



EVANSTON SHORELINE REPAIRS

PUBLIC MEETING #2

WELCOME !

We are glad you are here!
Please look at the various boards around the room and provide your feedback. Feel free to ask any questions about the project.

Your consultant team:



Mark Wagstaff
Principal
SmithGroup



Chris Devick
Project Manager
SmithGroup



Kris Lucius
Design Principal
SmithGroup

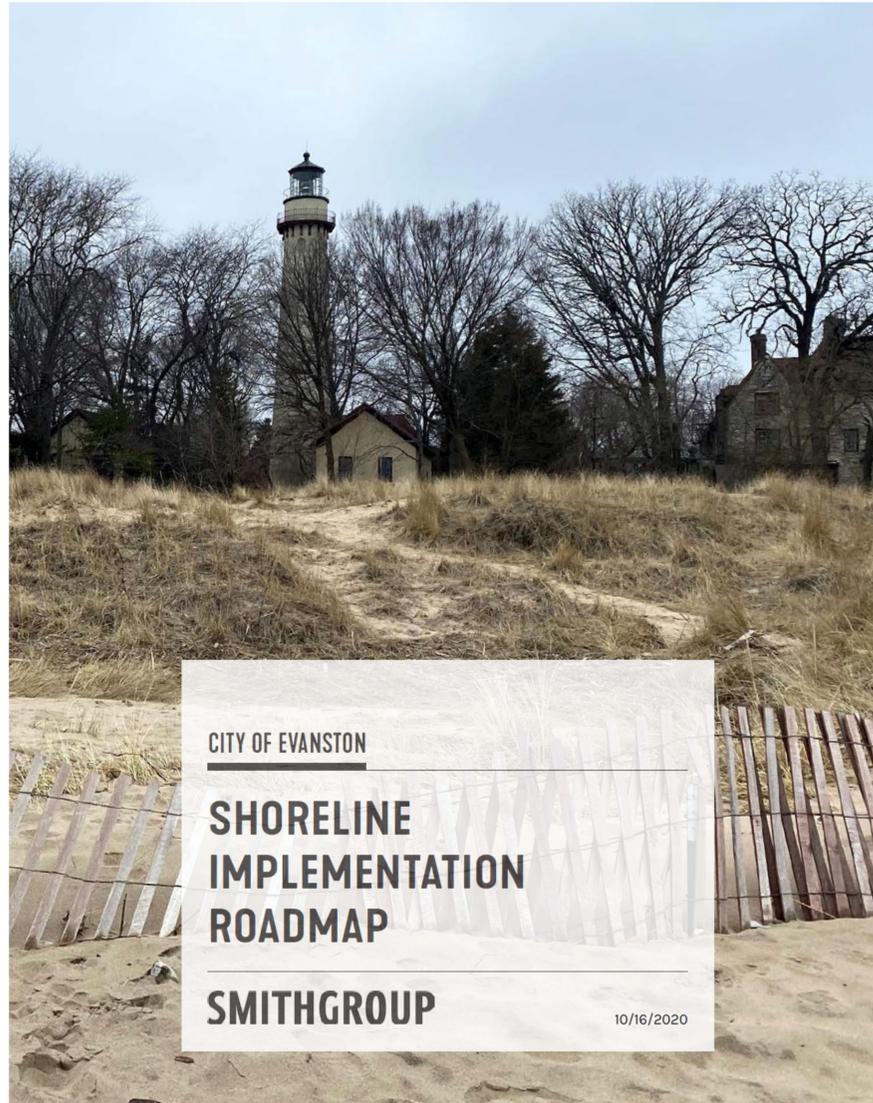


Cher Wong
Landscape Architect
SmithGroup

PROJECT GOALS & BACKGROUND

This information will help you understand why this project is happening.

DUE TO HIGH LAKE LEVELS AND DAMAGE TO THE SHORELINE IN 2020 THE CITY CONDUCTED A RISK ASSESSMENT AND CREATED A LAKEFRONT “ROADMAP” TO HELP PLAN FUTURE CAPITAL INVESTMENTS



Scan to learn more about the full roadmap

HAVING ADDRESSED SOME OF THE HIGH RISK AREAS, THE CITY IS NOW WORKING TOWARDS IMPLEMENTING A LONG-TERM PLAN. KEY GOALS ARE:



DEFINE LONG-TERM, SUSTAINABLE SHORELINE REPAIR SOLUTIONS



IDENTIFY EXTERNAL FUNDING SOURCES

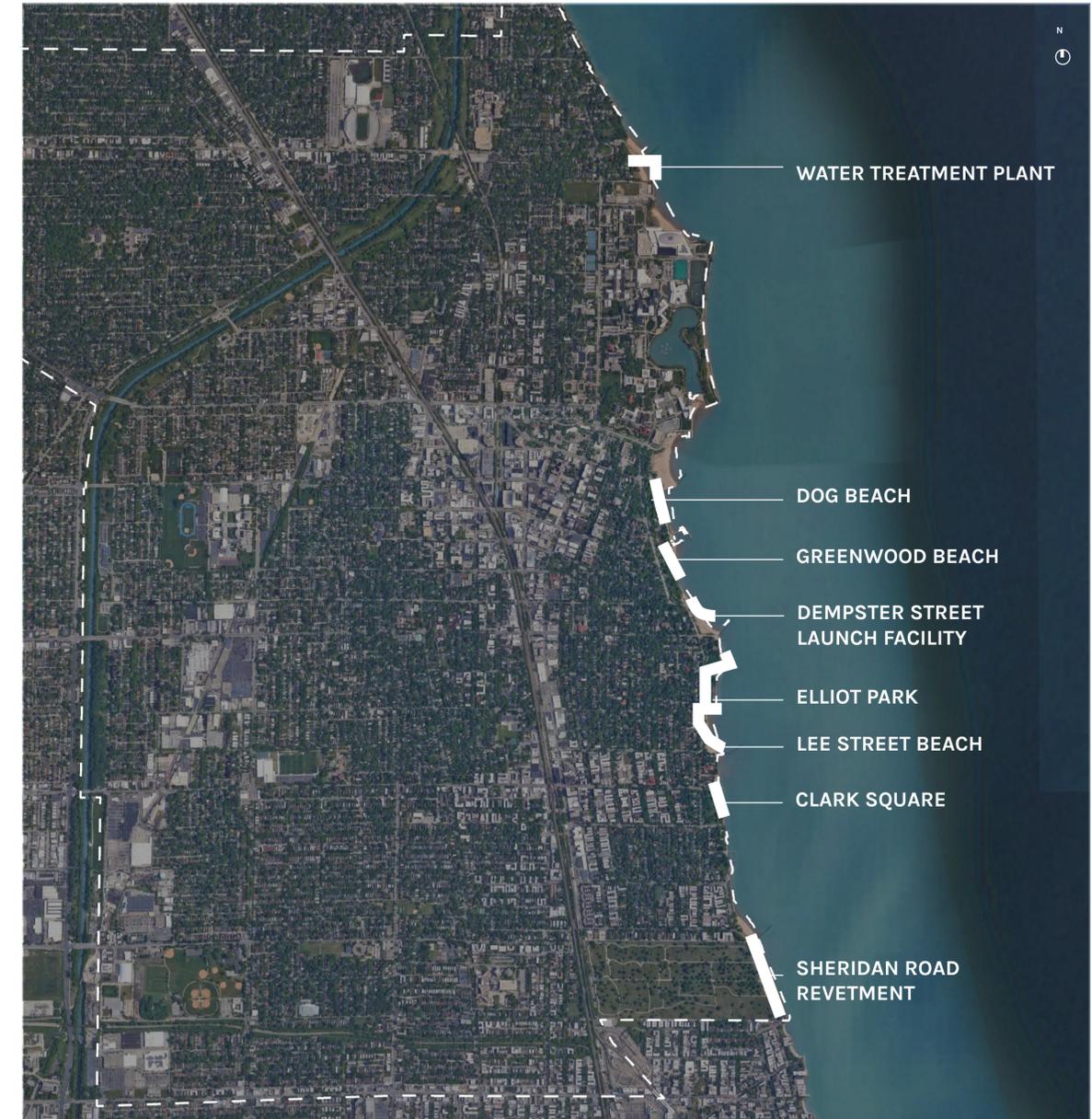


PROTECT AND ENHANCE RECREATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES



PROVIDE DETAILED CAPITAL INVESTMENT PROGRAM AND SCHEDULE

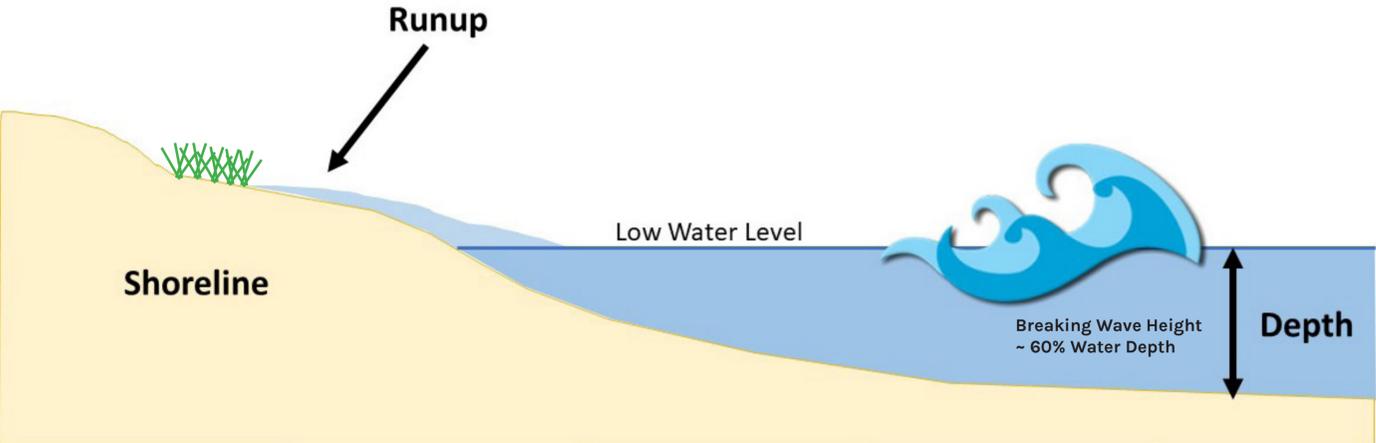
THIS MAP SHOWS THE CURRENT PROJECT LOCATIONS, WHICH HAVE BEEN SELECTED BASED ON HIGHEST RISK AND UNMET NEEDS



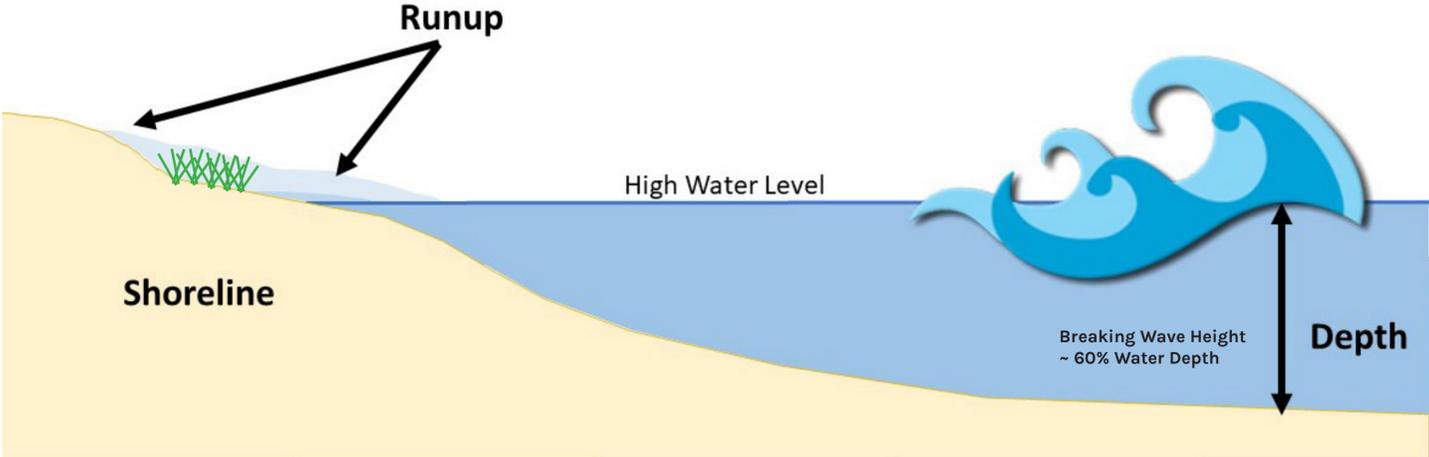
UNDERSTANDING THE IMPORTANCE OF WATER LEVEL IN COASTAL DESIGN

This board illustrates why the water level in Lake Michigan plays such a significant role along our lakefront.

AS WATER LEVELS RISE THE WAVE HEIGHTS, AND RESULTING WAVE ENERGY, REACHING THE SHORELINE INCREASE SIGNIFICANTLY. THIS INCREASE RESULTS IN SIGNIFICANTLY HIGHER LIKELIHOOD FOR EROSION AND DAMAGE ALONG THE SHORELINE.



When the water level is relatively low, the nearshore waves are smaller, because they are limited by the shallow depth. In addition, the wave run up doesn't reach higher elevations and so park facilities and infrastructure are not damaged, and vegetation can thrive.



In contrast, when the water level is relatively high, the nearshore waves are much larger, and the damaging forces can reach much higher elevations and so park facilities and infrastructure are more vulnerable. Erosion rates are higher and greater damage is experienced.

SOME OF THE EXISTING ISSUES ALONG THE EVANSTON LAKEFRONT WHICH WERE PARTICULARLY ACUTE WHEN THE LAKE LEVELS WERE VERY HIGH ARE ILLUSTRATED BELOW:



Waves overtopped the Clark Square Park shoreline in January 2020 causing damage and flooding.



Flooding was also experienced at Elliot Park



At Lee Street Beach the combination of high lake level and severe storms eroded nearly all the sand in some places



Unstable revetments create safety hazards, and increase erosion. At Greenwood Beach the beach house was vulnerable to damage.

SUMMARY OF PUBLIC OPEN HOUSE #1 AND SURVEY #2: SHORELINE TYPES

At Public Open House #1 (50 - 75 people in October 2022), and through a recent citywide survey (1,300+ responses in February 2023), the City of Evanston has solicited opinion on several different potential shoreline types. This board shares some of the information that was collected. Here you will learn more about what your neighbors think might, or might not, be appropriate for our lakefront.

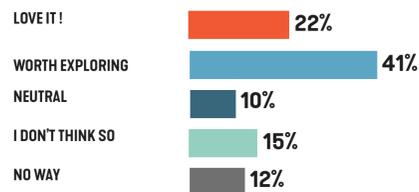
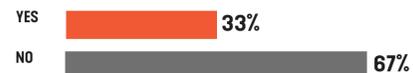
SHORELINE TYPE



TERRACED SEATWALL

OCT 2022 OPEN HOUSE

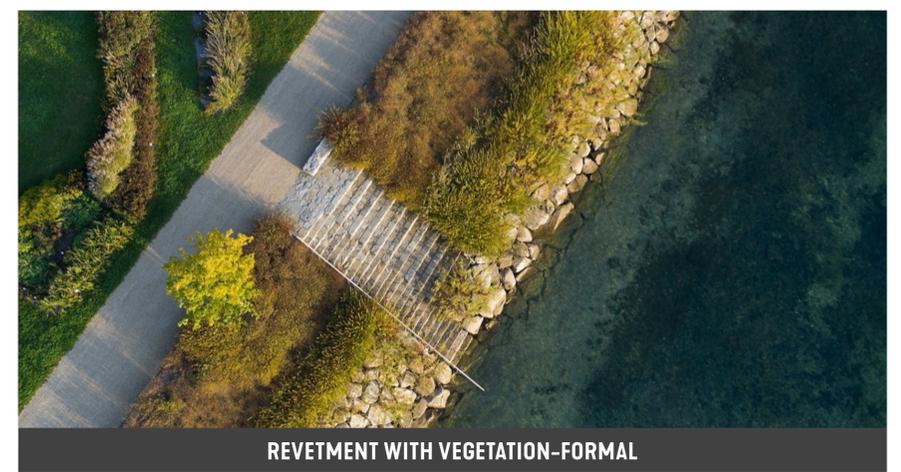
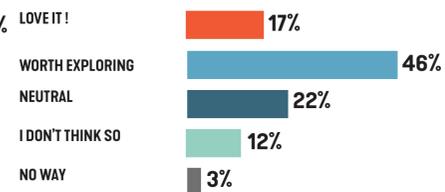
FEB 2023 SURVEY



HEADLAND

OCT 2022 OPEN HOUSE

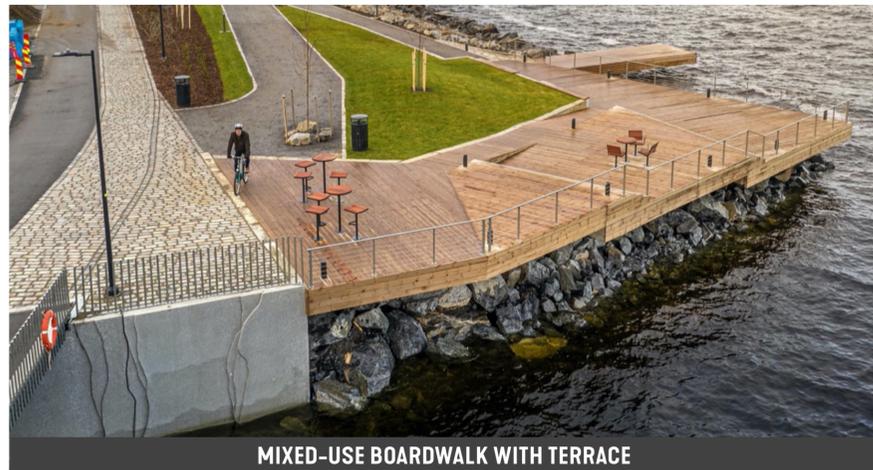
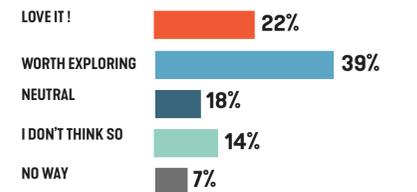
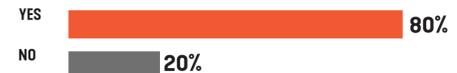
FEB 2023 SURVEY



REVETMENT WITH VEGETATION-FORMAL

OCT 2022 OPEN HOUSE

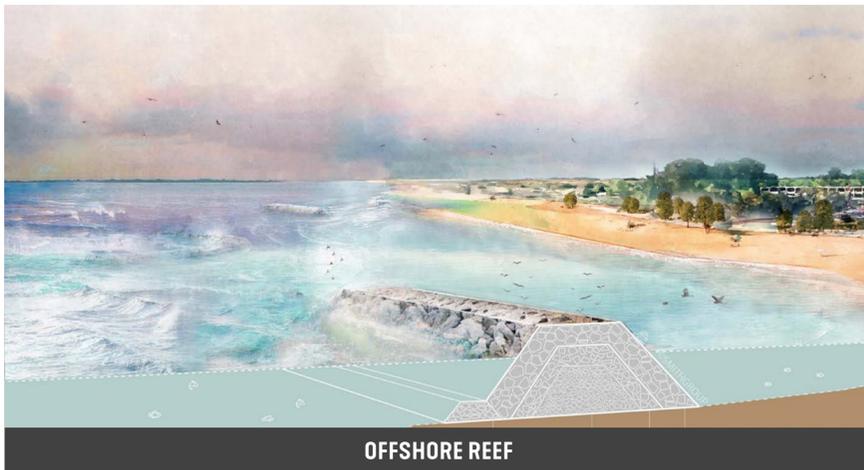
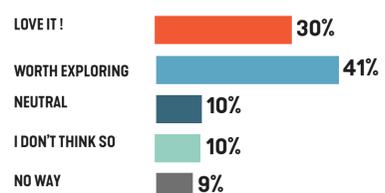
FEB 2023 SURVEY



MIXED-USE BOARDWALK WITH TERRACE

OCT 2022 OPEN HOUSE

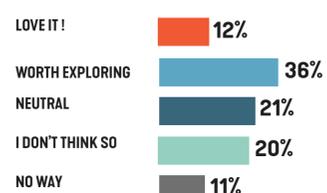
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OFFSHORE REEF

OCT 2022 OPEN HOUSE

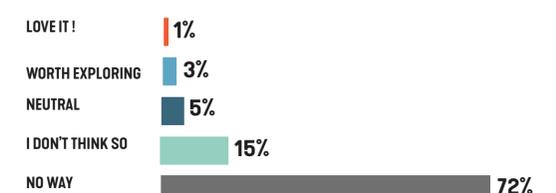
FEB 2023 SURVEY



DO NOTHING

Option not presented at October 2022 Open House

FEB 2023 SURVEY



SUMMARY OF PUBLIC OPEN HOUSE #1 AND SURVEY #2: AMENITY TYPES

At Public Open House #1 (50 - 75 people in October 2022), and through a recent citywide survey (1,300+ responses in February 2023), the City of Evanston has solicited opinion on several different potential amenity types. This board shares some of the information that was collected. Here you will learn more about what your neighbors think might, or might not, be appropriate for our lakefront.

LANDSIDE AMENITY TYPE

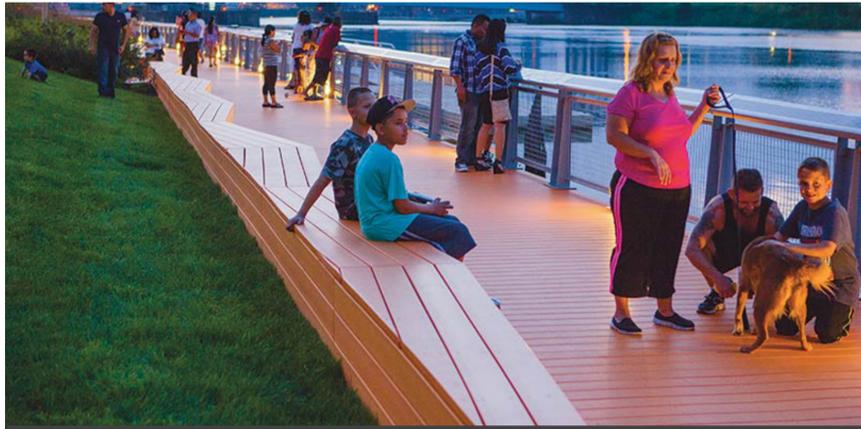
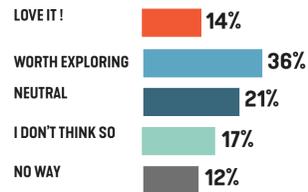


BEACH SEATING WITH WOODEN SURFACE

OCT 2022 OPEN HOUSE



FEB 2023 SURVEY

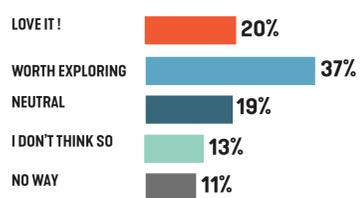


BOARDWALK

OCT 2022 OPEN HOUSE



FEB 2023 SURVEY

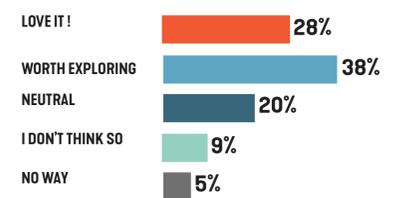


NATURAL PLAY

OCT 2022 OPEN HOUSE

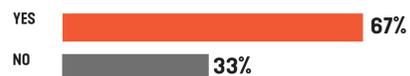


FEB 2023 SURVEY

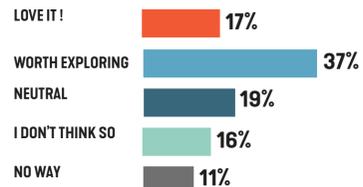


OVERLOOK PIER WITH TERRACE

OCT 2022 OPEN HOUSE



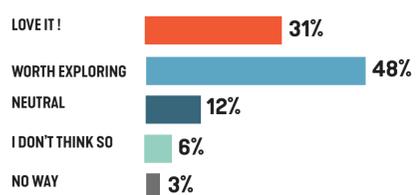
FEB 2023 SURVEY



TRAILS AND ACCESS - FORMAL

Option not presented at October 2022 Open House

FEB 2023 SURVEY

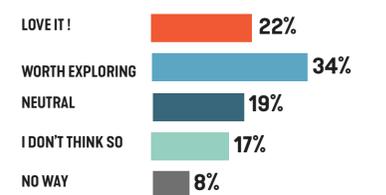


BEACH SEATING WITH NATURAL MATERIALS

OCT 2022 OPEN HOUSE



FEB 2023 SURVEY



DESIGN STRATEGIES

The Design Team has considered some different general approaches that could be applicable to one or more of the project sites. Here you will learn more about these Design Strategies, and we invite you to share your opinion about what may or may not be appropriate for our lakefront.

MAINTAIN EXISTING



- This strategy relies on natural recovery of the beaches and repairs to the revetments to address erosion and storm damage
- The City would live with the existing flooding, safety issues and maintenance requirements
- This is the lowest capital cost strategy but there is a trade-off with increasing maintenance over time and the possibility of repeated damage under extreme conditions
- Existing views are maintained, and a popular theme at Public Open House #1 was that residents didn't want the views to be further obstructed.

WHAT DO YOU THINK?

REPLACE-IN-KIND



- This strategy rehabilitates the existing shore protection features, revetments, and re-nourishes the beaches.
- The City would lower flooding and safety risk and add to the lifespan of the shore protection, however, the existing visual barriers between the lakefront parks and the lake itself would remain.
- Support for protecting existing beaches and swimming opportunities was the most commonly received comment at the Public Open House #1.

WHAT DO YOU THINK?

NATURALIZE



- This strategy converts existing parkland into an ecological buffer between the lake and land
- The City would have to modify maintenance practices to address a more dynamic and changeable lakefront
- There are several external funding opportunities that prioritize green infrastructure which could offset some of the capital costs
- There was strong support at the Public Open House #1 for natural improvements and green, resilient solutions

WHAT DO YOU THINK?

ENHANCE



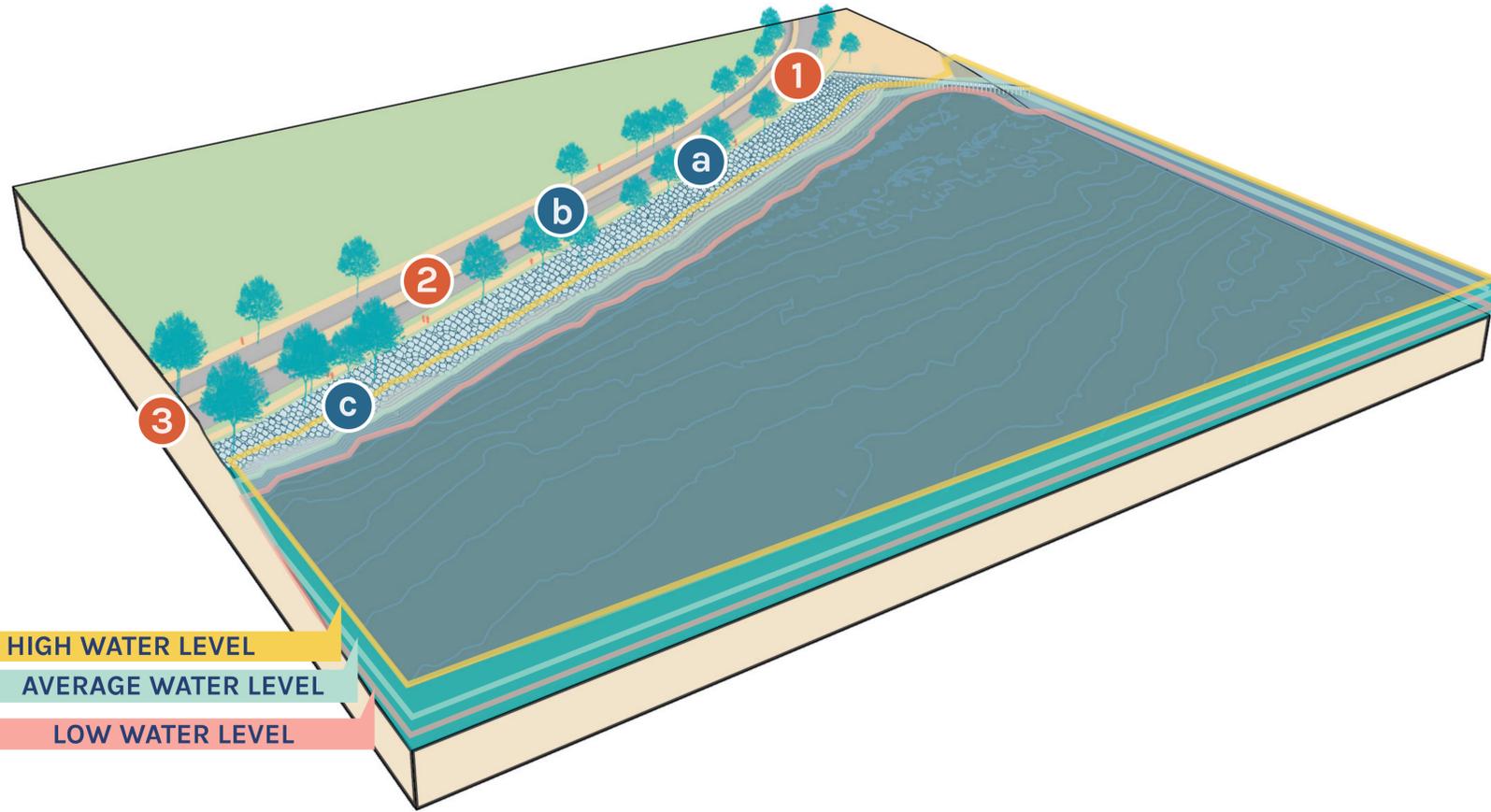
- This strategy adds resilience to the lakefront through new shore protection features that reduce risk and improve the user experience
- In many cases the new protection would be higher than the existing structures, but additional enhancements to the parkland would increase access and views to the lakefront
- In general, this would be the a higher capital cost strategy, but long-term maintenance requirements would be reduced
- There was strong support at the Public Open House #1 for pedestrian improvements, bicycle access, and new trails and pathways

WHAT DO YOU THINK?

SHERIDAN ROAD

EXISTING CONDITIONS, ISSUES, OPPORTUNITIES, AND PUBLIC OPEN HOUSE #1 FEEDBACK

ISSUES AND OPPORTUNITIES



HIGH WATER LEVEL
AVERAGE WATER LEVEL
LOW WATER LEVEL

ISSUES



OPPORTUNITIES

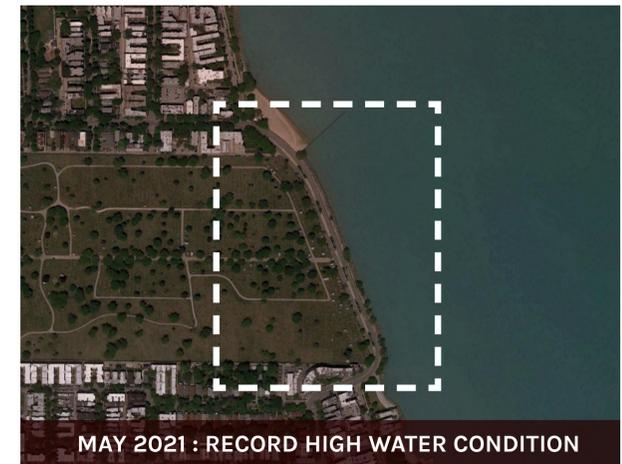


PUBLIC OPEN HOUSE #1 FEEDBACK

“ Wider space along shore for pedestrians and cyclists, could continue north towards south blvd beach to provide paved trail similar to the one from Lee street northward. ”

“ Dedicated and expanded side walk and separated bike path east of roadway and west of rip-rap wall. Ideally, concrete wall along shoreline. ”

“ In my opinion, this can remain utilitarian. Not worth spending here; concentrate on the parks and beaches. ”

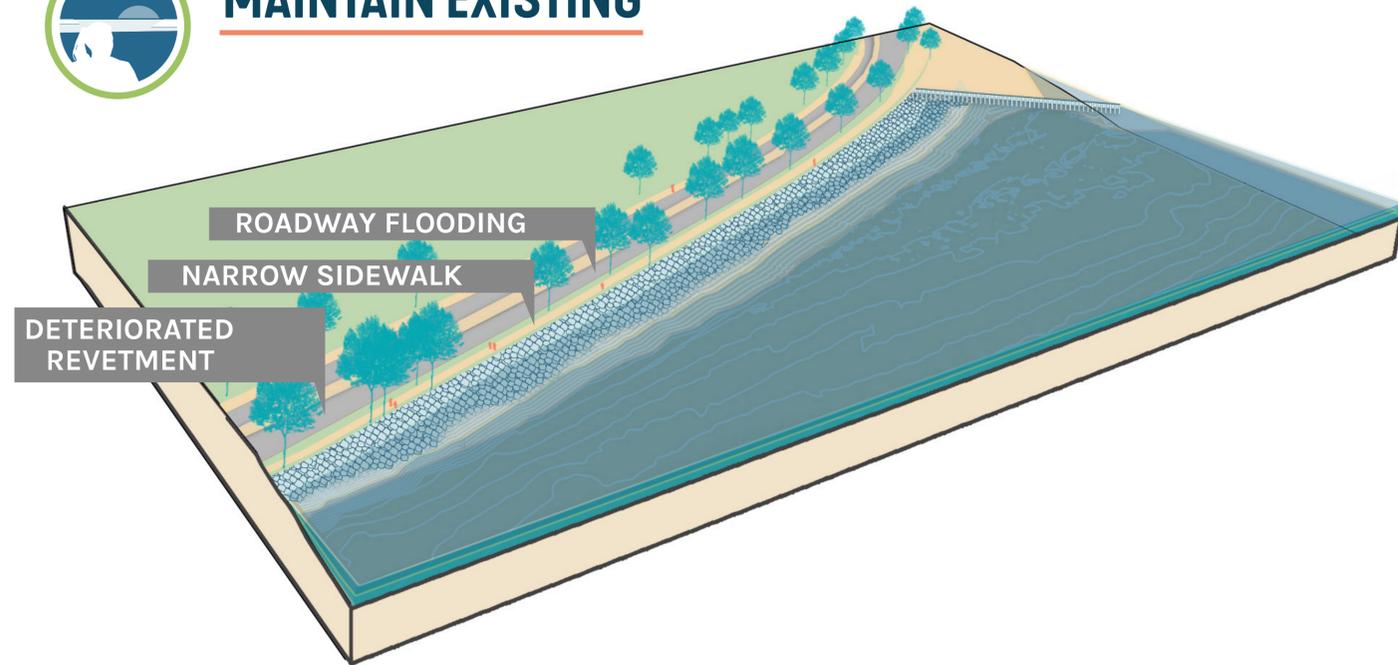


SHERIDAN ROAD

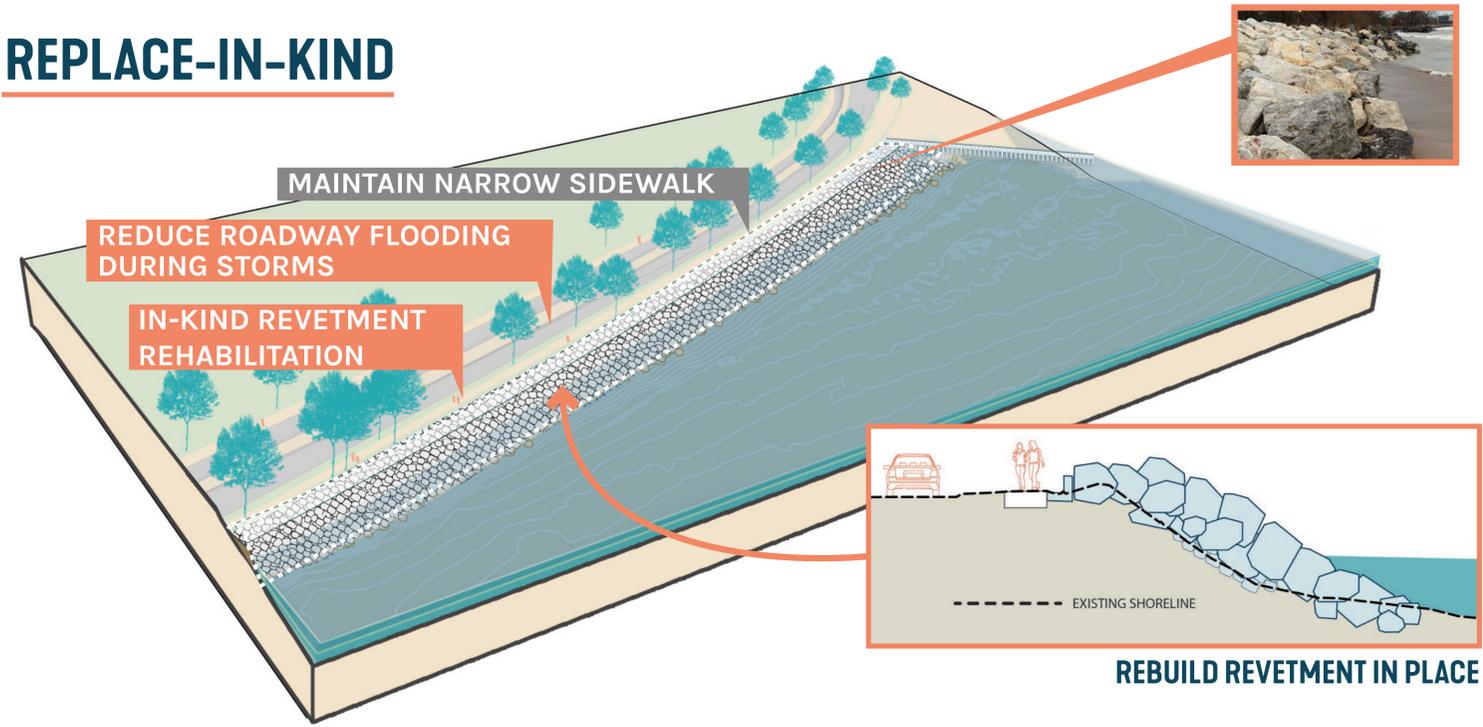
DESIGN CONCEPTS



MAINTAIN EXISTING



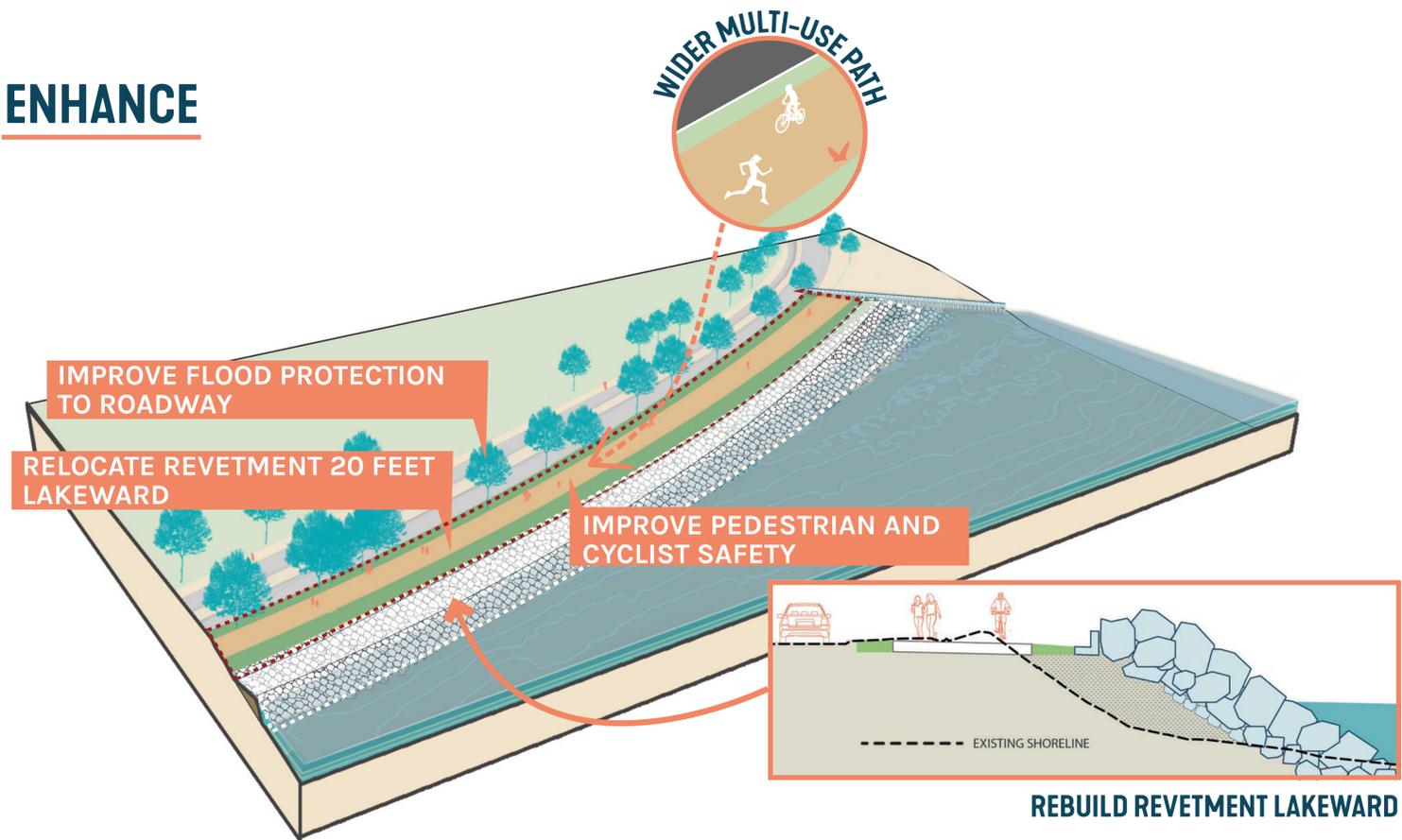
REPLACE-IN-KIND



NATURALIZE



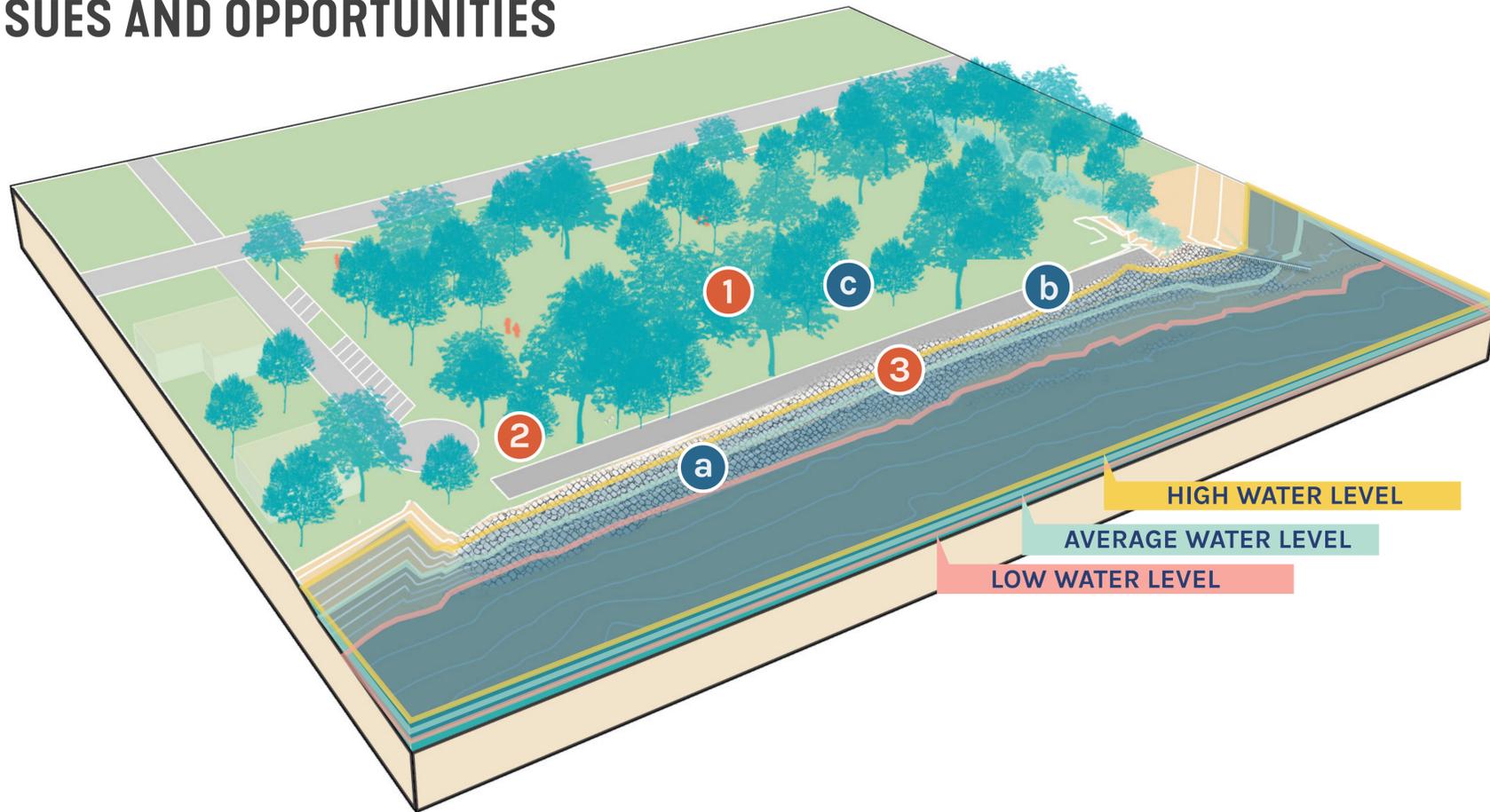
ENHANCE



CLARK SQUARE

EXISTING CONDITIONS, ISSUES, OPPORTUNITIES, AND PUBLIC OPEN HOUSE #1 FEEDBACK

ISSUES AND OPPORTUNITIES



ISSUES



OPPORTUNITIES

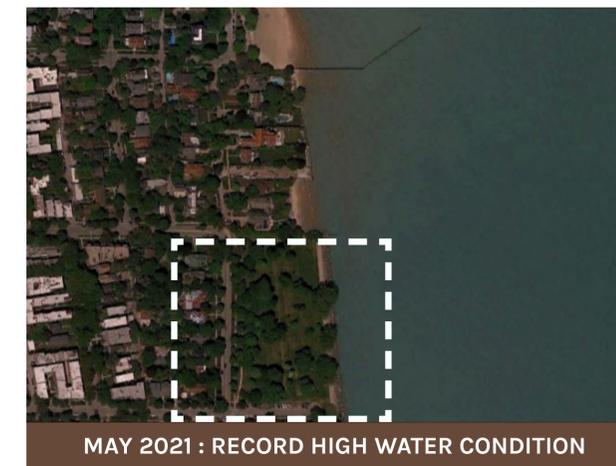
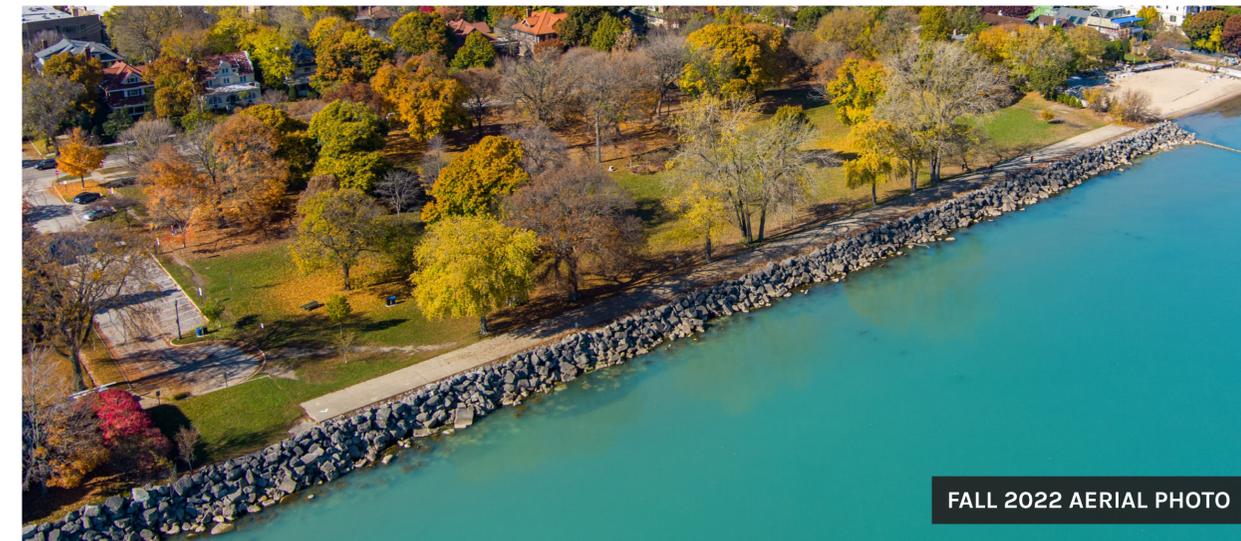


PUBLIC OPEN HOUSE #1 FEEDBACK

“ Clark is special - It complements Elliot and Garden while being unique. Please keep large rock barrier, old picnic tables and lovely layout and vibe. Less is more here. Thanks! No Fence! ”

“ Better pedestrian access (and handicap accessible) to current concrete walkway along shoreline. Currently have to walk on gravel/grass. ”

“ Extend project area into park and connect these walking trails and add mixed use path for bikes to keep them off sidewalk along Sheridan. ”

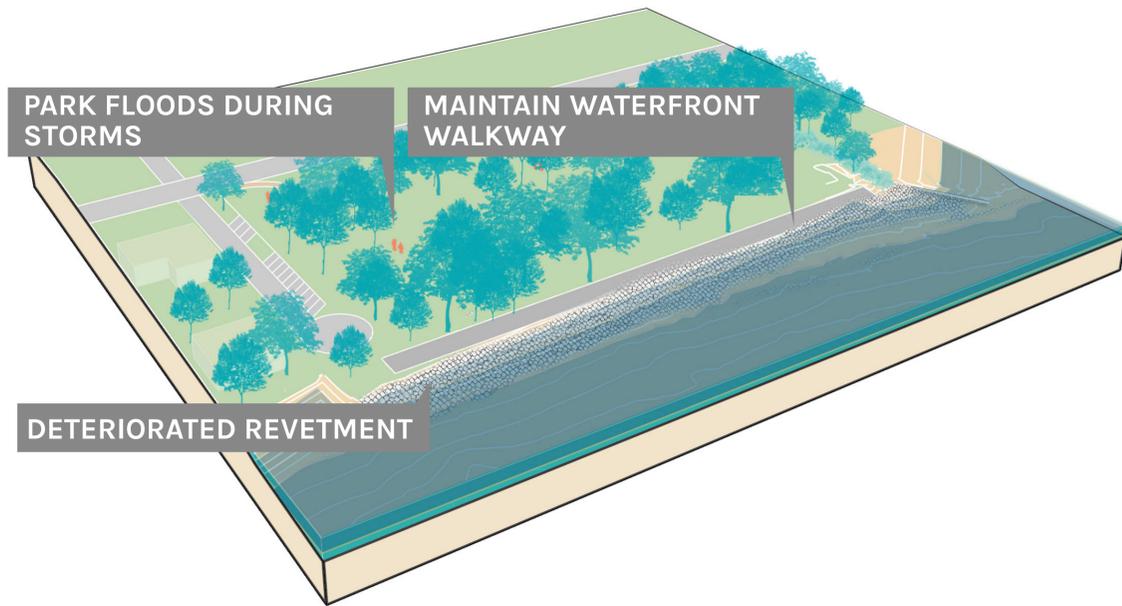


CLARK SQUARE

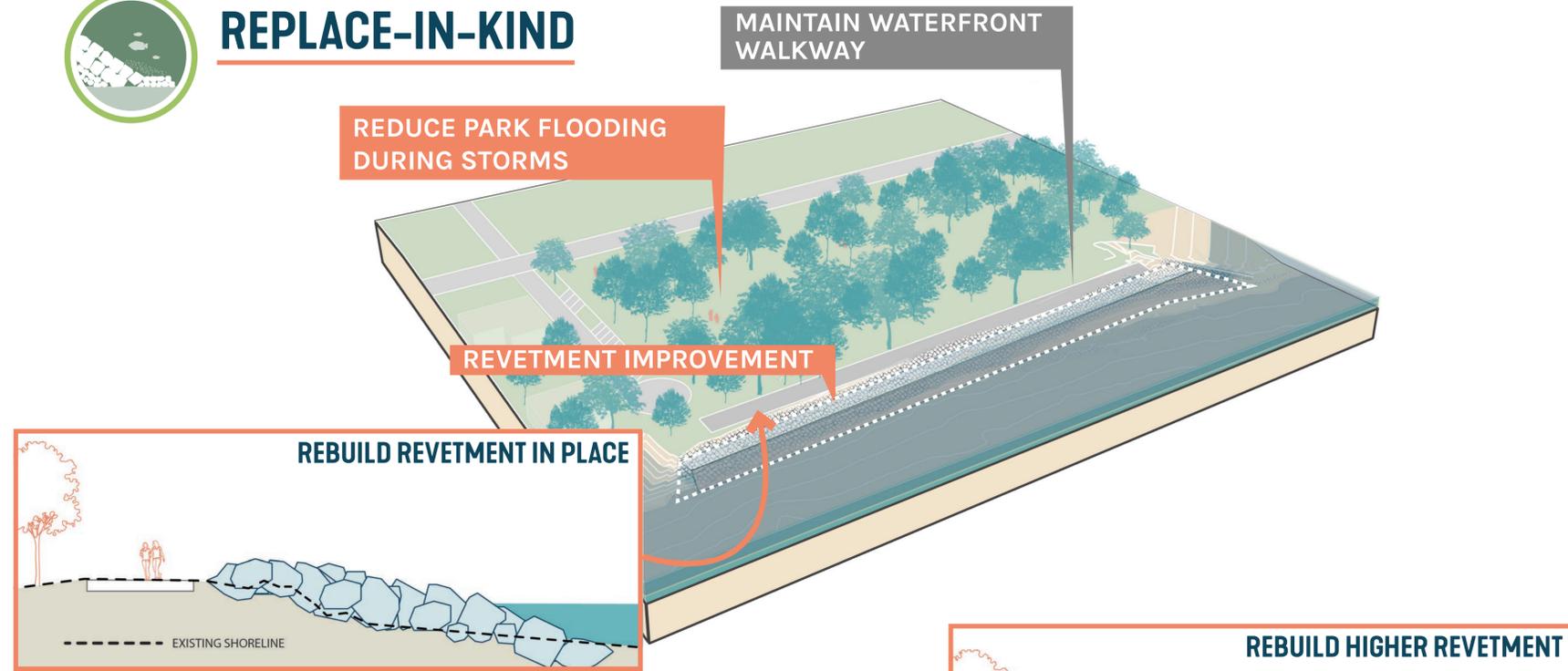
DESIGN CONCEPTS



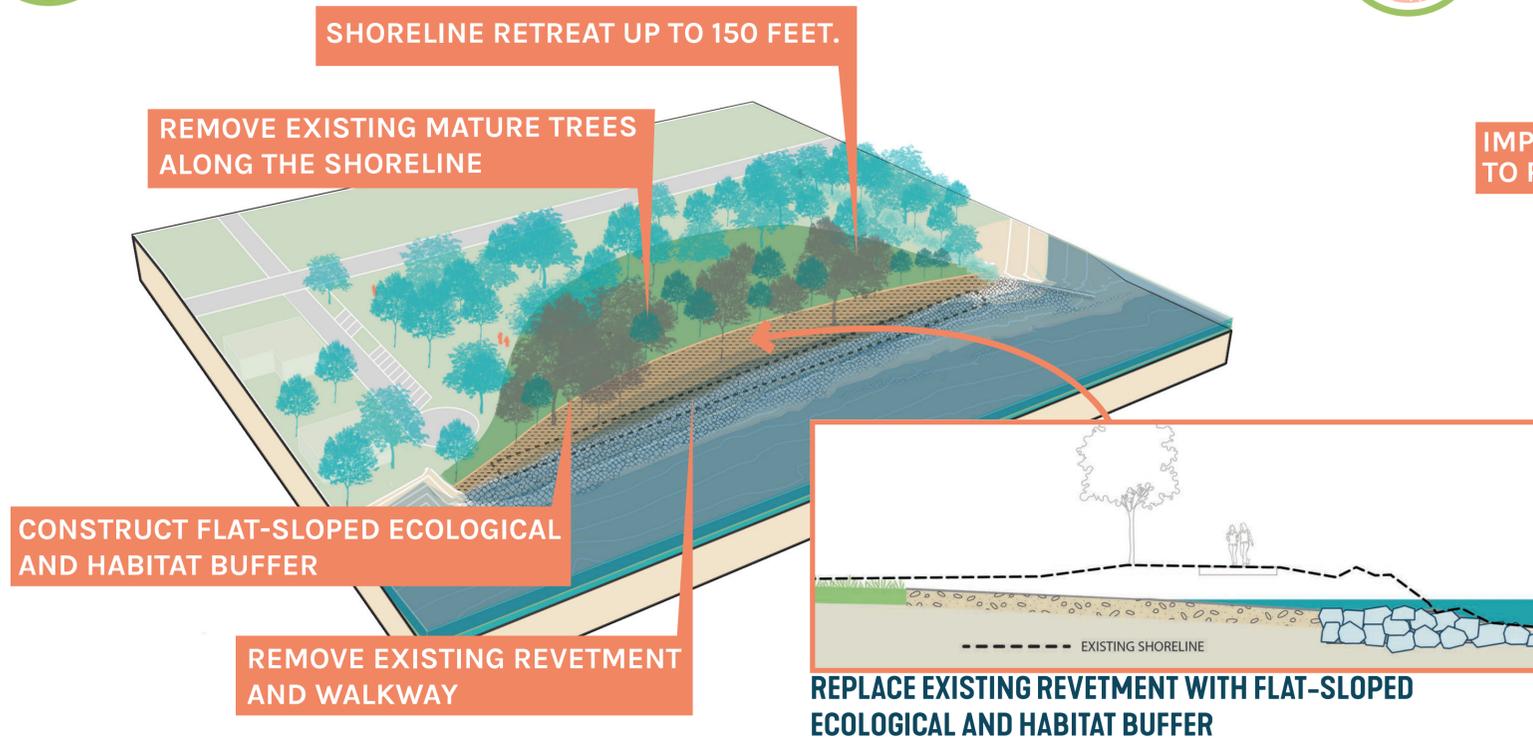
MAINTAIN EXISTING



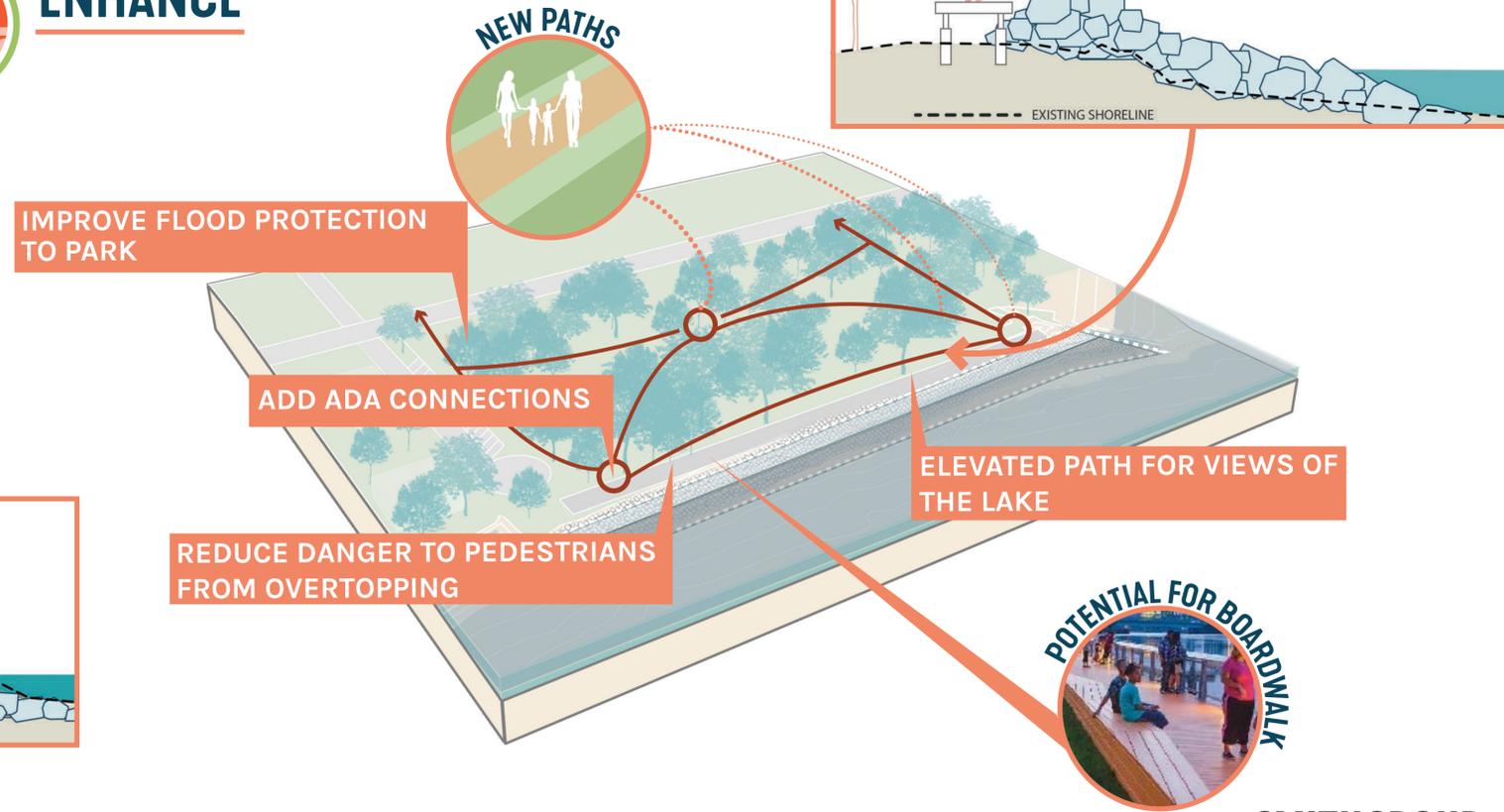
REPLACE-IN-KIND



NATURALIZE



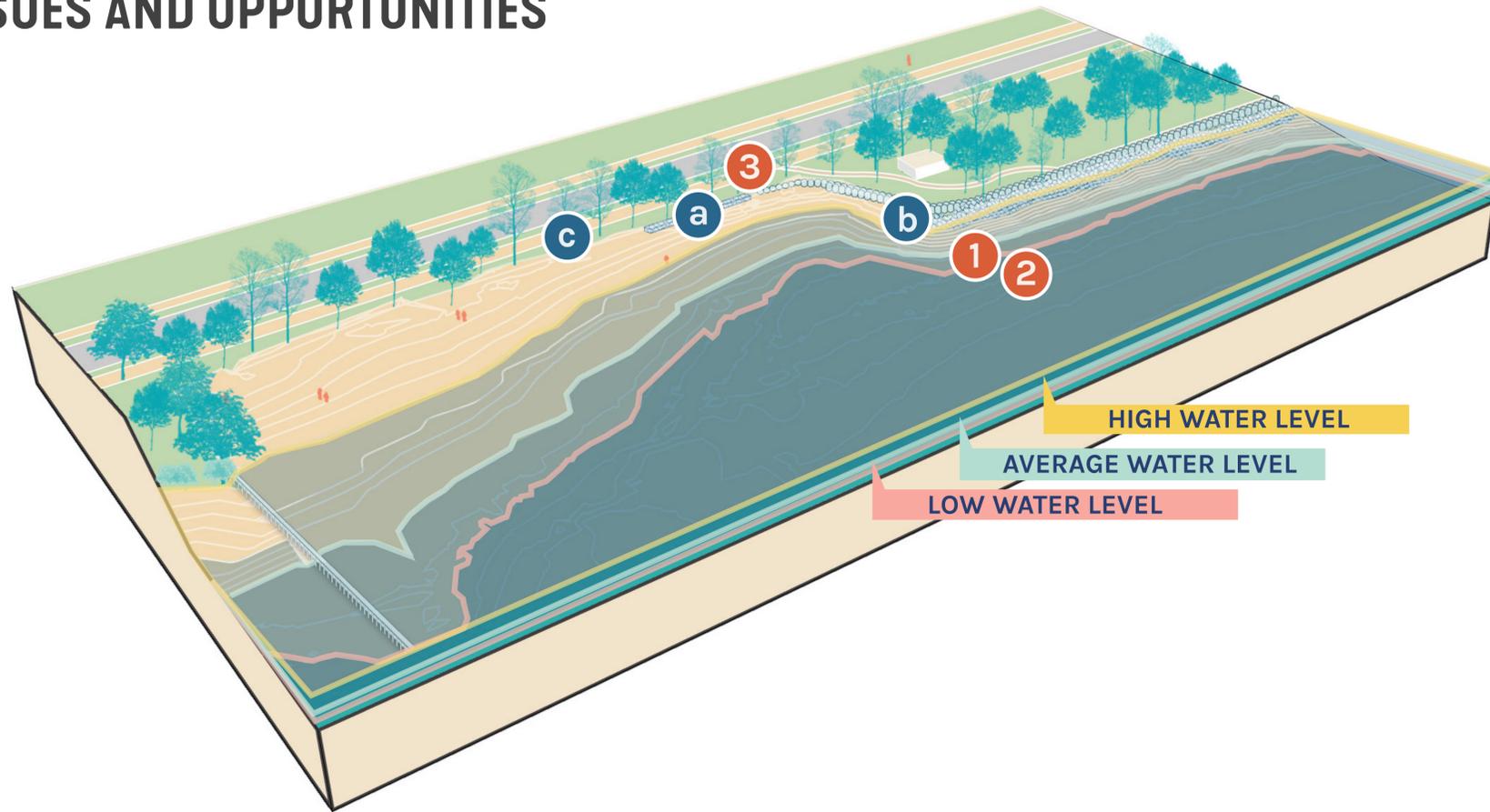
ENHANCE



LEE STREET BEACH

EXISTING CONDITIONS, ISSUES, OPPORTUNITIES, AND PUBLIC OPEN HOUSE #1 FEEDBACK

ISSUES AND OPPORTUNITIES



PUBLIC OPEN HOUSE #1 FEEDBACK

“ Remove fence by restrooms/provide secondary entrance for bathroom use.

“ Time for repairs is now! While lake levels are falling.

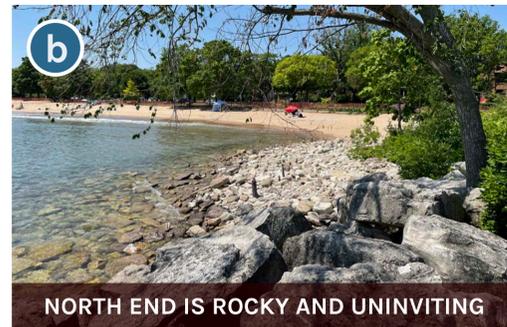
“ Increase swimmable area.

Please remove the buried pieces of fencing by the back edge.

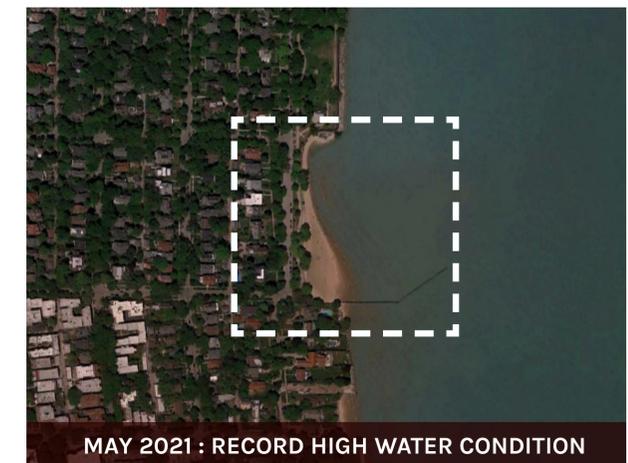
“ Make the north end "swimmable" now just a rock garden. May be a lifeguard issue.



ISSUES



OPPORTUNITIES

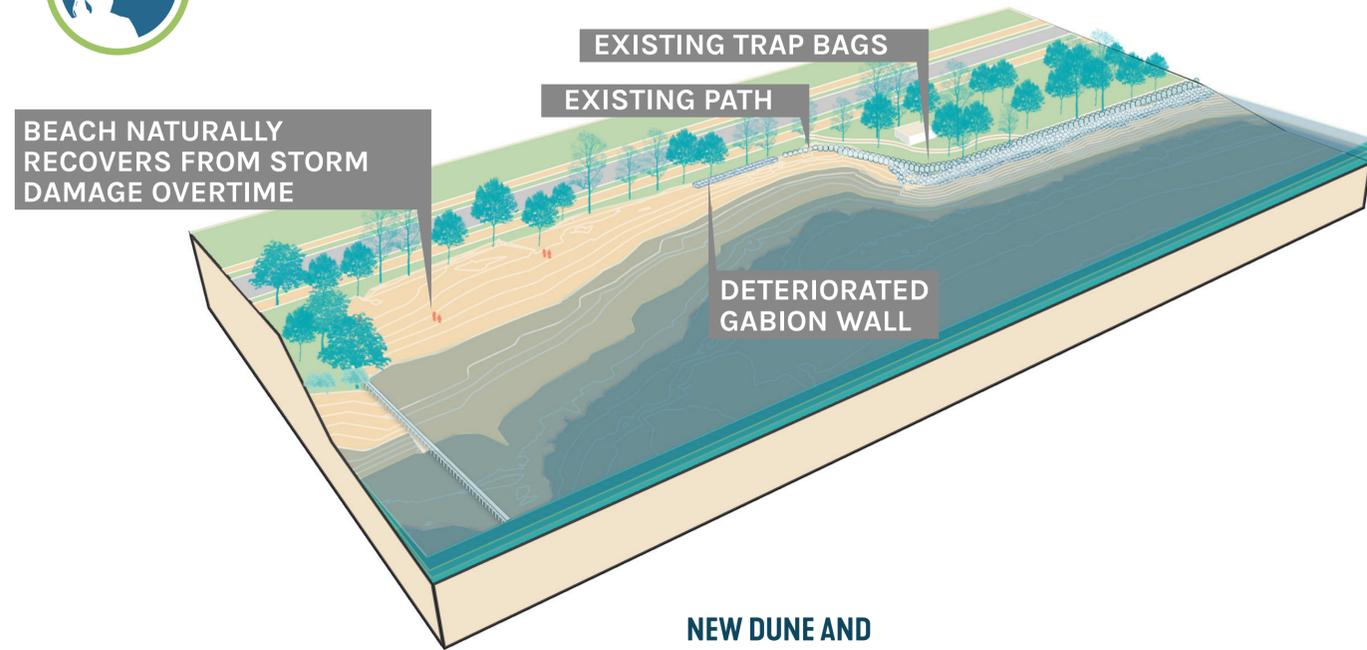


LEE STREET BEACH

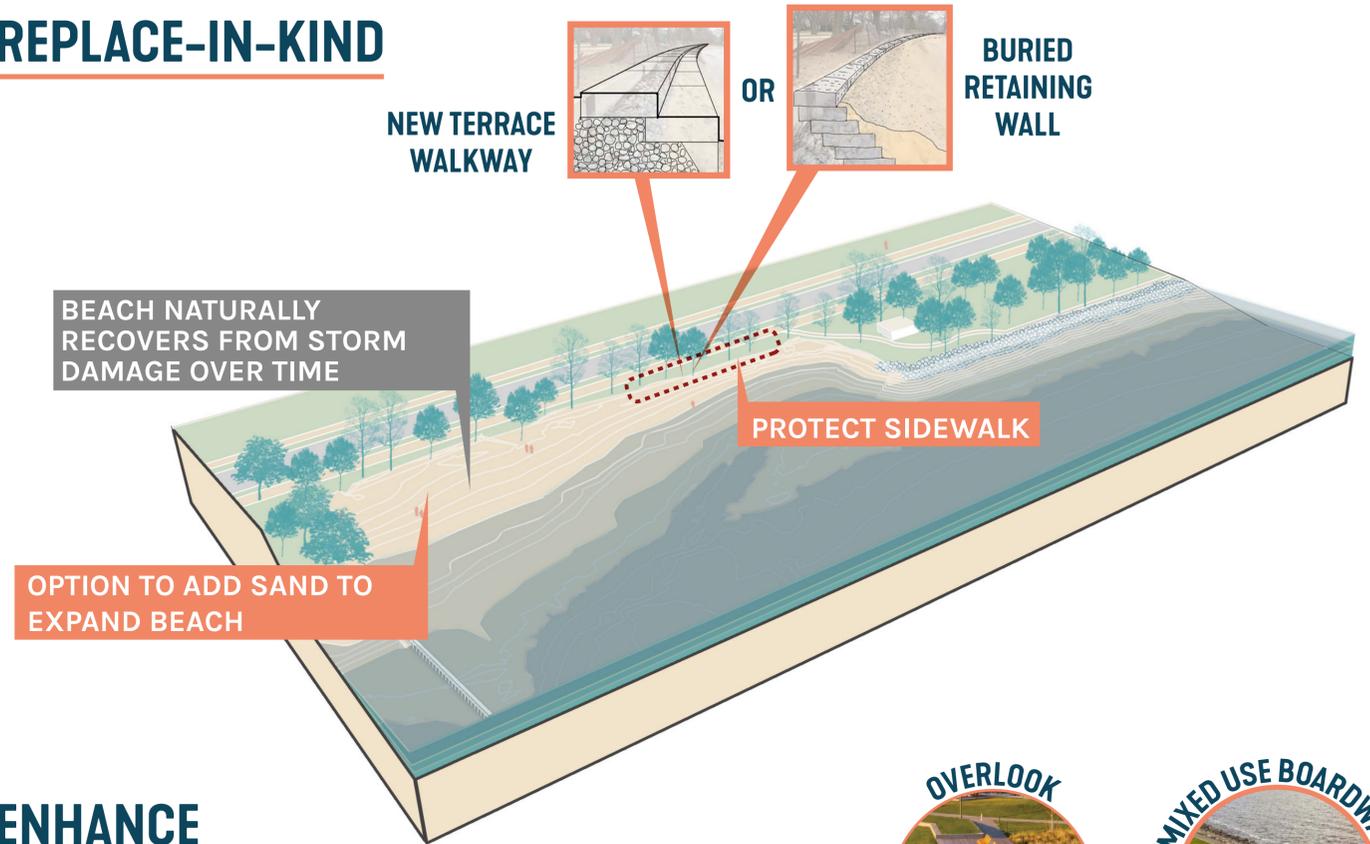
DESIGN CONCEPTS



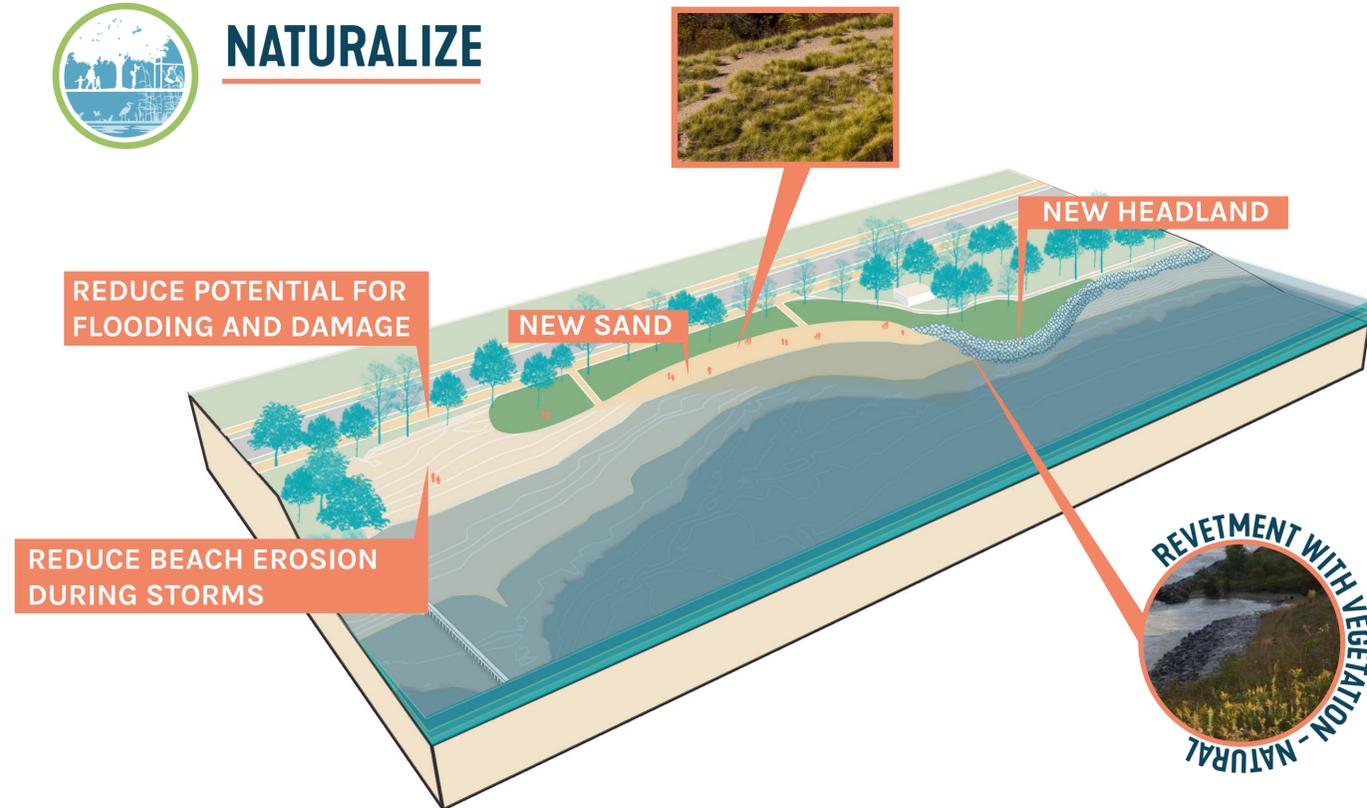
MAINTAIN EXISTING



REPLACE-IN-KIND



NATURALIZE



ENHANCE

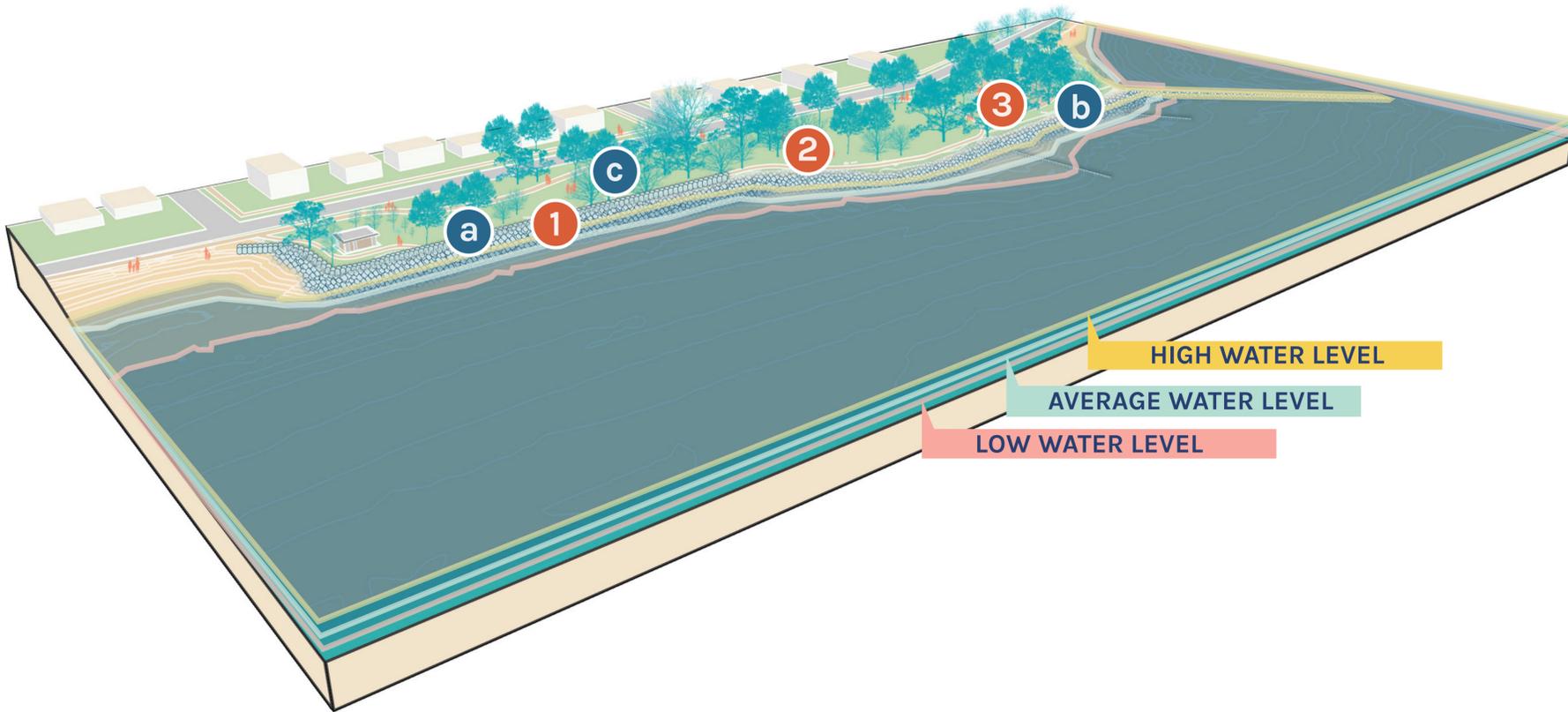


ELLIOT PARK

EXISTING CONDITIONS, ISSUES, OPPORTUNITIES, AND PUBLIC OPEN HOUSE #1 FEEDBACK

ISSUES AND OPPORTUNITIES

PUBLIC OPEN HOUSE #1 FEEDBACK



“

Visual access when sitting on benches along the entire shoreline.

“

A great wide walking path along the shoreline. Check out the woodland paths at Morton Arboretum.

“

Please figure out a way to disguise the big black bags. They are an eyesore. Thanks!

”

”

”

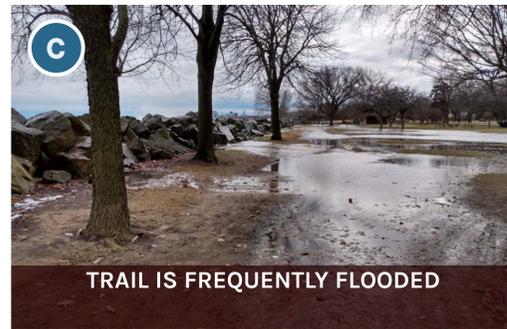
ISSUES



HEAVILY DETERIORATED REVETMENT REQUIRES TEMPORARY PROTECTION



FENCE AND OVERGROWN WEEDY VEGETATION BLOCK VIEWS OF THE LAKE



TRAIL IS FREQUENTLY FLOODED

OPPORTUNITIES



NATURALIZE PARK AND SHORELINE



RAISE AND IMPROVE PATHWAYS FOR BETTER VIEWS



INTRODUCE NATURE PLAY ELEMENTS



ELLIOT PARK

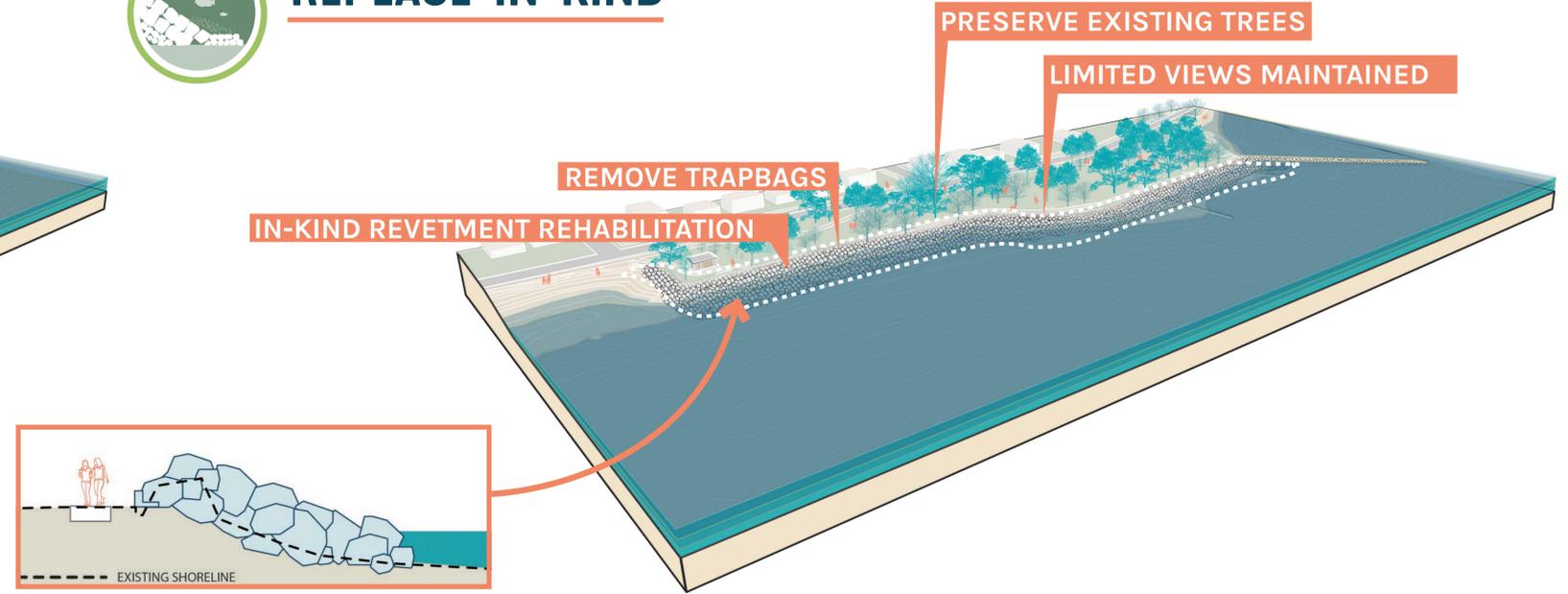
DESIGN CONCEPTS



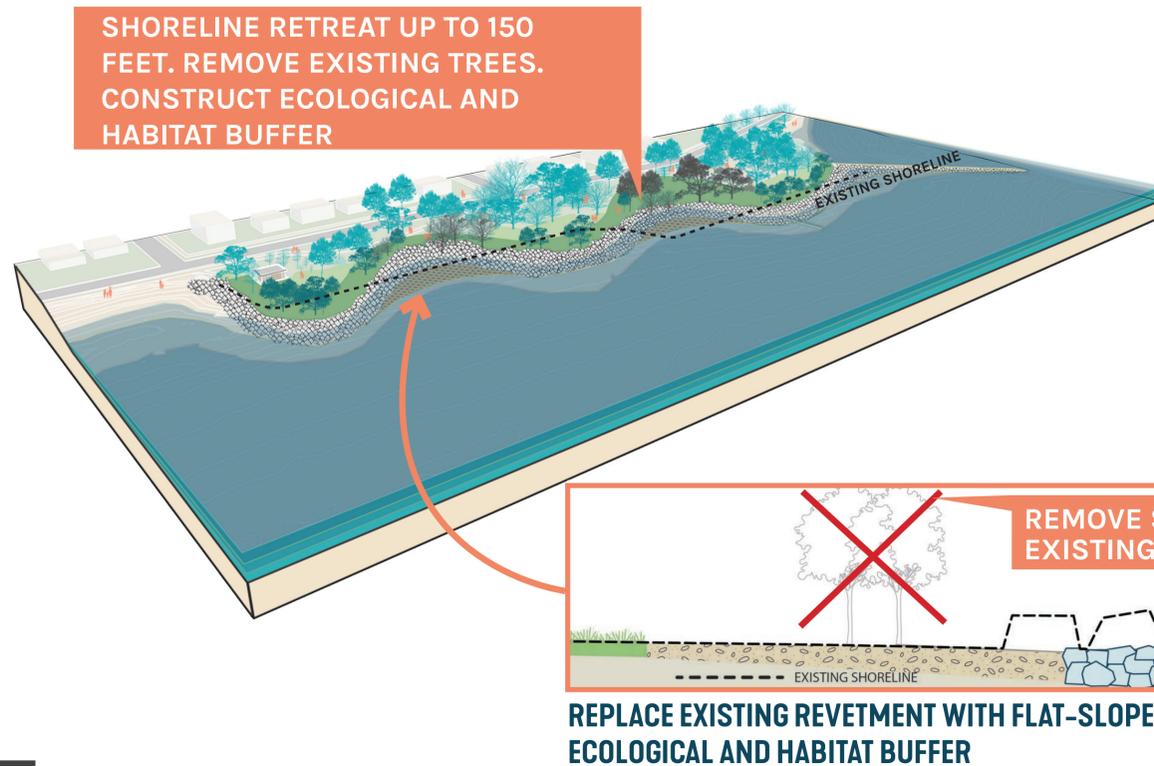
MAINTAIN EXISTING



REPLACE-IN-KIND



NATURALIZE



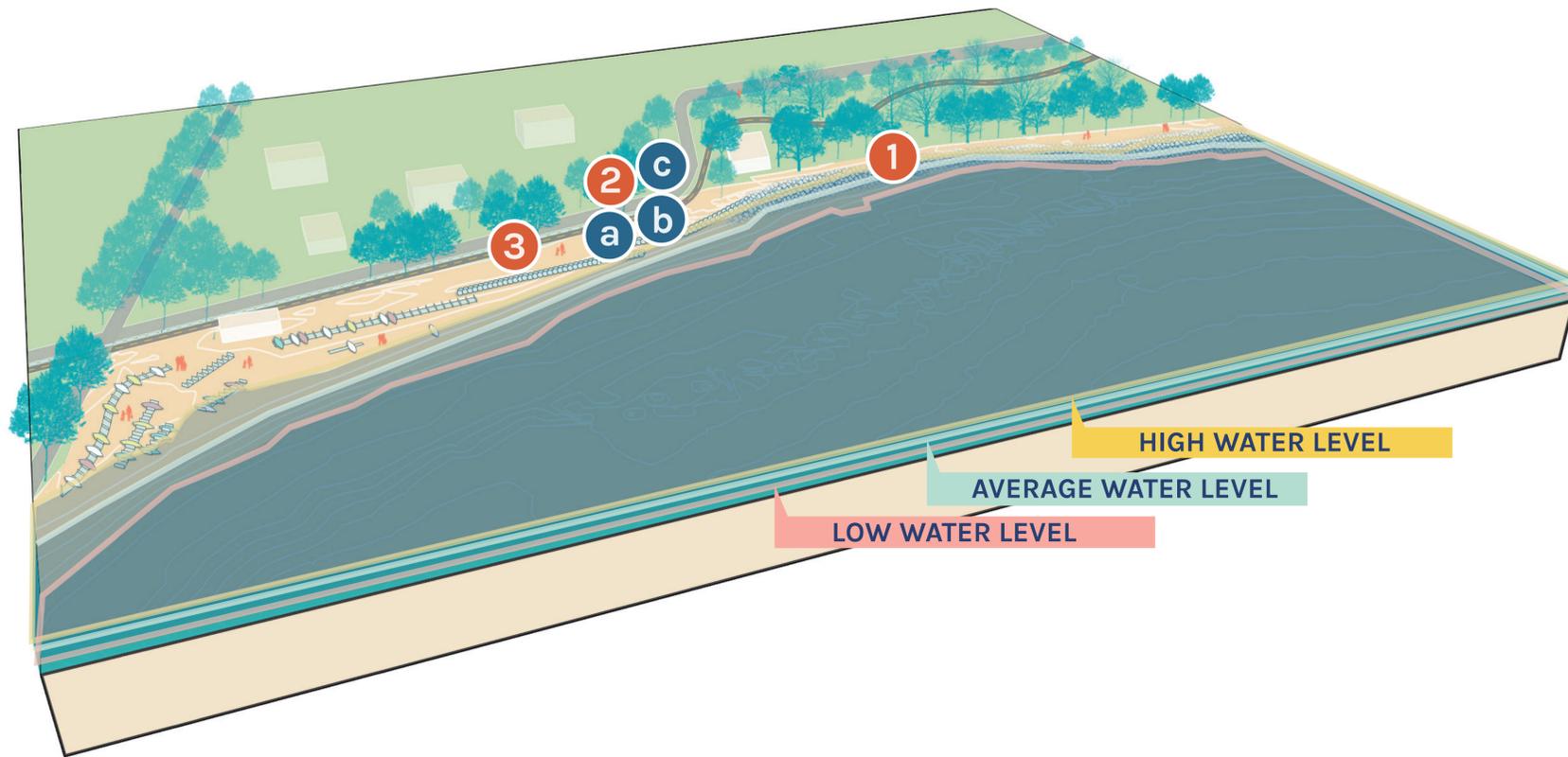
ENHANCE



DEMPSTER STREET AND GREENWOOD BEACH

EXISTING CONDITIONS, ISSUES, OPPORTUNITIES, AND PUBLIC OPEN HOUSE #1 FEEDBACK

ISSUES AND OPPORTUNITIES



PUBLIC OPEN HOUSE #1 FEEDBACK

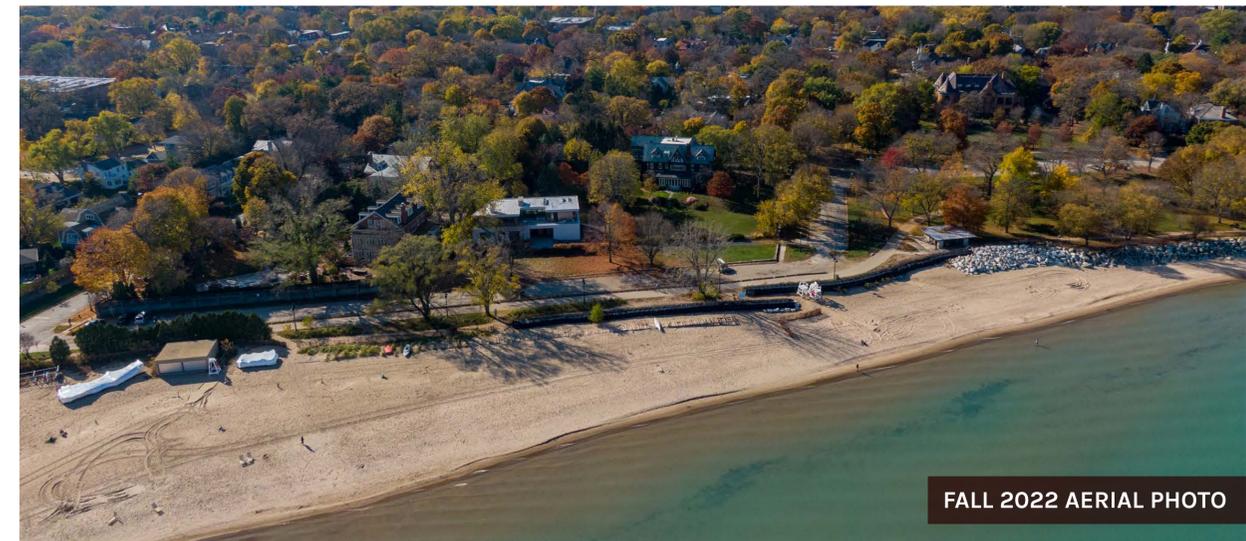
“ I bet the lake is beautiful, but it cant be seen from behind this stone wall. ”

“ This is a surfing hotspot due to particular wave conditions ”

“ Pinchpoint: bikes, strollers, walkers all converging. ”

Natural areas: change lawns to deep rooted natives - erosion control. ”

“ Increase the width of swimming area. ”



ISSUES



OPPORTUNITIES

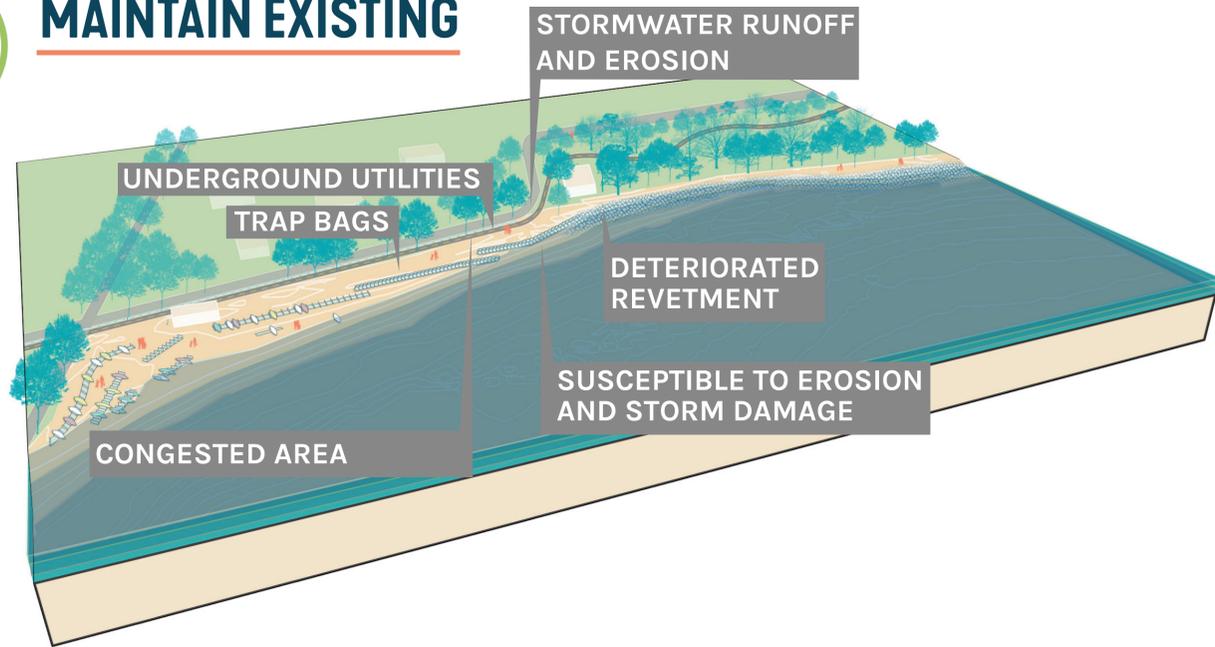


DEMPSTER STREET AND GREENWOOD BEACH

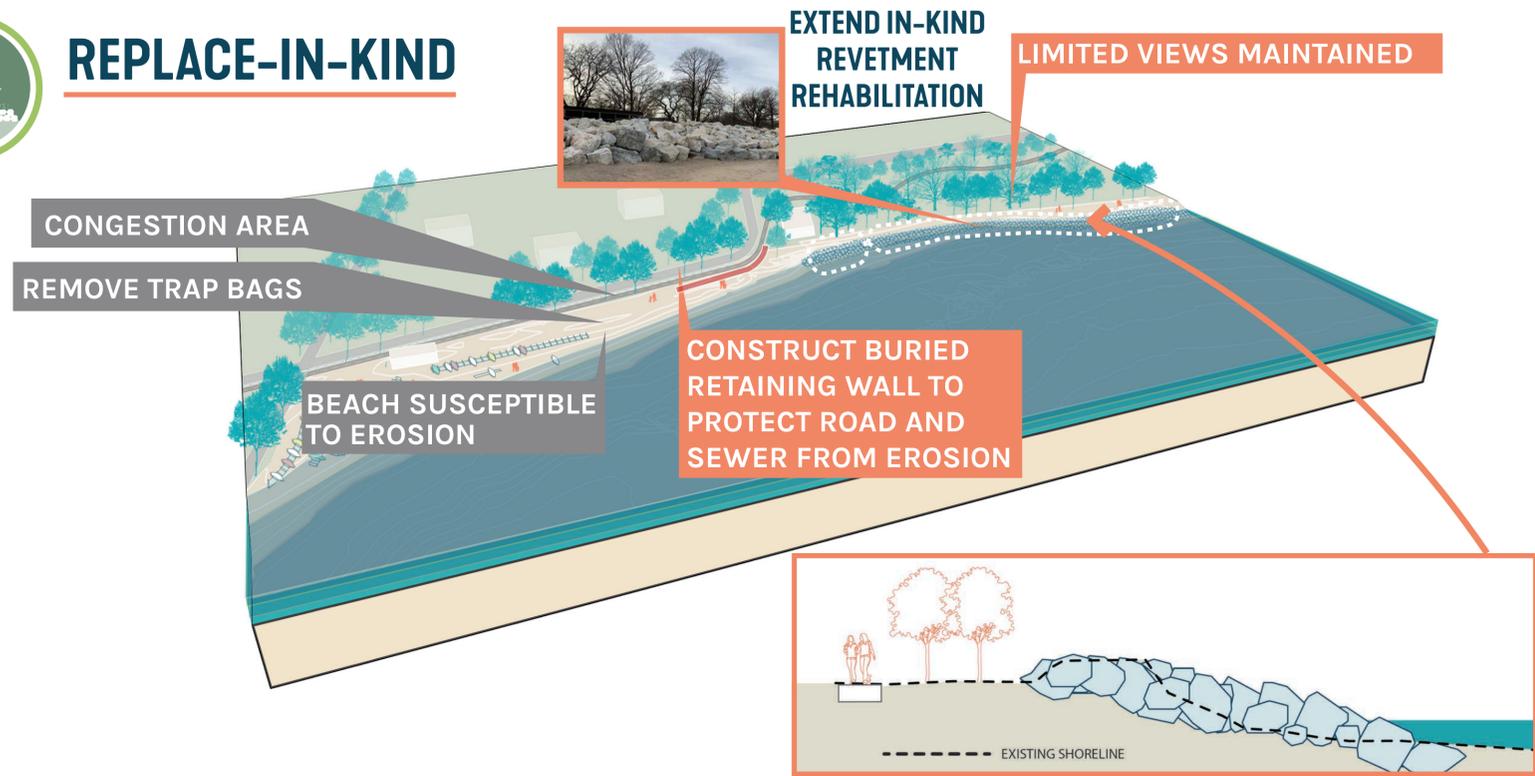
DESIGN CONCEPTS



MAINTAIN EXISTING



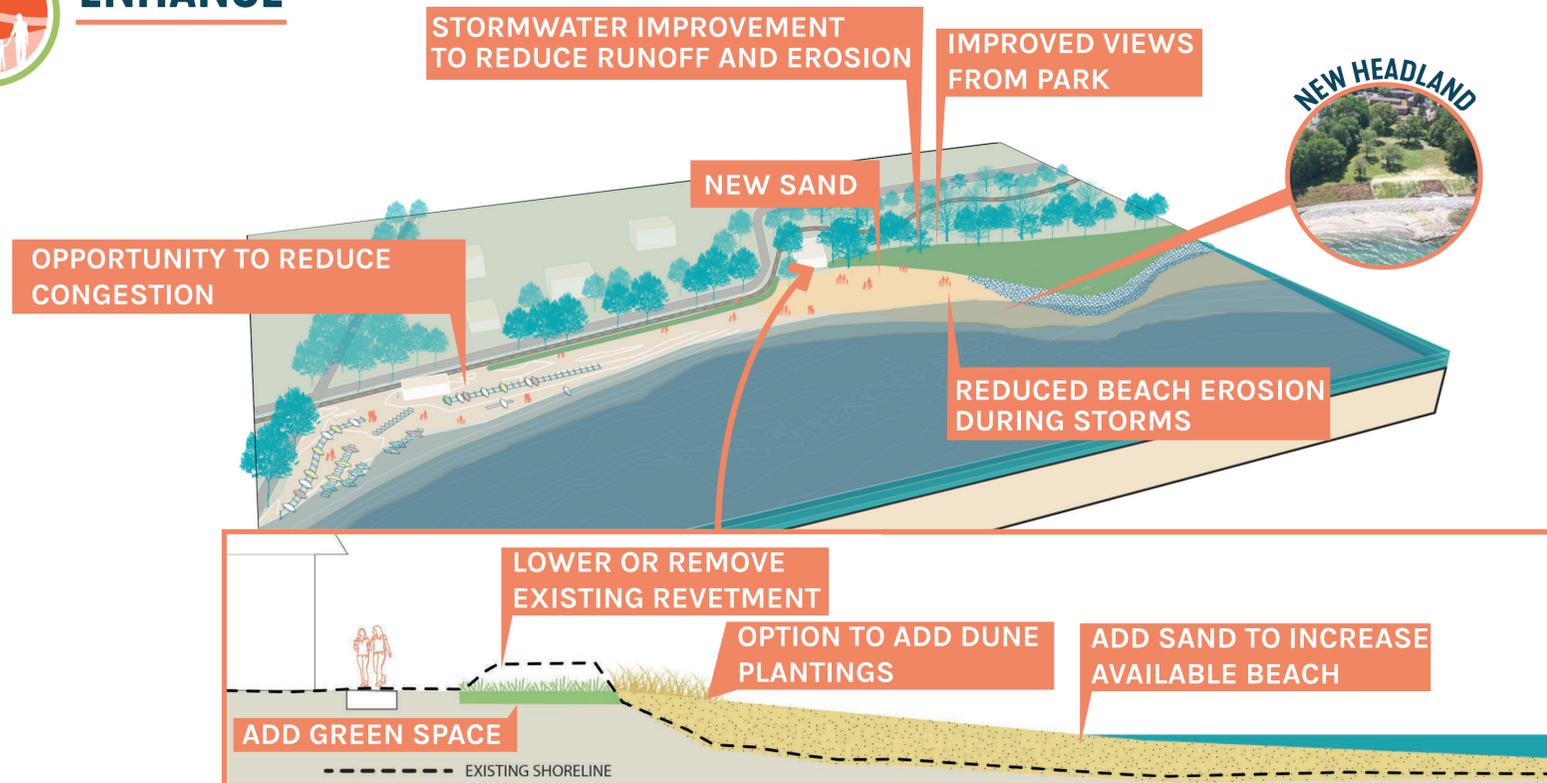
REPLACE-IN-KIND



NATURALIZE



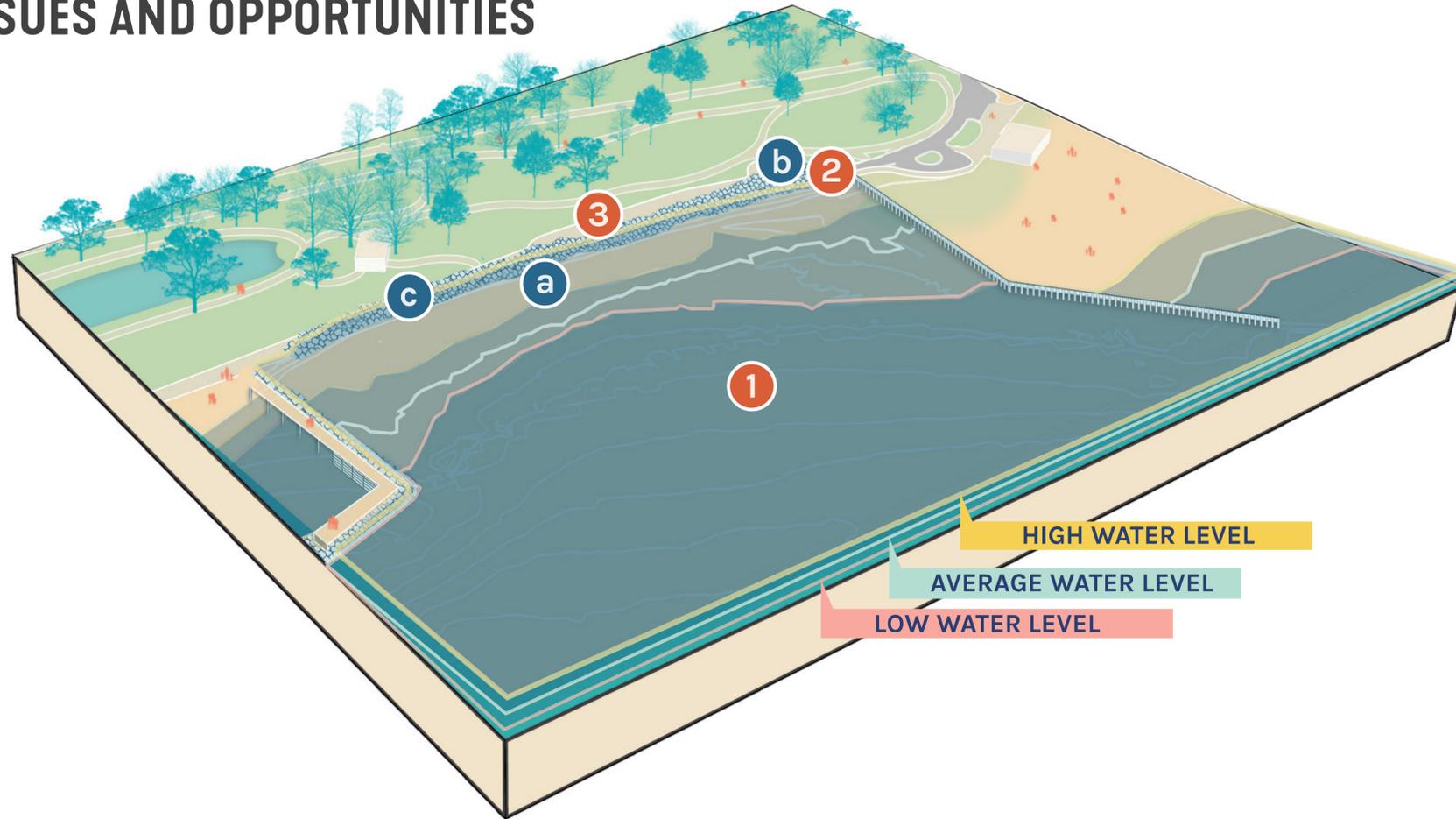
ENHANCE



DOG BEACH

EXISTING CONDITIONS, ISSUES, OPPORTUNITIES, AND PUBLIC OPEN HOUSE #1 FEEDBACK

ISSUES AND OPPORTUNITIES



PUBLIC OPEN HOUSE #1 FEEDBACK

“

Keep the public boat launch as part of the plan. Need to keep parking lot.

”

“

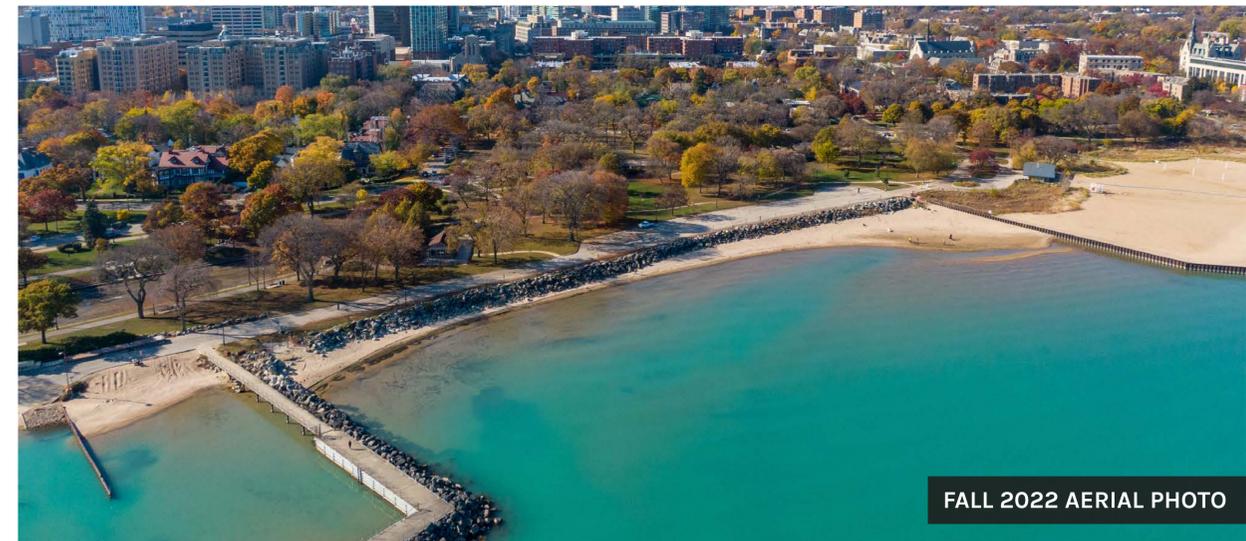
PLEASE figure out how to have a community dog beach.

”

“

Keep dog beach open - improve it for 2023 season; security gates, passes (proof of vaccines), trash cans, poop bag dispensers.

”



FALL 2022 AERIAL PHOTO

ISSUES



ERODED BEACH AREA DURING HIGH WATER



BEACH DOES NOT HAVE SAFE ACCESS



REVTMENT IS DETERIORATED AND IS OVERGROWN WITH WEEDY VEGETATION

OPPORTUNITIES



EXPAND AND INCREASE RELIABILITY OF BEACH WITH OFFSHORE PROTECTION



CREATE PROTECTED ADA ACCESSIBLE ROUTE



IMPROVE LANDSIDE CHARACTER OF REVTMENT



APRIL 2013 : RECORD LOW WATER CONDITION



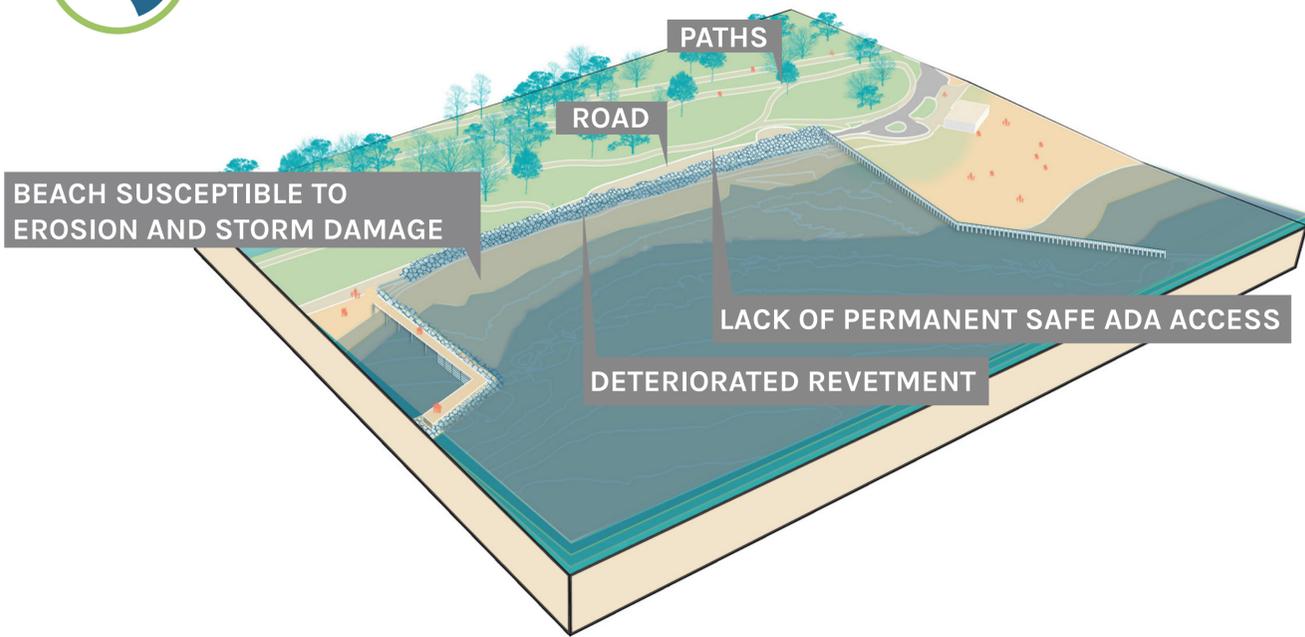
MAY 2021 : RECORD HIGH WATER CONDITION

DOG BEACH

DESIGN CONCEPTS



MAINTAIN EXISTING

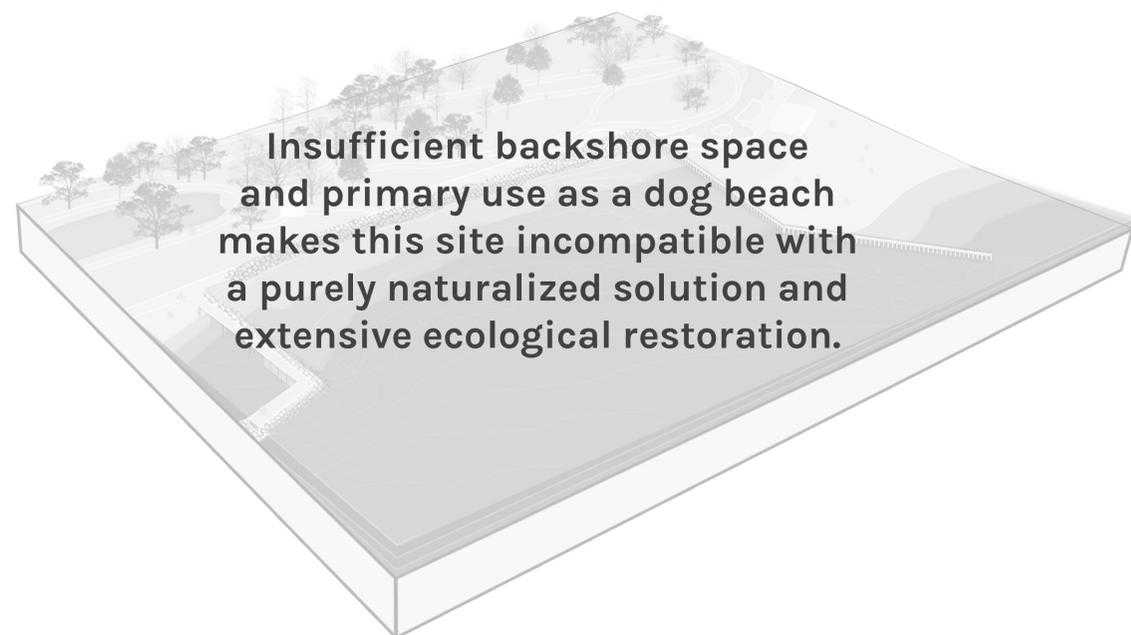


REPLACE-IN-KIND

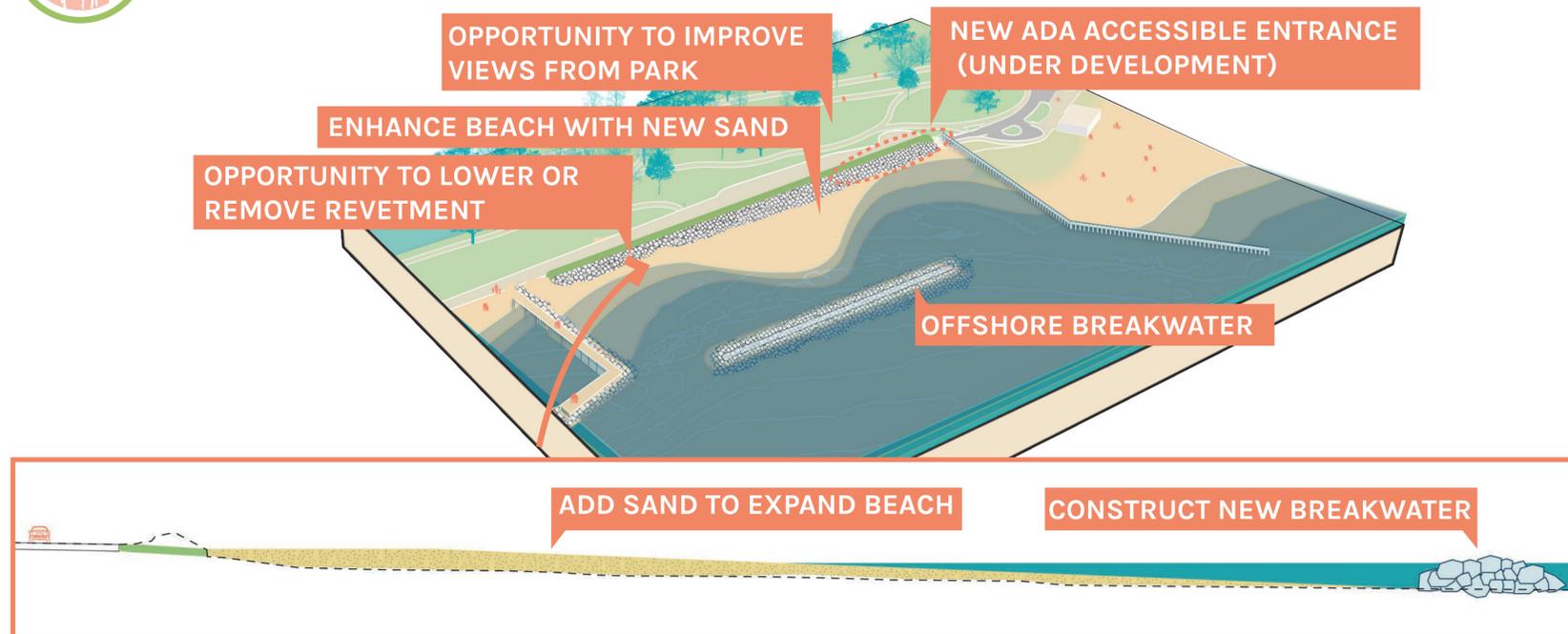
IN KIND REVETMENT REHABILITATION



NATURALIZE



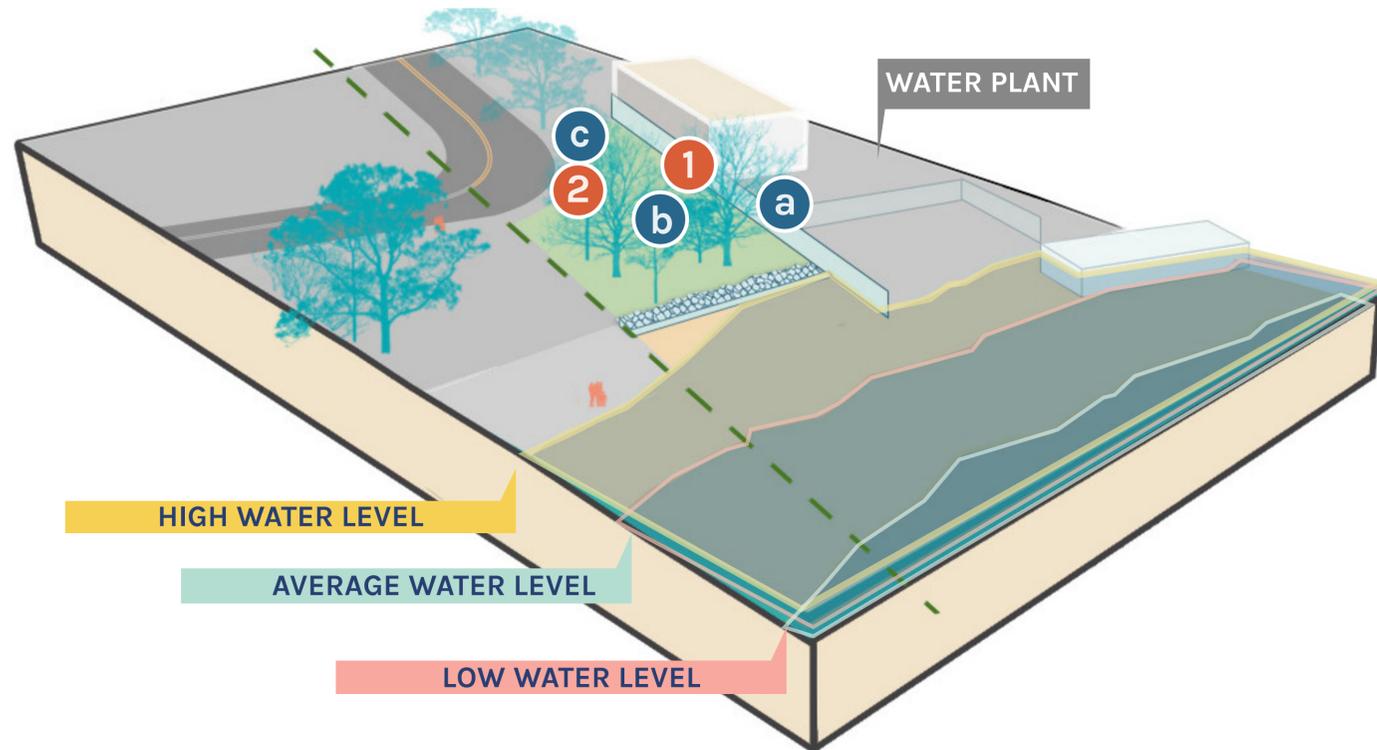
ENHANCE



LINCOLN STREET END

EXISTING CONDITIONS, ISSUES, OPPORTUNITIES, AND PUBLIC OPEN HOUSE #1 FEEDBACK

ISSUES AND OPPORTUNITIES



PUBLIC OPEN HOUSE #1 FEEDBACK

“

Natural vegetation/
bird sanctuary.

”

“

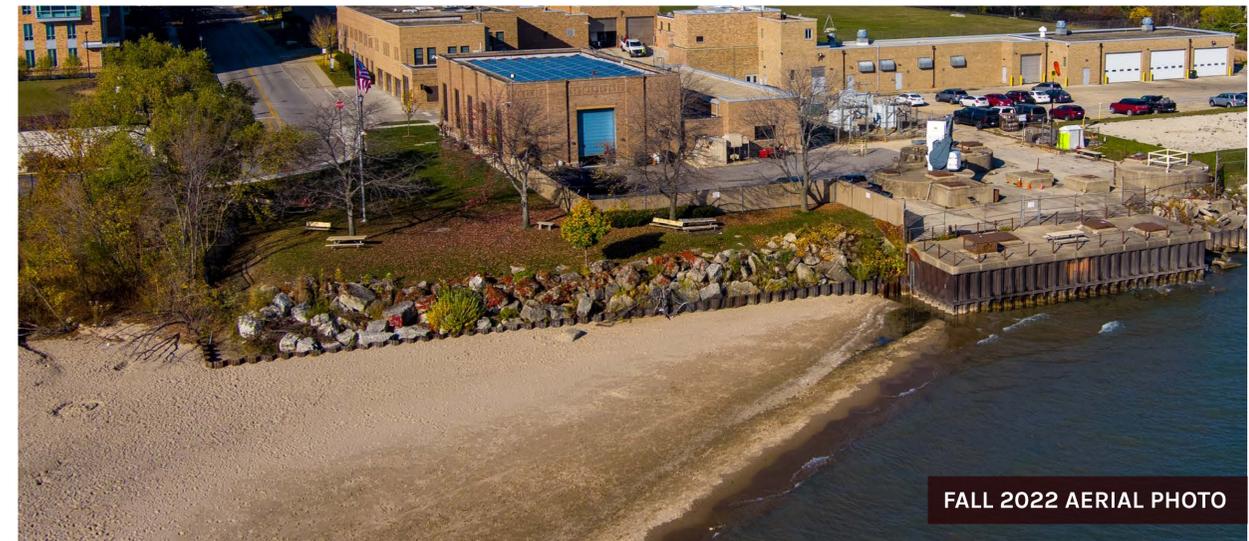
Natural space, no
human access.

”

ISSUES



OPPORTUNITIES

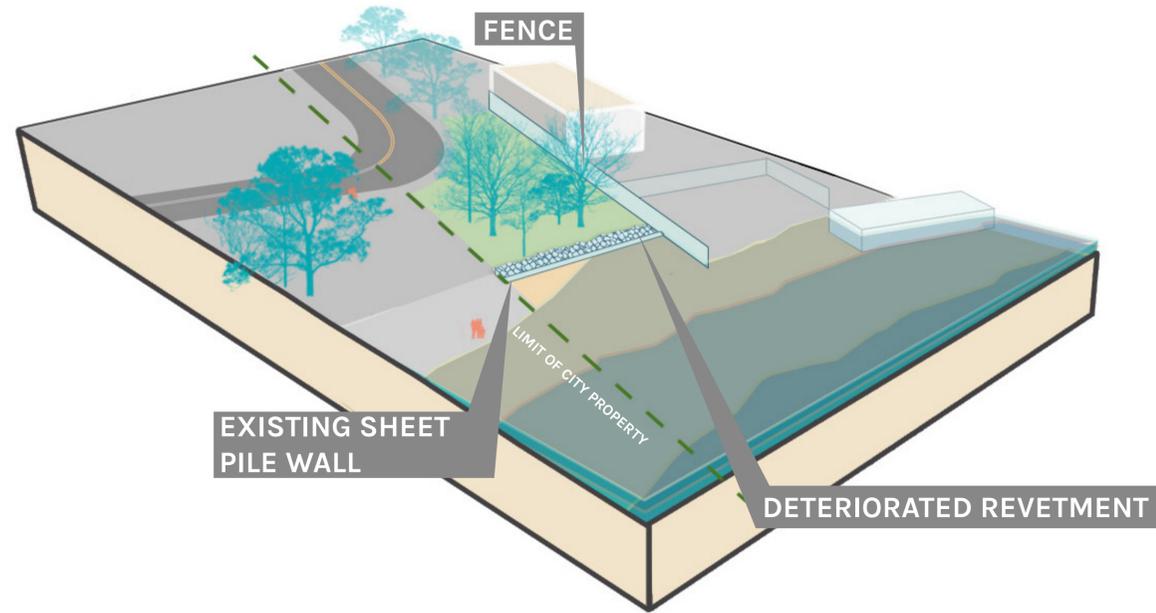


LINCOLN STREET END

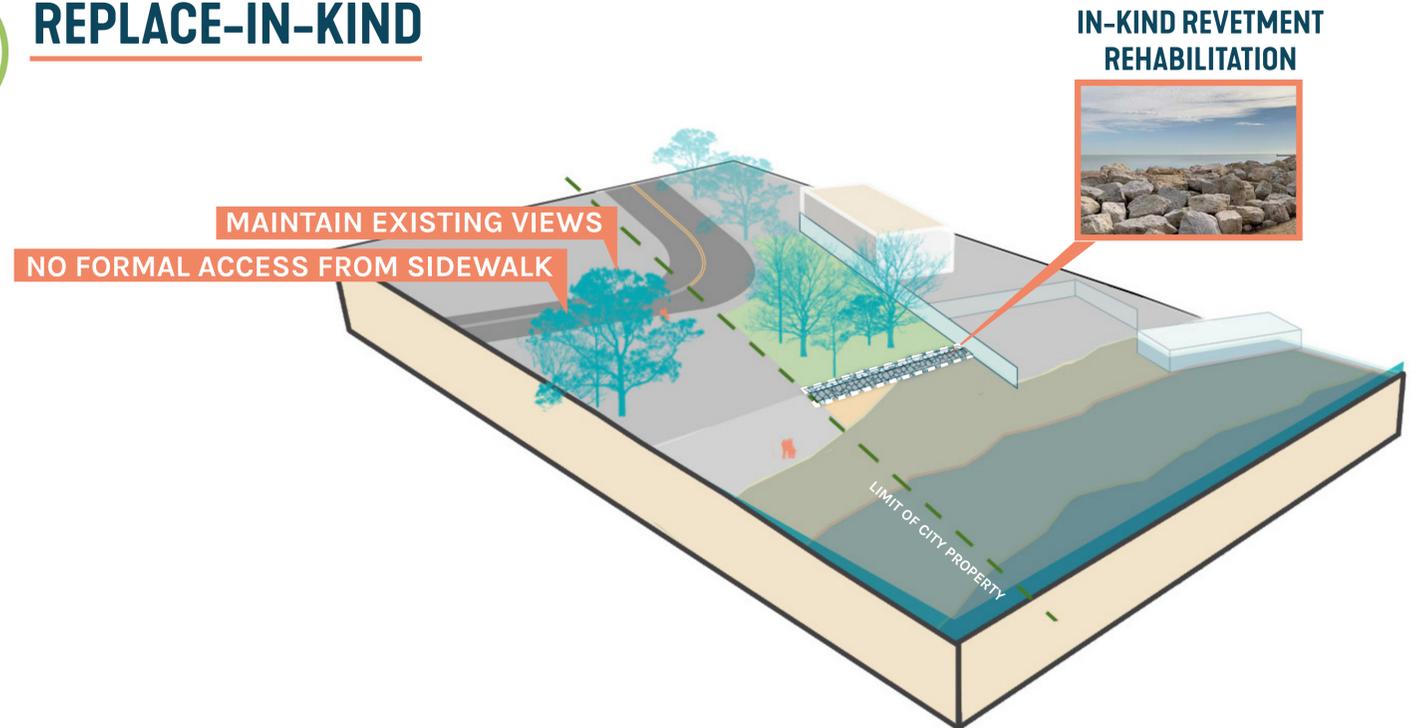
DESIGN CONCEPTS



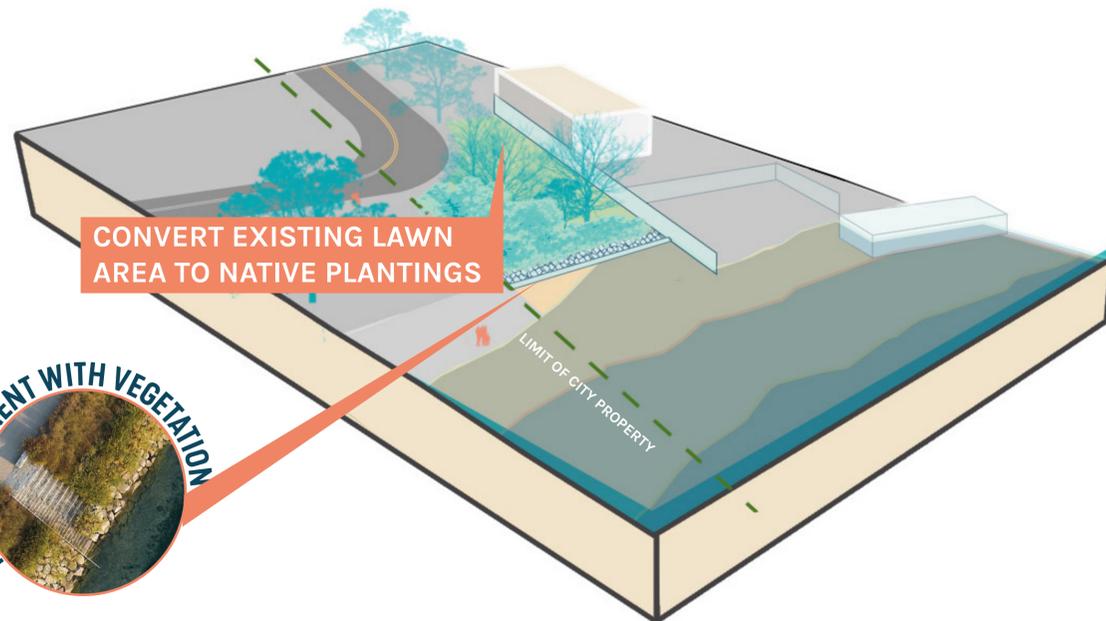
MAINTAIN EXISTING



REPLACE-IN-KIND



NATURALIZE



ENHANCE

