas are inextricably linked to healthy communities and a robust economy.



Pine Siskin



Millennium Reserve is a transforming region in the Calumet and southeast Chicago lakefront areas with thriving commerce, communities, and wildlife.

The Reserve encompasses numerous neighborhoods on Chicago's southeast side, the Southeast lakefront, and 37 south suburban municipalities.

One million residents live within the Reserve.

The Reserve includes a collection of over 15,000 acres of open space such as parks, trails, wetlands, and forest preserves. Nearly 6,000 of these acres are considered high-quality natural areas.

It also includes a barge channel, five interstate highways, five major railroads and two short-line freight railroads, and the nation's largest intermodal transportation center.

TRANSPORTATION NETWORKS



The transportation network throughout the local community includes pedestrian sidewalks, bike lanes, Metra electric rail, CTA bus service, lakefront trail, and boat launches for the Lake Michigan water trail. The different modes of transportation are intended to provide people with multiple different options of travel from a local to regional level relatively easily.

Several major roads including South Lake Shore Drive, 79th Street, 83rd Street, and 85th Street currently accommodate numerous modes of transportation and will provide important community linkages to Park 566 in the future. Metra electric rail currently services the local communities to the west and provides for the opportunity to expand service further east along South Lake Shore Drive to accommodate better access to Park 566. Future plans to expand the Metra service is incorporated into the Lakeside Development master plan.

Connection to Steelworkers Park to the south of Park 566 will require coordination with private land owners and several other agencies to either construct a bridge spanning the North Slip or circulation around the slip. This linkage connecting the two parks is highly desired throughout the local communities due to the lack of current access to Park 566. The existing 87th Street connection to Steelworkers Park provides a convenient way to access the park, but lacks any further connection to the lakefront park system.



Bike Lanes on East 83rd Street



Lake Michigan Water Trail - Rainbow Beach Park



93rd Street Metra Station





LEGACY OF SOUTHWORKS

Although today Park 566 looks like vacant land, not long ago the site was dominated by heavy industry. Much of that infrastructure remains, including building foundations, sewers, underground tunnels, roadways, and railroad tracks. Even though not always clearly visible due to the fill materials placed on site and volunteer vegetation, these reminders of the past need to be understood and accounted for in any future park development.

Like much of Chicago's present day lakefront, Park 566 is entirely man-made land. The original Lake Michigan shoreline was closer to the current location of South Lake Shore Drive. Slag, cinders, debris, and other materials were used to fill in the lakebed. Currently, there is approximately 35' of fill (15' depth of lake filled plus another 20' of land above the lake level) along the Lake Michigan shoreline at Park 566. Historic aerial photos reveal that by 1938, the site had been filled and the shoreline was in the same location it is today.



BOTTOM OF FILL CONTOUR PLAN



EXISTING CONDITIONS



Remnant Building Foundations



Remnant Rail Lines



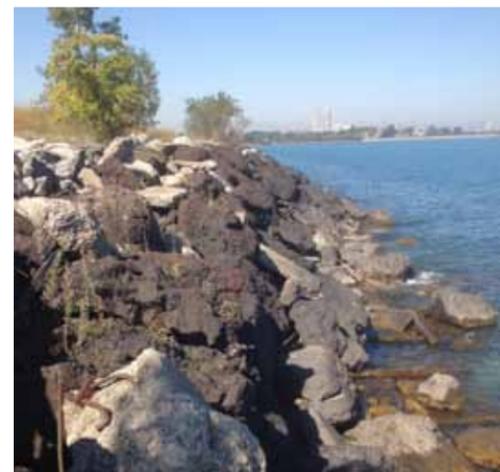
North Slip



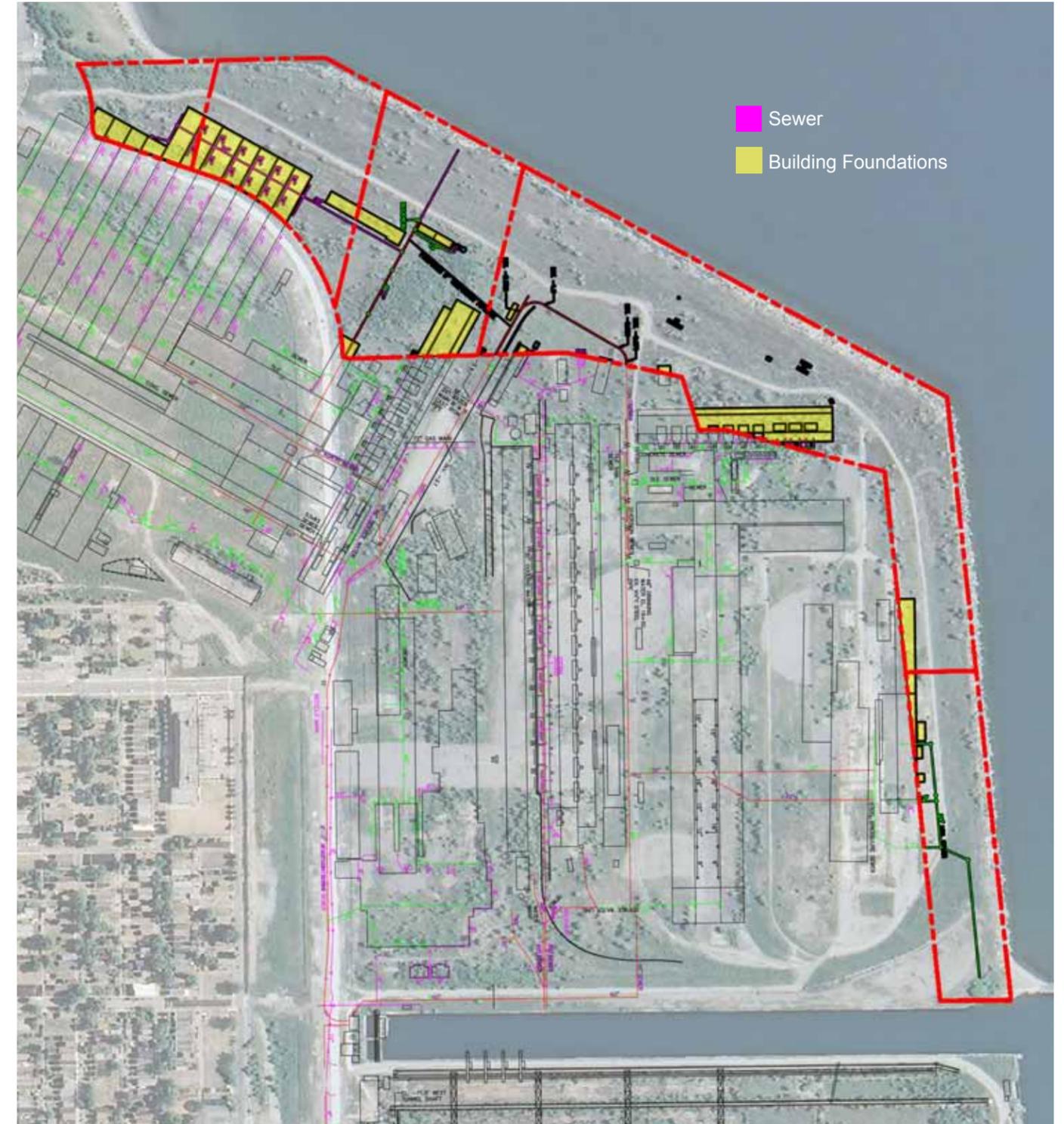
Southern Lake Access



Rubble Fill



Typical Shoreline Conditions



■ Sewer
■ Building Foundations



EXISTING UTILITIES / BUILDING FOUNDATIONS



SLAG

Much of the fill material found at Park 566 is a waste product from the production of iron and steel. Slag consists of the non-iron components found in the original raw ore, which were combined with other materials and extracted in several refining processes at the South Works mill.

The first process that created slag was smelting the raw iron ore. This involved mixing ore with limestone and coal, and then heating it until it melted. The heavy iron sank to the bottom while the lighter slag was poured off the surface as a glowing, molten material. The refined ore was known as "pig iron." A second process refined the pig iron into steel. In a furnace, pig iron was mixed with scrap steel and coke, and heated until the heavier steel sank and lighter slag again floated and was poured off.

Because slag was molten, it would take the form of whatever it was poured into or onto. After it cooled, slag was often crushed to make gravel and sold or used for other purposes. Some large chunks of slag are still visible today along the shoreline of Park 566.

Raw ore used at South Works came from two primary sources – hematite and taconite. Hematite was a mineral containing nearly pure iron oxide. Taconite was processed at the mining site into pellets containing iron oxide, silica, limestone, and clay.



Slag found along the shoreline of Park 566

SEDIMENT-DERIVED SOILS (MUD-TO-PARKS PROGRAM)

Mud to Parks, a program developed by the Illinois Department of Natural Resources, takes sediment that is choking Illinois' rivers and beneficially re-uses it where soil is needed. Some examples of past Mud to Parks projects include creation of wildlife habitat at an old strip mine in central Illinois, providing soil to cover a downstate landfill, Steelworkers Park, and Park 566.

With funding assistance from the State of Illinois, mud dredged from the bottom of Lake Peoria (a dammed up section of the Illinois River in Peoria) was transported north and spread at Park 566 and Steelworkers Park between 2004 and 2013. Covering those portions of the former South Works site that were transferred to Chicago Park District with "mud" was completed to provide soil necessary for future park development.

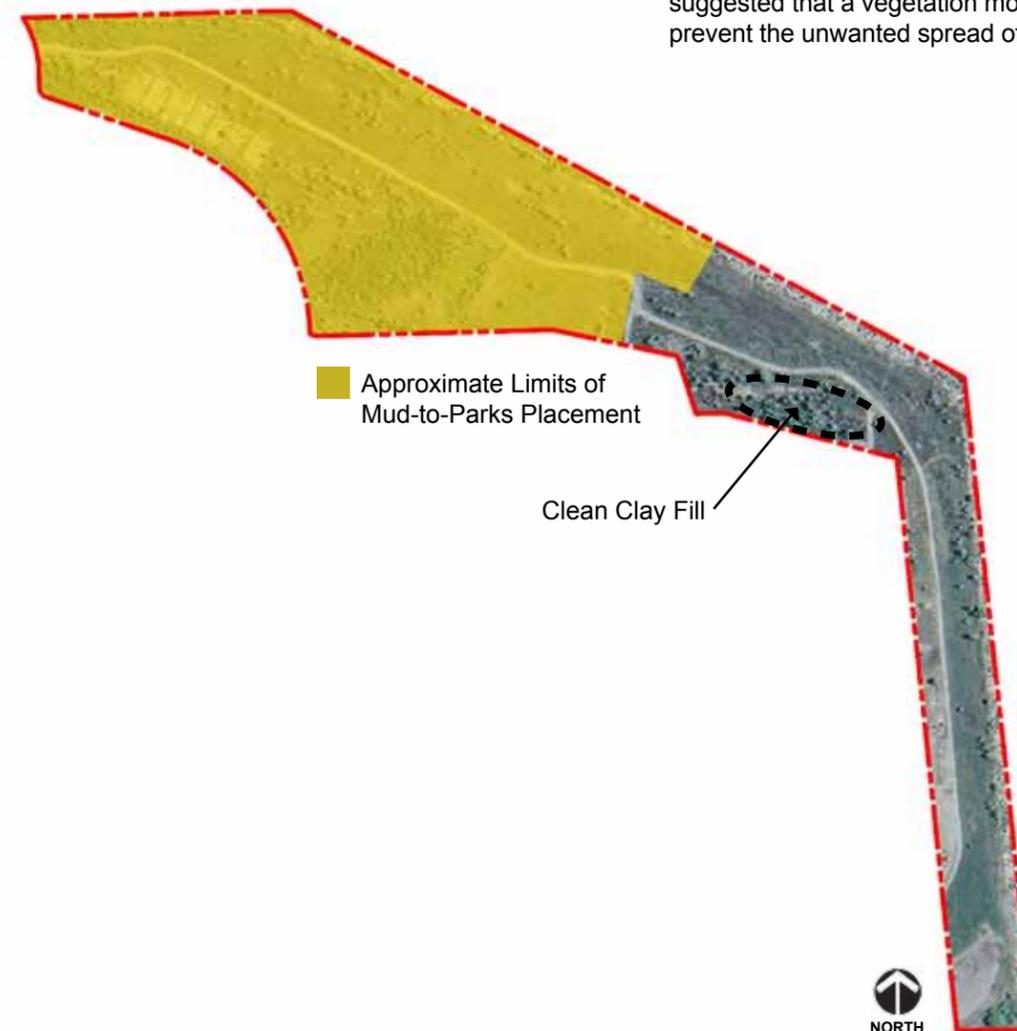
Initially the mud has very poor soil structure and is full of weed seeds. As the mud dries, it becomes very hard and develops deep cracks. Several years of tilling, cover crops, weed control, and sometimes soil amendments are often necessary to control weeds and help the mud develop into a friable, fertile soil capable of supporting desirable vegetation.



Mud-to-Parks Soil in 2014

IMPORTED CLAY FILL

Chicago Park District estimates approximately 20,000 cubic yards of clean clay overburden from sewer construction projects has been placed at Park 566. Little data is available on the clay material that has been imported. CPD has environmental data indicating that the clay is clean. Assuming it is similar to typical clays found in Chicago, this material is probably infertile and incapable of supporting desirable plant growth in its current state. The imported clay might be best used to sculpt landforms such as berms, hills, or other such topographic features on the otherwise flat Park 566 site.



VEGETATION

Cover crop and a simple native prairie grass seed mix were sown over the Lake Peoria sediment. However, only a few springs of Canada wild rye (*Elymus canadensis*) were observed along the edges during autumn 2014, probably due to heavy weed growth from the seed bank within the sediment. During plant surveys completed by the Illinois Natural History Survey, one species not previously recorded in Illinois – *Amaranthus blitum* or purple amaranth, an annual of Mediterranean origin – was documented. It is recommended that efforts are undertaken to eradicate this new species from the site as soon as possible. Because it is not known how purple amaranth will behave or what other seeds may be lying dormant in the sediment, it is also suggested that a vegetation monitoring program be started to prevent the unwanted spread of a new invasive species.

Scientists estimate more than six and a half million tons of topsoil erode off farm fields and from urban areas into the Illinois River each year. All of this sediment decreases water storage capacity, negatively affects river-based shipping and commerce, destroys fish and wildlife habitat, and impacts recreation.



Dredging in Lake Peoria



COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

During February and March of 2015, Chicago Park District hosted three meetings, aimed at developing a vision for Park 566 and to build consensus for potential use. Input, and subsequent deliberations, led to the articulation of guiding principles and recommendations. The process and outcomes of the community meetings are the focus of the remainder of the framework plan.

The first meeting the general public was invited to attend and was held at Rainbow Beach Field House, where the public gained an understanding of the site and context of Park 566. During the second meeting stakeholders further discussed and refined concepts that were discussed at the first public meeting. The third meeting once again reached out to the general public and stakeholders to present the final framework plan.

Community and stakeholder participation during the planning process was a critical component in developing a comprehensive and successful plan for Park 566.

GOALS & OBJECTIVES

- Continuous Lakefront Open Space
- Habitat Creation for Birds and other Wildlife
- Establishment of Native Plant Communities
- Representation of Industrial History
- Innovative Stormwater Management
- Passive Recreation
- A Park for People and Nature

OPPORTUNITIES & CONSTRAINTS

- Building foundations in slag
- Underground utilities in slag
- Stormwater infiltration into slag
- Slag along shoreline
- Mud-to-Parks soils
- Drainage from Lakeside
- Bird habitat

PUBLIC MEETING #1

Thursday, February 5, 2015
6:30 PM - 8:00 PM
Rainbow Beach Field House
3111 East 77th Street

Attendees:

Gregory Bratton
Paul Boyd
Ellen LaRue
Allan Lindrup
Karen Roothaan
Eric Gyllenhaal
Alison Anastasio
Christine Williamson
Melanie Moore
Geoff Williamson
Robert Bracken
Anne Holcomb
Cherie Fisher
Suellen Bierns
Kim Kreiling
Kenneth Newman
Mark Johnson
Dean Welch
John Pastirik
Robert Bracken

PUBLIC MEETING #2

Tuesday, March 3, 2015
6:30 PM - 8:00 PM
Rainbow Beach Field House
3111 East 77th Street

Stakeholder Attendees:

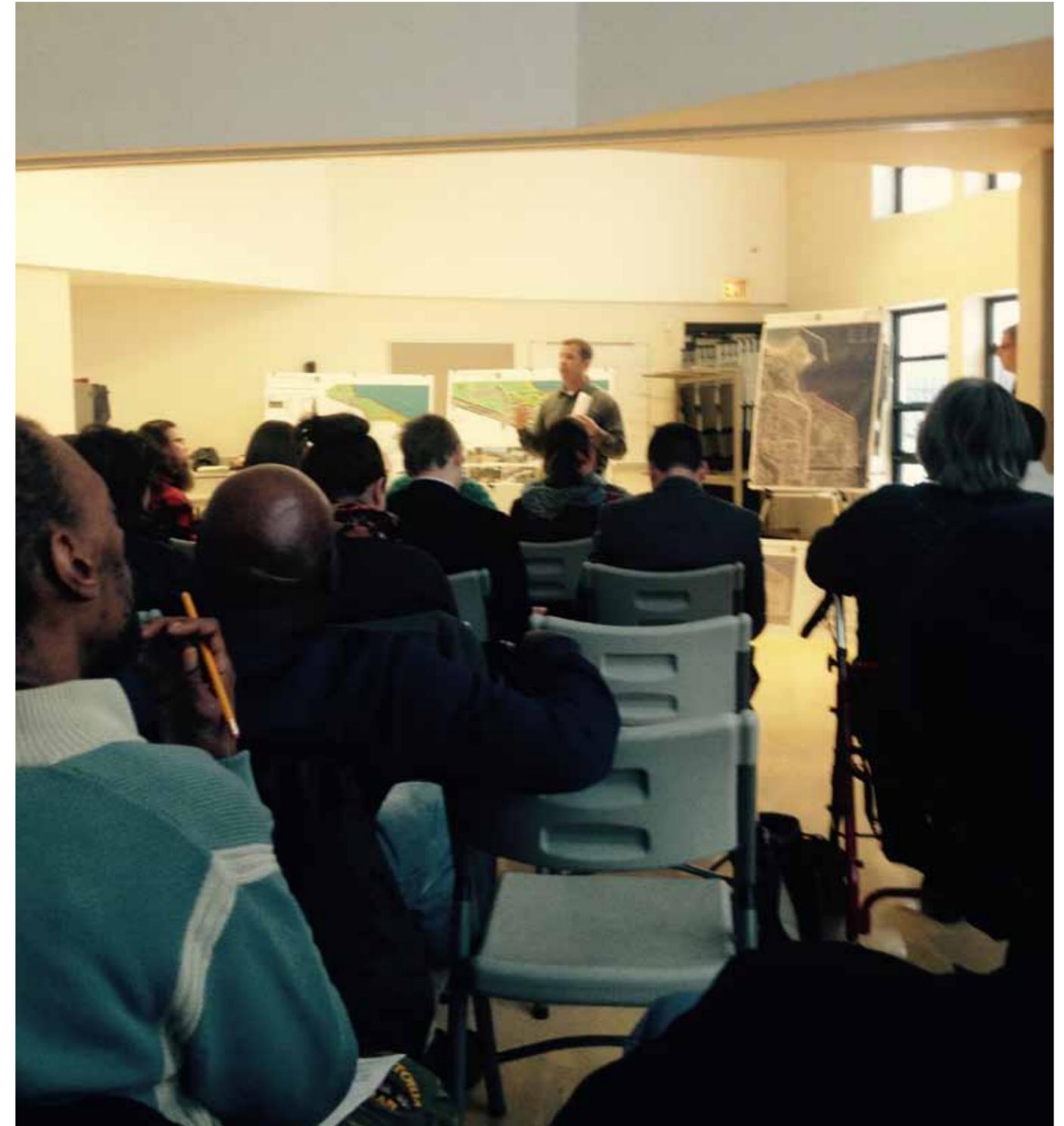
Rob Hevey
Allan Lindrup
Luis Munoz
Paul Boyd
Ellen LaRue

PUBLIC MEETING #3

Tuesday, March 24, 2015
6:30 PM - 8:00 PM
Rainbow Beach Field House
3111 East 77th Street

Attendees:

Mac Mcadoo
Rob Hevey
Fr. Wolf Werling
Jeanette Foreman
Robert Bracken
Douglas Chien
Phil Pollard
Alison Anastasio
M. Brookins
Robert Granger
L. Taylor
Robert Franklin
Madeleine Mahan
John Buenz
Eleanor Roemer
Anne Holcomb
Allan Lindrup
Suellen Burns
Kim Kreiling
Grant Crowley
Marion Brown
Aaron Jenkins
Dean Welch
Will Holland
Taylor Harrington
John Pastirik
Kenneth Newman
Brandi Harris
Lashonda Curry
Luis Munoz
Dr. Nancy E. Jackson
Judi O'Farrell
Greg Osborne
Ellen LaRue
Carrie Davis



Public Meeting, March 2015



CONCEPT PLAN

The vision of Park 566 has been developed based upon the input of the local community, numerous organizations, and the Chicago Park District through the community outreach process that occurred.

Several different factors have influenced the direction the planning process has taken and can primarily be based on the industrial history of the site. The unique history provides opportunities and constraints to overcome while planning for the future of Park 566.



Public Meeting, February 2015

The concept plan for the development of Park 566 is the result of public input gathered during the planning process. Different park components are presented in further detail on the following pages and include the following:

- Native Landscape
- Wildlife Habitat & Migratory Birds
- Multi-Purpose Open Space
- Trails
- Observation Points/Overlooks
- Nature Themed Playground
- Interpretive and Educational Signage
- Lake Michigan Access
- Fitness Stations
- Parking
- Lighting
- Stormwater Management



PROPOSED LAKESIDE LAND USE MAP

Chicago Lakeside Development, a joint venture between McCaffery Interests and U.S. Steel Corporation, is working to implement a plan to redevelop over 500 acres that were once U.S. Steel South Works. A LEED-certified, mixed-use community is envisioned. The Lakeside Master Plan was approved by the Chicago Community Development Commission in 2010. The concept plan for Park 566 incorporates future trail connections based upon proposed Lakeside land use and primary roadway connections.

- Mixed-Use Center
- Commercial Corridor
- North Slip
- Central Park
- Slip District
- Ore Wall
- Manufacturing & Innovation District
- Park/Open Space



50 Space Parking Lot

Nature Themed Playground

Overlook

Multi-Purpose Turf Open Space

Native Trees / Shrub Clusters

Fitness Station

Trail Connection to South Lake Shore Drive

Mulched Nature Trail / Educational Signage

Native Landscape

DETAIL PLAN

SCALE: 1" = 150'-0" NORTH

LAKE
MICHIGAN

- Slag Shoreline
- Mulched Nature Trail / Educational Signage
- Fitness Station
- Native Landscape
- Multi-Use Trail
- Overlook

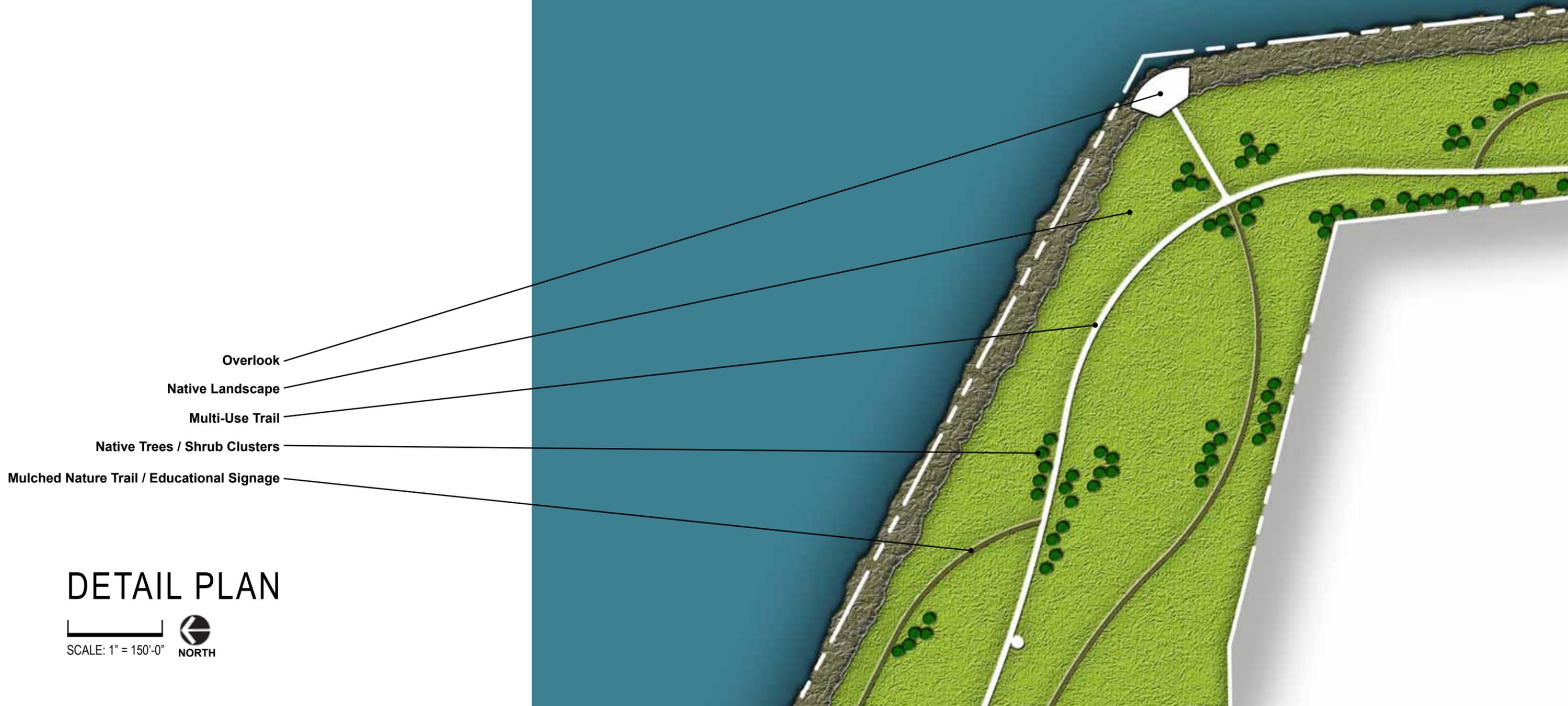
DETAIL PLAN



SCALE: 1" = 150'-0"



NORTH



Overlook

Native Landscape

Multi-Use Trail

Native Trees / Shrub Clusters

Mulched Nature Trail / Educational Signage

DETAIL PLAN

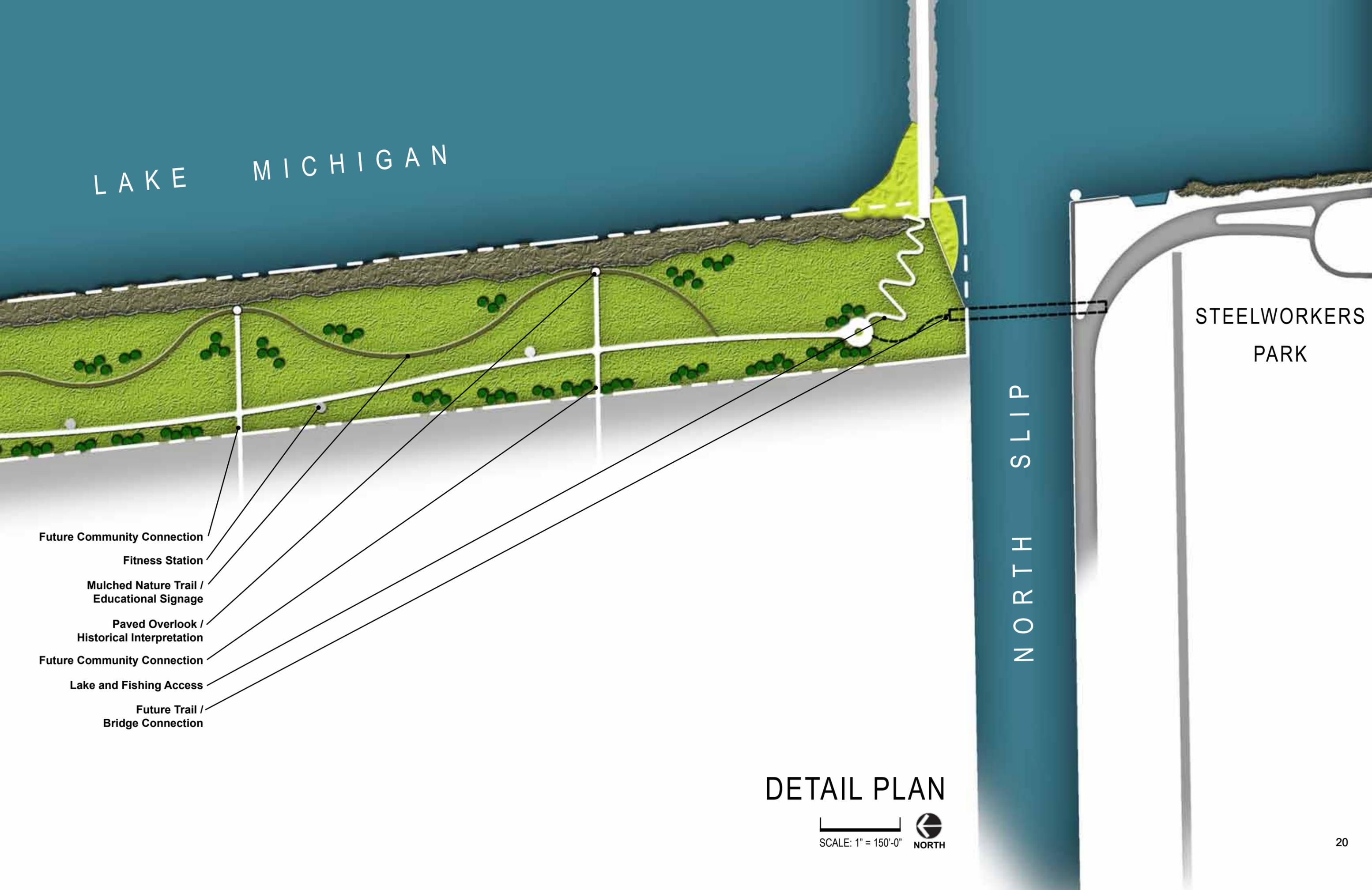


SCALE: 1" = 150'-0"



NORTH

LAKE MICHIGAN



STEELWORKERS
PARK

NORTH
SLIP

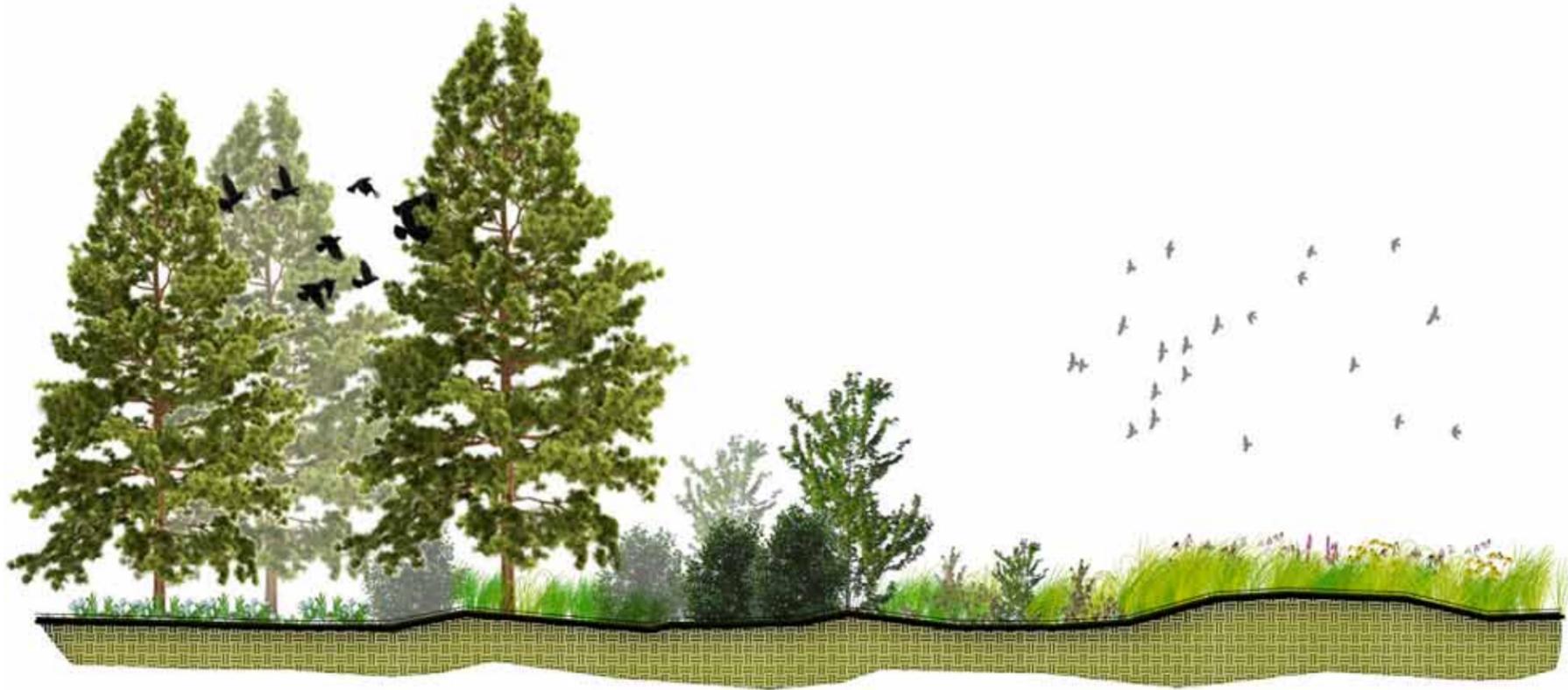
- Future Community Connection
- Fitness Station
- Mulched Nature Trail /
Educational Signage
- Paved Overlook /
Historical Interpretation
- Future Community Connection
- Lake and Fishing Access
- Future Trail /
Bridge Connection

DETAIL PLAN

SCALE: 1" = 150'-0" 

PARK ELEMENTS

NATIVE LANDSCAPE



Dolomite Prairie/Gravel Hill Prairie



Dry Prairie



Savanna

Native landscape refers to a more natural style of planting than found in traditional landscapes, and also features native plant species almost exclusively. Native landscapes are often modeled after presettlement ecosystems such as prairies, woodlands, and wetlands, but they are not necessarily attempts to restore historic conditions. While humans are welcome in native landscapes, provisions for wildlife and natural processes are often given equal weight. Although native landscapes can appear more random than their often times formal traditional landscape counterparts, native landscapes must be thoughtfully planned and designed to provide the functions and benefits for which they are intended.

Establishment of the native plant communities could begin with grass dominated seed mixes. This approach, along with a high intensity prescribed burn and aggressive weed control during the first few years, would likely reduce excess nutrients and the weed seed bank in the Lake Peoria sediments and/or imported topsoil. Diversity can be added in later years as part of an adaptive management plan.



Shrub Carr/Shrub Copse

WILDLIFE HABITAT & MIGRATORY BIRDS

Different species of wildlife have different cover preferences and varying food requirements. Providing a variety of native plants - known as species diversity - is only the beginning. Planting layers of differing vegetation heights and textures, from canopy trees to a shrubby middle story to vegetation close to the ground, including both evergreen and deciduous species, maximizes food and shelter opportunities for wildlife.

Native landscapes provide habitat for wildlife including small mammals, migratory birds, and nesting birds. Reasons native landscapes are so good at providing habitat include:

- The diversity of plant species found in native landscapes provides the complex habitat structure needed by many species of wildlife and birds.
- Native plants provide a wide variety of food sources that desirable wildlife and birds seek year round.
- Native landscapes provide migrating birds with the right kinds of foods along with sufficient shelter to protect them from predators and weather extremes while making their long and arduous journey.

Native landscapes feature a variety of native plants that not only birds rely on, but also other charismatic desirable species such as butterflies. The table lists some common butterfly species and vegetation that they rely on at different stages of their lifecycle.

Plant Species	Provides adult food for:	Provides caterpillar food for:
Milkweed (<i>Asclepias</i> spp.)	Great Spangled Fritillary Red Admiral Black Swallowtail Silver Spotted Skipper Eastern Tiger Swallowtail American Lady Painted Lady Pearl Crescent	Monarch
Bergamot (<i>Monarda</i> spp.)	Great Spangled Fritillary Cabbage White	
Composites (<i>Ratibida</i> spp., <i>Silphium</i> spp., <i>Aster</i> spp., <i>Solidago</i> spp., <i>Rudbeckia</i> spp., <i>Echinacea</i> spp., and others)	Silver Spotted Skipper Monarch Cabbage White Viceroy Pearl Crescent American Lady Painted Lady Eastern Tailed-blue Red Admiral Great Spangled Fritillary	Pearl Crescent Painted Lady
Willow (<i>Salix</i> spp.)		Mourning Cloak Viceroy Eastern Tiger Swallowtail
Oak (<i>Quercus</i> spp.)	Mourning Cloak	
Cherry (<i>Prunus</i> spp.)	Eastern Tiger Swallowtail	Eastern Tiger Swallowtail
Legumes (<i>Amorpha</i> spp., <i>Dalea</i> spp., <i>Desmanthus</i> spp., and others)	Orange Sulphur Great Spangled Fritillary Red Admiral Black Swallowtail Silver Spotted Skipper Monarch Eastern Tailed-blue	Eastern Tailed-blue Orange Sulphur Clouded Sulphur Silver Spotted Skipper Painted Lady



Mississippi Flyway



American Goldfinch



Canvasback



Ruby-throated Hummingbird



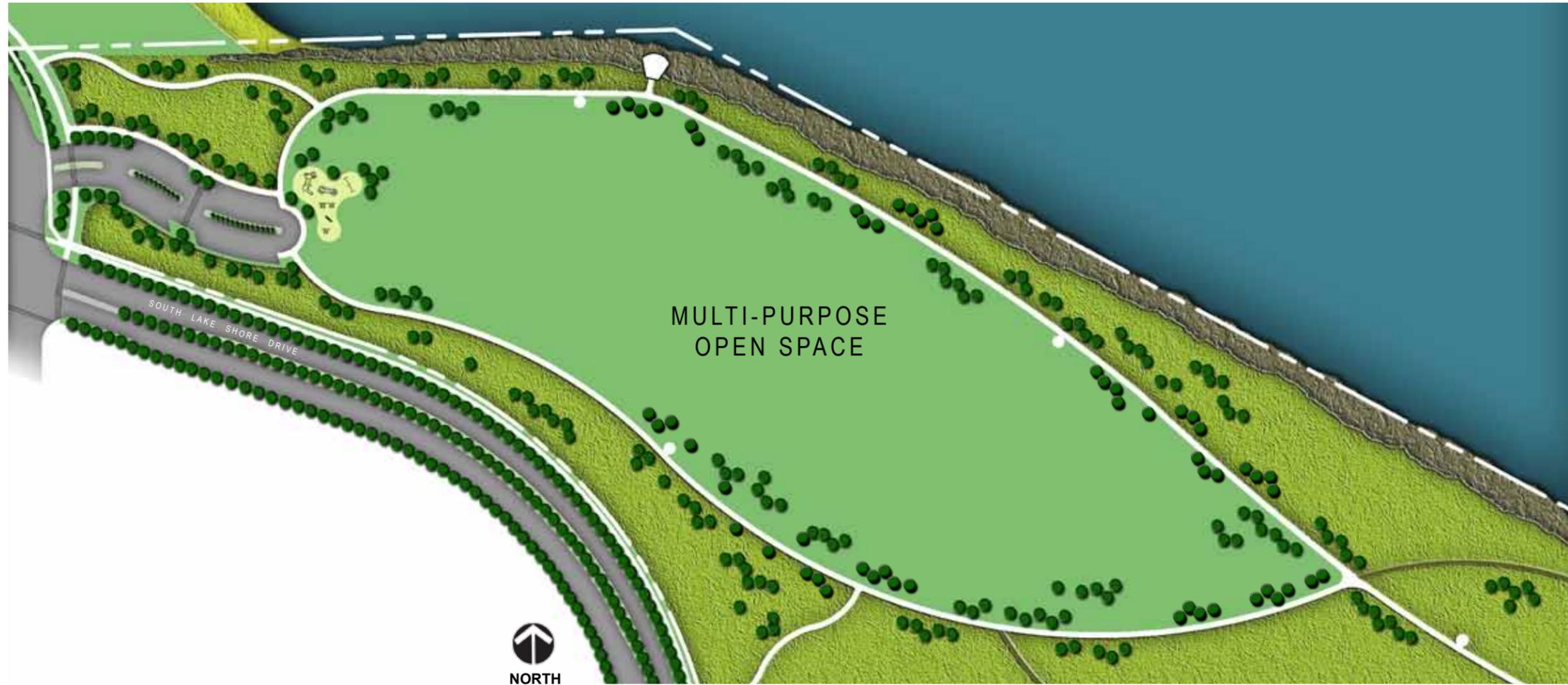
Hooded Warbler



Dark-eyed Junco

PARK ELEMENTS

MULTI-PURPOSE OPEN SPACE



Informal Group Event - Jackson Park, Chicago



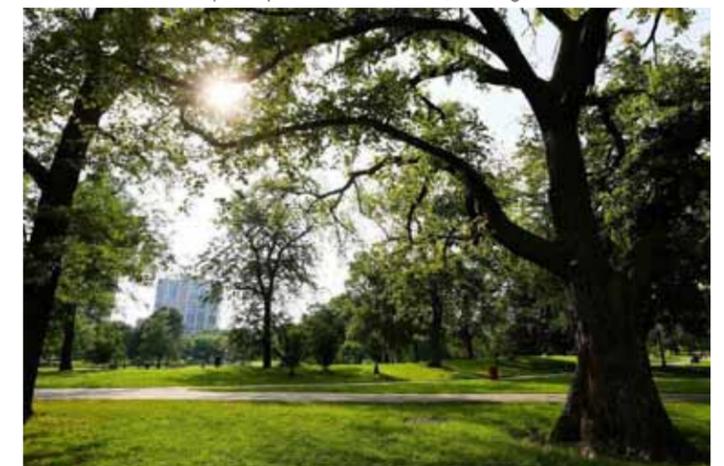
Open Space - Lincoln Park, Chicago



Open Space - Ping Tom Park, Chicago

The landscape of urban open spaces can include playing fields, highly maintained environments, and natural areas. Recreation in urban open space may include active recreation (such as organized sports and individual exercise) or passive recreation, which may simply entail being in the open space.

In Park 566 a turf open space approximately 16 acres in size is planned to accommodate varying activities including picnicking, family reunions, community events, and could be striped for athletic fields if the need arises.



Mature Open Space Landscape - Lincoln Park, Chicago

TRAILS



Nature Trail

A trail system plays an important role in the development of spaces and the connection of those spaces within a setting. The trail system in Park 566 will strive to provide linkages to the surrounding community as well as adjacent lakefront parks while also providing access to several different experiences within the park itself.

Park 566 will include a multi-use trail and a less formal nature trail. The multi-use trail will be fully accessible and provide linkages to South Lake Shore Drive and adjacent lakefront parks. Nature trails may be added after native plant communities are established to provide a more natural experience.

Other potential community connections, as outlined in Friends of the Parks, The Last Four Miles publication extends around the North Slip to South Lake Shore Drive and also utilizes an old rail yard to the west to link Russell Square Park and future school property to the existing bike path network.

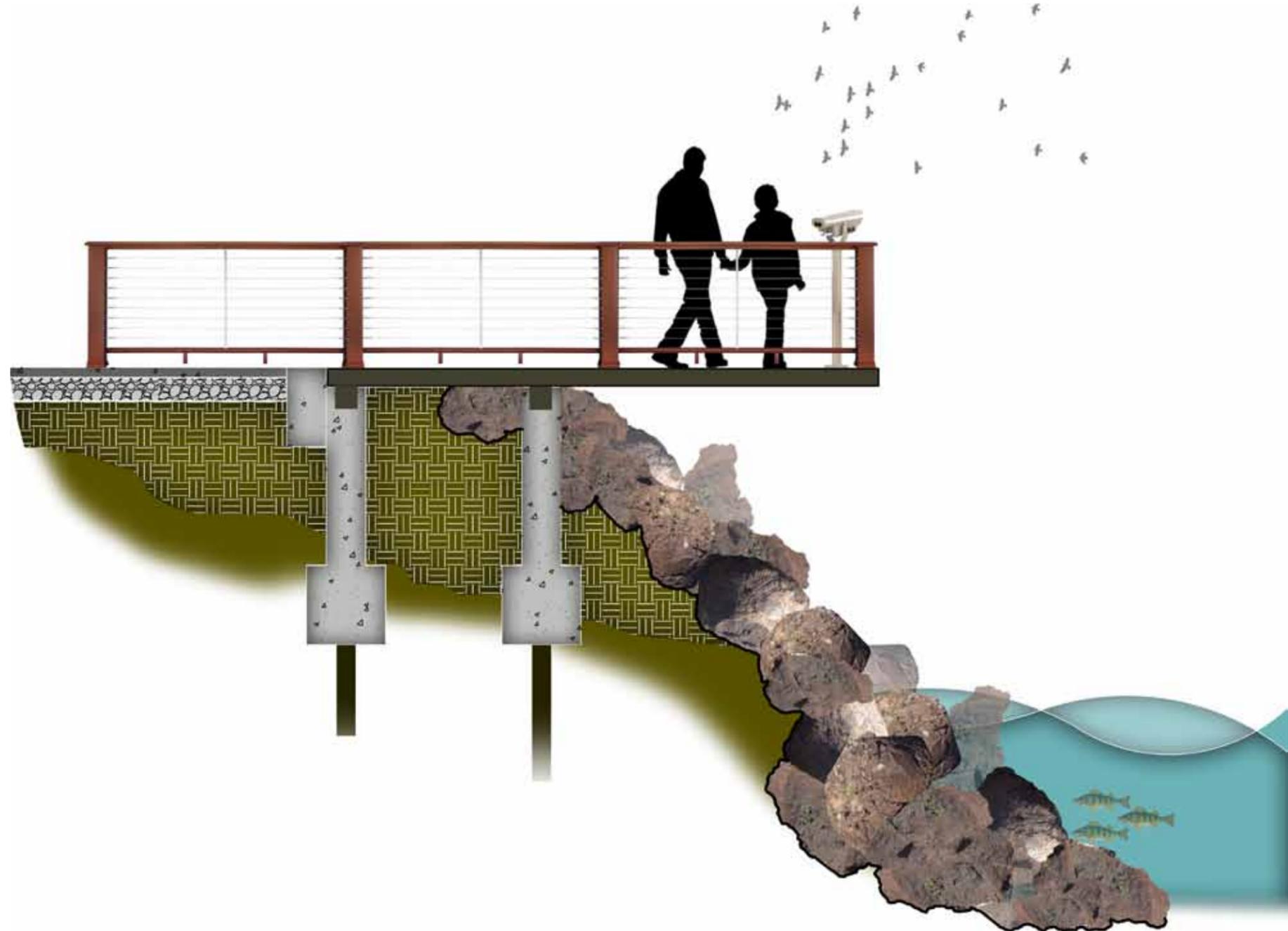


PARK ELEMENTS

OBSERVATION POINTS / OVERLOOKS

Throughout the park there will be opportunities to take advantage of the lakefront views and to observe wildlife or plant communities. Observation points and overlooks are placed strategically within Park 566 based on numerous factors including circulation, plant communities, and views. Overlooks can take on different forms from open space to built structures.

Park 566 presents several opportunities to take advantage of views to the south of industrial steel mills depicting what the park was and to the north of Chicago's skyline depicting what the steel mills help build. Wildlife habitat and native plant communities are planned throughout the park and will be accessible for viewing at the observation points. Interpretive signage can be utilized in these locations to help tell the story of the park's history, plant communities, and wildlife.



NATURE THEMED PLAYGROUND



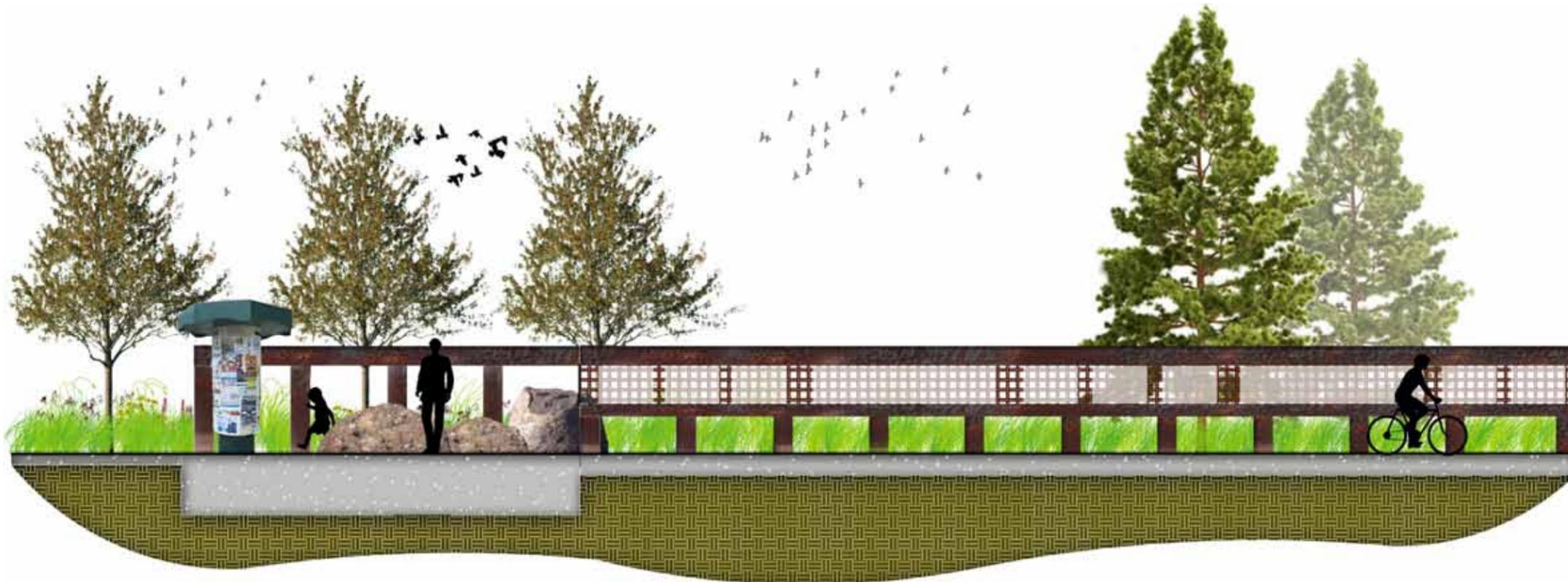
Nature Themed Play Areas are outdoor spaces designated for play made to resemble natural components such as plants, logs, water, sand, mud, boulders, hills, and trees. These components represent the larger wild environment in a way that feels safe and manageable to young visitors and their parents while inviting imaginative and explorative play.

This component to the park plan will be located close to on-site parking and incorporate a nature themed play area in a way that represents or acknowledges the history of the site through the use of large boulders that are safe for climbing or viewing. Adding educational or interpretive signage to areas designated for more active use can also acknowledge the site's cultural history and restoration efforts.



PARK ELEMENTS

INTERPRETIVE AND EDUCATIONAL SIGNAGE



The goal of interpretation is to improve and enrich the visitor experience by helping site visitors understand the significance of the place they are visiting. Interpretation refers to the full range of potential activities intended to heighten public awareness and enhance understanding of a place as a cultural heritage site or of other significance and can include on-site and directly related off-site installations, educational programs, community activities, and ongoing research, training, and evaluation of past and current site conditions.

Park 566 provides a unique opportunity to incorporate interpretive representation of both the site's industrial history as well as the transformation process of converting the site into a public park. The illustration above is an example of how remnant site artifacts can be reused to tell a story of the past, current efforts, and future plans. Birds, plants, and other natural features of the site can also be incorporated into such efforts.

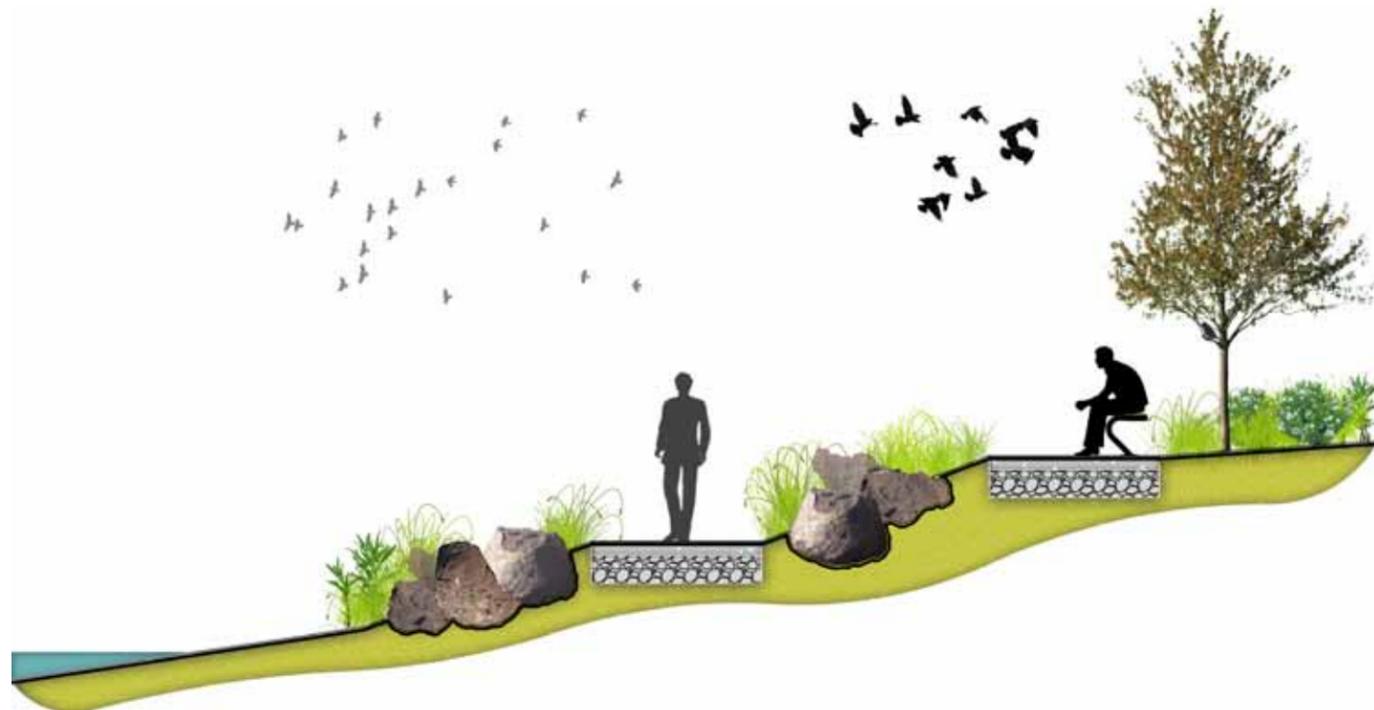


LAKE MICHIGAN ACCESS

Access to Lake Michigan will be a challenge at the park due to the majority of the site being made land (soil, slag, and other materials pushed into Lake Michigan). Slag along the shoreline has caused, in many cases, a hazardous condition for pedestrian use and is not safe for public access.

Visual access to Lake Michigan can occur along most of the shoreline, in the form of observation and overlook structures. However, the south end of the site allows for physical access to the lake. This access point currently has a beach area and less severe slopes to the water's edge making it an ideal location for lake access. A switchback style trail to the lake will need to be engineered to withstand variable conditions and could incorporate the reuse of slag for slope stabilization.

The lakefront water trail is accessible at the south end of Rainbow Beach Park and Calumet Park. Fishing stations/ access will be incorporated along the North Slip to provide for a safe and universally accessible experience.



FITNESS STATIONS



Several fitness stations will be located along the multi-use trail to encourage an active and healthy lifestyle for all age groups. The multi-use trail is designed to connect existing and future communities to the park making the fitness stations an accessible neighborhood amenity. The fitness stations provide for an ideal environment for local schools or other groups to utilize the park for physical education.

PARK ELEMENTS

PARKING



Permeable Paving

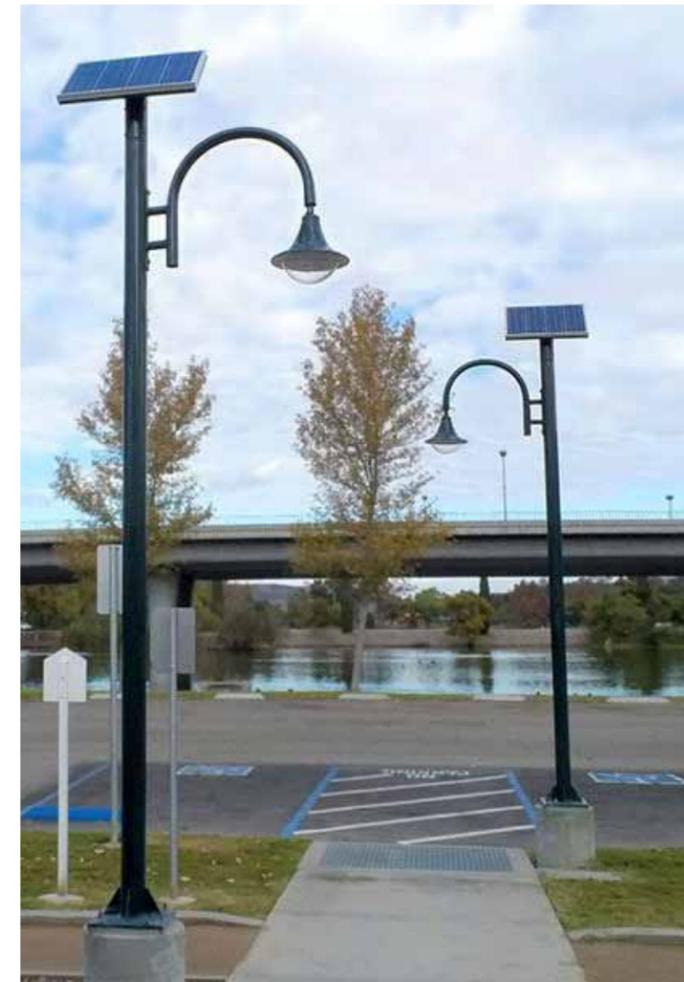
Throughout the community outreach process, a strong desire for on-site parking was voiced. To accommodate this request the parking lot is planned to be located off South Buffalo Avenue, which also serves as an entrance to Rainbow Beach Park. Close proximity of the parking lot to other recreational activities was also a concern of local residents. The parking lot is currently planned to accommodate 50 parking spaces.

The parking lot will require stormwater management through the use of bioswales or rain gardens. Permeable paving could also be used.

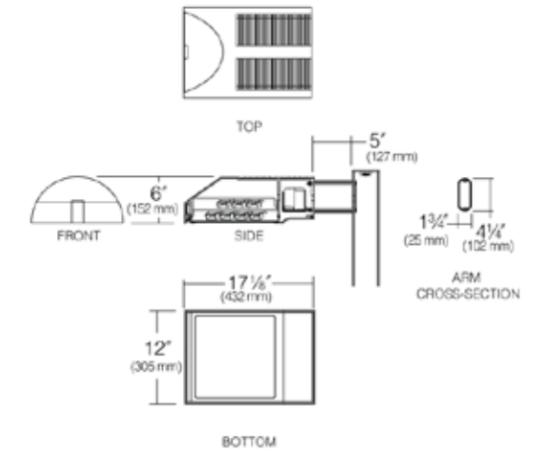
SITE LIGHTING

Lighting in Park 566 should be limited to areas of active recreational use to help reduce the impact on migratory bird populations. Many diurnal birds migrate at night in order to avoid predation, maximize daylight foraging hours, and use celestial cues for navigation. Bright city lights lure these nighttime migrants into urban areas and confuse them by obscuring their navigational aids, which makes it difficult for the birds to find their way back out of a developed area.

In areas that will require lighting, such as the parking lot, solar powered lighting could be utilized if an electrical source is not located nearby or running underground utility lines proves to be costly.



Solar Lighting



STORMWATER MANAGEMENT



Parking Lot Bioswale

Stormwater management for the site will need to meet City of Chicago regulations. The current regulations during the development of this framework plan require volume control of stormwater runoff from impervious surfaces. The proposed parking lot would have runoff directed to a bioinfiltration system such as a rain garden or bioswale. The bioinfiltration facility would have engineered soil with a storage aggregate layer to promote capturing and infiltration of stormwater runoff volume. The recreational paths and other features would also require volume control of stormwater runoff that could be achieved through vegetated filter strips adjacent to the impervious surface.

As part of the future development of the surrounding area, four overland flow paths from Lakeside Development would cross the park site to provide drainageways to Lake Michigan. Design of these flow paths would need to be coordinated with the calculated and permitted flow rates from the Lakeside Development property. These overland flow paths would most likely resemble swales with a natural cross section with vegetation that can withstand occasional flow and inundation of stormwater. In addition, where the overland flow paths cross the recreational trails, appropriate crossings (i.e. culverts or boardwalks) would need to be designed based on the flow rates. There may also be the need for additional armoring and stabilization of the existing slag shoreline where the overland flow paths discharge to Lake Michigan.



SPECIES LISTS

TRADITIONAL LANDSCAPE



Trees/Shrubs:

<i>Celtis occidentalis</i>	Common Hackberry
<i>Gleditsia triacanthos var. inermis</i>	Thornless Honeylocust
<i>Gymnocladus dioica</i>	Kentucky Coffee Tree
<i>Quercus bicolor</i>	Swamp White Oak
<i>Quercus imbricaria</i>	Shingle Oak
<i>Quercus macrocarpa</i>	Bur Oak
<i>Quercus muehlenbergii</i>	Chinquapin Oak
<i>Quercus rubra</i>	Red Oak
<i>Aesculus glabra</i>	Ohio Buckeye
<i>Amelanchier arborea</i>	Downy Serviceberry
<i>Amelanchier laevis</i>	Allegheny Serviceberry
<i>Carpinus caroliniana</i>	Blue Beech
<i>Crataegus crus-galli</i>	Cockspur Hawthorn
<i>Ostrya virginiana</i>	Hop Hornbeam
<i>Aronia arbutifolia</i>	Red Chokeberry
<i>Aronia melanocarpa</i>	Black Chokeberry
<i>Cornus racemosa</i>	Gray Dogwood
<i>Physocarpus opulifolius</i>	Ninebark
<i>Rhus aromatica</i>	Fragrant Sumac
<i>Rhus glabra</i>	Smooth Sumac
<i>Rhus typhina</i>	Staghorn Sumac

Perennials:

<i>Agastache 'Blue Fortune'</i>	Giant Hyssop
<i>Baptisia australis</i>	False Indigo
<i>Chasmanthium latifolium</i>	Northern Sea Oats
<i>Echinacea purpurea</i>	Purple Coneflower
<i>Panicum virgatum</i>	Switchgrass
<i>Rudbeckia fulgida</i>	Black-eyed Susan
<i>Schizachyrium scoparium</i>	Little Bluestem
<i>Sporobolus heterolepis</i>	Prairie Dropseed

* Perennials primarily limited to parking lot BMP in traditional landscape area.

NATIVE LANDSCAPE



DRY PRAIRIE

<i>Allium cernuum</i>	Nodding Wild Onion
<i>Amorpha canescens</i>	Lead Plant
<i>Asclepias syriaca</i>	Common Milkweed
<i>Asclepias verticillata</i>	Whorled Milkweed
<i>Aster oolentangiensis</i>	Sky-blue Aster
<i>Dalea candida</i>	White Prairie Clover
<i>Dalea purpurea</i>	Purple Prairie Clover
<i>Elymus canadensis</i>	Canada Wild Rye
<i>Euphorbia corollata</i>	Flowering Spurge
<i>Monarda fistulosa</i>	Wild Bergamot
<i>Panicum virgatum</i>	Switchgrass
<i>Ratibida pinnata</i>	Yellow Coneflower
<i>Rudbeckia hirta</i>	Black-eyed Susan
<i>Schizachyrium scoparium</i>	Little Bluestem
<i>Silphium laciniatum</i>	Compass Plant
<i>Silphium terebinthinaceum</i>	Prairie Dock
<i>Solidago nemoralis</i>	Old-field Goldenrod
<i>Verbena stricta</i>	Hoary Vervain



SAVANNA

<i>Aesculus glabra</i>	Ohio Buckeye
<i>Carya spp.</i>	Hickory
<i>Corylus americana</i>	American Hazelnut
<i>Pinus banksiana</i>	Jack Pine
<i>Prunus americana</i>	American Plum
<i>Quercus alba</i>	White Oak
<i>Quercus imbricaria</i>	Shingle Oak
<i>Quercus macrocarpa</i>	Bur Oak
<i>Quercus muehlenbergii</i>	Chinquapin Oak
<i>Quercus velutina</i>	Black Oak

Dry Prairie Understory (see list above)



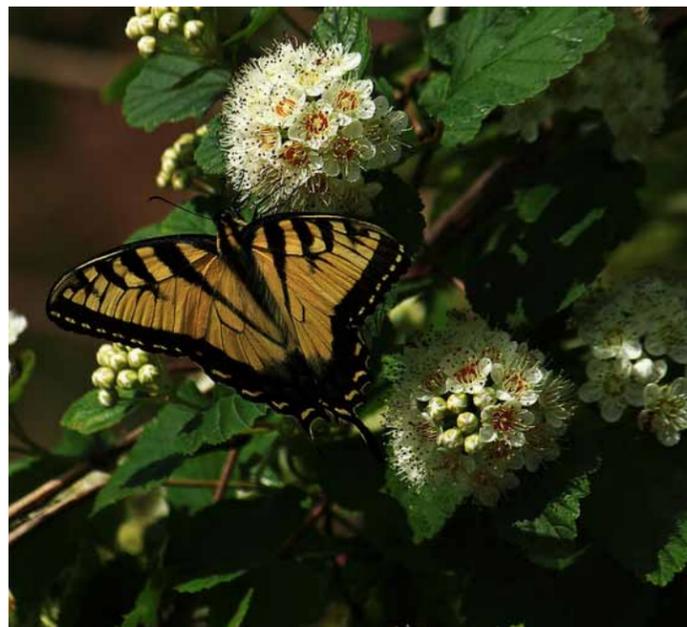
SHRUB CARR / SHRUB COPSE

- | | |
|--------------------------------|-------------------------|
| <i>Amelanchier laevis</i> | Allegheny Serviceberry |
| <i>Ceanothus americanus</i> | New Jersey Tea |
| <i>Cornus racemosa</i> | Gray Dogwood |
| <i>Corylus americana</i> | American Hazelnut |
| <i>Hamamelis virginiana</i> | American Witch Hazel |
| <i>Juniperus communis</i> | Common Juniper |
| <i>Juniperus horizontalis</i> | Creeping Juniper |
| <i>Physocarpus opulifolius</i> | Ninebark |
| <i>Prunus americana</i> | American Plum |
| <i>Prunus pumila</i> | Sand Cherry |
| <i>Prunus virginiana</i> | Choke Cherry |
| <i>Rhus aromatica</i> | Fragrant Sumac |
| <i>Rhus copallina</i> | Shining Sumac |
| <i>Rhus glabra</i> | Smooth Sumac |
| <i>Rhus typhina</i> | Staghorn Sumac |
| <i>Salix humilis</i> | Prairie Willow |
| <i>Viburnum acerifolium</i> | Maple-leaved Arrow-wood |
| <i>Viburnum prunifolium</i> | Black Haw |
| <i>Viburnum rafinesquianum</i> | Downy Arrow-wood |



DOLOMITE / GRAVEL HILL PRAIRIE

- | | |
|----------------------------------|------------------------|
| <i>Amorpha canescens</i> | Lead Plant |
| <i>Asclepias verticillata</i> | Whorled Milkweed |
| <i>Aster ericoides</i> | Heath Aster |
| <i>Aster oblongifolius</i> | Aromatic Aster |
| <i>Bouteloua curtipendula</i> | Side-oats Grama |
| <i>Coreopsis palmata</i> | Prairie Coreopsis |
| <i>Dalea purpurea</i> | Purple Prairie Clover |
| <i>Desmanthus illinoensis</i> | Illinois Bundle Flower |
| <i>Echinacea pallida</i> | Pale Purple Coneflower |
| <i>Elymus canadensis</i> | Canada Wild Rye |
| <i>Eryngium yuccifolium</i> | Rattlesnake Master |
| <i>Helianthus occidentalis</i> | Western Sunflower |
| <i>Kuhnia eupatoroides</i> | False Boneset |
| <i>Panicum virgatum</i> | Switchgrass |
| <i>Penstemon hirsutus</i> | Hairy Penstemon |
| <i>Schizachyrium scoparium</i> | Little Bluestem |
| <i>Silphium terebinthinaceum</i> | Prairie Dock |
| <i>Solidago juncea</i> | Early Goldenrod |
| <i>Sporobolus heterolepis</i> | Prairie Dropseed |





- 50 Space Parking Lot
- Nature Themed Playground
- Overlook
- Multi-Purpose Turf Open Space
- Fitness Station
- Native Trees/Shrub Clusters
- Multi-Use Trail
- Trail Connection to S. Lake Shore Dr.
- Nature Trail / Educational Signage
- Native Landscape

- Overlook
- Native Landscape
- Native Tree/Shrub Clusters

- Future Community Connection
- Paved Overlook / Historical Interpretation
- Fitness Station
- Nature Trail / Educational Signage

- Future Community Connection
- Paved Overlook / Historical Interpretation
- Lake and Fishing Access
- Future Trail and Bridge Connection

PARK 566 (USX) FRAMEWORK PLAN

CHICAGO PARK DISTRICT

Hey and Associates, Inc.
Engineering, Ecology and Landscape Architecture



MARCH 2015

SCALE: 1" = 450'-0"



STEELWORKERS PARK