General Policy Recommendations

1. Industry & Infrastructure
- Relate land use to industrial and business opportunities along the waterfront.
- Develop a strategic plan for industrial and business opportunities in communities near the waterfront.
- Provide incentives for businesses to locate near the waterfront.
- Improve public transportation connections to the waterfront.
- Enhance public access and transportation networks around the waterfront.
- Promote the development of renewable energy sources along the waterfront.

2. Motorized Transportation
- Promote non-motorized transportation options along the waterfront.
- Enhance public transportation networks along the waterfront.
- Improve pedestrian and bicycle access along the waterfront.
- Promote the development of green corridors along the waterfront.

3. Greenways
- Promote the development of greenways and trails along the waterfront.
- Enhance the connectivity of existing greenways and trails along the waterfront.
- Promote the development of green infrastructure along the waterfront.
- Enhance the connectivity of existing green infrastructure along the waterfront.

4. Multi-Use Trails
- Create new multi-use trails along the waterfront.
- Enhance existing multi-use trails along the waterfront.
- Promote the development of greenways and trails along the waterfront.
- Enhance the connectivity of existing greenways and trails along the waterfront.

5. Community Investment
- Promote community investment along the waterfront.
- Enhance the connectivity of existing community investment along the waterfront.
- Promote the development of green infrastructure along the waterfront.
- Enhance the connectivity of existing green infrastructure along the waterfront.

Composite Framework
new structures or facilities, not integral to public access or use. Establish sensitive development guidelines for land suitable for redevelopment that is sensitive to specific site constraints.
- Encourage the development of open space and public spaces within the city and surrounding lakefront neighborhoods.
- Provide safe and convenient public access to proposed and existing public spaces.
- Capture under-utilized land for positive development and open space opportunities.
- Maximize land values by outlining appropriate density patterns for new lakefront and neighborhood development.
- Capitalize on Triangle, O'Hare, and other infrastructure improvements.
- Promote the development of green infrastructure along the waterfront.
- Enhance the connectivity of existing green infrastructure along the waterfront.
- Promote the development of green infrastructure along the waterfront.
- Enhance the connectivity of existing green infrastructure along the waterfront.

Prepared by:
The Cities of East Chicago, Gary, Hammond, Portage, Whiting, Indiana Department of Natural Resources, Congressman Pete Visclosky
The Lakeshore Reinvestment Strategy

Recommendations

Privately Owned Opportunities

1. State Line Energy
   - Investigate feasibility of relocation/removal of facility.
   - Based on feasibility investigation implement "Voluntary Property Revitalization Process."
   - Acceptable re-uses could include recreation related uses, greenspace, and light industrial.
   - Build new truck access & bridge to industry.

2. BP Lakefront Parcels including Water Purification Facility
   - Investigate feasibility of relocation/removal of water purification facility.
   - Based on feasibility investigation implement "Voluntary Property Revitalization Process."
   - Acceptable re-uses could include recreation related uses, greenspace, and light commercial (except water purification facility).
   - Create connection to former ISG beach to expand Whiting Park.

3. Ispat Inland (Including Former ISG)
   - Investigate opportunities for consolidation of active infrastructure.
   - Determine feasibility of reuse of available parcels.
   - Based on feasibility investigation implement "Voluntary Property Revitalization Process."
   - Acceptable re-uses could include recreation related uses, greenspace, commercial, museums, and residential.

4. Tank Farm Bank Consolidation
   - Investigate opportunities for consolidation of active infrastructure to improve efficiency and to free under-utilized parcels for re-use.
   - Determine feasibility of reuse of available parcels.
   - Based on feasibility investigation implement "Voluntary Property Revitalization Process."
   - Acceptable re-uses could include recreation related uses, greenspace, commercial, museums, and residential.

5. U.S. Steel - Gary Works
   - Investigate opportunities for consolidation of active infrastructure.
   - Determine feasibility of reuse of available parcels and public access easements to Ispat Inland.
   - Based on feasibility investigation implement "Voluntary Property Revitalization Process."
   - Acceptable re-uses could include recreation related uses, greenspace, commercial, museums, and residential, research & development, and light industrial.

6. U.S. Steel - Midwest & Port of Indiana
   - Investigate opportunities for consolidation of active infrastructure.
   - Determine feasibility of reuse of available parcels.

Publicly Owned Opportunities

9. Hammond Water Works Facility
   - Investigate long-term capital investment into current facility and feasibility of relocation of facility.
   - Based on feasibility investigation implement "Voluntary Property Revitalization Process."
   - Acceptable re-uses could include recreation related uses, greenspace, commercial, and residential.

10. Consolidated Shipping Terminal
    - Consolidate all shipping related activities in a single location to improve efficiency and to free under-utilized parcels for re-use.

11. East Chicago Water Works
    - Investigate long-term capital investment into current facility and feasibility of relocation of facility.
    - Based on feasibility investigation implement "Voluntary Property Revitalization Process."
    - Acceptable re-uses could include recreation related uses, greenspace, commercial, and residential.

12. Gary Port Expansion
    - Coordinate concepts of the Marquette Plan into the Gary Airport Master Plan to maximize public use and environmental restoration goals.

Voluntary Property Revitalization Process

A critical element of the Marquette Plan’s implementation will be the redevelopment of key parcels highlighted for a land use change in the plan, based on the process outlined below:

Step 1 Establish voluntary partnership with property owners sharing the Marquette Plan goals.
If a "Go" proceed to Step 2.

Step 2 Weigh Environmental Assessment vs. Planning Goals
- Determine Environmental Assessment costs.
- Establish funding plan (possibly including private, public, and tax increment financing components).
- Evaluate financial and non-financial (job quality of life, etc.) return on investment.
If a "Go" proceed to Step 3.

Step 3 Real Estate Transaction (purchase, donation or easement).
If a "Go" proceed to Step 4.

Step 4 Project Implementation.
The Lakeshore Reinvestment Strategy

Recommendations

1. Hammond/Whitney/East Chicago/Gary Rail Consolidation
   - Coordinate rail consolidation concepts with the respective jurisdictions and the rail corridor for advancement of the Marquette Plan objectives and project priorities.
   - Environmental assessments of the rail corridors will be necessary prior to resource for recreational purposes.

2. Whiting Park Access Improvements
   - Provide improved pedestrian and vehicular access to the park site in Whiting.
   - Develop pedestrian access via a thematic gateway concept.
   - Provide a quieting/sound barrier to the east.
   - Connect Whiting Park to the Illinois Beach Trail by way of the Standard Diamond Trail.

3. New (Former) ISS/Ispat Inland Access Bridge
   - Provide pedestrian access to both former ISS and former Ispat Inland facilities via a new bridge structure and ramps off Ellery Road and evaluate the options for reuse or removal of the current ISS bridge.
   - Coordinate discussions between impacted industries, state agencies, and local jurisdictions to ensure an implementation plan.
   - Conduct INDOT-related studies including financing options.

4. N/S Cline Avenue Corridor and Greenway Study
   - Expand the INDO's scope of work for the proposed Cline Avenue Environmental Study to incorporate concepts of the Marquette Plan.
   - Consider greenway and trail concepts within the corridor for future improvements.
   - Consider modifications to the existing Cline Avenue access to Ispat Inland, Patrick Hardin, Casino, and Center Park.

5. E/W Cline Avenue Grade Separation or Relocation Alternatives Study
   - Evaluate concepts to minimize the negative impacts of the E/W portion of Cline Avenue which acts as a barrier between much of the existing residential area and the lakeshore.
   - Conduct a study to determine the feasibility of realigning and lowering the elevation of the E/W section of Cline Avenue from its current elevation and alignment for community development benefits.
   - Conduct a cost/benefit analysis for rehabilitation vs. relocation of the structure.

6. Indiana Toll Road (I-90) and Cline Avenue Airport Interchange
   - Conduct environmental study for reconfiguration of the Cline Avenue Toll Road interchange for direct access to the airport.

7. Gary Airport Expansion Master Plan and U.S. 12 Relocation
   - Expand the Marquette Plan to incorporate concepts of the Marquette Plan.
   - Implement Marquette Plan environmental and transportation projects into the Gary Airport Master Plan guidelines.
   - Coordinate with the Airport Authority for the relocation of U.S. 12 to the north of the airport.
   - Incorporate U.S. 12 relocated as part of the proposed scenic highway part of the Marquette Plan.

8. Tennessee Street Access Improvements to U.S. 112 Development
   - Coordinate with U.S.S. and the City of Gary for access improvements along the Tennessee Street Corridor to the proposed U.S. 112 East Development.
   - Conduct required studies and designs for development at the gateway interchange site for the improved access.

9. 1-65 Access Ramps to U.S. 112 Development Area
   - Potential exists to access the U.S. 112 East Development from a location near I-65 and I-55.
   - Coordinate with U.S.S. and the City of Gary and INDOT for development of a conceptual access plan.
   - Perform required environmental studies and designs following INDOT procedures.

10. Lake Street/ Marquette Park Streetscape Project
    - Expansion of Lake Street streetscape north to Marquette Park provides the opportunity to create a gateway to the lakeshore.
    - Develop a master plan, streetscape design, and construction plan to the downtown Miller area to the lakeshore.

11. County Line Road Shoreline Access Improvements
    - Potential exists for enhanced access to the lakeshore at Lakefront County Line Road.
    - Develop concept plans for access and parking improvements at this location.
    - Coordinate with local environmental studies, land acquisition, and designs for development of this location.

12. Portage Lakeshore Park Access Project
    - Prepare a park master plan and vehicular access plan.
    - Coordinate with state, local, and federal agencies for access safety design and landscaping improvements.
    - Conduct environmental studies and plans for construction of new access.
    - Develop long-range views for improved access and connectivity between Portage north and south of I-94.

13. U.S. 12 Scenic/Heritage Byway Study
    - Coordinate with the local jurisdictions, regional planning, and INDO's for the promotion of conversion of U.S. 12 to a designated scenic/heritage byway.
    - Conduct feasibility analysis, environmental studies, and designs for enhanced scenic improvements.
    - Promote inclusion of trails, landscaping, scenic overlooks, and improved lake access to other communities.

14. Transit/Tourism Oriented Development (TOD) South Shore Stations
    - Integrate rail service forotms to improve public access throughout the lakeshore communities.
    - Link various modes of transportation to NCDT transit facilities at Hammond, East Chicago, Gary, Millers, and Glendale Dunes Stations.
    - Prepare Transit/Tourism Oriented Development Plans at each station location which integrate principals developed in the Marquette Plan.
    - Promote rail infrastructure improvements that facilitate expansion of the system.

South Shore Expansion
    - Connect existing rail service to proposed South Shore expansions in the region.
**The Lakeshore Reinvestment Strategy**

**The Marquette Plan**

**Recommendations**

1. **Lakefront Sanctuary**
   - Create a Master Plan to landing need for public use & conservation.
   - Implement proposed long-term plan for vegetation enhancement & public interpretive trail system, per existing conservation easement.
   - Create buffer between sanctuary and any development towards the south. Any new development should consult with environmental experts to minimize adverse impacts on the sanctuary.
   - Connect with existing/proposed trails in the vicinity at controlled points.

2. **Wolf Lake**
   - Investigate water connectivity to Illinois portion, Lake Michigan, and Indiana Harbor Ship Canal for water-based recreation trails.
   - Coordinate with Illinois to formulate a common lake management policy.
   - Create additional hiking/biking trails around Wolf Lake to connect with local and regional trail systems.

3. **George Lake**
   - Evaluate options for enhancing George Lake woods and the northern basin of George Lake for use by migratory birds.
   - Create additional hiking/biking trails around George Lake to connect with local trail systems.
   - Utilize Hammon Education Center for public education programs.

4. **Whihala Beach, Whiting Park & (Former) ISG beachfront**
   - Reclaim BP water purification plant land for park use.
   - Improve the promenade along the Whiting Park shoreline.
   - Develop a Master Plan for recreation and natural area management for the area.
   - Consider enhancement of Whiting Park woods for use by migratory birds.

5. **Indiana Harbor Ship Canal**
   - Expedite federal efforts for clean-up of canal.
   - Encourage use of native & diversity of vegetation for green conditions along canal.
   - Green corridors should be designed to promote movement and support of native species.

6. **Jeors Park**
   - Evaluate controlled access into Jeors Park.
   - Provide expanded parking for public recreational users.
   - Provide public access including boat ramps for Lake Michigan usage at Potter's Kitchen.
   - Acquire open space along east and north shores of inland Lake Michigan for public use. Improve shoreline for additional fish and bird breeding habitat and recreational access. Sustain shoreline with native vegetation.

7. **Lakeshore Ecological Park**
   - Protect and connect existing Dune & Swale systems in the vicinity of the Gary/Chicago Airport. Develop a Master Plan to manage this area.
   - Secure long-term funding source for management, protection, and enhancement of the Lakeshore Ecological Park.
   - Coordinate management of this area for educational, recreational, and connectivity usages.
   - Improve public access to the Lakeshore Ecological Park.
   - Address the issue of threatening non-native species. Immediately, encourage connection west to Wolf Lake and east to the National Lakeshore for bio-diversity purposes.
   - Balance the need for preservation with recreational interpretaion. Public access to showcase the Dune & Swale heritage.
   - Coordinate with Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) to direct where feasible, Gary/Chicago Airport expansion related mitigation resources into the expansion of this natural area.
   - Connect high quality natural areas to the Lake Michigan shoreline with a green space, which incorporates recreational activity areas.
   - Coordinate efforts with Lake Calumet Open Space Plan for regional connectivity of ecological and hydrological systems.
   - Repopulate with federally endangered Karner Blue butterfly.

8. **Grand Calumet River**
   - Preserve riparian corridor along entire length of the river for wildlife habitat and recreational benefits.
   - Enhance and manage riparian corridor with native vegetation.
   - Provide recreational and interpretive opportunities along green corridor.
   - Build upon previous Grand Calumet River studies for green corridor enhancement.
   - Investigate long-term feasibility of reconnecting Grand Calumet River to Lake Michigan at Marquette Park and long-term sustainability if changes in water sources/flood occur.
   - Investigate hydrological and environmental impacts of connecting Grand Calumet River with the U.S. Steel Ship Canal.

9. **U.S. Steel (Gary Works)**
   - Encourage public recreational access along green corridor.
   - Create green corridors for public recreational access along east side of Ship Canal.

10. **National Lakeshore**
    - Focus on East & West units of the National Lakeshore.
    - Protect National Lakeshore priorities to include a greater emphasis on natural systems restoration, endangered species protection and enhancement, water quality improvements and non-native species management.
    - Enhance habitat & management of native species indicators such as

**Greenways Framework**

- Connect property with Portage Marina by a multi-use trail system.
- Develop a Master Plan that balances restoration, preservation and public use.
- Preserve North South connectivity for communities to the south with the Lakeshore through green corridor along Burns Waterway.
- Provide water and land trails along Burns Waterway.

**New Portage City Park & Beach**
- Provide expansion for public use.

**Additional Projects**
- Protect riparian corridor along entire length of the river for wildlife habitat and recreational benefits.
- Provide aquatic connectivity to Lake Michigan for water-based recreation trails.
- Coordinate with Illinois to form a common lake management policy.
- Create additional hiking/biking trails around Wolf Lake to connect with local and regional trail systems.

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**Legend**

- Water Body
- Proposed Open Space
- Existing Open Space
- Multi-Use Trail (Existing) Multi-Use Trail (Proposed) Unpaved Trail & Public ROW

**Map Source:**
- The Cities of East Chicago, Gary, Hammond, Portage, Whiting, Indiana Department of Natural Resources, Congressman Pete Visclosky

Prepared by: JHR LLC (Chicago, IL), BEH Inc. (Mundelein, IL), Huff & Huff Inc. (LaGrange, IL), The Trust for Public Land (Chicago, IL), JHR New (Morton Grove, IL)