



Figure 4.3.46 Dearborn Street
Lights and landscaping in the Loop



Figure 4.3.47
Hanging planters add greenery
and keep sidewalks open



Figure 4.3.48 Randolph Street
Consolidated newspaper rack



Figure 4.3.49 Street signage explains local
points of interest

STREET FURNITURE

In locations where street and sidewalk widths do not allow for planters or landscaped medians, street furnishings can be used to “green” the streets. Streetlights with banners or planters add color and festivity to the pedestrian experience. Keeping street furniture, such as newspaper stands, orderly and compact helps to increase the amount of space for pedestrian movement, especially on narrow sidewalks. Signage, special paving and other details further enhance the pedestrian experience. Maintaining consistent standards for the design and placement of these furniture elements in the various districts of the Central Area will also help to define their identity.



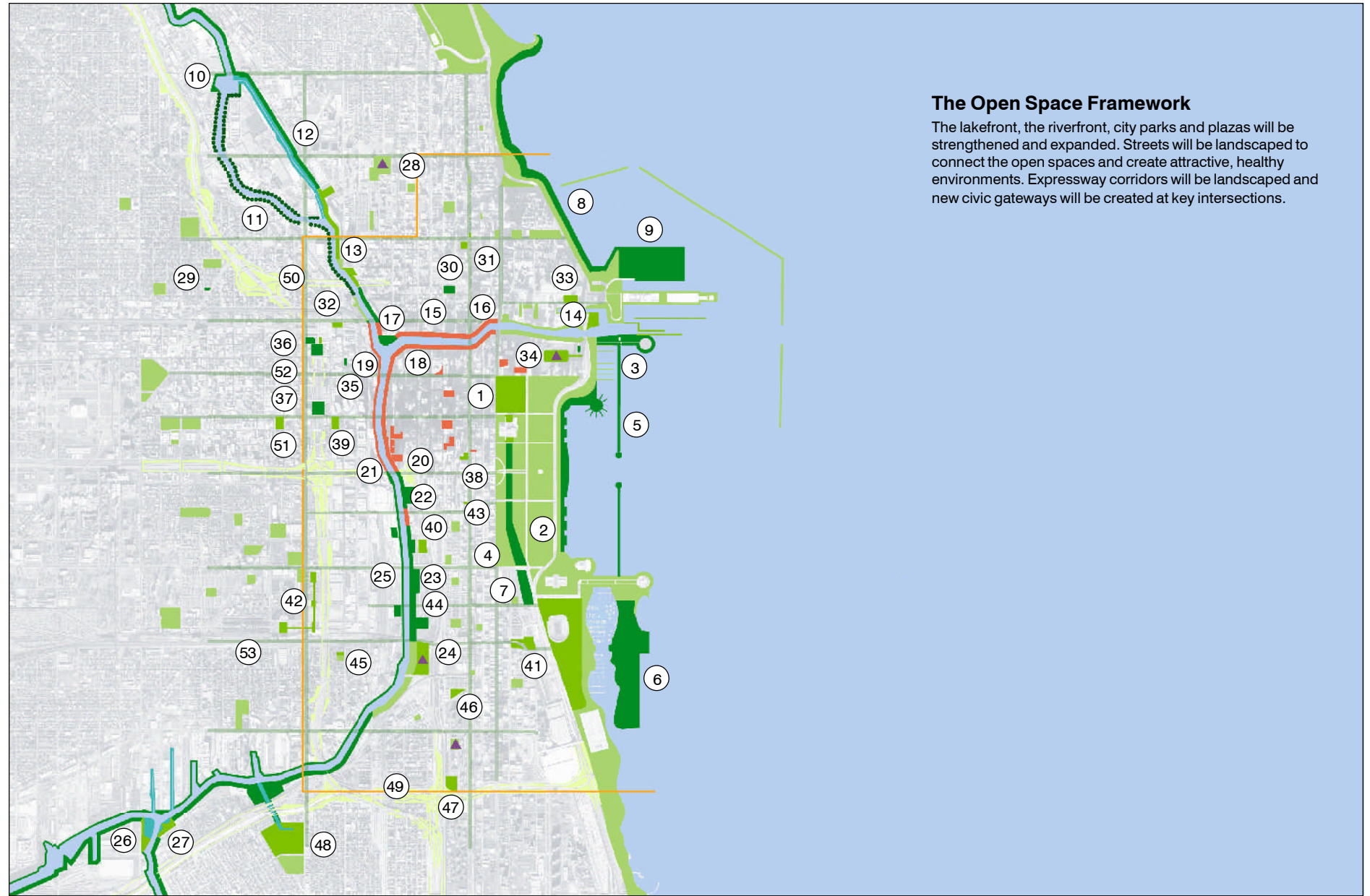
Figure 4.3.50 Michigan Avenue, looking south from Roosevelt Road, in 2020. South Michigan Avenue will be a landscaped street connecting the Near South district to the Loop. It will be a major pedestrian, bicycle and transit corridor.



Figure 4.3.51 Michigan Avenue today.

Figure 4.3.52
The Open Space Framework

- Existing Open Space
- Planned Open Space
- Open Space Vision
- Vision for Wetlands along River
- Landscaped Freeways
- Landscaped Riverbanks
- Plazas and Riverwalk



The Open Space Framework

The lakefront, the riverfront, city parks and plazas will be strengthened and expanded. Streets will be landscaped to connect the open spaces and create attractive, healthy environments. Expressway corridors will be landscaped and new civic gateways will be created at key intersections.

Summary of Open Space Recommendations

Key Lakefront Recommendations

1. Complete Millennium Park.
2. Implement the Grant Park master plan to create new active and passive open spaces.
3. Create Wacker Pier and a new public institution or museum. Renovate the Coast Guard Station.
4. Continue decking over the railroad in Grant Park to create new open spaces and minimize barriers.
5. Expand and complete Monroe Street Harbor.
6. Increase wetland plantings at the perimeter of Meigs Field.
7. Create new parkland over the railroad at Central Station.
8. Widen the lakefront path from North Avenue beach to Olive Park by 100 feet and create a new landscaped embankment.
9. Integrate park lands with the Jardine Water Filtration Plant.

Key Chicago River Recommendations

NEAR NORTH

10. Add a new boat house, pedestrian bridge and river edge landscape at the North Avenue turning basin
11. Enhance landscaping along the west side of Goose Island
12. Create a new recreational and environmental resource along the east side of Goose Island
13. Ensure continuous river access through the Montgomery Ward site to connect with parks at Hobbie and Erie Streets.
14. Create Du Sable Park at the mouth of the Chicago River
15. Create an active riverwalk with commercial uses along the north side of the Main Branch from the lake to Wolf Point.
16. Create new public space at the Sun Times-Trump Tower Chicago site.
17. Create a new public park at Wolf Point.

THE EXPANDED LOOP

18. Create a continuous pedestrian riverwalk along Wacker Drive on the Main Branch from Lake Street to the lakefront as part of the Wacker Drive improvements.
19. Develop a riverfront plaza on the west bank of the South Branch between Randolph and Lake Streets.
20. Develop a public riverfront plaza at 310 South Wacker Drive.
21. Create new riverfront open space at the Old Main Post Office along with its redevelopment.

SOUTH LOOP AND NEAR SOUTH

22. Create a new riverfront park at Franklin Point.
23. Create a continuous public river park on the east side of the Chicago River to provide public access from Harrison Street to Ping Tom Park.
24. Expand Ping Tom Park.
25. Achieve a continuous open space corridor along the west side of the Chicago River.
26. Implement Origins Park plan at the South Turning Basin.
27. Expand Origins Park to serve the Bridgeport neighborhood.

Key City Park and Plaza Recommendations

NEAR NORTH

28. Implement plans for Walter Payton Academy Campus Park.
29. Develop new park in the Near Northwest Neighborhood as new residential development occurs.
30. Develop a new park at the Fort Dearborn Post Office site at Dearborn and Ohio Streets.
31. Create a new park at the northeast corner of Chicago Avenue and State Street.
32. Create Kinzie Park at Kinzie and DesPlaines Streets.
33. Develop Kraft Park to serve the Streeterville Neighborhood.

THE EXPANDED LOOP

34. Create a new park to serve the Lakeshore East neighborhood.
35. Develop Jefferson Plaza at Lake Street and Jefferson Street.
36. Develop new parks over the Hubbard Street Tunnel.
37. Create a new park over the Kennedy Expressway between Monroe and Madison Streets to connect the West Loop with Greek Town.
38. Reconfigure Pritzker Park at State and Van Buren Streets.
39. Create Old St. Pat's Park at Adams and Des Plaines Streets.

THE SOUTH LOOP AND NEAR SOUTH

40. Complete a new park at Taylor and Wells Streets.
41. Complete Mark Twain Park at 15th Place and Indiana Avenue.
42. Complete University Village neighborhood parks
43. Complete the Jones High School Campus Park.
44. Develop new riverfront parks as new neighborhoods will develop on the east bank of the South Branch of the Chicago River.
45. Expand the Jefferson Playlot in Pilsen at 17th and Jefferson Streets.
46. Improve park at the South Loop Annex School site.
47. Complete park at 24th and Federal Streets
48. Create a new park at Stearns Quarry in Bridgeport

Key Greenway Recommendations

49. Improve landscaping along expressway corridors and intersections throughout the Central Area.
50. Create a "green" intersection at the Ohio Street feeder from the Kennedy Expressway.
51. Create a "green" intersection and a gateway feature at the intersection of the Eisenhower and Kennedy Expressways
52. Expand sidewalks and landscaping over the Kennedy Expressway connecting the West Loop with Greektown.
53. Develop a new greenway along the St. Charles Airline