

EAST SIDE RIVER DISTRICT 2023 CONVENING

December 14, 2023

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AGENDA:

9:30 - 11:00am: 10-minute updates from each presenter + brief question period

11:00 - 11:30am: Networking and Discussion

GOAL OF THE CONVENING:

To share updates, discuss implementation strategy, challenges and opportunities,
all to be aware of and support one another's work and identify potential partnerships

2023 PRESENTERS:

Army Corps of Engineers

City of Saint Paul

Great River Passage Conservancy

MPCA Pig's Eye Task Force

Pig's Eye Park Friends

University of Minnesota

Urban Roots

Wakan Tipi Awanyankapi

EAST SIDE RIVER DISTRICT

PROJECTS + PRESENTERS

14 December 2023

Great River Passage Conservancy

Army Corps of Engineers

City of Saint Paul

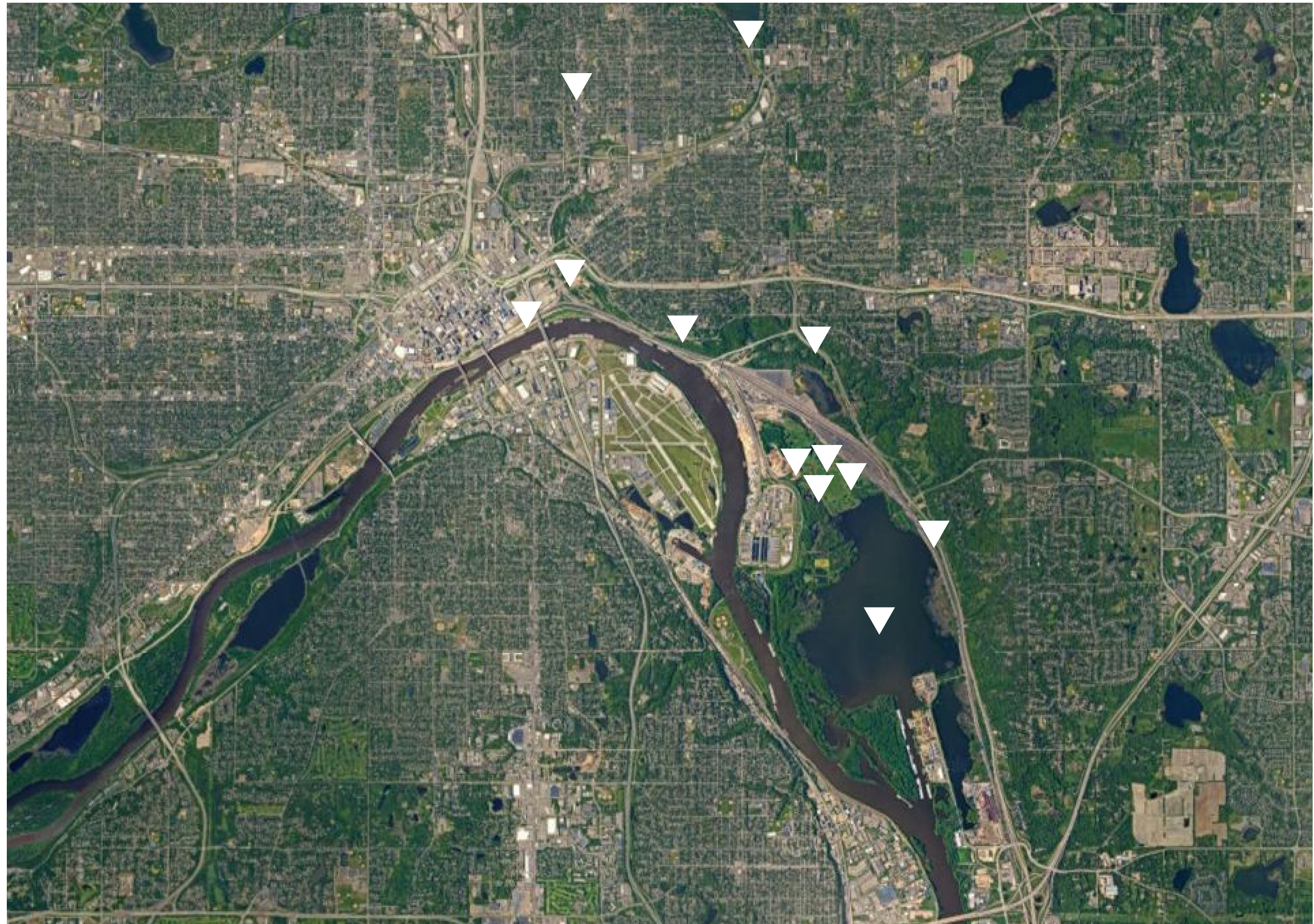
MPCA Pig's Eye Task Force

Pig's Eye Park Friends

Urban Roots

Wakan Tipi Awanyankapi

University of Minnesota -
School of Architecture



EAST SIDE RIVER DISTRICT

PROJECTS + PRESENTERS

14 December 2023

Great River Passage Conservancy

Katie Nyberg

Executive Director

Army Corps of Engineers

City of Saint Paul

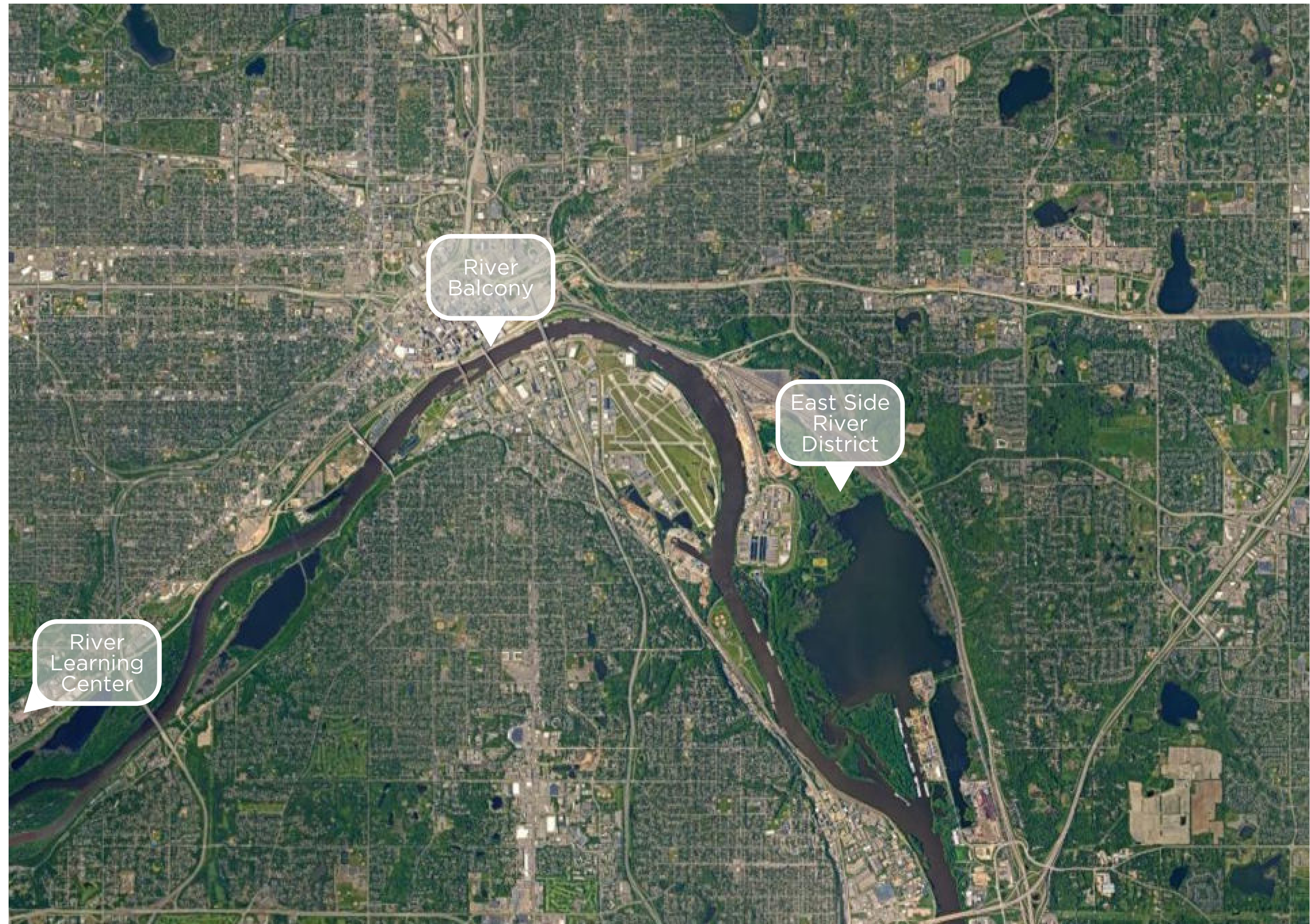
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GREAT RIVER PASSAGE CONSERVANCY



ABOUT GREAT RIVER PASSAGE CONSERVANCY

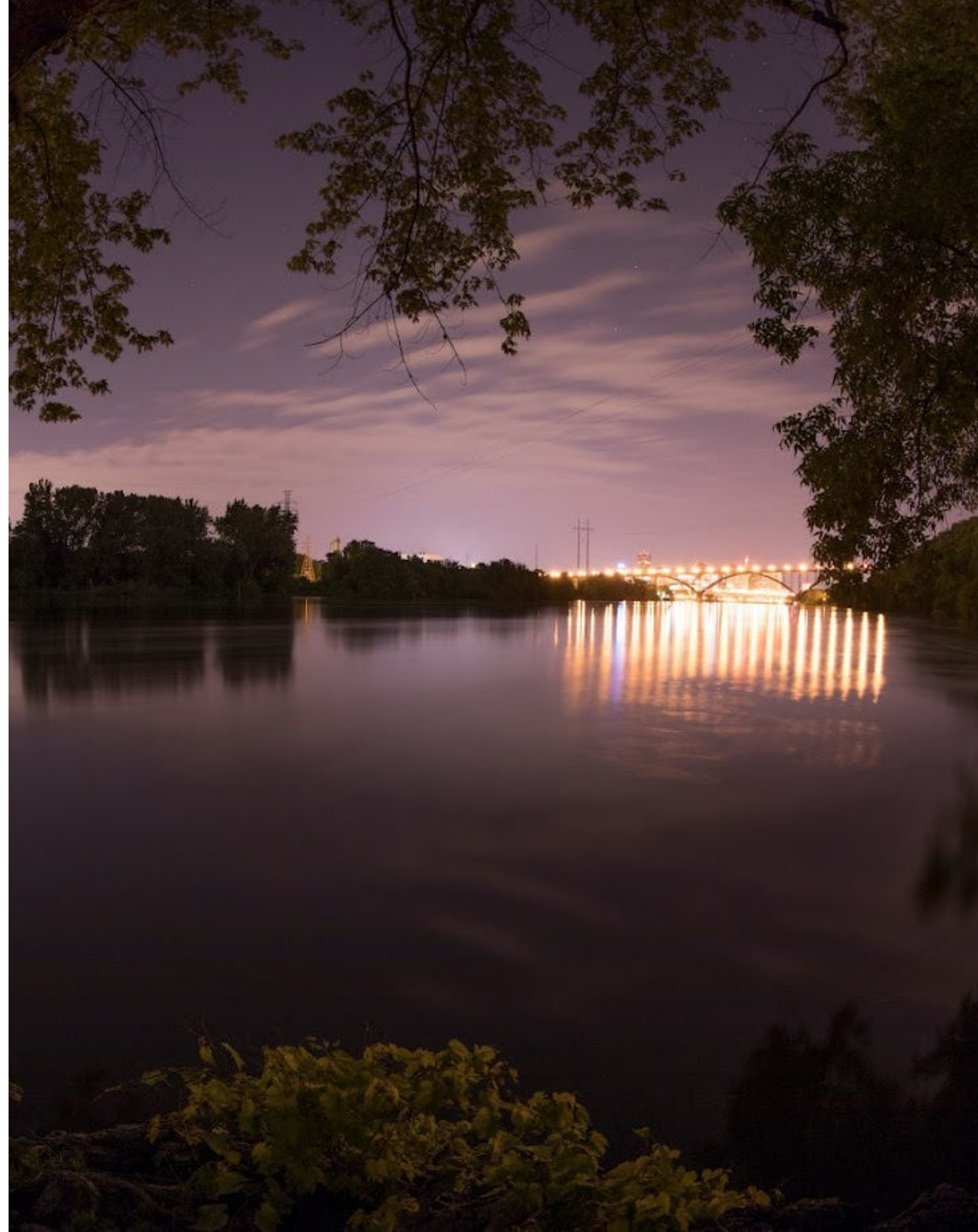
- Philanthropic partner of the City of Saint Paul's Great River Passage, a master plan for the city's 17 miles of Riverfront
- Established in 2018
- Focus areas of work include the development of the River Learning Center, River Balcony, and East Side River District



MISSION, VISION AND VALUES

We envision a Saint Paul that is The River Capital, where we bring the river back to the center of our public life and live not just by—but with—the river. Our work will:

- Build greater awareness of and access to the river for a larger, more diverse community
- Create shared experiences that bring people together to enjoy the river landscape
- Promote a culture of care and respect for the environment
- Improve community health and well-being by creating places that are beautiful, safe, welcoming, and accessible to all
- Spark economic development and contribute to the commercial and economic vitality of the river



OUR PROJECTS



EAST SIDE RIVER DISTRICT

Goals for 2024:

- Focus on healing a compromised landscape
- Convene organizations to advocate for best environmental solution for dumpsite (tribes, east side groups)
- Support partners who are working to improve habitat and access

Action Items:

- Convenings
- BioBlitz?
- Work with natural resource professionals to explore small scale demonstrations of a restored landscape (e.g. a 1 acre prairie)
- Fulfill existing grants for community engagement / partnership with East Side groups



CONTACT US

GREAT RIVER PASSAGE CONSERVANCY

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greatriverpassage.org



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Executive Director

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Laura Bray

Communications and Development Manager

laura@greatriverpassage.org



EAST SIDE RIVER DISTRICT

PROJECTS + PRESENTERS

14 December 2023

Great River Passage Conservancy

Army Corps of Engineers

John Henderson

Civil Engineer/Project Manager

City of Saint Paul

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Pigs Eye Lake Islands



Background

Feasibility Study initiated in 2015 by Ramsey County and USACE to identify project scope, objectives, coordination, stakeholders and feasibility study process.

- Determined island building was the most beneficial method for achieving overall project objectives.

Dredge material to be used for Islands

- Utilizing USACE Continuing Authorities Program Section 204 “Beneficial Use of Dredge Material”
- Material sourced from Mississippi River Pool 2 (Upper/Lower Boulanger and Pine Bend).
- Testing was completed per Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA).

Feasibility study was prepared in accordance with Minnesota Environmental Protection Agency (MEPA) and the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA).

- Extensive coordination between local, state, and federal agencies.
- Additional coordination efforts with local advisory groups/organizations.
- A 30-day public review for both the State and Federal.
- Environmental Assessment Worksheet (EAW) Record of Decision in April 2018.
- FONSI for NEPA in September 2018

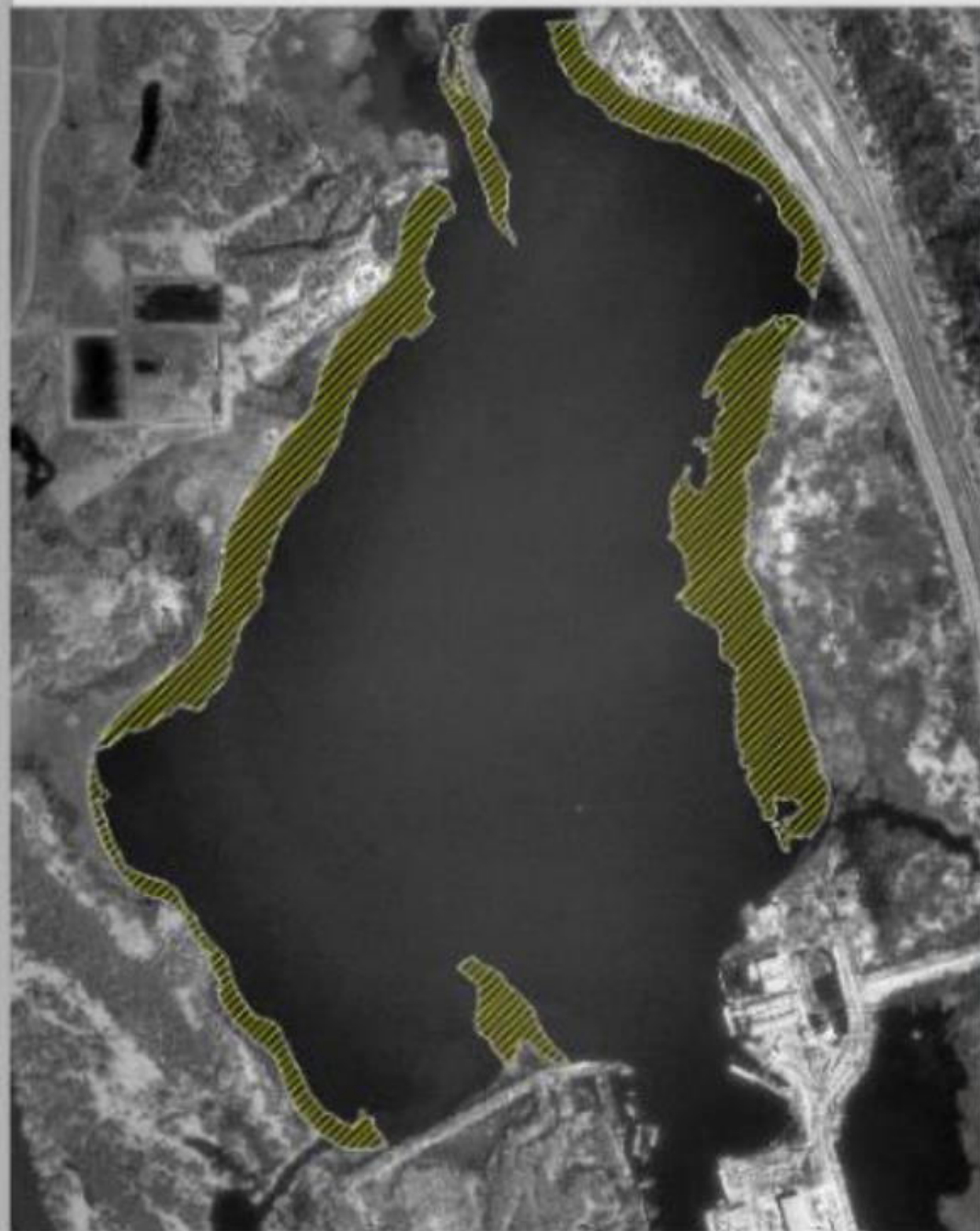
Project Objectives

- Improve Aquatic Habitat**
- Improve the quantity and quality of habitat for migratory bird species**
- Maintain or enhance the quantity of shoreline habitat**

1951

1991



2015



Shoreline Vegetation Boundary Comparison: 1951-2015

Pigs Eye Lake Section 204
Beneficial Use of Dredged Material



-  Shoreline difference 1991-2015 (18 acres)
-  Shoreline difference 1951-1991 (93 acres)

Design

2019 –2021

- 6 Islands –35.69 acres
- Protected wetlands –17.6 acres
 - Features include sand benches, marsh habitat and native plantings.
- 3 islands will utilize a “split” design.
- Upland areas of islands would be planted with a resilient mix of native vegetation.
- Utilization of dredged material for Cost-Share

Construction

2022 –2024

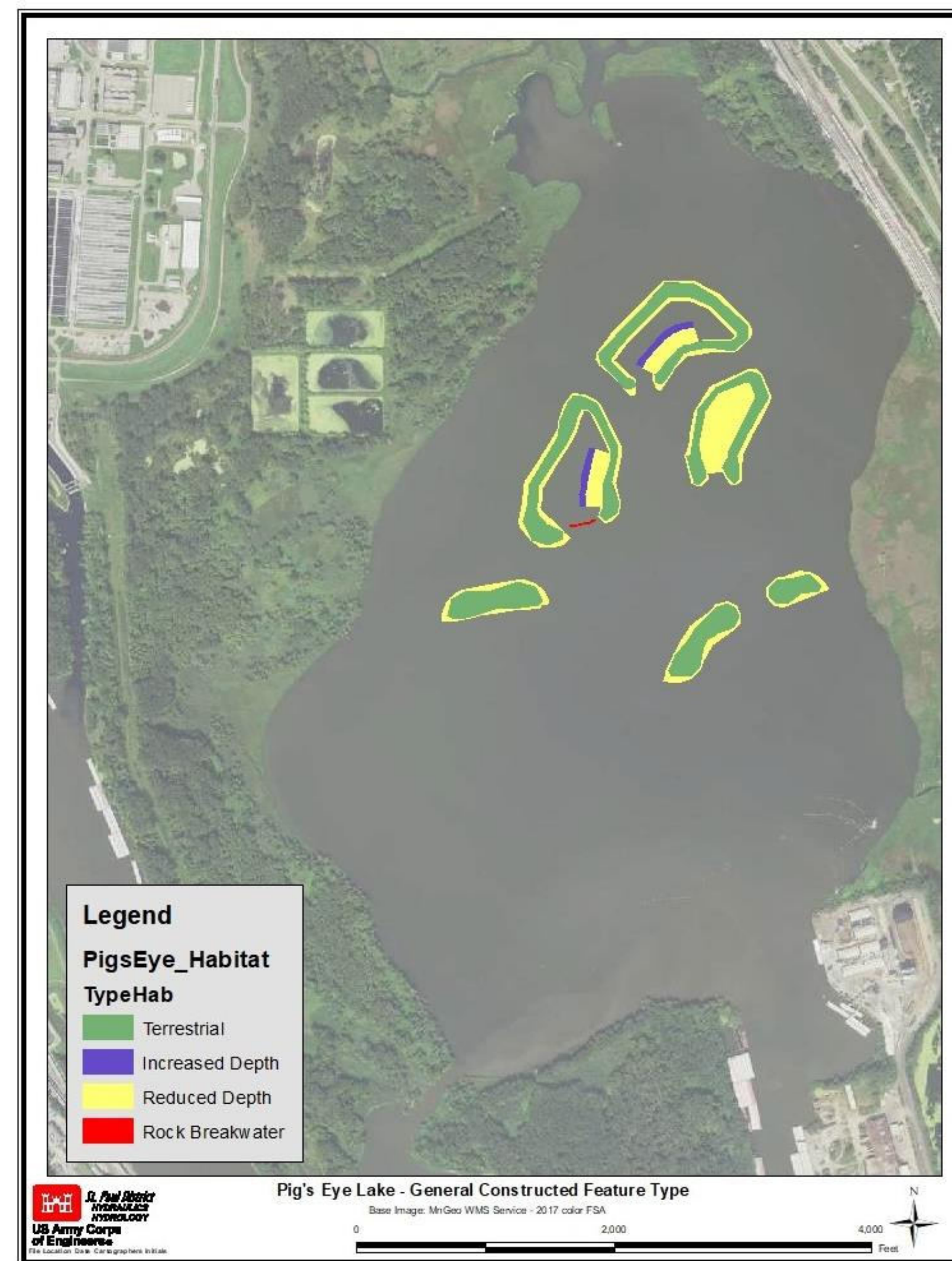
2022 –Granular Placement for Island bases

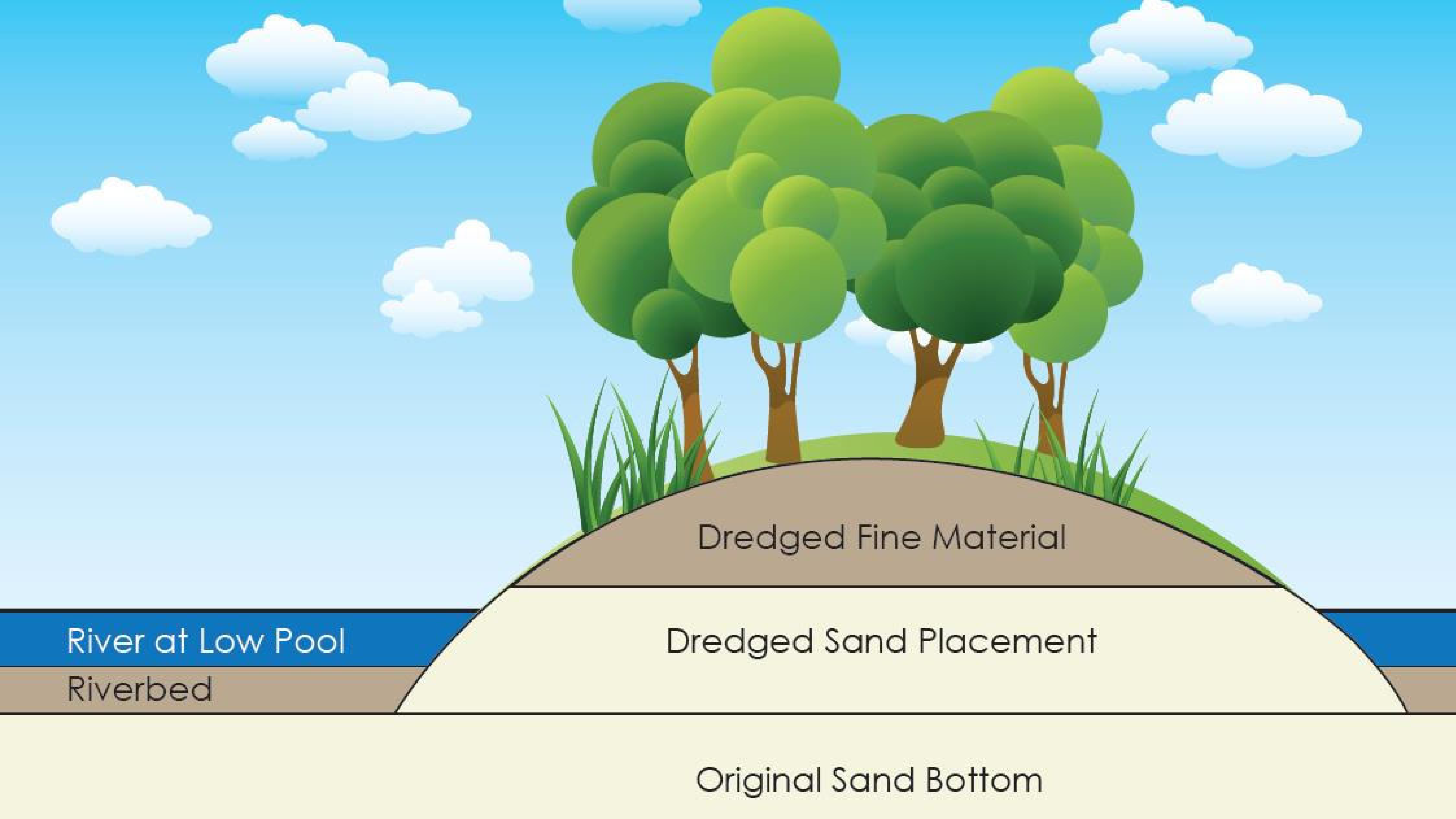
2023 –Cont. Granular, Install Rock Protection, Begin Topsoil

2024 –Complete Topsoil, Install Native Turf and Plantings

Post Construction (Monitoring)

2025 –2035





Dredged Fine Material

Dredged Sand Placement

Original Sand Bottom

River at Low Pool

Riverbed

Construction in Progress

Contractor:

LS Marine, Inc.
(with J.F. Brennan Company Inc.)

Total Construction Value:

\$16 Million

Current Status:

60% Construction Complete

Total Amount of River Sand

Beneficially Used:

481,000 CY

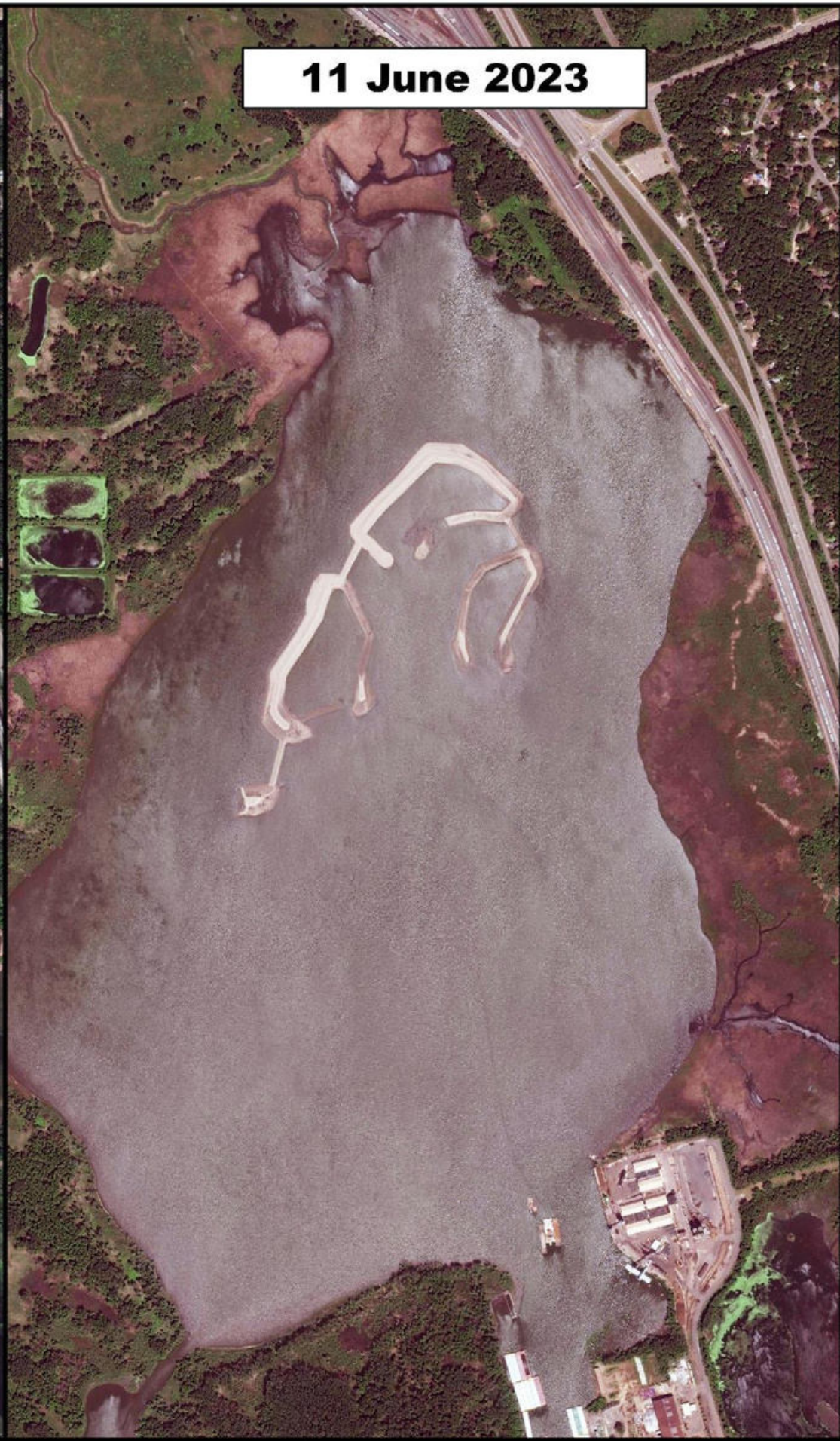
(167,000 CY deposited in Pool 2 annually)



27 June 2022

11 June 2023

24 November 2023



Pigs Eye Lake Islands Construction Progress June 2022 through November 2023





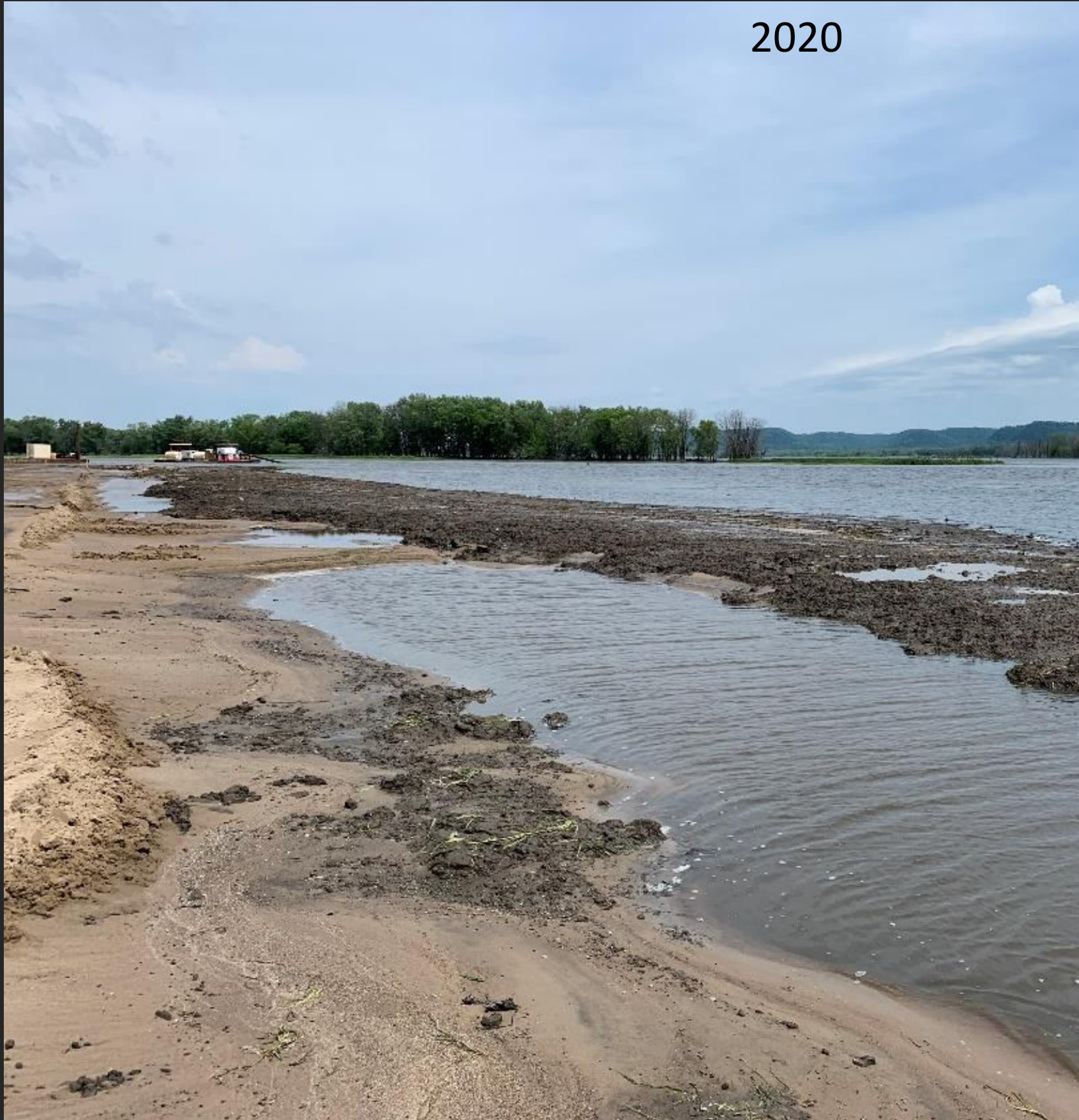
Photo Courtesy of JF Brennan

Wave Reduction



Vegetation Response on Past Projects

2020



2022





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*Brett Hussong & Alice Messer
Design & Construction*

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SAMUEL H. MORGAN REG TRAIL

SEGMENTS 1 & 4 RECONSTRUCTION

Project Manager
Bryan Murphy, Landscape Architect
bryan.murphy@ci.stpaul.mn.us
651-266-6411

Project Website:
<https://www.stpaul.gov/facilities/sam-morgan-regional-trail>

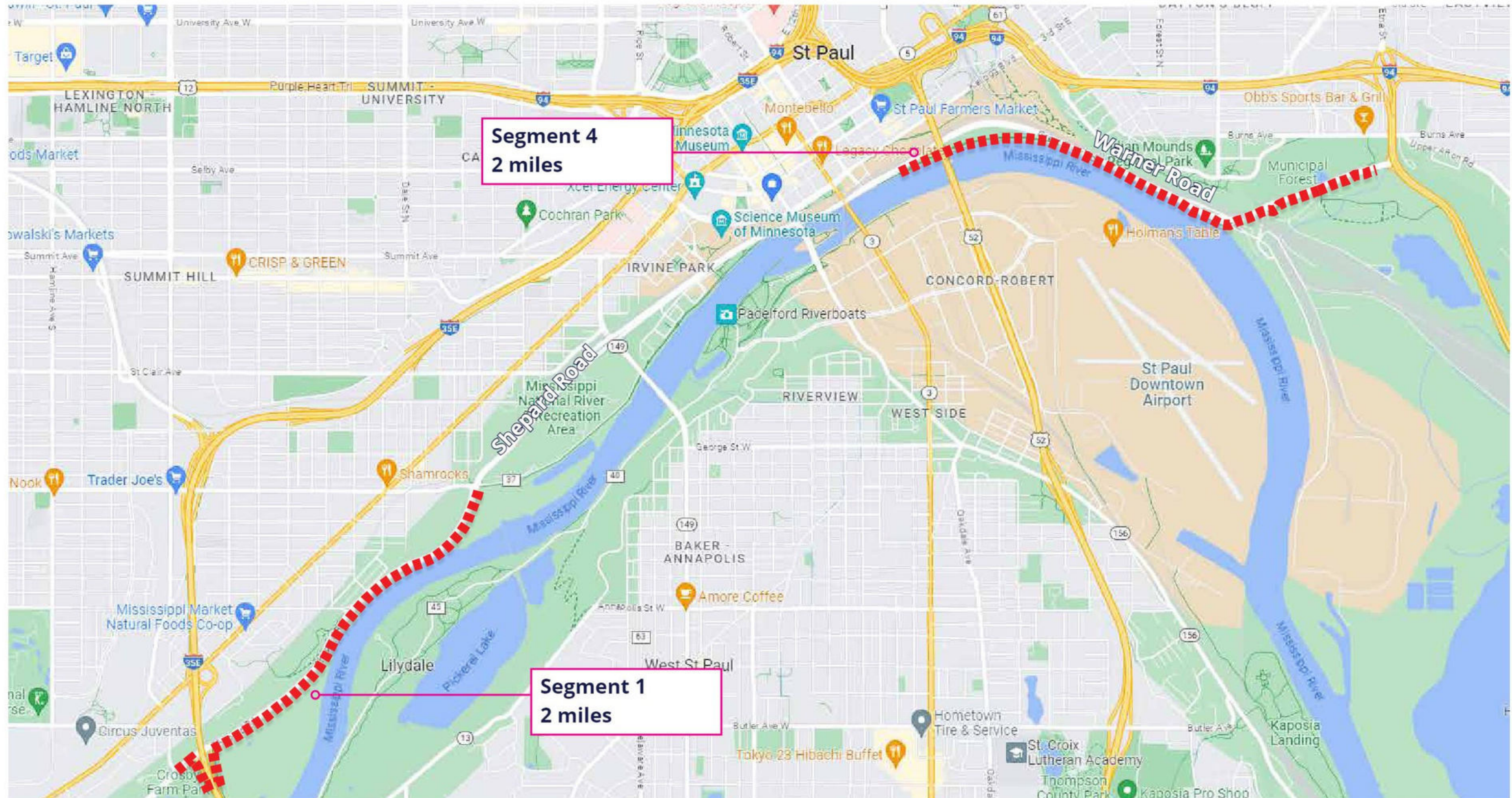


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MINNESOTA

PARKS AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT
DESIGN AND CONSTRUCTION DIVISION

SAM MORGAN REGIONAL TRAIL | 2023-2024

Trail Overview



Phase 1a - Lexington Pkwy to Otto Ave

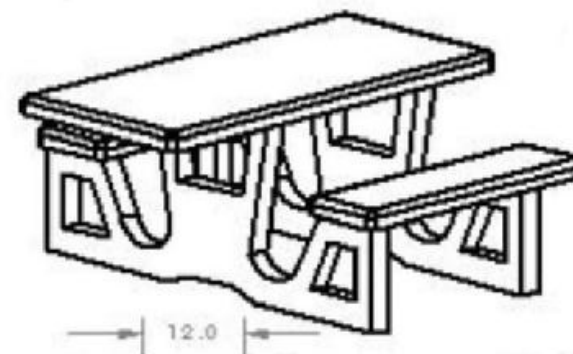
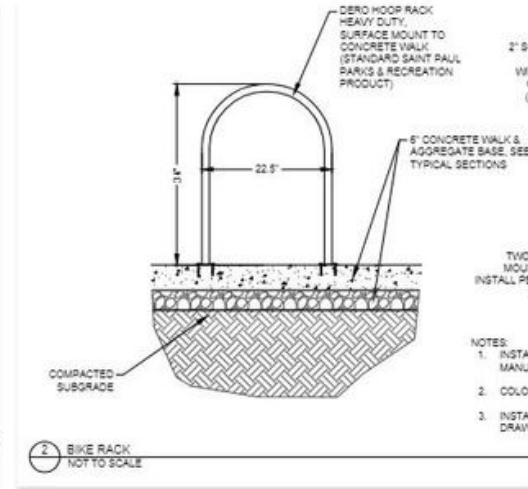
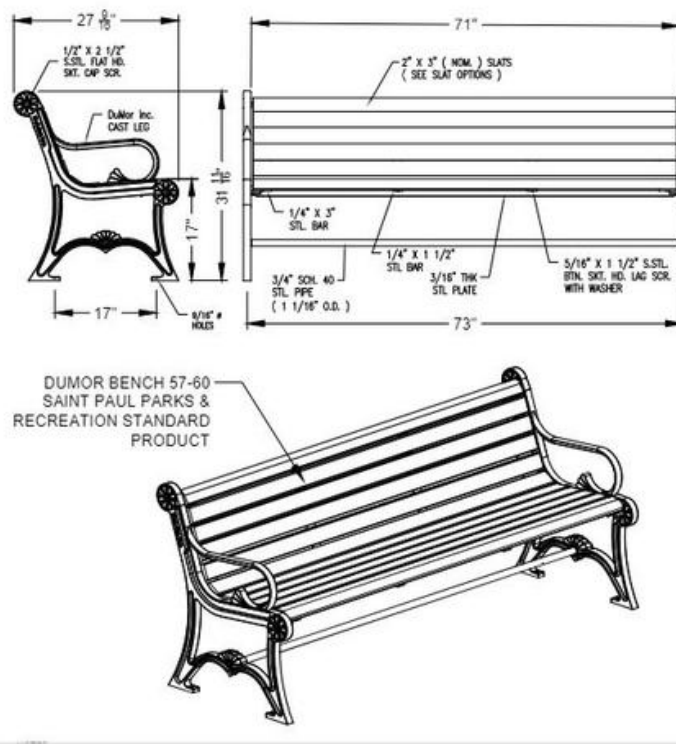
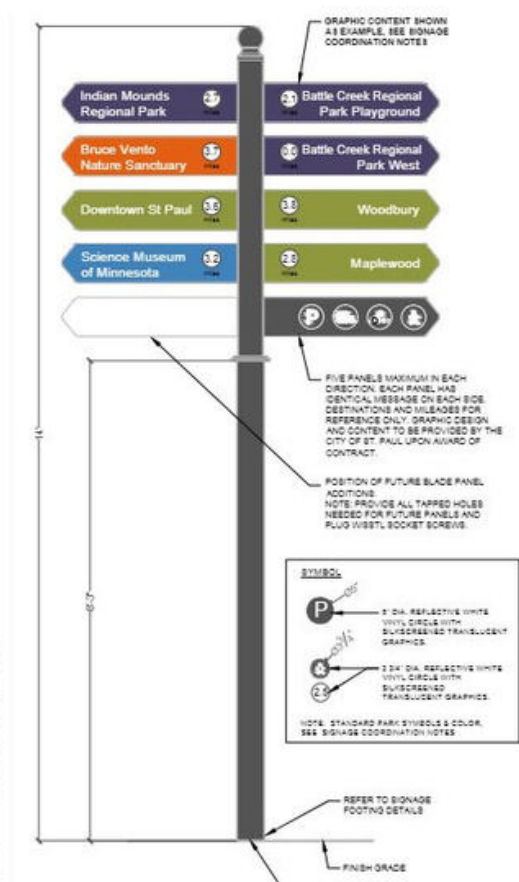
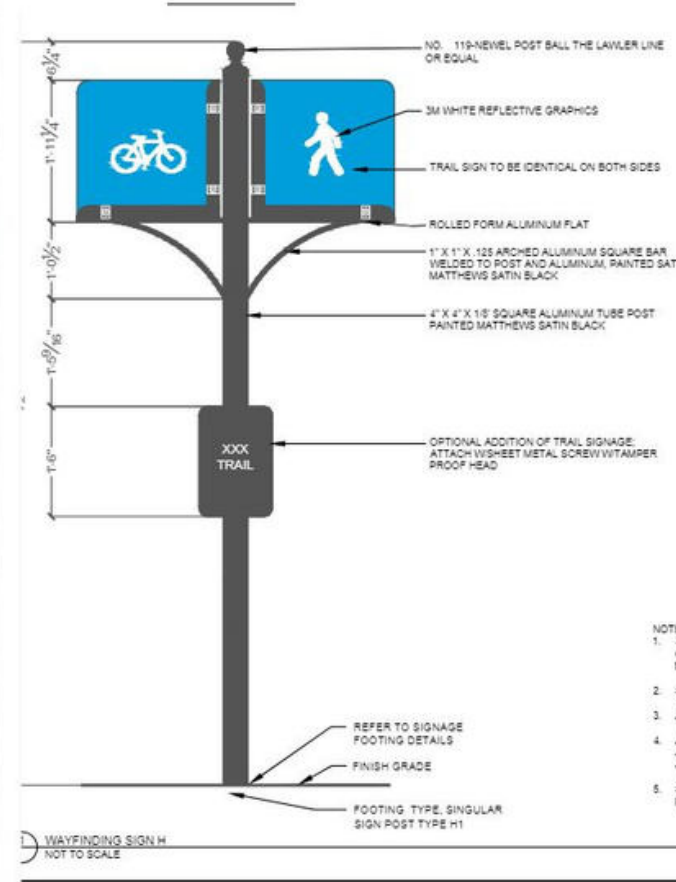
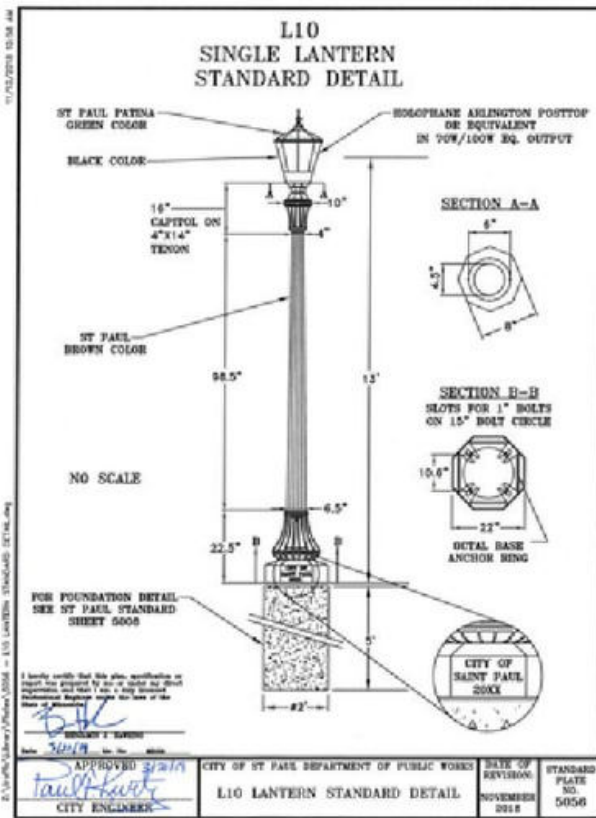


110+50 - 114+25

- Lighting added in tunnel
- Additional signage at exit of tunnel under 35E
- Large (although noncompliant) radii out of tunnel - remove additional pavement and replace with vegetation/trees



Trail Amenities



Amenities

Lighting

- Standard St. Paul Pathway lighting
- High Access Hand Hole to reduce likelihood of wire theft

Signage

- Trail signs
- Trail directional signs
- Interpretive signage

Benches

- Standard park bench with metal ends and recycled slats

Bike racks

- Hoop racks

Picnic Tables

- Standard Park concrete picnic table

Drinking Fountains

Landscaping



PROJECT START

WE ARE HERE

GRAND OPENING

INVENTORY AND ANALYSIS

DESIGN DEVELOPMENT
 30% PLANS 60% PLANS 90% PLANS 100% PLANS

CONSTRUCTION DOCUMENTS

REVIEWS/ APPROVALS

BIDDING/ CONTRACTING

CONSTRUCTION



Fish Hatchery Trail **RECONSTRUCTION**

Project Manager
Bryan Murphy, Landscape Architect
bryan.murphy@ci.stpaul.mn.us
651-266-6411

Project Website:
<https://www.stpaul.gov/departments/parks-and-recreation/design-construction/current-projects/fish-hatchery-trail>

Proposed Trail alignment



Existing grassed maintenance path

Trail is at a higher elevation
The elevated trail avoids periodic flooding
Avoids railroad property

Coordination with MNDOT

Slope Stability

Consultant investigated structural considerations where trail was undermined and provided a structural design for this section of trail.

During a review by MNDOT, it became evident the erosion and slope stability wasn't isolated to the area where the trail was undermined.

MNDOT identified funding for improvements to the entire section of 10/61 between Warner and Battle Creek, but wasn't able to implement until 2027.

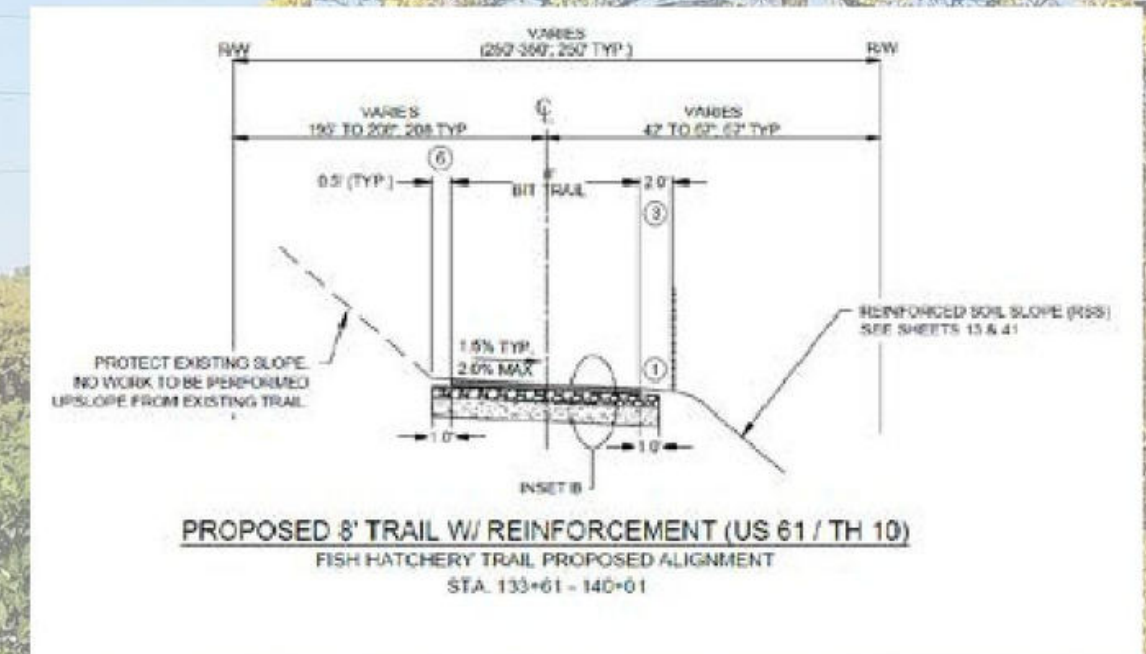
The City would have had to defer our federal funding for the trail until 2028 or later.

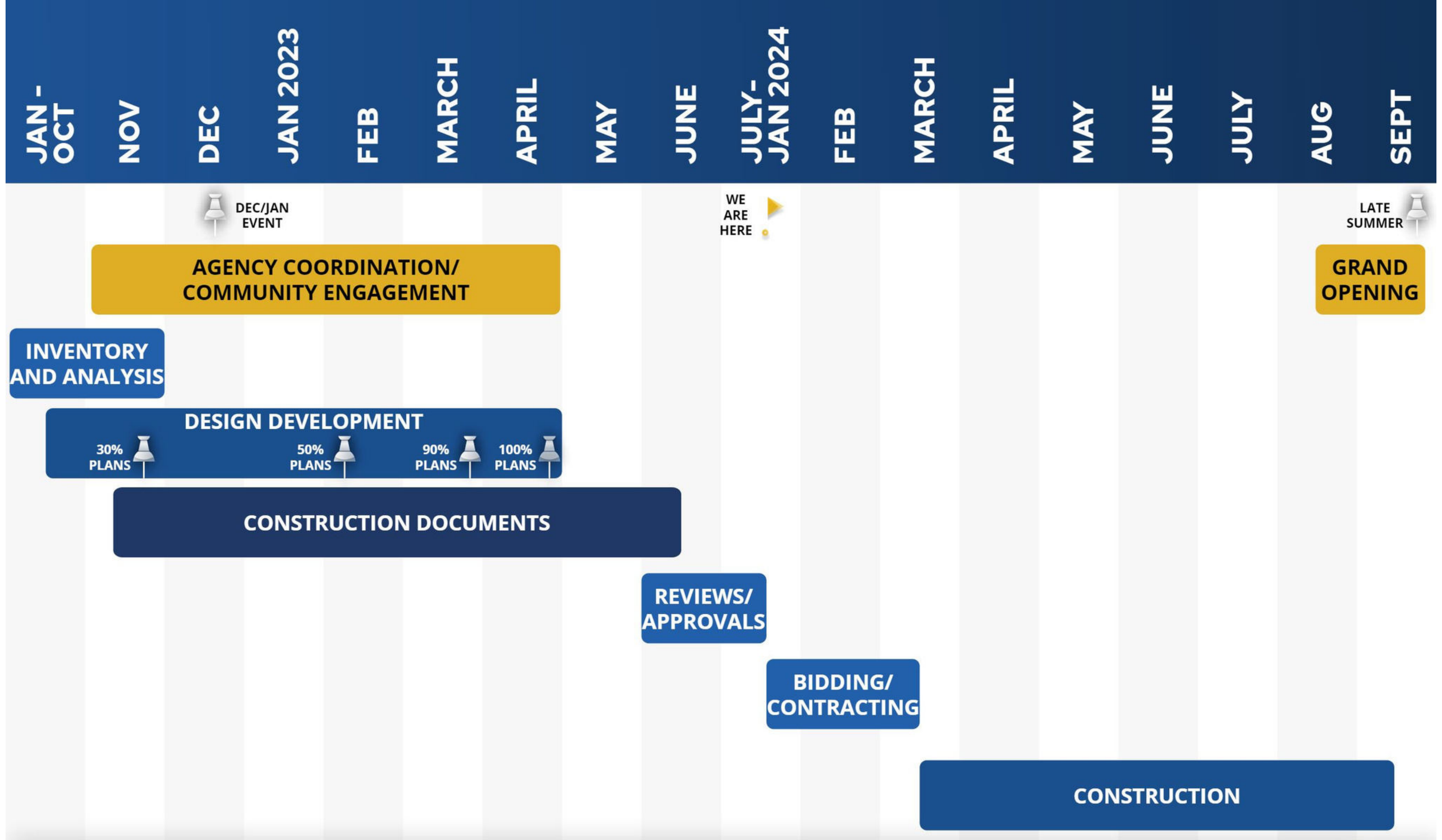
MNDOT recommended the City remove SLOPE STABILITY work from our project and would be done in 2027 as part of MNDOT's larger stability project.

The section of trail that was undermined will be constructed with reinforcement to ensure it won't be undermined again in the near future.

The trail will be closed again in 2027 when MNDOT does their work, but the improvements will be done at no cost to the City.

The City will remain in contact with MNDOT through their design work and relay to the community.







POINT DOUGLAS REGIONAL TRAIL **RECONSTRUCTION**

Project Manager
Brett Hussong, Landscape Architect
brett.hussong@ci.stpaul.mn.us
651-266-6420

Project Website
www.stpaul.gov/PointDouglasTrail



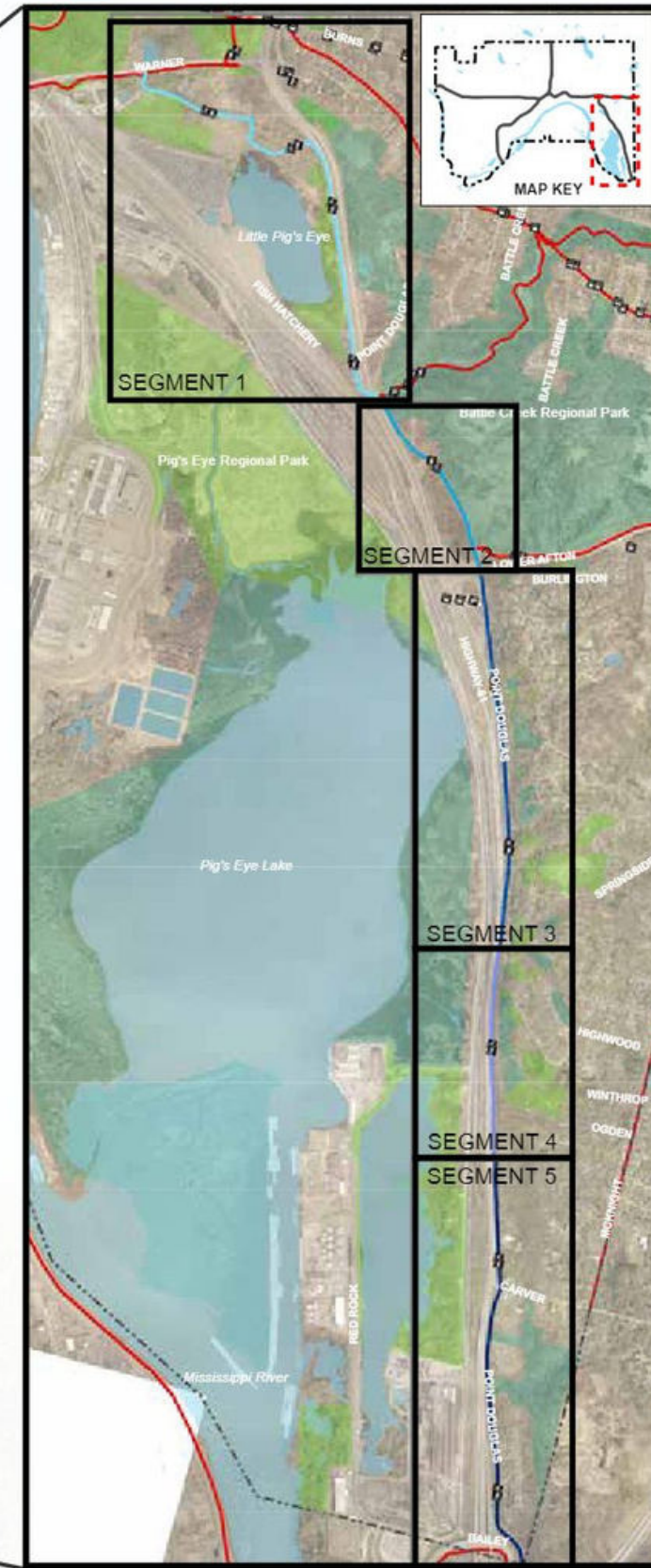
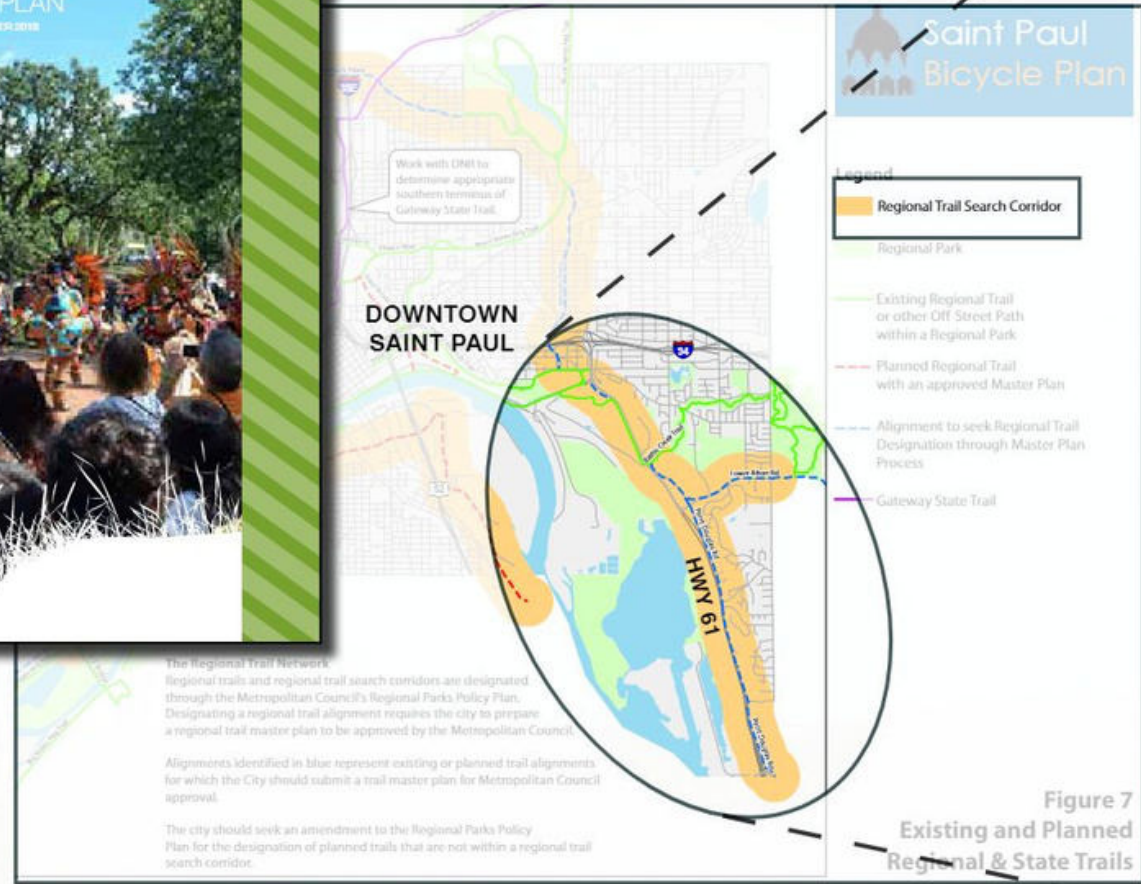
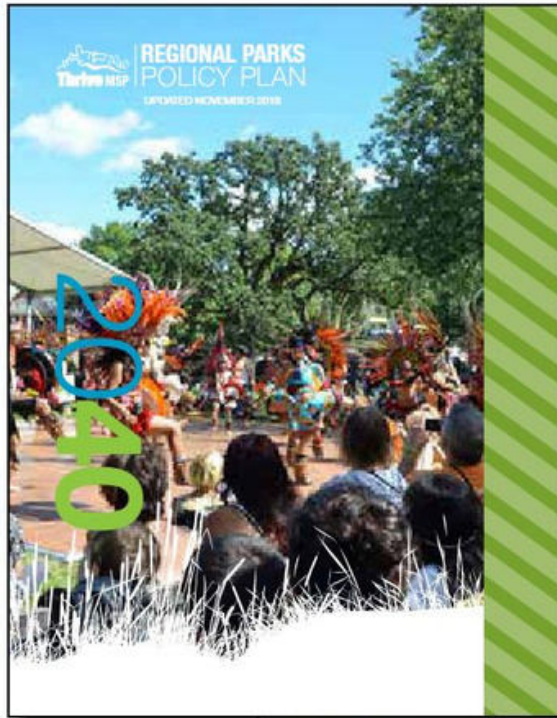
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PARKS AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT
DESIGN AND CONSTRUCTION DIVISION

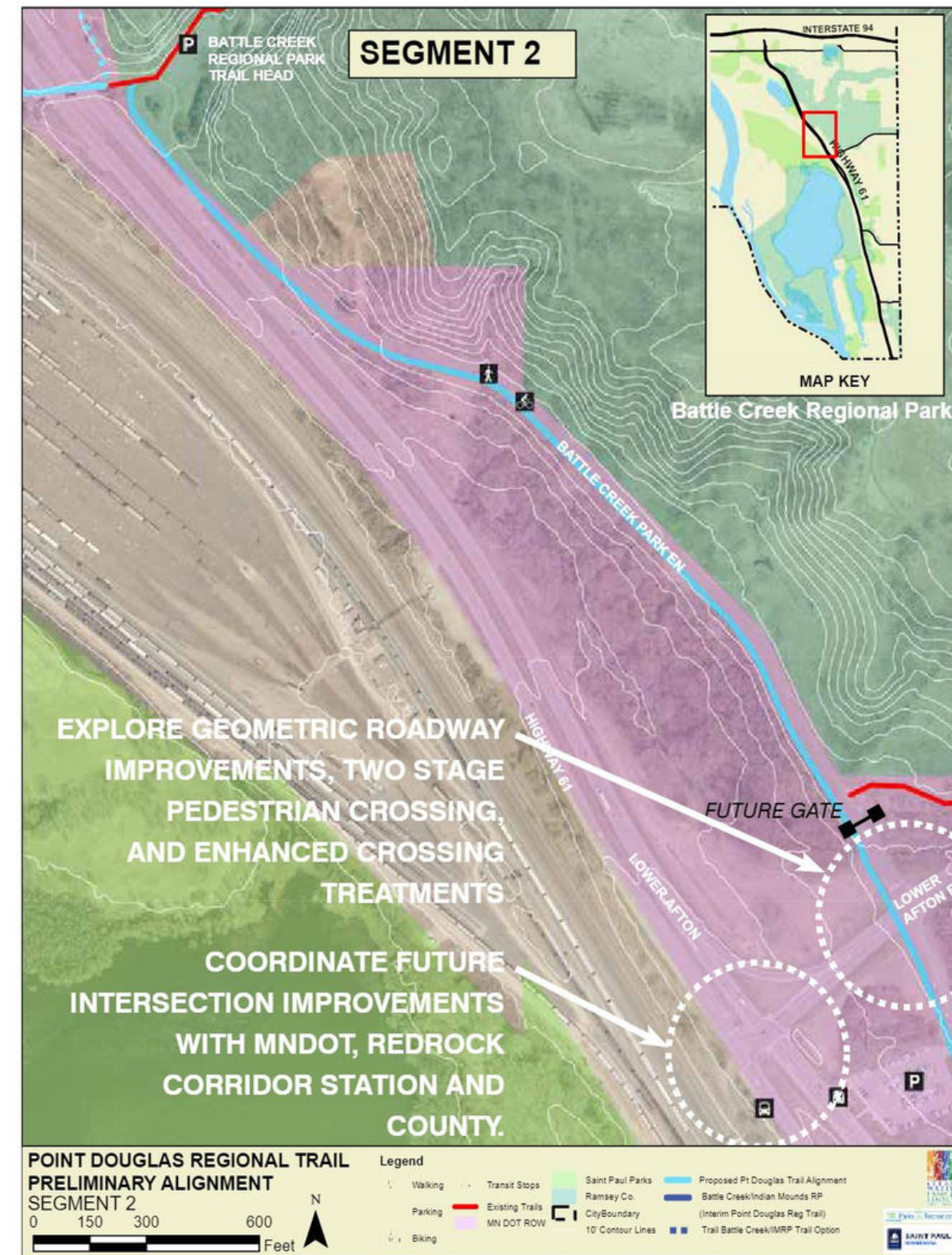
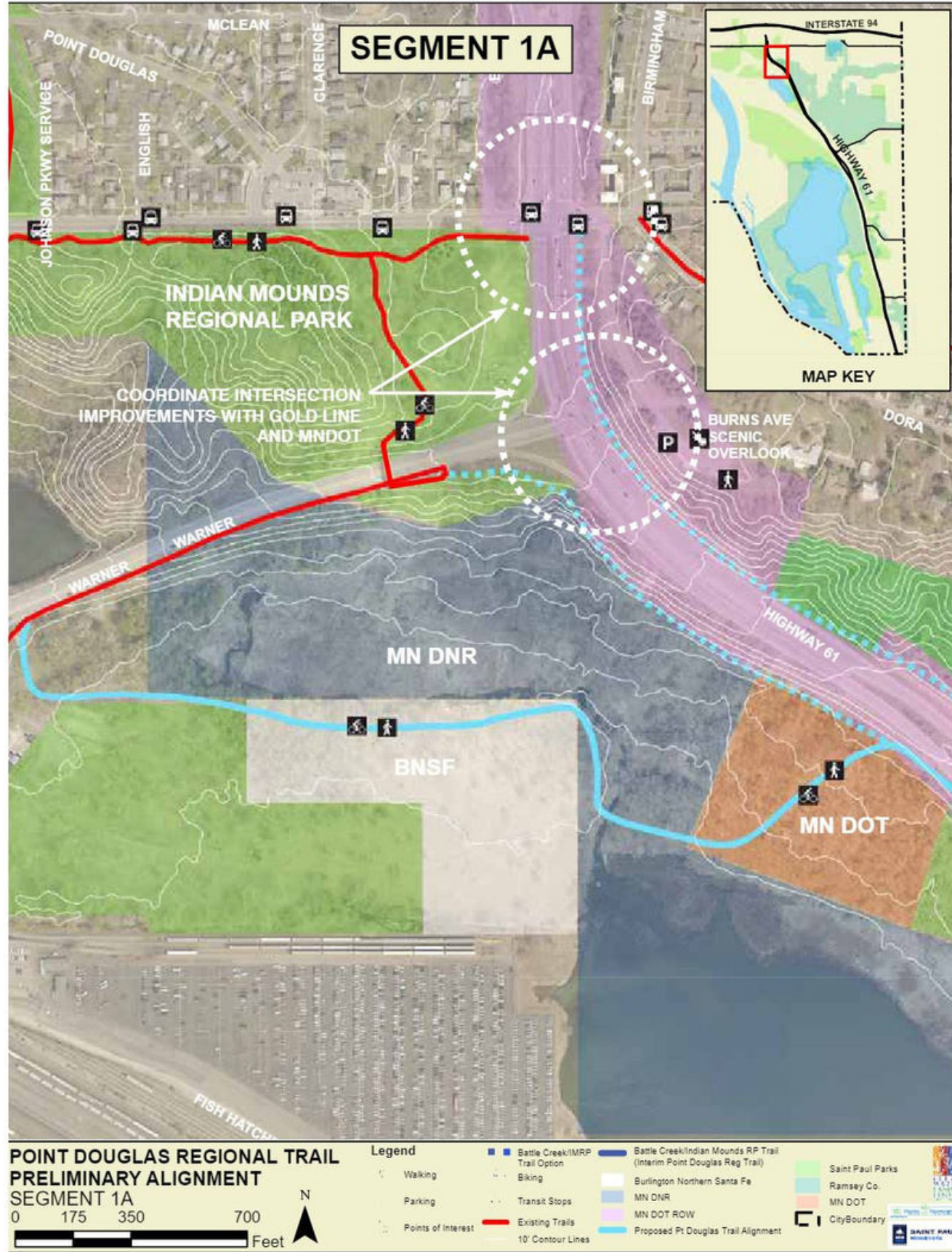
POINT DOUGLAS REGIONAL TRAIL | 2023-2024

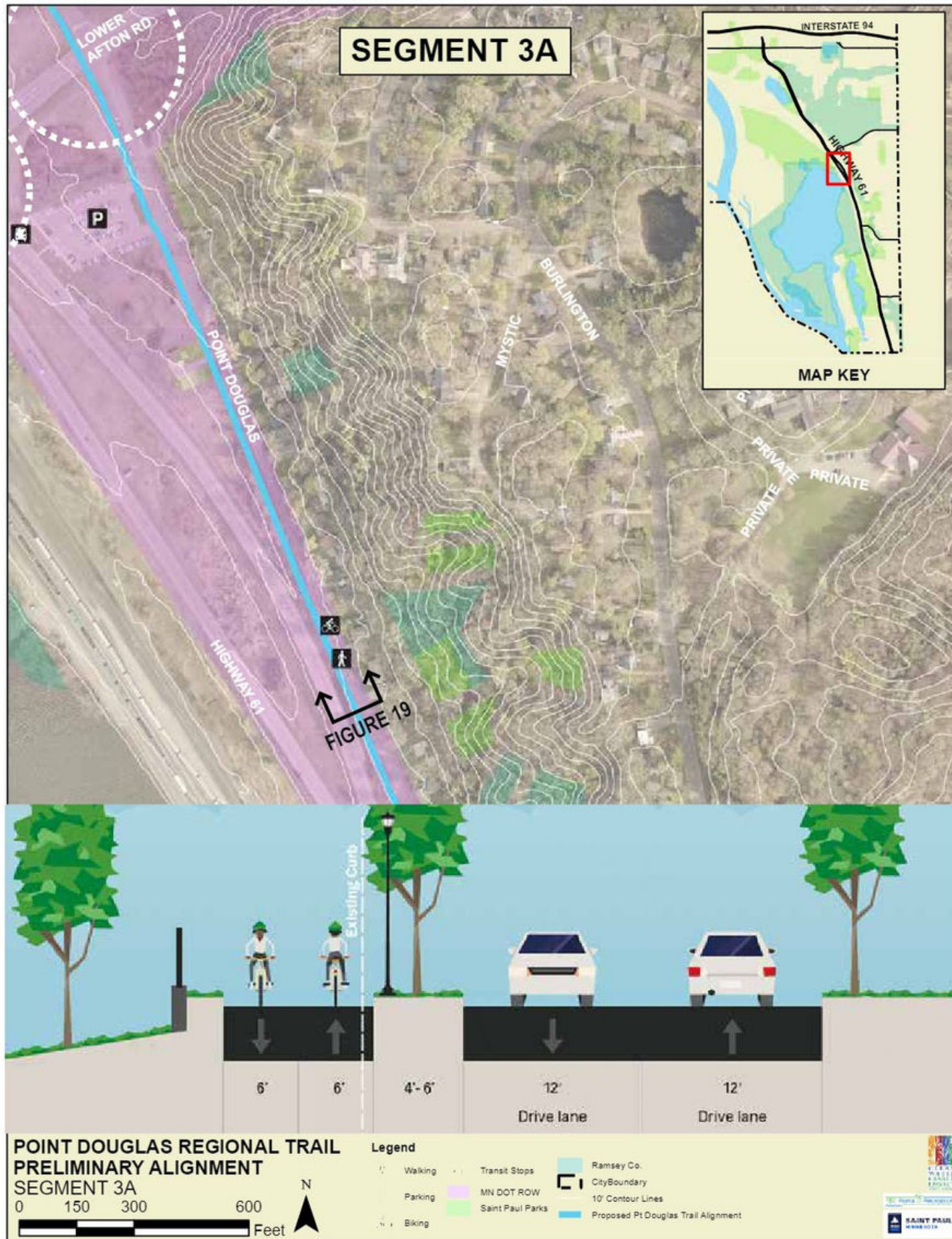
PROJECT SCOPE

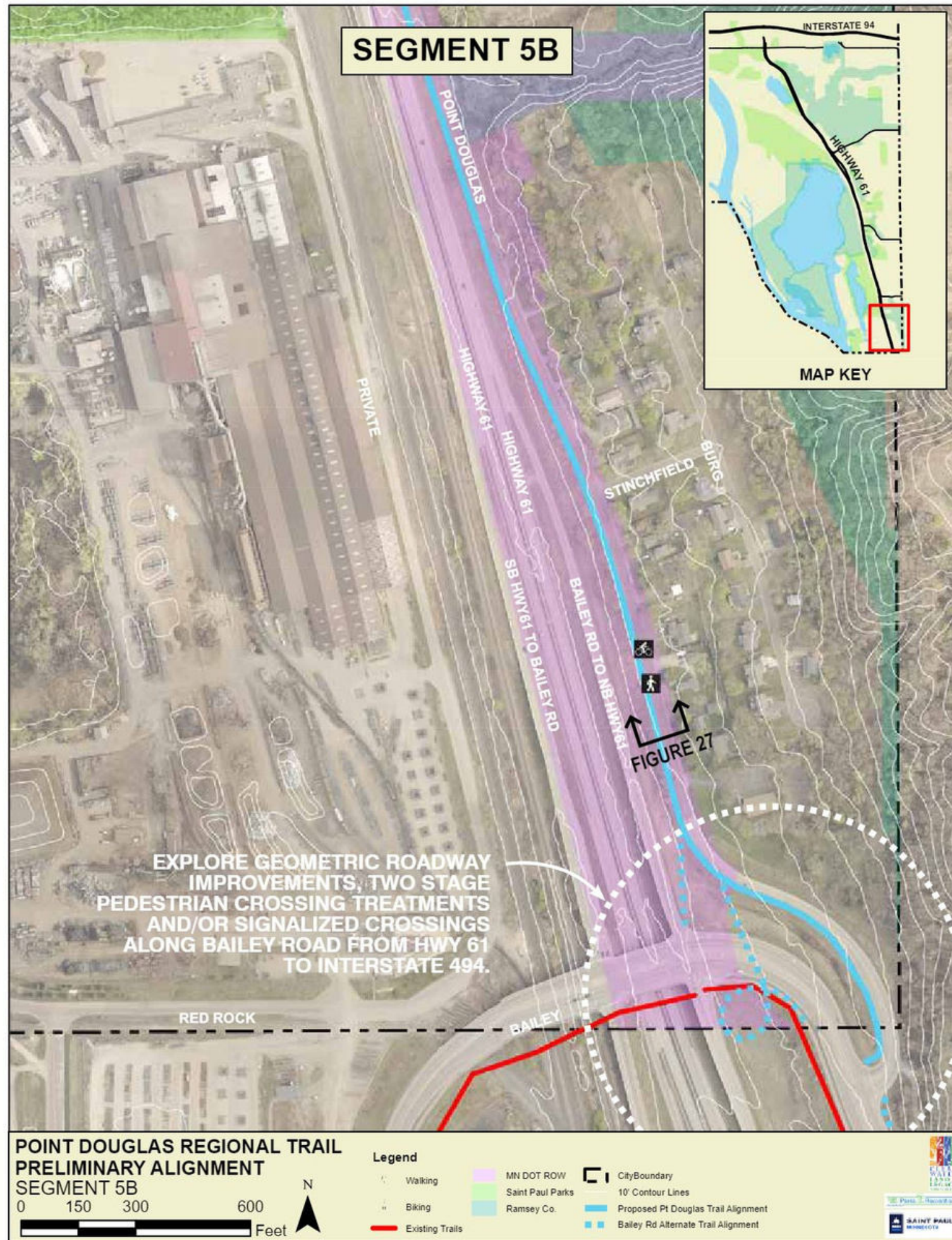
- Engage the community
- Plan a continuous off-street trail connection between Saint Paul and Washington County along Point Douglas Road
- Increase safety, accessibility, awareness & connectivity
- Complete committee, city and Met Council approvals to seek future design and implementation funding



MASTER PLAN DRAFT CORRIDOR





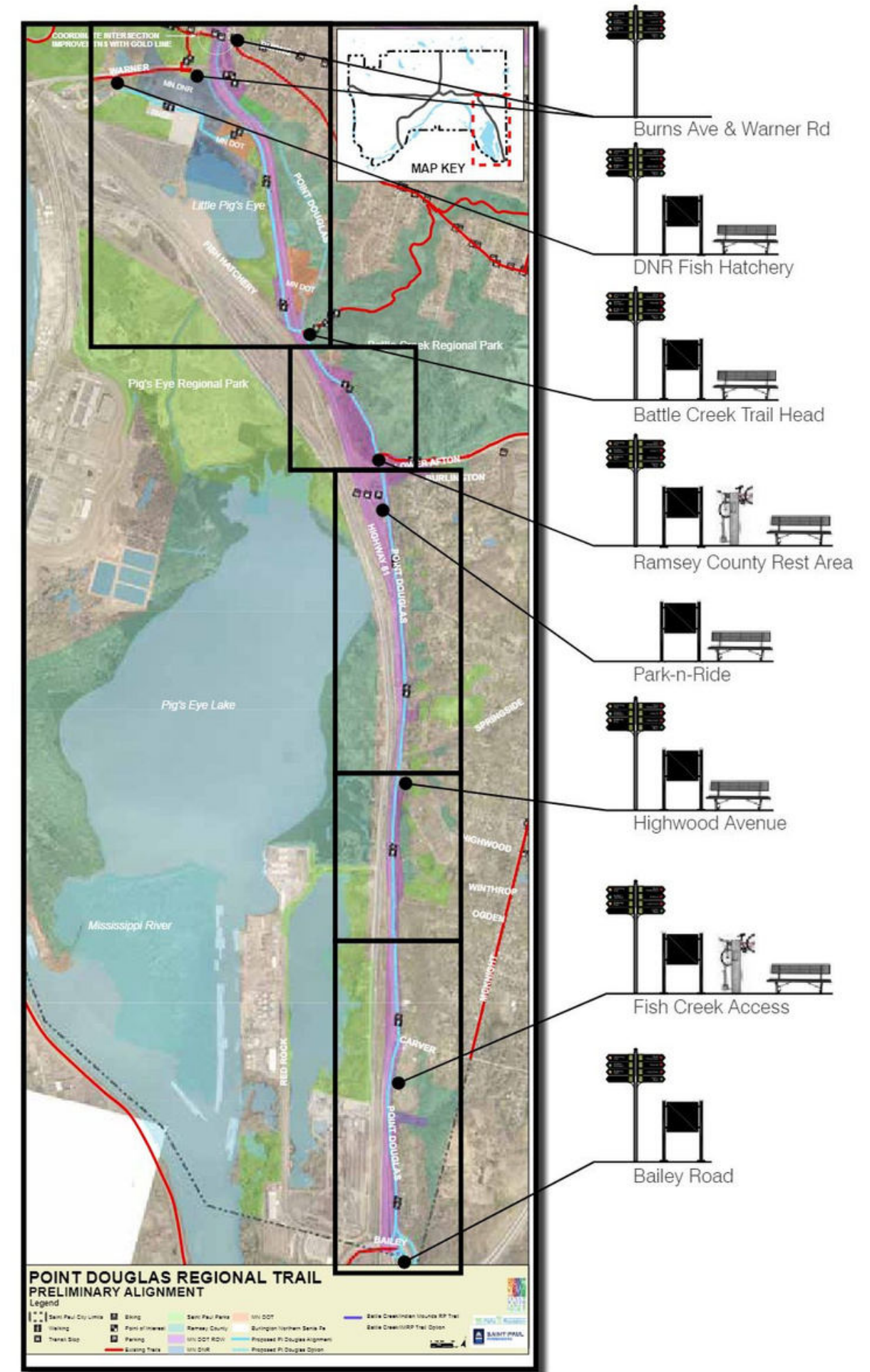
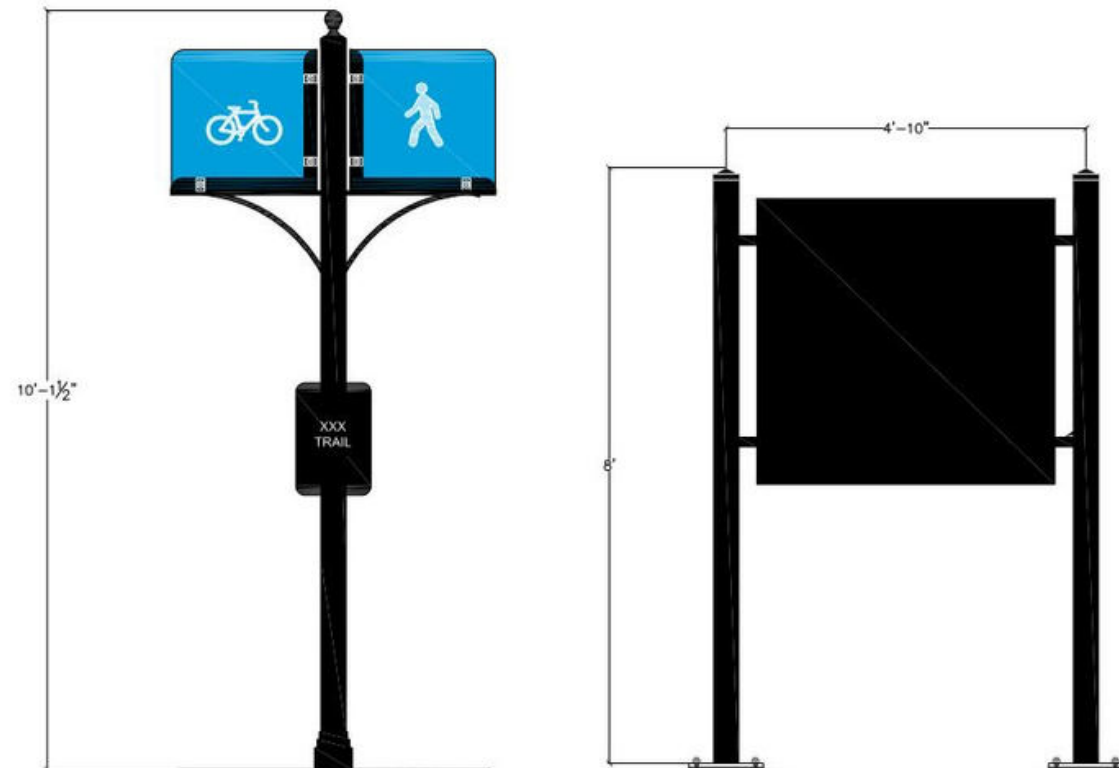
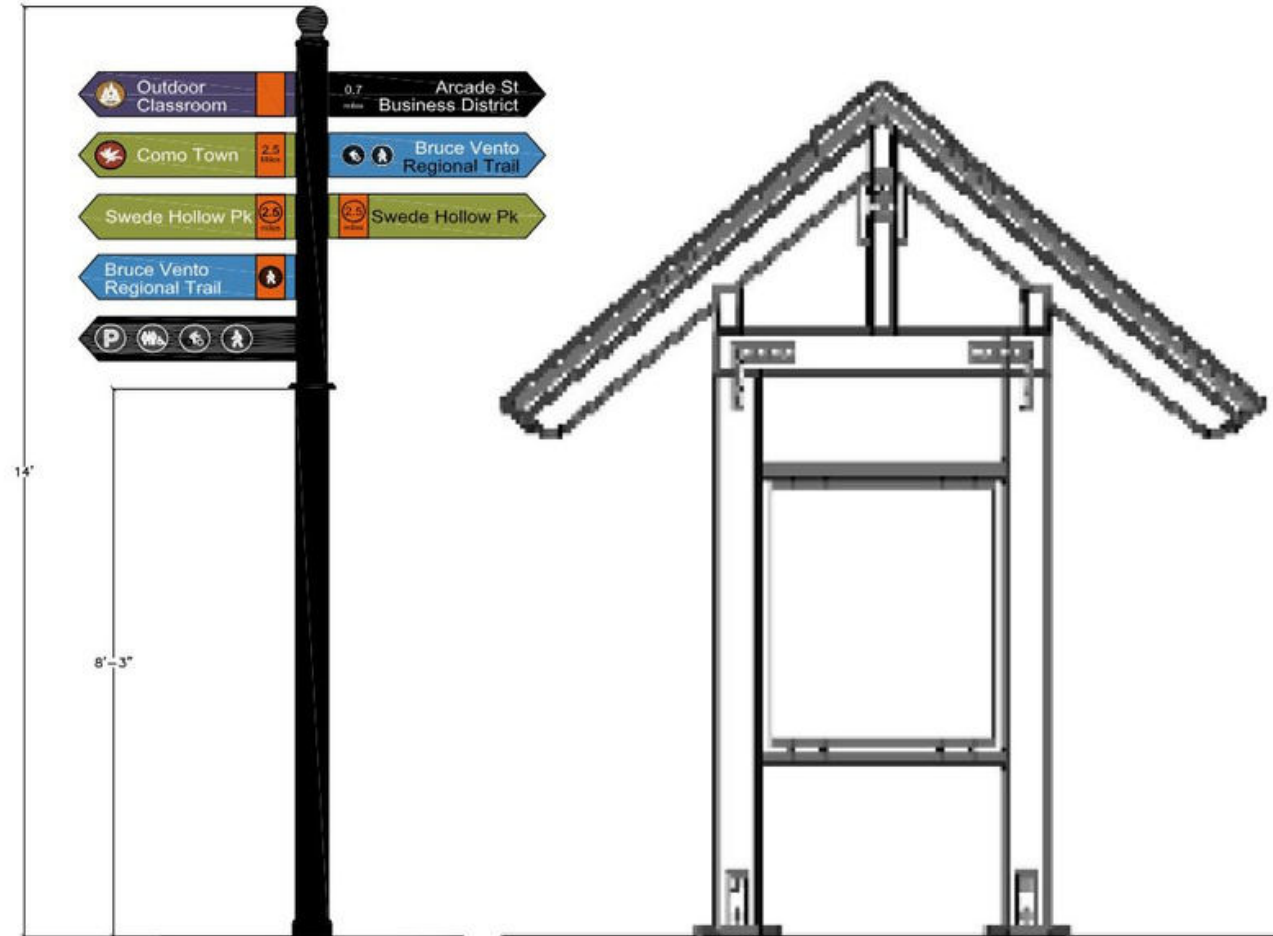


Point Douglas Rd south of Stinchfield Street.



Segment 5B typical section south of Stinchfield St.

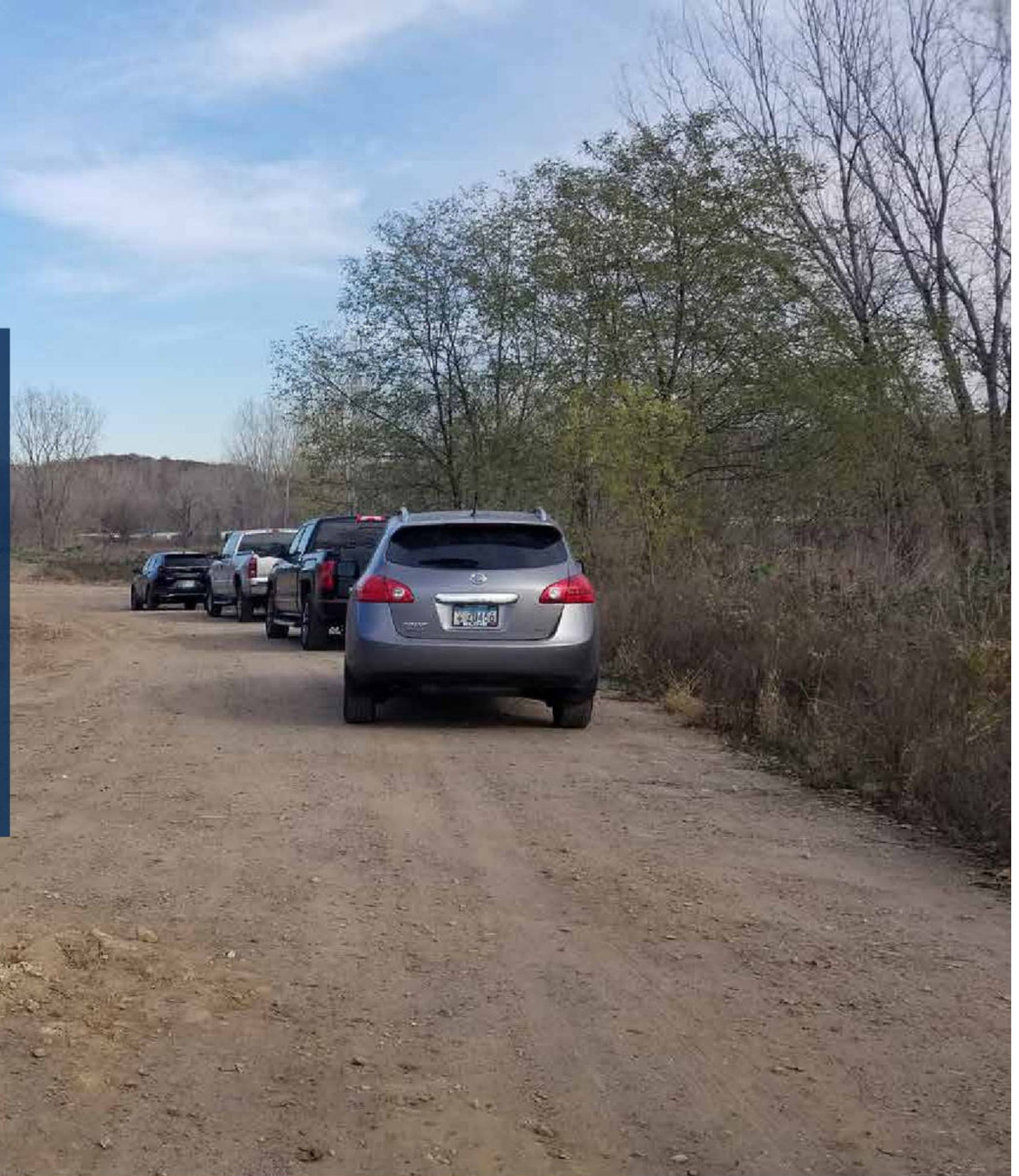
PUBLIC SERVICES



PIG'S EYE PARK ACCESS AND SIGNAGE

Project Manager
Brett Hussong, Landscape Architect
brett.hussong@ci.stpaul.mn.us
651-266-6420

Project Website
<https://www.stpaul.gov/facilities/pigs-eye-park>

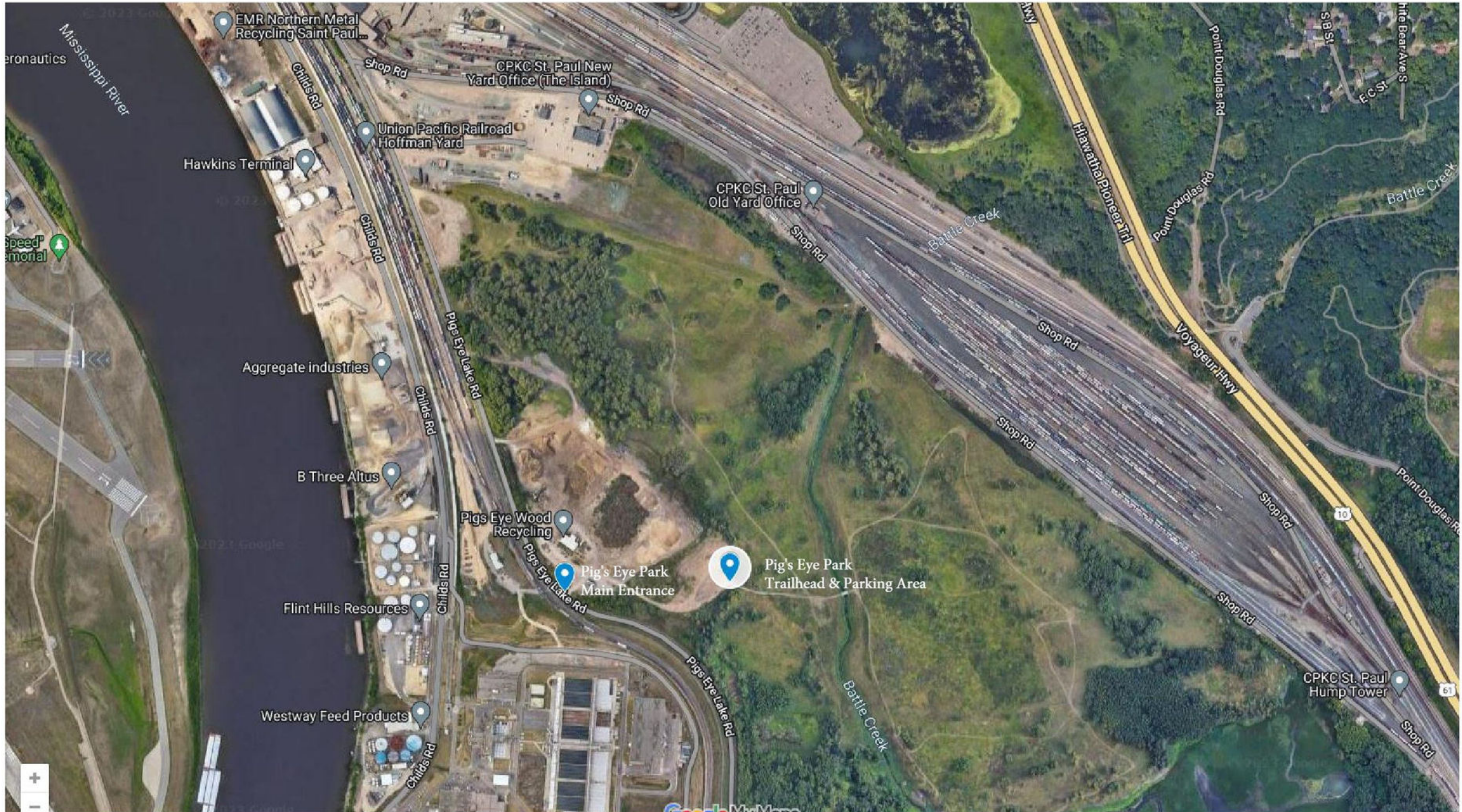


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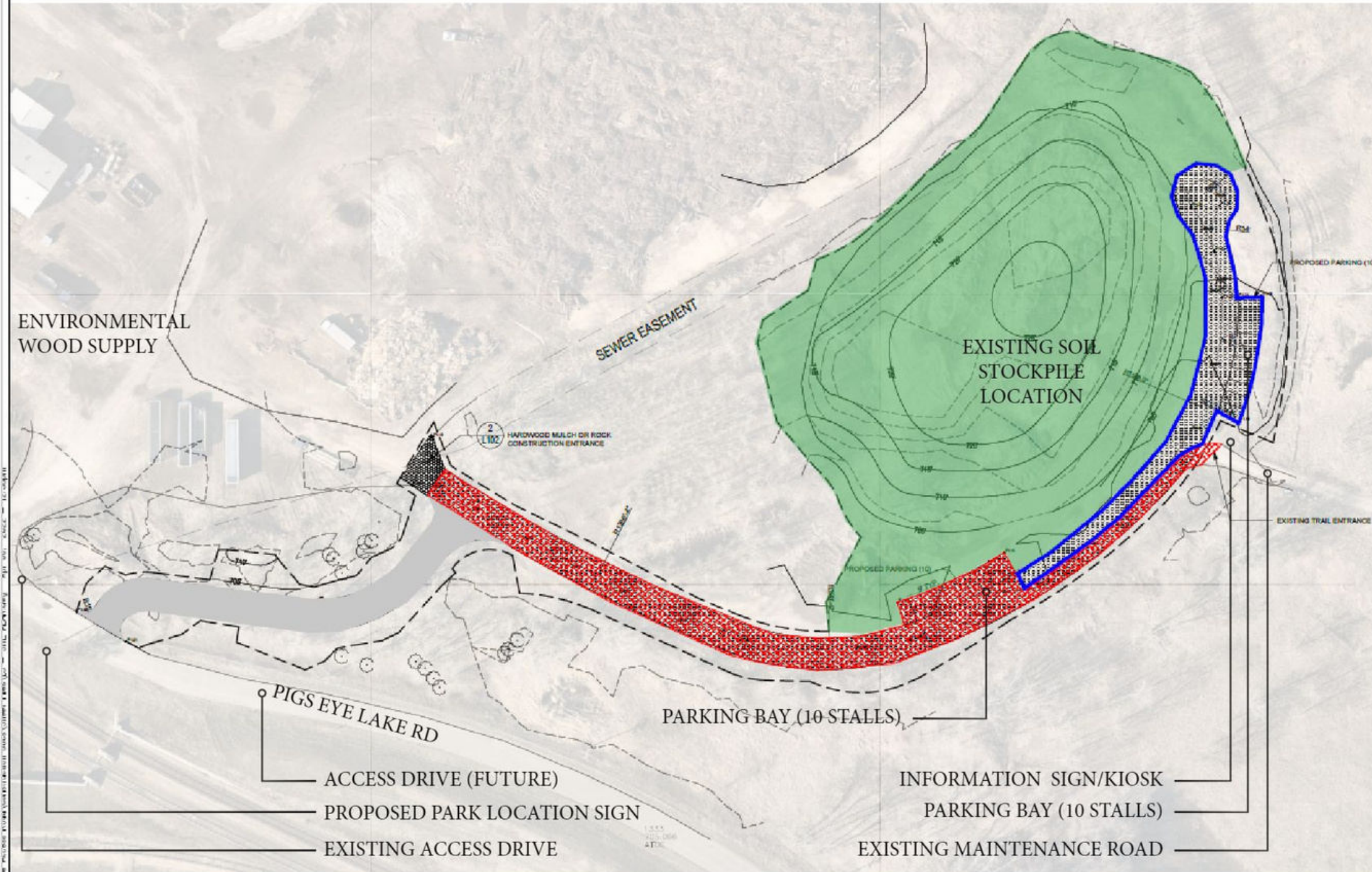
PARKS AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT
DESIGN AND CONSTRUCTION DIVISION

PIG'S EYE PARK ACCESS IMPROVEMENTS | 2023-2024

Location Map



Site & Phasing Plan



LEGEND

- CONSTRUCTION LIMITS
- EXISTING TREE
- EXISTING ROADWAY WITH 4' CLASS V OVERLAY
- PROPOSED CLASS V ROADWAY

COORDINATE POINTS

P#	Position X	Position Y
1.01	588137.5623	151144.9107
1.02	588118.3187	151156.5854
1.03	588099.3845	151167.7706
1.04	588123.3720	151164.7001
1.05	588156.2447	151180.7681
1.06	588270.2960	151165.6058
1.07	588358.6655	151200.9676
1.08	588398.5739	151290.5723
1.09	588355.1271	151264.1046
1.10	588370.8809	151301.0550
1.11	588596.6461	151150.0190
1.12	588735.0798	151146.4173
1.13	588731.1813	151157.7579
1.14	588725.3966	151174.8038
1.15	588806.7310	151212.6788
1.16	588816.0002	151197.2488
1.17	588920.0787	151265.9473
1.18	588969.0833	151319.8822
1.19	588985.6928	151312.9452
1.20	589002.9452	151408.4875
1.21	588984.9790	151407.8052
1.22	588972.9876	151407.8508
1.23	588968.9049	151442.5635
1.24	588971.0952	151477.5184
1.25	588949.3908	151476.8680

1 Site Plan
L100 1" = 40'



- PHASE I AGGREGATE ROAD & PARKING LOT
- PHASE II AGGREGATE ROAD & PARKING LOT
- RESTORATION (APPROXIMATE)

SAINT PAUL MINNESOTA
Parks and Recreation Department
400 City Hall Annex
25 West Street
Saint Paul, MN 55102

I hereby certify that this plan, specification, or report was prepared by me or under my direct supervision and that I am a duly licensed Landscape Architect under the laws of the State of Minnesota.

Printed Name:
Signature:
Date: License #

City of Saint Paul Department of Parks and Recreation
Pig's Eye Regional Park Access Road
81 Fish Hatchery Rd., Saint Paul, MN 55106

No.	Date	Revised Description

PROJECT NUMBER: L103-23
DATE:
DRAWN BY:
CHECKED BY:
SUPERVISOR:

DRAFT NOT FOR CONSTRUCTION
Site Layout Plan
L103

Amenities



Access

- Parking stalls
- Vehicle turn around
- Aggregate surfacing

Signage

- Park location sign
- Park directional signs
- Interpretive kiosk

Trash Receptacles

- Standard 32 Gal park receptacle

Bike racks

- Hoop racks

Misc

- Kestrel nest box (pending MPCA and future maintenance agreement)
- Solar Light (pending funding)

Indian Mounds Regional Park

IMMEDIATE ACKNOWLEDGMENT

Project Manager

Ellen Stewart, Senior Landscape Architect
ellen.stewart@ci.stpaul.mn.us
651-266-6380

You are in
a cemetery.

As you walk this trail, please be mindful that you are in a burial place that has been here for thousands of years. This sacred land continues beyond the boundaries of the park, spanning the bluffs along the rivers of this region, the Bdote, and throughout Minnesota.

Wóohoda.

Please respect this place.



TXT tenxtenstudio



TXT tenxtenstudio



TXT tenxtenstudio



On Going Work

Building on the Completion of the Cultural Landscape Study and Messaging plan, and the Immediate Acknowledgment that was previously sited around the pavilion and along the paths, work this summer included more installations that will help inform the public about this sacred site.

- Completed the design work and planning for this phase of messaging.
- Sandblasted messages on the sidewalk
- Formed berms at each entrance to the site which have traditional medicinal plants including prairie sage, red willow and flat cedar.
- Removed woody plants from edge of the fence line around the mounds and some from the mounds themselves with consultation and observation by Tribal representatives.
- Removed large expanse of turf and planted 3+ acres of new prairie as well as rehabbed the existing prairie. Ongoing establishment work will continue over time.
- Installed new messaging signs and stones along the trail. Telling the history of the site including the Myths and Truths about the site, providing information about the Native American Graves and Repatriation Act by the airway beacon, the concept of Mitakuye Owasin in Dakota culture (All my relatives), and the Burial Mounds.

Next Steps

- Next steps related to the site include working through a memorandum of agreement with the 4 Dakota tribes which will layout the protocol for consultation and communication when planning and working on site.
- Ongoing work on the prairie areas will be done by consultant.
- Changes to the Regional Park long range plan will need to be made as well.
- Naming is not underway yet. Working through the protocol for that on BVNS and Indian Mounds will also help to guide our work when naming other sites in our system.

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Task Force Coordinator

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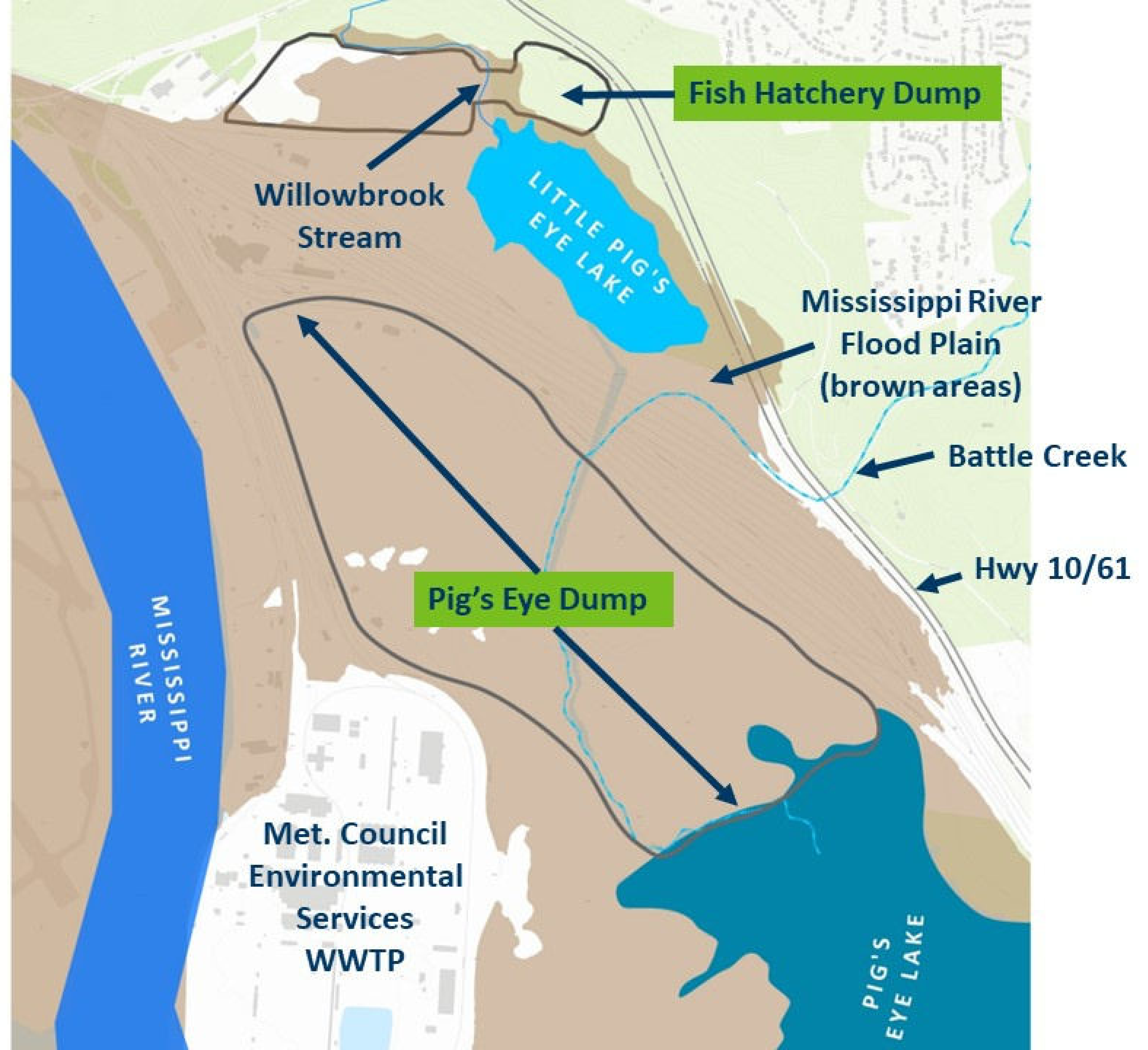


Pig's Eye and Fish Hatchery Dumps – Saint Paul, MN

Hunter Vraa | Pig's Eye Task Force Coordinator

December 14, 2023

Location of Pig's Eye and Fish Hatchery Dumps



Location of Pig's Eye and Fish Hatchery Dumps



Pig's Eye Dump

- Operated from 1956-1972
- Largest unpermitted dump in Minnesota (Approx. 230 Acres)
- 8.3 million cubic yards of Munic., Comm., and Indust. Waste
- Permitted sewage sludge ash disposed by MCES WWTP on 31 acres (1977-1985)

Contaminants of Concern:

- Metals
- Polychlorinated Biphenyls (PCBs)
- Per- and Poly-fluoroalkyl Substances (PFAS)
- Semi-Volatile Organic Compounds (SVOCs)
- Volatile Organic Compounds (VOCs)



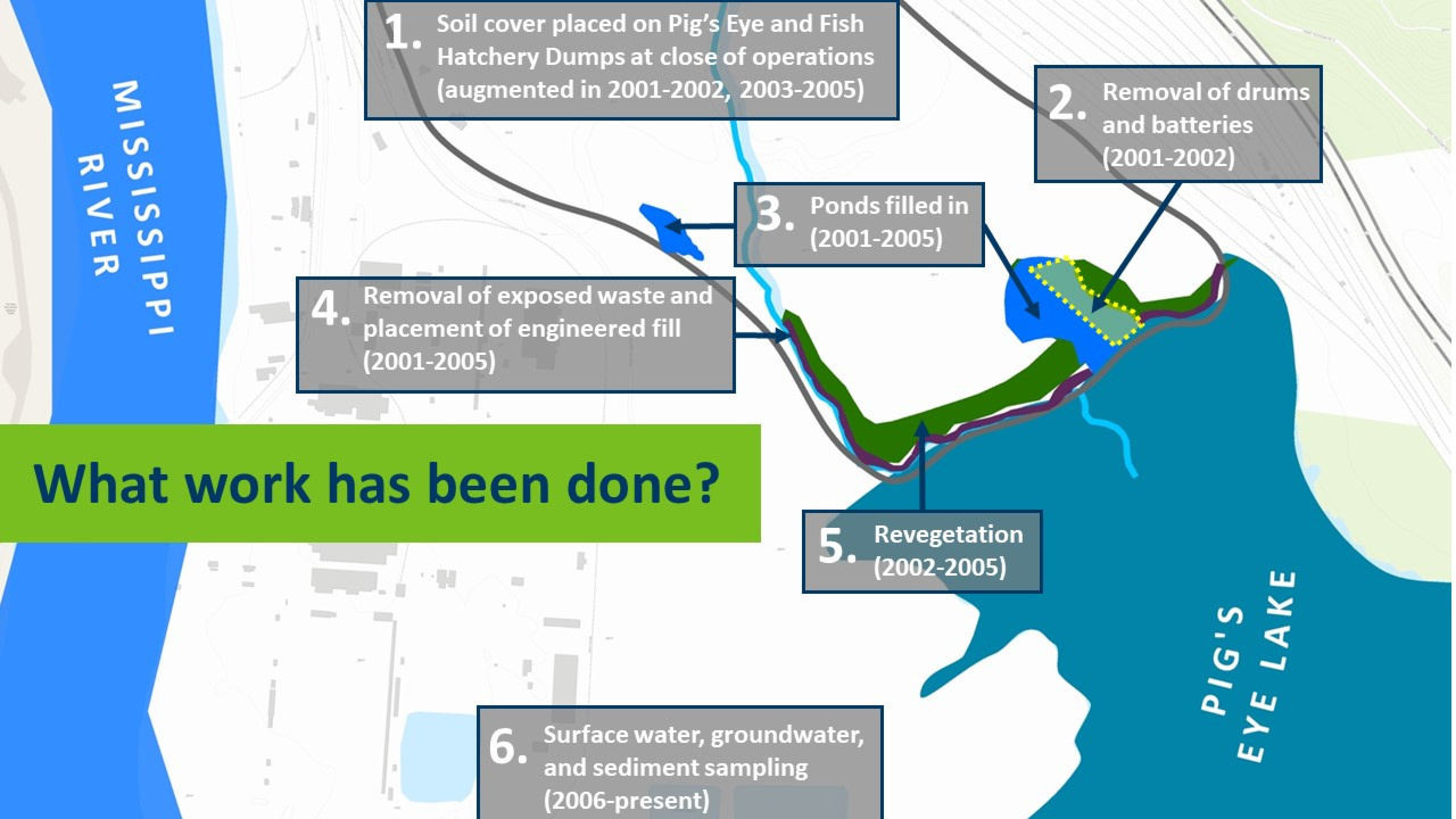
Fish Hatchery Dump

- Operated from 1930's-1971
- Unpermitted dump (38 Acres)
- 690,000 cubic yards of Munic., Comm., and Indust. Waste

Contaminants of Concern:

- Metals
- Organochlorine Pesticides
- PCBs
- PFAS
- VOCs
- SVOCs





1. Soil cover placed on Pig's Eye and Fish Hatchery Dumps at close of operations (augmented in 2001-2002, 2003-2005)

2. Removal of drums and batteries (2001-2002)

3. Ponds filled in (2001-2005)

4. Removal of exposed waste and placement of engineered fill (2001-2005)

5. Revegetation (2002-2005)

6. Surface water, groundwater, and sediment sampling (2006-present)

What work has been done?

1. Survey the dump's surface elevation

2. Test trenches to verify waste extent and soil cover depth

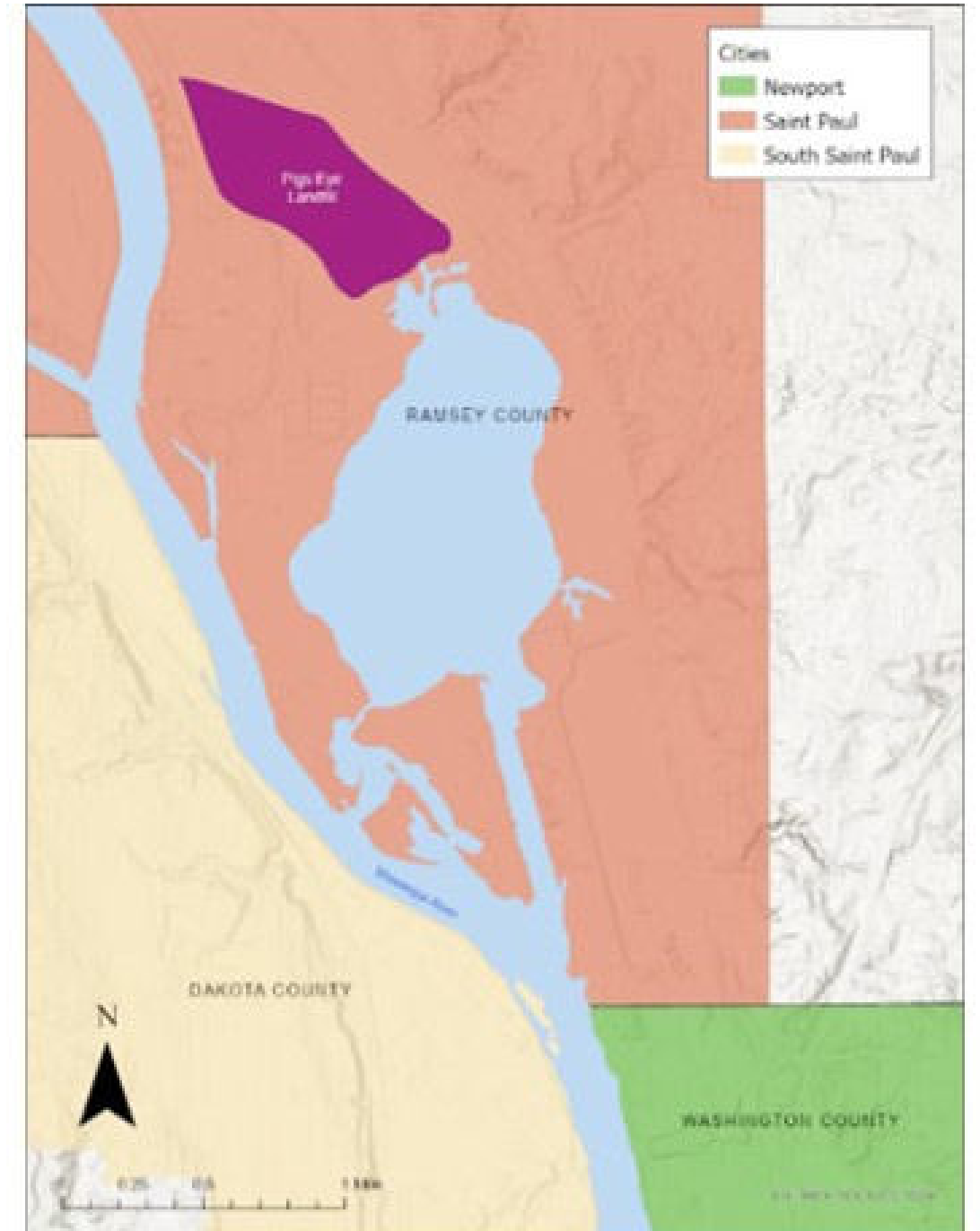
3. Feasibility Study to evaluate remedial alternatives

Work planned for Fish Hatchery Dump



Pig's Eye Task Force - Background

- Established by Minnesota Legislature to coordinate efforts to remediate and restore Pig's Eye Dump.
- Goal is the creation of an advisory report due February 15, 2026 that outlines suggested remediation and restoration plan(s).
- Each of the eleven members represent the varying interests in the site
 - Three counties – Dakota, Ramsey, Washington
 - Three cities – St Paul, South St Paul, Newport
 - Five government organizations – MPCA, DNR, MDH, Met. Council, Army Corps



Pig's Eye Task Force - Meetings

- Open to the public
- First Task Force meeting was November 17th
- Next meeting will be January 12th at 9:30 - 11:00 a.m.
- Meetings occur at MPCA St. Paul office, lower level, 520 Lafayette Rd., St. Paul, MN 55155
- Website is <https://www.pca.state.mn.us/local-sites-and-projects/st-paul-pigs-eye-dump-task-force>
 - Can sign up for GovDelivery

Questions?



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Sketch Map of Pig's Eye Regional Park + Surroundings - St. Paul MN



Song Sparrow on Honey Tree

Great Mullein

Monarchs on Milkweed

17-year Cicada

gold finch on Thistle

Red-tailed Hawk

Red Fox @ fuel line

Hot Humid Breeze

Little Painted Turtle sunning on boom

Pig's Eye Regional Park. Tues July 27, 2021 as seen from the Bridge over Battle Creek











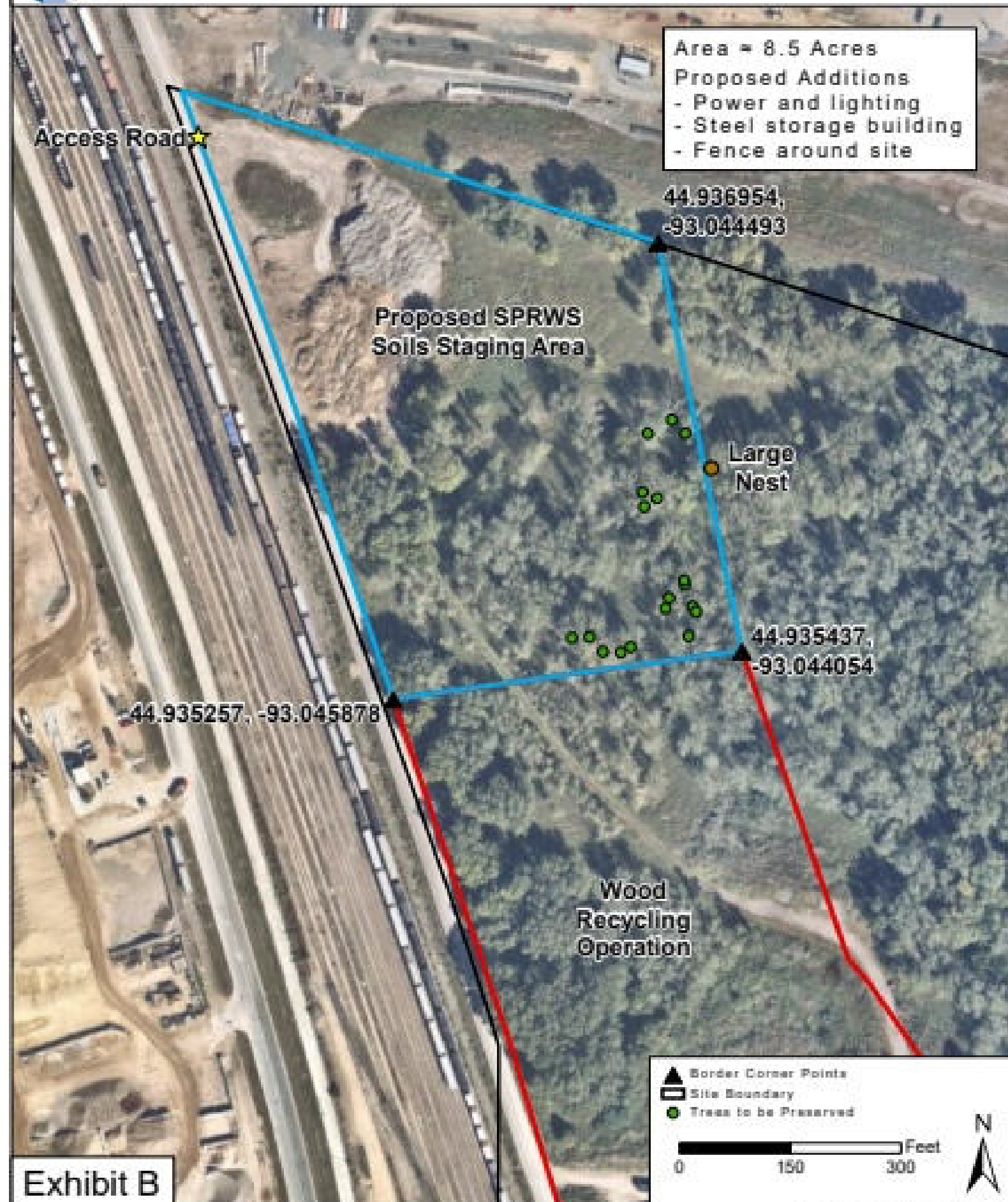








SPRWS Leased Premises

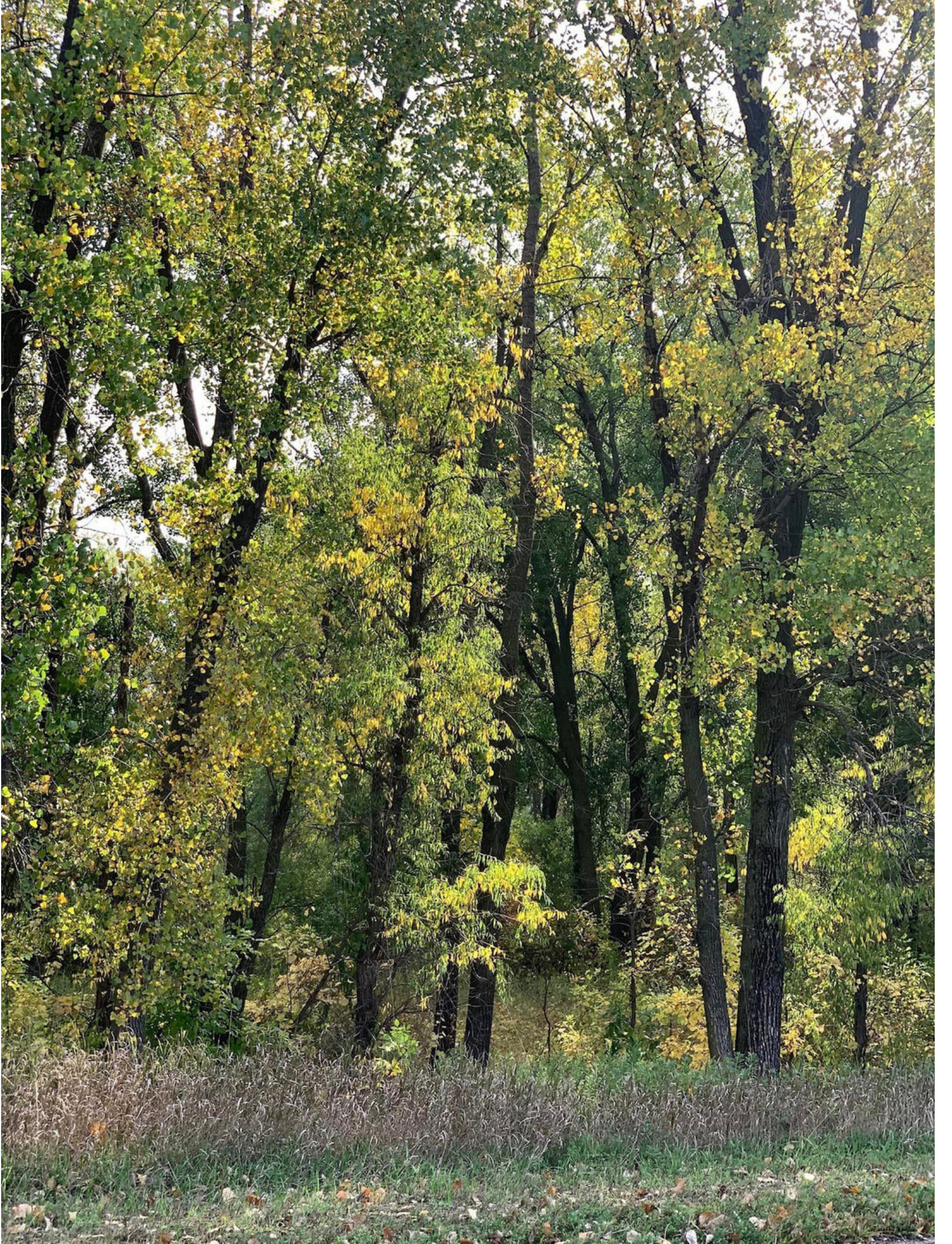






Diesel Fuel Spill @ Pig's Eye Park. Sat. 7-17-2021
Battle Creek scene w/ Spill Containment booms















EAST SIDE RIVER DISTRICT

PROJECTS + PRESENTERS

14 December 2023

Great River Passage Conservancy

Army Corps of Engineers

City of Saint Paul

MPCA Pig's Eye Task Force

Pig's Eye Park Friends

Urban Roots

David Woods

Conservation Program Director

Wakan Tipi Awanyankapi

University of Minnesota -
School of Architecture



























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Wakan Tipi Awanyankapi

Gabby Menomin & Ben Gessner

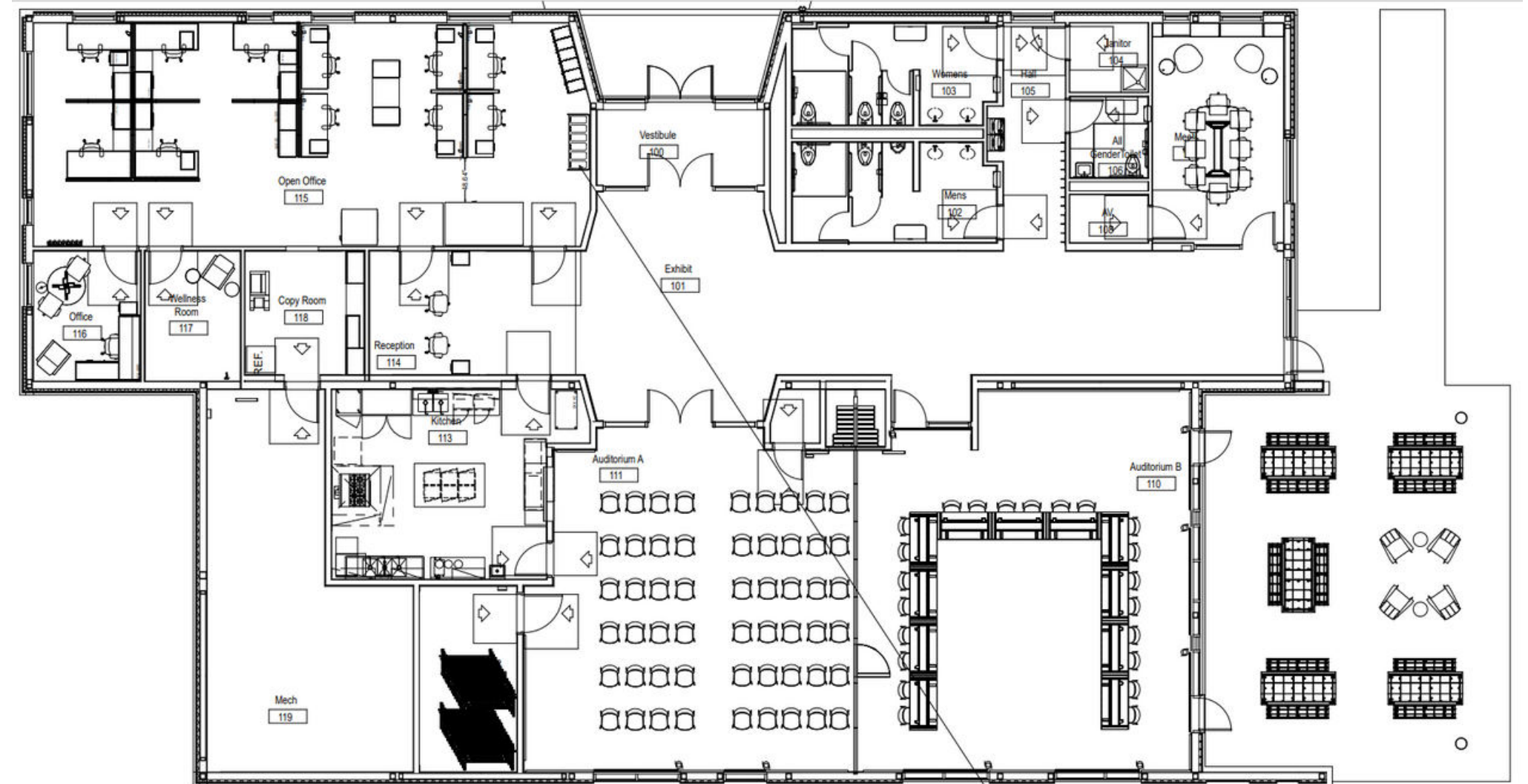
Restoration Mgr & Dir. of Programs

University of Minnesota -
School of Architecture





Wakanj Tipi Center



Co-Management of Wakan Tipi (BVNS)



Daylighting Phalen Creek Reaches 7&8



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of Architecture, Landscape
Architecture and Interior Design*





Thank you for joining us!