

# COMMUNITY INPUT OVERVIEW

## COMMUNITY MEETINGS



## ATTENDEES

50

## ONLINE SURVEY



### Bluff Restoration Master Plan - Community Input Survey

#### Introduction

Through an extensive master planning process and this community engagement effort, the Winnetka Park District is working to further the development of the Bluff Land Restoration Master Plan. This plan outlines a long-term vision and sustainable maintenance strategy for the preservation, protection, restoration, and enhancement of Winnetka's lakefront for both Winnetka residents and the greater Lake Michigan community. This master plan is a continuation of the original Winnetka Waterfront 2030 Lakefront Master Plan.

This vision is comprised of both large-scale and modest improvements that will enhance the quality of lakefront amenities available to park and beach users as well as improve the overall quality of the Illinois Lake Michigan coast for future generations.

This Bluff Land Restoration Plan was prepared by The Winnetka Park District using federal funds under award number NA16NOS4190086 from NOAA's Office for Coastal Management, U.S. Department of Commerce. The statements, findings, conclusions, and recommendations are those of the author(s) and do not necessarily reflect the views of NOAA's Office of Coastal Management or the U.S. Department of Commerce.

Please use this survey to provide us with feedback and tell us what you think!

OK

## RESPONSES

115

HOW WE SHARED THE MASTER PLAN CONCEPTS WITH THE COMMUNITY

# OVERALL - KEY THEMES

***“JUST HOPE IT STAYS A PLACE TO GET AWAY AND ENJOY THE PEACE AND QUIET AND TO HEAR THE SOUNDS OF THE WAVES AND BIRDS AS ITS BEEN FOR ME, MY PARENTS AND GRANDPARENTS AND BEYOND. THANK YOU!”***

***“LOVE THE INNOVATIVE IDEAS. HOPE TO SEE IT COME TO FRUITION SOON.”***

***“WINNETKA’S BEACHES CAN CERTAINLY BE IMPROVED. KEEP UP THE GOOD WORK AND DO WHAT YOU CAN TO SPEED UP THE PROCESS.”***

## TOP POSITIVE THEMES

1. General community approval of bluff land restoration and natural open space preservation.
2. Support for upgrades, maintenance, and renovations to current amenities.
3. Thanks and praise for evaluating beach conditions and considering potential improvements.

## SOLUTIONS / MESSAGING

- Continue to update the community on restoration and renovation work at the beaches.
- Maintain environmental preservation and existing conditions analysis.
- Pursue further community input and market analysis research.

# OVERALL - KEY THEMES

***“I THINK IT IS IMPORTANT TO CONSIDER THE ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT, FIRST AND FOREMOST, ON THE ENTIRE BEACH FRONT BEFORE ANY CHANGES ARE DECIDED UPON.”***

***“IMPROVE SAND QUALITY ACROSS ALL BEACHES!”***

***“I WOULD REALLY LIKE TO SEE MORE FOOD OPTIONS AT THE BEACHES. PERHAPS, PRACTICAL AREA RESTAURANTS/LUNCH PLACES COULD DO THIS (POP UPS) ON A ROTATING BASIS OR GET A RESTAURANT TO COMMIT FOR THE SUMMER.”***

## TOP CONSTRUCTIVE THEMES

1. Environmental concerns regarding sand quality and water pollution.
2. Concerns regarding over-development - desire to keep bluff land “natural”.
3. Interest in costs, staffing, and long-term maintenance strategies.
4. Significant interest in food (restaurant or concessions) at one or more beach locations.

## SOLUTIONS / MESSAGING

- Better communicate the environmental benefits of the proposed shoreline enhancements.
- Reference the Winnetka Waterfront 2030 Plan for community concerns regarding stormwater pollution prevention.
- Engage in further community input and market analysis research to understand and verify needs within the community for future Master Plan facility improvements.
- Explore interest, capability, and potential avenues for food service at beach location(s).

# TOWER ROAD - KEY THEMES

*“BLUFF RESTORATION IS (TOP) PRIORITY...IMPORTANCE OF KEEPING THE PARKS GREEN RATHER THAN BLACK TOPPING AND PARKING LOTS.”*

## TOP POSITIVE THEMES

1. Positive feedback regarding renovated and expanded Beach House.
2. Calls for action regarding renovated bluff pedestrian access stair.
3. Bluff restoration is regarded as the most desired and significant improvement.

## SOLUTIONS / MESSAGING

- Continue to include the Beach House expansion in the Master Plan Vision at Tower Road Park.
- Maintain plans to renovate the existing pedestrian access staircase illustrated in the Master Plan Vision at Tower Road Park.
- Continue to update the community on restoration and renovation work at the bluffs and prioritize long-term maintenance of the highly valued bluff environment.

# TOWER ROAD - KEY THEMES

*“HOW DO YOU ACCOUNT FOR/ACCOMMODATE HILL WALKERS/BIKE RIDERS ON NARROW ACCESS ROAD TO TOWER ROAD BEACH?”*

*“(IS THERE AN) AREA AT TOWER ROAD BEACH WHERE PADDLEBOARDS CAN LAND? MANY FAMILIES WOULD LOVE TO SHARE THEIR WATER ACTIVITIES.”*

## TOP CONSTRUCTIVE THEMES

1. Desire to accommodate paddleboards and kayaks.
2. Access road concerns - it is too narrow and presents a safety hazard for drivers and pedestrians.
3. Concerns regarding parking areas - too much proposed at the top of the bluff and too little at the lakefront.

## SOLUTIONS / MESSAGING

- Communicate and re-iterate to the community that the Winnetka Waterfront 2030 plan allocated non-motorized boat usage at Lloyd and Elder beaches.
- Continue to explore Master Plan solutions to address pedestrian safety concerns along the Tower Road access drive.
- Better communicate the circulation strategy with residents as the Tower Road Park Master Plan continues to move forward.

# TOWER ROAD - AMENITIES

## FAVORITE AMENITIES AT TOWER ROAD PARK

*Indicated below..*

ELEVATED ADVENTURE TRAIL BOARDWALK



39

29 ONLINE / 10 IN-PERSON

RENOVATED PEDESTRIAN ACCESS STAIRS



26

20 ONLINE / 6 IN-PERSON

BOULDER ADVENTURE TRAIL



24

14 ONLINE / 10 IN-PERSON

SPLASH PAD



16

14 ONLINE / 2 IN-PERSON

EXPANDED BEACH HOUSE



18

18 ONLINE / 0 IN-PERSON

GROUP ACTIVITY PLATFORM



15

8 ONLINE / 7 IN-PERSON

BEACH SHADE SAIL STRUCTURE



8

8 ONLINE / 0 IN-PERSON

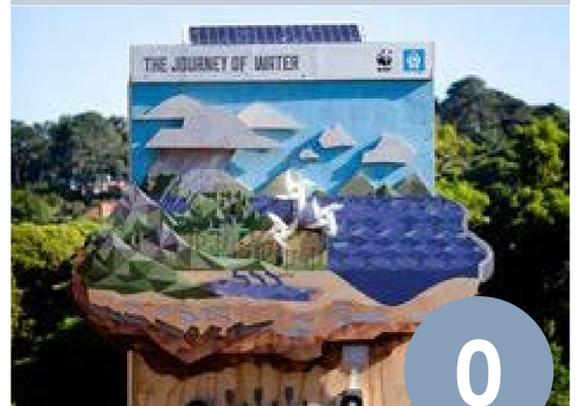
PICNIC STRUCTURE (20'X30')



4

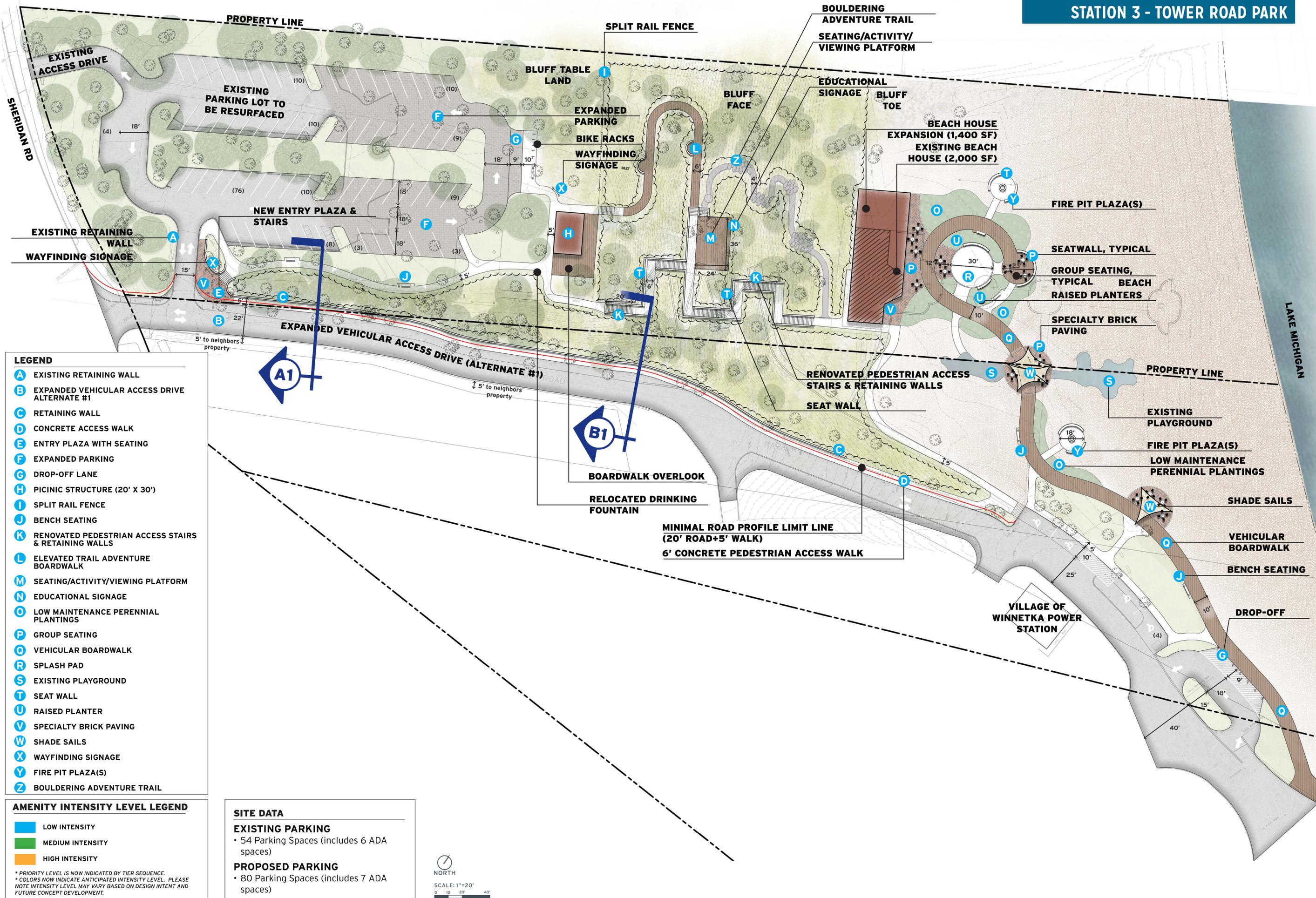
4 ONLINE / 0 IN-PERSON

PROPOSED EDUCATIONAL SIGNAGE



0

0 ONLINE / 0 IN-PERSON



- LEGEND**
- A** EXISTING RETAINING WALL
  - B** EXPANDED VEHICULAR ACCESS DRIVE ALTERNATE #1
  - C** RETAINING WALL
  - D** CONCRETE ACCESS WALK
  - E** ENTRY PLAZA WITH SEATING
  - F** EXPANDED PARKING
  - G** DROP-OFF LANE
  - H** PICNIC STRUCTURE (20' X 30')
  - I** SPLIT RAIL FENCE
  - J** BENCH SEATING
  - K** RENOVATED PEDESTRIAN ACCESS STAIRS & RETAINING WALLS
  - L** ELEVATED TRAIL ADVENTURE BOARDWALK
  - M** SEATING/ACTIVITY/VIEWING PLATFORM
  - N** EDUCATIONAL SIGNAGE
  - O** LOW MAINTENANCE PERENNIAL PLANTINGS
  - P** GROUP SEATING
  - Q** VEHICULAR BOARDWALK
  - R** SPLASH PAD
  - S** EXISTING PLAYGROUND
  - T** SEAT WALL
  - U** RAISED PLANTER
  - V** SPECIALTY BRICK PAVING
  - W** SHADE SAILS
  - X** WAYFINDING SIGNAGE
  - Y** FIRE PIT PLAZA(S)
  - Z** BOULDERING ADVENTURE TRAIL

- AMENITY INTENSITY LEVEL LEGEND**
- LOW INTENSITY
  - MEDIUM INTENSITY
  - HIGH INTENSITY
- \* PRIORITY LEVEL IS NOW INDICATED BY TIER SEQUENCE.  
\* COLORS NOW INDICATE ANTICIPATED INTENSITY LEVEL. PLEASE NOTE INTENSITY LEVEL MAY VARY BASED ON DESIGN INTENT AND FUTURE CONCEPT DEVELOPMENT.

**SITE DATA**

**EXISTING PARKING**  
• 54 Parking Spaces (includes 6 ADA spaces)

**PROPOSED PARKING**  
• 80 Parking Spaces (includes 7 ADA spaces)



# LLOYD PARK - KEY THEMES

***“LLOYD IS IN NEED OF UPDATES THAT RESIDENTS CAN ENJOY AND WILL GENERATE THE MOST REVENUE FROM NONRESIDENTS! PLEASE DO THE WORK NEEDED AT LLOYD!! THANKS”***

***“DESPERATELY NEED RESTAURANT ON THE WATER. VERY FEW OF THOSE, WOULD BRING REGIONAL DOLLARS INTO COMMUNITY”***

***“KEEP THE BLUFFS NATURAL BEAUTY”***

## TOP POSITIVE THEMES

1. Bluff restoration is regarded as the most desired and significant improvement.
2. Maintain non-motorized boat storage and access.
3. Significant interest in the restaurant concept.

## SOLUTIONS / MESSAGING

- Continue to update the community on restoration and renovation work at the bluffs and prioritize long-term maintenance of the highly valued bluff environment.
- Continue to include a separate area for non-motorized boat storage on the south end of Lloyd Beach.
- Consider further plans to develop a restaurant amenity within the Lloyd Park Master Plan.

# LLOYD PARK - KEY THEMES

***“NO MOTORS! LET’S TAKE CARE OF WATER QUALITY FIRST. WATER IS FILTHY.”***

***“DO NOT OVER BUILD – TOO MUCH ‘TOP DRESSING’ INFRASTRUCTURE – LOOKS LIKE AN AMUSEMENT PARK”***

***“RUBBLE BREAKWATERS AS CURRENTLY DESIGNED PREVENT ALONG BEACH ACCESS – PLEASE PROVIDE DETAIL TO ENSURE ‘ALONG SHORE’ ACCESS”***

## TOP CONSTRUCTIVE THEMES

1. Opposition to motorized boat storage and access.
2. Concerns regarding over-development - desire to keep bluff land “natural”.
3. Access confusion and safety concerns regarding the shoreline breakwater system.

## SOLUTIONS / MESSAGING

- Reference the Winnetka Waterfront 2030 Plan for community concerns regarding motorized boat usage and reassure the community that further market study analyses will be conducted to verify the quantity of motorized boat storage spaces necessary.
- Explore the creation of additional illustration(s) to address access concerns and to help further communicate the nature of the shoreline environment from the perspective park user.

# LLOYD PARK - AMENITIES

## FAVORITE AMENITIES FROM THE LLOYD PARK MASTER PLAN

*Indicated below..*

### RESTAURANT



69

53 ONLINE / 16 IN-PERSON

### NON-MOTORIZED BOAT STORAGE



24

8 ONLINE / 16 IN-PERSON

### SHORELINE BREAKWATER IMPROVEMENTS



20

9 ONLINE / 11 IN-PERSON

### NATURE TRAILS



20

12 ONLINE / 8 IN-PERSON

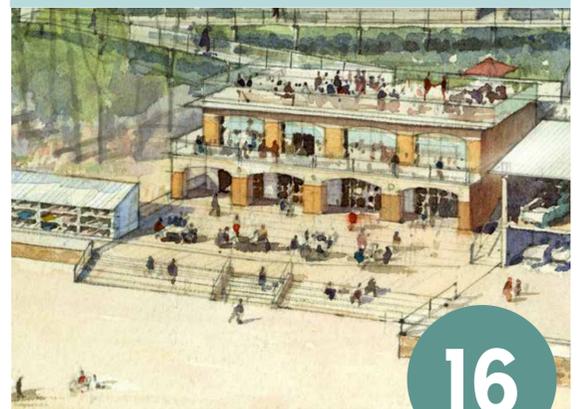
### BLUFF LAND HABITAT



18

8 ONLINE / 10 IN-PERSON

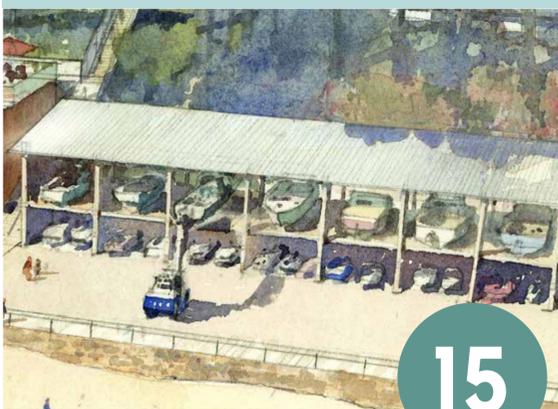
### NEW BEACH HOUSE WITH ROOFTOP OVERLOOK



16

4 ONLINE / 12 IN-PERSON

### MOTORIZED BOAT STORAGE



15

11 ONLINE / 4 IN-PERSON

### EXERCISE STAIRS



3

3 ONLINE / 0 IN-PERSON

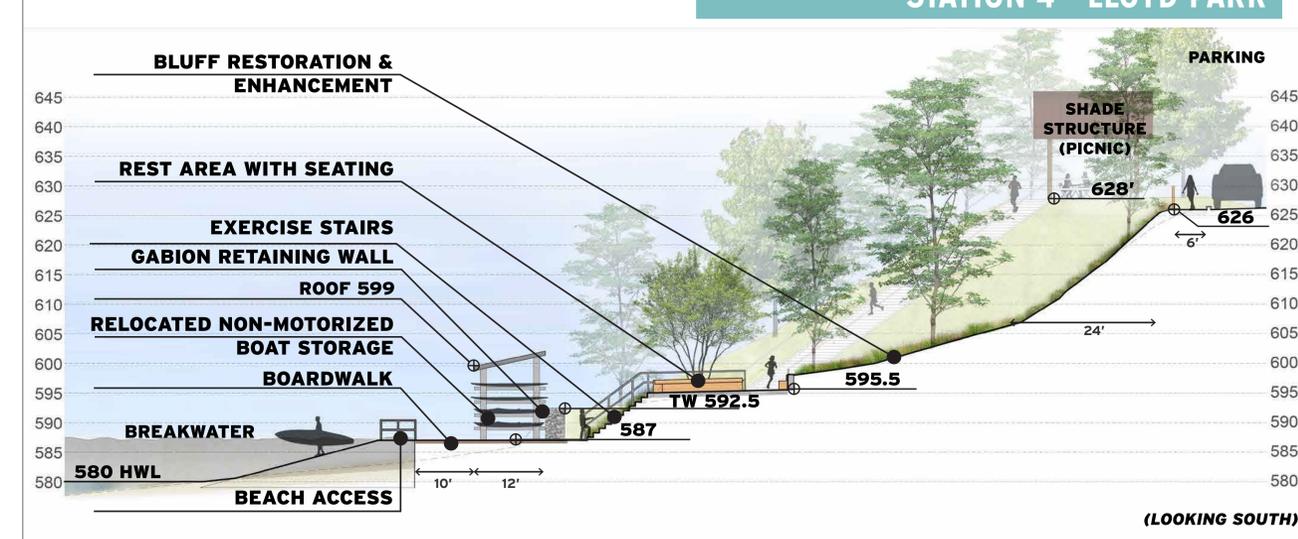
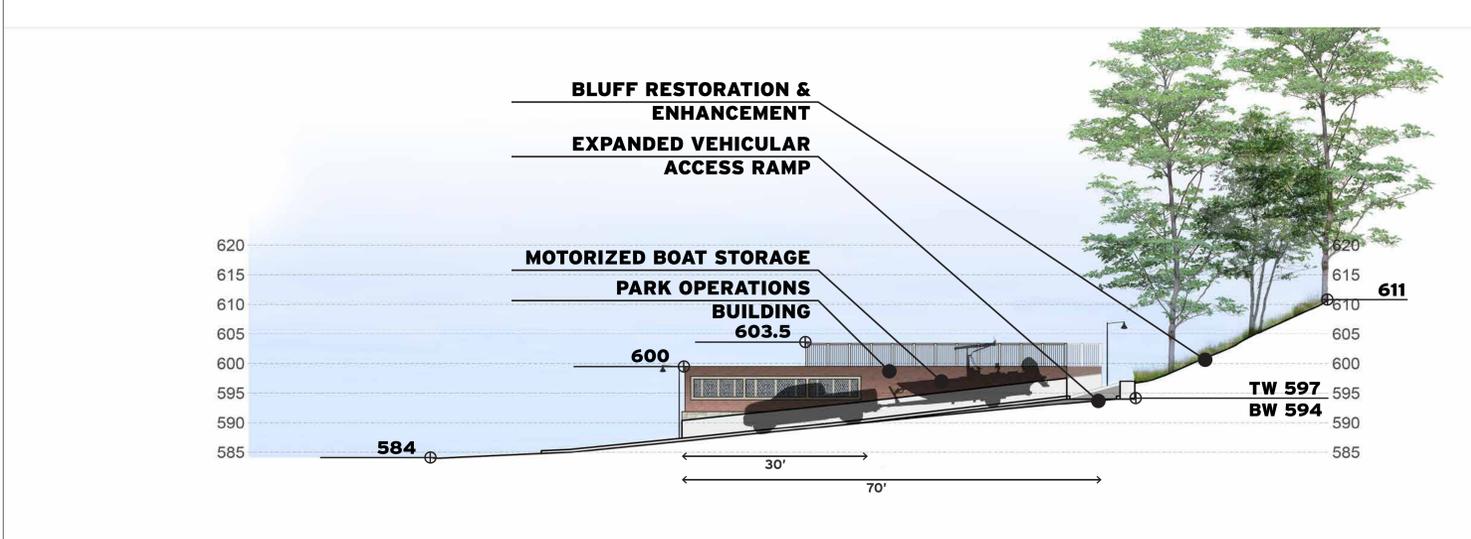
### PICNIC STRUCTURE (20'X20')



2

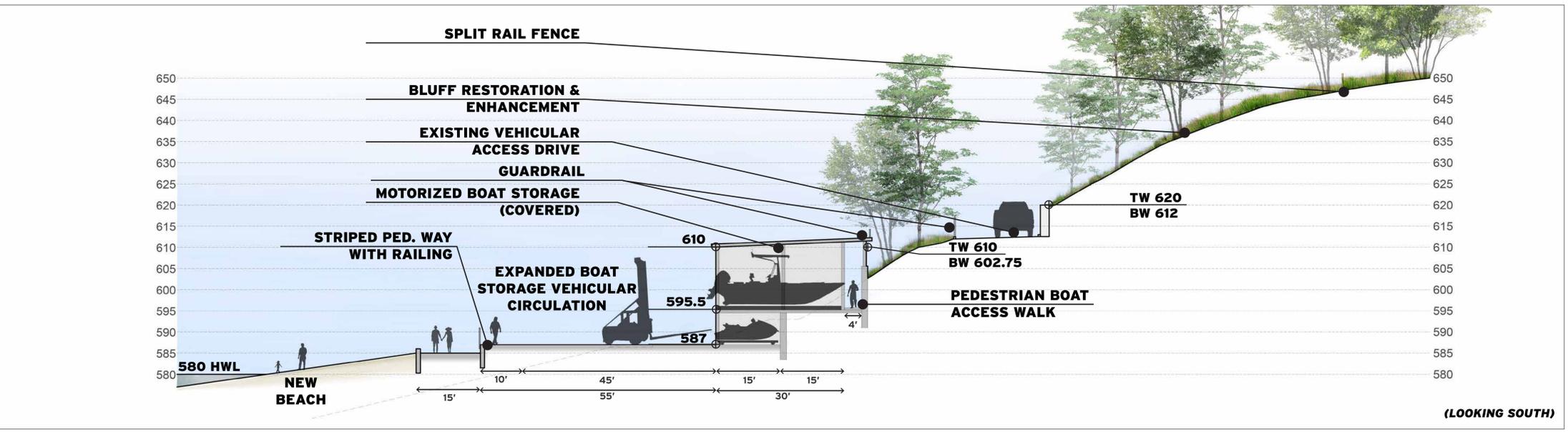
2 ONLINE / 0 IN-PERSON



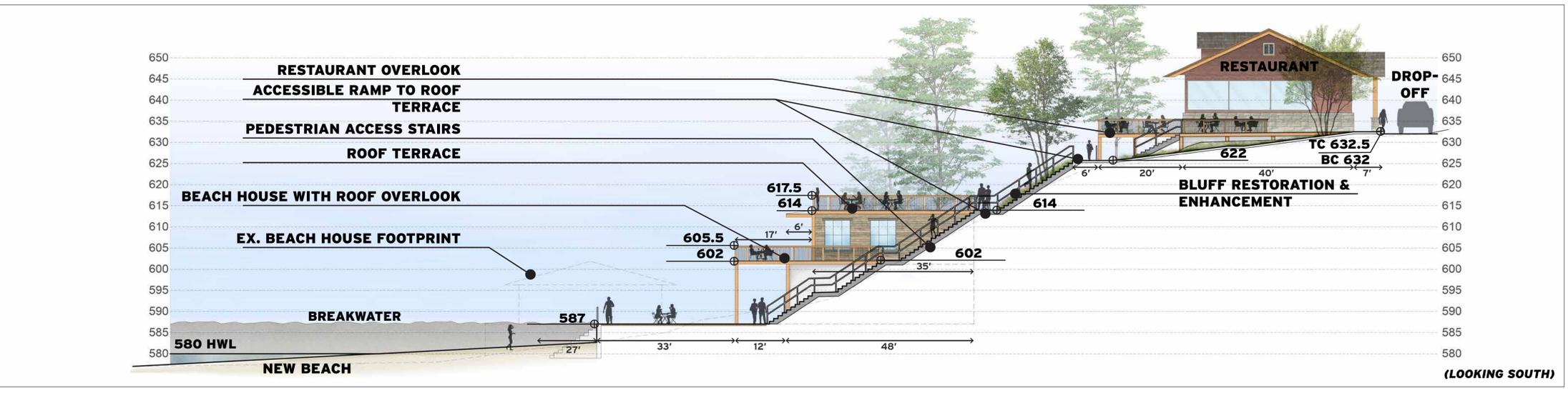


LLOYD PARK | SECTION A1

LLOYD PARK | SECTION D1



LLOYD PARK | SECTION B1



LLOYD PARK | SECTION C1

# LLOYD PARK MASTER PLAN - SECTIONS

# MAPLE PARK - KEY THEMES

*“THE CURRENT AMENITIES ARE OUT OF DATE AND NOT FIT FOR (THEIR) PURPOSE.”*

## TOP POSITIVE THEMES

1. Bluff restoration is regarded as the most desired and significant improvement.
2. Support regarding maintenance and renovations to existing amenities.
3. Some support regarding parking expansion.

## SOLUTIONS / MESSAGING

- Continue to update the community on restoration and renovation work at the bluffs and prioritize long-term maintenance of the highly valued bluff environment.
- Continue to address maintenance updates to park amenities at Maple Street Park.
- Reference the Winnetka Waterfront 2030 Plan for community concerns regarding expand parking at Maple Street Beach.

# MAPLE PARK - KEY THEMES

*“THE RETURN ON INVESTMENT ON THE FEW ADDED PARKING SPACES IN TIER 3 IS NOT WORTH GIVING UP GREEN SPACE”*

## TOP CONSTRUCTIVE THEMES

1. Some opposition to parking expansion.

## SOLUTIONS / MESSAGING

- Reference the Winnetka Waterfront 2030 Plan for community concerns regarding expand parking at Maple Street Beach.

# MAPLE PARK - AMENITIES

## FAVORITE AMENITIES FROM THE MAPLE PARK MASTER PLAN

*Indicated below...*

RENOVATED BEACH BOARDWALK



49

41 ONLINE / 8 IN-PERSON

BLUFF LAND HABITAT



28

22 ONLINE / 6 IN-PERSON

RENOVATED STAIRS & RETAINING WALL



19

19 ONLINE / 0 IN-PERSON

RESTORED GABION RETAINING WALL



15

5 ONLINE / 10 IN-PERSON

PARKING EXPANSION



12

10 ONLINE / 2 IN-PERSON

PICNIC STRUCTURE (20'X20')



10

8 ONLINE / 2 IN-PERSON

GROUP SEATING



5

5 ONLINE / 0 IN-PERSON

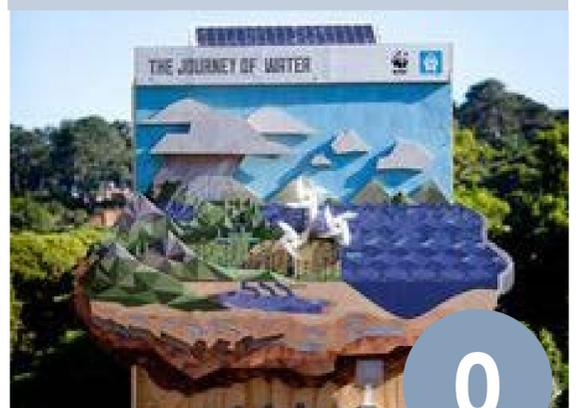
WAYFINDING SIGNAGE



0

0 ONLINE / 0 IN-PERSON

EDUCATIONAL SIGNAGE



0

0 ONLINE / 0 IN-PERSON

- LEGEND**
- A** BLUFF RESTORATION & ENHANCEMENT
  - B** EXPANDED & RENOVATED PARKING
  - C** EXPANDED PARKING DROP-OFF
  - D** VEHICULAR LIGHTING, TYPICAL
  - E** CONCRETE WALK
  - F** WAYFINDING SIGNAGE
  - G** EDUCATIONAL SIGNAGE
  - H** BENCH SEATING, TYPICAL
  - I** SHADE STRUCTURE (PICNIC)
  - J** NEW BIKE RACKS
  - K** RENOVATED STAIR ACCESS, RETAINING WALL & RAILING
  - L** BOARDWALK
  - M** GROUP SEATING
  - N** RESTORED GABION RETAINING WALL
  - O** SEATWALL
  - P** OUTDOOR GRILL
  - Q** PEDESTRIAN LIGHTING, TYPICAL

- AMENITY INTENSITY LEVEL LEGEND**
- LOW INTENSITY
  - MEDIUM INTENSITY
  - HIGH INTENSITY
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**SITE DATA**

**EXISTING PARKING**  
 • 13 Parking Spaces (includes 1 ADA spaces)

**PROPOSED PARKING**  
 • 34 Parking Spaces (includes 3 ADA spaces)



# ELDER & CENTENNIAL PARK - KEY THEMES

***“SAVE EVERY PENNY TO BUY THE HOUSE BETWEEN ELDER AND CENTENNIAL. IT WOULD BE THE SECOND BIGGEST BEACH IN WINNETKA”***

***“KEEP LAND OPEN AND FLEXIBLE. WE DON’T NEED TO BE THE NEXT GILSON BEACH.”***

## TOP *POSITIVE* THEMES

1. General approval for the property acquisition.
2. Support for maintaining open and flexible green space at Elder and Centennial Parks.
3. Interest in delineating this location as either a swimming beach or dog beach.

## SOLUTIONS / MESSAGING

- Continue to explore and pursue the property acquisition that would unite Elder and Centennial Parks.
- Consider reducing the sports field programming at Elder and Centennial.
- Further investigate plans to establish a dedicated swimming beach at Centennial Beach and better communicate to the public plans for the removal and relocation of the dog beach at Centennial to another location in Winnetka.

# ELDER & CENTENNIAL PARK - KEY THEMES

***“CURRENT RUBBLESTONE BREAKWATERS PREVENT ACCESS ‘ALONG THE BEACH’ THEY CREATE A 6’ HIGH IMPASSABLE BARRIER (VISIBLE FROM) SPRUCE STREET. PLEASE ENSURE THESE DESIGNS ‘INVITE’ ALONG SHORE ACCESS”***

***“NEED TO COMMUNICATE SPECIFIC PLAN FOR DOG PARK BEFORE TAKING AWAY DOG BEACH.”***

## TOP CONSTRUCTIVE THEMES

1. Some opposition to the property acquisition.
2. Concerns and confusion regarding the removal and/or relocation of the dog beach.
3. Access confusion and safety concerns regarding the shoreline breakwater system.

## SOLUTIONS / MESSAGING

- Continue to discuss the property acquisition that would unite Elder and Centennial Parks with the community as the Master Plan moves forward.
- Better communicate to the public plans for the removal and relocation of the dog beach at Centennial to another location in Winnetka.
- Reference the Winnetka Waterfront 2030 Plan for community concerns regarding development of the shoreline protection work and ensure the community that the shoreline work will be further studied as that plan moves forward separate from the Bluff Land Restoration Master Plan.

# ELDER & CENTENNIAL PARK - AMENITIES

## FAVORITE AMENITIES FROM THE ELDER & CENTENNIAL PARK MASTER PLAN

Indicated below..

### PROPERTY ACQUISITION



37

27 ONLINE / 10 IN-PERSON

### SWIMMING BEACH



31

22 ONLINE / 9 IN-PERSON

### FUTURE BEACH HOUSE AT CENTENNIAL



17

15 ONLINE / 2 IN-PERSON

### BLUFF LAND HABITAT



16

11 ONLINE / 5 IN-PERSON

### NON-MOTORIZED BOAT STORAGE



12

8 ONLINE / 4 IN-PERSON

### PIER REMOVAL TO OPEN UP BEACH AT ELDER



11

10 ONLINE / 1 IN-PERSON

### RESTROOM FACILITY AT CENTENNIAL



10

9 ONLINE / 1 IN-PERSON

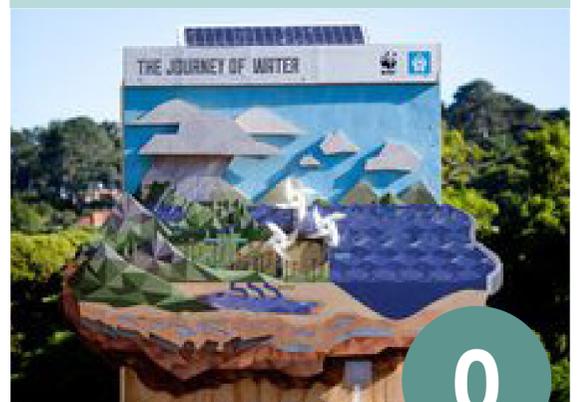
### BEACH TRELLIS SHADE STRUCTURE



8

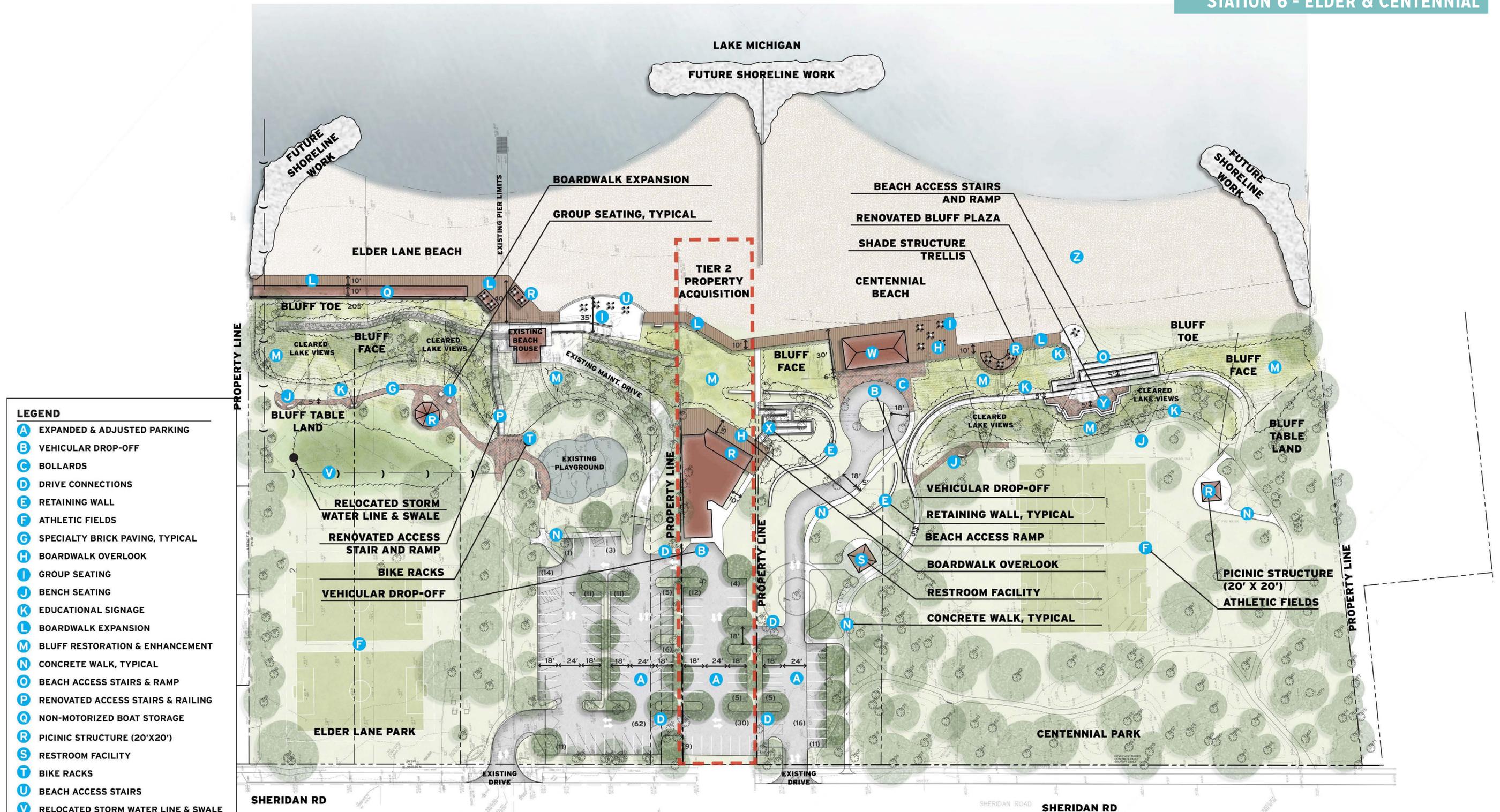
8 ONLINE / 0 IN-PERSON

### EDUCATIONAL SIGNAGE



0

0 ONLINE / 0 IN-PERSON



- LEGEND**
- A EXPANDED & ADJUSTED PARKING
  - B VEHICULAR DROP-OFF
  - C BOLLARDS
  - D DRIVE CONNECTIONS
  - E RETAINING WALL
  - F ATHLETIC FIELDS
  - G SPECIALTY BRICK PAVING, TYPICAL
  - H BOARDWALK OVERLOOK
  - I GROUP SEATING
  - J BENCH SEATING
  - K EDUCATIONAL SIGNAGE
  - L BOARDWALK EXPANSION
  - M BLUFF RESTORATION & ENHANCEMENT
  - N CONCRETE WALK, TYPICAL
  - O BEACH ACCESS STAIRS & RAMP
  - P RENOVATED ACCESS STAIRS & RAILING
  - Q NON-MOTORIZED BOAT STORAGE
  - R PICNIC STRUCTURE (20'X20')
  - S RESTROOM FACILITY
  - T BIKE RACKS
  - U BEACH ACCESS STAIRS
  - V RELOCATED STORM WATER LINE & SWALE
  - W BEACH HOUSE
  - X BEACH ACCESS RAMP
  - Y RENOVATED BLUFF PLAZA
  - Z DEDICATED SWIMMING BEACH  
*(Dog Beach will be relocated to another large open space opportunity elsewhere in the village)*
- AMENITY INTENSITY LEVEL LEGEND**
- LOW INTENSITY
  - MEDIUM INTENSITY
  - HIGH INTENSITY

**SITE DATA**

**EXISTING PARKING**

- Centennial: 10 Parking Spaces (includes 1 ADA space)
- Elder Lane: 66 Parking Spaces (includes 2 ADA spaces)

**PROPOSED PARKING**

- Centennial: 16 Parking spaces (includes 1 ADA)
- Tier 2 Property Acquisition Expansion: 30 Parking Spaces (includes 1 ADA space)
- Elder Lane: 62 Parking Spaces (includes 5 ADA spaces)
- **TOTAL: 108 Parking Spaces (includes 7 ADA spaces)**





# LAKE MICHIGAN VALUES

PROXIMITY TO A BODY OF WATER

VOTES

71



A RECREATIONAL ASSET

VOTES

58



AN ENVIRONMENTAL ASSET

VOTES

40



# NEXT STEPS . . .

- **MESSAGING AND SOLUTIONS**
- **PRESENTING FINAL PARK MASTER PLAN TIERS WITH COSTS TO THE PARK BOARD.**
- **STAFF WILL CONDUCT A WORKSHOP WITH BOARD MEMBERS TO ESTABLISH LIST OF PRIORITIES FOR PARKS AND AMENITIES.**
- **TEAM WILL PURSUE MARKET STUDY ANALYSES TO GAUGE COMMUNITY INTEREST AND SUPPORT OF SELECT PARK AMENITIES.**