South Branch Park Framework Plan

RIVER ECOLOGY & GOVERNANCE TASK FORCE
COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS WORKING GROUP

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Community Connections Working Group

Project
- Intro to South Branch Park Framework Plan

Community
- How do you define the “community” relevant for your initiative?

Successes
- What have been your most successful community engagement strategies or tactics?

Lessons
- Did you miss audiences you would’ve liked to engage? What would you do differently in the future?
SOUTH BRANCH PARK FRAMEWORK PLAN

INTRODUCTION

PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT

RECOMMENDATION MATRIX

PLANNING PROCESS

CREDITS

VISION PART 1: CONNECTED PARKS AND NEIGHBORHOODS

VISION PART 2: A LIFE ENHANCED BY BEING ON AND NEAR THE WATER

VISION PART 3: A WIDE RANGE OF PARK USES

EXPANDED OPPORTUNITIES
The Framework Plan focuses on the three riverfront parks under SBPAC’s guidance and critical adjacent public lands. This area includes parts of Bridgeport, Pilsen, McKinley Park, and Brighton Park on the Southwest Side of Chicago on the South Branch of the Chicago River.
WE ENVISION RIVERFRONT PARKS THAT SUPPORT A VARIETY OF LAND AND WATER-BASED ACTIVITIES IN A SAFE AND CONNECTED SET OF PARKS.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>RECOMMENDATION</th>
<th>LEVEL OF EFFORT (cost + complexity)</th>
<th>PARK 5/71</th>
<th>CANALPORT RIVERWALK PARK</th>
<th>CANAL ORIGIN'S PARK</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. CONNECTED PARKS AND NEIGHBORHOODS.</td>
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<tr>
<td>1.1 CONNECT TO CHICAGO RIVER TRAIL</td>
<td>LOW</td>
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<tr>
<td>1.2 CREATE A CROSSING AT BUBBLY CREEK</td>
<td>HIGH</td>
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<td>1.3 IMPROVE CONDITIONS FOR PEOPLE ON 29TH STREET</td>
<td>MID</td>
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<tr>
<td>1.4 PROVIDE SAFE AND DIRECT OPTIONS FOR CROSSING ASHLAND</td>
<td>HIGH</td>
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<td>2. A LIFE ENHANCED BY BEING NEAR AND ON THE WATER.</td>
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<tr>
<td>2.1 DIVERSIFY WATERCRAFT</td>
<td>LOW</td>
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<td>2.2 MAKE THE DAMEN SLIP A USABLE PART OF THE PARK</td>
<td>MID</td>
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<td>2.3 DESIGN AND PLANT FOR GOOSE CONTROL</td>
<td>LOW</td>
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<tr>
<td>2.4 IMPROVE WATER QUALITY</td>
<td>LOW-MID</td>
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<td>3. A WIDE RANGE OF PARK USES.</td>
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<td>3.1 USE PARK SPACES FOR NEIGHBORHOOD AMENITIES</td>
<td>LOW</td>
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<tr>
<td>3.2 EXPLORE ANNEXING ADJACENT PROPERTY</td>
<td>HIGH</td>
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<tr>
<td>3.3 IMPROVE LIGHTING AND SIGHTLINESS FOR SECURITY</td>
<td>MID</td>
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South Branch Community

- Multiple Neighborhoods
  - Focus on Bridgeport, Pilsen, McKinley Park; users from around the city

- Park & River Users
  - Rowers (5 teams), CPD program participants, neighbors, walkers, fisherman, etc.

- Neighbors
  - Residents, local businesses, land industry, river industry

- Languages
  - English, Spanish, Chinese
Initial Partners & Supporters

Metropolitan Planning Council

Active Transportation Alliance

Friends of the Chicago River

Chicago Community Trust

SmithGroup

Canon Design

Chicago Park District Area Manager & Park Supervisor

11th Ward, 25th Ward, State Representative
Idea Generation

VISIONING WORKSHOP
In March 2018, SBPAC hosted a visioning workshop at the boathouse, open to the public. The meeting was widely advertised in print, web and radio, and in English, Spanish and Chinese to attract a wide range of stakeholders from nearby communities.

PARTICIPANTS BY THE NUMBERS:
100+ ATTENDEES
16 NEIGHBORHOODS
16 ZIP CODES

Neighborhoods
Zip Codes

COLLAGES CREATED
At the "Build a Park" station visitors created collages of their ideal programmatic mix for a neighborhood park.
Idea Generation

**TODAY, SOUTH BRANCH IS:**

**THE SOUTH BRANCH COULD BE:**

**What is a park to you?**

Text 3GJJURBAN to 2233 to join, then text your message.
Idea Generation

Lessons
Successes
Community
Project
Community Feedback

Lessons
Successes
Community
Project

STAY CONNECTED TO YOUR PARKS & COMMUNITIES...

...WITH THESE UPCOMING EVENTS...

Walk Audit Training – April 7th
Help guide your neighbors toward a better pedestrian experience by hosting a walk audit. Email Chelsee Carr-Sandoz if you’d like to participate (carrsandoz@metropolitanning.org)

Canoe trips – May 6/16 and 6/26 and June 6/27 and 6/28
Interested in experiencing your neighborhood from the water? Friends of the Chicago River will be leading canoe trips in May and June. These trips will leave from the Eleanor Street Boathouse at Park 571.
Space is limited, please contact Jim Quaid to register (jquaid@chicagoriver.org)

South Branch PIC Summer Party – June 2
Join us for a day of fun at the parks. Paddling, fishing, and other fun riverfront activities.
For more information, contact SouthbranchPIC@gmail.com

South Branch Riverfront Parks & Trail Survey
Provide your feedback with our quick online survey
https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/SouthBranchRiver
Lessons Learned

- Better engage industrial users
- Accommodate linguistic diversity
- Deepen Pilsen & McKinley Park engagement
- Validate project name with city/public partners
Thank you

Access the Framework Plan:

• Interactive Prezi: bit.ly/2XmqCRD
• Full Plan / PDF: bit.ly/2L2IECZ

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