Jackson Park | Public Information Meeting



Public Information Meeting

Federal Actions In and Adjacent to Jackson Park

South Shore Cultural Center

September 17, 2018









Why are we here?





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Chicago is selected as the home of the Obama Presidential Center

MAY 2015

Jackson Park is selected as the site for the OPC

JULY 2016

South Lakefront
Framework Plan Public
Engagement

SUMMER 2017

South Lakefront
Framework Plan
receives CPD approval

APRIL 2018

Chicago Plan
Commission approves
OPC, road closures,
improvements
MAY 2018

Purpose of the Meeting

- Describe the combined NPS and FHWA federal processes and their relationship to local City processes
- Discuss the next steps of the Federal Review

What is NOT subject to Federal Approval?

- City's action to close roadways
- City's action to approve OPC location and site design

Why is NPS here?

The City's action to allow for OPC construction in Jackson Park results in a conversion of parkland under the Urban Park and Recreation Recovery (UPARR) Act and NPS approval of conversion and mitigation land specifically requires NEPA review.

Why is FHWA here?

The City desires to utilize Federal-Aid Highway Program funding for construction of roadway improvements due to the City's action to close roadways which requires NEPA review.









Combined NEPA & NHPA-Section 106 Process





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NEPA (NPS Lead)

Step 0

PRE-COMBINED NEPA

- Interagency coordination on draft FHWA purpose and need, alternatives, and preferred alternative
- Draft FHWA materials released for comment
- One Federal Decision
- Agreement to combine process

Step 1

DATA COLLECTION & ALTERNATIVES

- Determine level of NEPA analysis
- Develop draft preliminary purpose and need
- Determine working range of alternatives
- Identify preliminary mitigation

Step 2

DISTRIBUTE DOCUMENT FOR REVIEW

- Environmental Assessment to public, agencies, and tribes
- Commence 30 day review period and hold public hearing/meetings
- Section 4(f)

Step 3

FINALIZE DOCUMENT

- Analyze public comments
- Respond to public comments

Step 4

DETERMINE

- Determine if Environmental Impact Statement is required or issue Finding of No Significant Impact
- Complete applicable consultation

Step 1

SECTION 106 CONSULTATIONS

- Historic Properties Inventory
- Continue Consultation with the State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO), Advisory Council on Historic Preservation (ACHP), and other consulting parties that will occur concurrently during Steps 1 through 3 of the NEPA process

Step 2

DISTRIBUTE DOCUMENTS AND REVIEW

- Prepare Assessment of Effects
- If there are adverse effects, draft Memorandum of Agreement mitigation measures

Step 3

DECISION

Execute MOA as appropriate



NHPA - Section 106 (FHWA Lead)







DRAFT Purpose & Need





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DRAFT NPS Purpose and Need:

Due to the City's proposal to locate the Obama Presidential Center (OPC) in Jackson Park, the NPS has determined that a partial conversion in recreation use will occur.

The purpose of the NPS review is to comply with the UPARR act by ensuring retention of recreation utility in the area.

The need for NPS review is to evaluate the replacement of lost recreational uses due to the City's decision to locate the OPC within Jackson Park and a need to improve the roadway network as a result of the City closing roadways.

DRAFT FHWA Purpose and Need:

Due to the City's decision to close roadways in Jackson Park, roadway improvements will be required for which the City desires to utilize Federal-Aid Highway Program funds.

The purpose of the FHWA federal action is to (1) address changes in travel patterns resulting from closing roadways in Jackson Park and (2) improve bicycle and pedestrian access and circulation.

The following needs were identified:

- Poor intersection operations and congestion after roadway closures
- Lack of pedestrian grade separations within Jackson Park
- Poor trail conditions
- Long crossings of heavily travelled multilane roadways

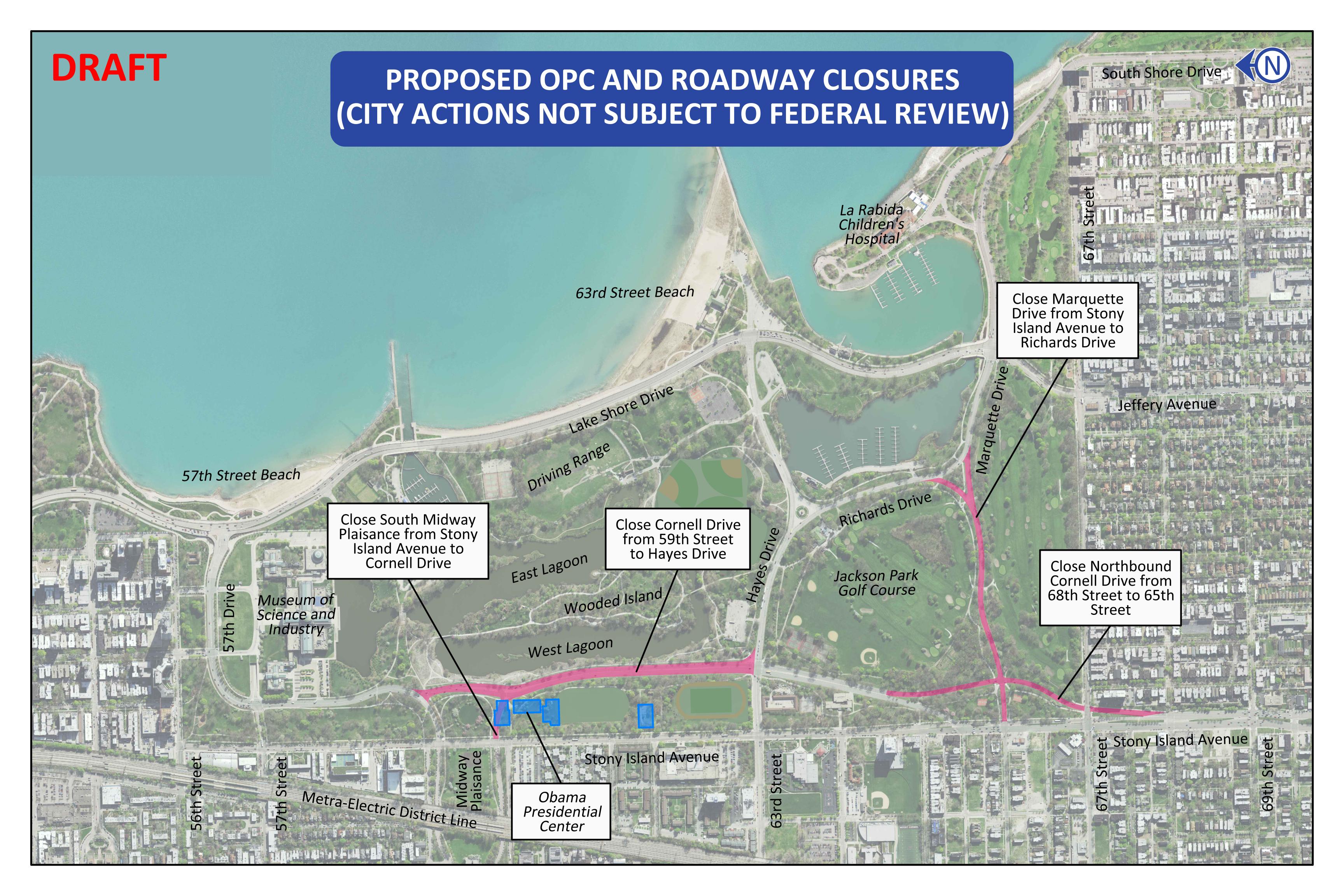


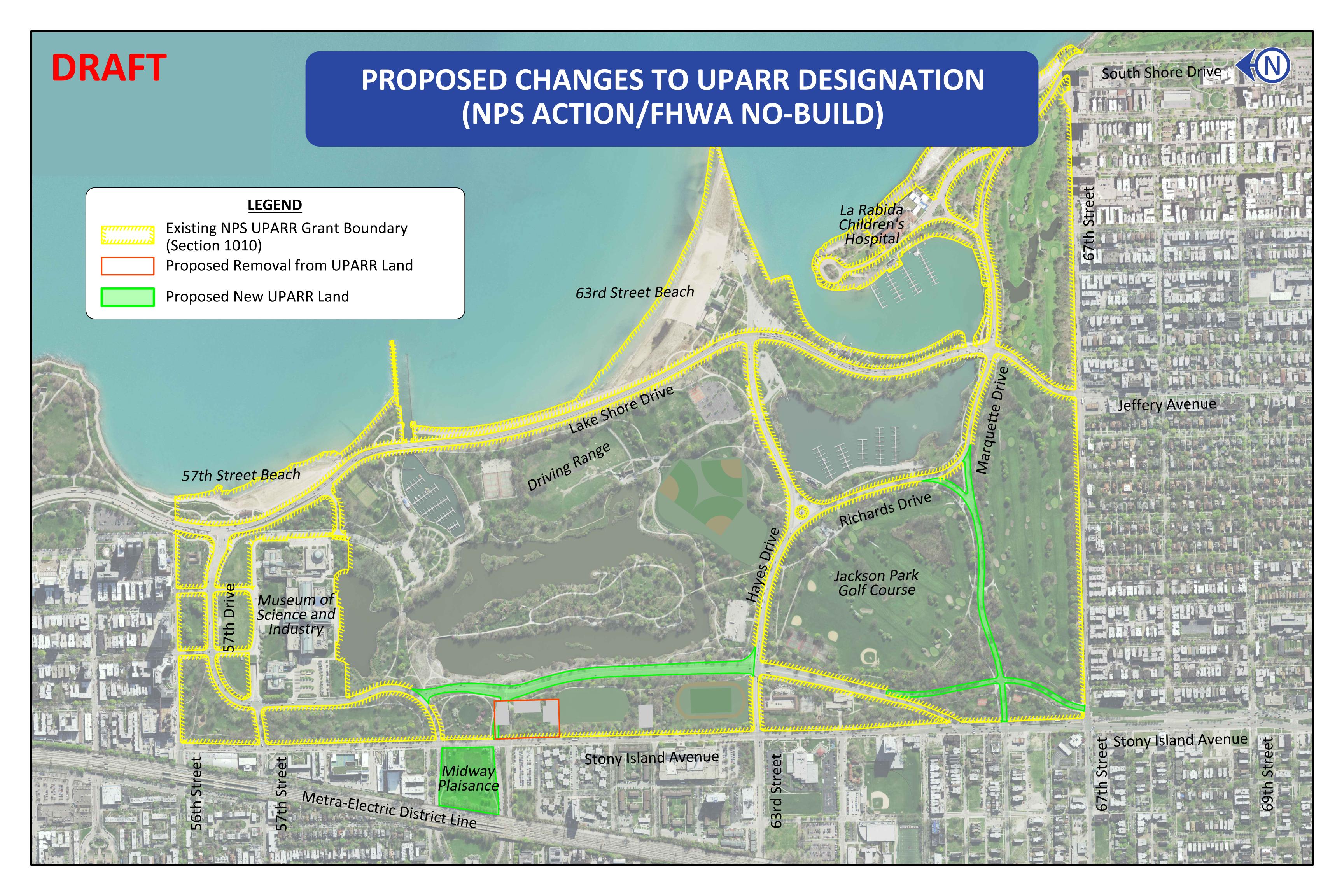


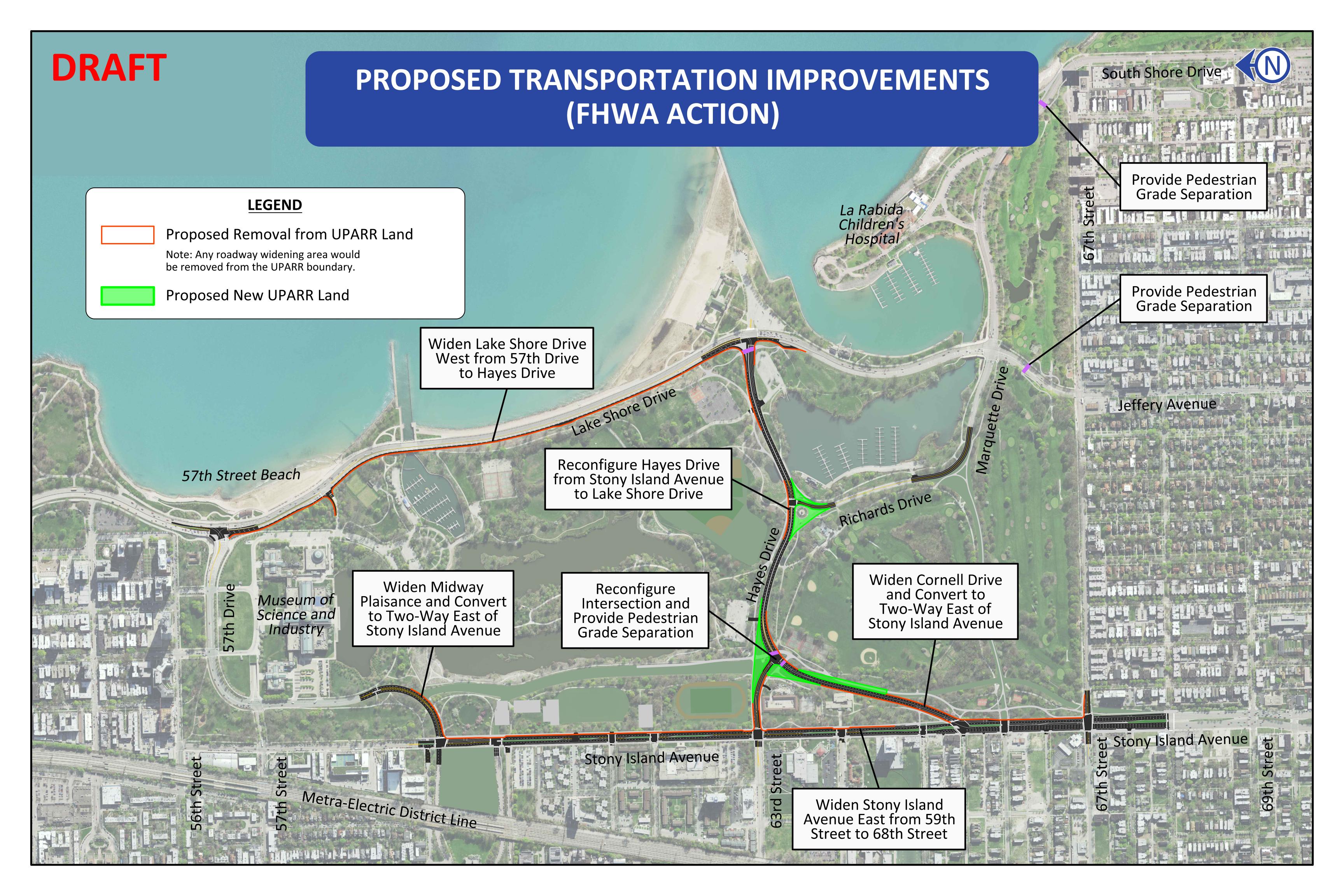
















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As part of the NEPA review, NPS and FHWA will be evaluating natural and cultural resources that the City's proposal could impact. They may include:

- Social and Economic Issues
- Cultural Resources
- Recreation
- Special Lands
- Traffic Congestion
- Environmental Justice
- Agricultural
- Air Quality

- Noise Analyses
- Natural Resources
- Water Quality and Resources
- Groundwater Resources
- Floodplains
- Wetlands
- Tribal Interest













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NEPA

- Prepare an Environmental Assessment Fall 2018
 - Evaluate Alternatives
 - Identify a Preferred Alternative
 - Assess Preferred Alternative and associated impacts
- Release Environmental Assessment for 30-day comment period, including Public Hearing - Fall 2018/Winter 2019

NHPA - Section 106

- Complete Assessment of Effects (AOE) Fall 2018
- Distribute AOE and hold Consulting Party Meetings Fall 2018
- Execute Memorandum of Agreement as appropriate Winter 2019







Thank You for Your Questions and Comments.

Comments received this evening will be added to this public meeting record. For further information, please visit: https://tinyurl.com/JPImprovements



We will see you when we complete the Environmental Assessment this winter.







