



Lower Cuyahoga River Planning and Project Update

Board of Park
Commissioners

Sean E. McDermott, P.E.
Chief Planning and Design Officer

April 17, 2025



Planning and Coordination Update

- Past Plans
- Vision for the Valley
- Riverfront Trail



Past Plans

- 1986 Flats Oxbow Long-Range Development Plan
- 1993 Flats Oxbow Long-Range Development Plan Update
- 1999 Linking the Corridor: A Plan for the Towpath Trail in the North Cuyahoga Valley
- 2002 Towpath Trail Extension: Alignment and Design Study
- 2002 Cuyahoga County Greenprint
- 2009 Canal Basin District Plan
- 2017 Cleveland Metroparks Reservation Plan Updates: Neighborhood Connections
- 2019 Cleveland Metroparks Reservation Plan Updates: Lakefront Reservation Rivergate Park and Heritage Park
- 2019 Cuyahoga Greenways Plan

Past

- 1986 Fla
- 1993 Fla
- 1999 Lin Valley
- 2002 To
- 2002 Cu
- 2009 Ca
- 2017 Cle Connect
- 2019 Cle Reserva
- 2019 Cu

Pedestrian Open Spaces

Open Space Hub

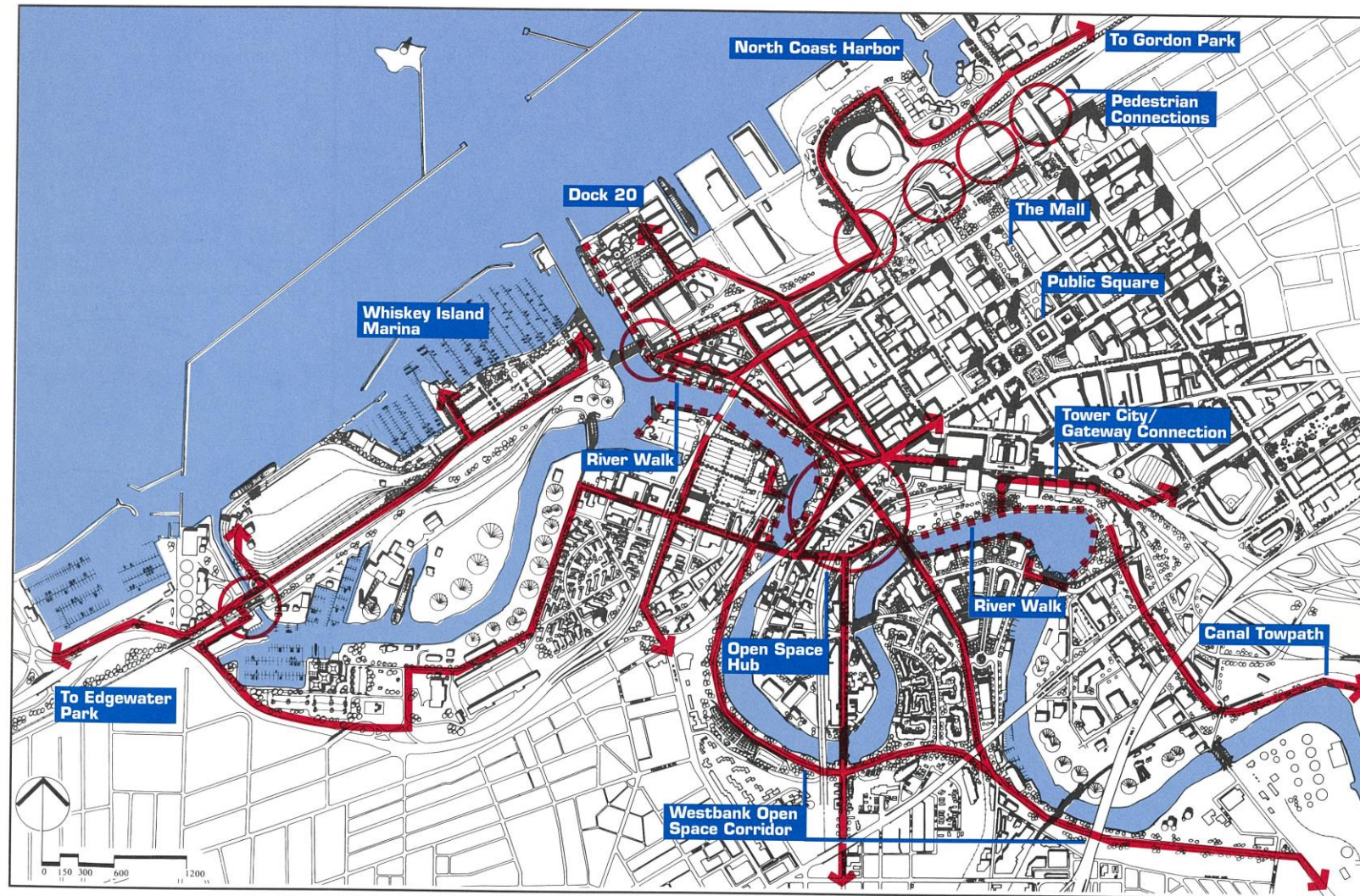
Parks / Activity Nodes

Recreation and Open Space

Past

- 1986 Fl
- **1993 Fl**
- 1999 Lin
Valley
- 2002 To
- 2002 Cl
- 2009 Ca
- 2017 Cl
Connec
- 2019 Cl
Reserva
- 2019 Cl

RECREATION AND OPEN SPACE



uyahoga

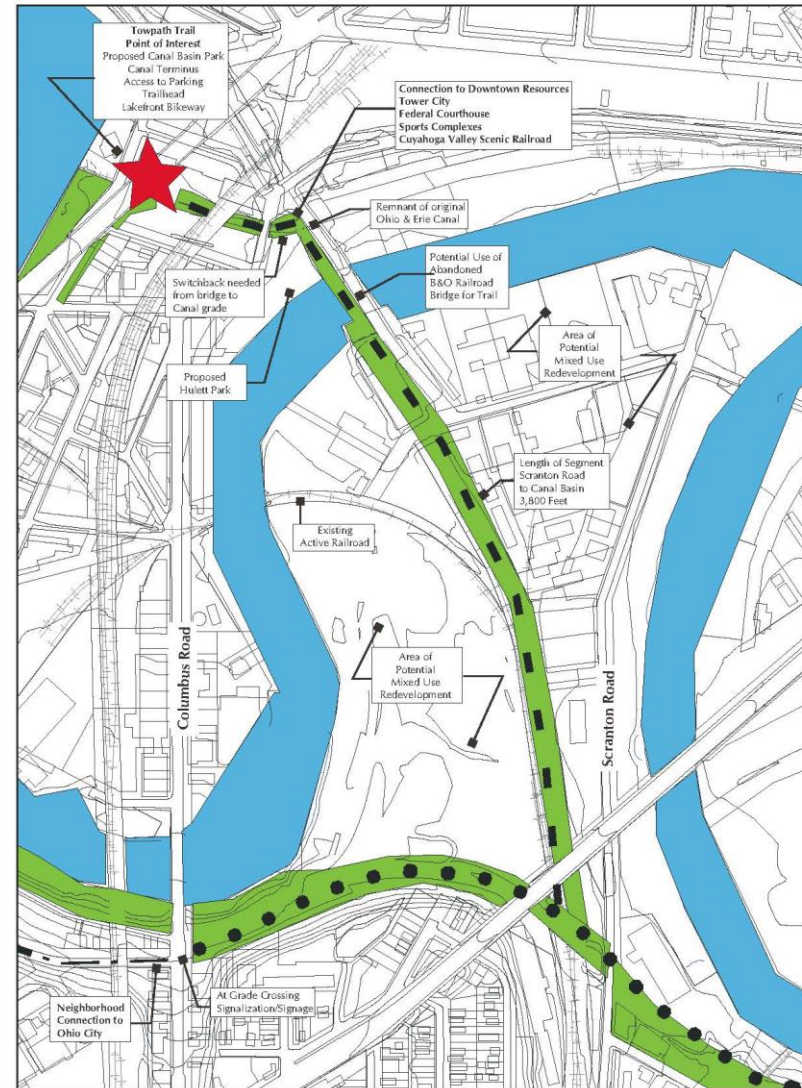
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Past Plans

- 1986 Flats Oxbow L
- 1993 Flats Oxbow L
- **1999 Linking the Cuyahoga Valley**
- 2002 Towpath Trail I
- 2002 Cuyahoga Col
- 2009 Canal Basin D
- 2017 Cleveland Met Connections
- 2019 Cleveland Met Reservation Riverga
- 2019 Cuyahoga Gre

Proposed Route Alternatives

Map 2.9, Route Evaluation, Segment D - Scranton Peninsula to Canal Basin - Route 1



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ail in the North

idy

Neighborhood

_akefront

Past

- 1986 Fl
- 1993 Fl
- 1999 Lin
Valley
- 2002 To
- **2002 C**
- 2009 C
- 2017 C
Connec
- 2019 C
Reserv
- 2019 C

CUYAHOGA COUNTY GREENSPACE PLAN

LEGEND

EXISTING PARKS & PROTECTED AREAS

GREENSPACE CORRIDORS

RIVER, LAKEFRONT & CONSERVATION AREAS

OTHER GREENSPACE CORRIDORS

OUTSIDE CUYAHOGA COUNTY

GREENED CONNECTORS

EXISTING BOULEVARDS

POTENTIAL GREENED CONNECTOR

LAKE ERIE CIRCLE TOUR ROUTE

CANALWAY OHIO SCENIC BYWAY

ACTIVITY NODES

CIVIC/RETAIL

COLLEGE

RAPID STATION

TRAILS

EXISTING MULTI-PURPOSE

POTENTIAL TRAILS

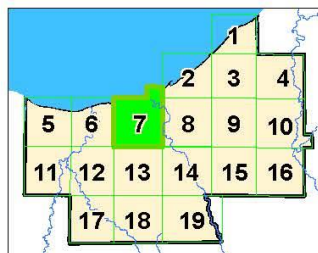
CUYAHOGA VALLEY SCENIC RAILWAY

EXISTING

PROPOSED



0 2000 4000
Feet



CUYAHOGA COUNTY PLANNING COMMISSION, 2002



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Past

- 1986 Flaming
- 1993 Flaming
- 1999 Lin
- 2002 To
- 2002 Cu
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- 2017 Cle
- 2019 Cle
- 2019 Cu



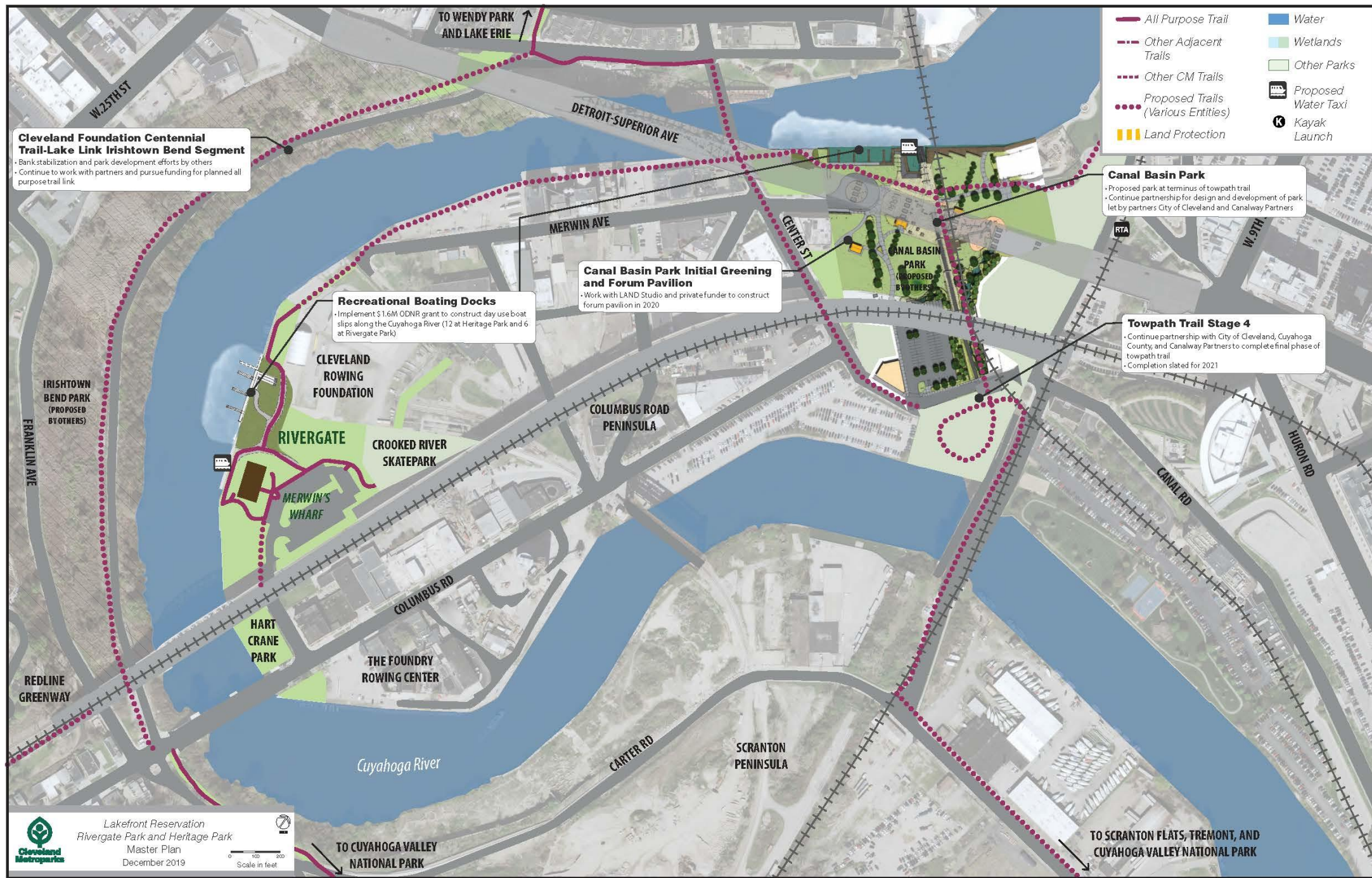
Guiding Principles

- Emphasize Canal Basin Park as a primary destination/hub.
- Establish a linkage hierarchy with the Towpath Trail as the primary trail.
- Integrate and connect surrounding attractions/destinations.
- Encourage/facilitate local neighborhood links and related regional systems to the primary system.
- Prioritize the "family" experience as the primary target bike user.
- Emphasize the historic significance.
- Establish dedicated off-street bicycle and pedestrian path systems, wherever possible.
- Establish links to complementary transit modes, including the GC RTA rail and bus transit and the proposed Cuyahoga Valley Scenic Railroad.
- Separate incompatible transit modes for improved safety and user experience.
- Integrate a network of support amenities (bike rentals, lockers).
- Establish the system as a model of sustainable design.
- Base design decisions on an implementation strategy that maximizes flexibility, cost effectiveness and ease of phasing.



CANAL BASIN DISTRICT PLAN





Past F

- 1986 Fla
- 1993 Fla
- 1999 Lin Valley
- 2002 Tov
- 2002 Cu
- 2009 Cal
- 2017 Cle Connecti
- 2019 Cle Reservat
- **2019 Cu**



KEY SUPPORTING ROUTES

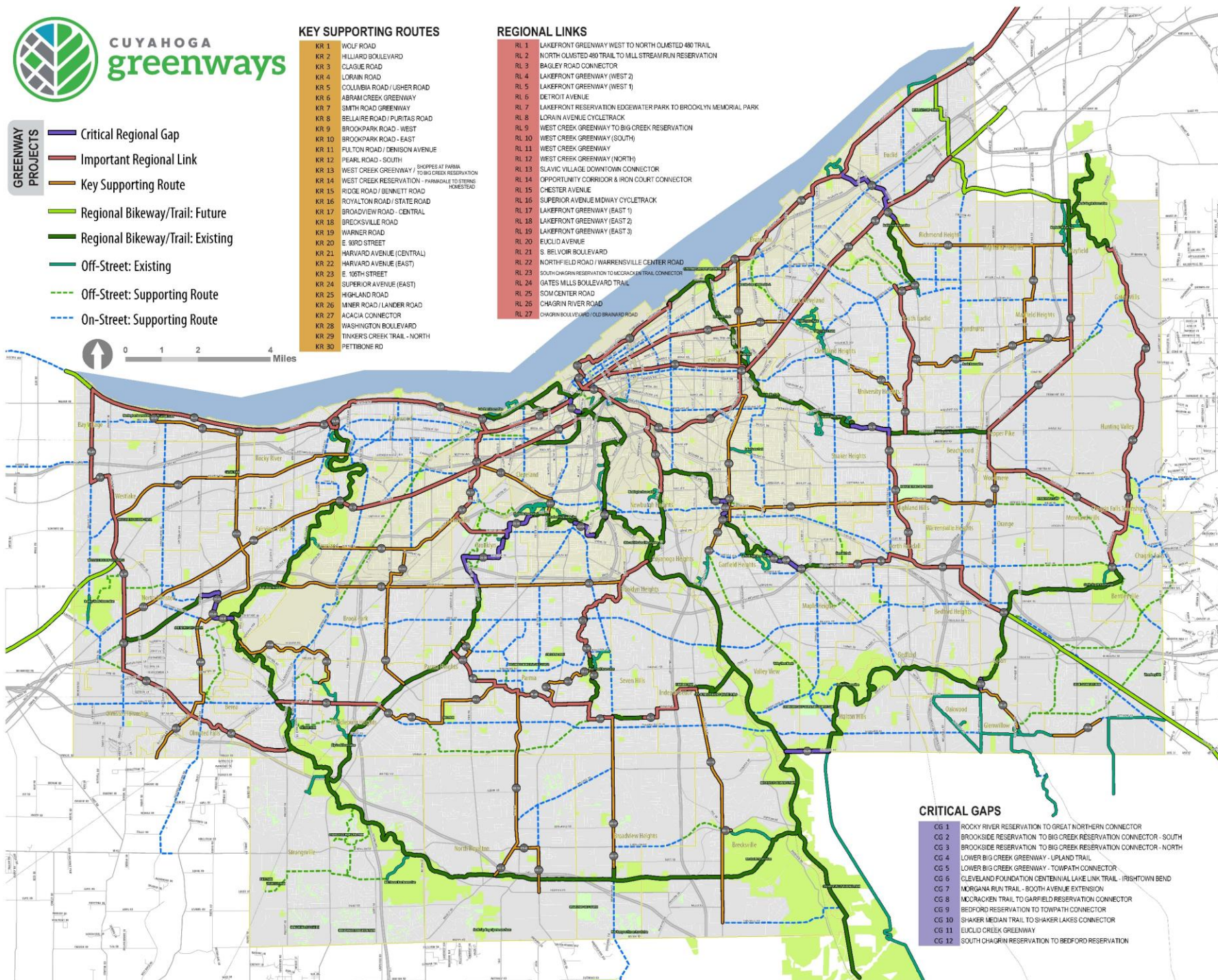
KR 1	WOLF ROAD
KR 2	HILLIARD BOULEVARD
KR 3	CLAUDE ROAD
KR 4	LORAIN ROAD
KR 5	COLUMBIA ROAD / USHER ROAD
KR 6	ABRAM CREEK GREENWAY
KR 7	SMITH ROAD GREENWAY
KR 8	BELLAIRE ROAD / PURITAS ROAD
KR 9	BROOKPARK ROAD - WEST
KR 10	BROOKPARK ROAD - EAST
KR 11	FULTON ROAD / DENISON AVENUE
KR 12	PEARL ROAD - SOUTH
KR 13	WEST CREEK GREENWAY / TO BIG CREEK RESERVATION
KR 14	WEST CREEK RESERVATION - PARNADALE TO STEINER HOMESTEAD
KR 15	RIDGE ROAD / BENNETT ROAD
KR 16	ROYALTON ROAD / STATE ROAD
KR 17	BROADVIEW ROAD - CENTRAL
KR 18	BRECKSVILLE ROAD
KR 19	WARNER ROAD
KR 20	E 93RD STREET
KR 21	HARVARD AVENUE (CENTRAL)
KR 22	HARVARD AVENUE (EAST)
KR 23	E 106TH STREET
KR 24	SUPERIOR AVENUE (EAST)
KR 25	HIGHLAND ROAD
KR 26	MINER ROAD / LANDER ROAD
KR 27	ACACIA CONNECTOR
KR 28	WASHINGTON BOULEVARD
KR 29	TINKER'S CREEK TRAIL - NORTH
KR 30	PETTIBONE RD

REGIONAL LINKS

RL 1	LAKEFRONT GREENWAY WEST TO NORTH OLIVEST 480 TRAIL
RL 2	NORTH OLIVEST 480 TRAIL TO MILL STREAM RUN RESERVATION
RL 3	BAGLEY ROAD CONNECTOR
RL 4	LAKEFRONT GREENWAY (WEST 2)
RL 5	LAKEFRONT GREENWAY (WEST 1)
RL 6	DETROIT AVENUE
RL 7	LAKEFRONT RESERVATION EDGEWATER PARK TO BROOKLYN MEMORIAL PARK
RL 8	LORAIN AVENUE CYCLETRACK
RL 9	WEST CREEK GREENWAY TO BIG CREEK RESERVATION
RL 10	WEST CREEK GREENWAY (SOUTH)
RL 11	WEST CREEK GREENWAY
RL 12	WEST CREEK GREENWAY (NORTH)
RL 13	SLAVIC VILLAGE DOWNTOWN CONNECTOR
RL 14	OPPORTUNITY CORRIDOR & IRON COURT CONNECTOR
RL 15	CHESTER AVENUE
RL 16	SUPERIOR AVENUE MIDWAY CYCLETRACK
RL 17	LAKEFRONT GREENWAY (EAST 1)
RL 18	LAKEFRONT GREENWAY (EAST 2)
RL 19	LAKEFRONT GREENWAY (EAST 3)
RL 20	EUCID AVENUE
RL 21	S BELVOIR BOULEVARD
RL 22	NORTHFIELD ROAD / WARRENSVILLE CENTER ROAD
RL 23	SOUTH CHAGRIN RESERVATION TO MCCACKEN CENTRAL CONNECTOR
RL 24	GATES MILLS BOULEVARD TRAIL
RL 25	SOM CENTER ROAD
RL 26	CHAGRIN RIVER ROAD
RL 27	CHAGRIN BOULEVARD / OLD BRANARD ROAD

GREENWAY PROJECTS

- Critical Regional Gap
- Important Regional Link
- Key Supporting Route
- Regional Bikeway/Trail: Future
- Regional Bikeway/Trail: Existing
- Off-Street: Existing
- Off-Street: Supporting Route
- On-Street: Supporting Route



CRITICAL GAPS

CG 1	ROCKY RIVER RESERVATION TO GREAT NORTHERN CONNECTOR
CG 2	BROOKSIDE RESERVATION TO BIG CREEK RESERVATION CONNECTOR - SOUTH
CG 3	BROOKSIDE RESERVATION TO BIG CREEK RESERVATION CONNECTOR - NORTH
CG 4	LOWER BIG CREEK GREENWAY - UPLAND TRAIL
CG 5	LOWER BIG CREEK GREENWAY - TOWPATH CONNECTOR
CG 6	CLEVELAND FOUNDATION CENTENNIAL LAKE LINK TRAIL - BRIGHTOWN BEND
CG 7	MORGANA RUN TRAIL - BOOTH AVENUE EXTENSION
CG 8	MCCACKEN TRAIL TO GARFIELD RESERVATION CONNECTOR
CG 9	BEDFORD RESERVATION TO TOWPATH CONNECTOR
CG 10	SHAKER MEDIAN TRAIL TO SHAKER LAKES CONNECTOR
CG 11	EUCID CREEK GREENWAY
CG 12	SOUTH CHAGRIN RESERVATION TO BEDFORD RESERVATION

Cuyahoga

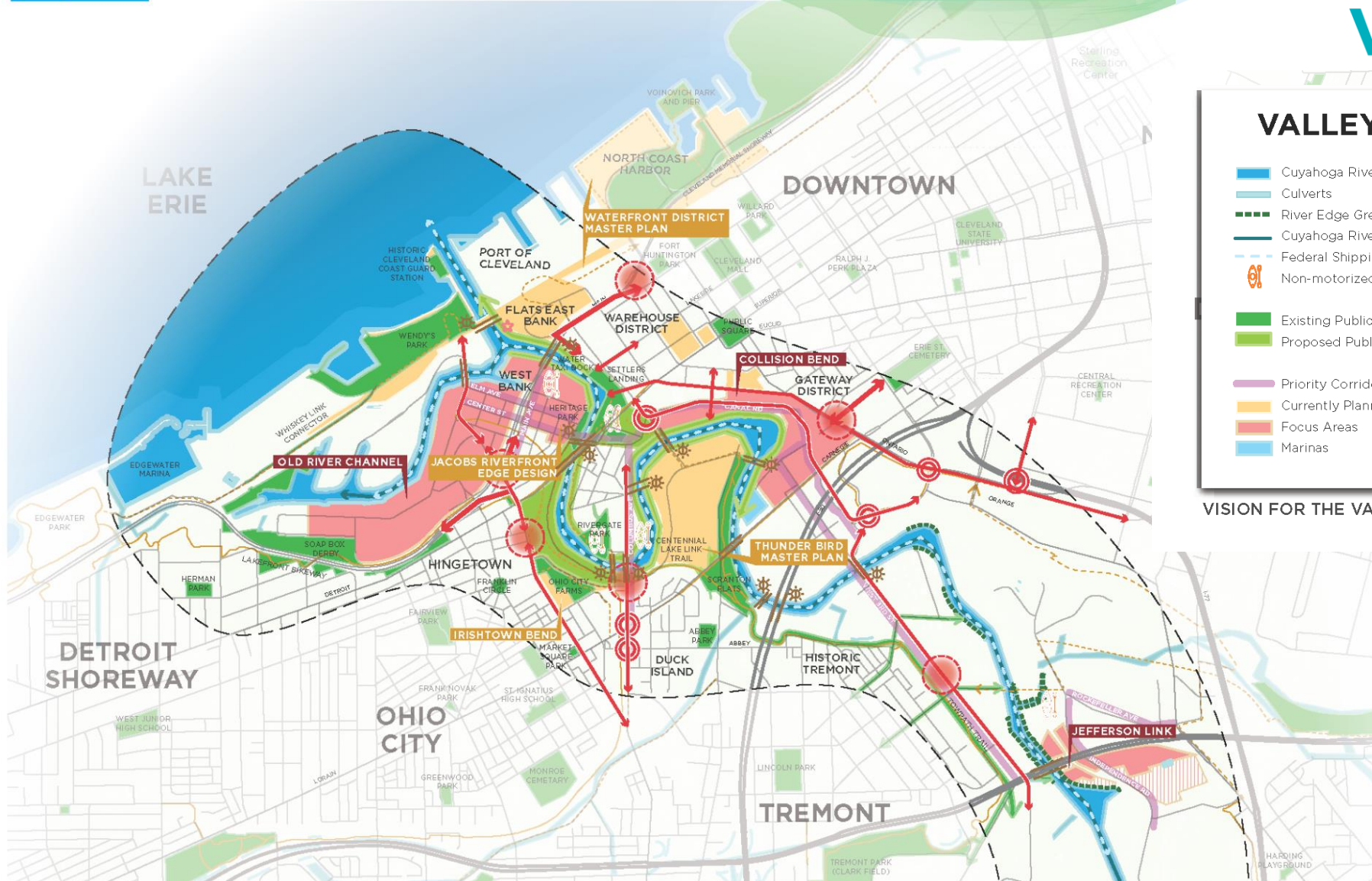
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CONCEPT MAP

Valley Wide Recommendations



VISION FOR THE VALLEY



VALLEY WIDE CONCEPT MAP

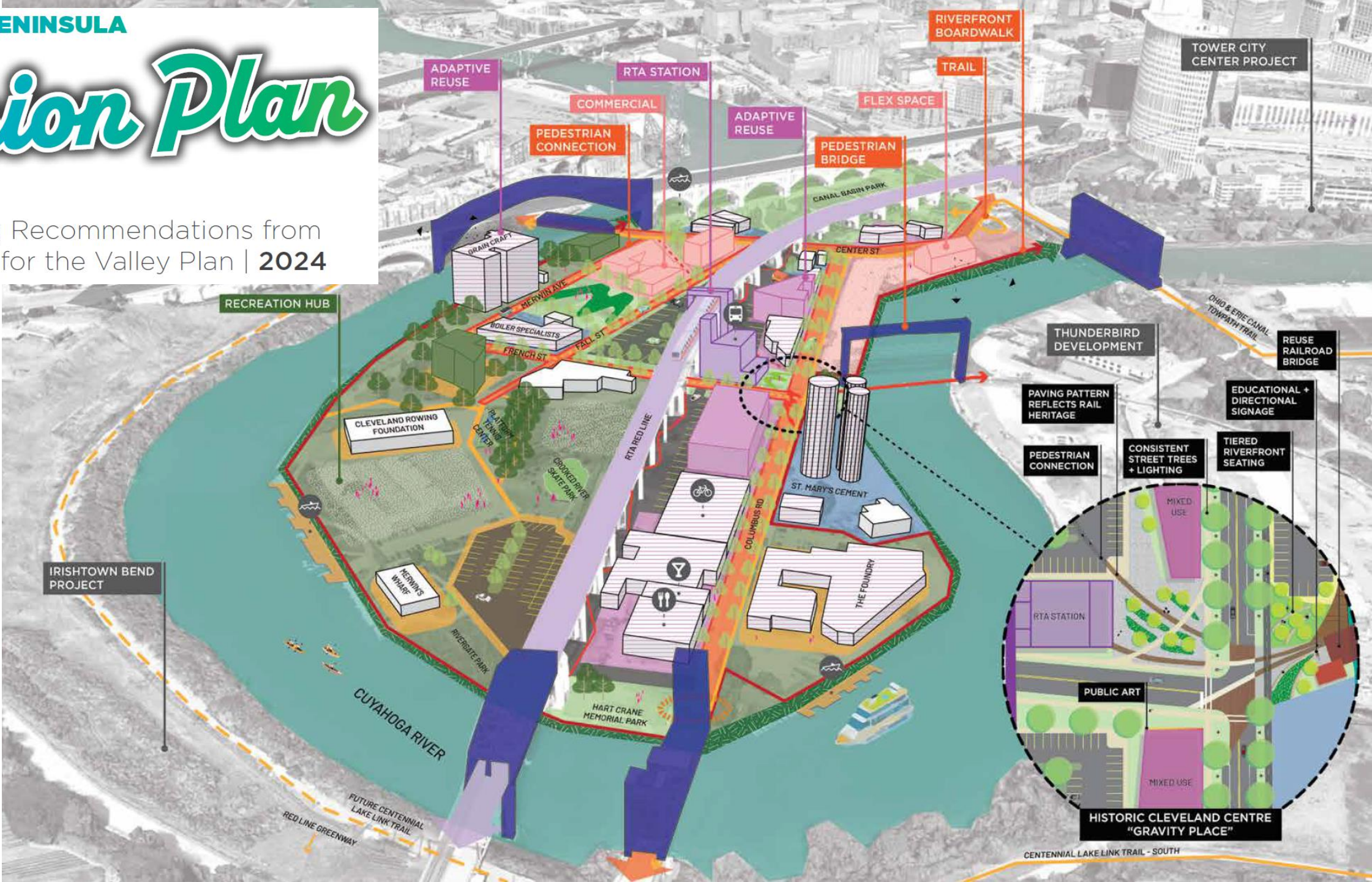
- Cuyahoga River/Lake Erie
- Culverts
- River Edge Greening - Proposed
- Cuyahoga River Water Trail
- Federal Shipping Channel
- Non-motorized Boat Launch
- Existing Public Open Space
- Proposed Public Open Space
- Priority Corridors
- Currently Planned Sites
- Focus Areas
- Marinas
- Trails - Existing
- Trails - Proposed
- Gateways
- Key Intersections
- Connections
- Major Connections
- Bridges
- Illuminated Bridges
- New Iconic Attraction

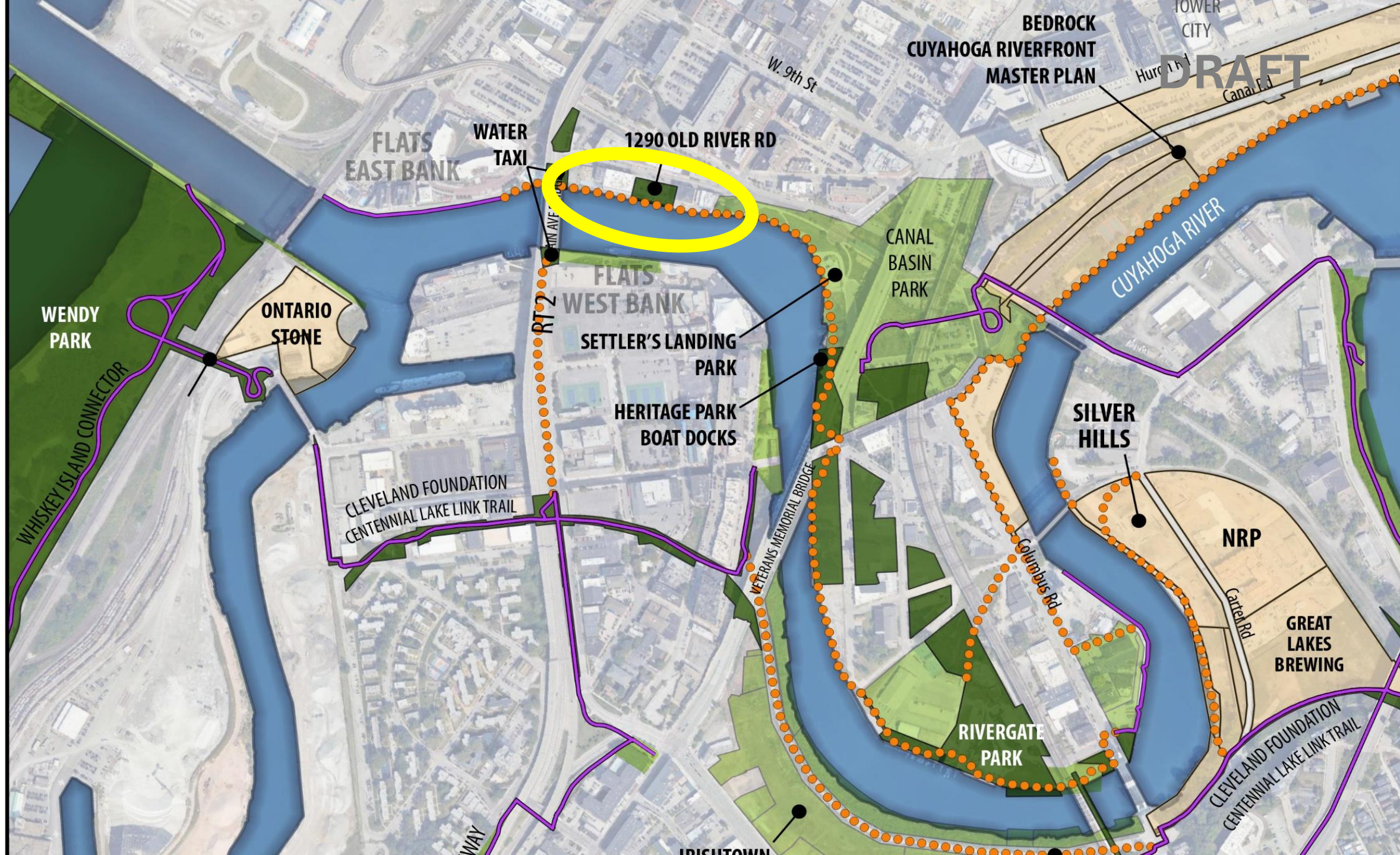
VISION FOR THE VALLEY

July 2021

Vision Plan

Advancing Recommendations from
the Vision for the Valley Plan | 2024





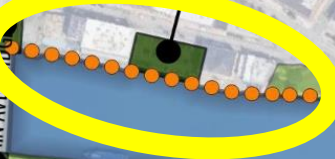
**BEDROCK
CUYAHOGA RIVERFRONT
MASTER PLAN**

DRAFT

**FLATS
EAST BANK**

**WATER
TAXI**

1290 OLD RIVER RD



**FLATS
WEST BANK**

**SETTLER'S LANDING
PARK**

**HERITAGE PARK
BOAT DOCKS**

**CANAL
BASIN
PARK**

**SILVER
HILLS**

NRP

**GREAT
LAKES
BREWING**

**RIVERGATE
PARK**

**CLEVELAND FOUNDATION
CENTENNIAL LAKE LINK TRAIL**

**WENDY
PARK**

**ONTARIO
STONE**

**CLEVELAND FOUNDATION
CENTENNIAL LAKE LINK TRAIL**

VETERANS MEMORIAL BRIDGE

COLUMBUS RD

CAREY RD

WHISKEY ISLAND CONNECTOR

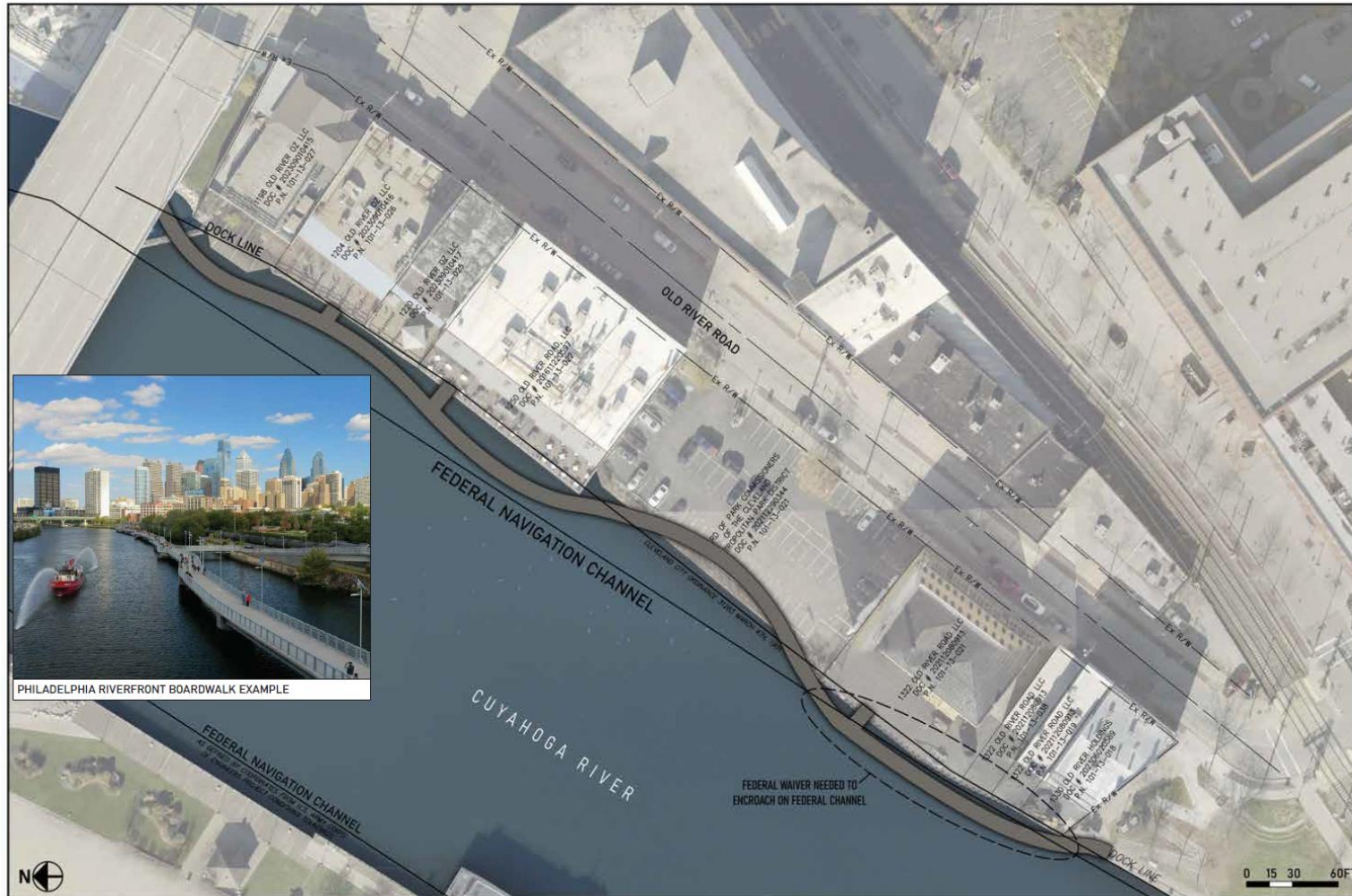
W. 9th St

Huron Rd

Canal Rd

IRISHTOWN

Riverfront Boardwalk Concept Plan





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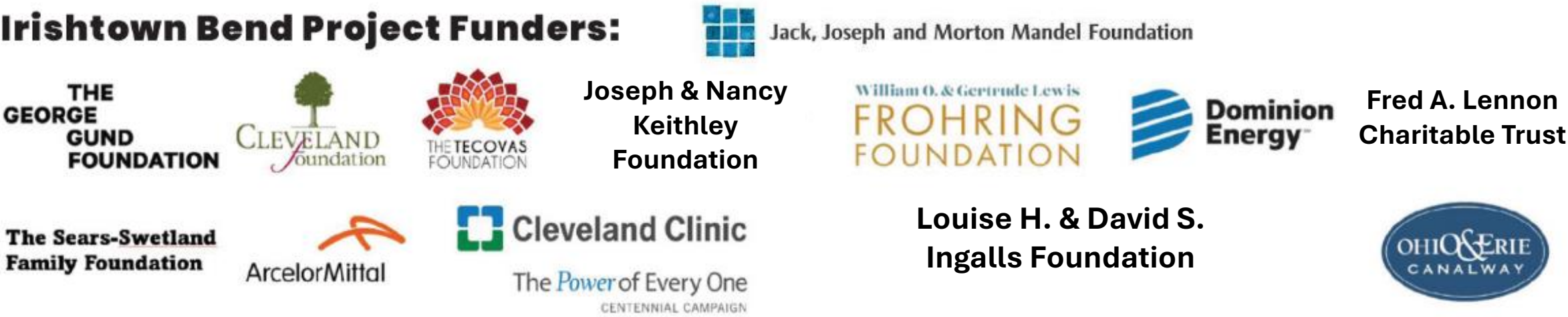
Irishtown Bend Project Partners:



Irishtown Bend Project Supporters:



Irishtown Bend Project Funders:



HILLSIDE INSTABILITY



Cuyahoga Viaduct

Cuyahoga River

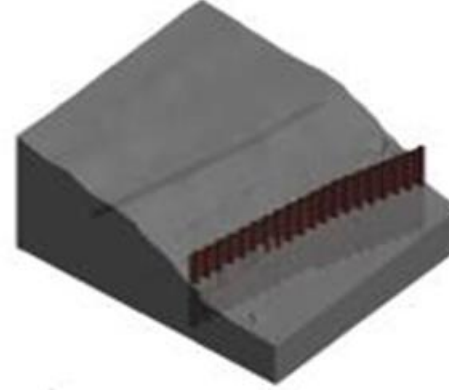
Columbus Road Bridge

GRADING SECTION

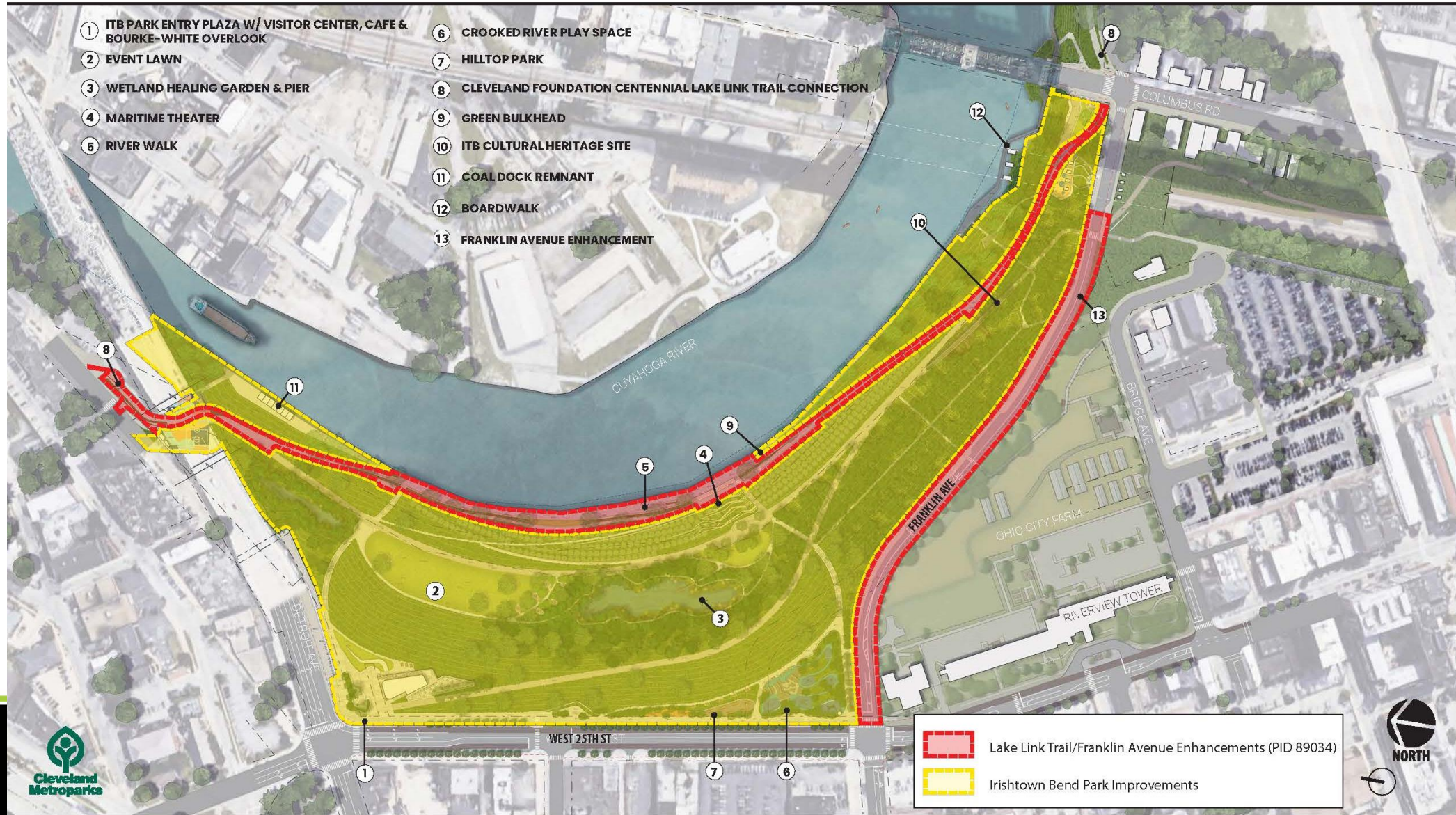


BULKHEAD

New bulkheads will be installed to stabilize the hillside and protect the shipping channel

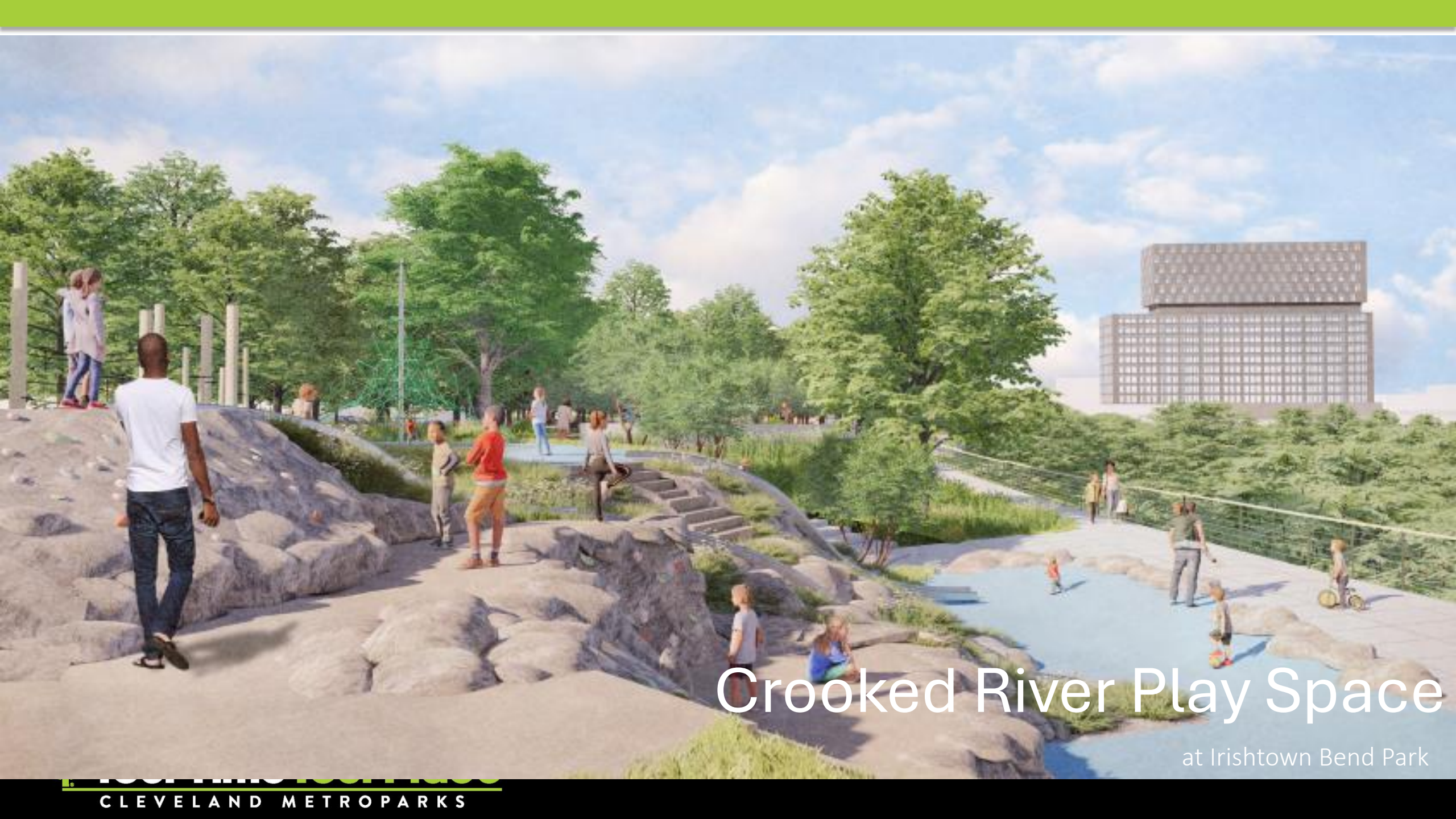


Irishtown Bend – Project Overview



Irishtown Bend – Project Overview





Crooked River Play Space

at Irishtown Bend Park



The River Walk
at Irishtown Bend Park