River Ecology and Governance Task Force

December 17, 2020 3:00 PM – 4:00 PM
River Ecology and Governance Task Force

Introduction – 2021 Overview

Breakout Exercise – Setting Priorities and Goals
A. River Restoration and Ecology
B. Recreation Support and Education
C. River Project Review
D. System Plans and the River

Return to Large Group

Closure - Next Steps
How we started

Public & Publicly Accessible Property & the River Bottom

Private Property (Coordination Role)
City, Chicago Park District, Forest Preserve District of Cook County, Metropolitan Water Reclamation District and USACE have all entered into an agreement for a Planning Assistance for States (PAS) Study a federal planning program related to the management of water resources.

Underway now through 2021

Task Force will play crucial role in engagement efforts.
Private Property

Continuously review 30-foot setback for new river developments across the City

Need plans for industrial corridors adjacent to the rivers

Initiating in 2021:
  - Far South Industrial Corridor (Calumet River)
  - I-55 Industrial Corridor (Sanitary and Shipping Canal)
We Will Chicago

Three-year planning initiative to encourage neighborhood growth and vibrancy while addressing social and economic inequities.

Ballot Initiative: 88% of voters agreed with Equity, Diversity, and Resilience as founding principles

Pre-Planning – August through December 2020
Developing 2021 workplan for Chicago Plan
Commission update in January to explore 6 pillars (below) the principles and engagement
Today’s Discussion

Build on previous collaboration and success

Input from meeting notice has been used to organize potential focus areas and member priorities for discussion

Small Group Exercise (four groups):
- River Restoration and Ecology
- Recreation Support and Education
- River Project Review
- System Plans and the River

Questions:
- Goals and priorities: define topic and key considerations
- Additional tools and resources
- Success metric and timeframe