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.

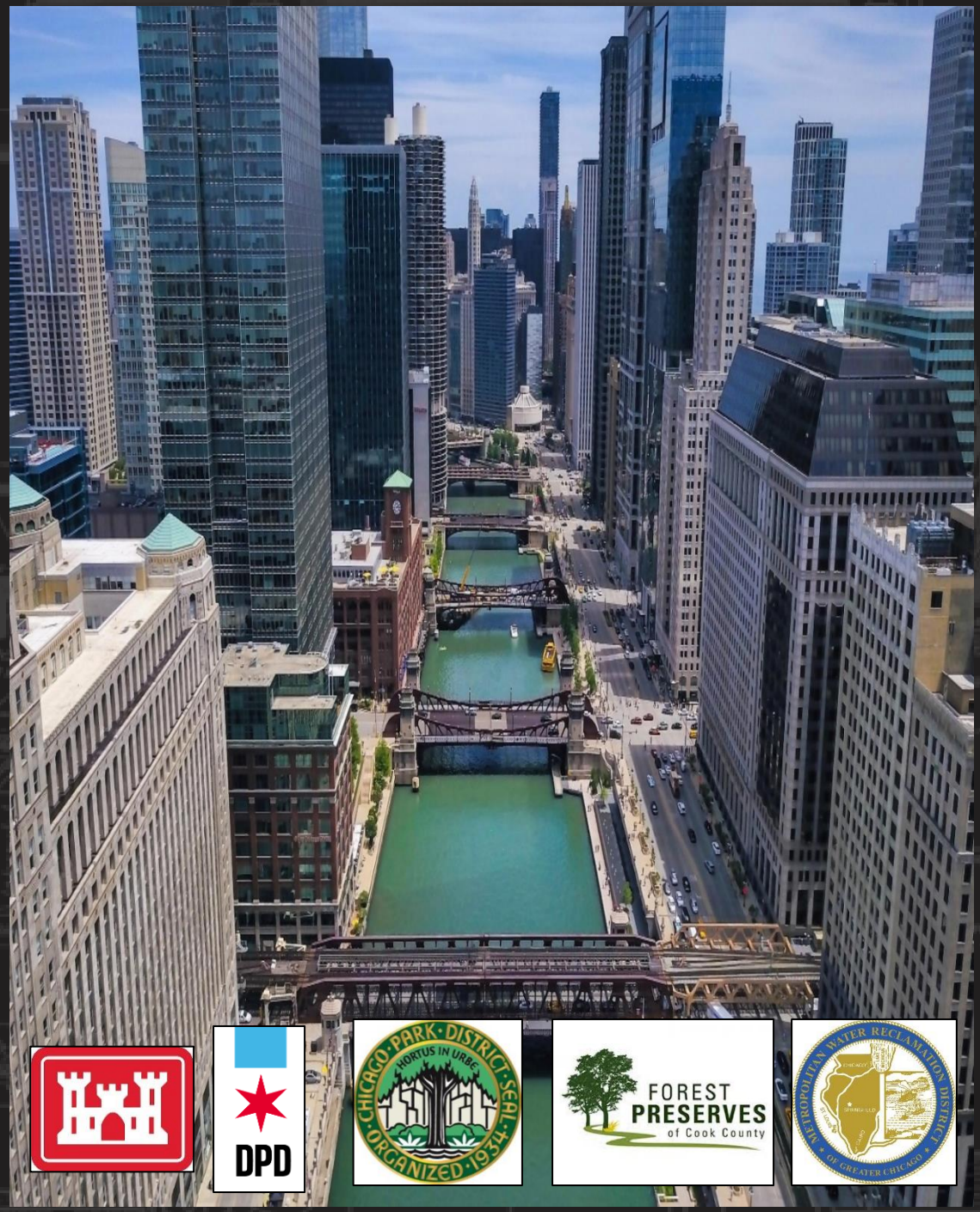
CHICAGO RIVERS RESTORATION FRAMEWORK PLAN STUDY

Chuck Shea,
P.E., PMP

April 28, 2023

U.S. ARMY

US Army Corps of Engineers®



WHAT IS THE CHICAGO RIVERS FRAMEWORK PLAN?

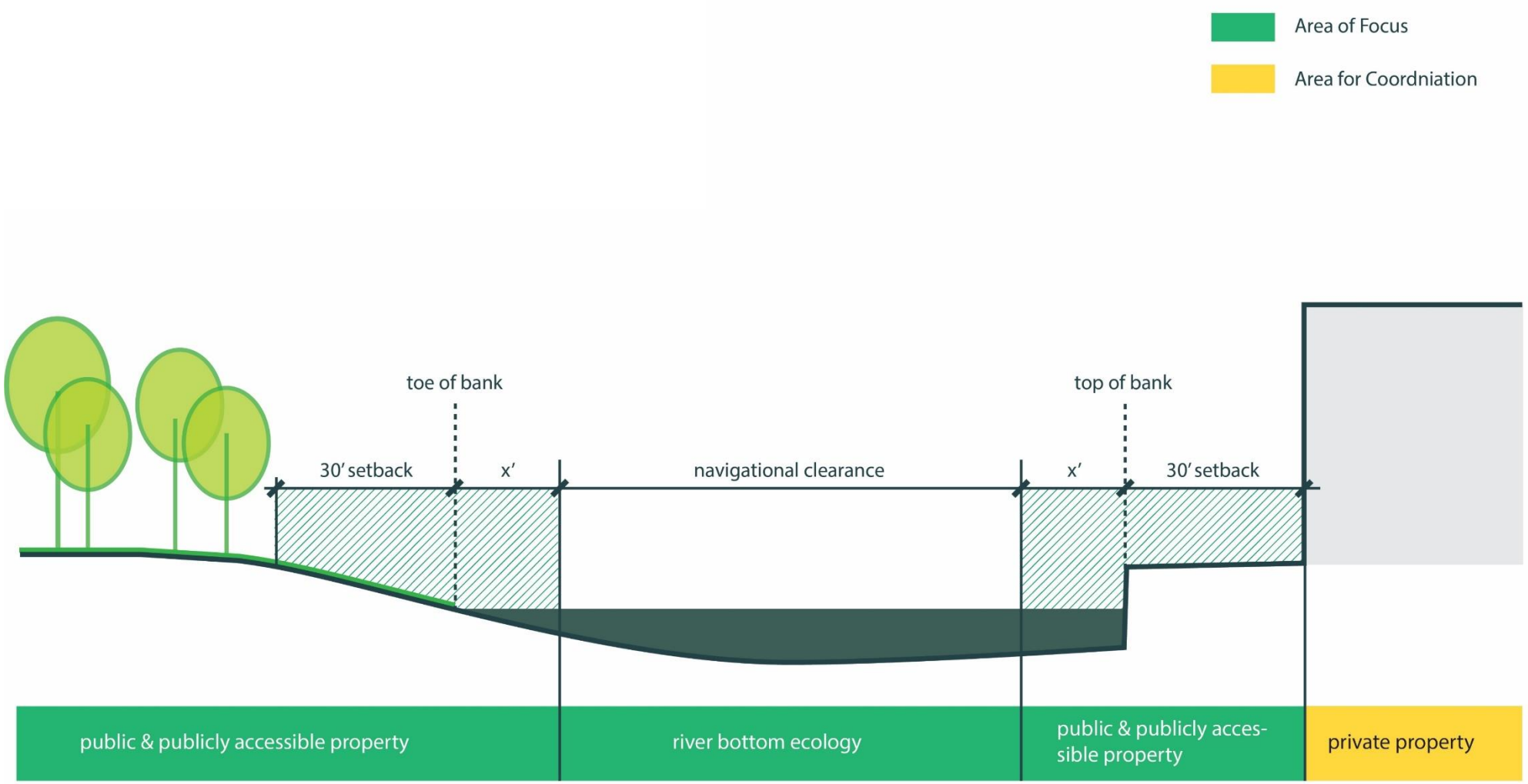
- Planning Assistance to States (PAS) Study: Corps authority to provide support to non-Federal water resources planning efforts
- Non-Federal Sponsors: City of Chicago-DPD, Chicago Park District, Forest Preserve District of Cook County, & MWRD
- Study Goal: Develop a planning framework for ecosystem 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 Coordniation
toe of bank
top of bank
30' setback
x'
navigational clearance
x'
30' setback
public & publicly accessible property
river bottom ecology
public & publicly acces-
sible property
private property

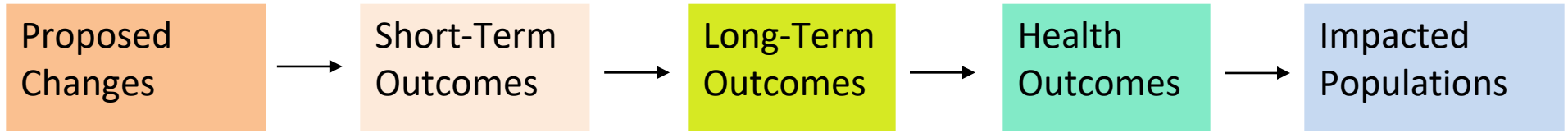
PLANNING CONSIDERATIONS

- 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

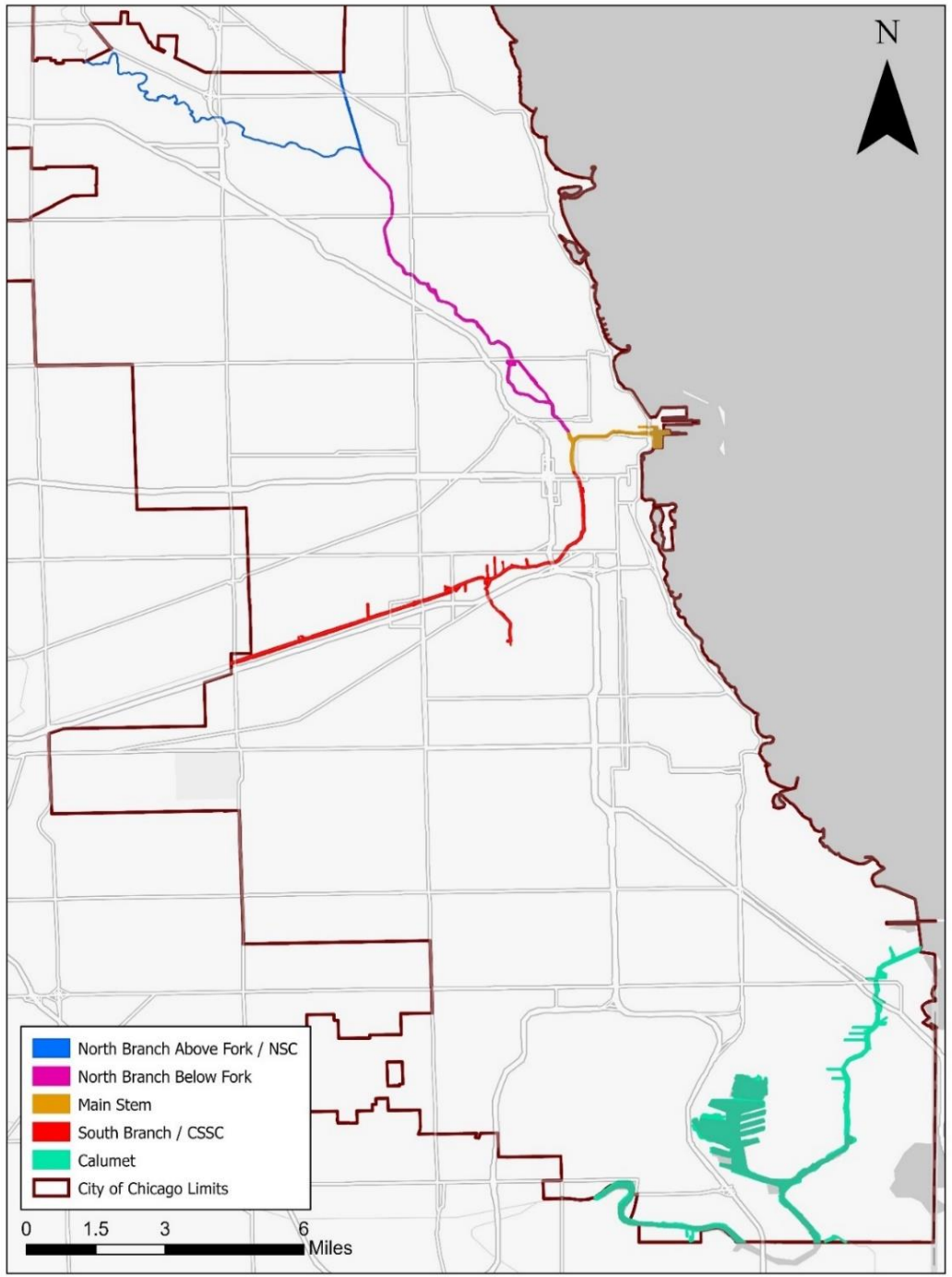
- Team compiled background information on waterway conditions
- River system was divided into 5 regions
- Team identified initial opportunity sites in those regions
- Region-specific outreach meetings were held with stakeholders to gather input
- Team compiled further information about opportunity sites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

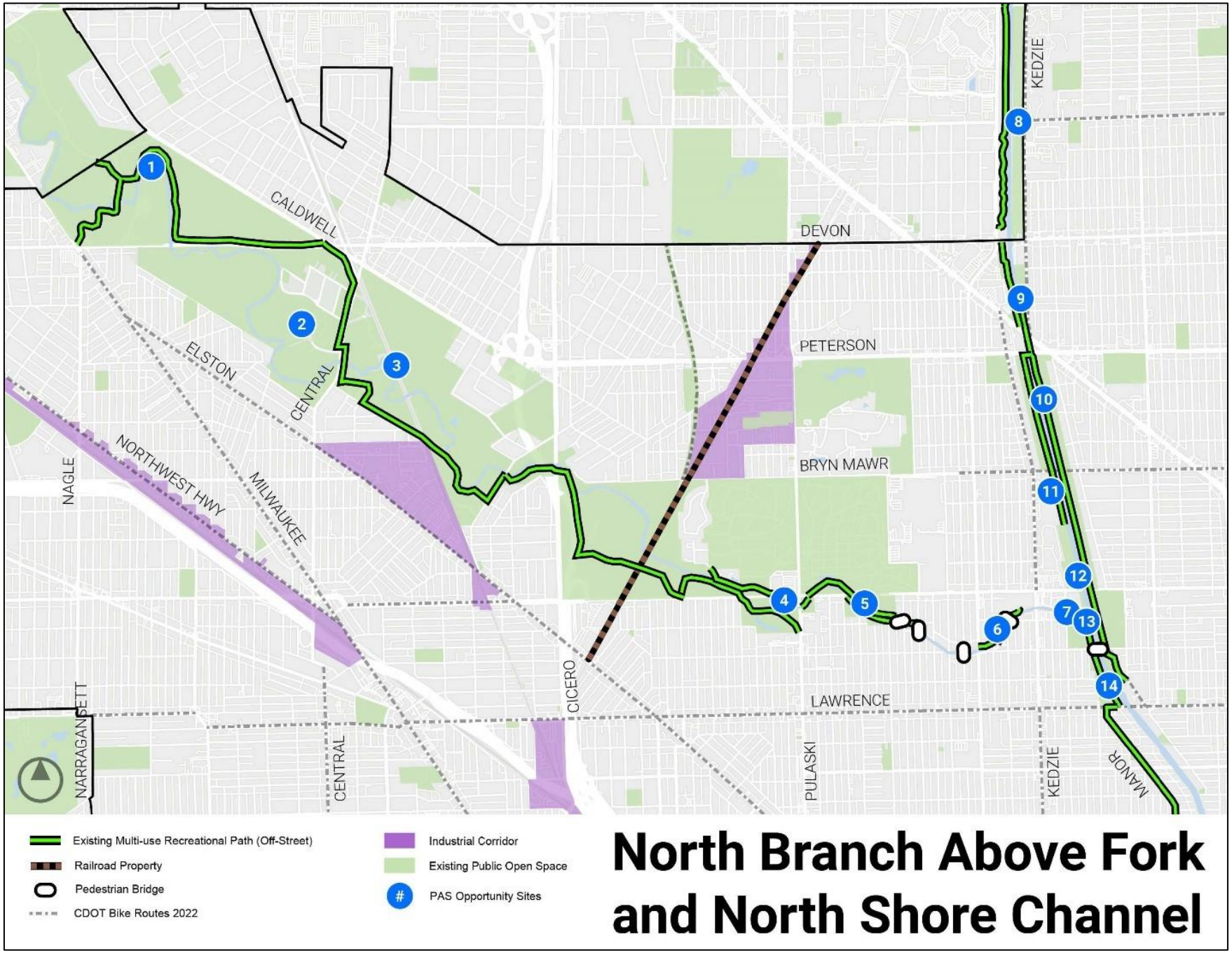


STUDY REGIONS

Information provided for each region:

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




CALDWELL
DEVON
KEDZIE
ELSTON
CENTRAL
PETERSON
NORTHWEST HWY
MILWAUKEE
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CICERO
LAWRENCE
NARRAGANSETT
CENTRAL
PULASKI
KEDZIE
MANOR
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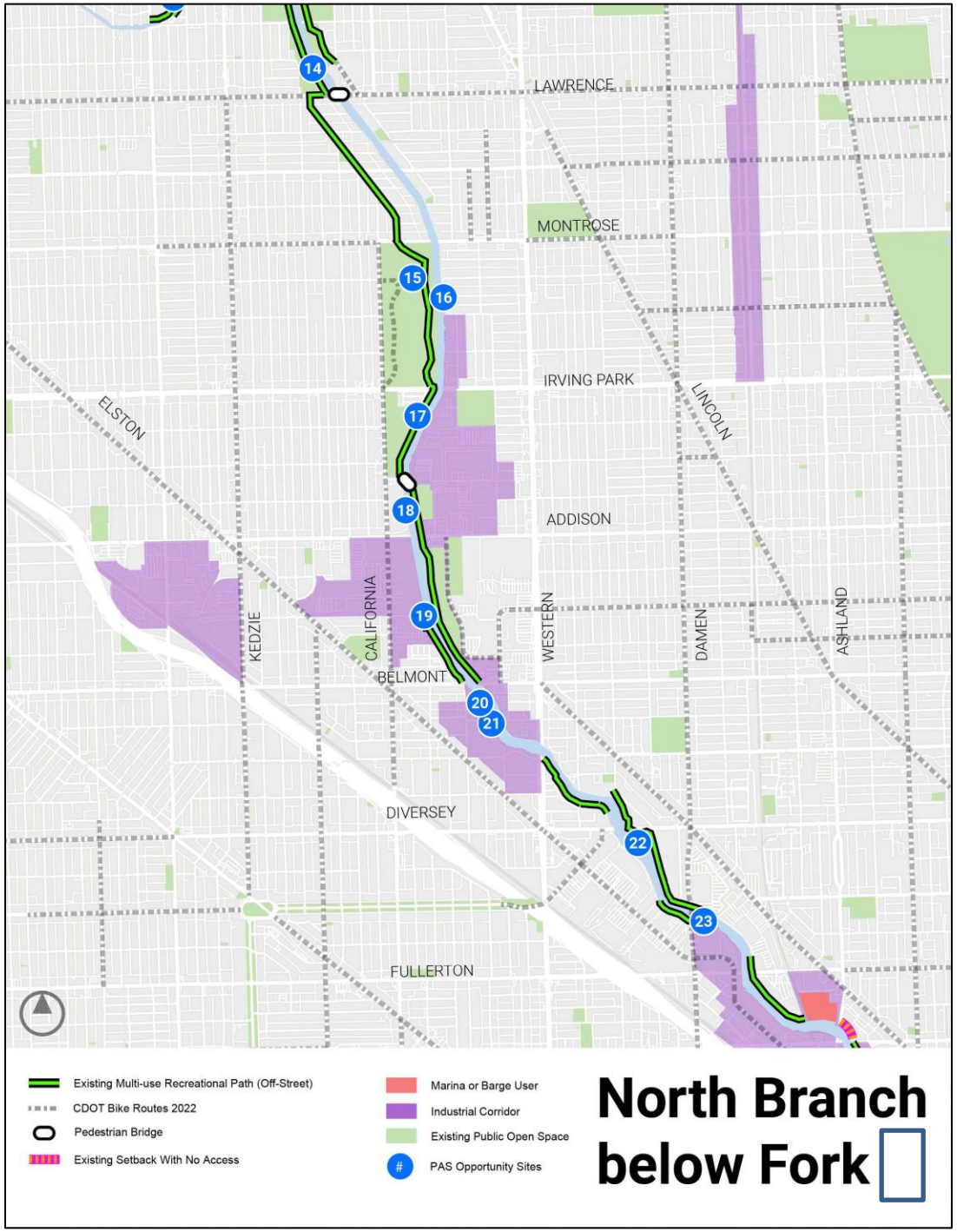
Existing Multi-use Recreational Path (Off-Street)
Railroad Property
Pedestrian Bridge
CDOT Bike Routes 2022
Industrial Corridor
Existing Public Open Space
PAS Opportunity Sites
North Branch Above Fork and North Shore Channel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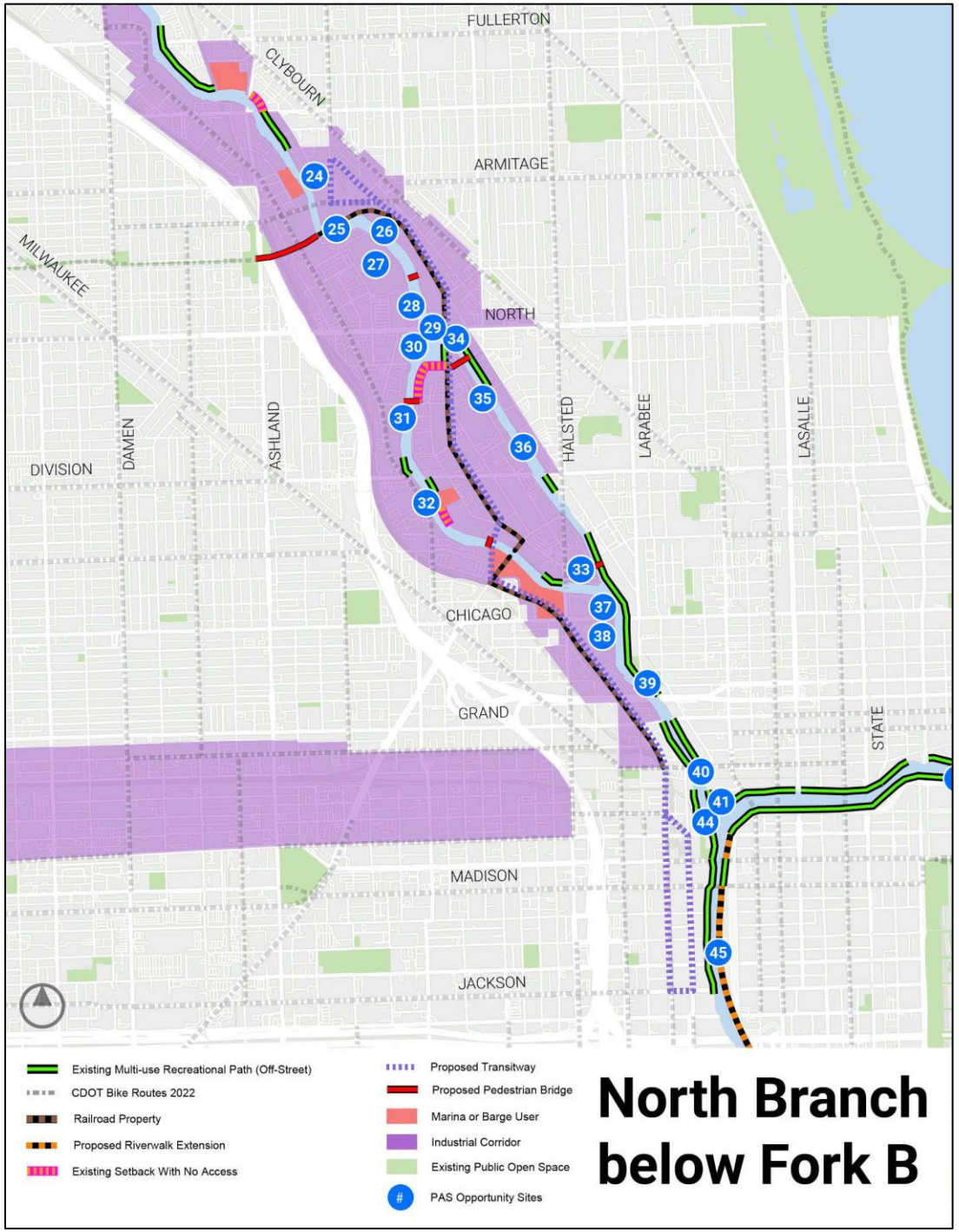
Existing Multi-use Recreational Path (Off-Street)
CDOT Bike Routes 2022
Pedestrian Bridge
Existing Setback With No Access
Marina or Barge User
Industrial Corridor
Existing Public Open Space
PAS Opportunity Sites
North Branch below Fork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NORTH
DIVISION
DAMEN
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HALSTED
LARABEE
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GRAND
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MADISON
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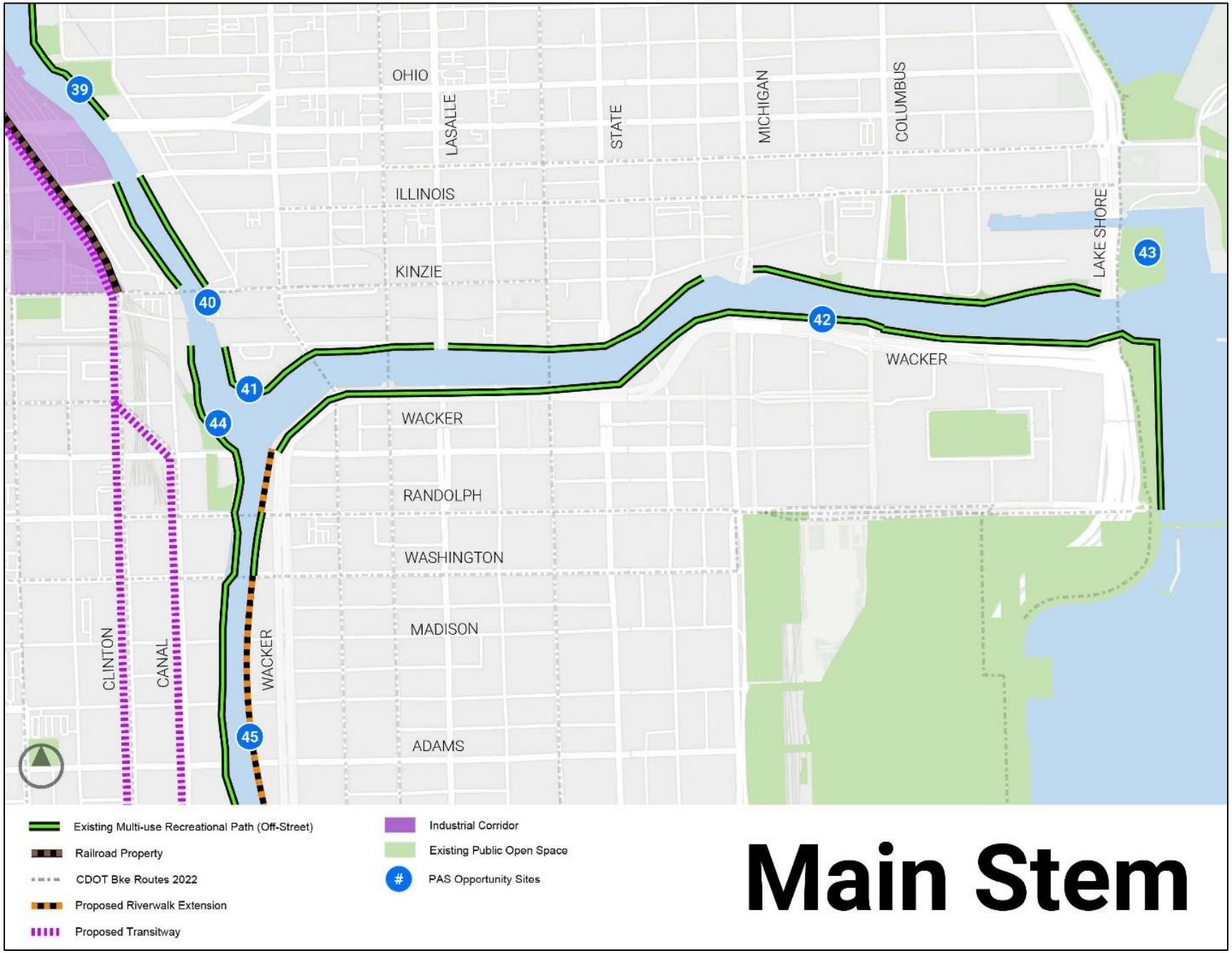
Existing Multi-use Recreational Path (Off-Street)
CDOT Bike Routes 2022
Railroad Property
Proposed Riverwalk Extension
Existing Setback With No Access
Proposed Transitway
Proposed Pedestrian Bridge
Marina or Barge User
Industrial Corridor
Existing Public Open Space
PAS Opportunity Sites
North Branch below Fork B


OHIO
LASALLE
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MICHIGAN
COLUMBUS
ILLINOIS
LAKE SHORE
KINZIE
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WACKER
RANDOLPH
WASHINGTON
MADISON
ADAMS
CLINTON
CANAL
WACKER
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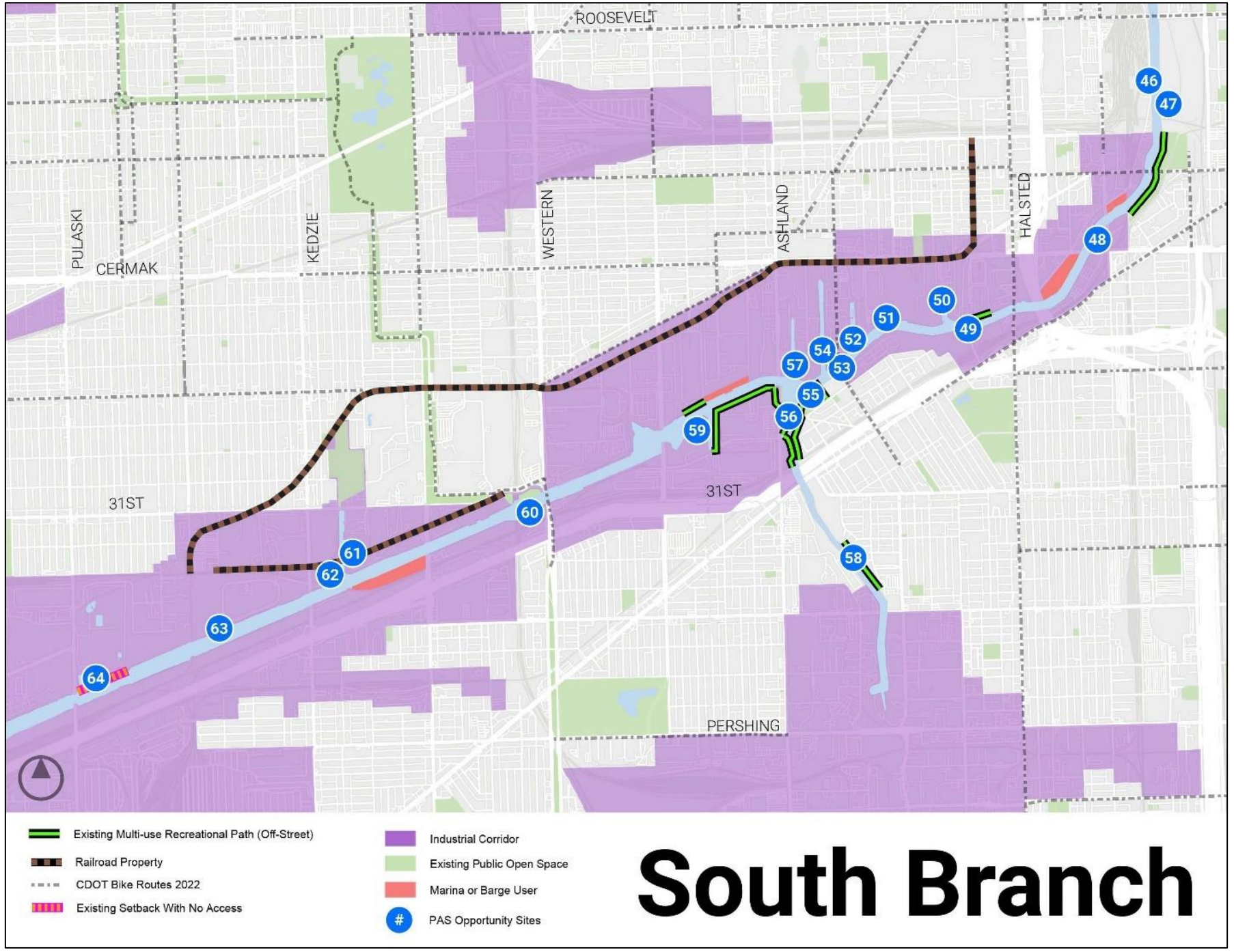
Existing Multi-use Recreational Path (Off-Street)
Railroad Property
CDOT Bke Routes 2022
Proposed Riverwalk Extension
Proposed Transitway
Industrial Corridor
Existing Public Open Space
PAS Opportunity Sites
Main Stem


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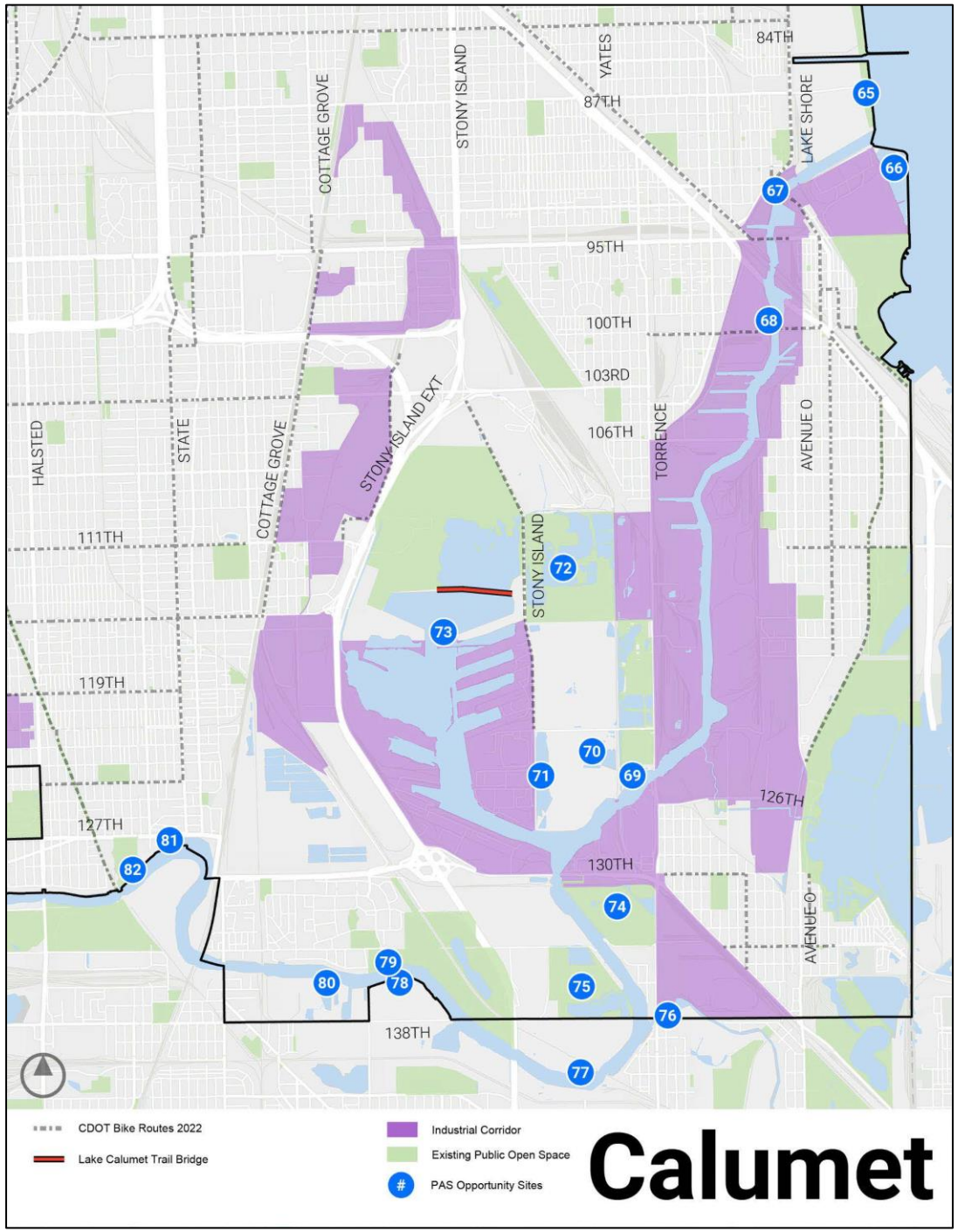
Existing Multi-use Recreational Path (Off-Street)
Railroad Property
CDOT Bike Routes 2022
Existing Setback With No Access
Industrial Corridor
Existing Public Open Space
Marina or Barge User
PAS Opportunity Sites
South Branch


84TH
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87TH
COTTAGE GROVE
STONY ISLAND
LAKE SHORE
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103RD
106TH
HALSTED
STATE
COTTAGE GROVE
STONY ISLAND EXT
TORRENCE
AVENUE O
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126TH
127TH
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130TH
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AVENUE O
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75
76
138TH
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CDOT Bike Routes 2022
Lake Calumet Trail Bridge
Industrial Corridor
Existing Public Open Space
PAS Opportunity Sites
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)