

**7-R-08**

**A RESOLUTION**

**Adopting the Evanston Lakefront Corridor Master Plan**

**WHEREAS**, the City owns and maintains a number of individual lakefront properties along the Lake Michigan shoreline which are heavily utilized by both residents and visitors, and which is a unique and vital asset to Evanston's richly diverse community; and

**WHEREAS**, the Evanston Playground & Recreation Board, at its December 13, 2007, meeting, adopted the Evanston Lakefront Corridor Master Plan (RFQ 07-51) as a long-term plan for the development and redevelopment of City of Evanston Lakefront Corridor (the "Plan") illustrated by Exhibit A attached hereto and incorporated herein by reference; and

**WHEREAS**, the Planning & Development Committee of the City Council, at its meeting of January 14, 2008, did consider and review the Evanston Lakefront Corridor Master Plan, and the recommendation of the Evanston Playground & Recreation Board; and

**WHEREAS**, the Planning & Development Committee has determined that the Plan is in the best interests of all residents of the City of Evanston; and

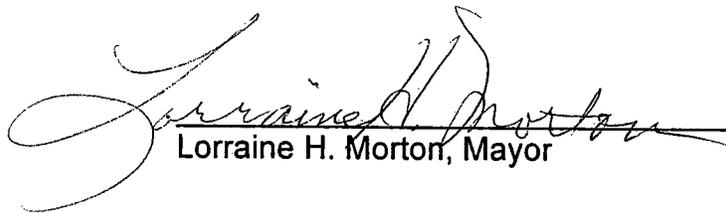
**WHEREAS**, the Planning & Development Committee does recommend the adoption of the Evanston Lakefront Corridor Master Plan,

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF  
THE CITY OF EVANSTON, COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS:**

**SECTION 1:** That the City Council hereby adopts the Lakefront Corridor Master Plan as set forth in Exhibit A.

**SECTION 2:** That the foregoing recitals are hereby found as fact and made a part hereof.

**SECTION 3:** That this Resolution shall be in full force and effect from and after the date of its passage and approval in the manner provided by law.

  
Lorraine H. Morton, Mayor

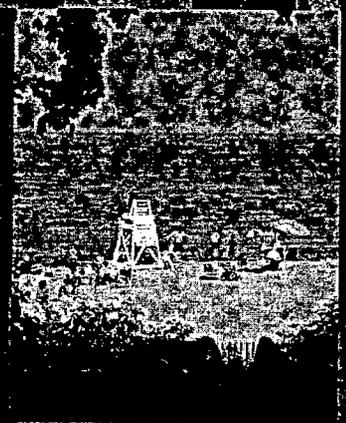
Attest:

  
Mary P. Morris, City Clerk

Adopted: January 28, 2008

EXHIBIT A

**Evanston Lakefront Corridor Master Plan**



# Evanston Lakefront Corridor Master Plan

Public Meeting Seven  
November 15, 2007

EXHIBIT A

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## Overall Vision

The Evanston lakefront will carry forward as a unique and sustainable environment that supports the highest and best use of the public lake frontage and respects the delicate balance of its natural ecosystems and user interest.

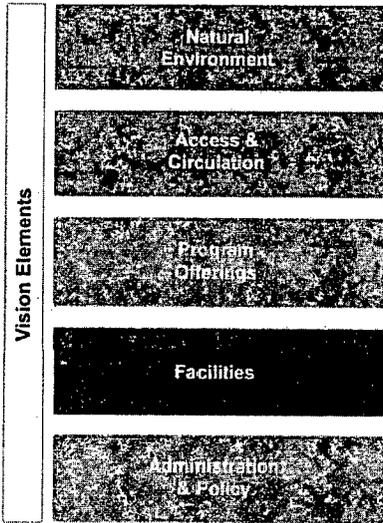
## Vision Elements

The overall vision describes the future of the area as remaining a viable recreational and natural resource for Evanston residents and visitors, with a focus on environmental sensitivity. This theme is carried on throughout all of the visions, goals and objectives presented in this plan.

In order to present more detailed information and an action plan to guide the development of the master plan, this overall vision is complemented by supporting visions, goals and objectives addressing each of five vision elements: natural environment, access and circulation, facilities, program offerings, and administration and policy.

- Each *vision* describes the community ideal for how the lakefront should develop in the future.
- Each *goal* represents the desired direction and general course of action that will be followed to fulfill the vision.
- Each *objective* represents a specific task that must be achieved to realize the goal, and in turn the vision.

The following pages list visions, goals, and objectives for each of these vision elements.



Lakefront Vision Plan 17

## Natural Environment

- 13 Establish practices and policies to preserve and enhance the lakefront's natural character.

## Access and Circulation

- 17 Create a strategy to improve multi-use trail conditions minimizing traffic conflict and emphasizing community connections for all trail users.
- 21 Coordinate transportation resources to improve lakefront-user access while preserving the integrity of lakefront open space and natural areas.

## Facilities

- 25 Assess existing park facilities and upgrade or replace depending on condition and need. Implement new facilities where there is demand while honoring the lakefront's environmental integrity and surrounding neighborhoods.

## Programming

- 29 Emphasize a balance between natural unprogrammed lakefront with a variety of lakefront appropriate activity programming to engage all users and generate limited revenue, while honoring the lakefront's environmental integrity and surrounding neighborhoods.

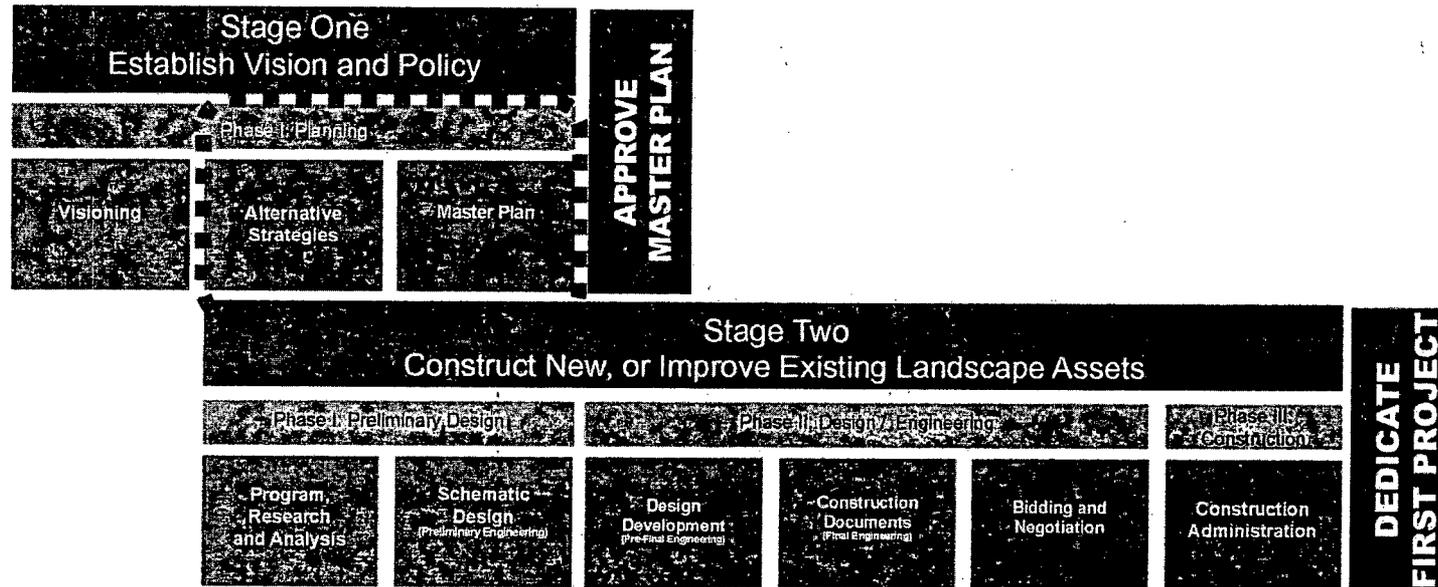
## Administration and Policy

- 33 Develop and implement lakefront policies that support and fund a balance of high-quality lakefront appropriate programming and promote physical accessibility for all users.

# Lakefront Vision – Process Diagram

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## Visioning Process



### From Vision to Construction

The completion of this visioning process marks the end of the first of many steps in a two stage process of planning and development for the Evanston Lakefront, as illustrated by the diagram above. Stage One of the process, the master planning stage, establishes guiding principles and policies that will guide all future lakefront development through planning, implementation and stewardship.

The second stage of lakefront planning and development involves the construction of new or improvement of existing lakefront assets, all of which reflect the principles and policies established during the master planning process. In Stage Two, funded projects undergo detailed design development and lakefront improvements are bid and constructed.

This comprehensive two-stage approach to lakefront planning and development will help ensure that lakefront improvements are integrated with the complex and long-term needs of the public lakefront, and reflect a community based vision for the lakefront. Each step of the process is described in detail on the following pages.

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# Community Outreach Process

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## Community Engagement Process

- ▣ Visioning Sessions
- ▣ City Departmental Meetings
- ▣ Individual Stakeholder Meetings
- ▣ Three Public Meetings
- ▣ Additional three Public Meetings

## Public Notice and Outreach

- ▣ Quarterly City of Evanston "Highlights" sent to each Evanston household
- ▣ Notices and Coverage in the Evanston Roundtable
- ▣ Notice in the City of Evanston Arts and Recreation Issue to each household
- ▣ Coverage in the Evanston Review
- ▣ NPR Public Radio Coverage
- ▣ E-mail to over 200 organizations and Downtown Evanston Planning list serve
- ▣ Flyers placed and posted at all city buildings
- ▣ Various phone calls and e-mails prior to each community presentation

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# Master Plan Process – Guiding Principles

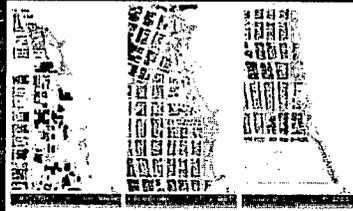
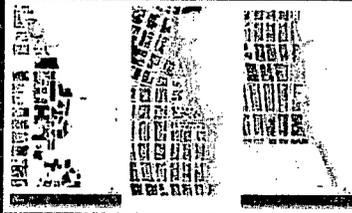
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- ▣ The Master Plan is intended to provide a road map for the implementation of the Lakefront Vision.
- ▣ The plan must consider the needs of ALL Evanston residents, all age groups, all cultural backgrounds, from all parts of the City.
- ▣ Our task is to create a plan to build the very best lakefront park environment we can imagine.
- ▣ Your task is to tell us what “the very best lakefront park environment” means to the residents of the City of Evanston.
- ▣ This is an iterative process whereby ideas are tested and refined over time based on community input. This must be your plan if it is to succeed.
  - ▣ Three Concepts to Two
  - ▣ Two Concepts to One
  - ▣ Refinement of Plan

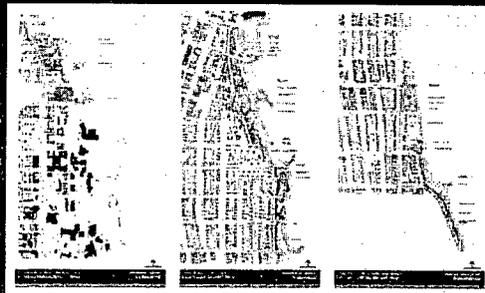
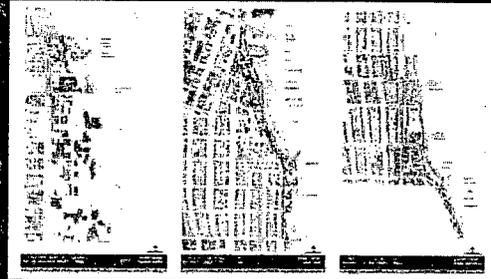
# Lakefront Master Plan – Process Summary

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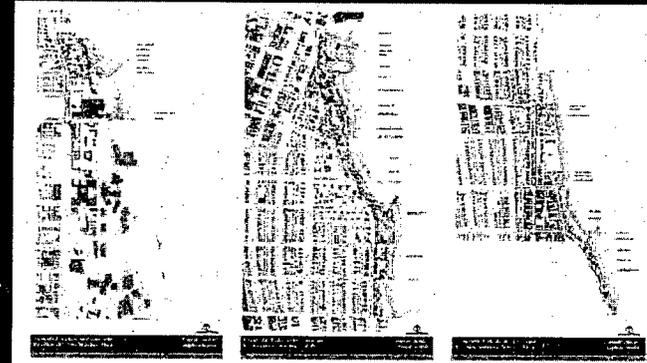
## Public Meeting One, September 19



## Public Meeting Two, September 20



## Public Meetings 3-6, October 4 – November 8



# Draft Consensus Plan - Program

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- Enhance natural areas for wildlife habitat and bird watching
- Create natural buffers and separation of activities
- Balance dune ecology / native planting with flexible green space
- Open up the landscape as much as possible
- Maintain the lakefront in accordance with environmentally sustainable best management practices, including LEED certified structures
- Evaluate alternate shoreline protection systems
- Improve pedestrian safety and access
- Celebrate the historic character of the lakefront
- Provide amenities for all age groups and cultural groups
- Improve, but do not expand, parking facilities
- Provide select "public" commercial activity where appropriate
- Enhance Cultural / Festival opportunities
- Expand educational and recreational programming
- Provide dedicated bicycle and pedestrian pathways
- Improve accessibility to lakefront from downtown and the rest of Evanston
- Achieve a universally accessible lakefront

# Landscape Imagery

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**Dune Ecology**



**Upland Prairie**



**Flexible Green Space**

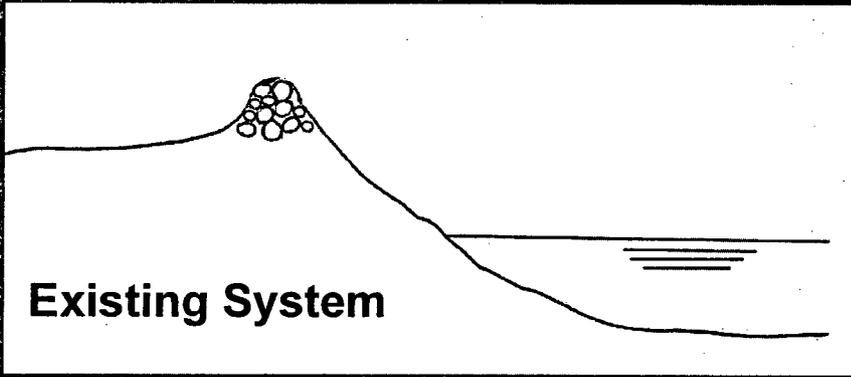


**“Magic Hedge” Landscape**

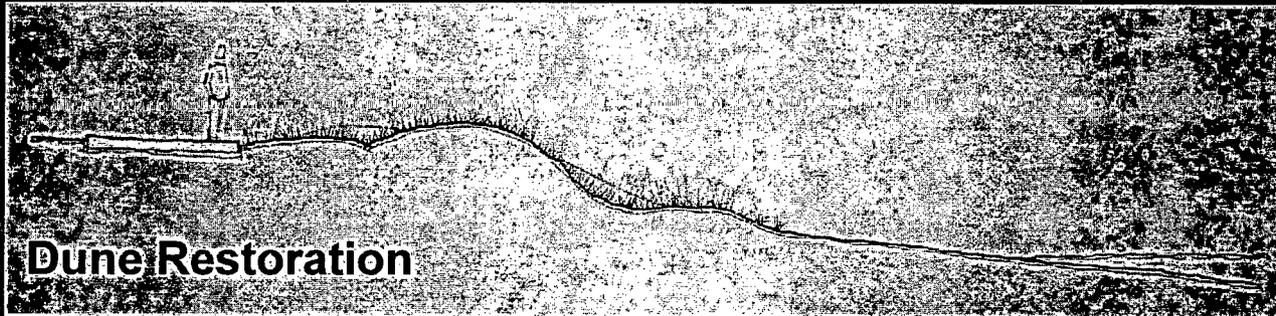
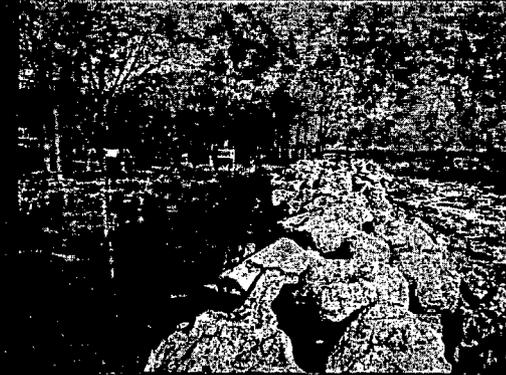
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# Lakeshore Armoring Options

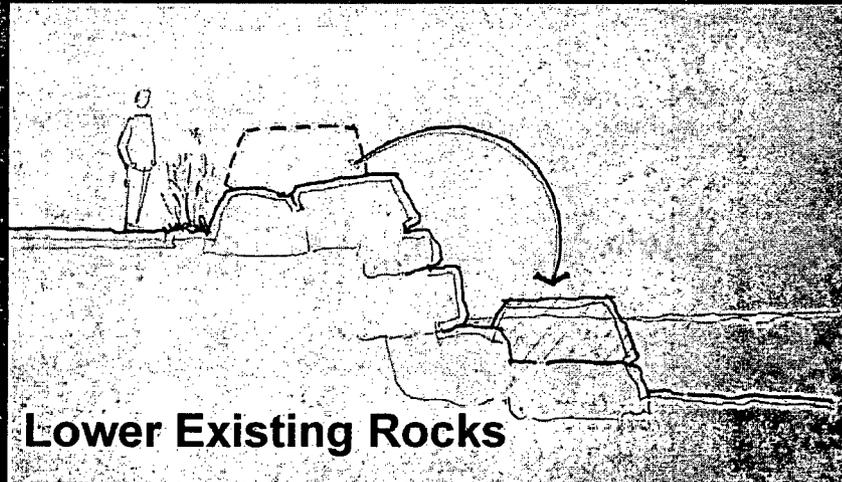
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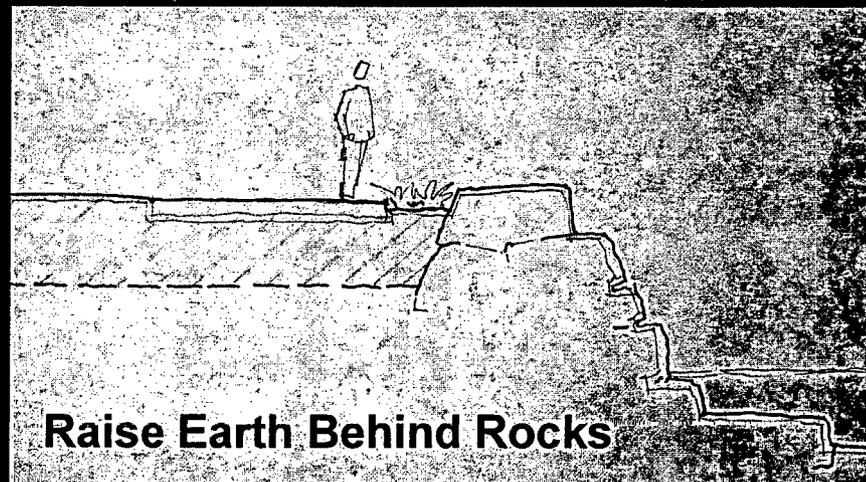
Existing System



Dune Restoration



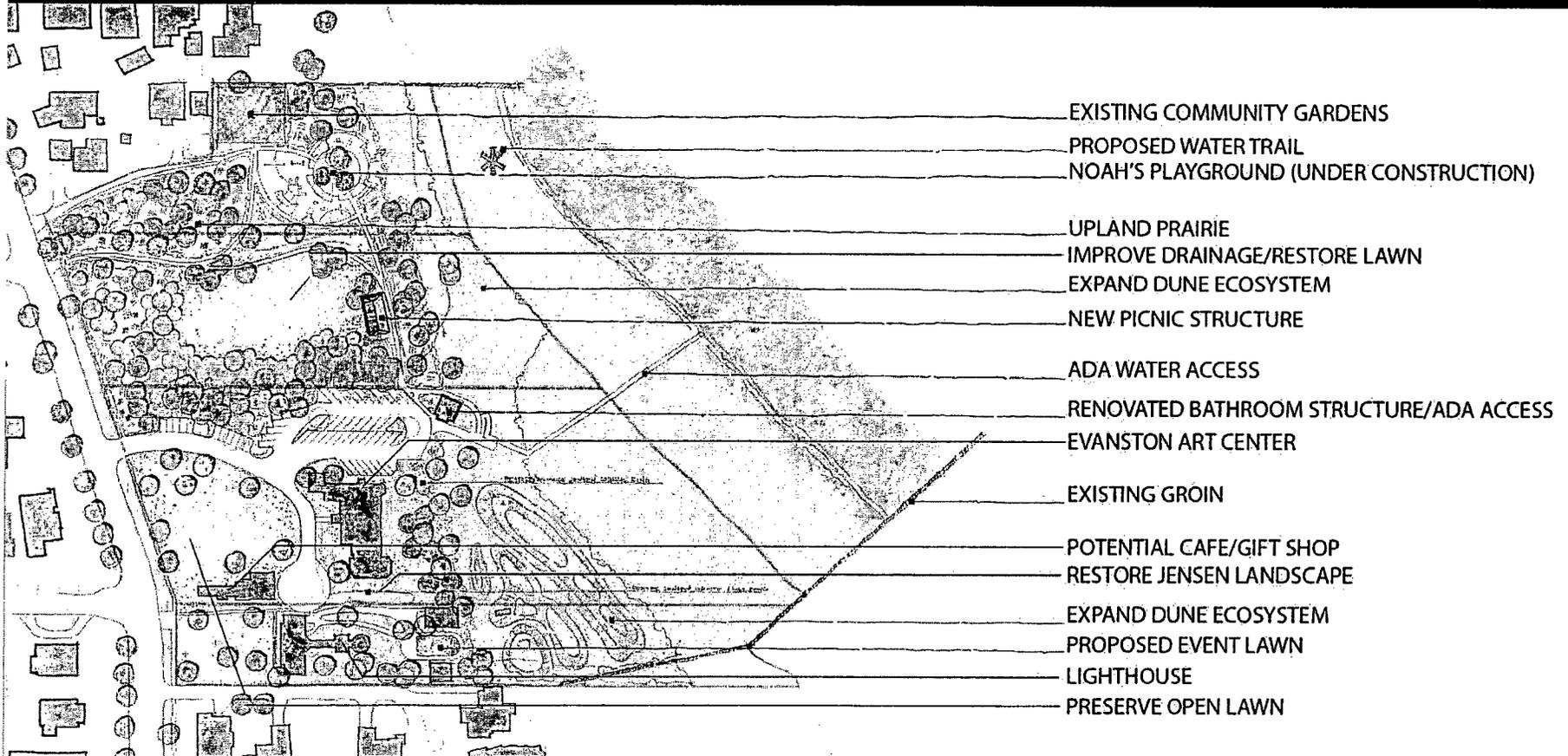
Lower Existing Rocks



Raise Earth Behind Rocks

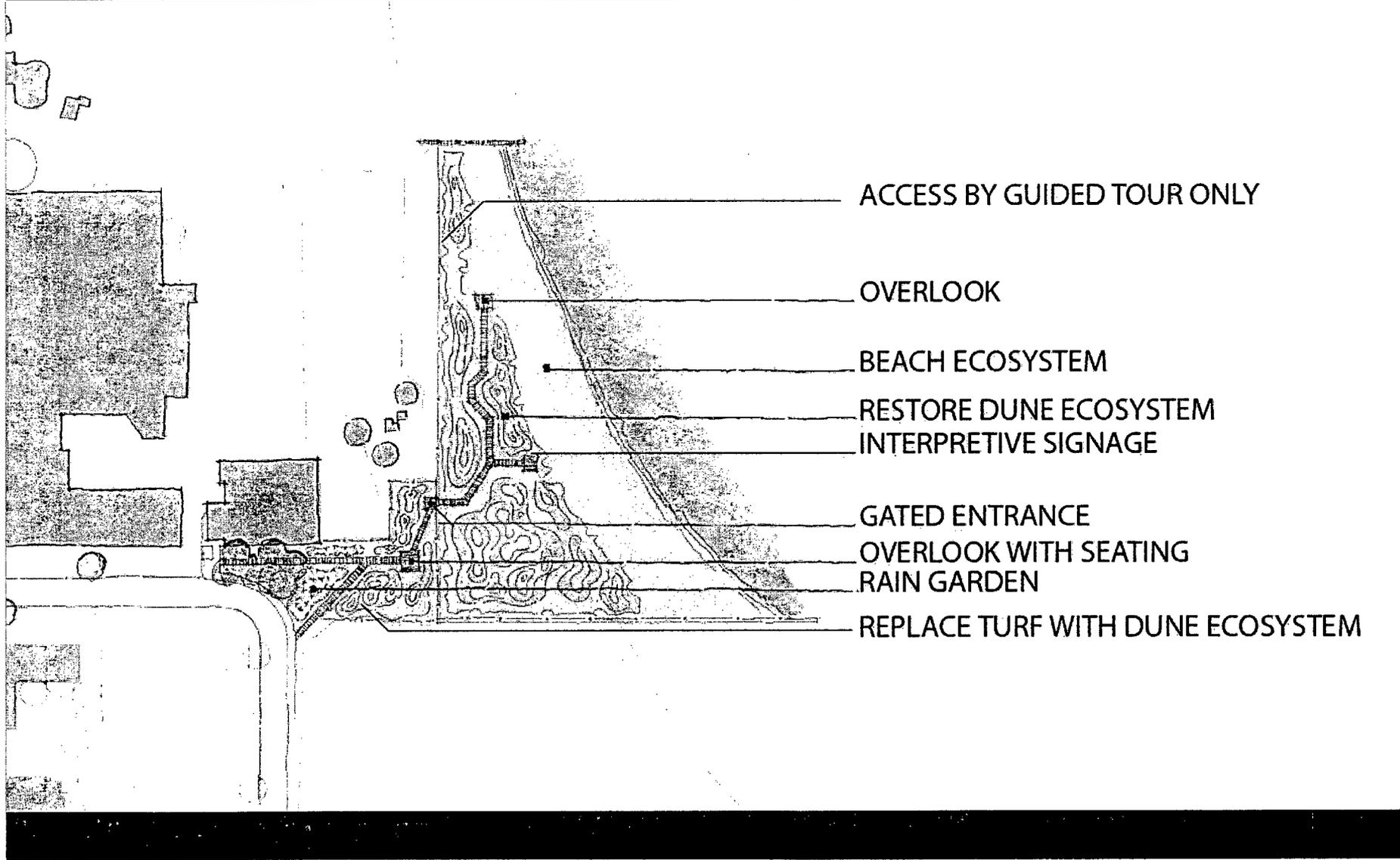
# Draft Consensus Plan - Lighthouse Park

AECOM



# Draft Consensus Plan – Lincoln St. Overlook

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ACCESS BY GUIDED TOUR ONLY

OVERLOOK

BEACH ECOSYSTEM

RESTORE DUNE ECOSYSTEM  
INTERPRETIVE SIGNAGE

GATED ENTRANCE

OVERLOOK WITH SEATING  
RAIN GARDEN

REPLACE TURF WITH DUNE ECOSYSTEM

# Draft Consensus Plan - Northwestern to Church Street

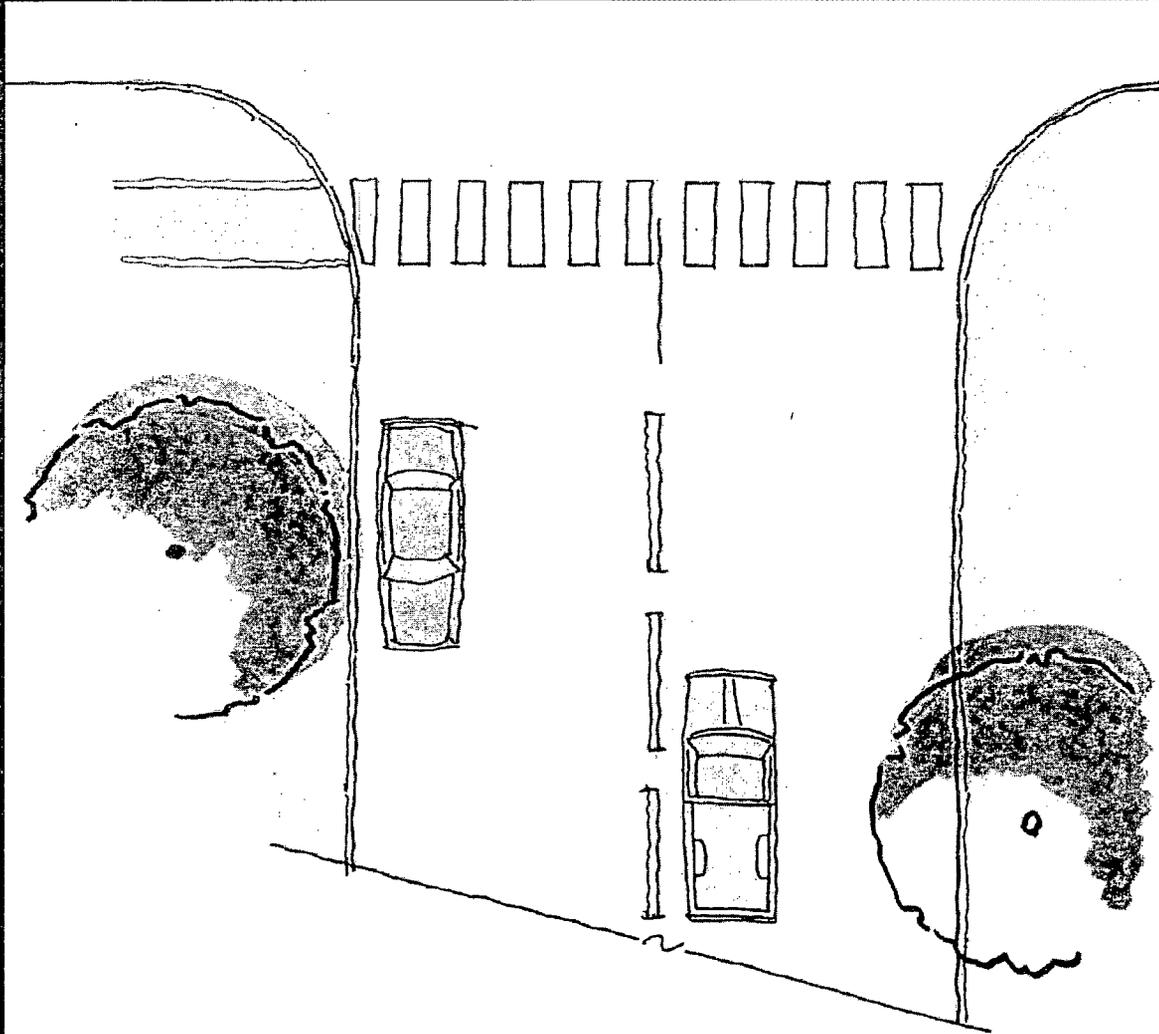
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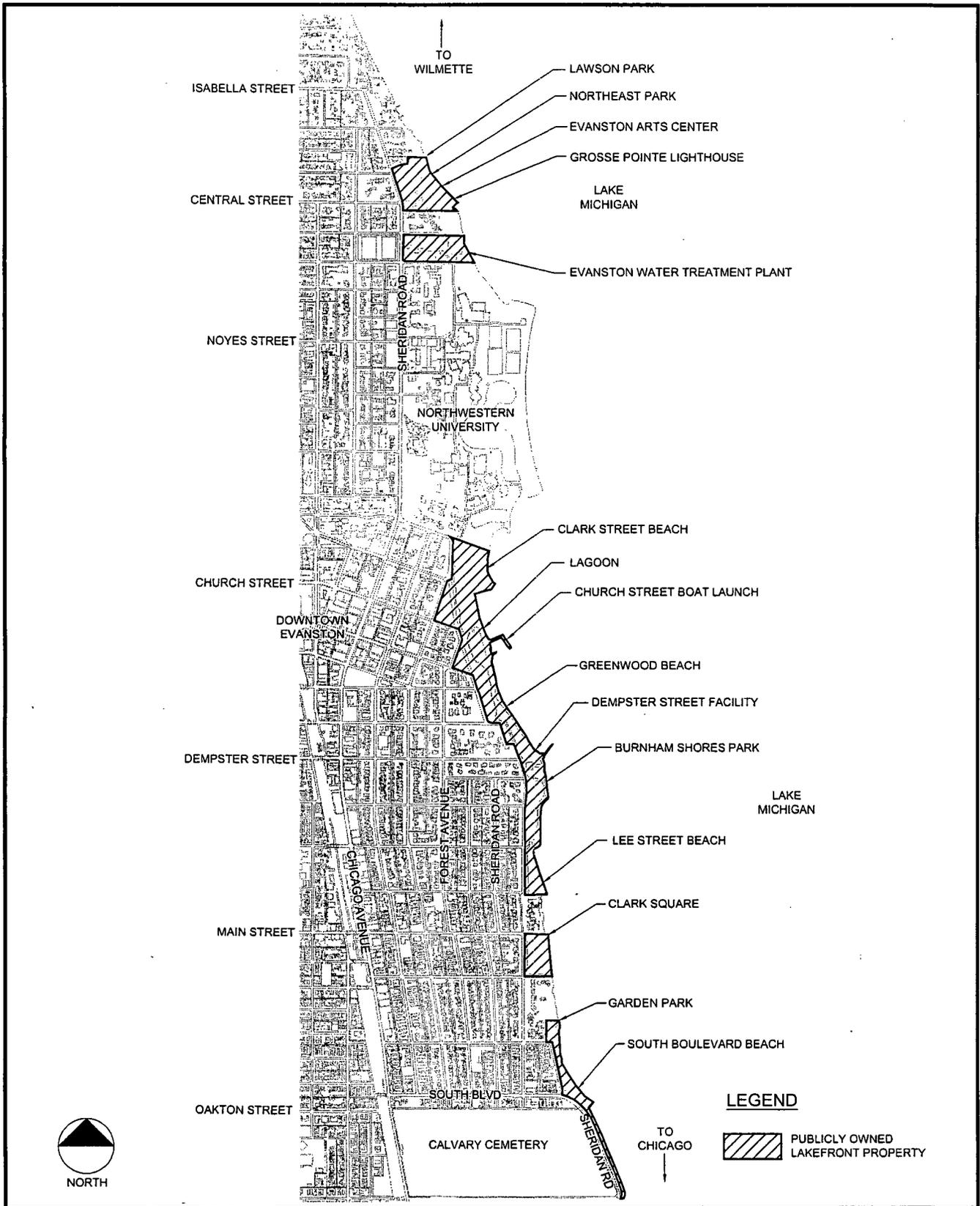


- BIKE TRAIL CONNECTION TO NORTHWESTERN
- VOLLEYBALL COURTS
- CLARK STREET BEACH
- EXPANDED DUNE HABITAT
- NEW HANDICAP PARKING
- ADA BEACH ACCESS
- NEW RESTROOM FACILITY
- WATER TRAIL
- VEHICLE DROP-OFF
- GREAT LAWN
- WATERS EDGE PLAZA SPACE
- DEDICATED BIKE PATH
- DEDICATED PEDESTRIAN PATH
- RECONFIGURED PARKING WITH PERVIOUS PAVING
- ADA BEACH ACCESS
- BIOSWALE
- LUNT PARK GATHERING LAWN
- UPLAND PRAIRIE LANDSCAPE
- DOG BEACH
- FLEXIBLE LAWN/PICNIC AREA
- PROVIDE WILDLIFE HABITAT PLANTINGS
- EXPAND DUNE ECOSYSTEM
- PROPOSED DROP OFF AND PUBLIC TRANSIT STOP

# Pedestrian Safety Strategies

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**CITY OF EVANSTON**  
 Department of Parks / Forestry & Recreation  
 2100 Ridge Avenue  
 Evanston, Illinois 60201

City of  
**Evanston**

CITY OF EVANSTON LAKEFRONT

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ATTACHMENT A

SHEET NO.	
SCALE	1"= 2000'
DATE	05/02/07
DRAWN BY	SDL