



# Community Meeting 1

November 26, 2018

# Agenda

1. Introduction & Presentation (20 min)
2. Small Group Discussions (25 min)
3. Large Group Report Out (10 min)
4. Q&A and Next Steps (15 min)
5. Interaction with Exhibits (20 min)





# What is the Wild Mile?

**The City of Chicago has initiated a planning process with the goals of supporting a wildlife habitat while creating one of the defining public open spaces for the modernization of the North Branch Industrial Corridor.**

**This eco-park development has been referred to as “Wild Mile Chicago.”**

**The design and development of a framework plan will establish a vision and principles for this mile-long floating eco-park located on the North Branch Canal and Basin of the Chicago River, along the east side of Goose Island between Chicago Ave and North Ave.**





**recreation**



**habitat**



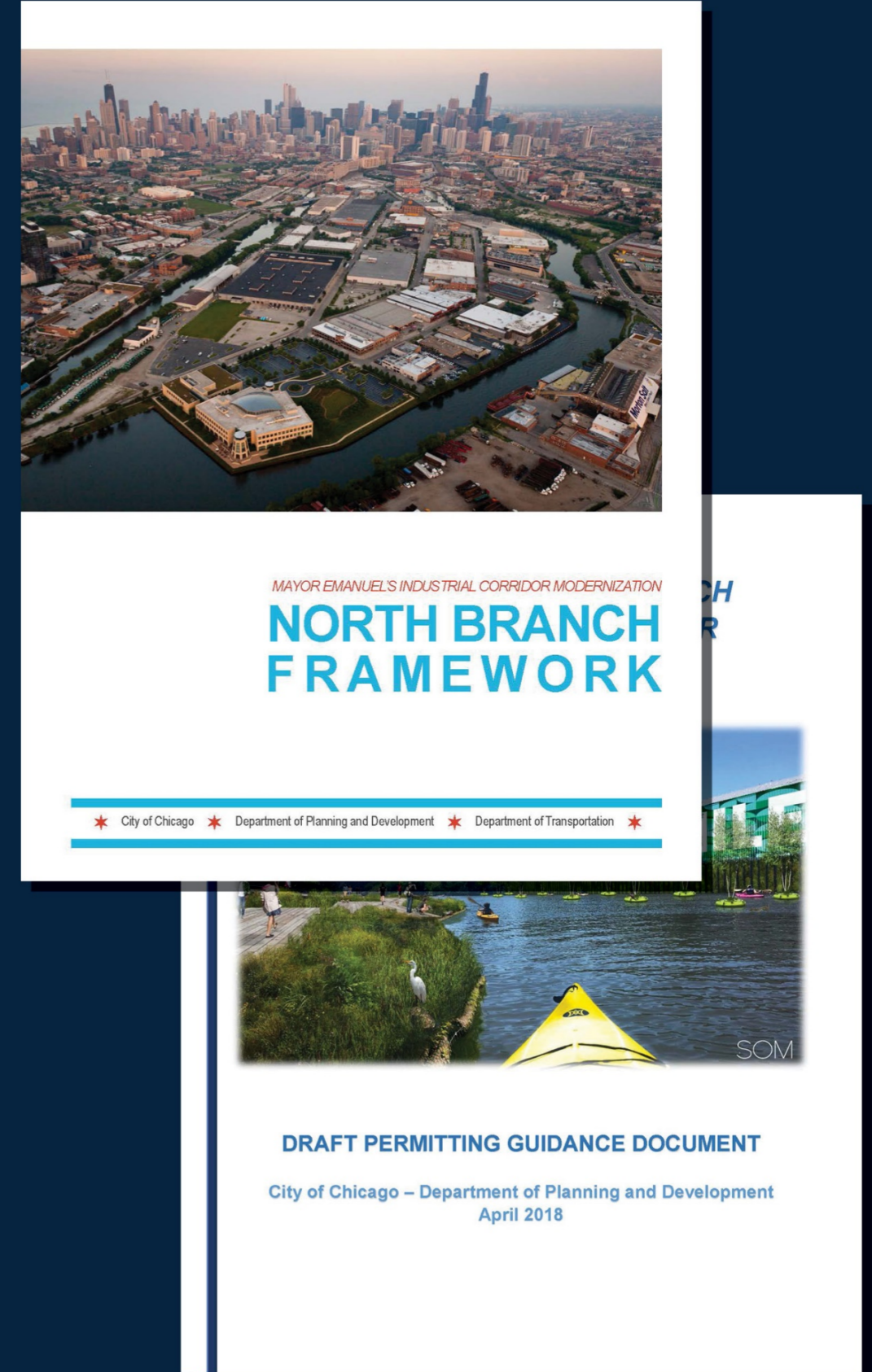
**industry**



**pollution**

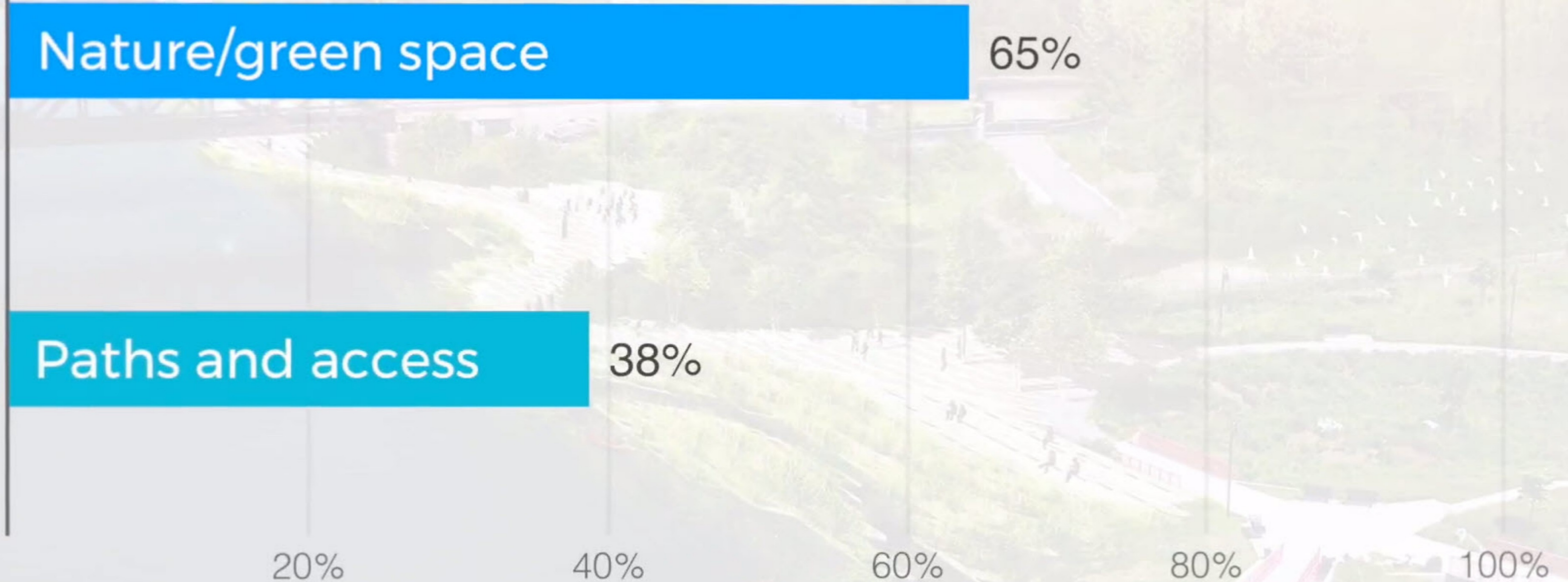
# Work thus far

- Integrate a variety of open spaces
- Promote partnerships
- Coordinate educational, cultural & recreational programming
- Create a sense of place by responding to unique conditions
- Provide connections (floating boardwalk)
- Enhance and restore the riparian and emergent landscapes
- Improve water quality



# Work thus far

River Edge Ideas Lab



What two uses should we prioritize along the river?

# Vision

create river access

public art opportunities

placemaking on the river

enhanced recreation opportunities

educational opportunities

improved ecology + habitat







# Project Schedule

EXISTING CONDITIONS  
ANALYSIS AND VISIONING

CONCEPTUAL  
FRAMEWORK PLANS

FINAL  
RECOMMENDATIONS

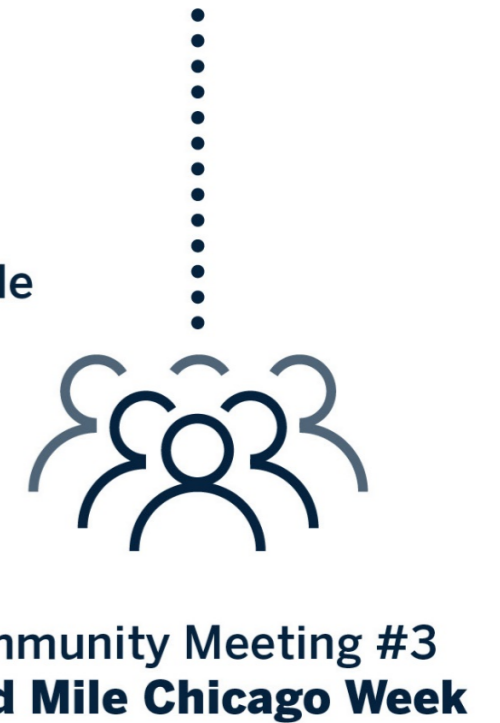
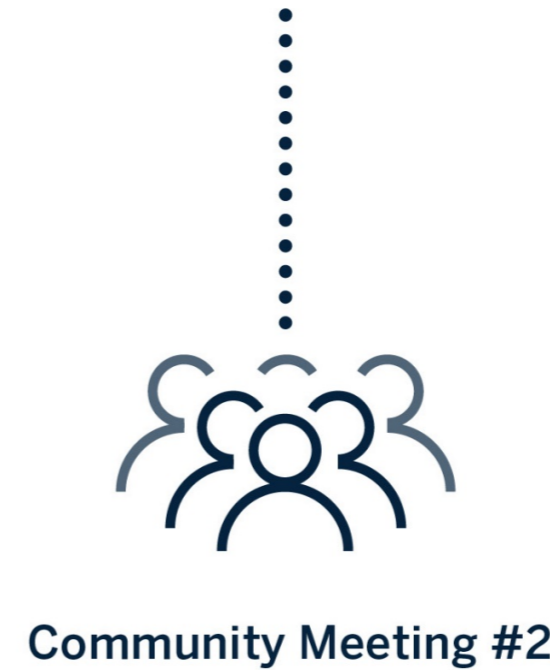
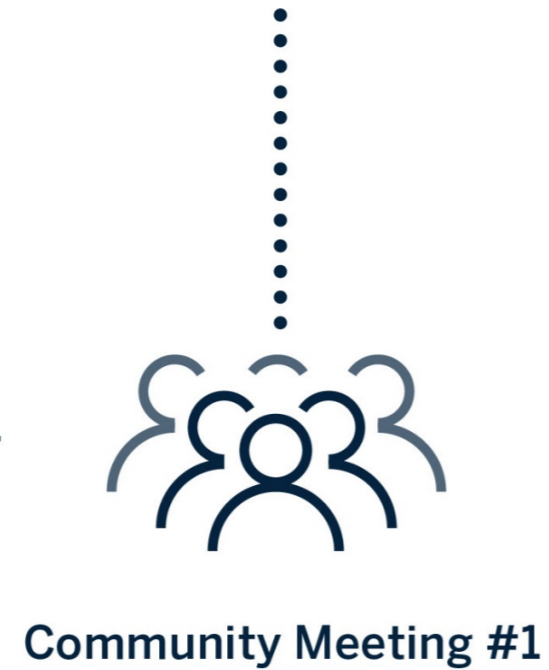
OCTOBER

NOVEMBER

DECEMBER

JANUARY

FEBRUARY





**past**

**Aerial View of Goose Island  
1960 (CAF)**



present



**urban**



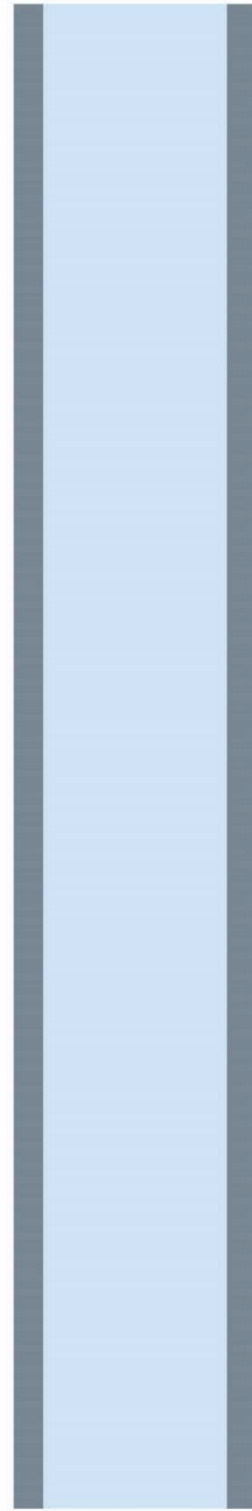
**nature**

# Principles & Goals

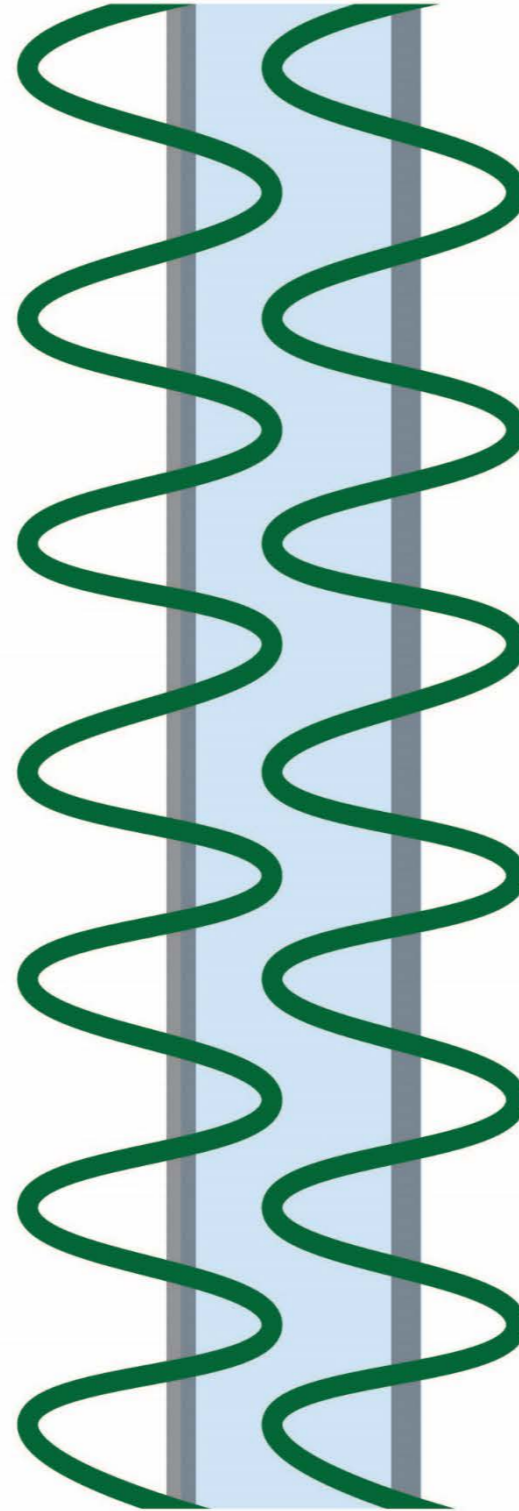
- 1. Put wildlife first**
- 2. Connect people with nature**
- 3. Expand public access**
- 4. Design a cohesive experience**
- 5. Lead the world**
- 6. Create a place for everyone**



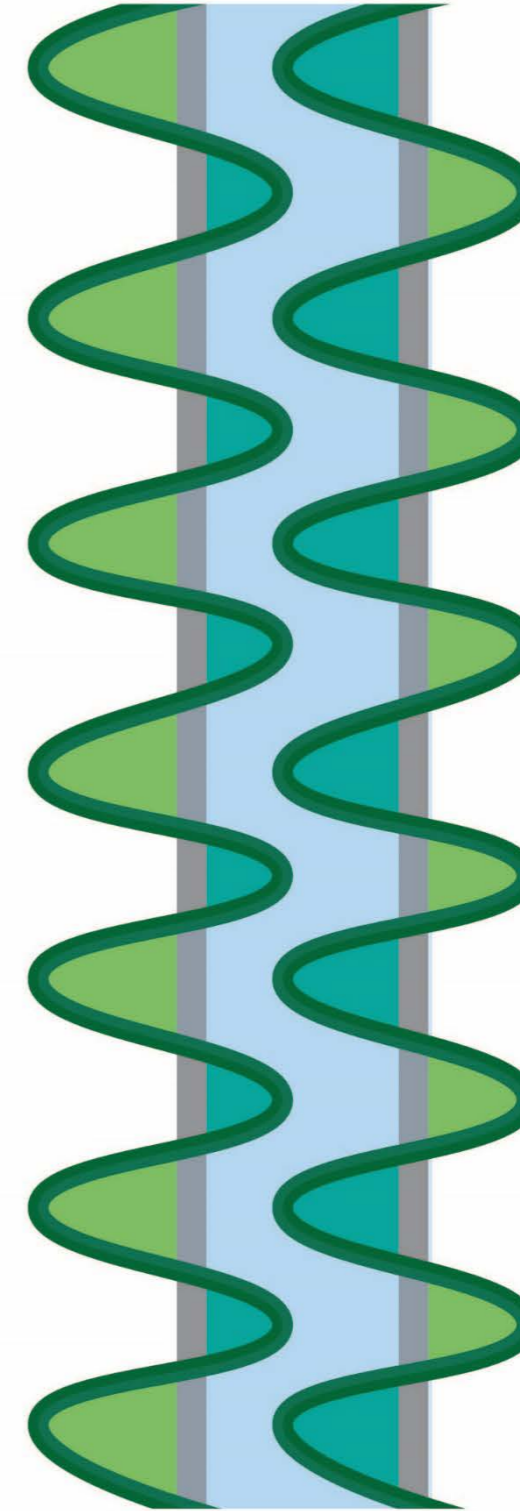
# Re-establishing natural form and process



**channelized river**

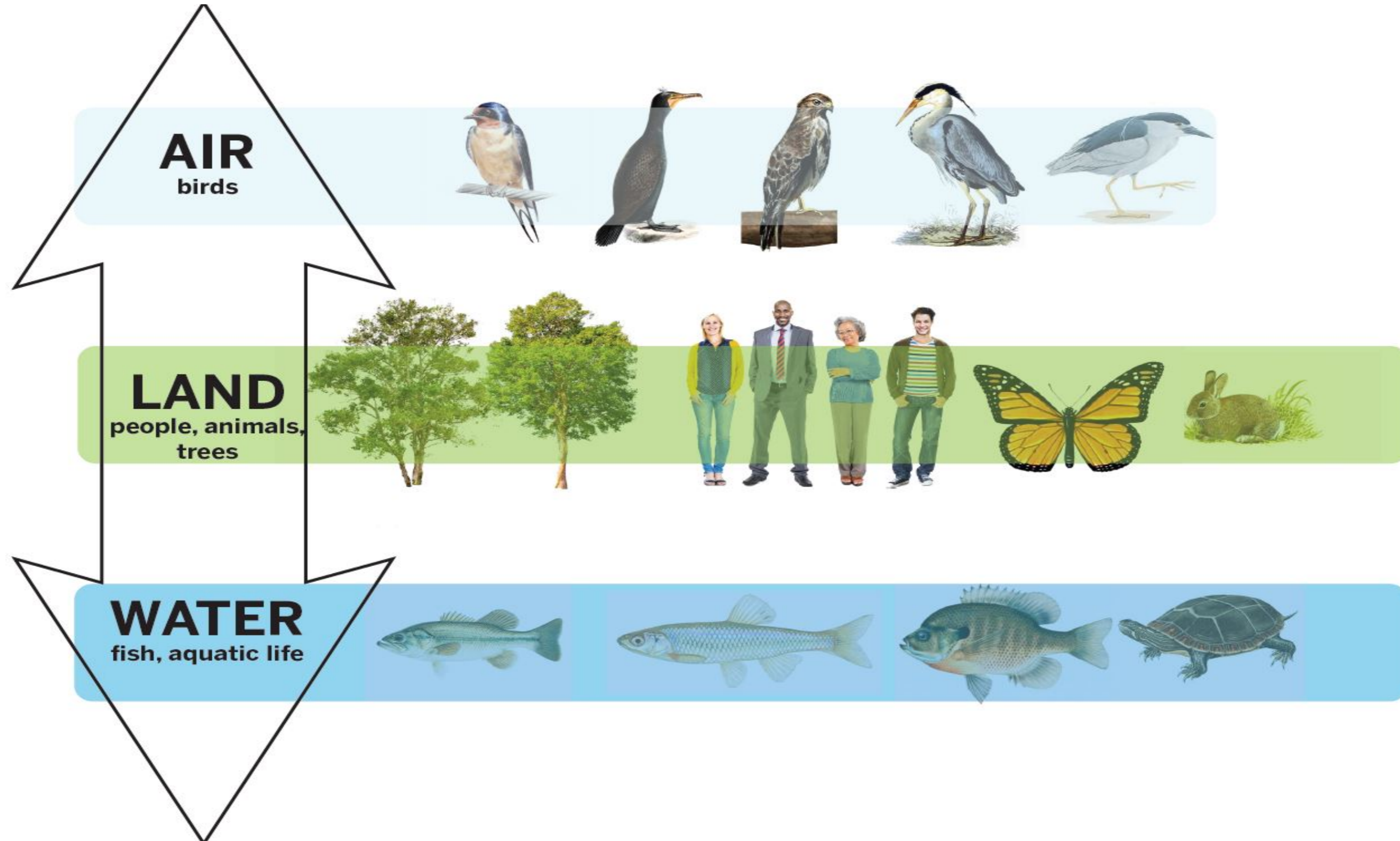


**retrofit green edge**



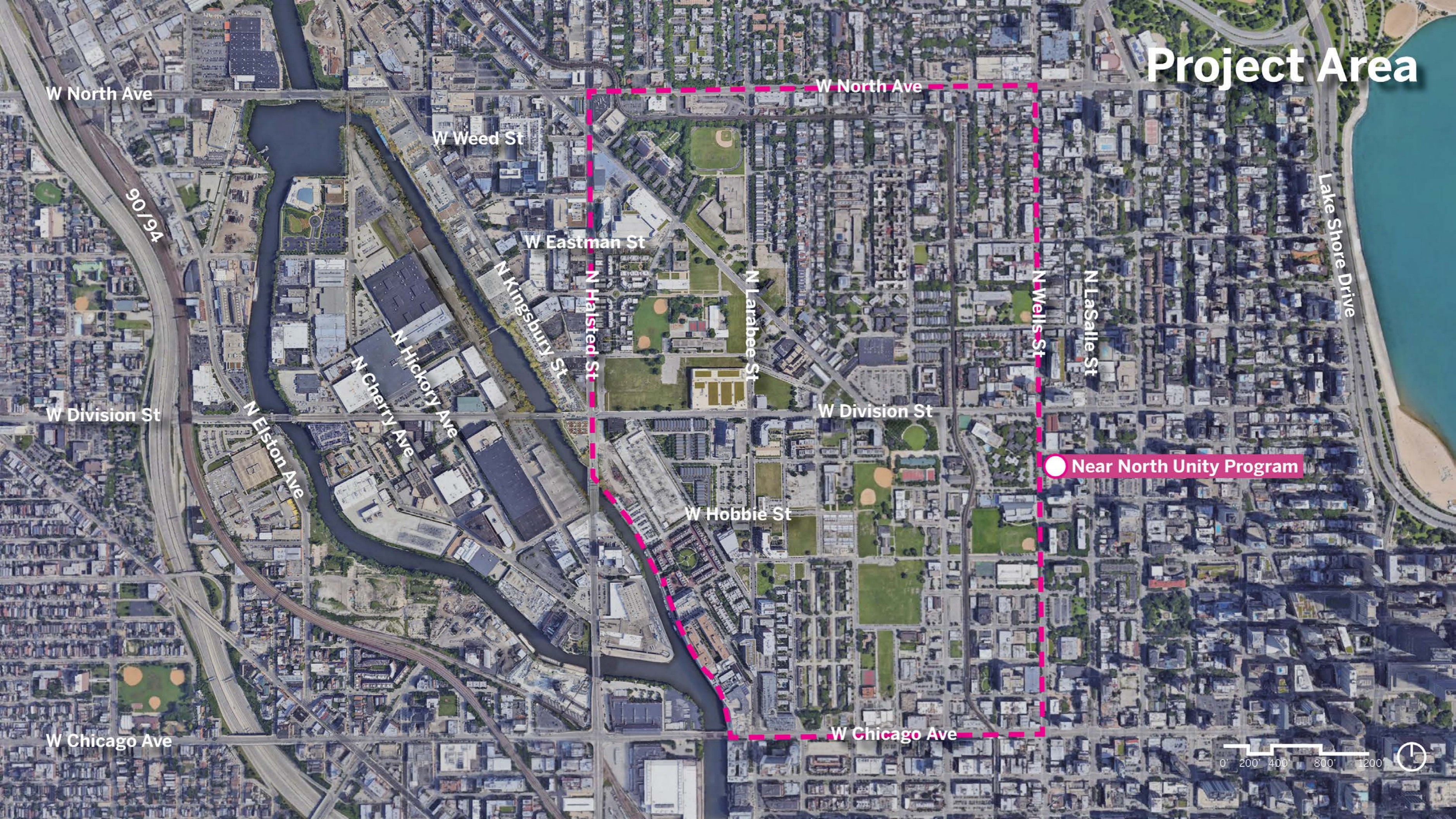
**create habitat  
and intercept runoff**

# Where we all meet





# Project Area



W North Ave

W North Ave

W Weed St

W Eastman St

W Division St

W Division St

W Hobbie St

W Chicago Ave

W Chicago Ave

● Near North Unity Program



# Context



606 trail

wild mile

0.5 mi

1 mi

2 mi

3 mi

main branch riverwalk

# Divide into "Reaches"

## turning basin

- the turning basin

## north reach

- cherry st to division st

## south reach

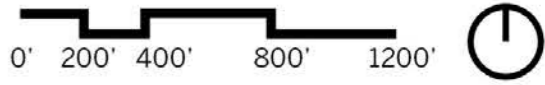
- division st to chicago st

## west reach

- blackhawk st to goose island overlook

● Access Points

○ Future Access Points





**bridges +  
open water**



**water taxi stop**



**kayak rental**



**shallow edges**



**weed st access**



**floating wetlands**

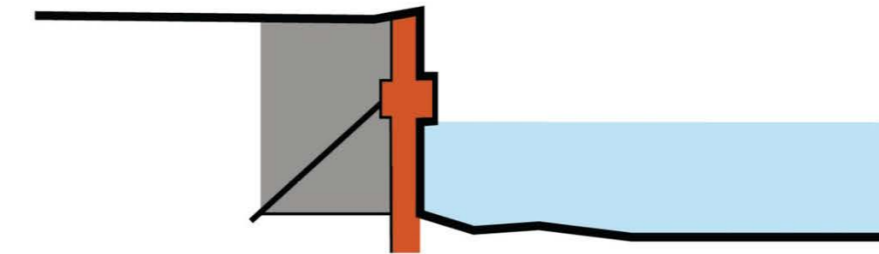


**hard edges + blank walls**

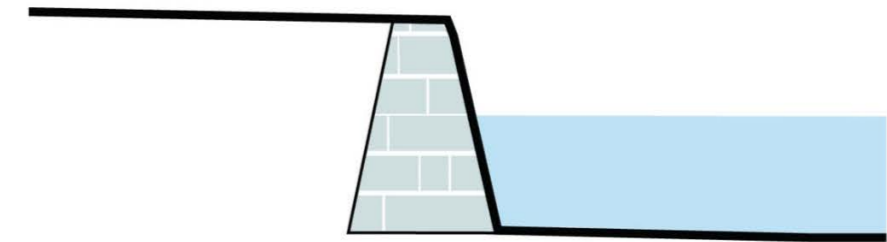


**eroded edges**

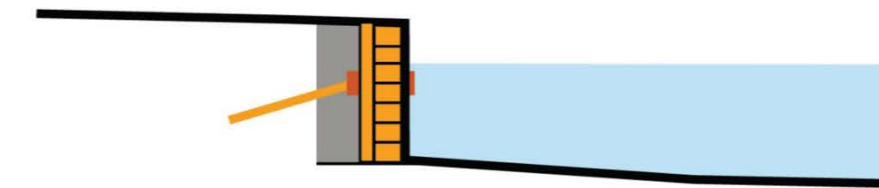
# Edge Conditions



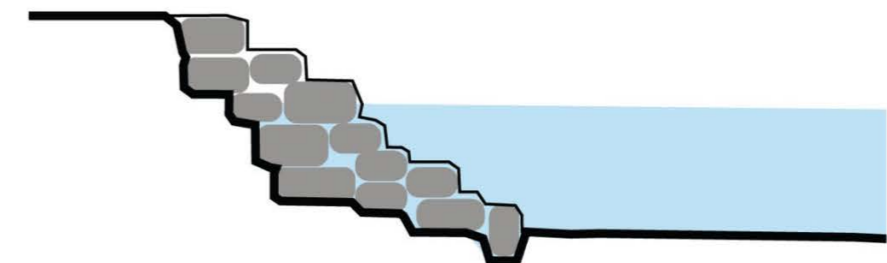
 **sheetpile**



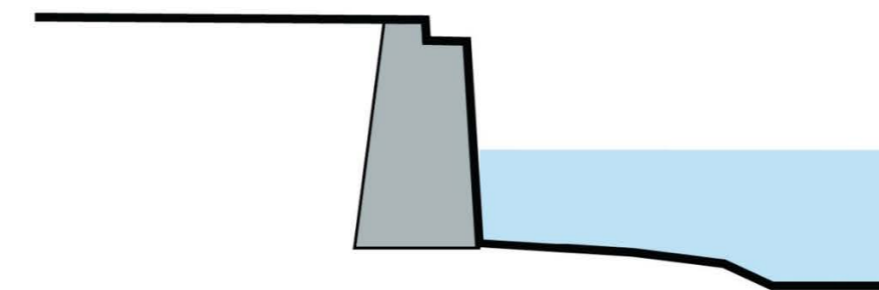
 **limestone**



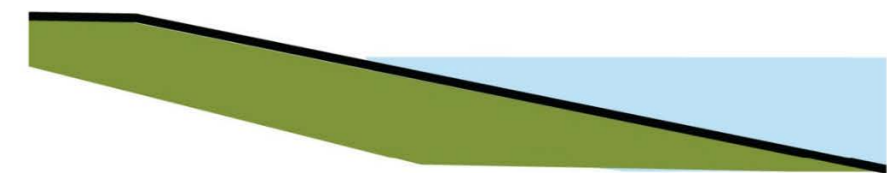
 **heavy timber**



 **rip-rap**

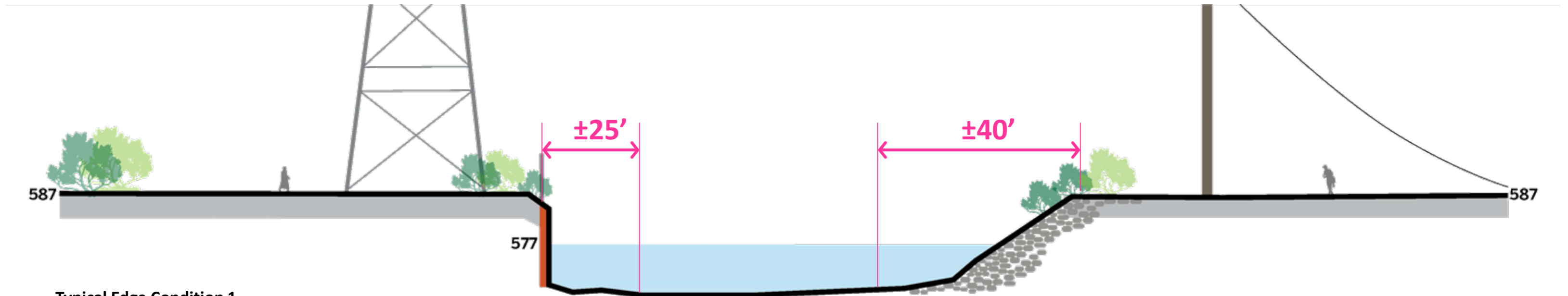


 **concrete**



 **naturalized slope**

# Available Space

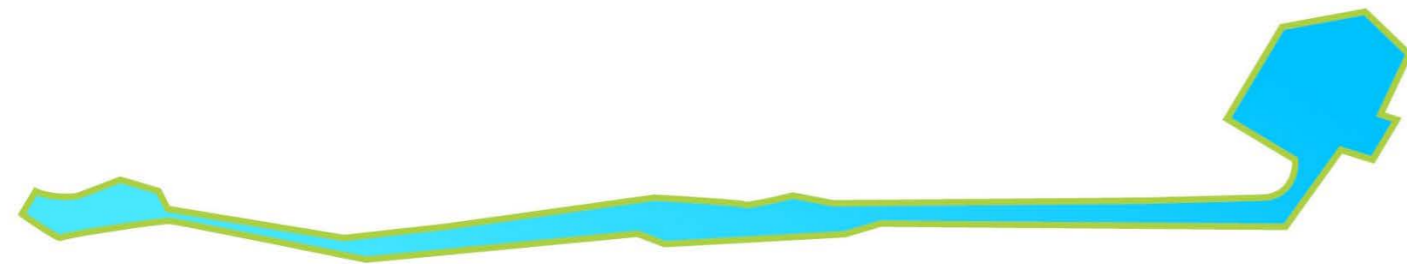


**Typical Edge Condition 1**  
Between Halsted Street & Hobbie Street

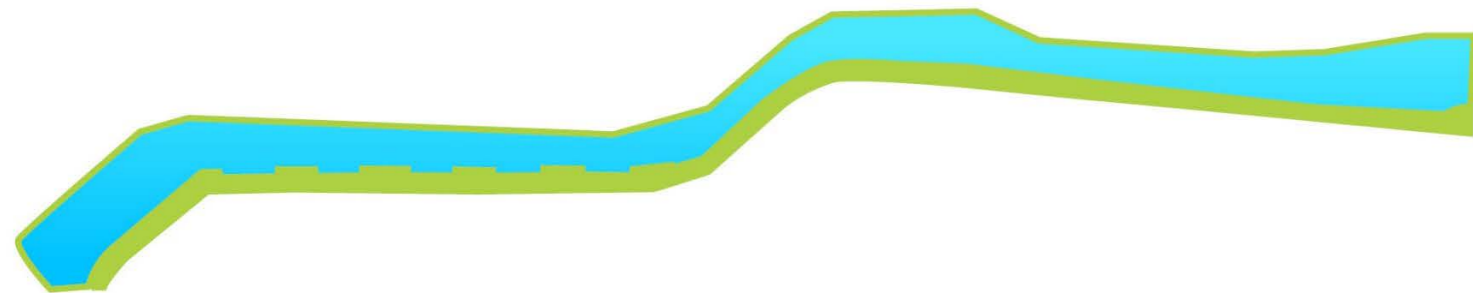


**Typical Edge Condition 2**  
Between North Avenue & Evergreen Street

# Scale Comparison: Chicago Riverwalk



the wild mile ↶

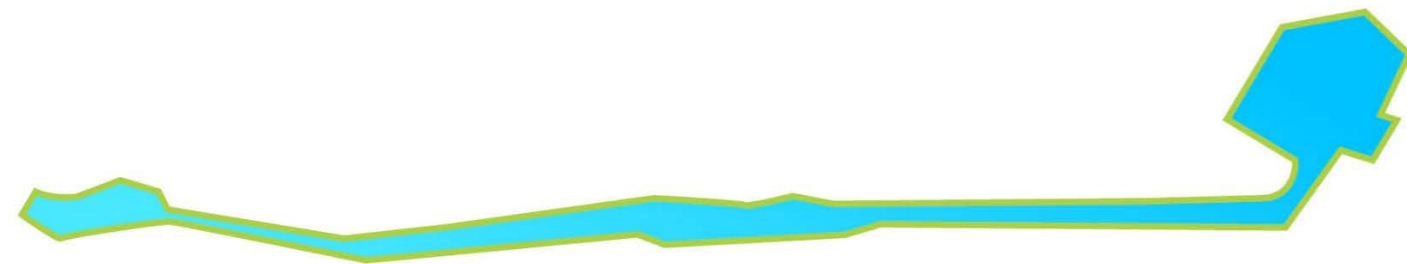


the chicago main branch riverwalk ⌚





# Scale Comparison: The High Line, NYC



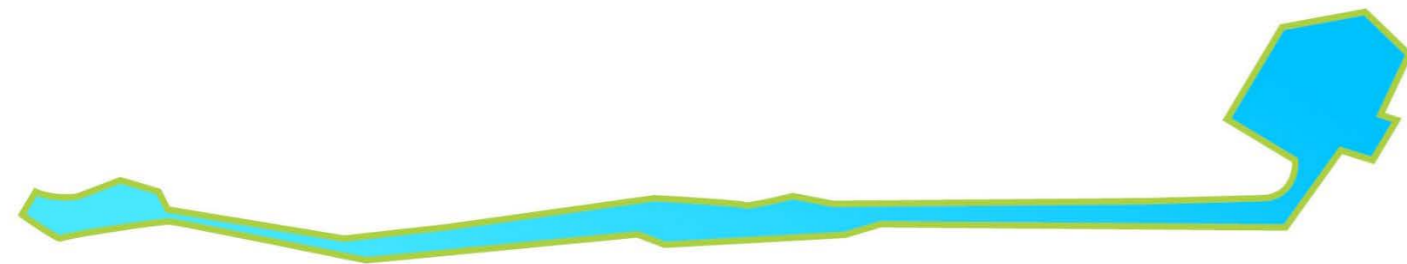
the wild mile ↻



the high line ↻



# Scale Comparison: Bloomingdale Trail, Chicago



the wild mile ↶



Photo Credit | Jeff Banowetz



the 606 ⌚



**“stroll”**

**Buffalo Bayou Park, Houston**

Photo Credit | SWA Group



“touch the water”



“make art”

Poudre River Park Library Mural



“do an experiment”



“relax”



**“see an otter”**





**questions?**

**Visit** [wildmilechicago.org](http://wildmilechicago.org)