



Lake Monona Waterfront Design Challenge





Lake Monona Waterfront Design Challenge

Presenters:

Allen Arntsen – Chair of the City of Madison Lake Monona Waterfront Ad-hoc Committee and serves on the Friends of Nolen Waterfront board

Mike Sturm – City of Madison Parks Division project manager and staff representative for the Lake Monona Waterfront Ad-hoc Committee



Lake Monona Waterfront Design Challenge

Today's presentation includes:

- Madison and Lake Monona
- Previous planning efforts
- Master Plan Design Challenge
- Committee formation and role
- Team selections
- Project schedule and next steps

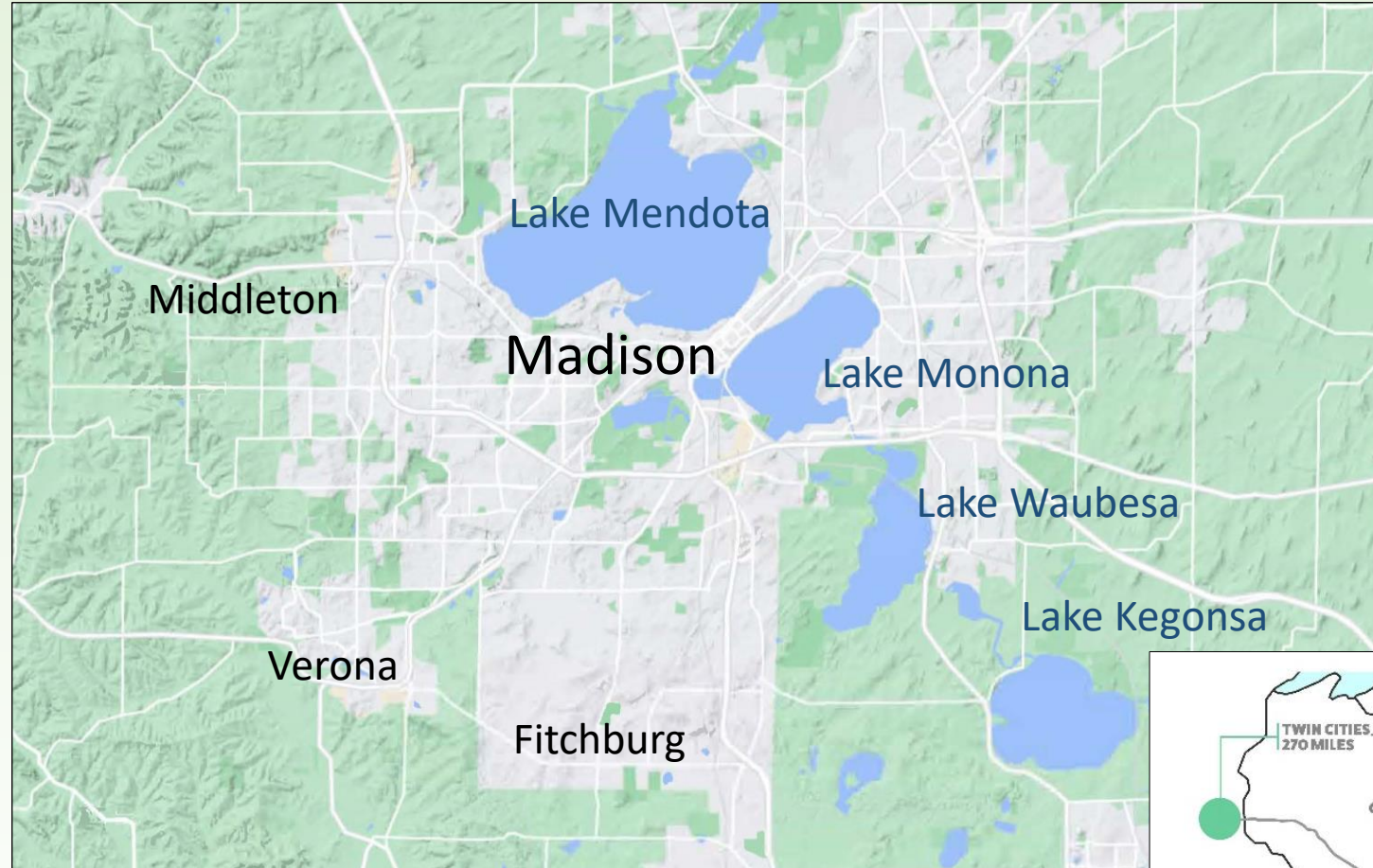


Lake Monona Waterfront Design Challenge



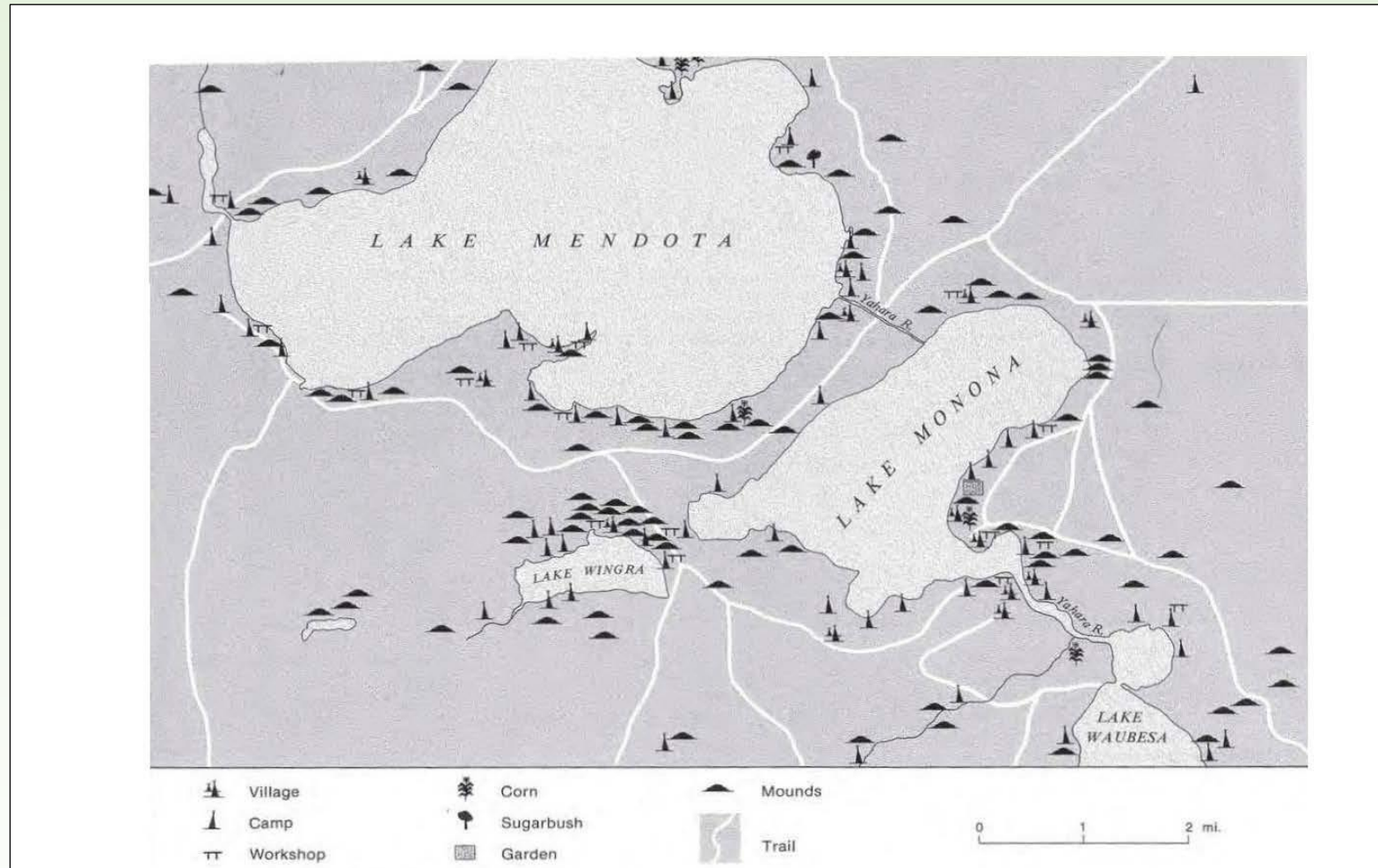


Lake Monona Waterfront



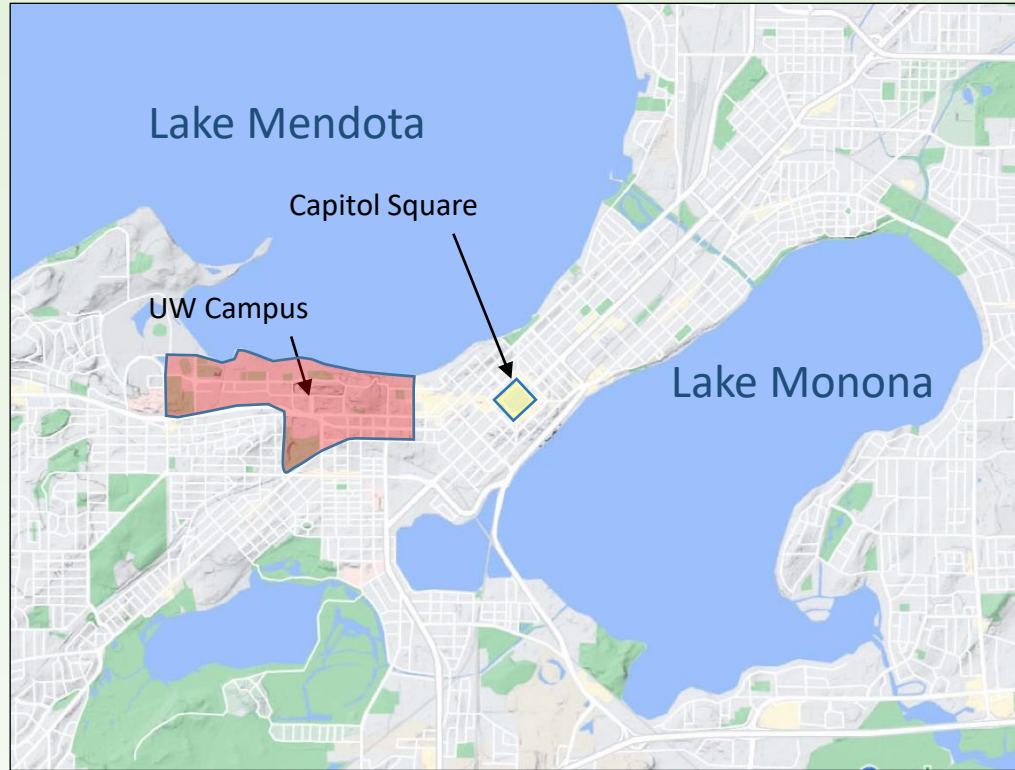


First Nations and Pre-European Settlement

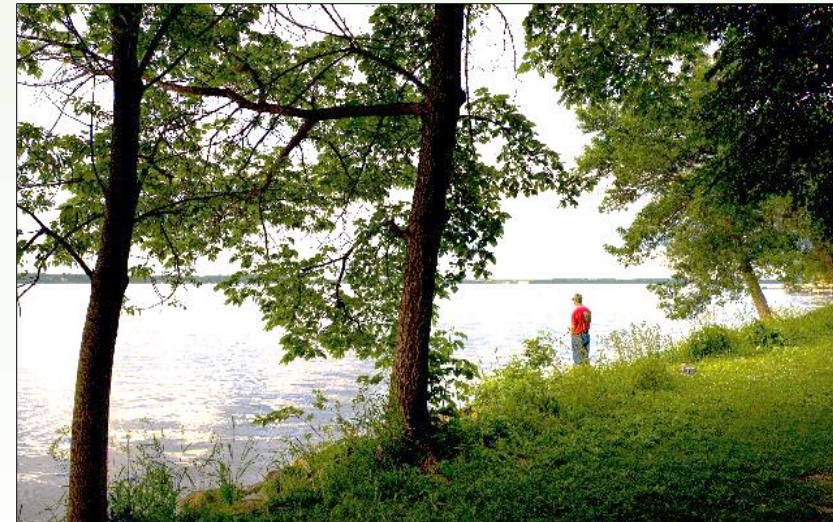
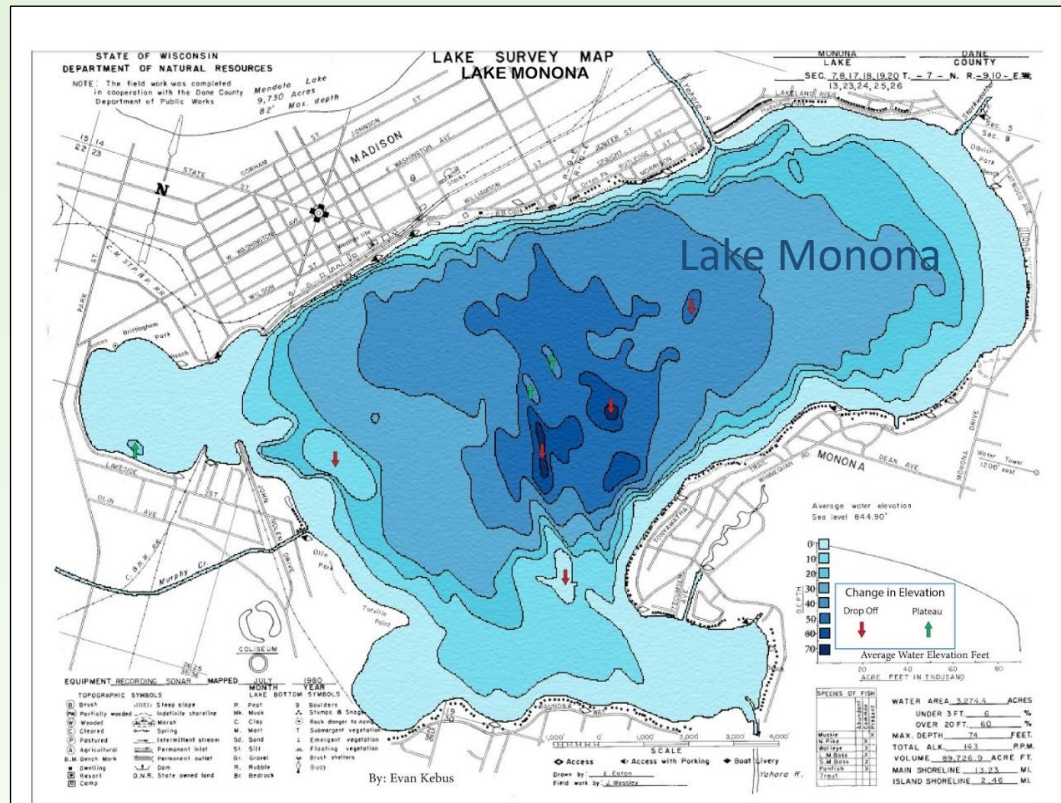


University of Wisconsin Cartographic Laboratory, courtesy of David Mollenhoff

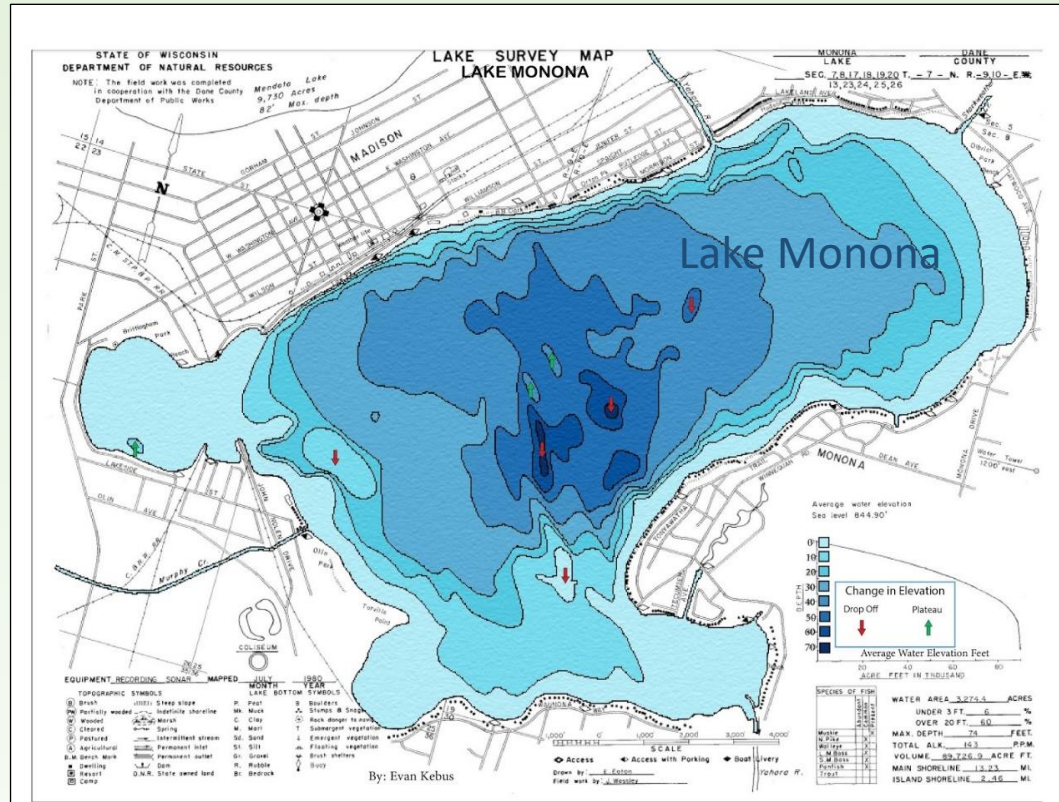
Madison Today



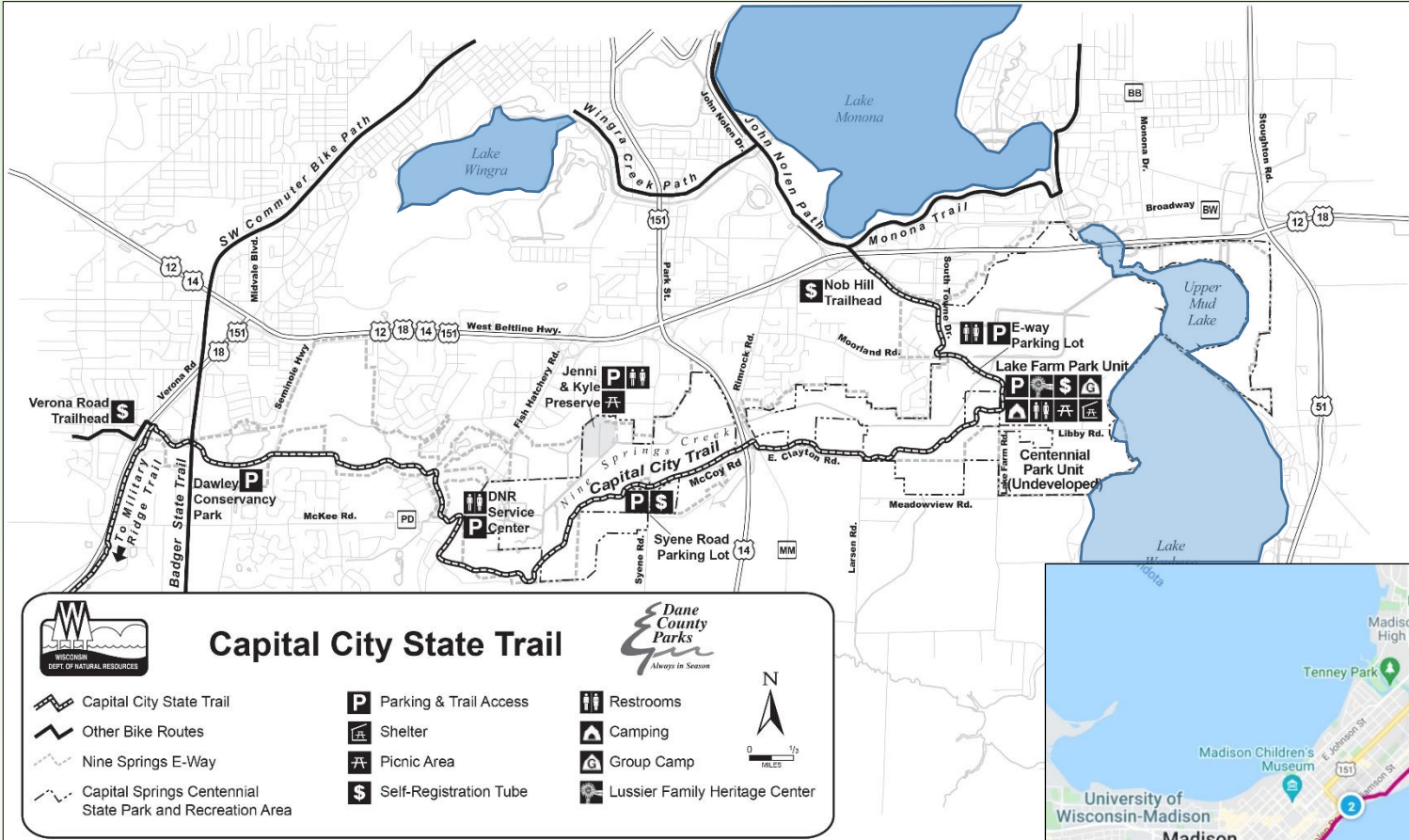
Lake Monona



Lake Monona



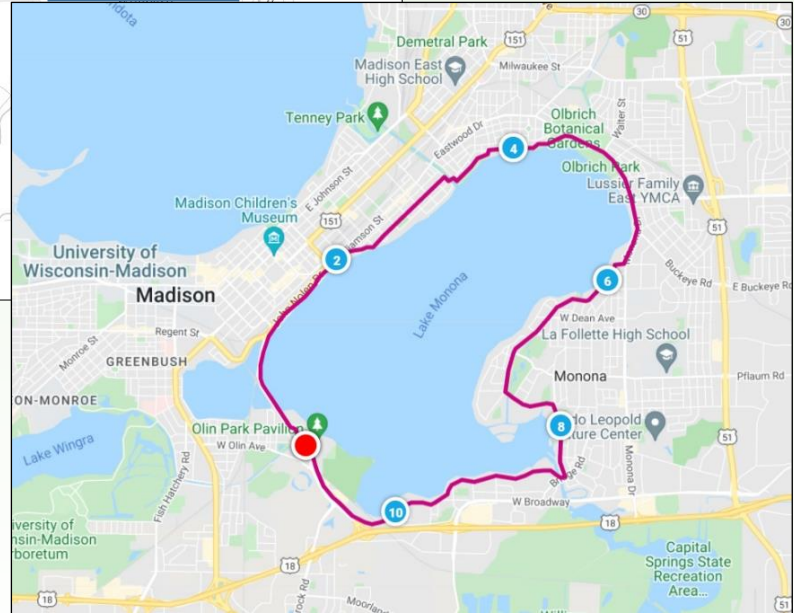
Capital City Trail and Lake Loop



Capital City State Trail

Always in Season

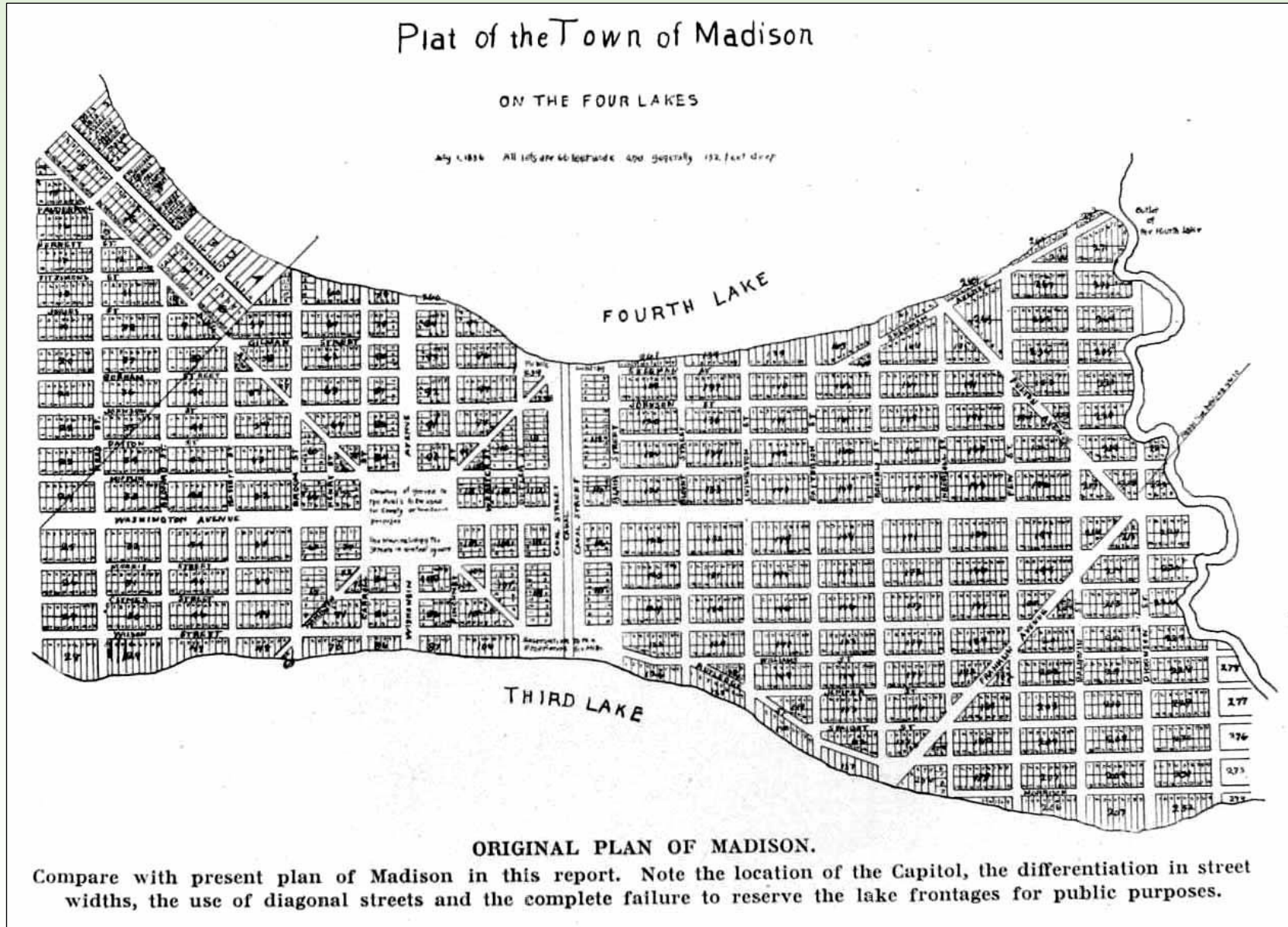
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Capital City State Trail Other Bike Routes Nine Springs E-Way Capital Springs Centennial State Park and Recreation Area 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Parking & Trail Access Shelter Picnic Area Self-Registration Tube 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Restrooms Camping Group Camp Lussier Family Heritage Center
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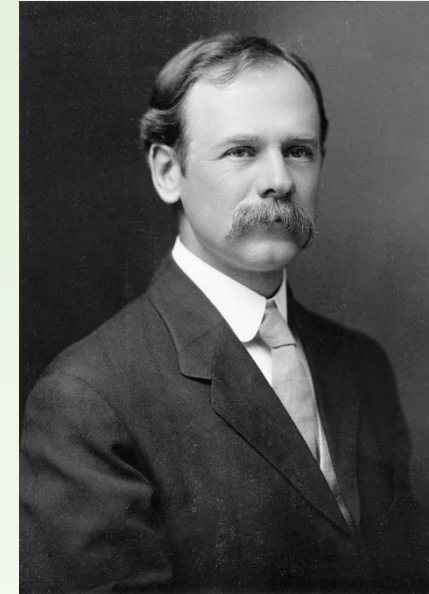
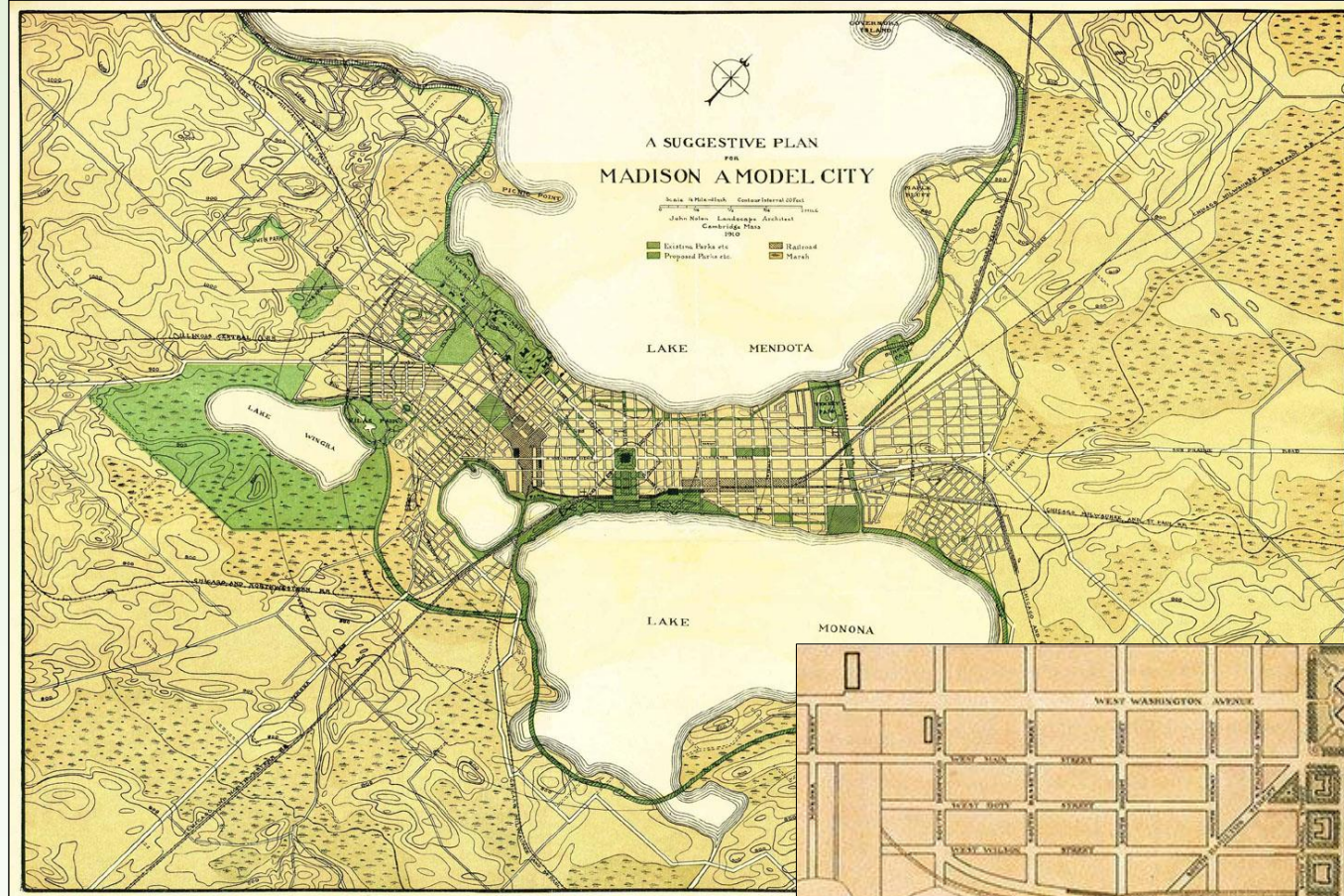
Current Challenges



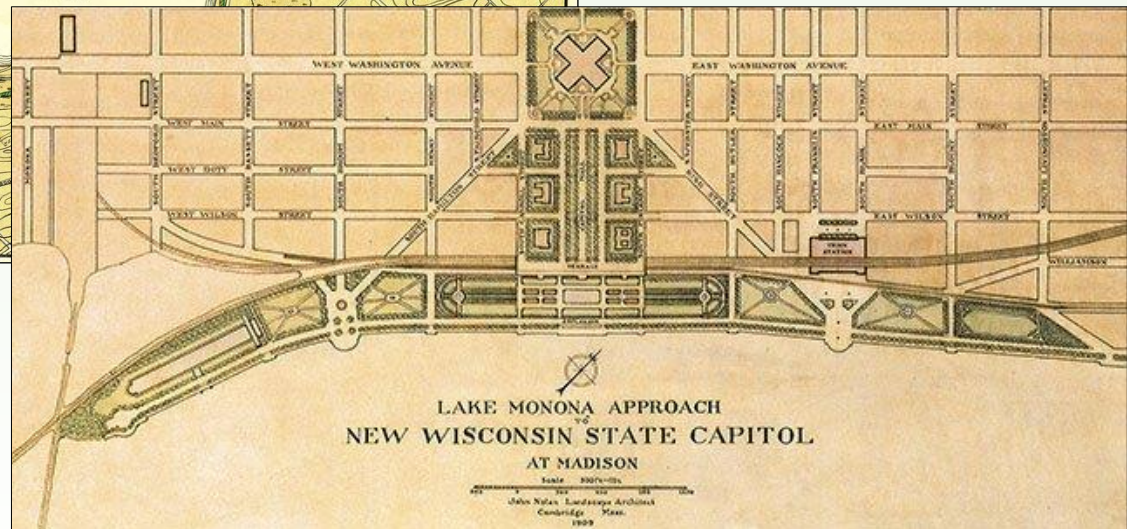
Previous Planning Efforts



Madison: A Model City

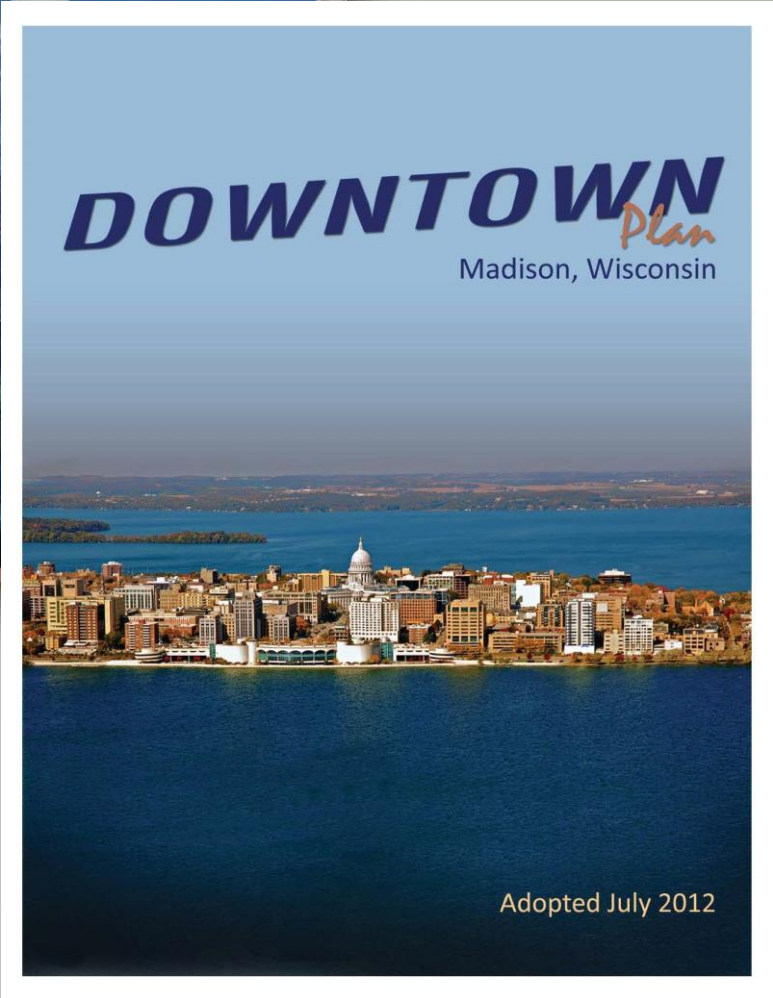
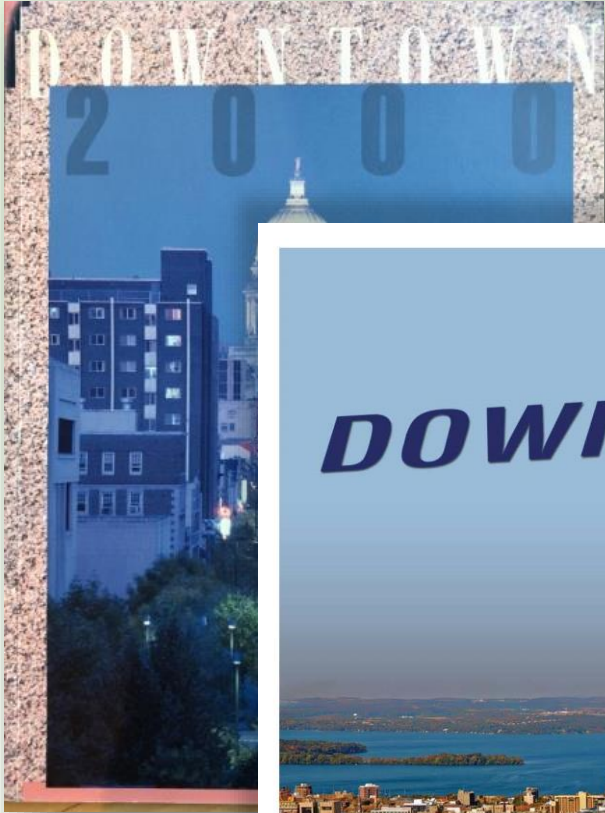


University of Wisconsin Digital Collections



University of Wisconsin Digital Collections

Previous Development Plans






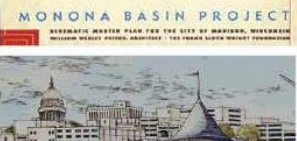



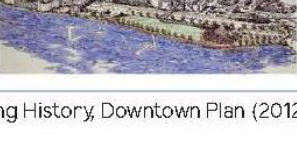

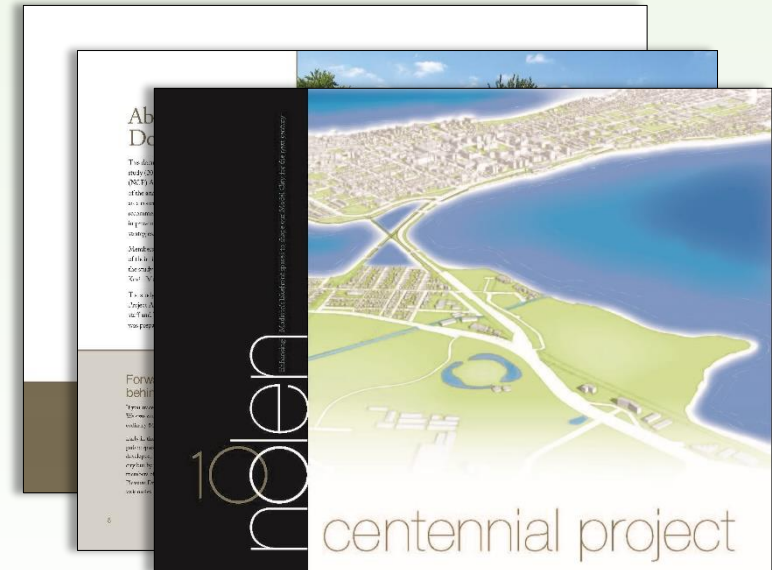
LAW PARK AND LAKE MONONA SHORELINE PLANNING HISTORY		
1909	John Nolen Plan sets out to strengthen the "organic relation between the new Capitol and Lake Monona."	
1911	John Nolen's <i>Madison: A Model City</i> plan recommends acquiring the property between the Capitol Square and Lake Monona.	
1939	Ladislas Segoe's <i>Comprehensive Plan of Madison and Its Environs</i> recommends a series of terraces that include an amphitheater, pedestrian promenade, boat landings and a four-lane parkway with parking for 600 cars.	
1967	Wesley Peters's <i>Monona Basin Project</i> harmonizes plans for nearly three miles of lakeshore from Olin Turville Point to Williamson Street with a series of fountain jets, a convention and community center, boat launch and marina.	
1986	City's <i>Capitol Square Southeast Plan</i> proposes a marina, parking lot and improved boat launch and pier access. City applies for DNR permit	
1988	The Madison Common Council adopts a preliminary <i>Law Park Redevelopment Plan</i> by the Madison Parks Commission and Aquatic Facility Study Committee. DNR indicates that habitat mitigation activity may be necessary to receive a US Army Corps of Engineering permit approval.	
1989	Evjue Foundation announces a \$1,000,000 grant to pay for a Law Park boathouse based upon Frank Lloyd Wright's original 1893 design.	
1990	The City is granted a permit from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to fill approximately 4.0 acres of Lake Monona to expand Law Park with mitigation conditions that limit parking, private boat slips and include open space requirements.	
1992	The City approves referendum on Monona Terrace Community and Convention Center project.	
1993	The City receives an extension and alteration of the US Army Corps of Engineers Permit to build Monona Terrace Community and Convention Center upon lake bed pilings and to create a new fishing pier adjacent to the facility.	
1996	The Parks Division (Schreiber Anderson Assoc.) prepares concept plan for John Nolen Drive lakeshore parkway.	

Figure D.4 Law Park and Lake Monona Shoreline Planning History, Downtown Plan (2012)

Private Advocacy

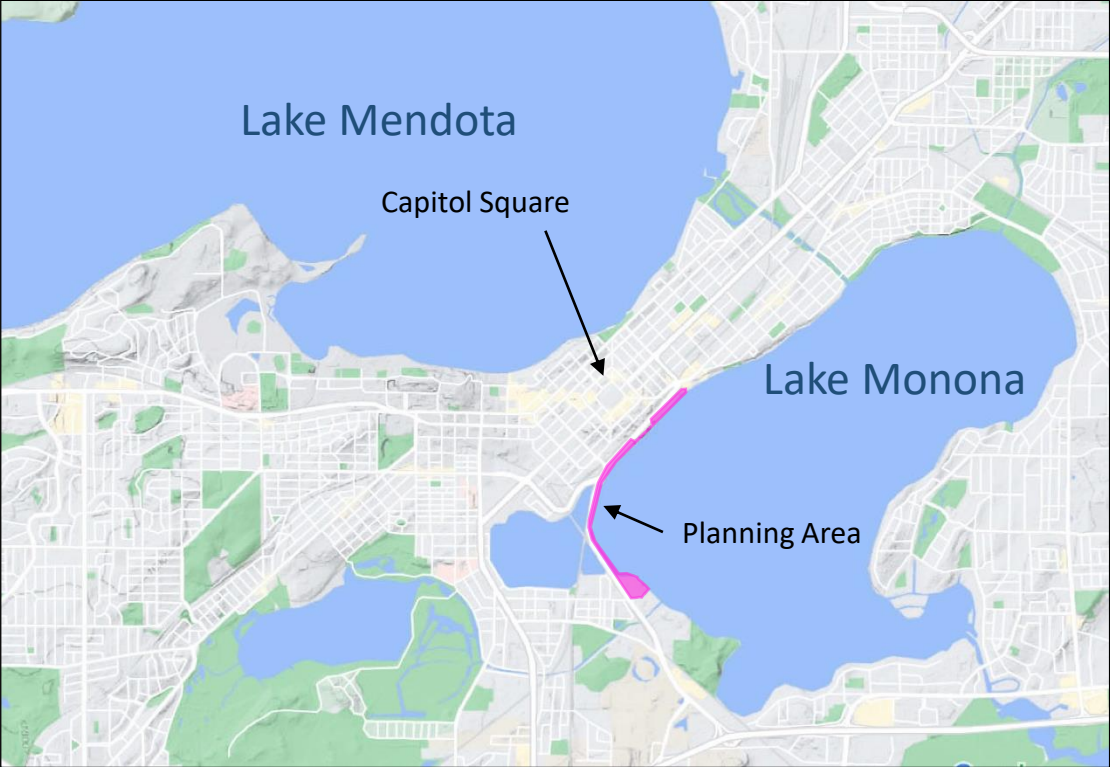




Lake Monona Waterfront Design Challenge



Lake Monona Waterfront – Planning Area



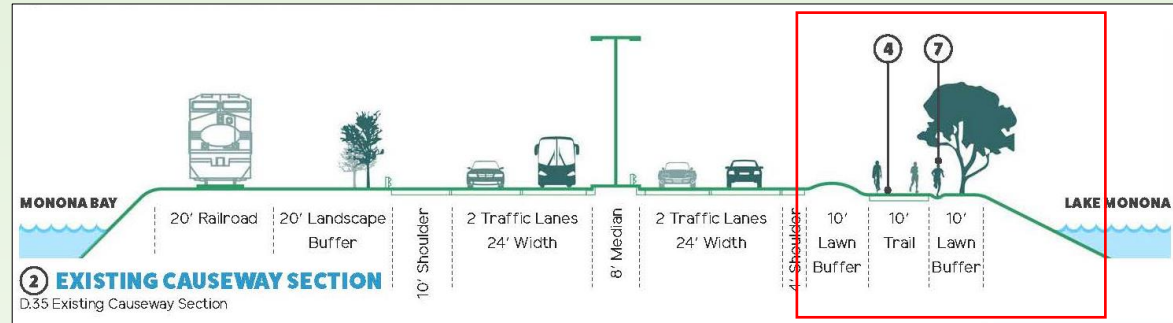
Lake Monona Waterfront – Planning Area



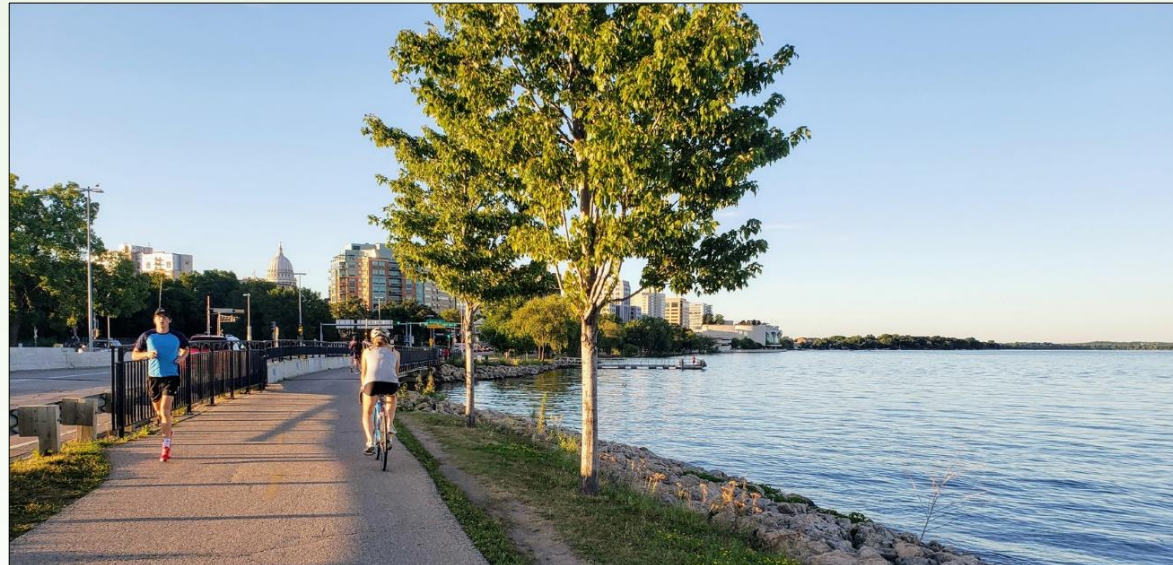
Law Park and John Nolen Drive



Lake Monona Waterfront – John Nolen Drive Causeway



Master Plan Scope



Lake Monona Waterfront – Olin Park



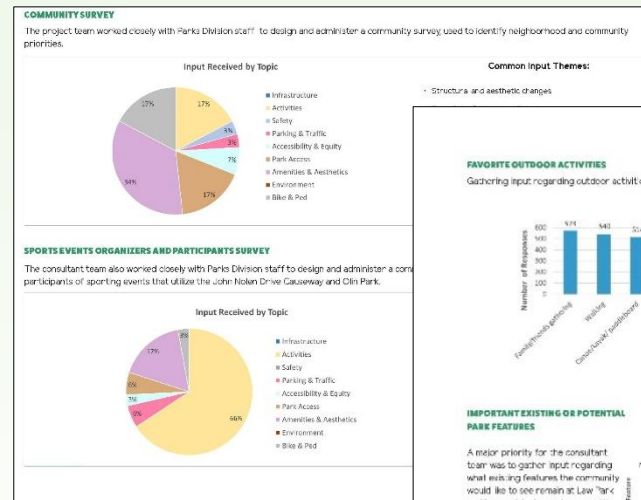
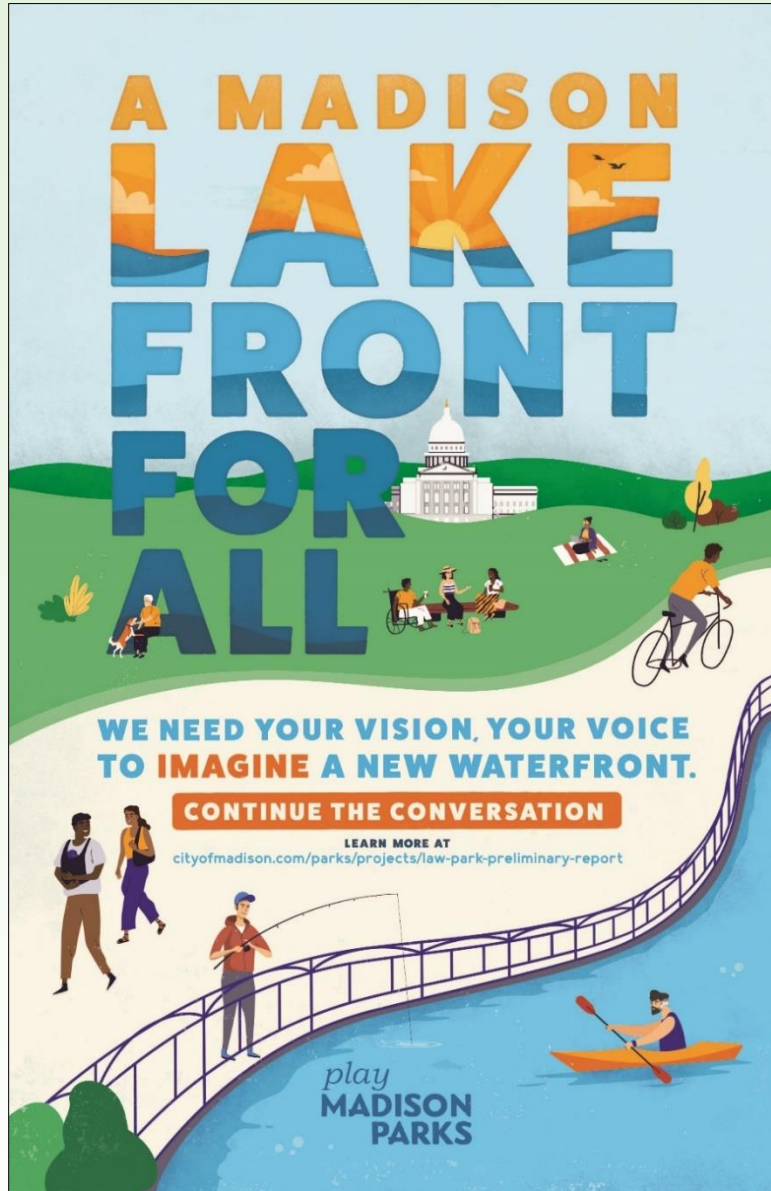
Olin Park Facility



Lake Monona Waterfront – Planning Area



Lake Monona Waterfront – Preliminary Report



Lake Monona Waterfront – Preliminary Report

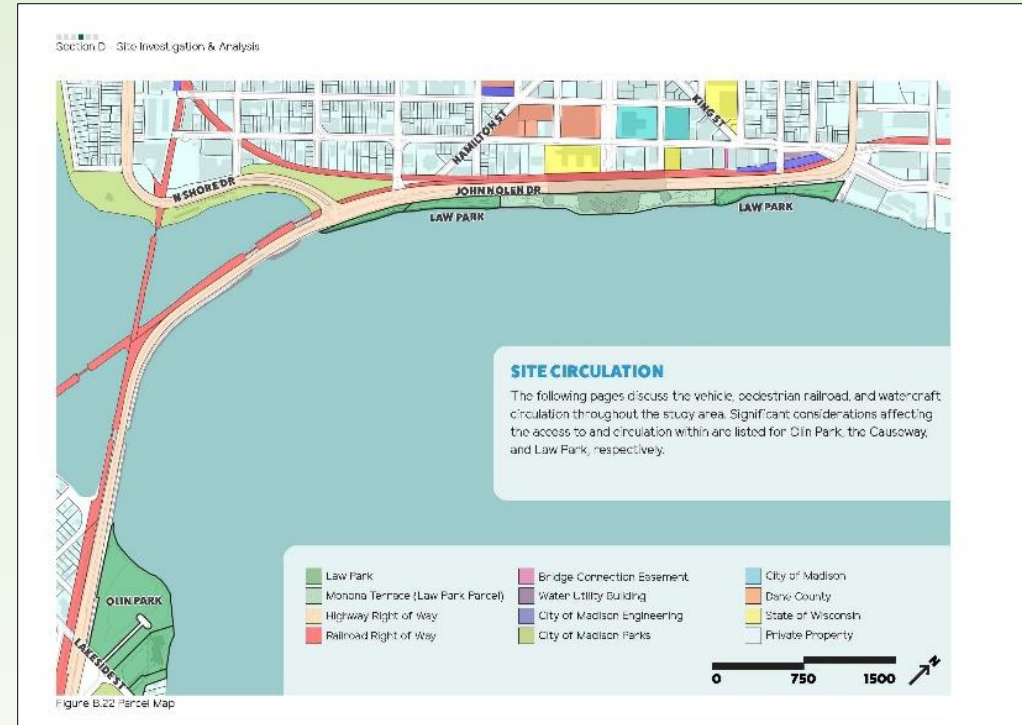
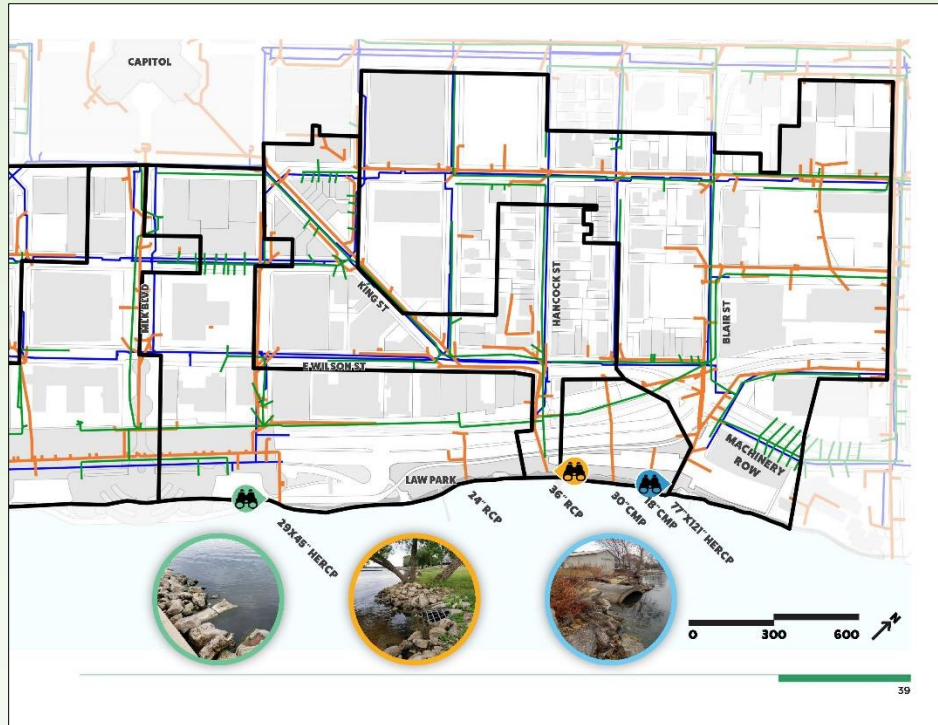
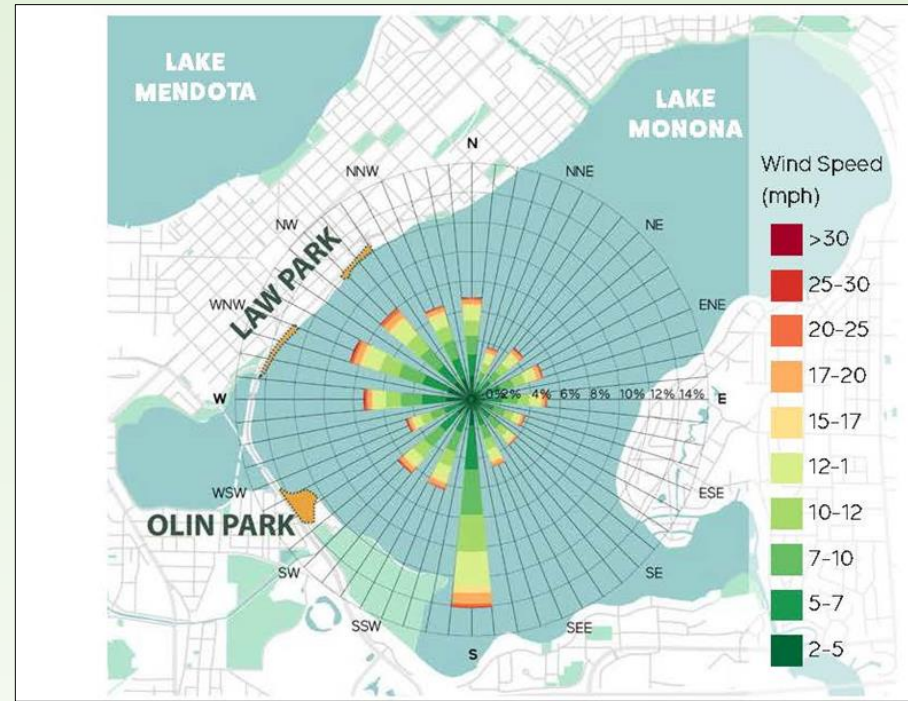
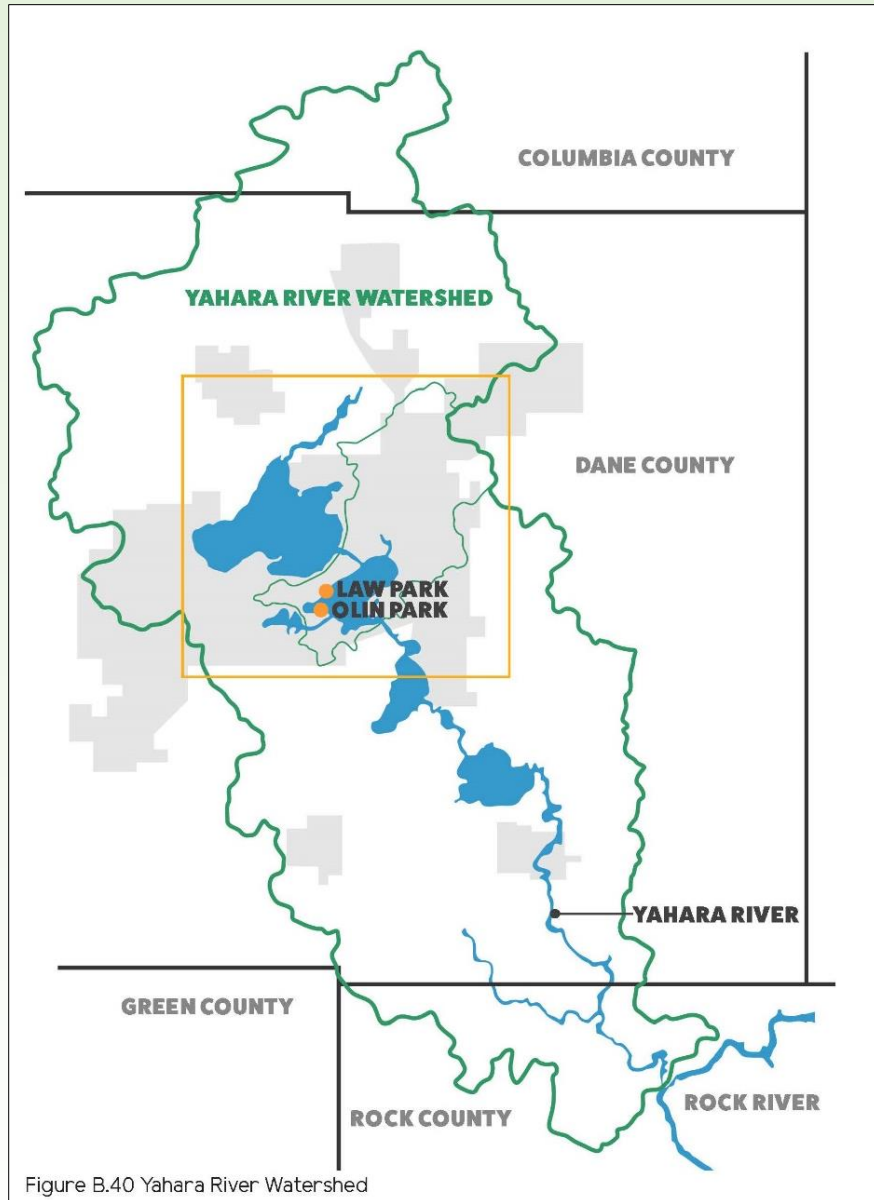


Figure B.53 Dock Line Easement

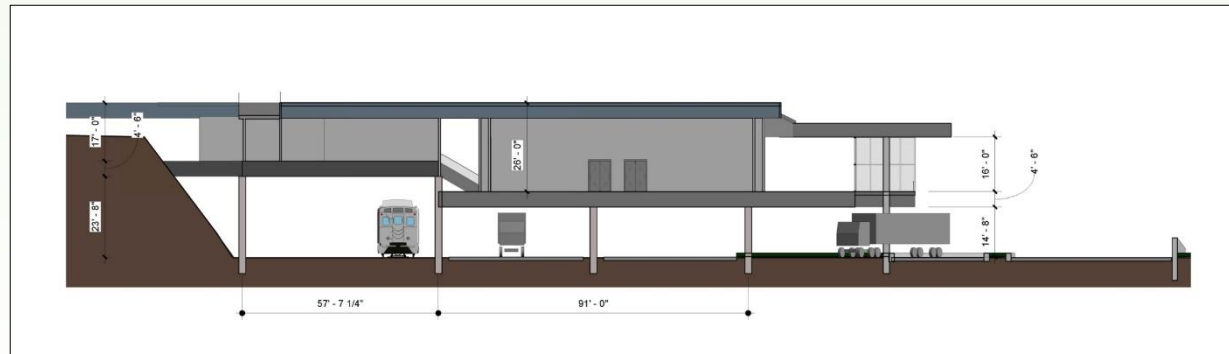
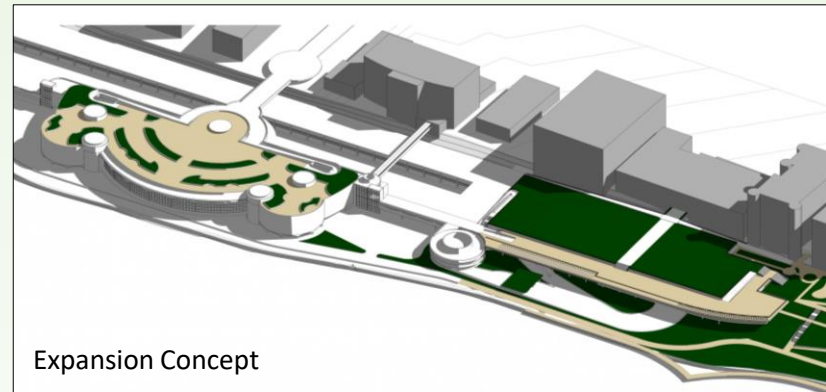
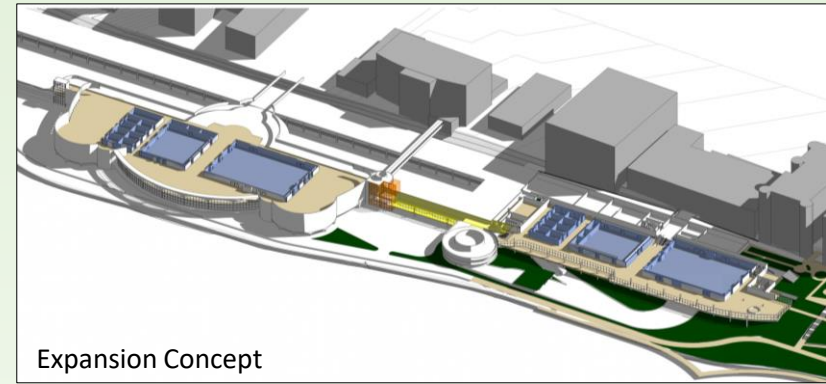


Figure B.54 Existing Law Park Section & Historic Lake Fill

Lake Monona Waterfront – Preliminary Report



Monona Terrace Community and Convention Center



Courtesy of KEE Architecture

Lake Monona Waterfront – Request For Qualifications



Lake Monona Waterfront Design Challenge

Request for Qualifications



RFQ #10082-0-2022-BP

Issuance: March 7, 2022

Due Date: May 2, 2022, at 2:00 p.m. CDT



Lake Monona Waterfront Design Challenge



City Council resolution authorizing the Design Challenge

- A City-appointed committee will select three, multi-disciplinary planning teams to participate in the challenge
- Teams will have 14 weeks for plan development
- Following plan development, the City will hold a public review and comment period
- The Ad-hoc Committee will then select a preferred master plan option to move forward into plan refinement



“Our lakes are an incredible asset, this planning process is an opportunity to create a vision for better access to them, and to reorient this space away from cars and toward people. It’s an opportunity to create all sorts of connections, and to center equity and inclusion in the process.”

Mayor Satya Rhodes-Conway
City of Madison



Design Challenge Format

The Lake Monona Waterfront Design Challenge includes six stages in two phases:

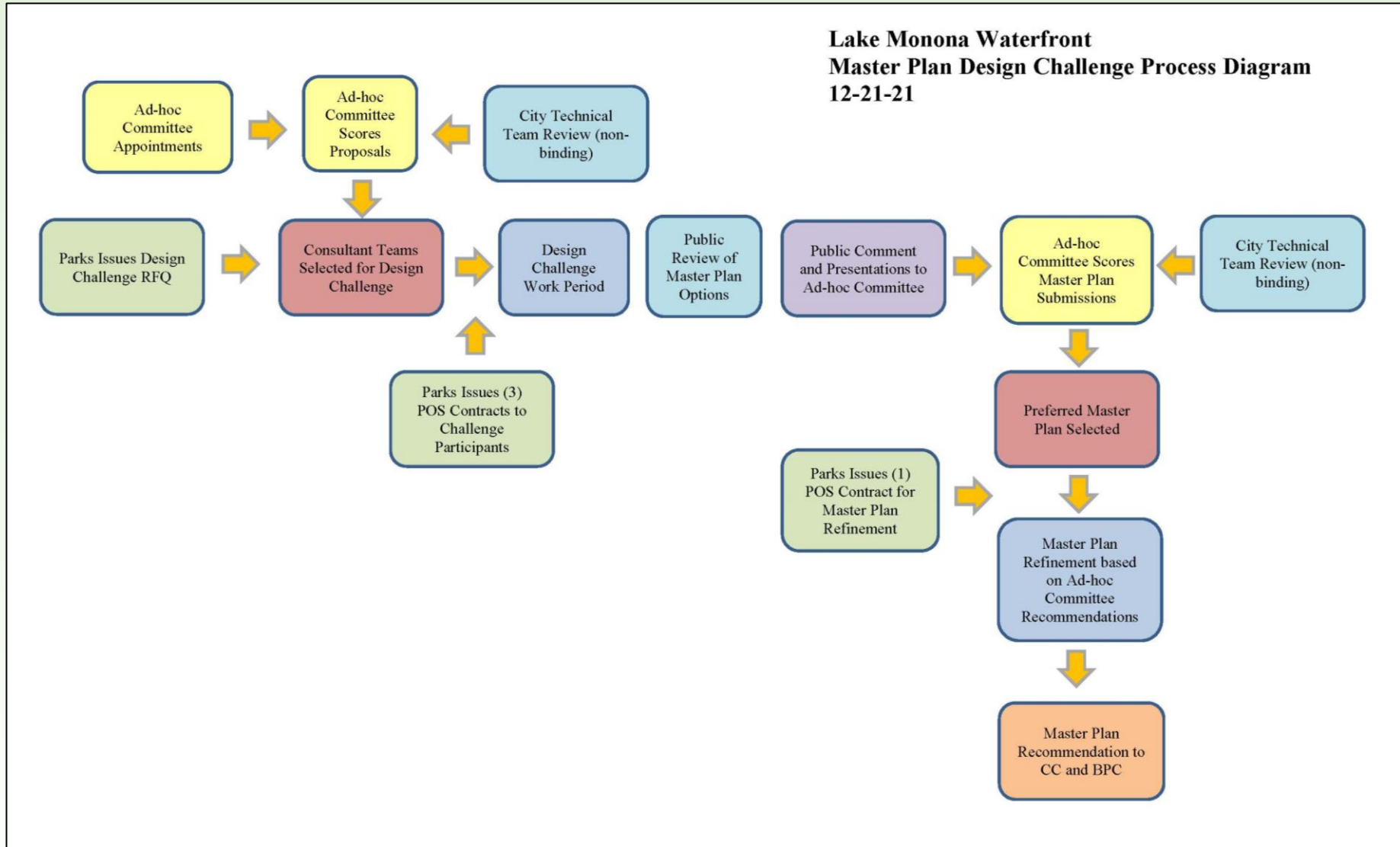
Phase 1: The Design Challenge

- 1) Selection of Design Challenge Participants by the Lake Monona Waterfront Ad-hoc Committee
- 2) Master Plan Development
- 3) Public review of Master Plan submissions
- 4) Selection of a Preferred Master Plan by the Lake Monona Waterfront Ad-hoc Committee

Phase 2: Master Plan Refinement and Introduction

- 5) Refinement of Preferred Master Plan Option per recommendations of the Lake Monona Waterfront Ad-hoc Committee.
- 6) City of Madison Common Council and Board of Park Commissioner reviews for adoption

Design Challenge Format



Lake Monona Waterfront Design Challenge



Design Challenge Guiding Principles

- Master Plan Vision
- Racial Equity and Social Justice
- Sense of Place
- Community Connections
- Lake Access
- Sustainability
- Public Space
- Public Art
- Education
- Economic Opportunity
- Design for Philanthropy



“Madison is a city of lakes; it’s who we are, it’s why we’re here, and it’s our future. By investing in our Lake Monona Waterfront and all of its parks, our community is creating an inclusive and environmentally focused vision to transform how our entire community access our lakes. The Design Challenge is a once in a generation opportunity to ensure Madison’s future is our waterfront, a place where our community can gather, connect and celebrate together.”

**Jason Ilstrup, President
Downtown Madison Inc.**

Lake Monona Waterfront Design Challenge



Lake Monona Waterfront Ad-hoc Committee

- 7 – Community Representatives
- 1 – Member of the Board of Park Commissioners
- 1 – Professional Civil/Structural Engineer
- 1 – Member of the Madison Parks Foundation
- 1 – Member of the Monona Terrace Board
- 1 – Member of the Friends of Nolen Waterfront
- 1 – Member of the Board of Public Works

*One of the above also a Professional Landscape Architect



“The final master plan for the Lake Monona Waterfront should provide a welcoming space for all residents and visitors. It should also promote environmental and sustainable practices, protecting our lakes and improving water quality and aquatic habitat.”

Alder Syed Abbas
City of Madison
Common Council President

Lake Monona Waterfront Design Challenge



Lake Monona Waterfront Ad-hoc Committee

Members:

- Aaron Williams – Board of Public Works
- Allen Arntsen – Friends of Nolen Waterfront
- Andrew Stevens – Community Representative
- Chandra Miller Fienen – Board of Park Commissioners
- Claire Schaefer Oleksiak – Madison Parks Foundation
- Cristina Carvajal – Community Representative
- Janice Rice – Community Representative
- Judith Karofsky – Monona Terrace Board
- Maria Sobrido – Community Representative
- Natalie Erdman – Community Representative
- Rahel Desalegne – Professional Engineer
- Rajan Shukla – Community Representative
- Zang Vang – Community Representative



“The final master plan for the Lake Monona Waterfront should provide a welcoming space for all residents and visitors. It should also promote environmental and sustainable practices, protecting our lakes and improving water quality and aquatic habitat.”

Alder Syed Abbas
City of Madison
Common Council President



Lake Monona Waterfront Design Challenge

Received submissions to the Request for Qualifications

RFQ 10082-0-2022-BP

Received submissions 05-02-22

Lead Agency

Agency Landscape + Planning

Civitas

Coen + Partners

Confluence

Edgewater Resources

James Corner Field Operations

OLIN

PORT

RDG Planning and Design

Rogers Partners

Sasaki

SmithGroup

Saiki + SWA

W Architecture and Landscape Architecture

Lake Monona Waterfront Design Challenge



Committee Evaluation Process

Review and score 14 Responses to RFQs based on the following criteria:

- Alignment with Guiding Principles
- Quality of master plan deliverables
- Project feasibility
- Responsiveness to public engagement
- Overall vision

Lake Monona Waterfront Design Challenge



Committee Evaluation Process

Interview 5 highest ranked teams (virtual)

Score interviews

- Team organization
- Transportation
- Water quality
- History
- Appeal to diverse users
- Biggest challenge
- Similar prior projects
- Overall interview performance

Lake Monona Waterfront Design Challenge



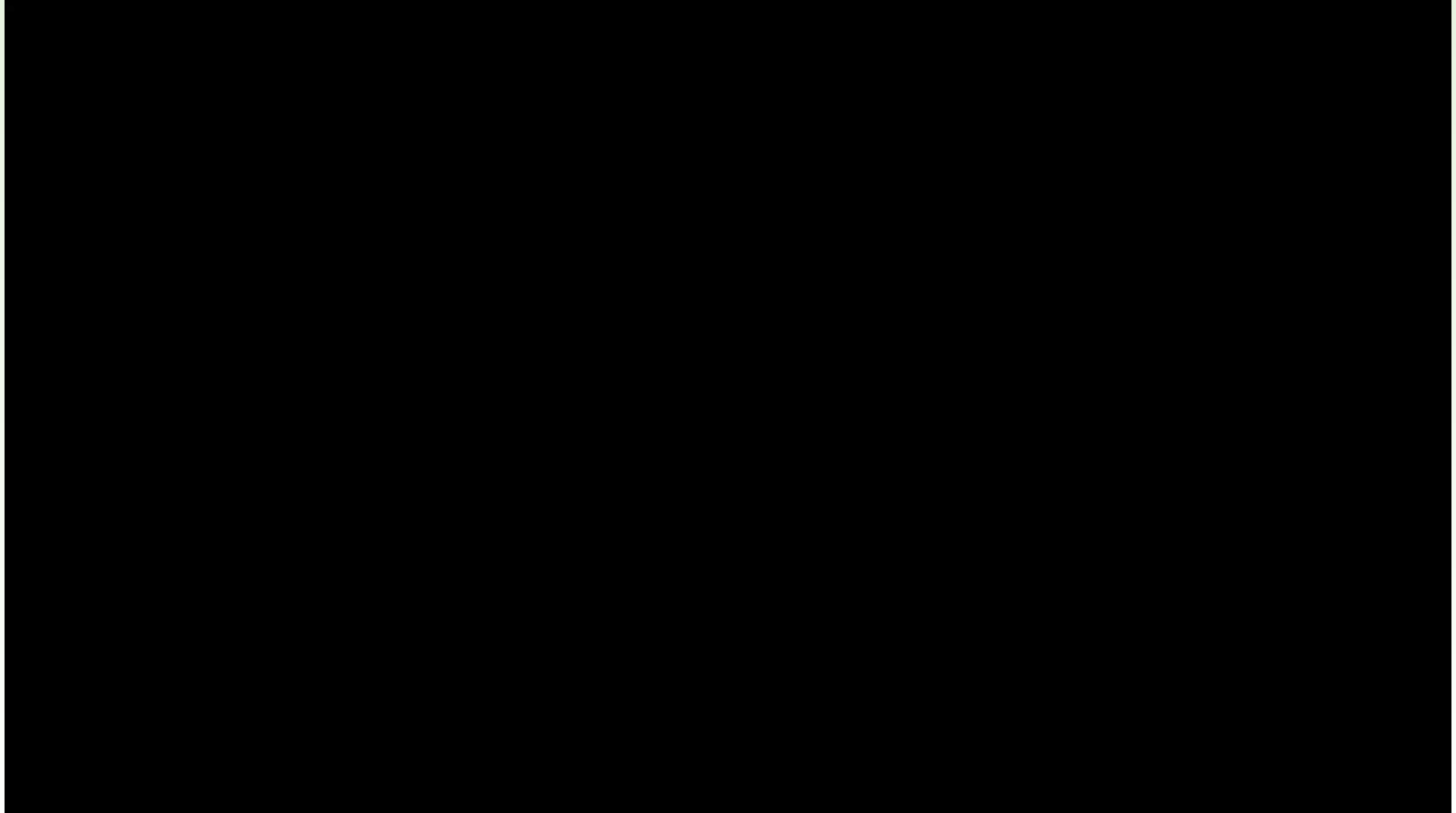
Teams selected to participate in the Design Challenge by the Ad-hoc Committee

- Agency Landscape + Planning
- Sasaki Associates
- James Corner Field Operations

Lake Monona Waterfront Design Challenge



Video presentation



Lake Monona Waterfront Design Challenge



Agency Landscape + Planning

Agency Landscape + Planning

Team Lead, Landscape Architecture, Planning, and Engagement

Agency is the capacity of human beings to act, to make choices. Planning can remove barriers. Design is an act of optimism. Optimism and action are much needed, today more than ever. At Agency Landscape + Planning, we believe in the power of people to initiate and make purposeful, positive change.

Agency is a **women-owned small business (WOSB) and certified DBE/WBE practice**. Our work engages the full spectrum of design services—from strategic planning to complex public realm implementation. It is tied together by a commitment to public sector work with deep community engagement. We have a significant practice dedicated to urban planning, from the regional to district scale, and a team of twelve designers and planners.

Agency is a mission-driven practice dedicated to addressing social equity, cultural vitality and environmental resilience through design excellence, strategic planning and community engagement. Co-founders **Brie Hensold** and **Gina Ford** have worked together for over a decade.

Agency's team is currently comprised of approximately 20 employees including 2 owners, a core senior leadership team with between 10-20 years of experience each, 5 licensed landscape architects and a broad support team with both technical, graphic and engagement skills. We are selective in pursuing projects that are mission-aligned, are feasible within our given capacity, inclusive of community engagement and led with passion and commitment on the client side.



Lake Monona Waterfront Design Challenge

Agency Landscape + Planning



AGENCY

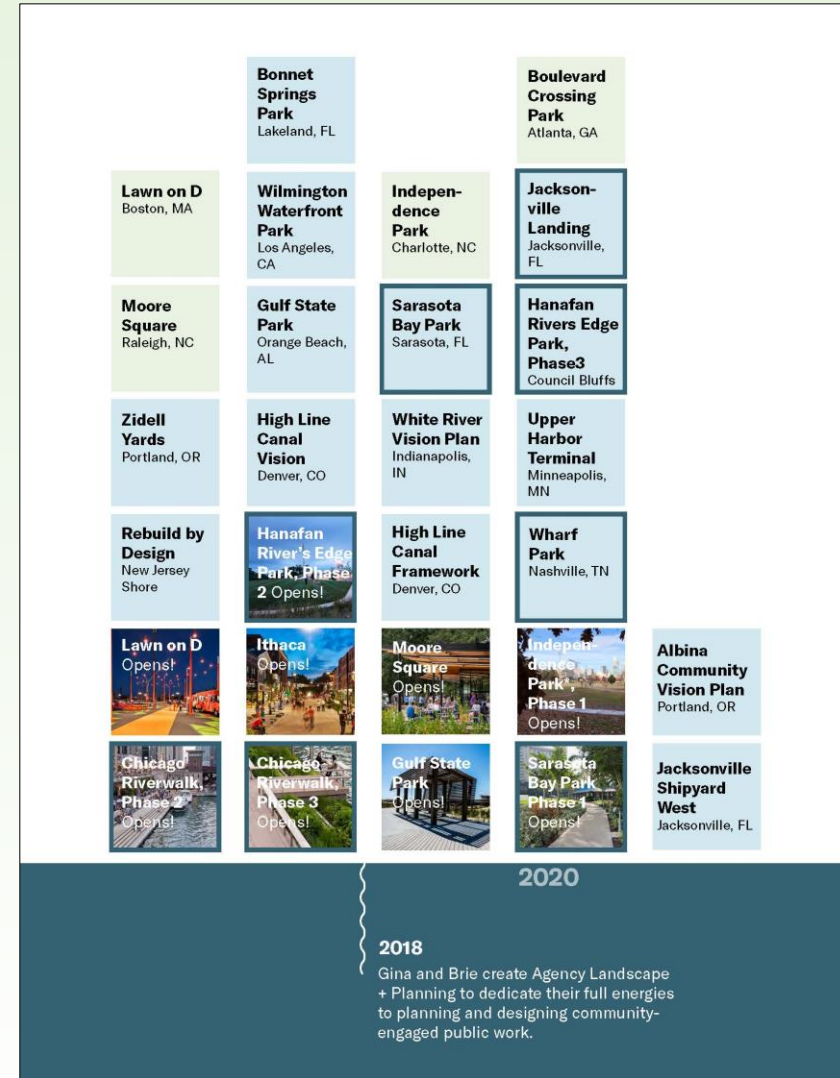
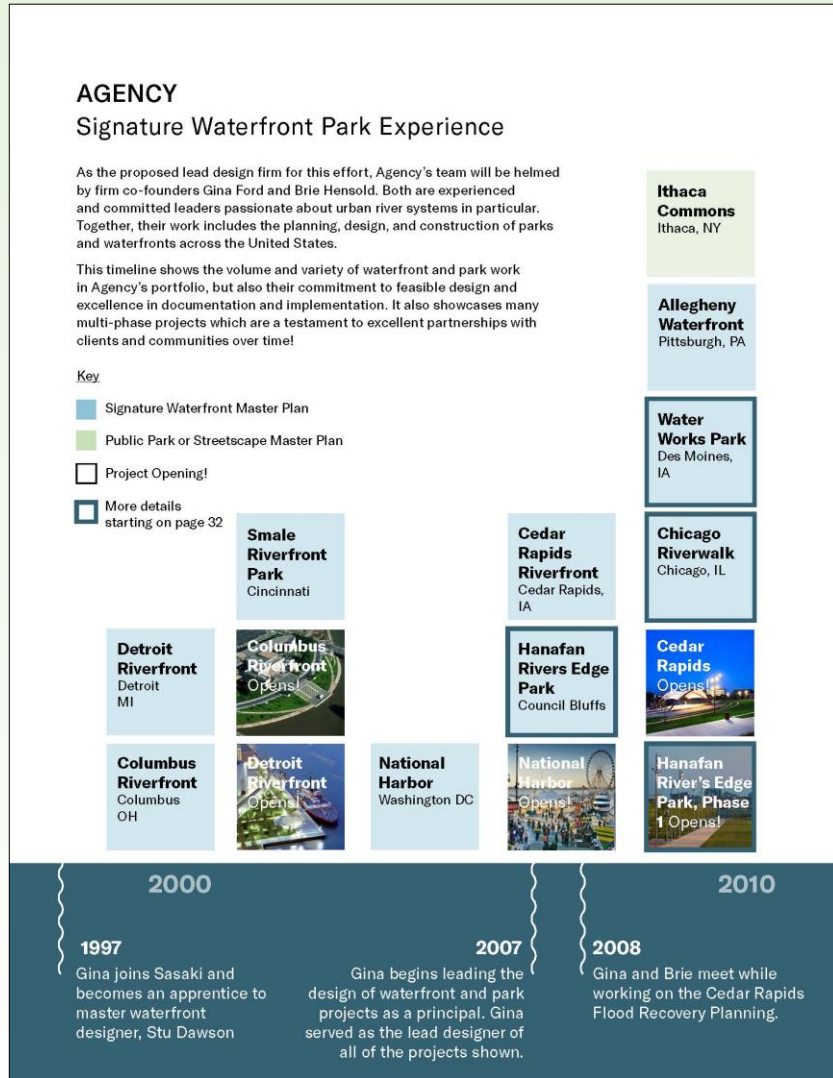
Signature Waterfront Park Experience

As the proposed lead design firm for this effort, Agency's team will be helmed by firm co-founders Gina Ford and Brie Hensold. Both are experienced and committed leaders passionate about urban river systems in particular. Together, their work includes the planning, design, and construction of parks and waterfronts across the United States.

This timeline shows the volume and variety of waterfront and park work in Agency's portfolio, but also their commitment to feasible design and excellence in documentation and implementation. It also showcases many multi-phase projects which are a testament to excellent partnerships with clients and communities over time!

Key

- Signature Waterfront Master Plan
- Public Park or Streetscape Master Plan
- Project Opening!
- More details starting on page 32



Lake Monona Waterfront Design Challenge



Agency Landscape + Planning



Agency's Gina Ford

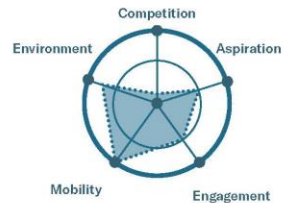
Chicago Riverwalk Chicago Department of Transportation

Chicago, Illinois

Phase 2 - 2016
Phase 3 - 2017

Project Team
Agency Landscape + Planning †

Relevant Themes:



The Main Branch of the Chicago River is a powerfully memorable canyon of space, lined by skyscrapers and punctuated by Chicago's iconic bascule bridges. At the start of this project in 2009, the given site lacked identity and continuity. Access to its length and its edges was limited and there was little reason for visitors to linger. The charge given to Sasaki - the prime consultant for the project - and its team was to build 25' of new land on the river's south side, weaving it together as a continuously connected public space.

The completed segments of the Riverwalk now create an identity for the river's edge that is both visceral in experience and as memorable as its architectural frame. The experience is both one of variety and continuity. Variety is created by the sculptural configuration of each block or "room" that provides different kinds of river-themed uses. Continuity is provided

with a unified material language threading together the six blocks. Gina Ford was the lead designer for the Sasaki team - working closely with Ross Barney Architects to create a cohesive overall vision for these latest phases and then leading the development of concept design through implementation for a series of key spaces - the Marina (between State and Dearborn Streets), the Cove (between Dearborn and Clark) and the Jetty (between Wells and Franklin). Walking the new blocks brings an exciting unfolding of new and diverse experiences, from densely packed places of social interaction to a profoundly personal closeness to the river surface. It is designed as a place of aquatic habitat, floating wetlands and fishing piers. The presence of constant change in this landscape—with the seasons and with the ever-changing flood dynamics — makes natural processes tangible for visitors.



Lake Monona Waterfront Design Challenge



Sasaki

DUALIFICATIONS

SASAKI

About Sasaki

Since our firm's inception more than 65 years ago, Sasaki planners and designers have been reinterpreting public space for ongoing economic contribution, civic amenity, ecological and environmental sustainability, and creative programming.

Today, our practice is an interdisciplinary collaborative of 300 professionals, comprising landscape architecture, planning, urban design, architecture, interior design, civil engineering, graphic design, place branding, community engagement, and data science. Our headquarters are located in Boston, Massachusetts, with offices in Denver, Colorado and Shanghai, China.

A dedicated core team of individuals at Sasaki, including this proposed project team, focuses on civic work—especially projects at the intersection of resilience, placemaking, and open space. In partnership with our clients, we focus on improving the quality of life in urban centers.

The core tenets of our work are partnerships with our clients toward shared outcomes, meaningful and memorable community outreach, data-driven analysis, transformation through visionary planning and design, and well-defined implementation strategies to see projects realized.

For this project, Sasaki has assembled a world-class team that is familiar with guiding complex and highly technical projects to fruition under the constraints of time, budget, and public process. This team has national recognition but is grounded in local expertise and experience. Our collaborative approach ensures innovative design solutions that are rooted in effective public engagement strategies.

OUR PARKS PRACTICE



Lake Monona Waterfront Design Challenge



Sasaki



SASAKI



Lake Monona Waterfront Design Challenge



Sasaki

We Know Waterfront Planning

Sasaki's legacy and ongoing evolution is closely tied to America's waterfronts. Our landscape team has led the master planning through implementation of some of the country's most iconic waterfronts including the Chicago Riverwalk in Chicago, IL, Smale Riverfront Park in Cincinnati, OH, and Tom Hanafan Park in Council Bluffs, IA.

Our team understands that waterfront projects have their own complexity that requires specialized expertise, tools, and creativity. Sasaki brings a national and international portfolio of planning, urban design, and landscape-scale waterfront projects. The public realm is an important framework element to help create a sense of place even for projects with implementation phased over time. A compelling, creative, and sustainable landscape strategy for the water's edge, new streets, and other internal landscapes help to define new and expanded districts.

Our approach to resilient waterfront planning adapts to the unique site, needs, and stakeholder/community input of each project. Through our many years of planning complex, urban waterfront projects, our firm has acquired the expertise needed to envision and realize transformative and contextually-sensitive waterfront redevelopment such as the Lake Monona Waterfront.



CHICAGO RIVERWALK | CHICAGO, ILLINOIS

Lake Monona Waterfront Design Challenge



Sasaki

QUALIFICATIONS

Multibenefit, Resilient Waterfronts

The Sasaki team's approach to resilient waterfront design adapts to the unique site, needs, and stakeholder/community input of each project. We have experience designing diverse resilient urban waterfronts—from plazas with floating constructed wetlands to green parks and nature-based resilient strategies. Through this experience, we understand how to design public spaces that balance flood protection, community recreation and access, and environmental systems—while also navigating the complex realities of waterfront permitting.



SMALE RIVERFRONT PARK, BEFORE AND AFTER FLOODING | CINCINNATI, OHIO

"UNCHOKE THE THROAT" DESIGN CONCEPTS FOR THE CHARLES RIVER | BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS



Diverse Waterfront Experiences

From hard to soft, our designs respond to their context and identify ways to integrate green space even in areas with tight regulatory constraints. In Chicago, Sasaki designed floating wetlands and underwater fish habitat that did not conflict with shipping channel regulations. In **Smale Riverfront Park**, which sits along the banks of the Ohio River in downtown Cincinnati, Sasaki designed key features to be disconnected and removed easily (including removable restroom pods and specimen roses in the rose garden that could be evacuated in a flood). Everything else was made of durable materials that could be cleaned easily. Last spring, the park experienced a record flood. All strategies worked as planned, and the park reopened within a week.

Nature-based Resilience

With in-house ecologists, our resilient approach always looks for opportunities to integrate nature-based resilience and green infrastructure into projects. For the past four years, we have been working with the non-profit Hoosic River Revival and the Massachusetts Department of Ecological Restoration on the **Hoosic River Flood Chute Naturalization** to rethink existing flood protection strategies (currently 15 foot-high concrete channels) and give more room to the river—restoring it to once again be the economic, ecological, and visual heart of North Adams. In partnership with the Nature Conservancy—along with APA and ASCE—Sasaki also developed the **NRC Solutions Web Tool** which serves as a national resource to promote nature-based solutions to flooding.

Integrating Access

Sasaki has been working with the Charles River Conservancy and Walk Boston on the "Unchoke the Throat" initiative to advocate for expanded pedestrian access as part of the I-90 reconstruction project along the narrowest part of the Charles River. Sasaki's design shows options for widening the open space by adding raised boardwalks or carefully adding fill to select places along the Charles River trail. When the US Army Corps of Engineers raised a flood protection levee along the Susquehanna River, the community of Wilkes-Barre was effectively cut off from the river. Luzerne County enlisted Sasaki to design park spaces, waterfront access points, and pedestrian routes that would reconnect the community to the riverfront.

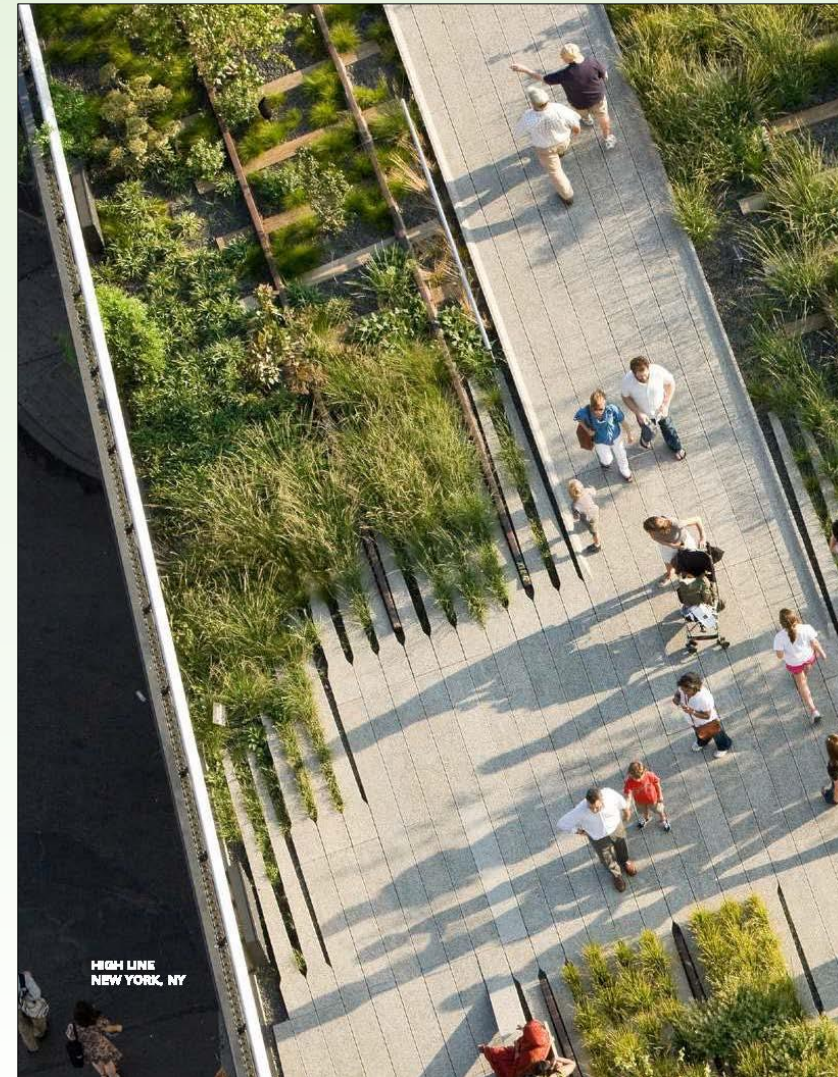


NRC SOLUTIONS WEB TOOL (TOP); HOOSIC RIVER RESTORATION | NORTH ADAMS, MASSACHUSETTS (BOTTOM)

Lake Monona Waterfront Design Challenge

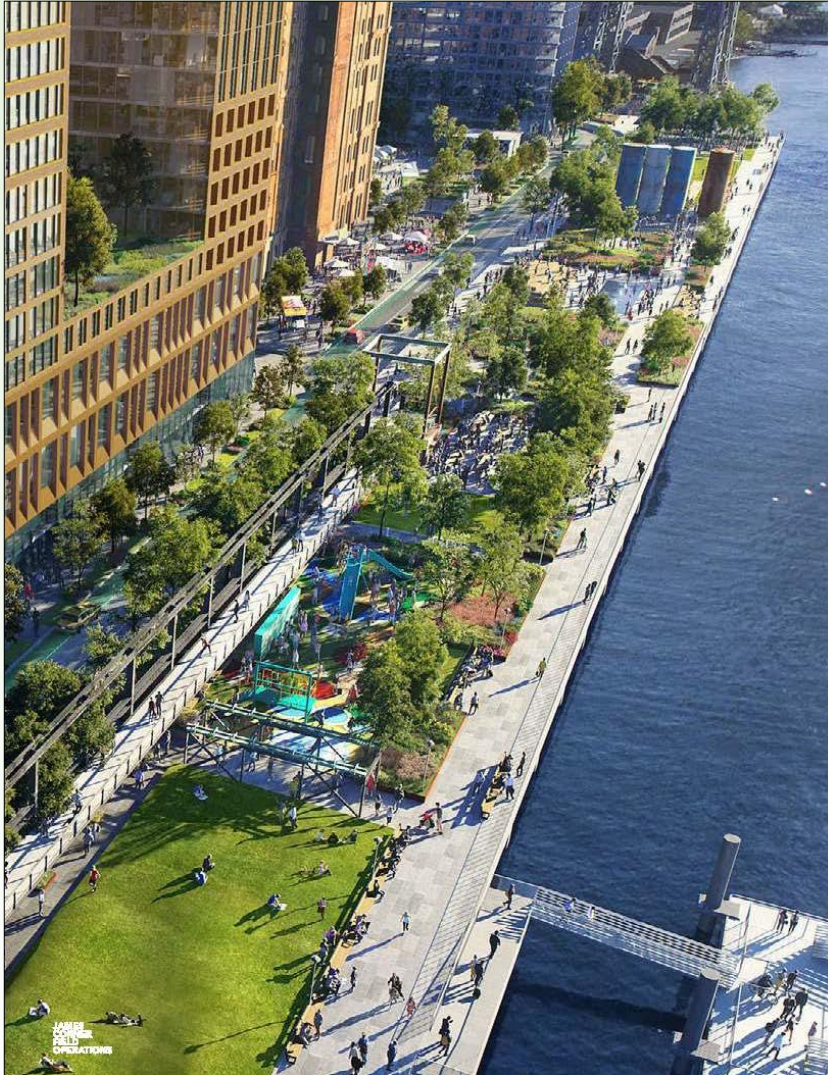


James Corner Field Operations



Lake Monona Waterfront Design Challenge

James Corner Field Operations



BROOKLYN RIVERFRONT PARK BROOKLYN, NEW YORK

Field Operations designed the Brooklyn Riverfront Park, which will enhance connectivity of the public waterfront, reinstate natural habitats, elevate the standard for urban waterfront resiliency, and transform the way New Yorkers interact with the East River. The waterfront park features a circular esplanade that extends into the East River, connecting a series of nature trails, amphitheater, boating cove, children's natural play area, and sandy beach, all promoting access in and around the river. Waterfront infrastructure and open space will feature breakwaters, marshes, wetlands, and a tidal basin that will dissipate wave action to increase resiliency and create calmer waters for safe in-water recreation. The master plan has already received an Honor Award from ASLA-NY and an Urban Design Citation Award from AIA-NY.

Domino Park, the first phase of the project, opened in 2018 and has been embraced by the diverse community it serves with over 4 million visitors since opening.

RELEVANCE TO LAKE MONONA WATERFRONT:

- Lakefront project;
- Mixed-use development with quality of life amenities;
- Extensive community outreach and engagement;
- Equity and inclusion with design and programming;
- Community integration in new development;
- New view-sheds and waterfront connections;
- Pilot WEDG project with certification.

year	2012-present; first phase (Domino Park) completed in 2018
size	1st phase: 11 acres, 1/4 mile long (5 acres open space); 2nd phase: 3 acres (6 acres of open space including protected in-water access)
role	master planning, landscape architecture, public realm
budget	confidential
client	Two Trees Management

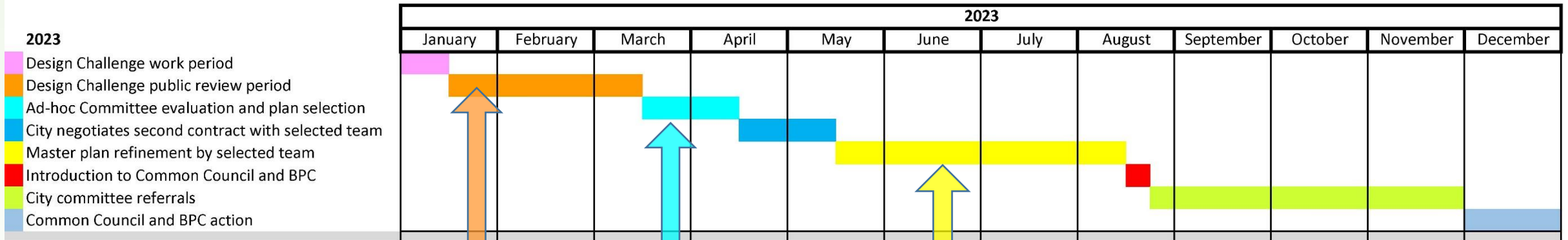
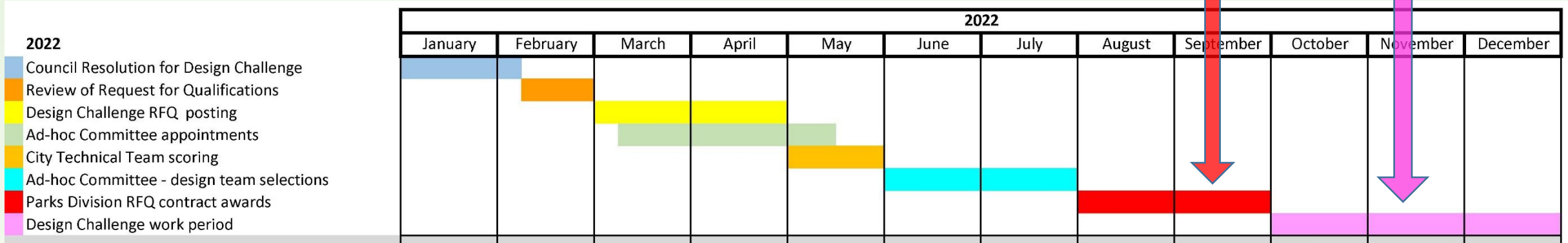
Lake Monona Waterfront Design Challenge



14 week plan development phase

Project Schedule

We are here



Public review

Committee evaluation and selection

Refinement of selected plan



Lake Monona Waterfront Design Challenge

Public events for fourteen week plan development phase



Design Challenge Kick-Off

Monday, October 3, 2022 @ 6:00 pm CT

Madison Central Library, Rooms 301-302, 201 W Mifflin Street



Design Challenge Check-In

Monday, November 7, 2022 @ 6:00 pm CT

Monona Terrace Community and Convention Center, Lecture Hall, 1 John Nolen Drive



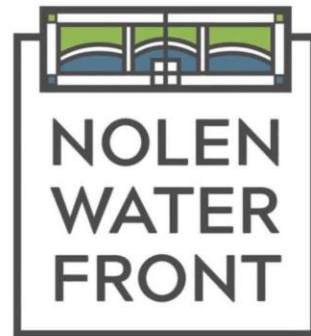
Design Challenge Master Plan Presentations

Thursday, January 26, 2023 @ 6:00 pm CT

Olin Park Facility, 330 E. Lakeside Street



Friends of Nolen Waterfront



Friends of Nolen
Waterfront

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