



Metropolitan Water Reclamation District of Greater Chicago

**Welcome to the April
Edition of the 2023 M&R
Seminar Series**

NOTES FOR SEMINAR ATTENDEES

- Remote attendees' audio lines have been muted to minimize background noise. **For attendees in the auditorium, please silence your phones.**
- A question and answer session will follow the presentation.
- For remote attendees, Please use the “**Chat**” feature to ask a question via text to “Host”. **For attendees in the auditorium, please raise your hand and wait for the microphone to ask a verbal question.**
- The presentation slides will be posted on the MWRD website after the seminar.
- This seminar is pending approval by the ISPE for one PDH and pending approval by the IEPA for one TCH. Certificates will only be issued to participants who attend the entire presentation.

Charles B. Shea, P.E., PMP
Chief, Programs Delivery Section
United States Army Corps of Engineers

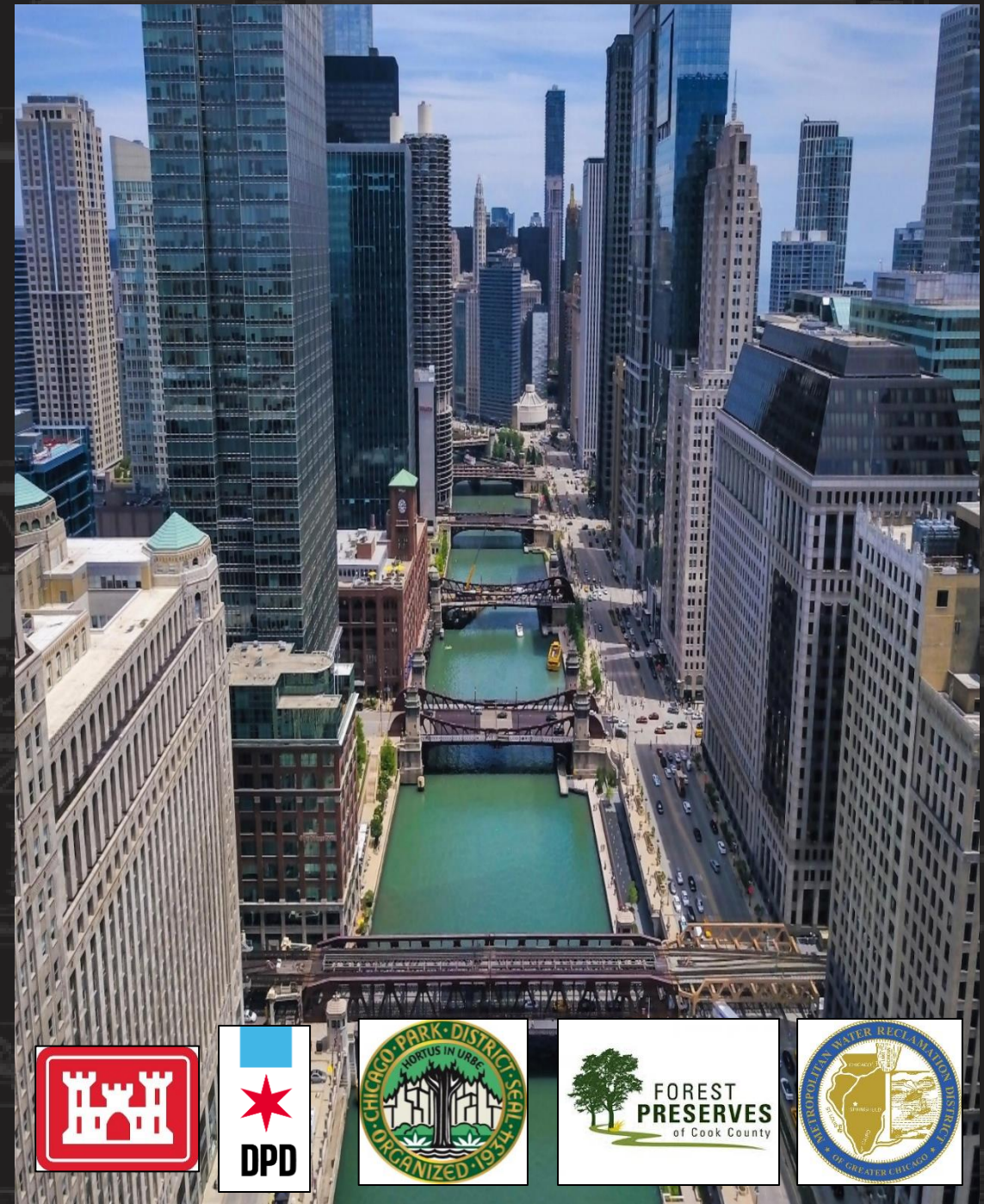


Mr. Chuck Shea is the Chief of the Programs Delivery Section of the Chicago District, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. Prior to that he was a Project Manager in the Chicago District from 2003 -2021. He has managed multiple Civil Works projects, including the Chicago Rivers Restoration Framework study. Mr. Shea has also completed developmental assignments serving as the Great Lakes regional liaison and program coordinator for the U.S. Army Engineer Research and Development Center Environmental Laboratory and as a chair for regional integration at Corps Headquarters. Before joining the Corps he was employed by a major engineering consulting firm for nine years. Mr. Shea has Bachelor of Science and Master of Science degrees in Civil Engineering. He is a certified Project Management Professional and registered professional engineer in Illinois.

CHICAGO RIVERS RESTORATION FRAMEWORK PLAN STUDY

Chuck Shea,
P.E., PMP

April 28, 2023



U.S. ARMY



US Army Corps
of Engineers®





WHAT IS THE CHICAGO RIVERS FRAMEWORK PLAN?

- Planning Assistance to States (PAS) Study: Corps authority to provide support to non-Federal water resources planning efforts
- Non-Federal Sponsors: City of Chicago-DPD, Chicago Park District, Forest Preserve District of Cook County, & MWRD
- Study Goal: Develop a planning framework for ecosystem restoration for rivers within the City of Chicago



North Branch near Eugene Field



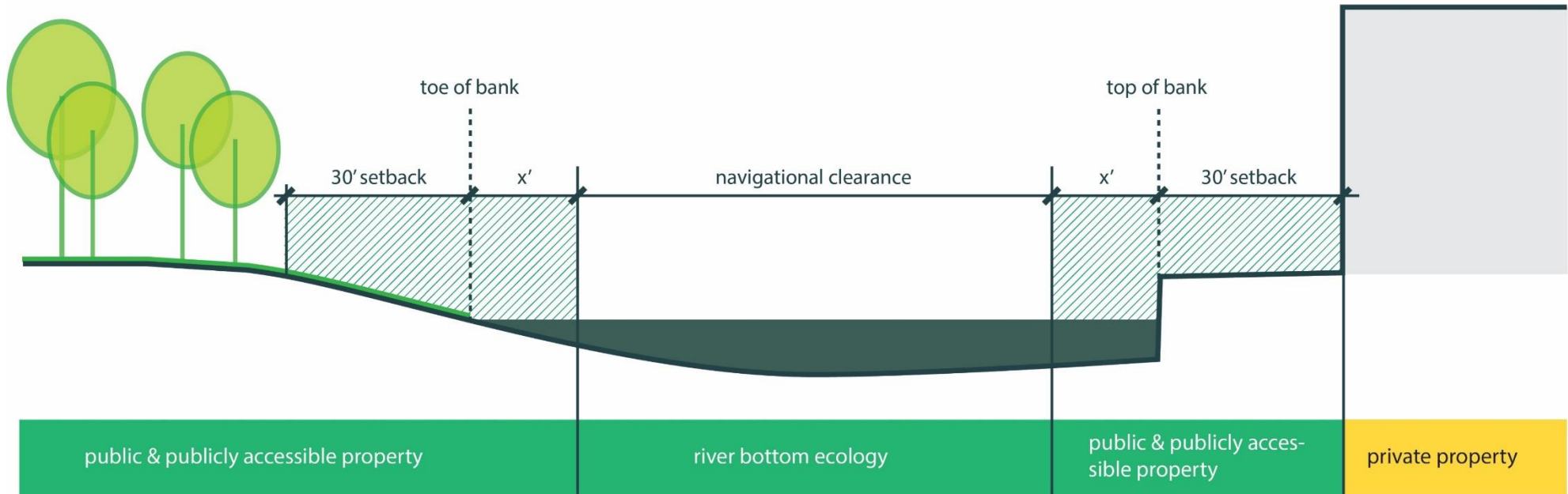
STUDY GOALS

- Identify problems & inventory existing conditions
- Assess restoration potential & environmental impacts
- Identify opportunities for linking existing & planned activities
- Identify flood risk management strategies & align with other efforts
- Identify potential public health impacts of river activities
- Provide region-specific evaluations



STUDY AREA

-  Area of Focus
-  Area for Coordination





PLANNING CONSIDERATIONS

- Opportunities
 - ▶ Expand accessibility to rivers
 - ▶ Improve habitat
 - ▶ Achieve multiple benefits

- Constraints
 - ▶ Lack of public land adjacent to rivers
 - ▶ Industrial land adjacent to rivers
 - ▶ Limited funding

- Desired Plan Elements
 - ▶ Conceptual habitat measures
 - ▶ Funding sources & leveraging strategies
 - ▶ Permitting requirements/jurisdictional issues

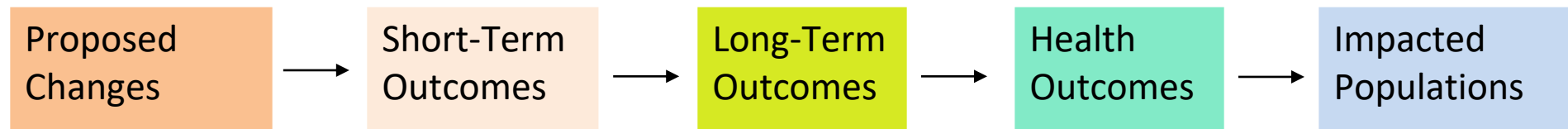


Big Marsh Park (courtesy of Audubon Great Lakes)



STUDY APPROACH

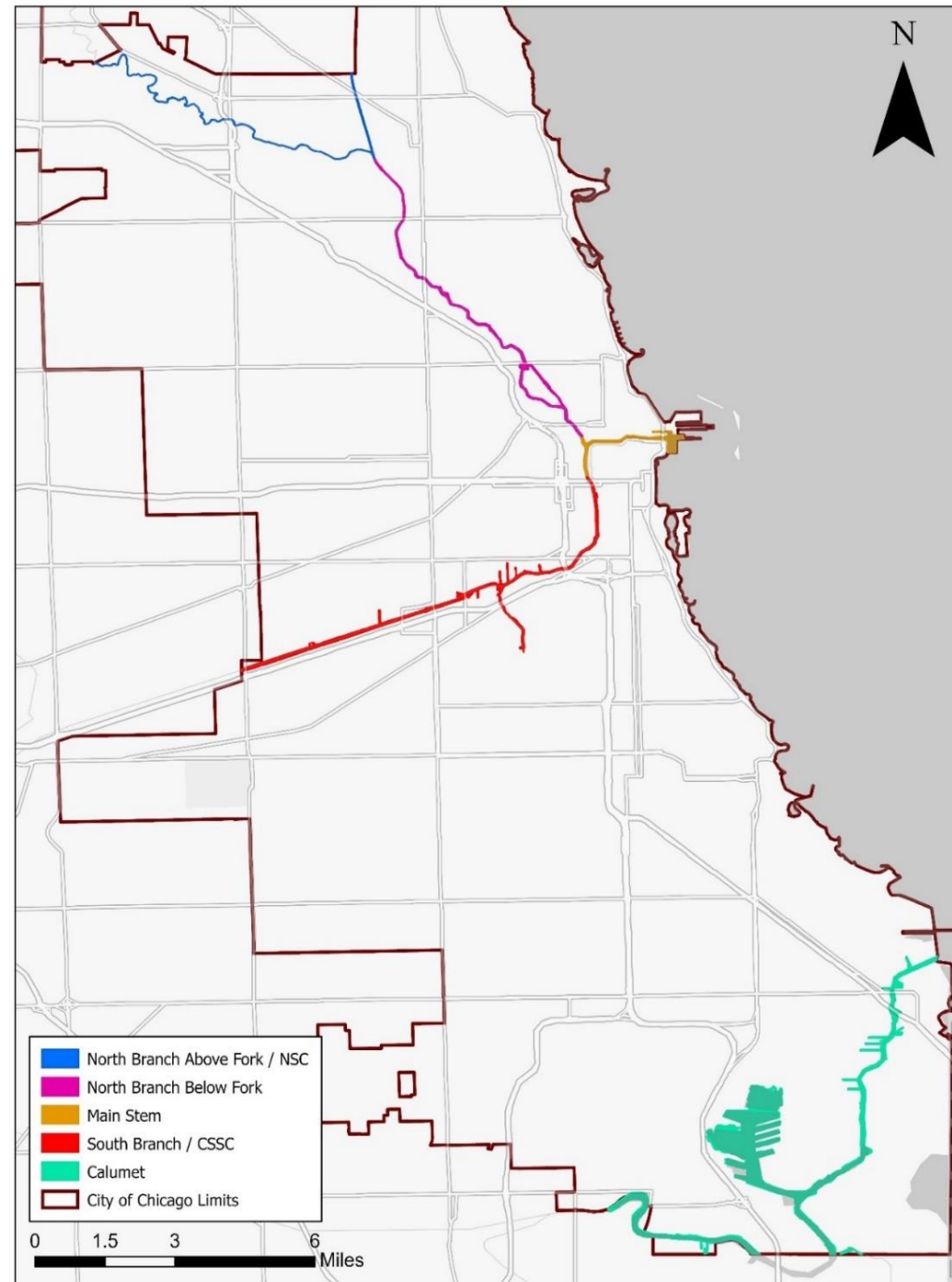
- Team compiled background information on waterway conditions
- River system was divided into 5 regions
- Team identified initial opportunity sites in those regions
- Region-specific outreach meetings were held with stakeholders to gather input
- Team compiled further information about opportunity sites
- Chicago Department of Public Health completed a conceptual scoping pathways analysis on potential health impacts

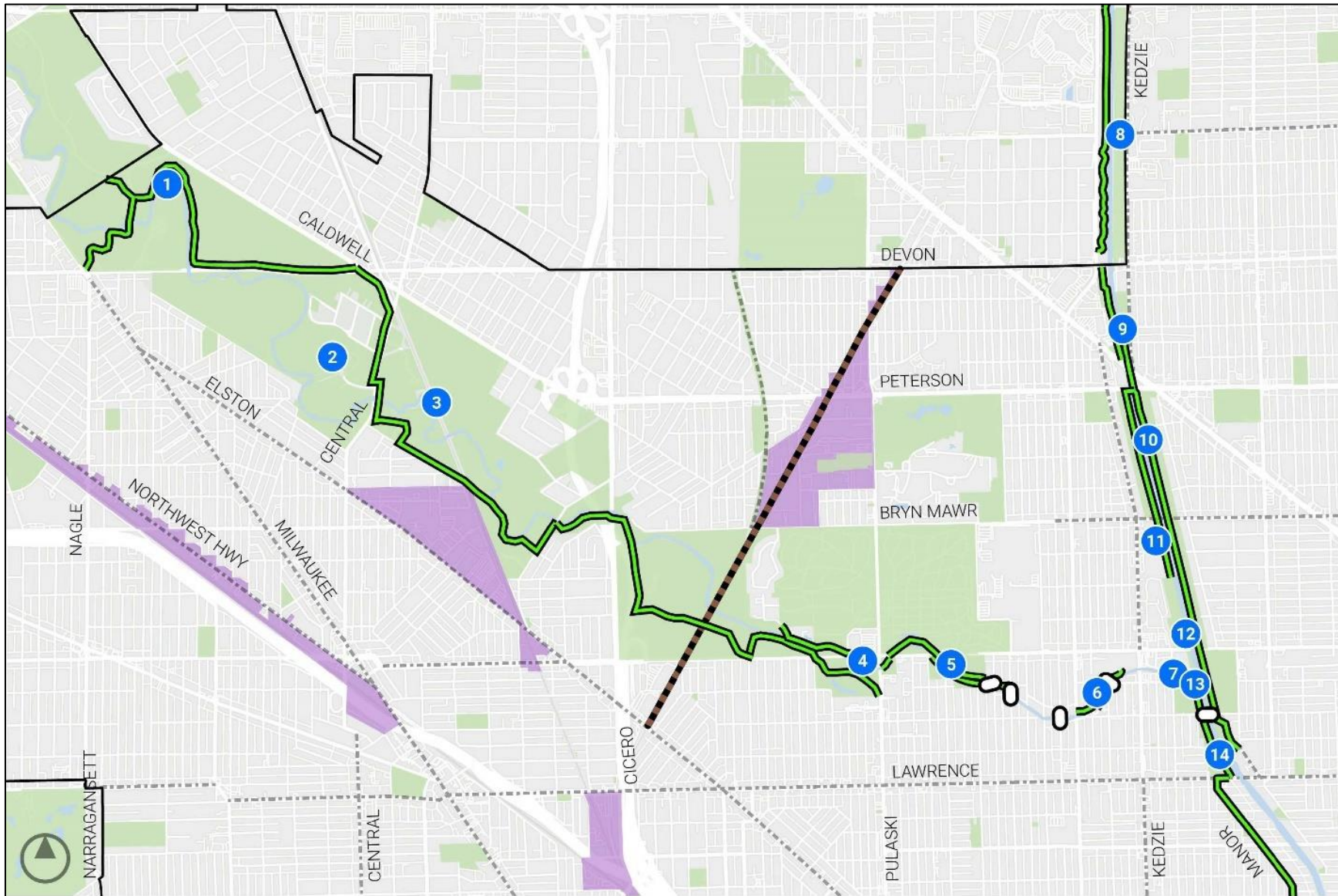


STUDY REGIONS

Information provided for each region:

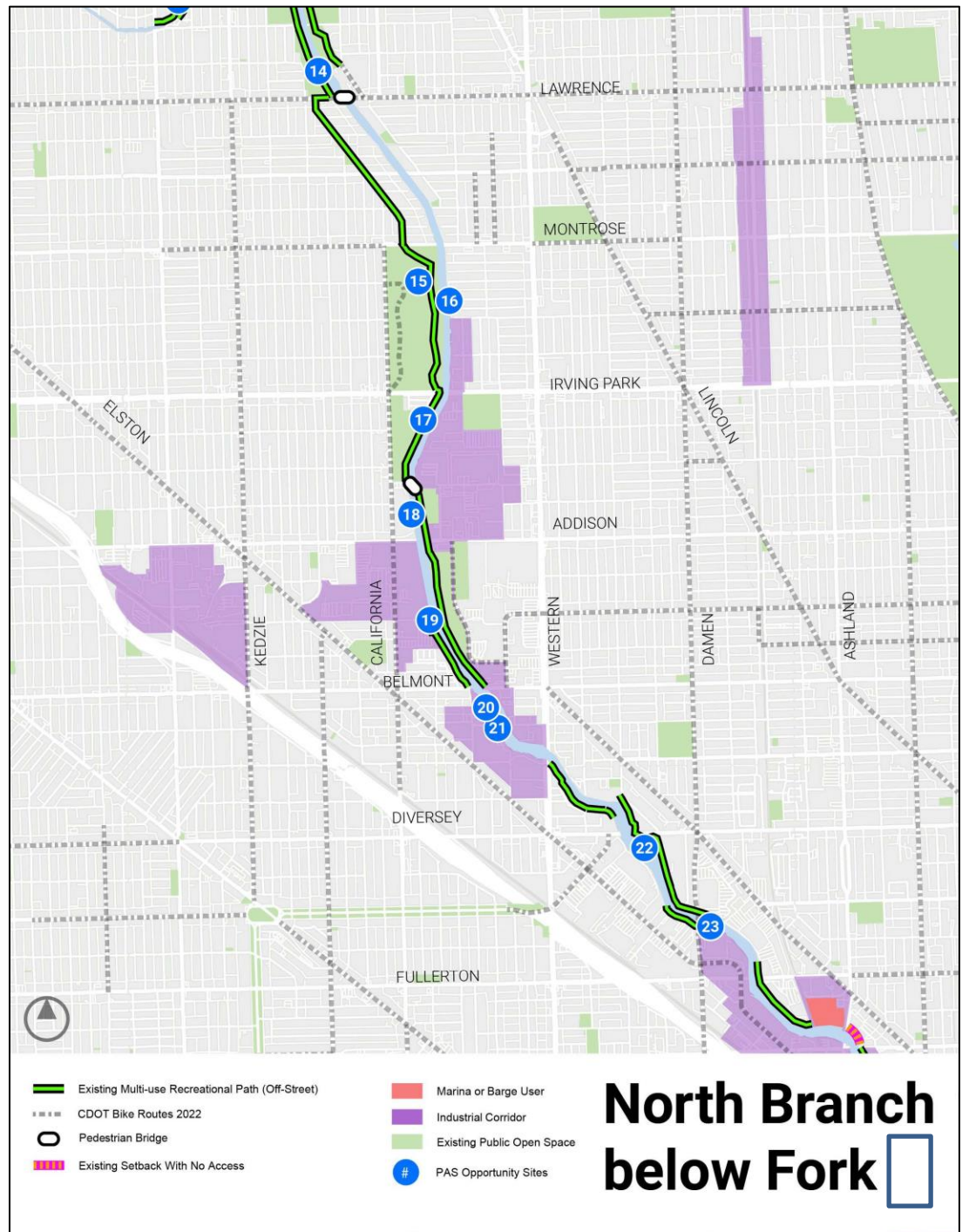
- Physical resources
- Ecological resources
- Social resources
- Problems & constraints
- Opportunity sites
- Related studies



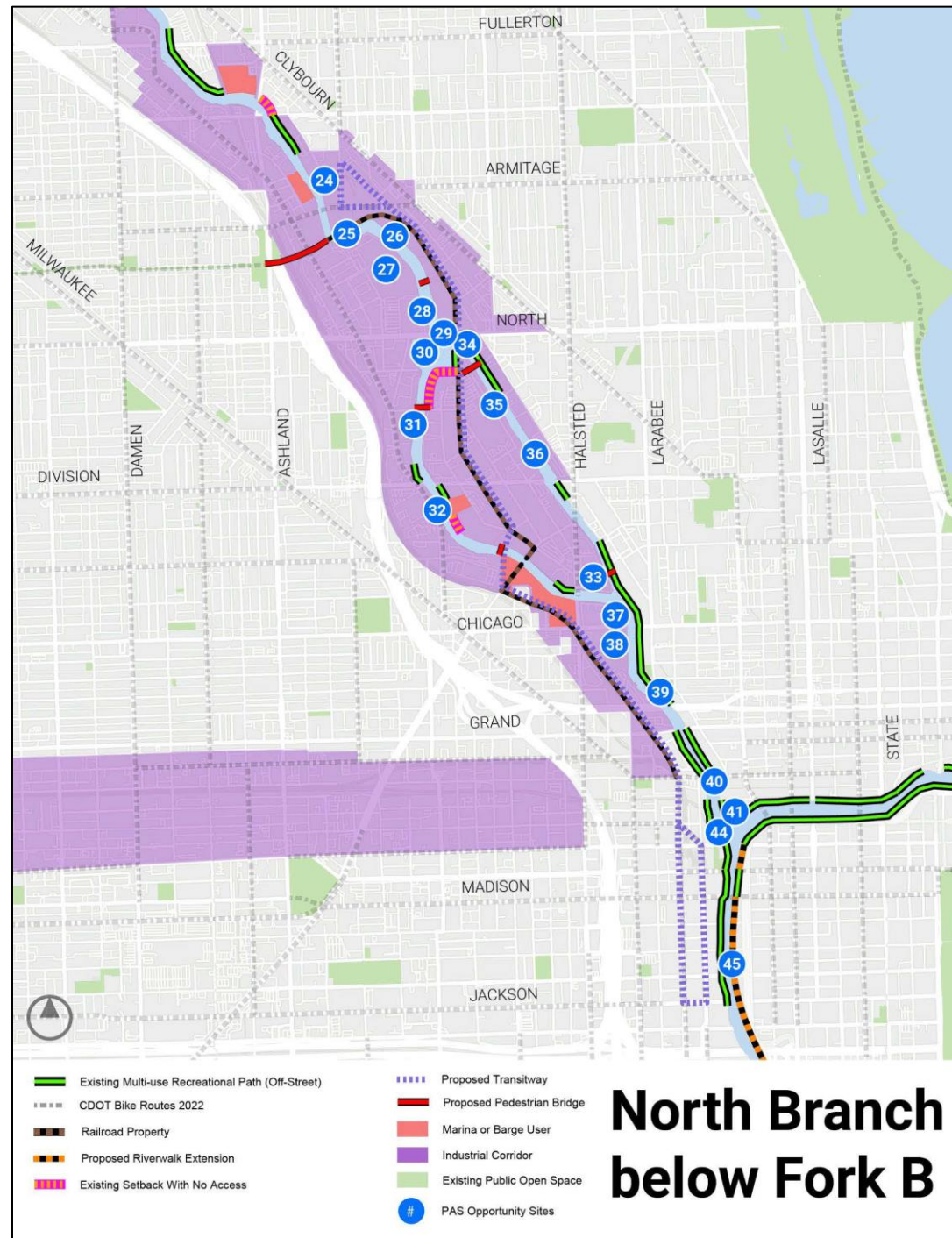


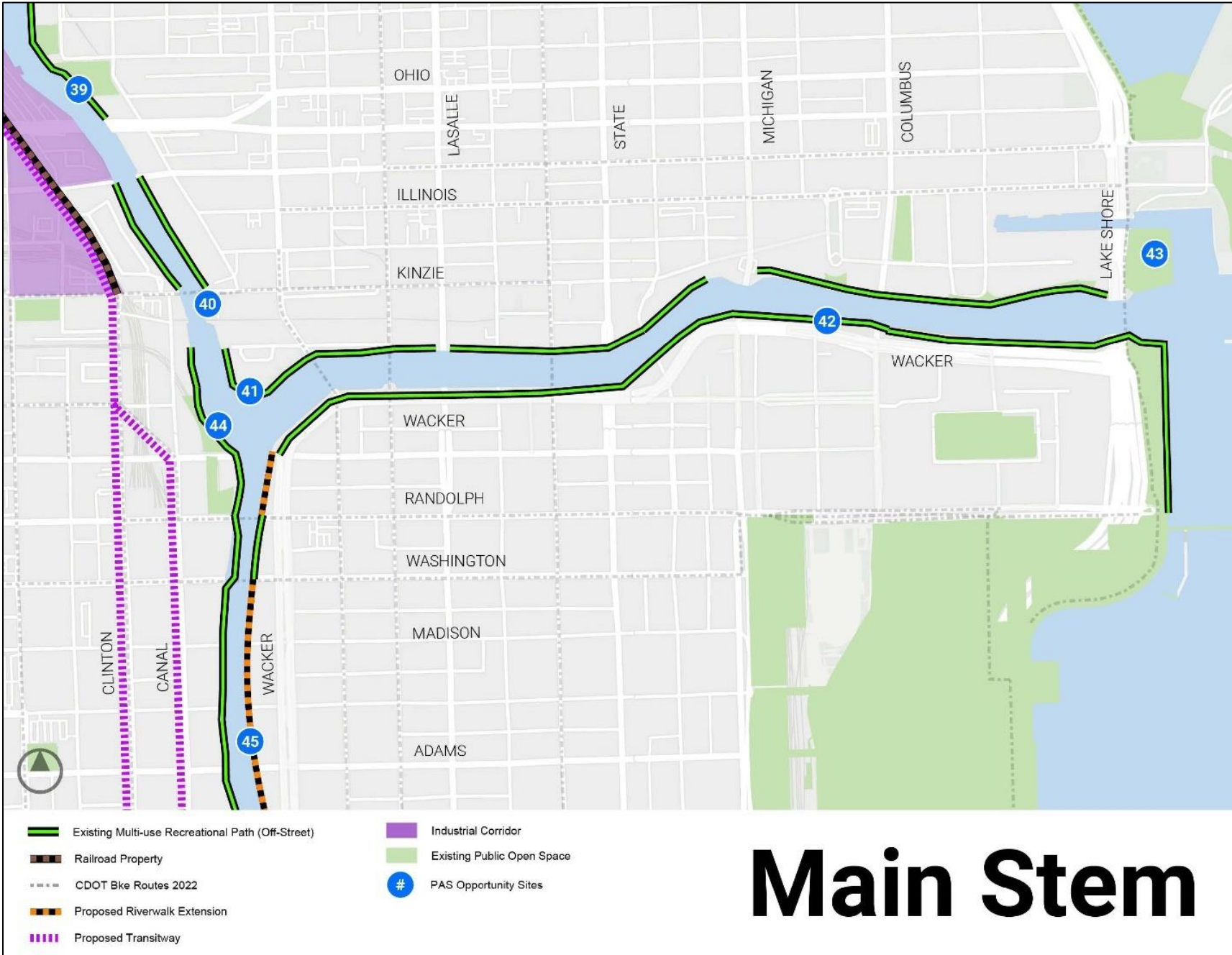
- Existing Multi-use Recreational Path (Off-Street)
- Railroad Property
- Pedestrian Bridge
- CDOT Bike Routes 2022
- Industrial Corridor
- Existing Public Open Space
- PAS Opportunity Sites

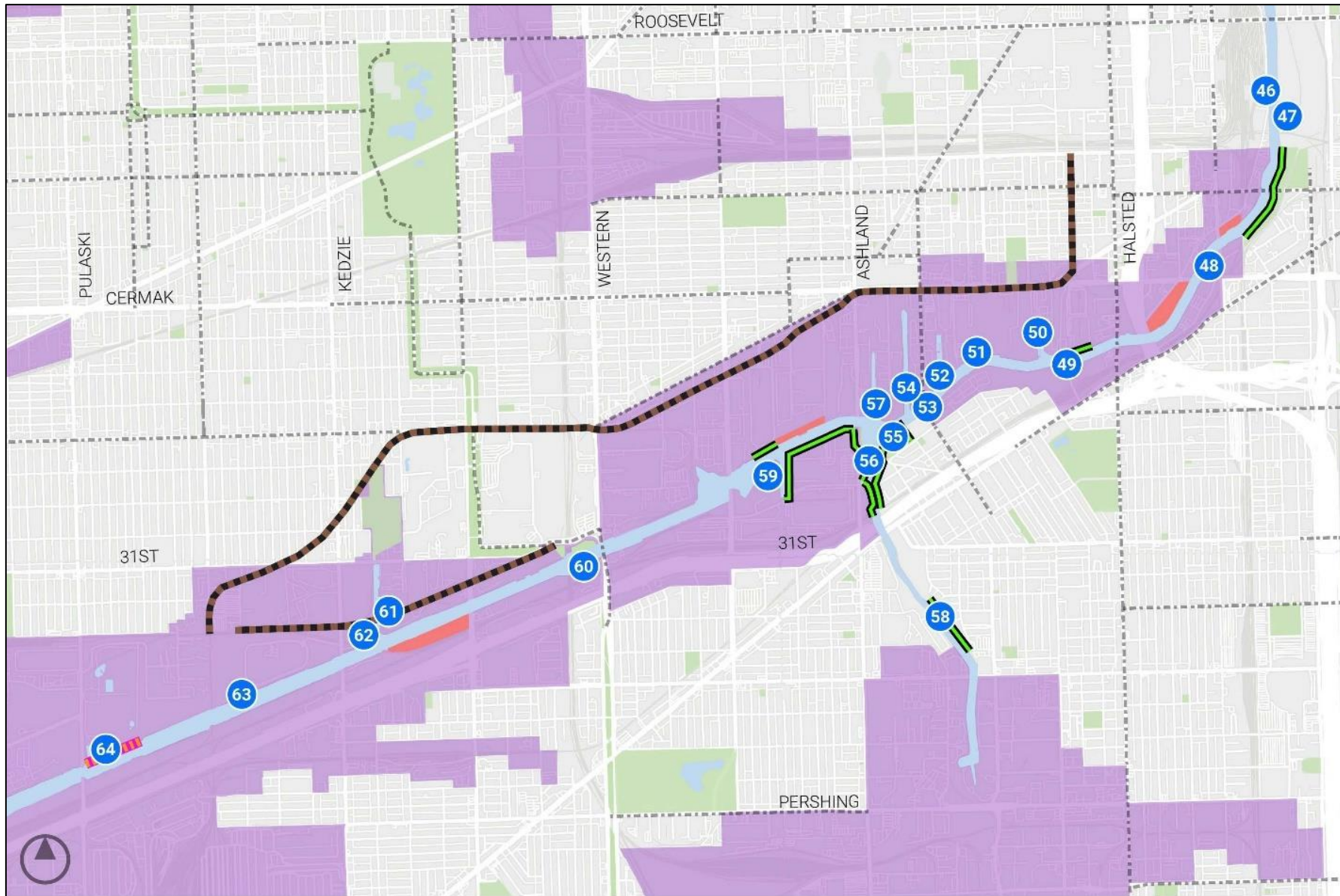
North Branch Above Fork and North Shore Channel



- Existing Multi-use Recreational Path (Off-Street)
- CDOT Bike Routes 2022
- Pedestrian Bridge
- Existing Setback With No Access
- Marina or Barge User
- Industrial Corridor
- Existing Public Open Space
- PAS Opportunity Sites

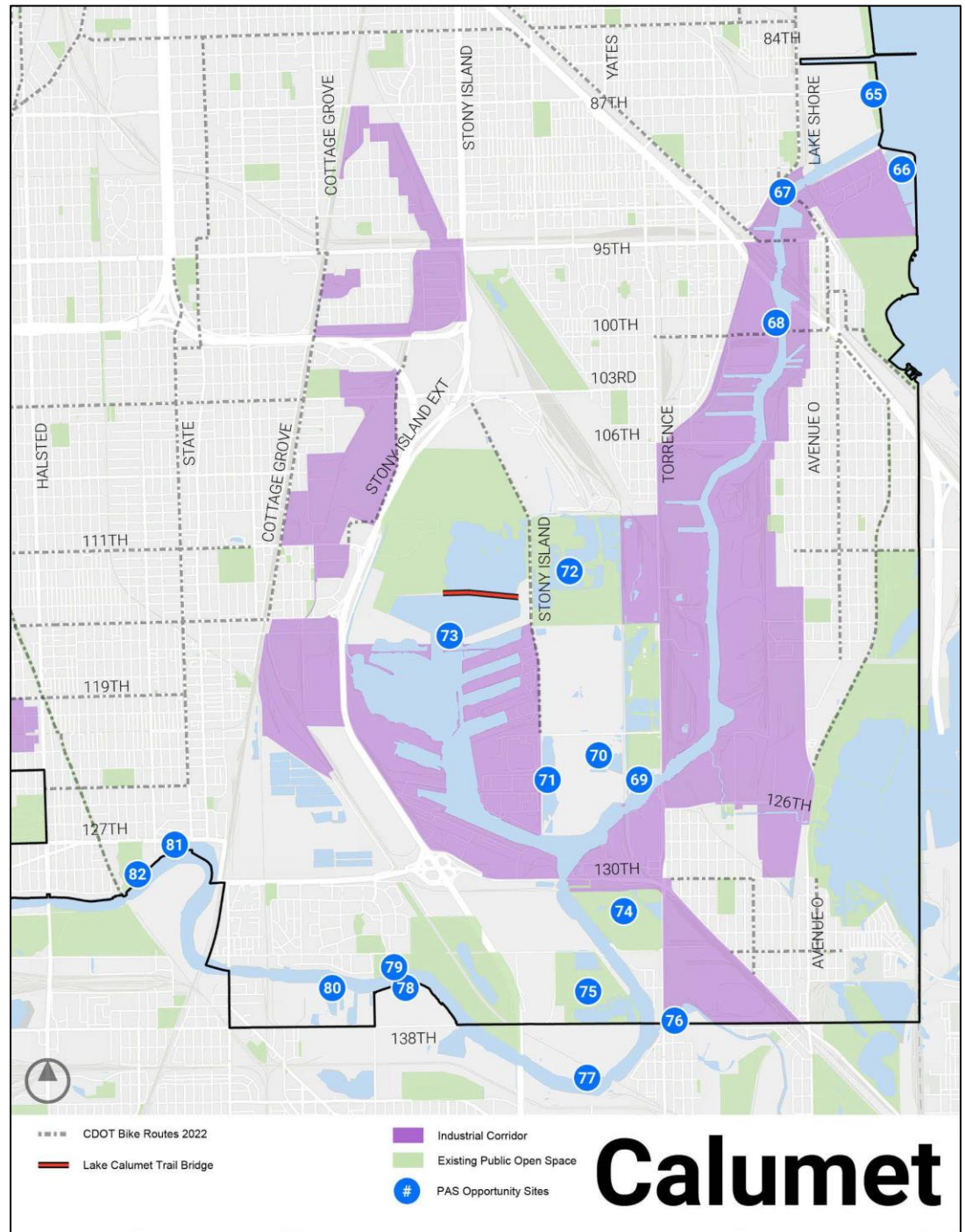






- Existing Multi-use Recreational Path (Off-Street)
- Railroad Property
- CDOT Bike Routes 2022
- Existing Setback With No Access
- Industrial Corridor
- Existing Public Open Space
- Marina or Barge User
- PAS Opportunity Sites

South Branch



Calumet



WHAT'S NEXT?

- Final report & associated on-line story map nearing public release
- Potential larger Corps feasibility study: authorized but not yet funded



Pre-removal of dam at confluence of upper North Branch and North Shore Channel (left), post-removal (right)