



Lake Monona Waterfront Master Plan Presentation

**MADISON
PARKS
SASAKI**

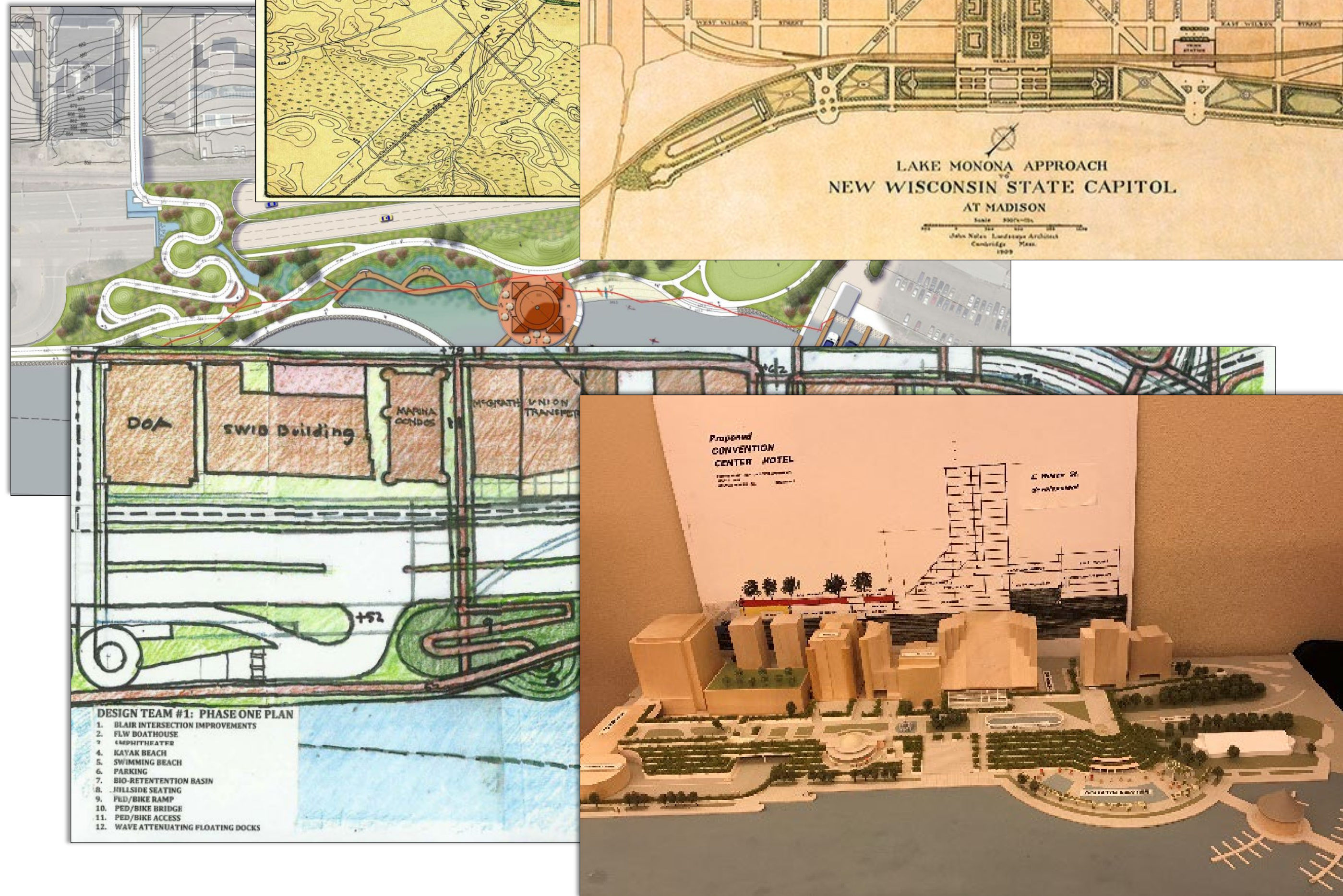
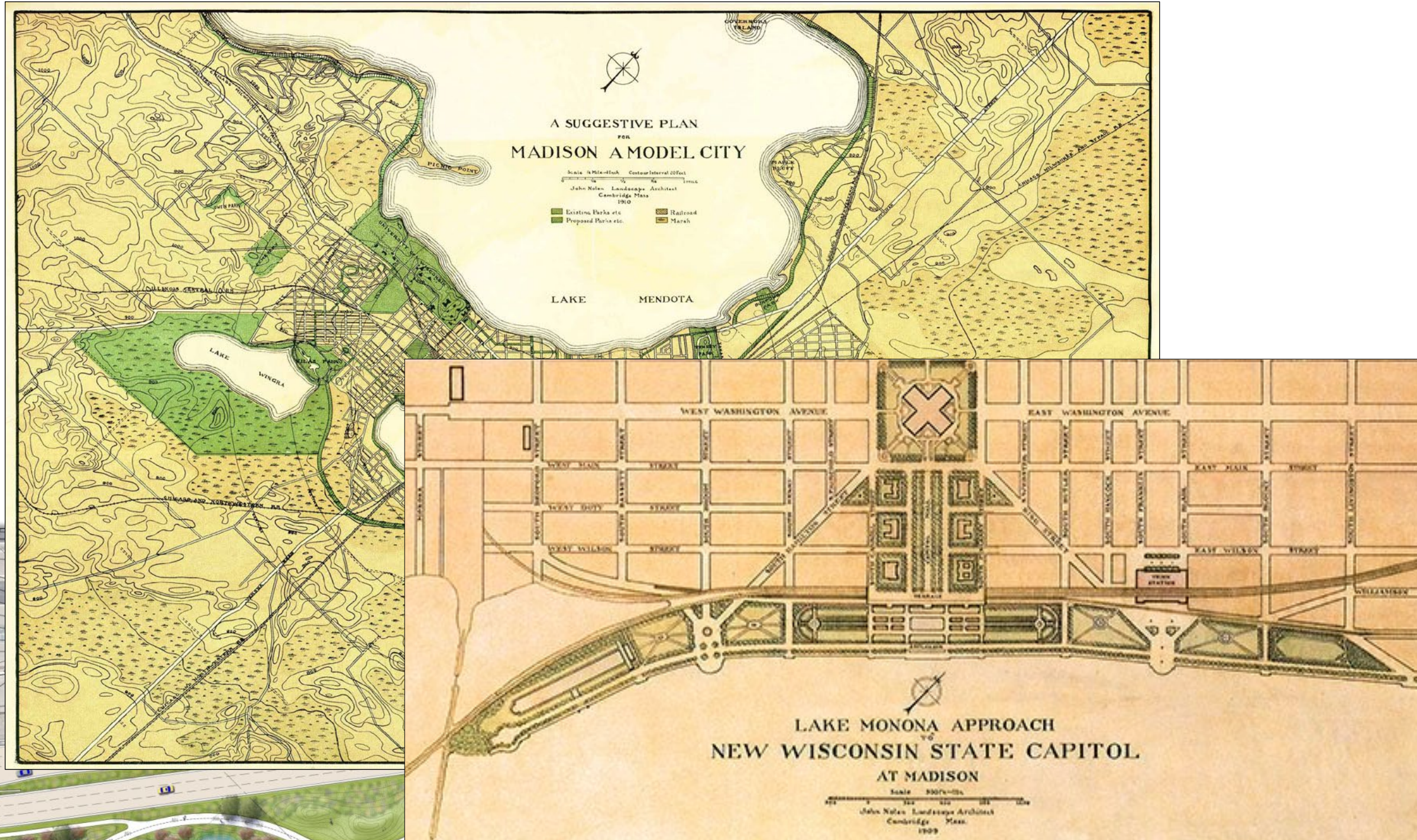
Transportation Commission
January 31, 2024



**A once-in-a-generation
opportunity to shape
the future of Madison's
urban waterfront.**



Master Plan – Prior Plans and Advocacy



About This Document

The document is the final output of a study (2011-2012) by the Nolen Center (NCT) Advisory Task Force. The purpose of the analysis, ongoing a large-scale study, is to provide a comprehensive set of recommendations including recommendations for project goals, financing, and implementation strategies.

Members of the Task Force gave generous of their time, energy, and expertise. Funding for the study was generously provided by the City of Madison.

The study was prepared by the Nolen Center for Urban Design & Planning in collaboration with the University of Wisconsin-Madison. The study was prepared by Vandewalle & Associates.

Forward: The civic leadership behind Madison's past

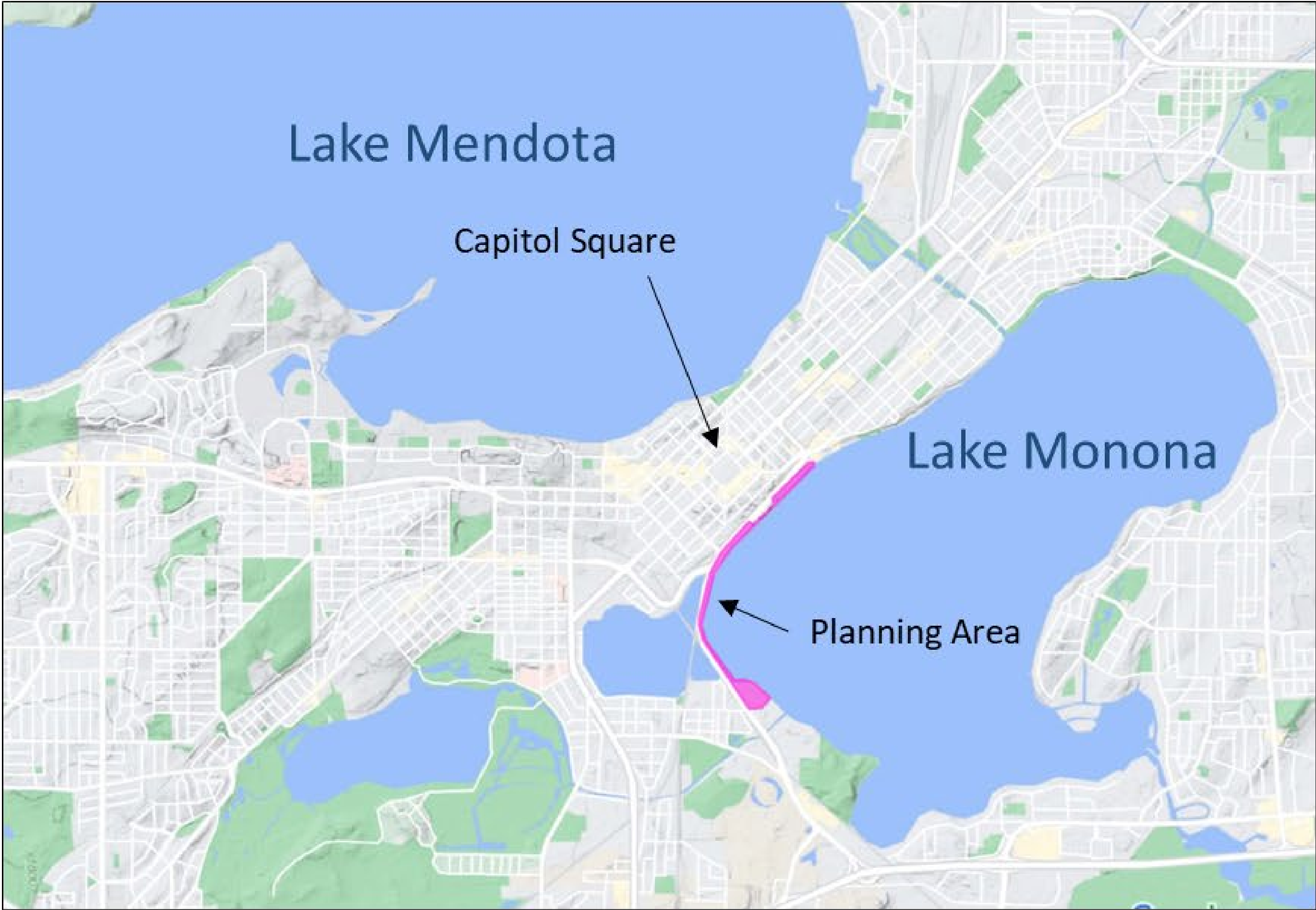
The study is the result of a collaborative effort by the Nolen Center for Urban Design & Planning, the University of Wisconsin-Madison, and the City of Madison. The study was prepared by Vandewalle & Associates.

centennial project

Master Plan – Definition

- **Are dynamic long-term planning documents that provide a framework for future site development and improvements.**
- **Embody community goals for the planning area and establish the spatial layout of desired amenities.**
- **Are conceptual in nature. The identified improvements and amenities require further design development and public and regulatory review prior to implementation.**

Lake Monona Waterfront – Planning Area



Lake Monona Waterfront – Planning Area



Overall Plan Development



2019 – Common Council authorizes development of a pre-design Preliminary Report for the planning area

2021 – Preliminary Report Completed

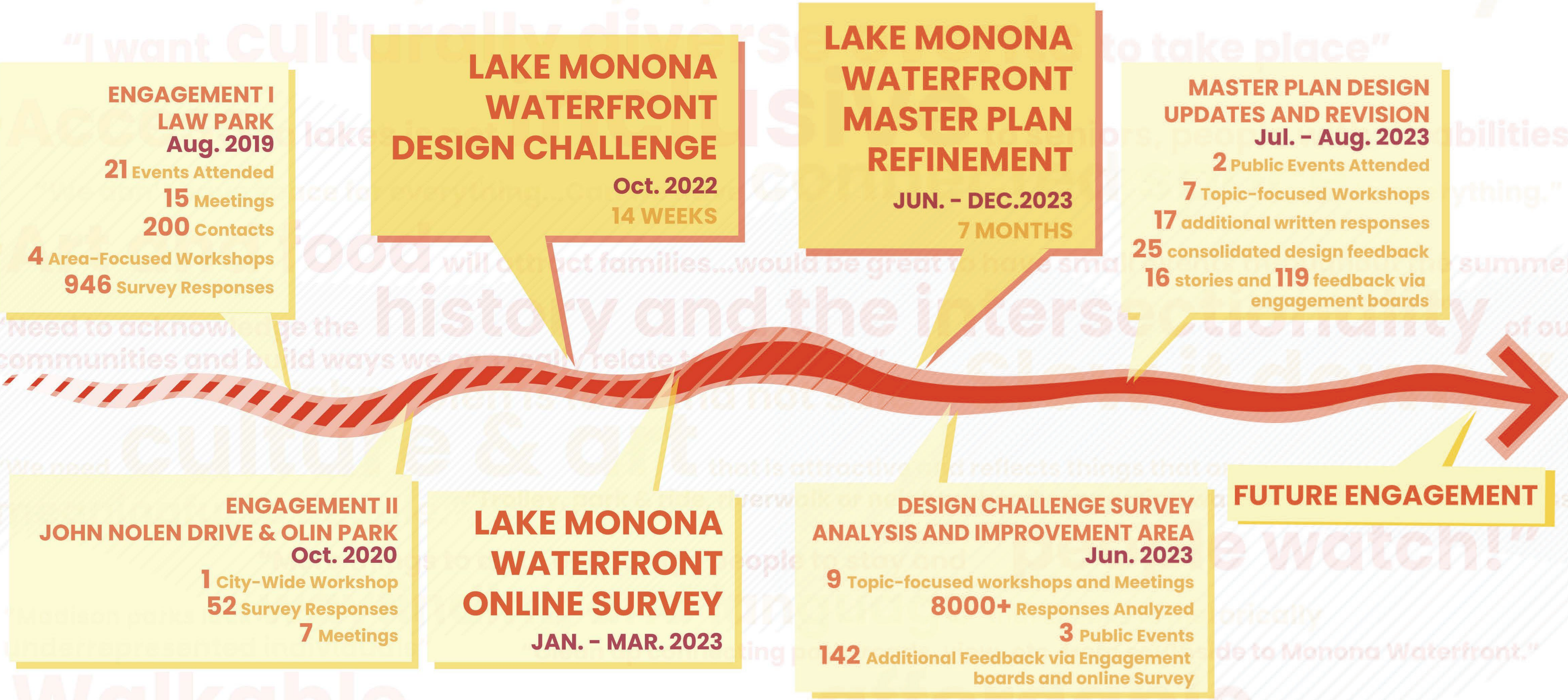
2022 – Common Council authorizes formation of Lake Monona Waterfront Ad-hoc Committee and holding a master plan design competition

2022 to 2023 – Madison Parks holds the Lake Monona Waterfront Design Challenge

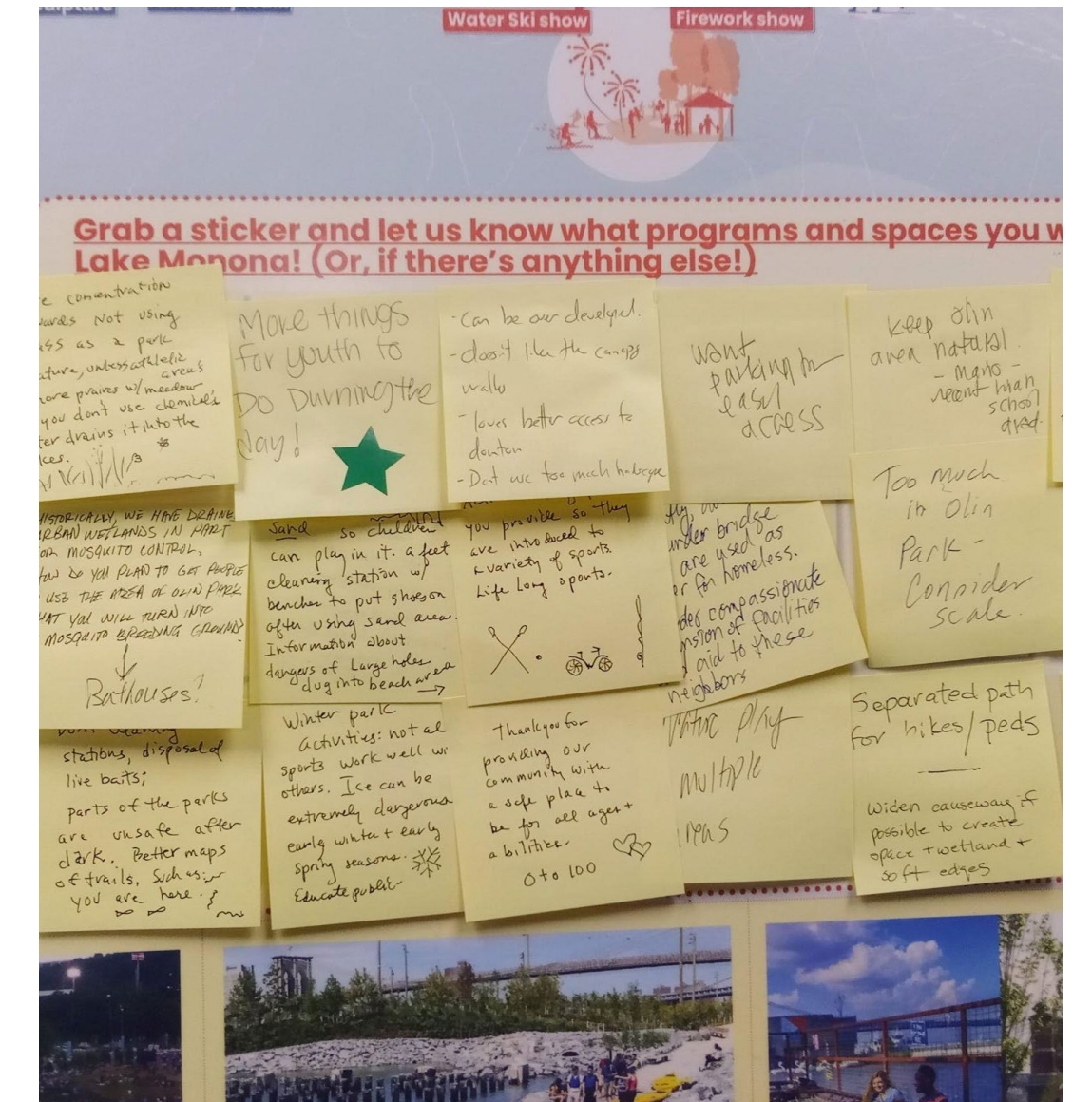
2023 – The Ad-hoc Committee selects the Sasaki Team to proceed with Master Plan refinement

2023 – The Ad-hoc Committee unanimously approves the draft Master Plan for introduction to the Common Council

Community Engagement



Engagement Methods



What are your top 3 areas we should study further?

Cuales son tus tres areas principales que necesitan ser estudiadas?
Koj qhov kev tsoom xam peb sab saum toj yog dab tsi?

A Beach and beach configuration study	●●●●●●●●	H Overlook Design	●●●●
B Neighborhood Accessibility Study	●●●●●●●●	I Expanded Dock and Fishing Pier Study	●●●●●●●●
C Overpass Accessibility Study	●●●●●●●●●●	J Water Quality and Stormwater Management Study	●●●●●●●●●●●●●●●●●●●●
D + E Walking Fishing Piers	●●●●●●●●●●	K Kayak Dock and Docking Feasibility Study	●●●●●●●●●●●●●●●●●●●●
F Crossing Study at Hamilton St	●●●●●●●●●●	L Lake Park Art-grade Public Art Study	●●●●●●●●●●
G Art grade Connection at E. Wilson St	●●●●●●●●●●		

Monona Waterfront Master Plan

DRAFT 123

Engagement Methods

Handwritten notes on a document, including phrases like "Sasaki", "waterfront", and "parking circle".

Lake Monona Waterfront

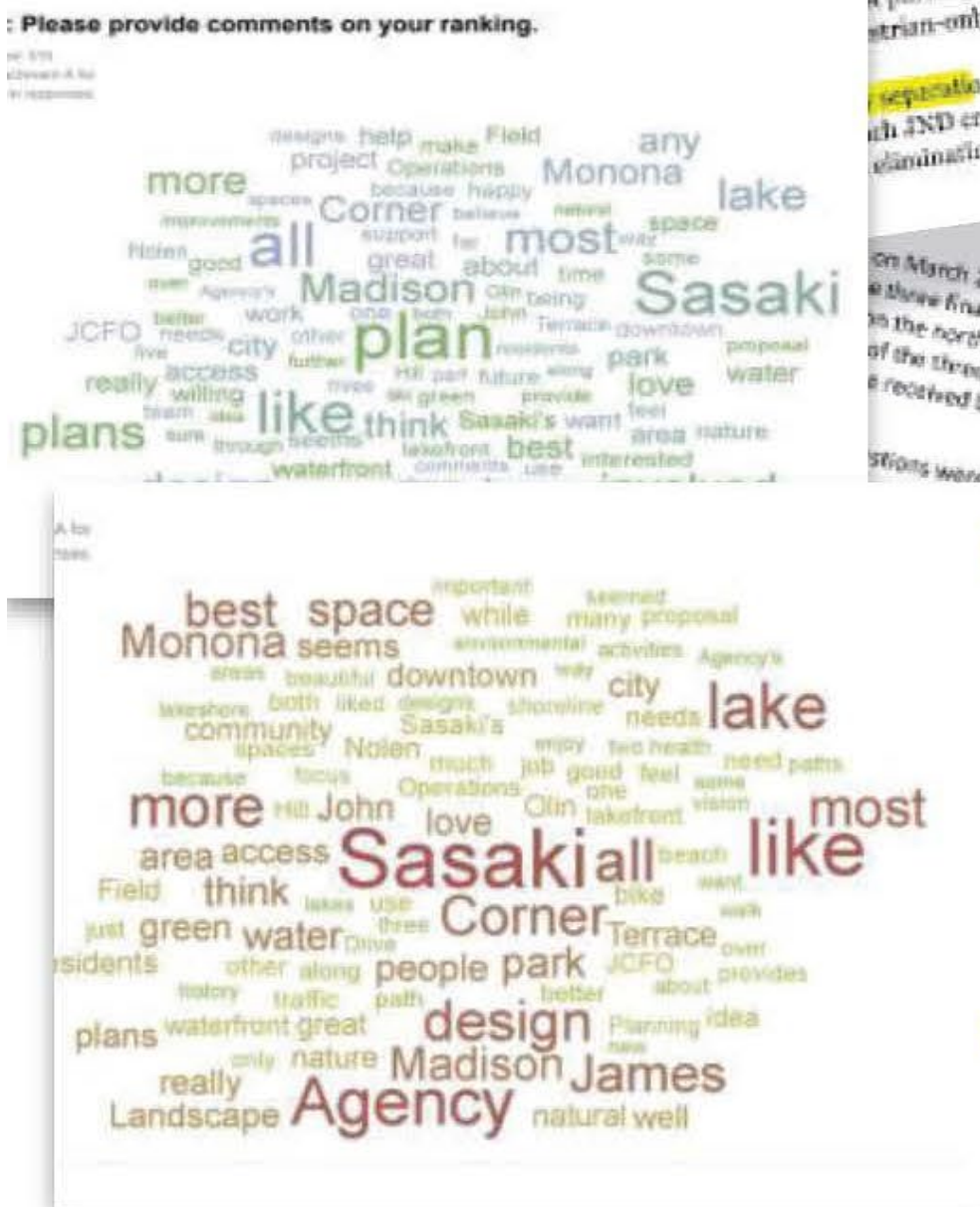
4697	730	The Agency boardwalk, the Agency nature space. Please no trees or buildings in Law Park or Olin Park - keep it as open and natural as possible.
4698	731	Universal ADA access, wetland restoration & protection, environmental education, rain garden and native planting.
4699	732	I like the focus on water all year round . Nature-focused. I really like the story walk
4700	733	The gathering spaces in Agency's plan & the diverse waterfront environments for recreating in James' plans stand out the most positively to me.
4701	734	Easy access to the lake from All locations, including the capital and the full lakeshore. Loved the multi-use thoughts for traffic of all kinds. Love the green space and a beach!
4702	735	Wetland and lakefront restoration, allows for the building of a healthy ecosystem and sustainability.
4703	736	Amphitheater, community space, and building community space above John Nolan so that space can be used. Creating separate walking and cycling paths.
4704	737	JCFO: Monona Fishing Pier, Tamarack Marsh , greater, separation of biking and foot traffic, sandy beach areas. Greater opportunity for variable use of the shoreline, waterways, and for events.
4705	738	The overall emphasis on sustainability, health, honoring the past, creating spaces for people to with a wide-range of interests to feel a sense of belonging, and the inclusion of art.
4706	739	Woodland play structure for kids. Pedestrian/cycle access to the lakefront from multiple streets/locations. Increased space for bikes/transit, reduced space for cars.
4707	740	Access to the lake, seating by the water.
4708	741	hill, raised park from sasaki
4709	742	Board walks, gathering spaces, more beach
4710	743	Huge fan of John Nolan becoming a tunnel, bikes and pedestrians separated . I also design around the terrace...it feels very high
4711	744	So many! the walkways over and through connections to other parts of the city, all access . These most stood out to me in A
4712	745	The walk on water plan in the Agency do walking to use the path. The current commercial traffic is moving and their inability to share
4713	746	Community usefulness.
4714	747	I really like the hill over Monona Terrace
4715	748	I like the multiple paths for activity. I also event of families and beach space.
4716	749	I like the water access in the Sasaki plan we need to support that.
4717	750	Preservation of wildlife habitat and nature
4718	751	A waterfront concert venue - equal access
4719	752	I like all the layers to cleaning up the lakefront. Making better use of all the land. Adding a beach. And the boathouse at a restaurant.
4720	753	I like the split paths for walking and biking
4721	754	The canopy skywalk is seriously better instead walking paths are expanded at the idea of a kayak course built into the waterfront .



Operations
The proposed master plan works with existing Monona Terrace and accommodates the future expansion zone.

Sasaki

- 123 Text contains "pier" A1:E8054
- 123 Text contains "boat launch" A1:E8054
- 123 Text contains "ecosystem" A1:E8054
- 123 Text contains "restoration" A1:E8054
- 123 Text contains "Path" B1:B8054
- 123 Text contains "Bike" B1:C8054
- 123 Text contains "Canopy Walk" B1:C8054
- 123 Text contains "seating" A1:E8054
- 123 Text contains "beach" A1:E8054
- 123 Text contains "overlook" A1:E8054
- 123 Text contains "Sasaki" B1:C8054



ATTACHMENT A - Lake Monona Waterfront Design Challenge Public Online Survey Results, Write-In Responses		Keywords
Q2	Which plan best understands and responds to the priorities of Madison residents? Please provide comments on your ranking.	
Comment #	Q2 Responses	
1	All 3 firms listened to Madison responses, but Sasaki did so in real time.	
2	I really like an increased green space. I thought the James Corner field operations also did that, and I liked the inclusion of a boat house and the depiction and specificity of natural shoreline. The Sasaki proposal did a beautiful job, emphasizing the environmental impact, and would also be wonderful, but I would've like to see them do more to connect Lake Monona with the downtown	Connect Lake Monona with
3	I think all three did a nice job of analyzing what Madisonians are looking for. I just think the James Corner proposal is more designed for residents than tourists.	
4	I love Sasaki's take on the waterfront restoration. They seem to really understand the idea of making the lake healthier while still making a nice place for people to enjoy. Agency seemed more about making it look nice and that's great but making the lake healthy should be the priority	
5	I like Sasaki plan if only it could include the green paths that go through the city that lead to the water in James corner field plan	paths that go through the city that lead to the water
6	I prefer the nature based approach of the James Corner Field design plan	
7	Developing in Olin Park would be an ecological tragedy	
8	The lake itself has been in pretty terrible for a while - every summer the algae takes over and the smell of dead rotting fish overwhelms the senses, so any project really prioritizing the health of the lake and taking steps to improve it from an environmental standpoint is first in my mind.	Treat algae takes over and the smell of dead rotting fish
9	Don't want anything to change the lake. Any design should on be done on existing land. Need to preserve the lake.	
10	All are good, I think Sasaki does a great job of blending function with a feel that makes Madison seem ahead of the times.	

8044 1143 All three have clearly done a history. I like them all.

8045 1144 Good

8046 1145 Three really along all the

8047 1146 Agency has Better than

8048 1147 All decent.

8049 1148

8050 1149

8051 1150

8052 1151

8053 1152

8054 1153

Lake Monona Waterfront Ad-hoc Committee

Committee Members

- 7 – Community Representatives
- 1 – Member of the Board of Park Commissioners
- 1 – Professional Civil/Structural Engineer
- 1 – Member of the Madison Parks Foundation
- 1 – Member of the Monona Terrace Board
- 1 – Member of the Friends of Nolen Waterfront
- 1 – Member of the Board of Public Works

*One of the above also a Professional Landscape Architect

19 months + Over 40 meetings

Lake Monona Waterfront Design Team



Multi-disciplinary design team that includes local consultant support

Selected by the Ad-hoc Committee through the Design Challenge process

The Design Challenge was a 14-week design competition held by the City

Sasaki provided regional, national and international expertise to the master plan development process

city

community

lake



Voices of the Lake Monona's Waterfront

Guiding Principles



Water Dialogue
**Create a Living
Edge along
Lake Monona's
Shoreline**



Nature Dialogue
**Inspire
Generational
Stewards**



City Dialogue
**A Place for All
to Connect &
Be Connected**



Community Dialogue
**Enhance Equitable
Access to Parks**



Culture Dialogue
**Starting with
the Sacred
Voices**

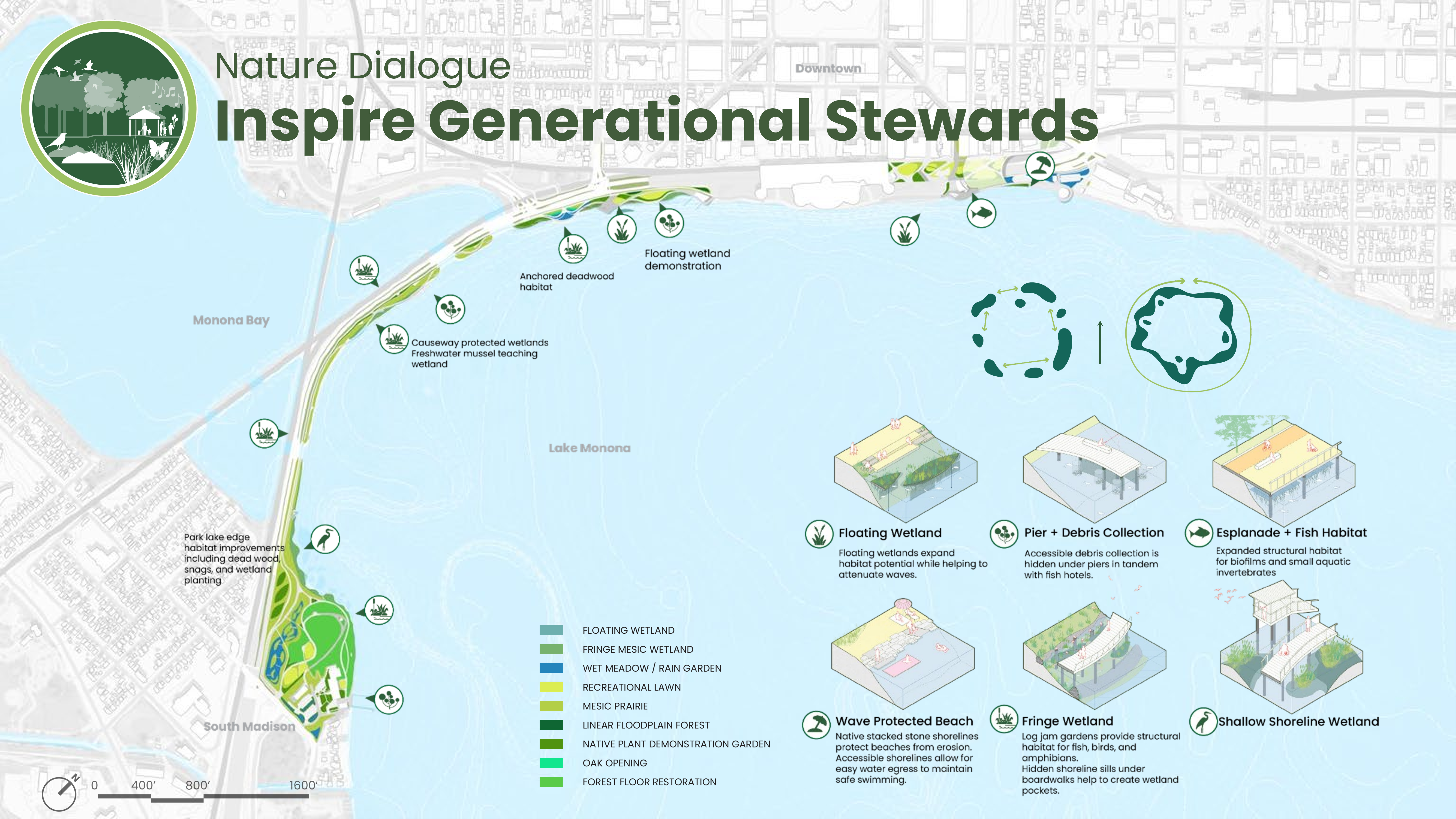


Architecture Dialogue
**A Balanced
Perspective**



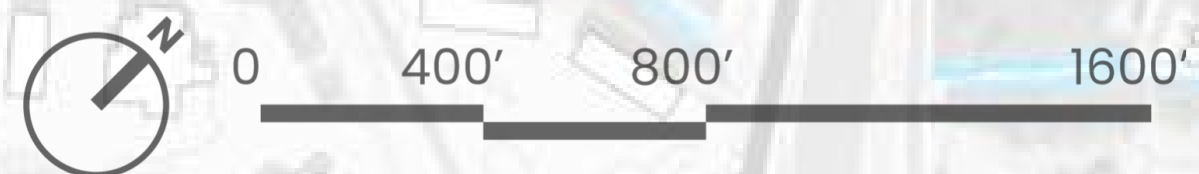
Nature Dialogue

Inspire Generational Stewards



- FLOATING WETLAND
- FRINGE MESIC WETLAND
- WET MEADOW / RAIN GARDEN
- RECREATIONAL LAWN
- MESIC PRAIRIE
- LINEAR FLOODPLAIN FOREST
- NATIVE PLANT DEMONSTRATION GARDEN
- OAK OPENING
- FOREST FLOOR RESTORATION

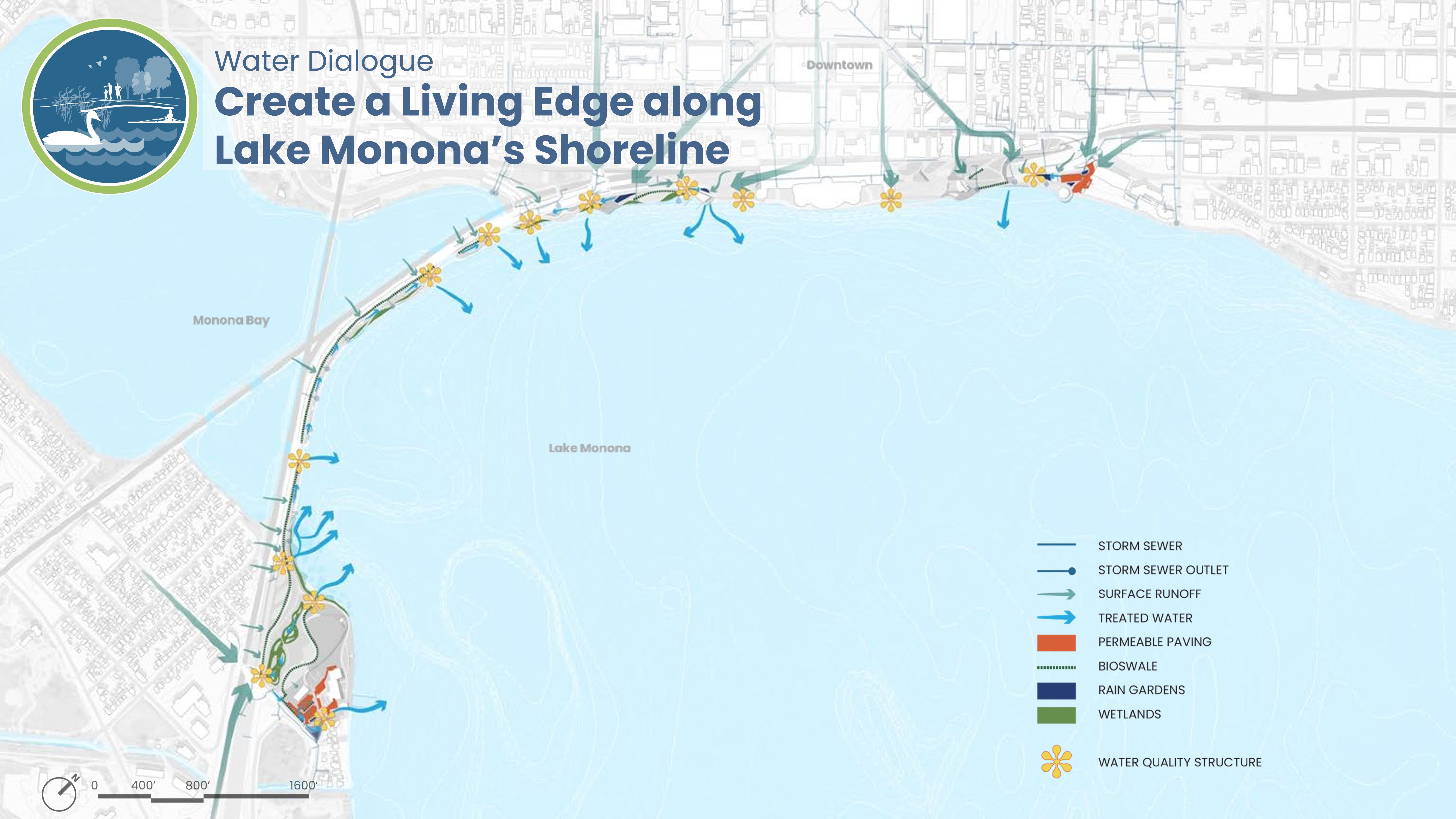
- Floating Wetland**
Floating wetlands expand habitat potential while helping to attenuate waves.
- Pier + Debris Collection**
Accessible debris collection is hidden under piers in tandem with fish hotels.
- Esplanade + Fish Habitat**
Expanded structural habitat for biofilms and small aquatic invertebrates
- Wave Protected Beach**
Native stacked stone shorelines protect beaches from erosion. Accessible shorelines allow for easy water egress to maintain safe swimming.
- Fringe Wetland**
Log jam gardens provide structural habitat for fish, birds, and amphibians. Hidden shoreline sills under boardwalks help to create wetland pockets.
- Shallow Shoreline Wetland**





Water Dialogue

Create a Living Edge along Lake Monona's Shoreline



- STORM SEWER
- STORM SEWER OUTLET
- SURFACE RUNOFF
- TREATED WATER
- PERMEABLE PAVING
- BIOSWALE
- RAIN GARDENS
- WETLANDS
- ✿ WATER QUALITY STRUCTURE





Community Dialogue Enhance Equitable Access to Parks



SUMMER

YEAR-ROUND

WINTER

Starting with the Sacred Voices



● **A place** for gift, prayer and offering to the water spirits. A quiet and meditative place.

● **Harry Whitehorse** came into this world in a wigwam near the Indian Mission in Black River Falls, Wisconsin, the traditional home of the Ho-Chunk people.

- The life of Harry Whitehorse from his website

“ This project is a touch point to incorporate thoughts on culture and history of people that came before us. ”

Chloris Lowe Jr.
Ho Chunk Nation

● **Imagine** what that timeless view would look like if the buildings were not there and the mounds remained.

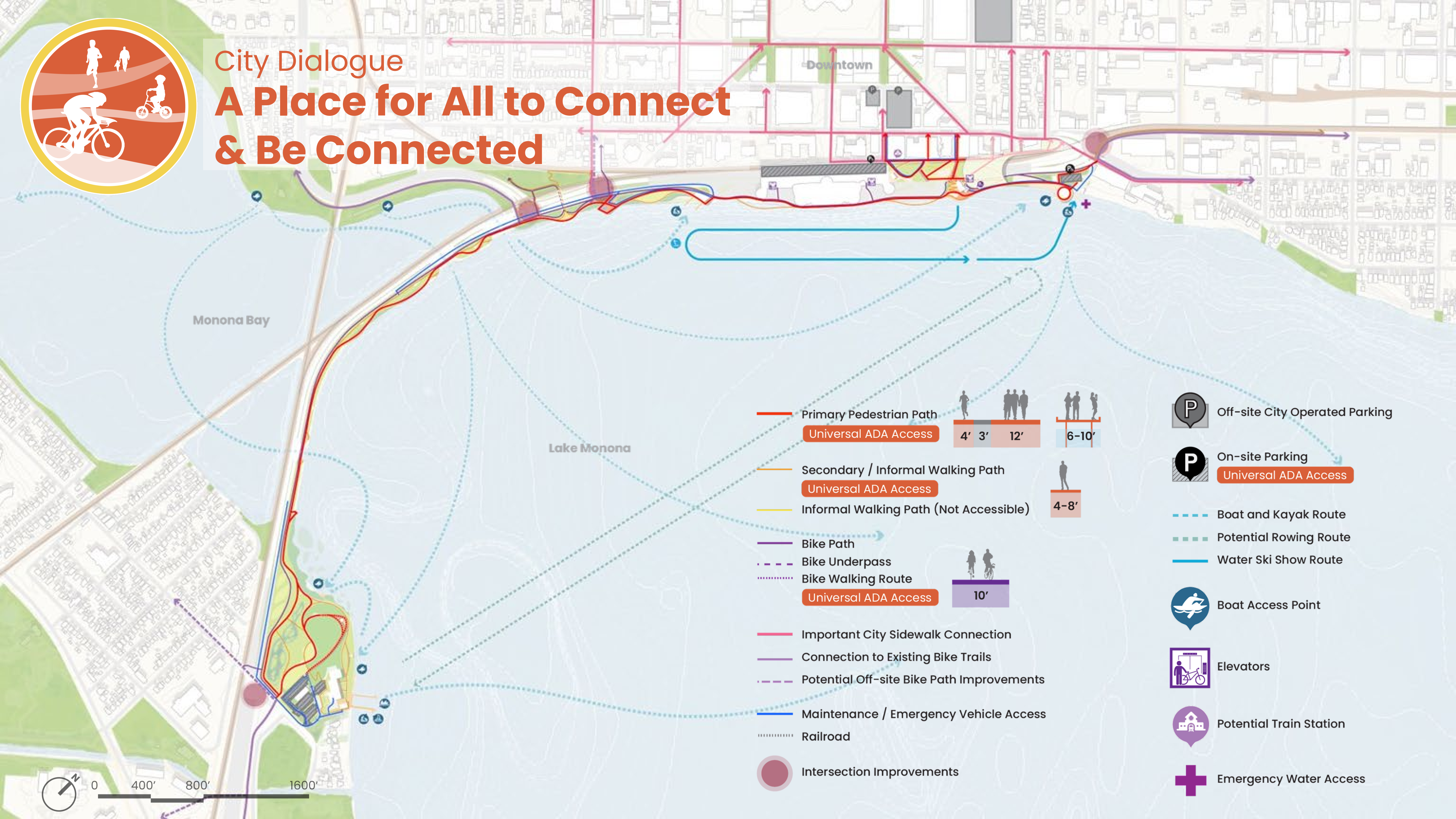
- from an Interview with Samantha C. Skenandore,
Tribal Law Attorney

● **If** I have a religion, it must be canoeing...I canoe wherever there's water. It puts me in a totally different state of mind and provides all I need to exist.

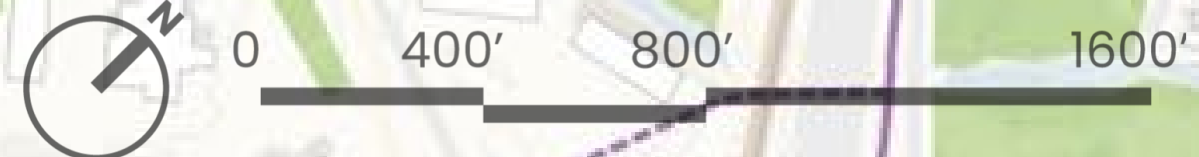
- Truman Lowe



City Dialogue A Place for All to Connect & Be Connected

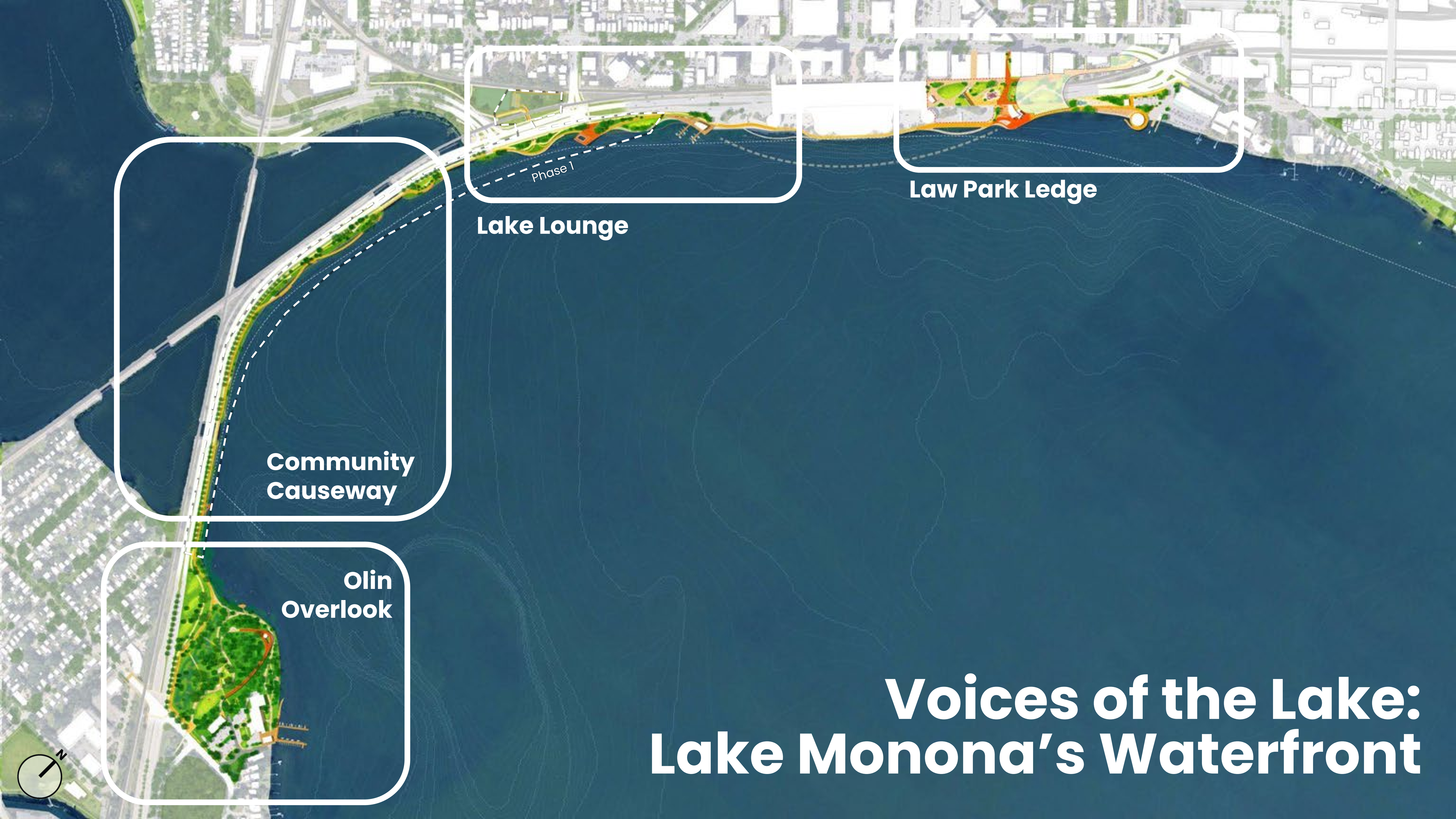


- Primary Pedestrian Path
 Universal ADA Access
 4' 3' 12'
- Informal Walking Path (Not Accessible)
 4-8'
- Bike Path
 Bike Underpass
 Bike Walking Route
 Universal ADA Access
 10'
- Important City Sidewalk Connection
 Connection to Existing Bike Trails
 Potential Off-site Bike Path Improvements
- Maintenance / Emergency Vehicle Access
 Railroad
 Intersection Improvements
- Off-site City Operated Parking
 On-site Parking
 Universal ADA Access
- Boat and Kayak Route
 Potential Rowing Route
 Water Ski Show Route
- Boat Access Point
 Elevators
 Potential Train Station
 Emergency Water Access



Lake Monona Waterfront Master Plan





Lake Lounge



Law Park Ledge



Community Causeway



Olin Overlook



Voices of the Lake: Lake Monona's Waterfront



**Community
Causeway**

Phase 1



When I first moved to Madison, I drove in on John Nolen and saw the city and the lake. It was just like, oh my god, I love living here.



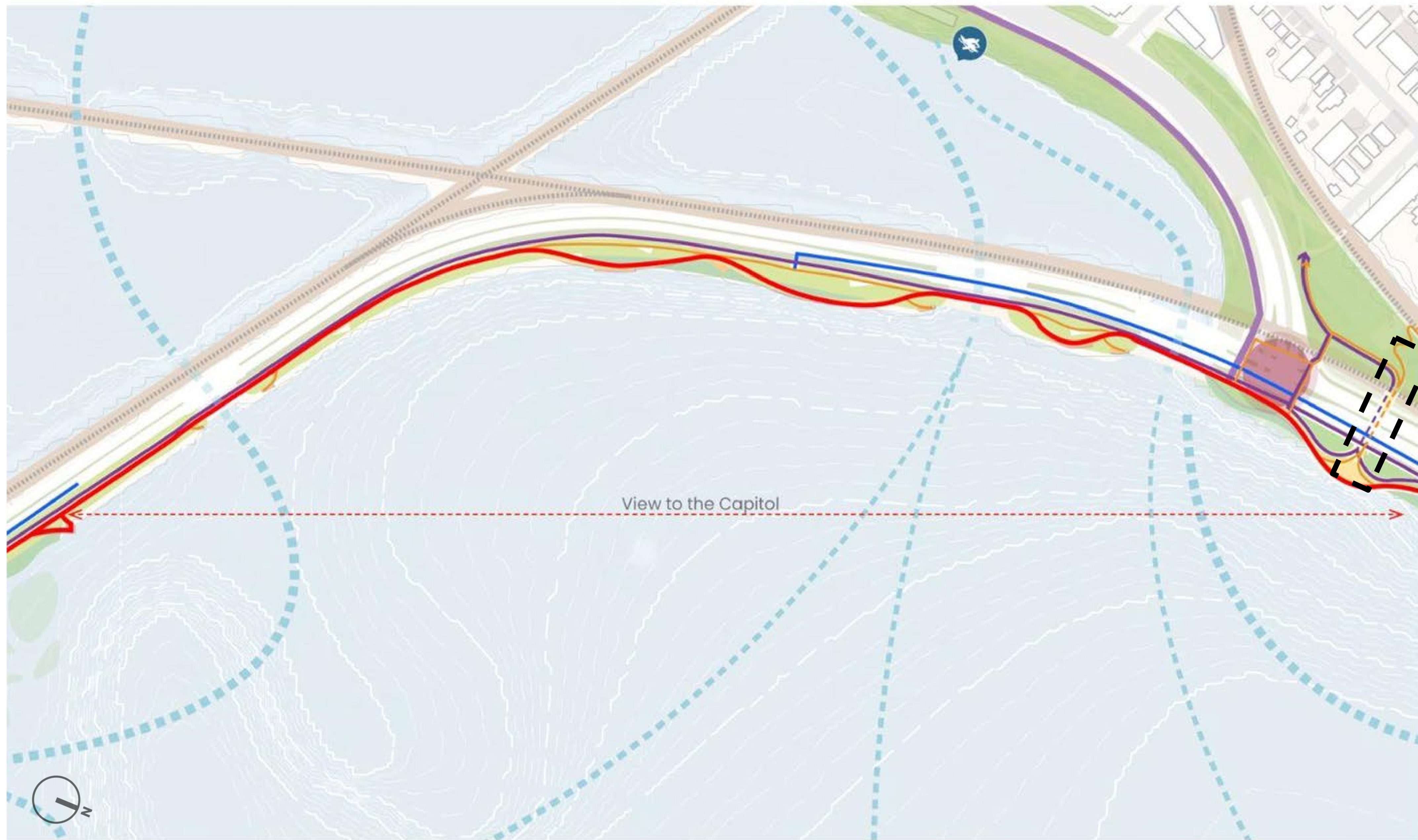
Katie Nash
Madison Resident



- 1 Dedicated Bike Lane
- 2 Jogging Path
- 3 Walking Path
- 4 Boardwalk (with seating along JND)
- 5 Storage
- 6 Flexible Lawn
- 7 Capital Overlook Seating Area
- 8 Street Trees Preserving View Corridor towards the Capitol
- 9 Bioswales & Rain Gardens
- 10 Fishing Terrace
- 11 John Nolen Drive Improvement
- 12 Capitol View Plaza
- 13 Fishing Pier
- 14 Wave Protected Fringe Wetland

Community Causeway

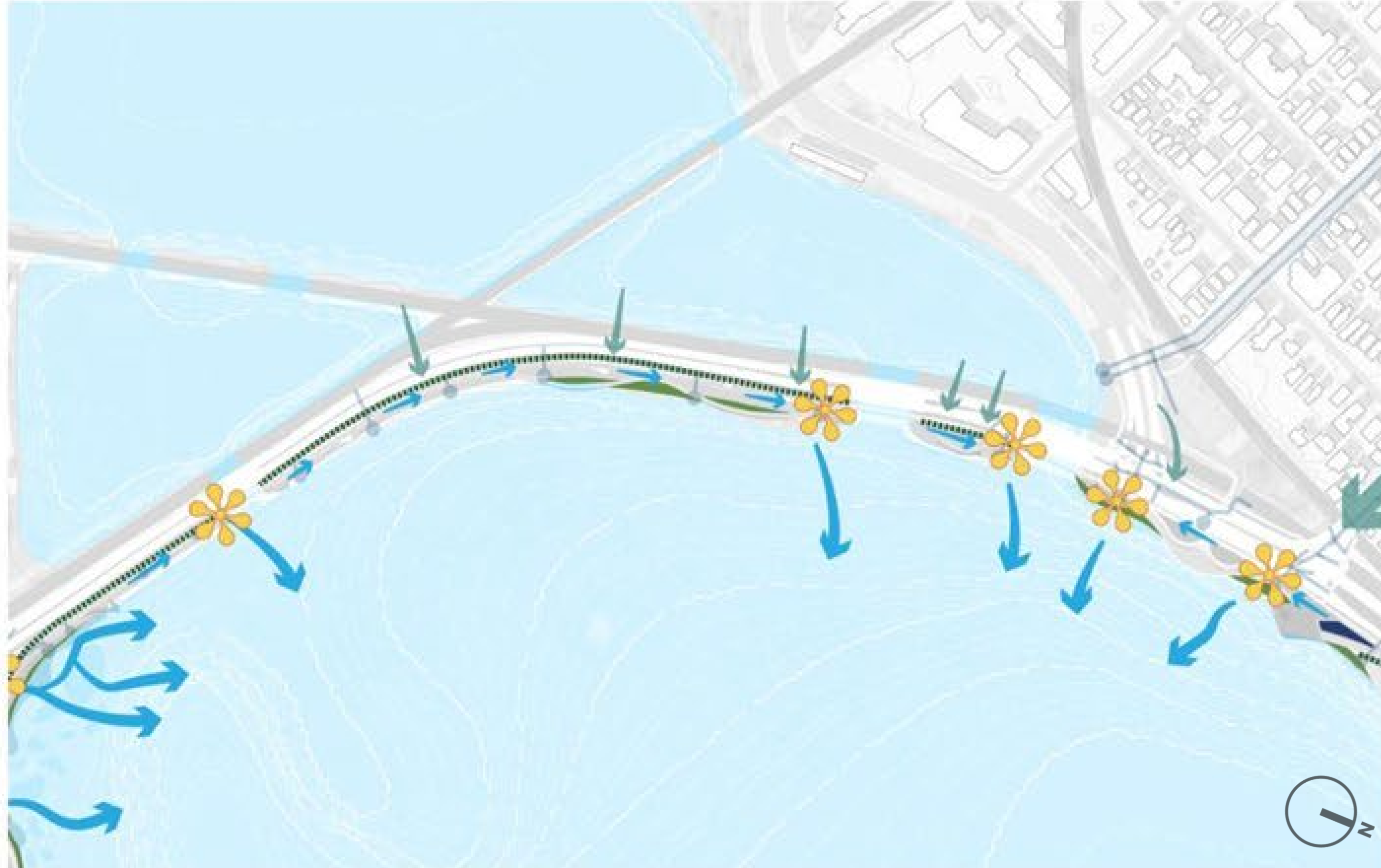
Circulation



- Primary Pedestrian Path
- Secondary / Informal Walking Path
- Bike Path
- Bike Underpass
- Connection to Existing Bike Trails
- Potential Off-site Bike Path Improvements
- Maintenance / Emergency Vehicle Access
- Railroad
- Intersection Improvements
- Boat and Kayak Route
- Potential Rowing Route
- Water Ski Show Route
- Boat Access Point
- Underpass

Hydrology and Ecology

Hydrology



Ecology



- STORM SEWER
- STORM SEWER OUTLET
- SURFACE RUNOFF
- TREATED WATER
- PERMEABLE PAVING
- ⋯ BIOSWALE
- RAIN GARDENS
- WETLANDS
- ⊛ WATER QUALITY STRUCTURE

- FLOATING WETLAND
- FRINGE MESIC WETLAND
- WET MEADOW / RAIN GARDEN
- RECREATIONAL LAWN
- MESIC PRAIRIE
- LINEAR FLOODPLAIN FOREST
- NATIVE PLANT DEMONSTRATION GARDEN
- OAK OPENING
- FOREST FLOOR RESTORATION

Public Art Opportunities



View Framing Art



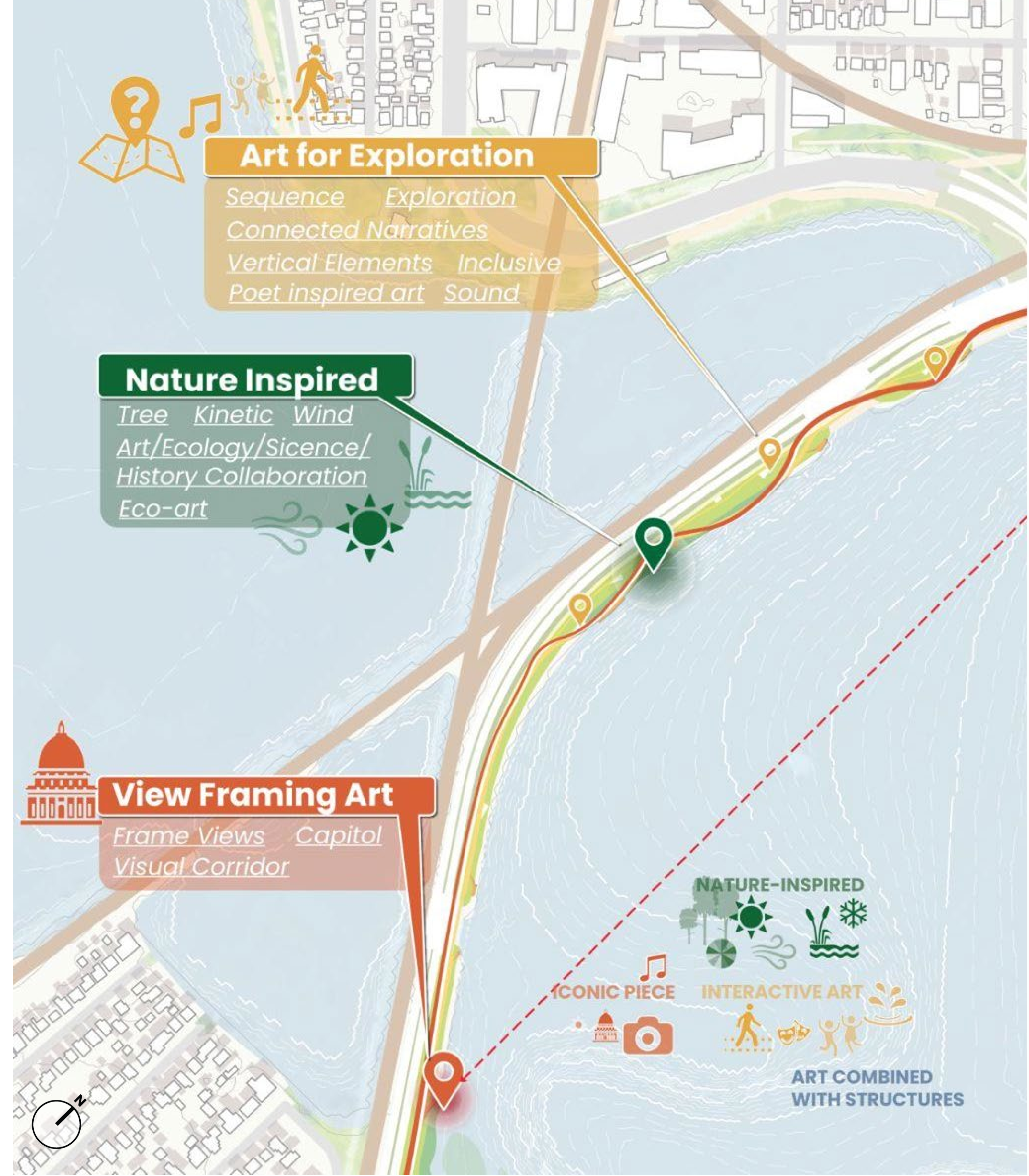
Small Scale Eco Art



Sustainable Art



Kinetic Art



What can it look like?



Fishing Pier



Bioswale and Rain Garden



Trail for All Speeds



Wetland and Fish Habitat



Boardwalk



Fishing Terrace

Community Causeway

Multi-use Trail

Fishing

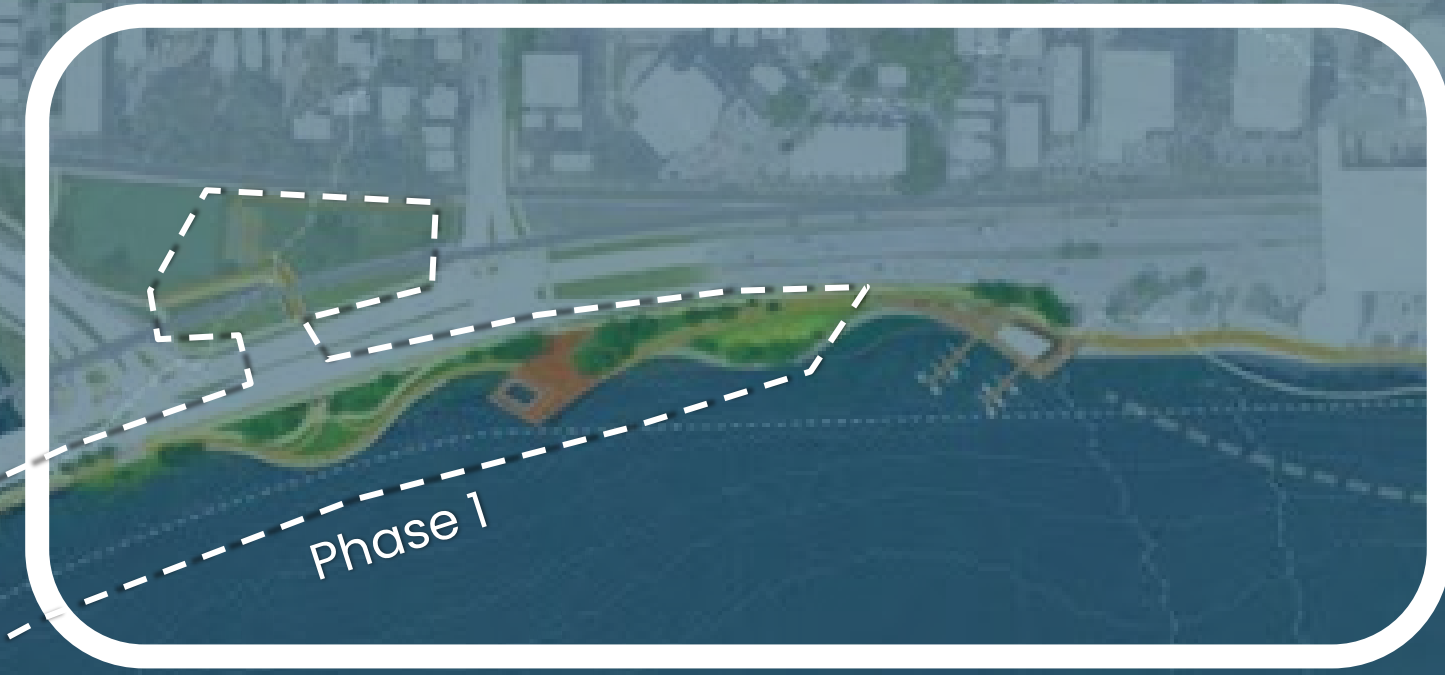
Wave Protected Fringe Wetland

Story Walk Art Piece



Community Causeway





Lake Lounge



It is a great opportunity, as best as we can with the space limitation and all the constraints we are facing, building in a way that has true improvement on enviornmental quality. We want to make this waterfront a national model for green infrastructure.



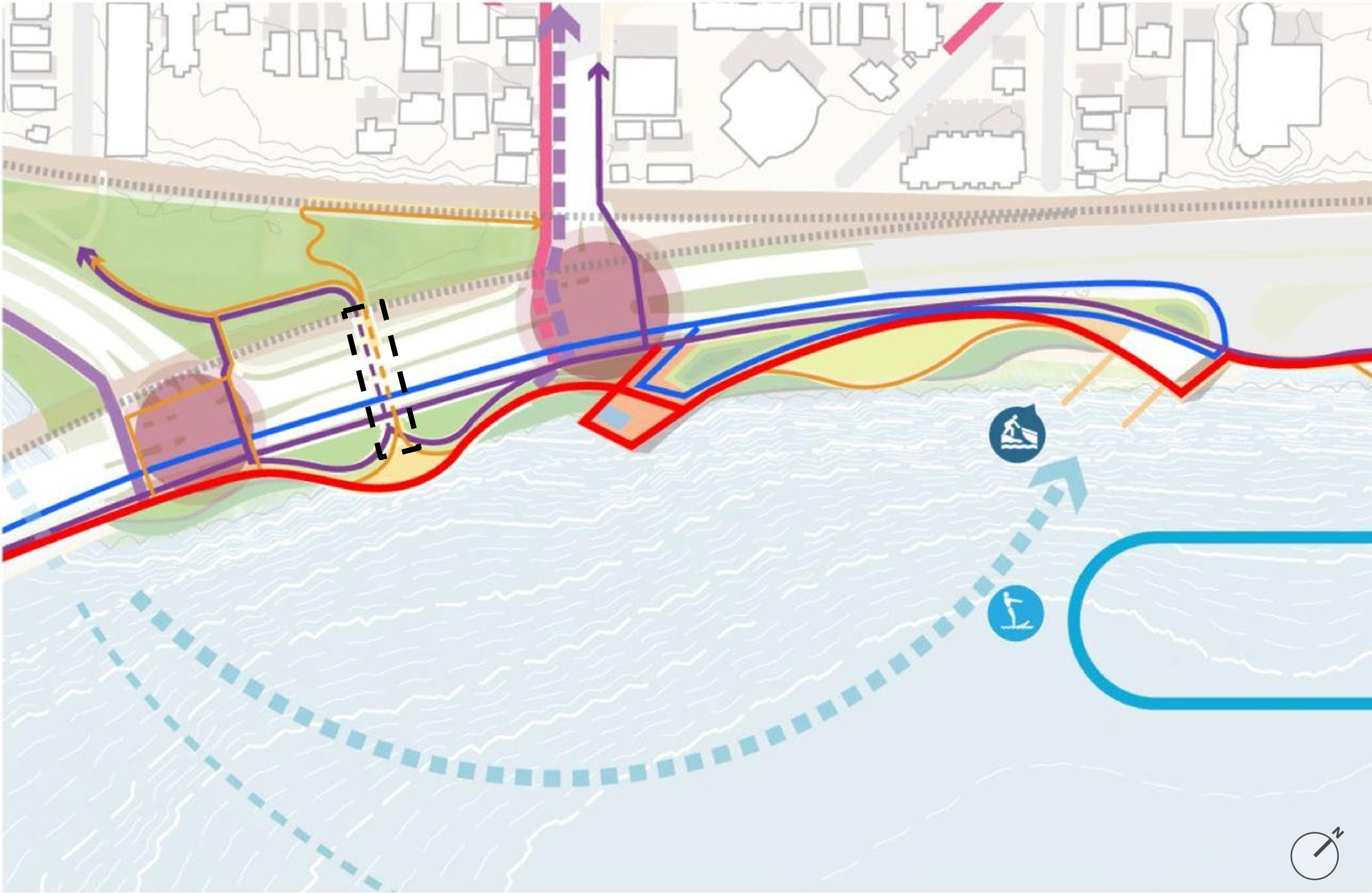
Paul Dearlove
Clean Lake Alliance



- 1 Ice Walk
- 2 Fishing Pier
- 3 Boat Vendor with Paddle Craft Livery
- 4 Rain Garden
- 5 Floating Piers for Transient Boats
- 6 Lakefront Promenade (Vehicular Grade)
- 7 Flexible Lawn & Food Truck Staging Area
- 8 Bike Lane
- 9 Improved Intersection
- 10 Hamilton Pier Plaza
- 11 Bike Repair Station
- 12 Pedestrian and Cyclist Underpass
- 13 Underpass Gateway Plaza
- 14 Fringe Wetland and Boardwalk
- 15 Improved Intersection

Lake Lounge

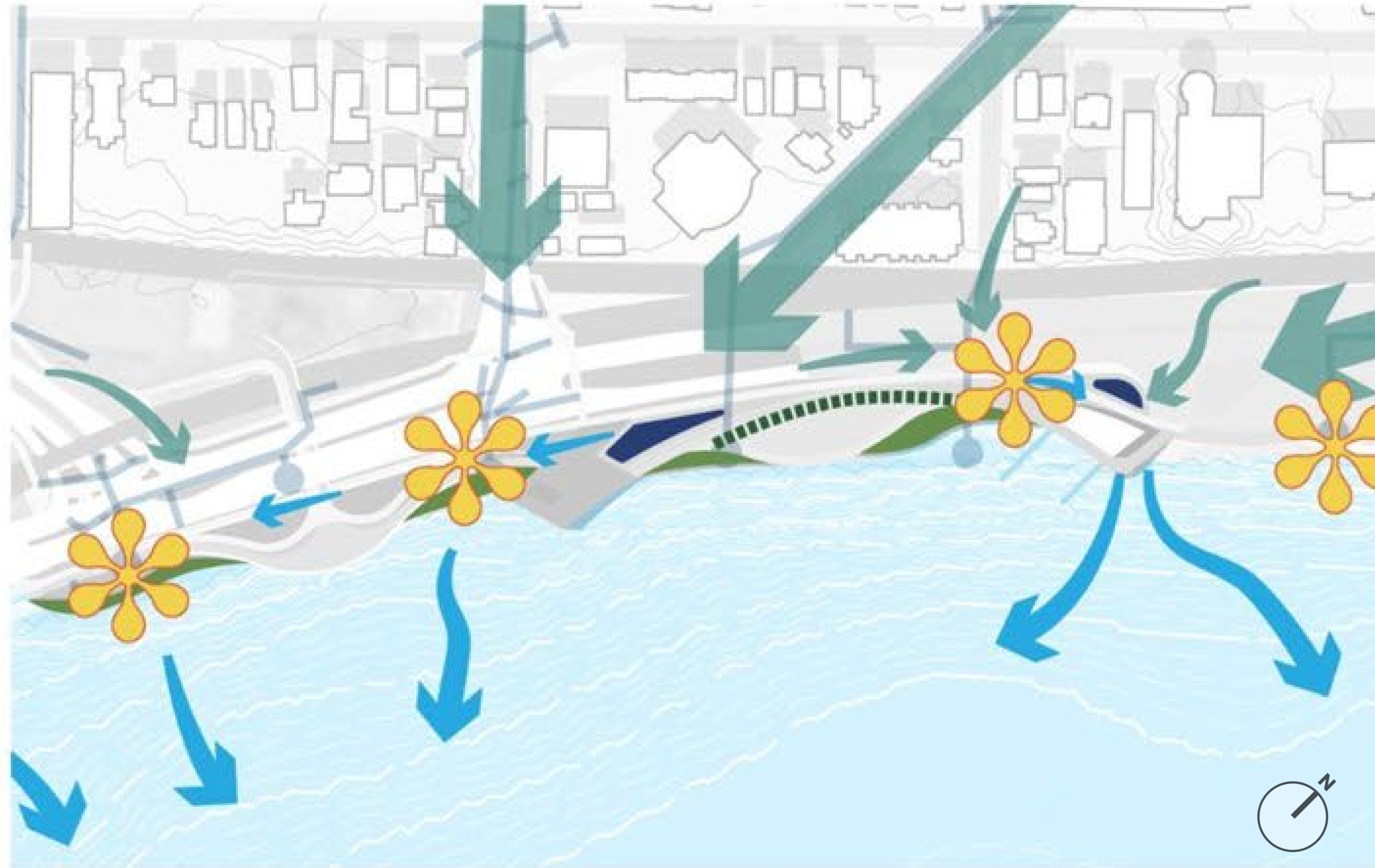
Circulation



- Primary Pedestrian Path
- Secondary / Informal Walking Path
- Bike Path
- Bike Underpass
- Connection to Existing Bike Trails
- Potential Off-site Bike Path Improvements
- Maintenance / Emergency Vehicle Access
- Railroad
- Intersection Improvements
- Boat and Kayak Route
- Potential Rowing Route
- Water Ski Show Route
- Boat Access Point
- Underpass

Hydrology and Ecology

Hydrology



- STORM SEWER
- STORM SEWER OUTLET
- SURFACE RUNOFF
- TREATED WATER
- PERMEABLE PAVING
- BIOSWALE
- RAIN GARDENS
- WETLANDS
- ✿ WATER QUALITY STRUCTURE

Ecology



- FLOATING WETLAND
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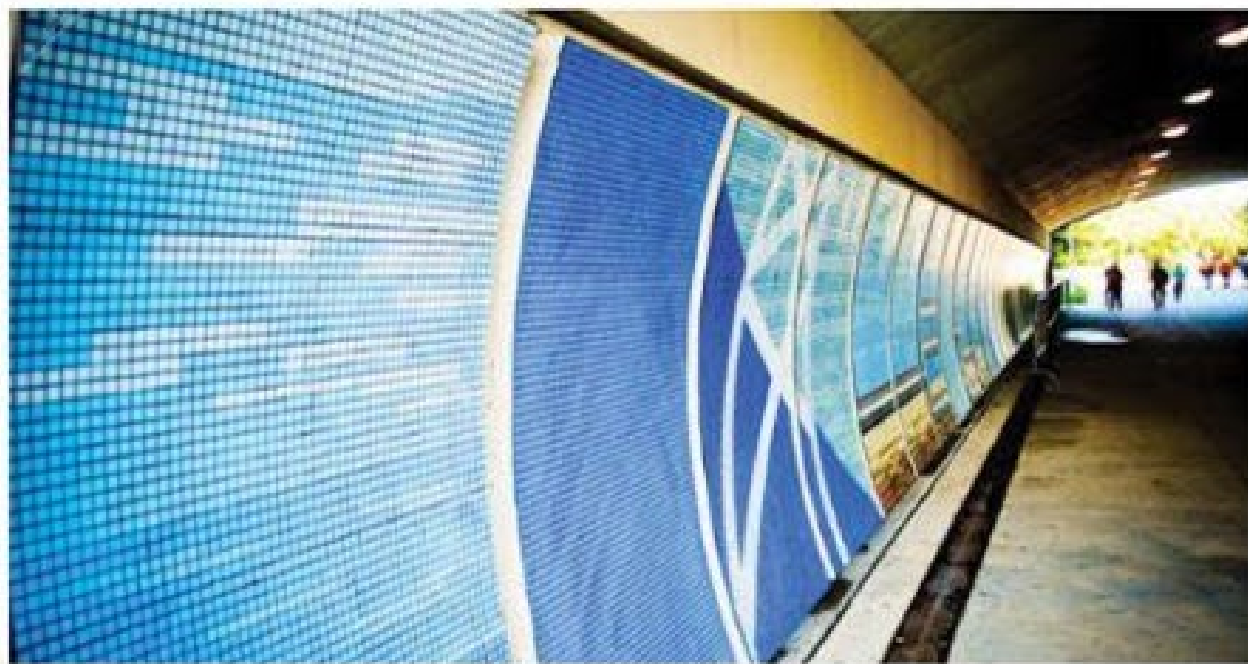
Public Art Opportunities



Pavement Design/Embedded Wayfinding



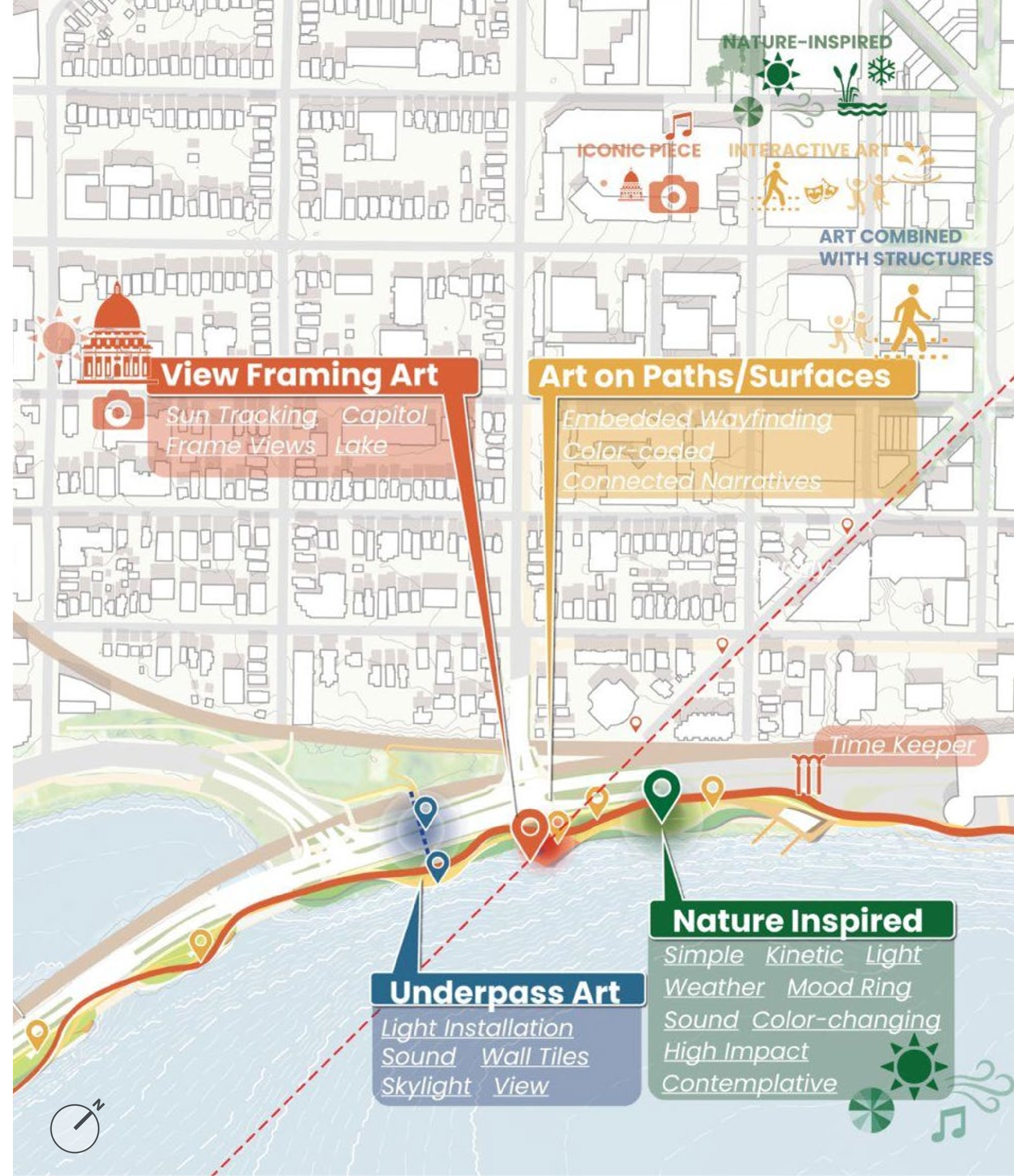
Sun Inspired Art



Underpass Art



Light and Color Inspired Installations



What can it look like?



Arts and Lake View Swing Sets



Food Trucks



Wetland, Fish Habitat and Boardwalk



Underpass



Boat Launch



Lakeside Gathering Place

Lake Lounge

Visual Connection with the Wisconsin State Capitol

Lighting

Swing

Kinetic Art

Plaza Pier Seating

Native Plant Demonstration Garden

HAYTON PLAZA
WE LOVE MADISON
THE NATURE HERE IS TIMELESS
TO BE HEARD



“ When you talk about the Olin Park view, that’s my favorite view. I used to be there with my grandmother. We look out into the lake and think what it will look like if the building were not there. I see it as a quiet and meditative place. ”

Samantha C. Skenandore
Tribal Law Attorney
Ho-Chunk Nation



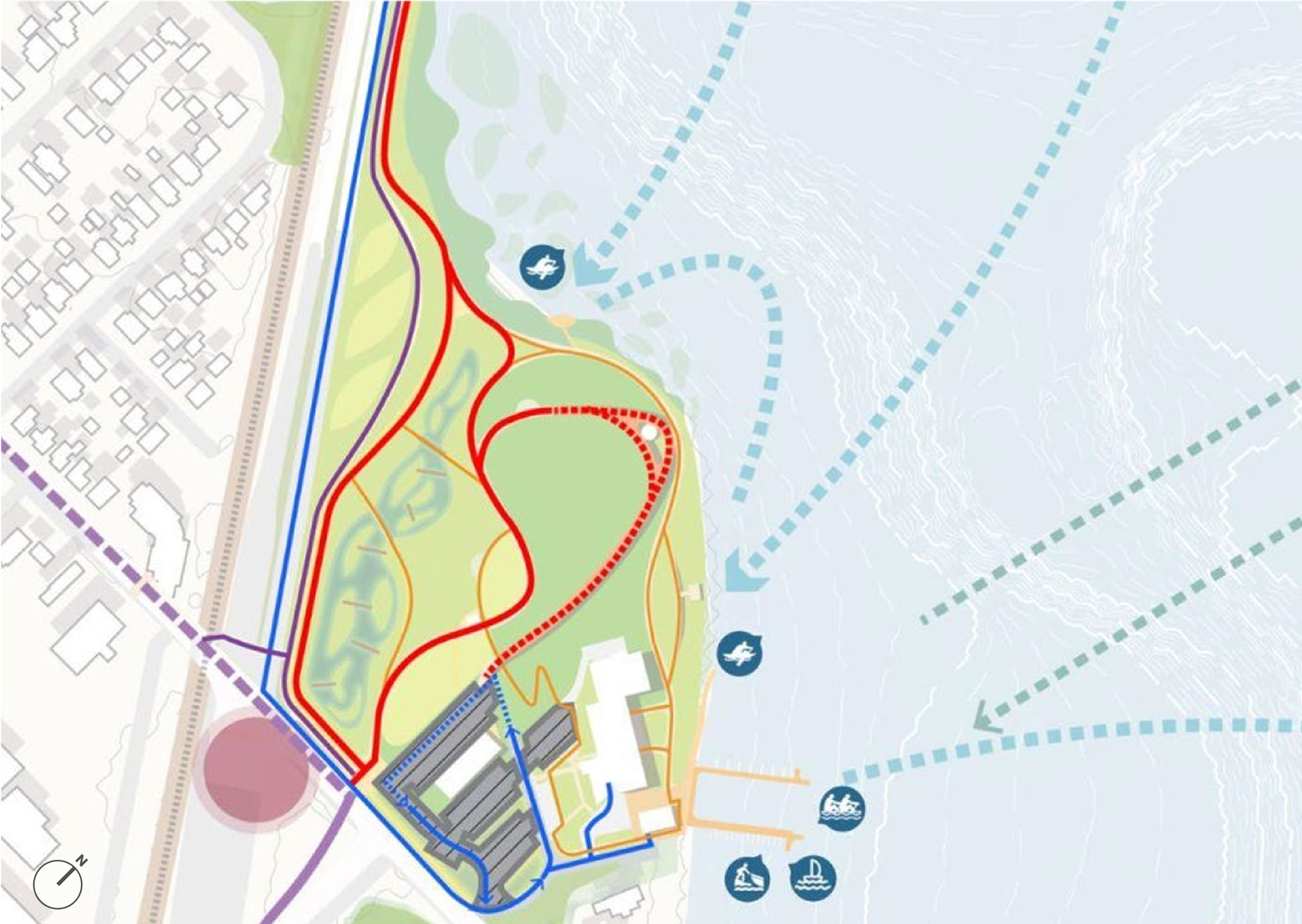
**Olin
Overlook**

Olin Overlook

- 1 Canopy Walk
- 2 Event Lawn
- 3 Bike Lane
- 4 Boat Dock
- 5 Landscape Berm for Noise Attenuation
- 6 Constructed Wet Mesic Prairie
- 7 Permeable Parking & Stormwater Treatment
- 8 Boardwalk
- 9 Forest Restoration
- 10 Waterfront Plaza
- 11 Nature Playground
- 12 Picnic Lawn
- 13 Play Feature / Art Installation
- 14 Kayak Launch
- 15 Overlook Deck
- 16 Nature Center / Art Studio
- 17 Treehouse
- 18 Boathouse
- 19 Park support facility, reservable community space
- 20 Restroom
- 21 Picnic Shelters



Circulation



- Primary Pedestrian Path
- Secondary / Informal Walking Path
- Bike Path
- Connection to Existing Bike Trails
- Maintenance / Emergency Vehicle Access
- Railroad
- Intersection Improvements
- Boat and Kayak Route
- Potential Rowing Route
- Boat Access Point
- On-site Parking

Hydrology and Ecology

Hydrology



Ecology



Public Art Opportunities



Environmental Art



Large Scale Land Art



Art Center and Maker Space



Cultural Art along Trails



Nature-Inspired Structures



What can it look like?



Nature Trails



Multi-use Lawn



Outdoor Classroom



Nature Playground



Canopy Walk



Waterfront Plaza and Picnic Area



Kayak Launch



Wetland, Fish Habitat and Boardwalk



Reservable Community Space

Nature Center/Art and Culture Center

Boat Dock

Picnic Lawn

Forest Restoration

Wet Mesic Prairie & Outdoor Classroom

Canopy Walk & Overlook

Landscape Berm for Noise Attenuation

Kayak Launch

specimen Tree

Fringe Mesic Wetland

Olin Overlook


Wildlife Habitat

Forest Restoration

Tree House

Canopy Walk

**Spring Ephemeral
Wildflower Plantings**

**Interpretive
Nature Trails**

Olin Overlook

THE MISSION IS TO KEEP THE CITY BEAUTIFUL





Law Park Ledge

“What we heard a lot is that, for a place like this, there are going to be lots of different people. So it’s really important to think about how you can create co-existence (of features and programs).”

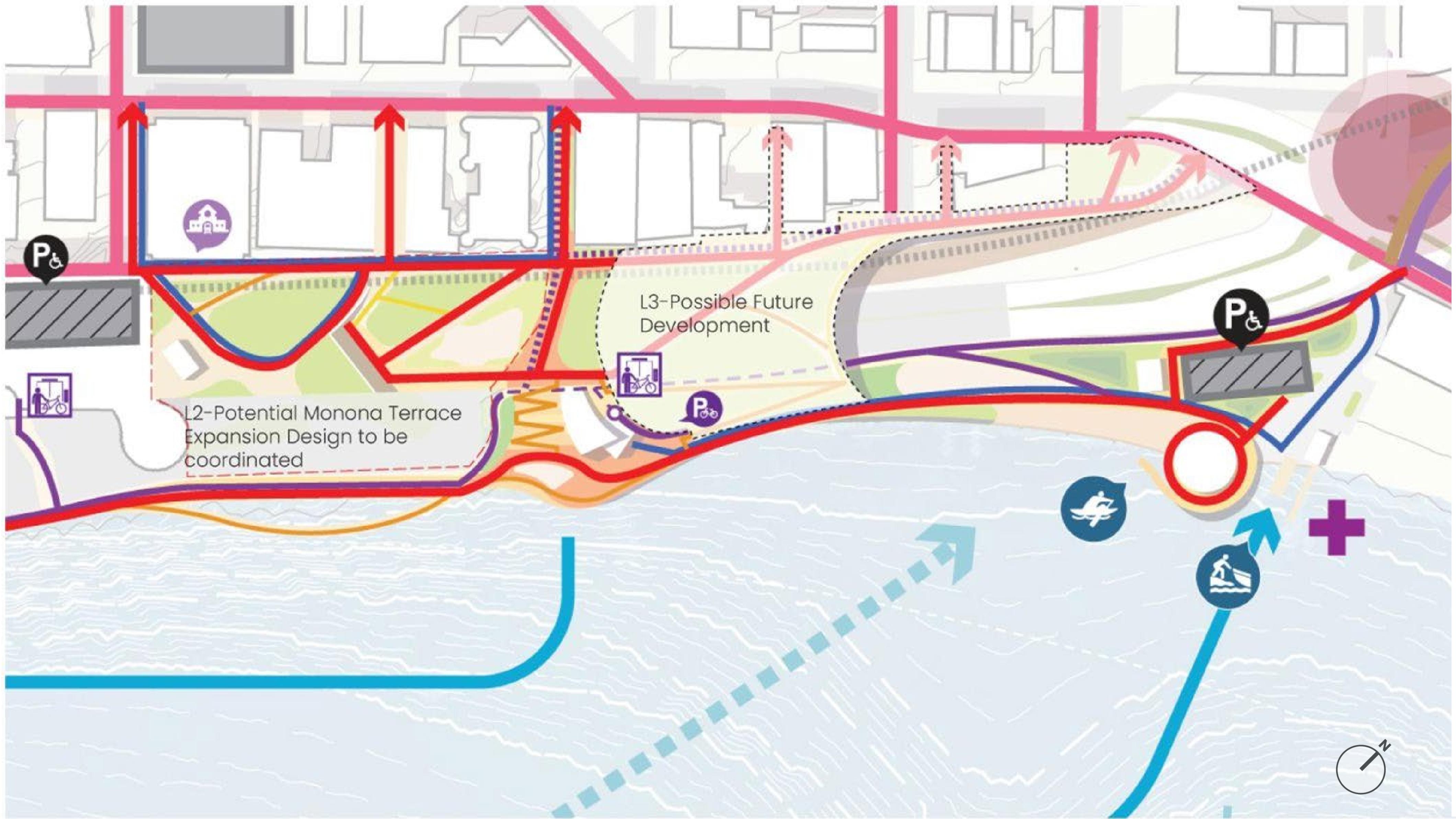
Annette Miller
Chief Executive Officer, EQT by Design



- | | | |
|--|-----------------------------|--|
| 1 Emergency Boat Storage and Access | 10 Lakefront Promenade | 19 Flexible Lawn |
| 2 Managed Boat Ramp | 11 Bike Lane | 20 Lake Themed Adventure Playground |
| 3 Parking (ADA) and Stormwater Treatment | 12 Elevator Connection | 21 E Wilson St Connection – per City access easement |
| 4 Monona Boathouse | 13 Concession and Restrooms | 22 E Wilson St Connection – pending |
| 5 Kayak Launch | 14 Event Stage | 23 Green Roof and Outdoor Amenities |
| 6 Public Upland Beach with Water Access | 15 Waterfront Amphitheater | 24 Winter Garden |
| 7 Restrooms and Changing Rooms | 16 Accessible Ramp | |
| 8 Rain Garden | 17 Water Terrace | |
| 9 Water Play | 18 Fishing Pier | |

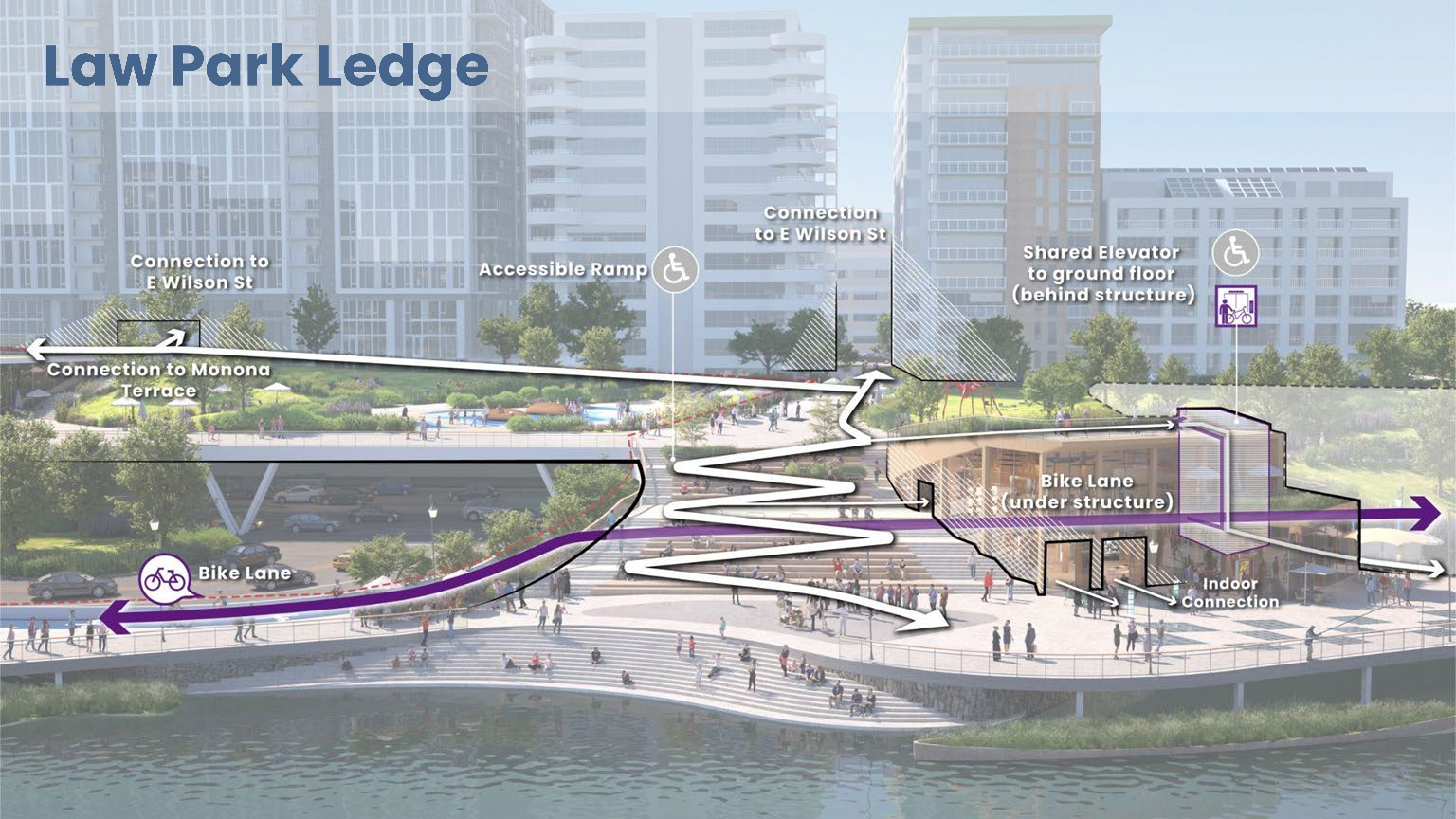
Law Park Ledge

Circulation



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- 🚤 Boat Access Point
- P Off-site City Operated Parking
- P On-site Parking
- Elevators
- 🚂 Potential Train Station
- Emergency Water Access

Law Park Ledge



Connection to
E Wilson St

Accessible Ramp

Connection
to E Wilson St

Shared Elevator
to ground floor
(behind structure)

Connection to Monona
Terrace

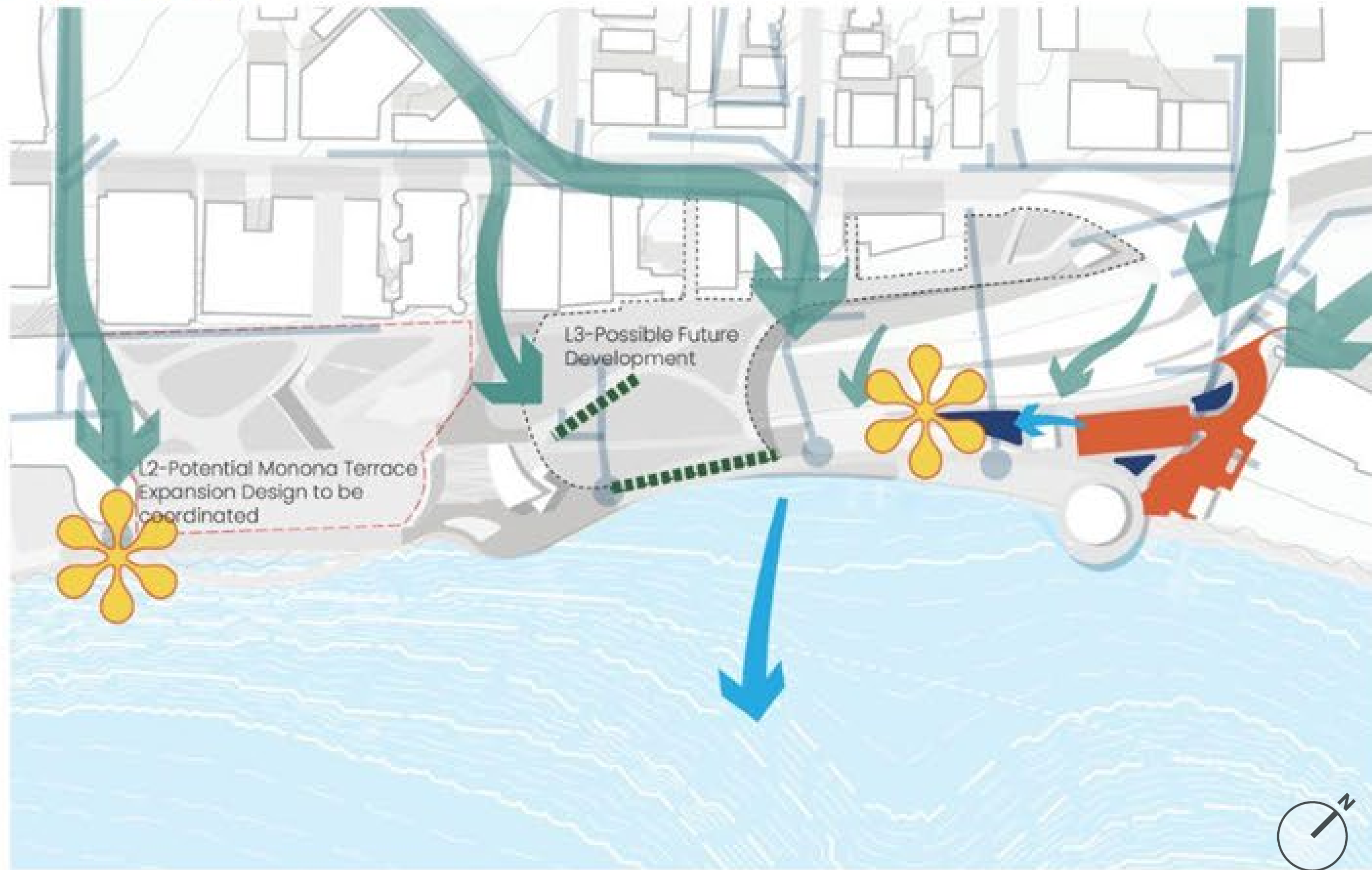
Bike Lane
(under structure)

Bike Lane

Indoor
Connection

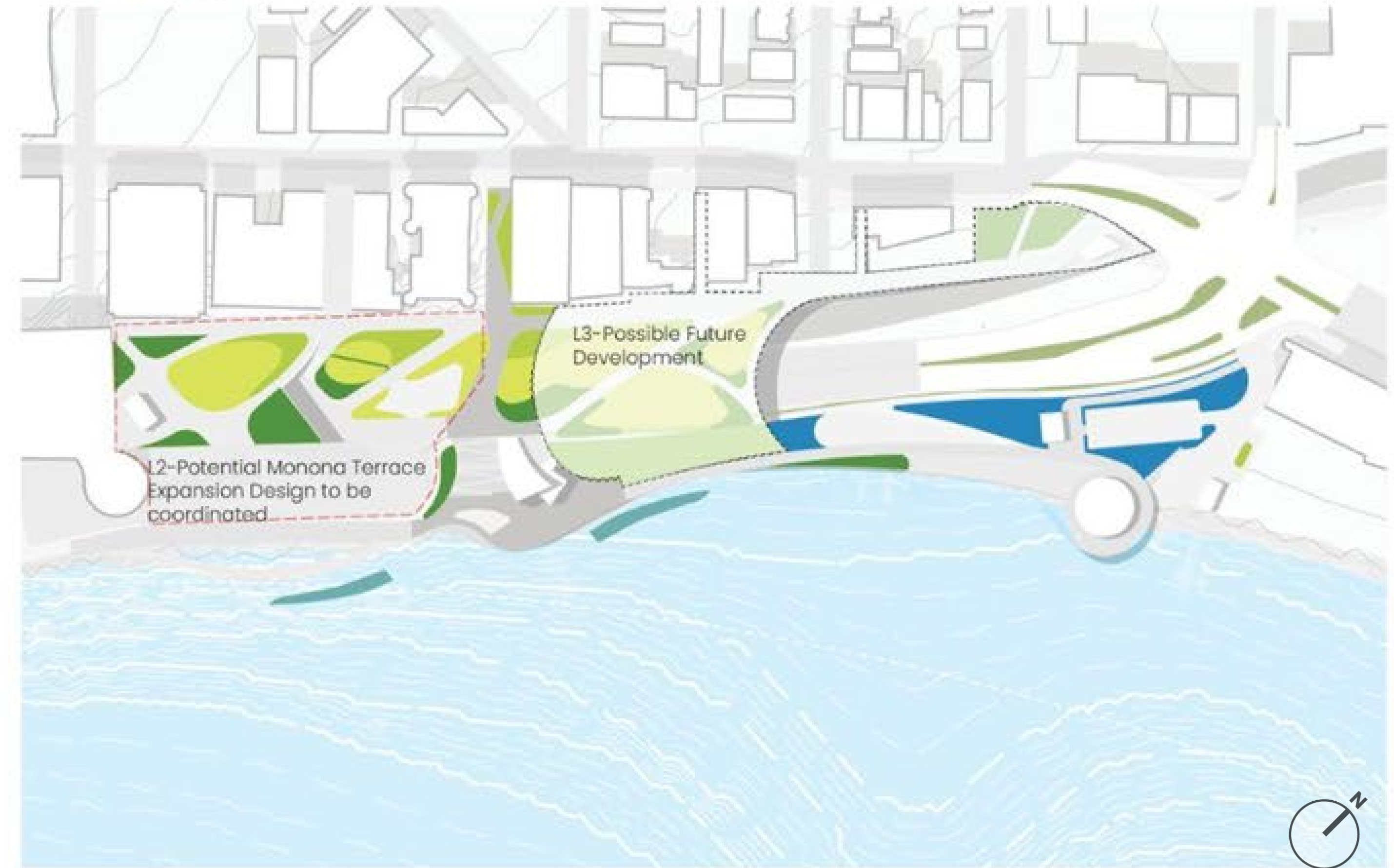
Hydrology and Ecology

Hydrology



- STORM SEWER
- STORM SEWER OUTLET
- SURFACE RUNOFF
- TREATED WATER
- PERMEABLE PAVING
- ⋯ BIOSWALE
- RAIN GARDENS
- WETLANDS
- ⊛ WATER QUALITY STRUCTURE

Ecology



- FLOATING WETLAND
- FRINGE MESIC WETLAND
- WET MEADOW / RAIN GARDEN
- RECREATIONAL LAWN
- MESIC PRAIRIE
- LINEAR FLOODPLAIN FOREST
- NATIVE PLANT DEMONSTRATION GARDEN
- OAK OPENING
- FOREST FLOOR RESTORATION

Public Art Opportunities



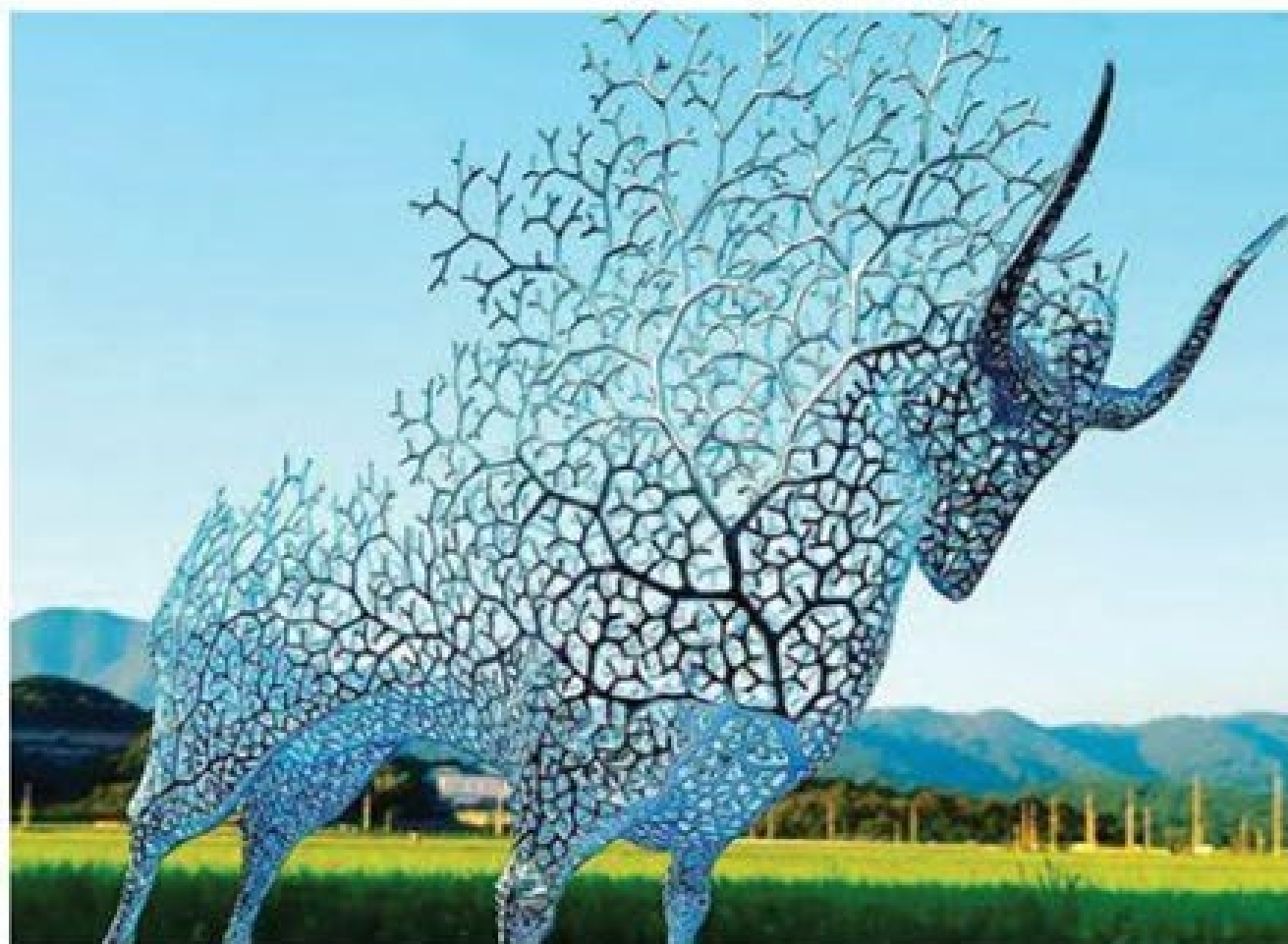
Modern Art



Temporary Art Installations



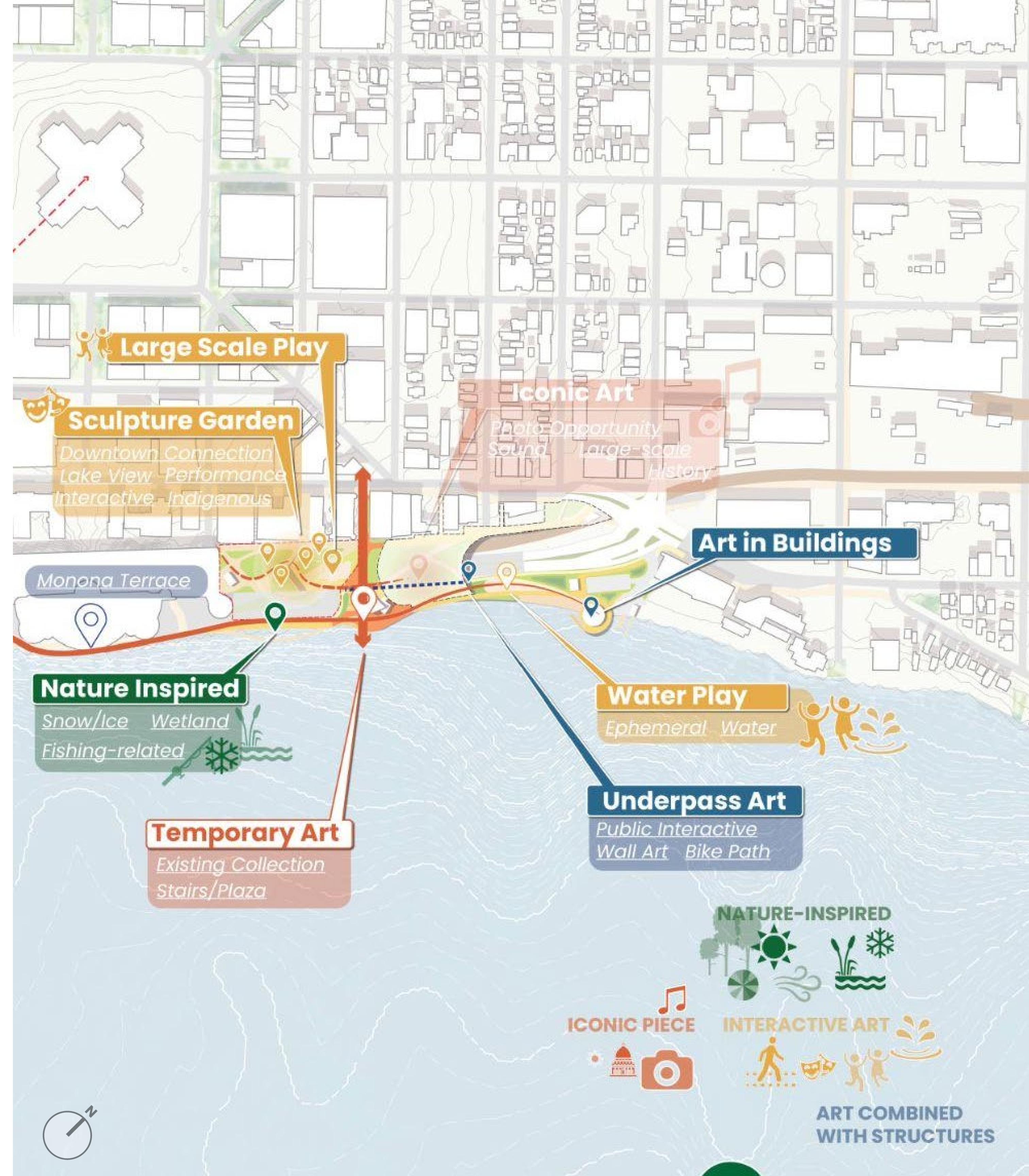
Art with Play



Sculpture Garden



Local Art Installation



What can it look like?



Flexible Lawn



Fishing Pier



Waterfront Promenade with Concession



Waterfront Amphitheater



Upland Beach



Water Play

Law Park Ledge

E. Wilson Upper Connection
(City Easement)

Upper Plaza,
Lawn and Art

Playground

Concession
and Elevator

Amphitheatre

L3 - Possible Future
Development

STAGE AND
STEPS TO ICE WALK

Bike Path

Floating
Wetlands

L2 - Potential Monona Terrace
Expansion Design to be Coordinated



Law Park Ledge



Boat House

Upland Beach

E. Wilson Upper Connection
(City Easement)

E. Wilson Upper Connection
(Pending)

L3 - Possible Future Development

Concession and Elevator

Floating Wetlands

Playground

L2 - Potential Monona Terrace
Expansion Design to be Coordinated

Amphitheatre

STAGE AND
STEPS TO ICE WALK



Lake Lounge

Law Park Ledge

**Community
Causeway**

**Olin
Overlook**

Thank you!