

PROJECT           Evanston Shoreline Repairs      DATE            12/9/2022  
PROJECT NO.       13959  
PROJECT LOCATION   Evanston, IL  
SUBJECT            Public Open House 1 Summary  
PREPARED BY       Chris Devick

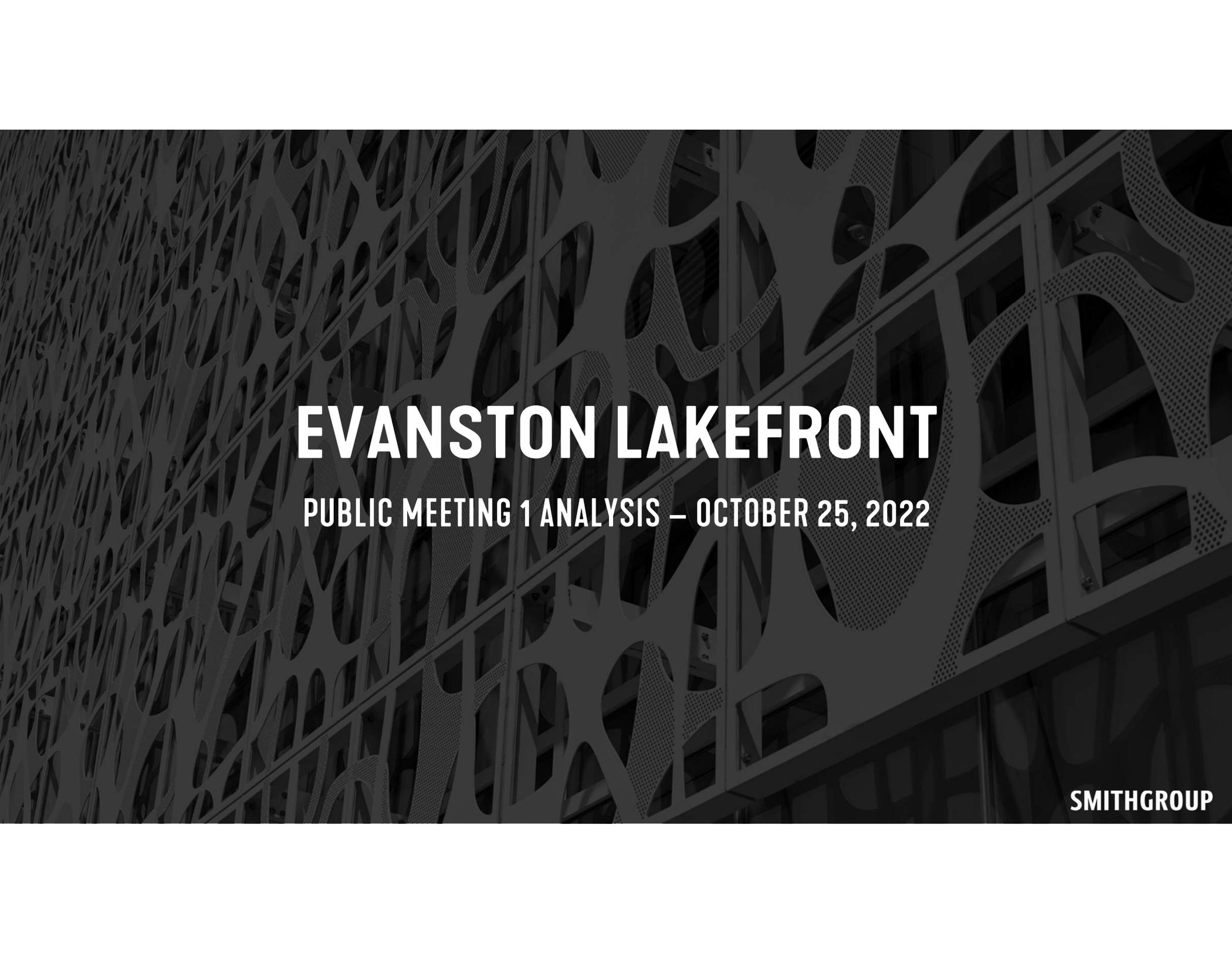
DISTRIBUTION

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Stefanie Levine	City of Evanston	slevine@cityofevanston.org	

On October 25, 2022, an Open House was held for the Evanston Shoreline Repairs Project. The Open House was held at the Evanston Public Library from 6-8pm. In attendance were Mark Wagstaff (Project Principal); Chris Devick (Project Manager), Kris Lucius, and Cher Wong (all from SmithGroup) and Stefanie Levine and Lara Biggs from the City of Evanston. Other City of Evanston staff members present included Michael Callaghan and Audrey Thompson.

Four stations were setup to create a self-guided experience for attendees, who were encouraged to engage with the exhibits and staff, and to provide public input. During the duration of the evening approximately 50 - 75 people attended the Open House, with over 30 signing in.

Attached are summary graphics related to the input received from the public, as well as copies of the boards used during the Open House. The summary graphics focus on common themes, potential improvement preferences and specific ways that each site is used based on what was heard during the Open House. The boards include a summary of information obtained from the community survey, which was available online for 3 weeks in September, and received over 1300 responses.

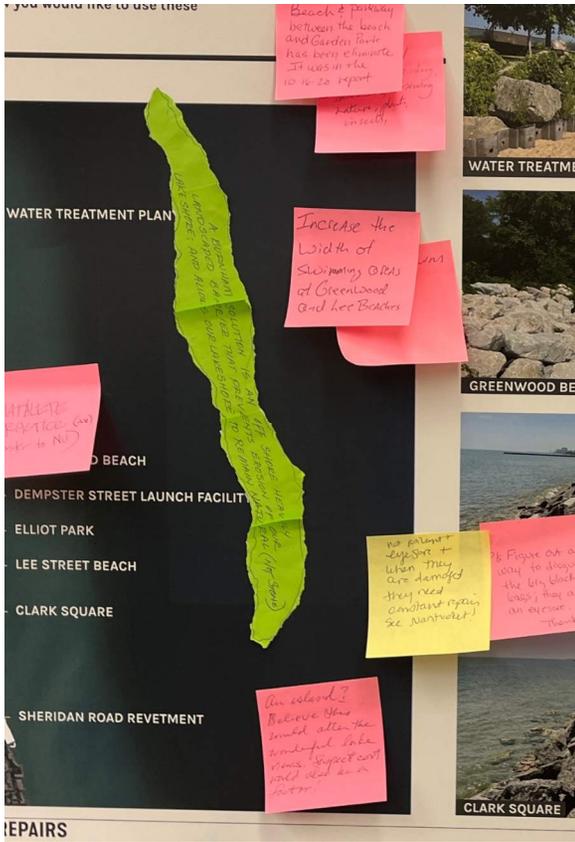


# **EVANSTON LAKEFRONT**

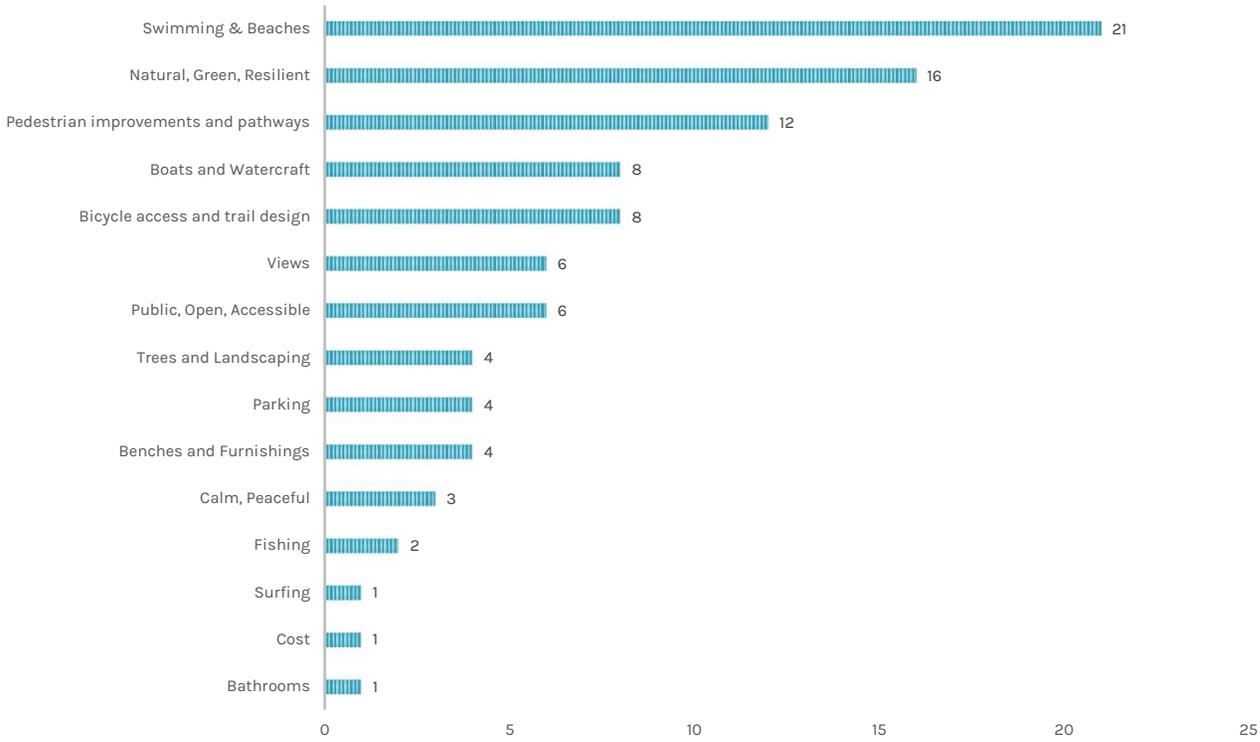
**PUBLIC MEETING 1 ANALYSIS – OCTOBER 25, 2022**

**SMITHGROUP**

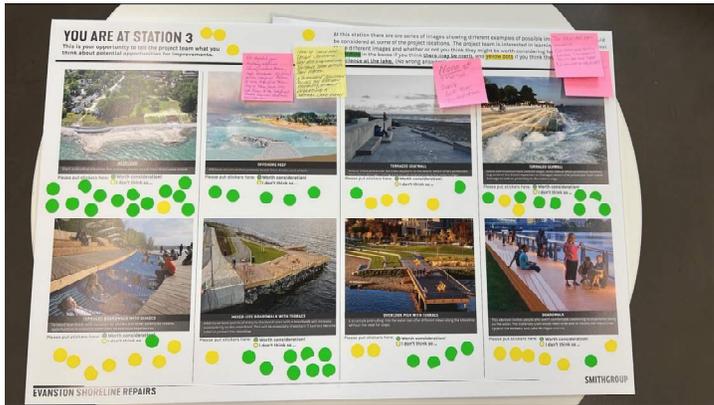
# COMMENTARY – COMMON THEMES



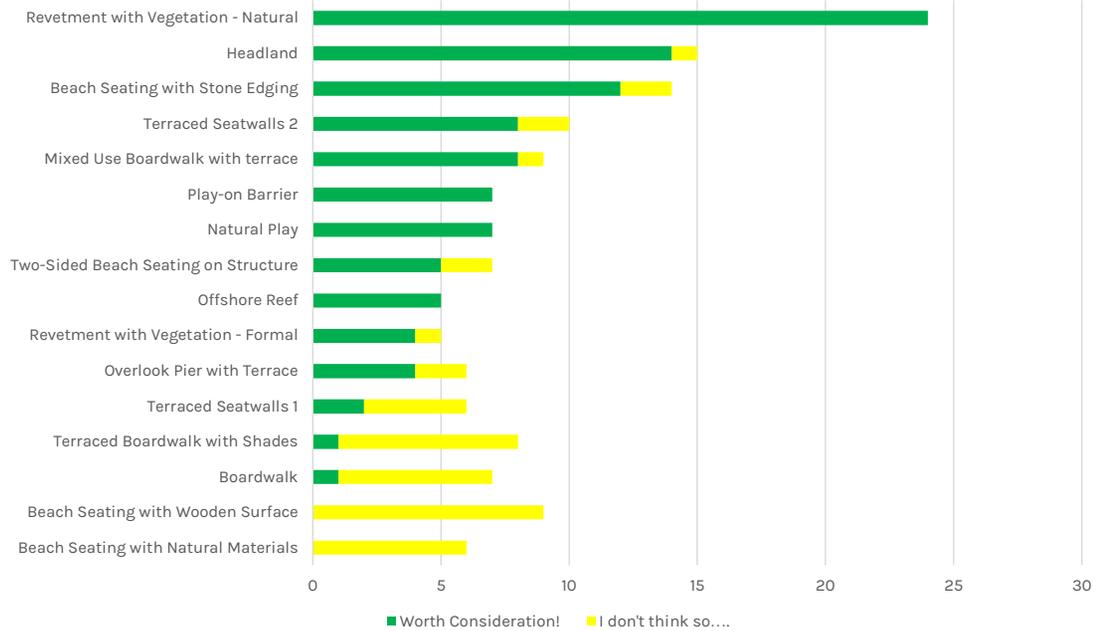
# OF STICKIES MENTIONING THEME/TOPIC (OUT OF 99 TOTAL STICKIES)



# POTENTIAL IMPROVEMENTS - POPULARITY



What do you think about these improvements?



# MOST POPULAR AND LEAST POPULAR



## REVTMENT WITH VEGETATION-NATURAL

Revetment edge can protect native vegetationsuch as native grass and flower.

most popular (most “worth consideration!” responses)



## BEACH SEATING WITH WOODEN SURFACE

Seating and shaded areas to rest can be built into the shoreline protection measures and become an asset to the parks or beaches.

Least popular (most “I don’t think so...” responses)



How you would like to use this the specific project site?  
(Please use a pink sticky note)

- Natural vegetation / bird sanctuary
- Natural space, no human access

WHAT DO YOU THINK?



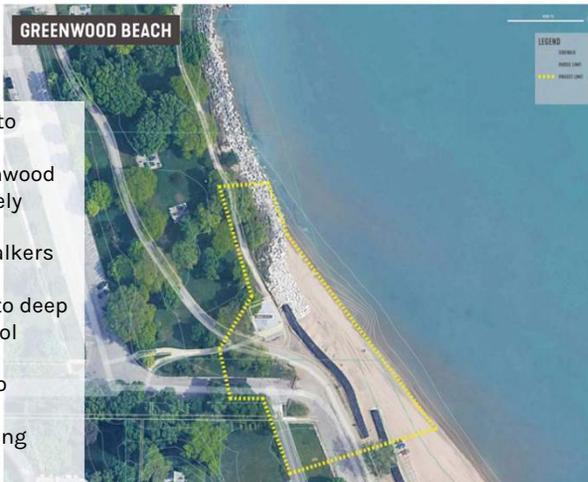
How you would like to use this the specific project site?  
(Please use pink a sticky note)

- Beach safety ramp use : fire dept, fishing, dog beach, parking; 40+ years
- Keep ramp as is/ parking as is
- Keep the boat launch. Install a headland along the beach
- Keep Public boat launch ramp. I use it a lot. We need parking.
- Boardwalk/pier
- 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.
- Loss to many, many dogs and nature lovers when this was underwater.



How you would like to use this the specific project site?  
(Please use a pink sticky note)

- This is a surfing hotspot due to particular wave conditions
- Survey took place while Greenwood was closed for swimming, likely impacted results
- Pinchpoint: bikes, strollers walkers all converging
- Natural areas: change lawns to deep rooted natives - erosion control
- Stone solutions are terrible. Engineering solutions only. No vision.
- Increase the width of swimming area



How you would like to use this the specific project site?  
(Please use pink a sticky note)

- I bet the lake is beautiful, but it can't be seen from behind this stone wall.
- Need more efficient storage for boats/watercraft
- Stone solutions are terrible. Engineering solutions only. No vision.

WHAT DO YOU THINK?



How you would like to use this the specific project site?  
(Please use a pink sticky note)

- Visual access when sitting on benches along the entire shoreline.
- A great wide ["dg"?] 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!



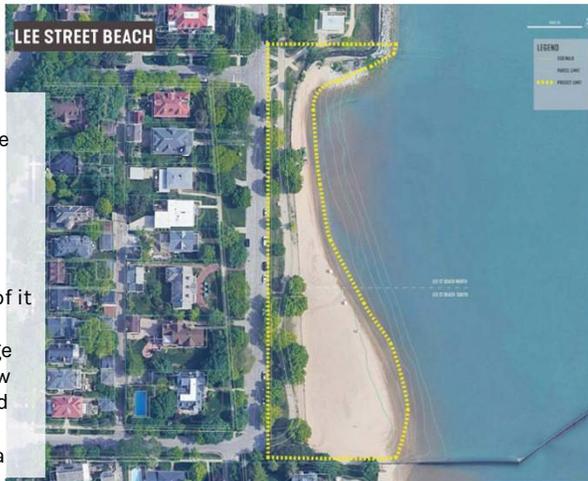
How you would like to use this the specific project site?  
(Please use a pink sticky note)

- 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



How you would like to use this the specific project site?  
(Please use a pink sticky note)

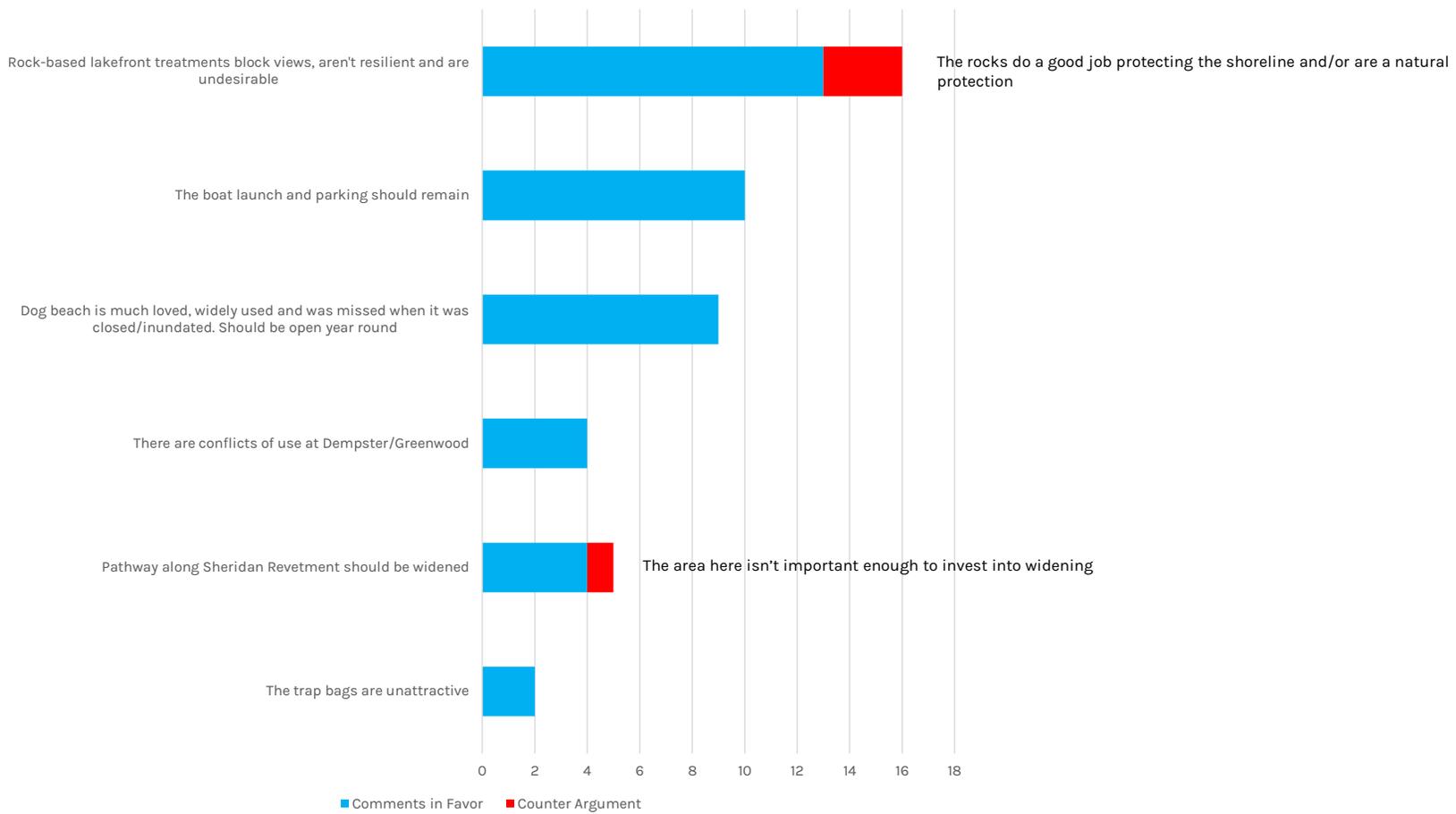
- Remove fence by restrooms/provide secondary entrance for bathroom use
- Time for repairs is now! While lake levels are falling
- Increase swimmable area
- please remove the buried pieces of fencing by the back edge
- also incorporate rocks/jetty as part of it Increase width of swimming area/paddleboard only storage/usage
- Make the north end "swimmable" now just a rock garden. May be a lifeguard issue
- Increase the width of swimming area



How you would like to use this the specific project site?  
(Please use a pink sticky note)

- 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
- Wider path
- Dedicated and expanded side walk and separate 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.

# SPECIFIC REPEATED OPINIONS





# EVANSTON SHORELINE REPAIRS

## PUBLIC MEETING #1

### WELCOME !

We are glad you are here!  
Please look at the materials at the 4 stations 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

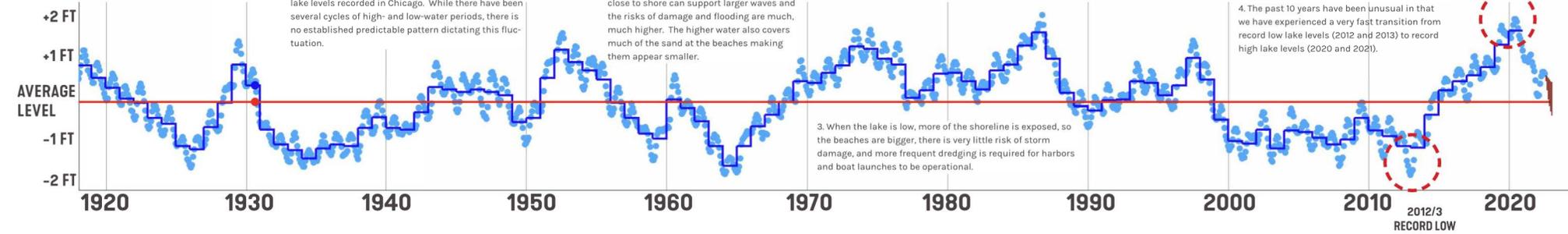


**Cher Wong**  
Landscape Architect  
SmithGroup

# YOU ARE AT STATION 1

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

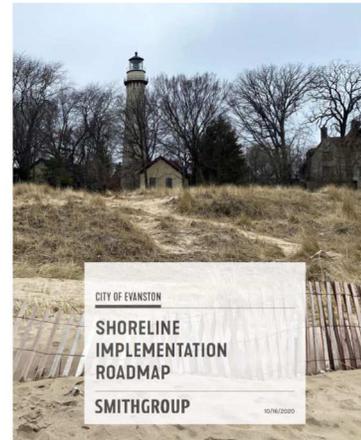
## LAKE MICHIGAN MONTHLY WATER LEVELS



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

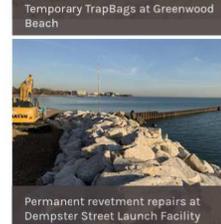


IN 2020 THE CITY CONDUCTED A RISK ASSESSMENT AND CREATED A LAKEFRONT "ROADMAP" TO HELP PLAN FUTURE CAPITAL INVESTMENTS



Scan to learn more about the full roadmap

IN 2020 THE CITY ALSO INSTALLED TEMPORARY FLOOD PROTECTION BARRIERS (TRAPBAGS) TO PROTECT CRITICAL INFRASTRUCTURE AT ELLIOT PARK AND GREENWOOD BEACH, AND MADE PERMANENT REPAIRS TO THE LAKEFRONT AT DEMPSTER STREET AND GARDEN PARK



## EVANSTON SHORELINE REPAIRS

# YOU ARE AT STATION 1

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

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**

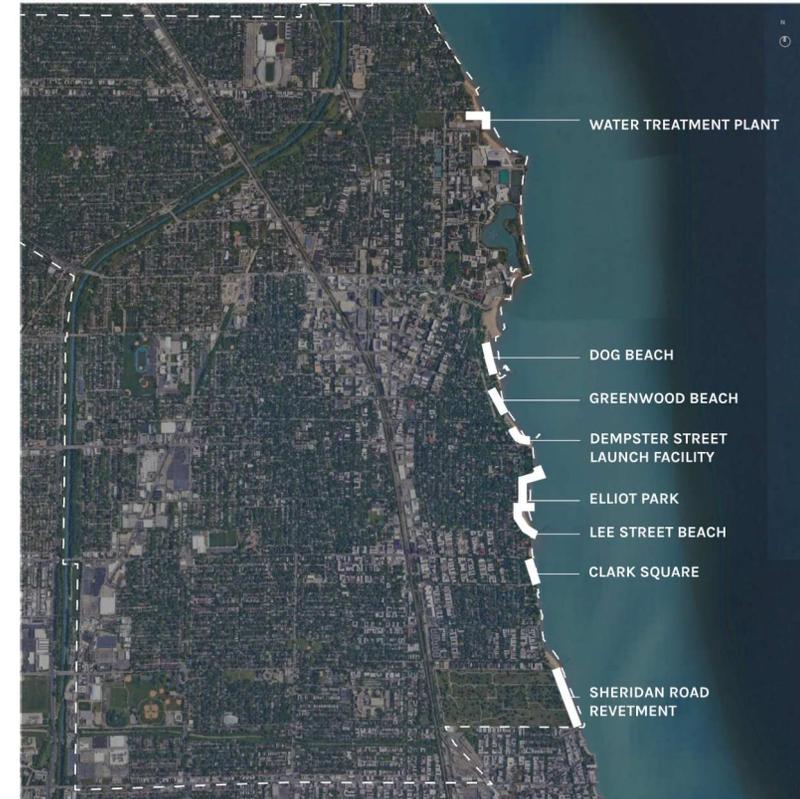


**PROTECT AND ENHANCE RECREATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES**



**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



WATER TREATMENT PLANT



DOG BEACH



GREENWOOD BEACH



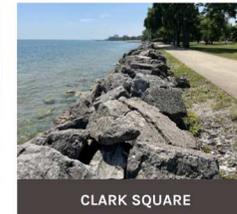
DEMPSTER STREET LAUNCH FACILITY



ELLIOT PARK



LEE STREET BEACH



CLARK SQUARE



SHERIDAN ROAD REVETMENT



# YOU ARE AT STATION 2

Here you will learn more about how your neighbors and what they think about our lakefront.

## WHAT'S WORKING ?

What aspects of the Evanston lakefront do you think should NOT be changed?



What aspects of the Evanston lakefront do you MOST appreciate?

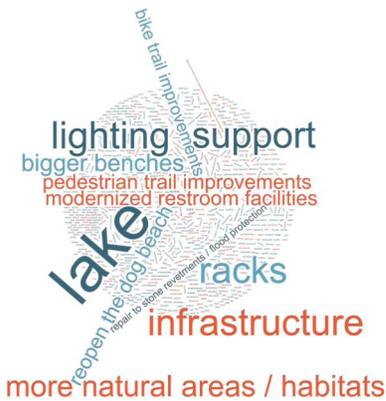


Please write your comments about what's working (Please use a green sticky note)

WHAT DO YOU THINK?

## WHAT NEEDS WORK ?

What aspects of the Evanston lakefront's physical infrastructure do you think MOST need improvements?



What aspects of the Evanston lakefront are of MOST critical concern to you?



Please write your comments about what needs work? (Please use a yellow sticky note)

WHAT DO YOU THINK?

# YOU ARE AT STATION 3

This is your opportunity to tell the project team what you think about potential opportunities for improvements.

At this station there are a series of images showing different examples of possible improvements that could be considered at some of the project locations. The project team is interested in learning what you think about these different images and whether or not you think they might be worth considering for Evanston. Place **green dots** in the boxes if you think **there may be merit**, and **yellow dots** if you think they **wouldn't add to the experience at the lake**. (No wrong answers!)



### BEACH SEATING WITH STONE EDGING

Seating areas to rest can be built into the shoreline protection measures and become an asset to the parks or beaches.

Please put stickers here:  Worth consideration!  
 I don't think so ...



### BEACH SEATING WITH NATURAL MATERIALS

Seating with natural materials like tree trunks to rest can be built into the shoreline protection measures and become an asset to the parks or beaches.

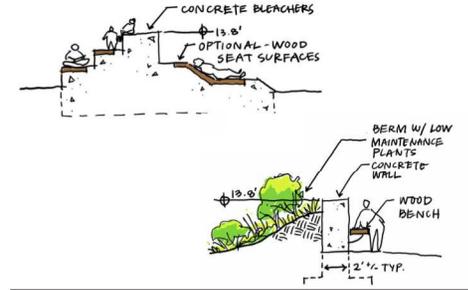
Please put stickers here:  Worth consideration!  
 I don't think so ...



### BEACH SEATING WITH WOODEN SURFACE

Seating and shaded areas to rest can be built into the shoreline protection measures and become an asset to the parks or beaches.

Please put stickers here:  Worth consideration!  
 I don't think so ...



### TWO-SIDED BEACH SEATING ON STRUCTURE

Two-sided resting seating can be built into the shoreline protection measures and provide multiple recreational spaces with limited room.

Please put stickers here:  Worth consideration!  
 I don't think so ...



### PLAY ON BARRIER

The edge made by sloped dunes and tall armor stone create an opportunity to incorporate in play activities without creating an entire playground.

Please put stickers here:  Worth consideration!  
 I don't think so ...



### NATURAL PLAY

The edge made by flat dunes and vegetation create an opportunity to incorporate natural play activities without creating an entire playground.

Please put stickers here:  Worth consideration!  
 I don't think so ...



### RETVEMENT WITH VEGETATION-FORMAL

Revetment edge can be vegetated, with access point to experience the water.

Please put stickers here:  Worth consideration!  
 I don't think so ...



### RETVEMENT WITH VEGETATION-NATURAL

Revetment edge can protect native vegetationsuch as native grass and flower.

Please put stickers here:  Worth consideration!  
 I don't think so ...

# YOU ARE AT STATION 3

This is your opportunity to tell the project team what you think about potential opportunities for improvements.

At this station there are a series of images showing different examples of possible improvements that could be considered at some of the project locations. The project team is interested in learning what you think about these different images and whether or not you think they might be worth considering for Evanston. Place **green dots** in the boxes if you think **there may be merit**, and **yellow dots** if you think they **wouldn't add to the experience at the lake**. (No wrong answers!)



**HEADLAND**

Short protruding structure that protects pocket beach from direct wave attack.

Please put stickers here:  Worth consideration!  
 I don't think so ...



**OFFSHORE REEF**

Offshore structure that protects beach from direct wave attack.

Please put stickers here:  Worth consideration!  
 I don't think so ...



**TERRACED SEATWALL**

Robust shore protection facilities adjacent to the beach, which offers protection from storm damage, resting area, as well as proximity to the water's edge.

Please put stickers here:  Worth consideration!  
 I don't think so ...



**TERRACED SEAWALL**

Some communities have utilized larger, more robust shore protection facilities (e.g. around the Shedd Aquarium in Chicago), which offer protection from storm damage as well as proximity to the water's edge.

Please put stickers here:  Worth consideration!  
 I don't think so ...



**TERRACED BOARDWALK WITH SHADES**

Terraced boardwalk with canopies for shades and other amenities creates opportunities to enhance waterfront recreational experiences.

Please put stickers here:  Worth consideration!  
 I don't think so ...



**MIXED-USE BOARDWALK WITH TERRACE**

Additional local points of entry to the beach area with a boardwalk will increase accessibility to the waterfront. This will be especially important if barriers become taller to protect the shoreline.

Please put stickers here:  Worth consideration!  
 I don't think so ...



**OVERLOOK PIER WITH TERRACE**

A structure protruding into the water can offer different views along the shoreline without the need for steps.

Please put stickers here:  Worth consideration!  
 I don't think so ...



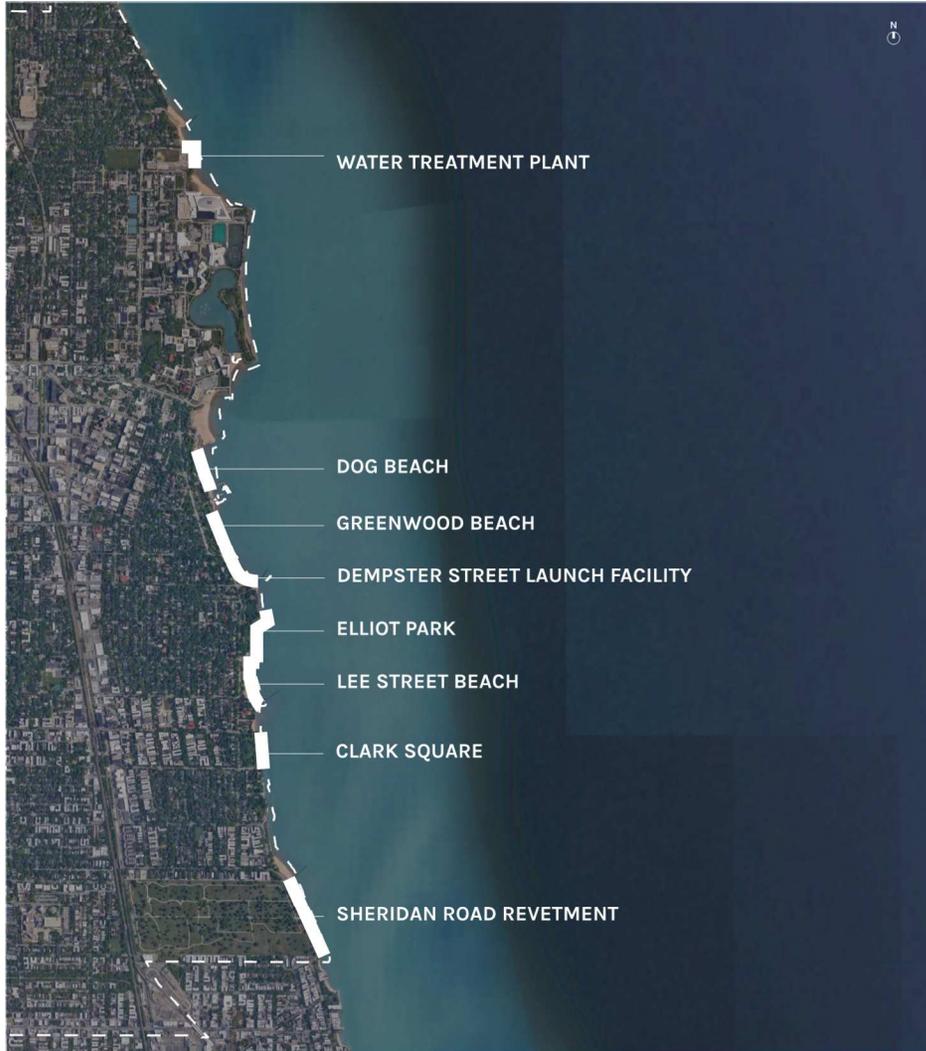
**BOARDWALK**

This element invites people who aren't comfortable swimming to experience being on the water. The materials used would need to be able to handle the freeze/thaw cycle of the Midwest and Lake Michigan storms.

Please put stickers here:  Worth consideration!  
 I don't think so ...

# YOU ARE AT STATION 4

This is your chance to tell us how you would like to use these the specific project sites



# YOU ARE AT STATION 4

This is your chance to tell us how you would like to use these the specific project sites

How you would like to use this the specific project site?  
(Please use a pink sticky note)



WHAT DO YOU THINK?

How you would like to use this the specific project site?  
(Please use pink a sticky note)



WHAT DO YOU THINK?

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WHAT DO YOU THINK?

# YOU ARE AT STATION 4

This is your chance to tell us how you would like to use these the specific project sites



How you would like to use this the specific project site?  
(Please use a pink sticky note)



WHAT DO YOU THINK?



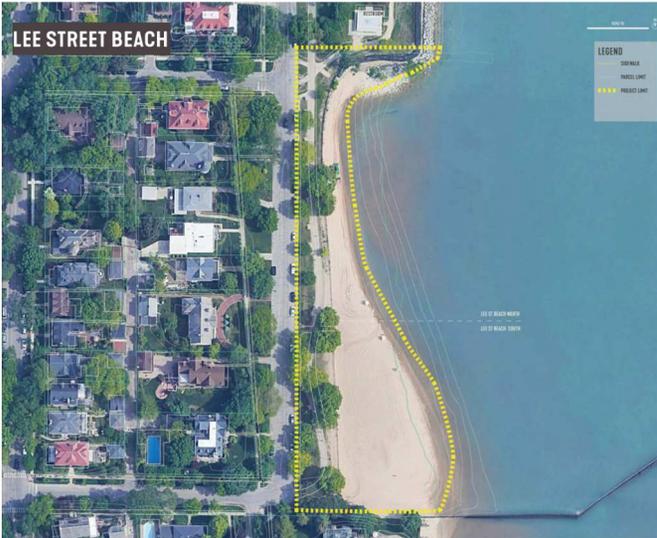
How you would like to use this the specific project site?  
(Please use a pink sticky note)



WHAT DO YOU THINK?



How you would like to use this the specific project site?  
(Please use a pink sticky note)



WHAT DO YOU THINK?



How you would like to use this the specific project site?  
(Please use a pink sticky note)



WHAT DO YOU THINK?