Netsch Lecture

Friends of the Parks
Friends of the Parks Netsch Lecture:
Visions and Future Directions of the Last Four Miles

Lecturer- Paul Boyd and Thom Greene
Host- Maria Villalobos Hernandez: Professor from IIT
Panelists

**Kimberly Fair:** Policy Assistant for the Illinois Environmental Council

**Iyana Simba:** City Programs Director at the Illinois Environmental Council

**Joel Brammeier:** CEO and President of Alliance for the Great Lakes
Welcome!

- Plans for the Lecture:
  - Welcome
  - Introduce our MC
  - Introduce our first speakers
  - Lecture
    - History and context
    - Walk through of the plan drawings
    - What is happening today
    - Questions/ Discussion
  - Closing
Maria Villalobos Hernandez

Villalobos is an Assistant Professor at IIT, Chicago. She holds a Master’s in Design Studies from Harvard Graduate School of Design, and a Ph.D. in Landscape Architecture from the École Nationale Supérieure de Paysage-Versailles. In 2017, she won first prize in the Venezuelan Architecture Biennale, and it was the first time a woman received this award. Villalobos serves on the Lincoln Yards Advisory Council, the Committee on Design for the Department of City Planning in Chicago, and as a core member of Dark Matter University. Villalobos is the recipient of the Council of Educators in Landscape Architecture 2022 Excellence in Design Studio Teaching Award.
History and Context

- History and Context:
  a). Why is now the time?
    i. Context Daniel Burnham’s Vision
    ii. Erosion, climate change, and storms
History and Context: Daniel Burnham’s Vision
How the Vision was Created

Community-based planning effort
Public meetings between 2006-2009
What is means for Chicago

- Single water-front path to connect the city and for people to enjoy
What it means for Chicago

- Shoreline protection
Shoreline Protection

Berger Park
What is means for Chicago: Sand Movement

Sources of fill for Chicago lakeshore

Most of the clean fill is sand that came from the Indiana lakeshore. Although some sand was collected on land by mining the Indiana dunes, a much greater volume was collected with specially designed ships that dredged the lake bottom across the Indiana Shoals offshore from East Chicago, Indiana.

The shoals, an extensive sand reservoir in water less than 30 feet deep, were readily accessible to the drag buckets of dredge ships. The sand was placed in large bins called hoppers, transported to Chicago, then pumped into the area behind the cribs.

Other sources of fill included debris from construction, demolition, and waste collection in the city. Excavation for foundations, utilities, tunnels, and roads produced clay, Excavation for foundations, utilities, tunnels, and roads produced clay, debris, and stone. Offshore sand, and stone. Offshore dredging of the lake bottom furnished fill for some land near Monroe Harbor, Northerly Island, and part of Burnham Park.
What is means for Chicago

- New aquatic and wildlife habitat
- Improvements for lake ecosystems
What is means for Chicago

- Economic improvement
What is means for Chicago

- Respond to future through planning
Key Principles and Concepts

- Public access along Lake Michigan from Evanston to Indiana
- More parkland and beaches
- Community-based planning effort
- Completion of a continuous lakefront path
- Greenway corridors to the lake
- Creation of habitat and improvement of Lake Michigan coastal ecosystem
- Preservation of cultural history
- Attention to previous and current open-space and greenway planning efforts
Walking Through Plans

- **South**
  - 95th to Calumet
  - Calumet to 79th
  - 75-71 St
    - Option 1
    - Option 2
95th to Calumet

Columns Park is expanded with 140 additional acres, offering more places to run, play and relax. Quarters, more contemplative areas would be created adjacent to the lake.

A sheltered lagoon provides calm water for kayaking and canoeing. A more naturalistic shoreline edge is designed to offer green spaces for fishing.

A new pedestrian bridge might be considered in the future, but would present considerable design challenges.
Calumet to 79\textsuperscript{th}
75-71 St Option 1
75-71 St Option 2
South Shore Concept at Calumet Park
Walking Through Plans

- **North**
  - Ardmore to Farwell
    - Option 1
    - Option 2
  - Touhy to Chicago-Evanston Border
    - Option 1
    - Option 2
Walkers and bicyclists can continue on the lakefront path all the way to Evanston, without unsafe and confusing detours onto crowded neighborhood streets in Edgewater and Rogers Park.

Heavily used Berger Park in Edgewater is expanded with additional parkland and a new beach, within easy reach of families and children attending park programs.

Additional parkland to the east of Loyola University provides new public places for recreation or to just gaze out over the lake in quiet contemplation.
Option 2: Lane Beach to Berger Park in Edgewater

An alternate Edgewater proposal creates two peninsulas enclosing a new lagoon, with a bridge for the lakefront path.
Touhy to Chicago-Evanston Border

- Submerged breakwaters or reefs create new aquatic habitat while protecting the beach sand from being carried away by winter storms.
- Isolated street-end beaches will be integrated into a continuous Shoreline Park.
- Continuous Shoreline paths offer expanded opportunities for exercise or to just stroll along the lake.
- New parkland and beach edges use naturalistic landscaping to create wildlife and aquatic habitat and provide educational opportunities.
An alternate Rogers Park plan results in slightly more parkland. Submerged breakwaters also permit larger beaches.
Estimated Costs

- Completion of the last four miles: $350-$450 million in 2009
- Millennium Park was $475 million in 2004
What is Happening Today Updates:

South Shore

US Steel/South Works

CDF

Edgewater

Rogers Park
Panelists

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Questions and Discussions
Friends of the Parks Summer of 2022 Netsch Lecture Series - Re:Design

- FOTP is excited to announce this summer’s theme of Re:Design for our Netsch Lecture series

- The topics are:
  - Natural River’s Edge presentation
  - IIT students presenting revisions of the CDF as a park
  - De-pave
  - Live Tour of Rock Drawings along the lake
If you’d like to continue the conversation or talk more with our policy team, please contact us!

- **Rachel Birkhahn-Rommelfanger** (Director of Policy and Advocacy):
  
  *Email: rachelbr@fotp.org*

- **Julie Malnak** (Policy and Communications Associate):
  
  *Email: malnakj@fotp.org*

- **FOTP Phone number**: (312) 857-2757
Announcements

· 20th Anniversary Celebration of the South Shore Nature Sanctuary on June 25th from 1-4pm

· At this time, if anyone else has any announcements, please feel free to share