Sub-Area Plans
Many of the recommendations in this study are system-wide and transcend boundaries. To highlight the more detailed planning of the study, three sub-areas were identified. These sub-areas identify both multi-jurisdictional and local initiatives that are critical to achieving the Marquette Plan’s vision. The following sub-area plans are included in this section: Porter County – West, Porter County – East, and LaPorte County.
RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Complete the Portage Northside Master Plan, including the extension of Burns Parkway to US 12, and the riverwalk connections from Lakefront Park to the Portage Marina. Create safe and aesthetically pleasing entry into Ogden Dunes from US 12.

2. Explore transit-oriented development location alternatives south of Portage Lakefront Park (with opportunities associated with the potential acquisition of the US Steel Training Center and potential relocation of Pre-Coat Metals development).


4. Enhance IN 149 corridor as a town center.

5. Improve aesthetics along this corridor (refer Motorized Transportation Framework - US 12).


8. Capitalize on the redevelopment opportunity along US 20 and I-94 corridors. Opportunities for tourism related development and infill. Capitalize on existing vacant / underutilized properties, utilize sustainable initiatives for future development.


10. Mitigate vehicular / pedestrian conflicts; improvements to corridors.

11. Redevelopment opportunity areas; promote green initiatives.


13. Parks / Public Space / Pedestrian-friendly development opportunities.


15. US 12 Corridor improvements (Porter County).

16. US 12 Corridor enhancements (LaPorte County’s gateway to Michigan City; entry to North Lakeshore).

17. US 20 - Urban corridor (Porter County).

18. US 20 - Park community corridor (Porter County).

19. US 20 - Explore opportunities for corridor enhancement; cohesive development (LaPorte County).

20. Enhance corridors as gateways to the communities (US 212, county line road, and Michigan Boulevard).

Graphic Illustration - Capitalize on existing infrastructure (bridges in this case) to improve wayfinding/signage, image/identity, improve pedestrian linkages.
**RECOMMENDATIONS**

1. Develop a consensus, long-term solution to improve Beverly Drive and implement it.
2. Designate US 12 as the Scenic Corridor, tourism-related development east of Broadway, minimal to no development west of Broadway (refer Motorized Transportation Framework).
3. Develop US 20 as the Park Community Corridor, minimal to no development zone (refer to Motorized Transportation Framework).
4. Explore transit-oriented development opportunities for resident-oriented amenities around the South Shore stations.
5. Promote transit-oriented development opportunities for a hospitality-related development, at the entrance to State Park and potential roundabout at the intersection of US 12 and IN 49.
6. Redevelopment opportunity, tourism-related development along IN 49 in Porter County’s unincorporated areas, utilize sustainable initiatives for future development.
7. Commission IN 520 Sub-Area Plan to guide development and redevelopment to complement Pines “parktown” position.

**Gateways, Improve wayfinding / signage.**

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**LaPorte County**

**RECOMMENDATIONS**

1. Improve Lakeshore Drive to mitigate pedestrian / vehicular conflicts.
2. Enhance US 12 as a scenic parkway and gateway to Michigan City; screen the NIPSCO Plant with landscape buffers along US 12.
3. Enhance IN 212 as a gateway to the community while improving safety.
4. Enhance Michigan Boulevard as a gateway to Michigan City.
5. Encourage US 12 and US 20 corridor study and enhancements in LaPorte County similar to US 12 and US 20 study in Porter County.
6. Enhance County Line Road as a gateway to Michigan City and the Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore.
7. Explore the feasibility of consolidating town-owned parcels along Stop 24 to facilitate the development of a lakefront park.
8. Connect the three major tourist destinations in Michigan City. Consolidate the studies for the “6 zones” in the north end of the city, North End Master Plan by Andrews University, plans for Washington Park, the Elston Grove Historic Neighborhood and other plans into a single sub-area plan to guide future improvements in the North End.
9. Improve access and non-motorized connections to Mt. Baldy.
10. Explore the feasibility of a Crescent Beach connection to Trail Creek and Washington Park - will require the collaboration of Michigan City, NIPSCO and the National Park Service.
11. Identify potential redevelopment sites, utilizing sustainable initiatives for future development.
12. Identify transit-oriented development opportunities, create mixed-use development around South Shore stations.

**Enhance gateways, improve wayfinding / signage.**

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**Graphic Illustration - Improved Wayfinding/Signage, image/identity, pedestrian linkages along US 20 Corridor**

**Graphic Illustration along US 12 entering Michigan City - Landscape Buffers/screening along incompatible uses, improve pedestrian linkages, develop underutilized/vacant properties**

*Sub-Area Plans: Porter County - East and LaPorte County*
Short-Term Projects

**MULTI-JURISDICTIONAL**

- **Lakeshore Gateway Corridor and Sub-Area Plan – IN 49, Chesterton, Porter, Porter County, Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore, and Indiana Dunes State Park**
  - Enhance entrance to lakeshore destinations including: Indiana Dunes State Park, Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore / Porter County Visitors Center
  - Promote hospitality related development along the corridor
  - Enhance interchanges and bridges as gateways
  - Explore TOD opportunities at Dunes Park South Shore Station for hospitality related development and multi-modal center

- **Lakeshore Gateway Corridor and Sub-area Plan – US 12 / County Line Road, Michigan City, Pines, LaPorte County, Porter County, Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore**
  - Enhance entrance to lakeshore destinations including; Mt. Baldy, Central Beach, Lighthouse Outlet Mall and Washington Park
  - Extend Calumet Trail to Mt. Baldy/Crescent Beach/Washington Park
  - Enhance US 12 as a scenic route with streetscape improvements, landscape buffers and non-motorized facilities
  - Explore partial interchange at I-94

- **Transportation Management Plan – Portage, Chesterton, Burns Harbor, Porter, Ogden Dunes, Durie Acres, Porter County, Indiana Department of Transportation, Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore, Indiana Dunes State Park**
  - Evaluate alternative truck routing to improve efficiency and safety of all motorists
  - Detail actions needed to improve dangerous intersections and roadway segments
  - Incorporate access management strategies
  - Address functional deficiencies

- **Lakeshore Gateway Corridor Streetscapes – US 12 / IN 249, Ogden Dunes, Portage, Indiana Department of Transportation, Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore**
  - Enhance entrance to lakeshore destinations including; Portage Lakefront Park, West Beach, AmeriPlex – At the Port, various marinas
  - Incorporate street lighting, pedestrian crossing signals at IN 249 and Burns Parkway / AmeriPlex Drive to accommodate users of the Marquette Greenway Trail, wayfinding, signage, and median treatments and landscaping
  - Use best management practices to mitigate impacts of stormwater impacts to Burns Waterway and Lake Michigan

- **Lakeshore Drive Corridor Plan – Michiana Shores, Long Beach, Michigan City**
  - Evaluate the studies for the ‘6 zones’ in the north end of the City into a single sub-area plan to guide future improvements in the North End.

- **Beverly Drive Feasibility Study – Beverly Shores**
  - Commission a feasibility study to develop a community supported solution to improve Beverly Drive.

- **White Ditch Water Resources Demonstration Project – Michiana Shores**
  - Commission a demonstration project to improve water quality through best management practices and improve pedestrian connections to Moore Road and Grand Beach

- **Step 24 – Lakefront Park Master Plan – Long Beach**
  - The Plan will offer recommendations regarding the consolidation of town-owned parcels at the Step. The plan will also consider programming elements of the park including: cafes, boardwalks, and gathering spaces.

- **Lakefront Park Master Plan – Portage**
  - The Plan will guide development and redevelopment within the sub-area to enhance the town’s position as a “park town”.

- **Abandoned Truck Stop Environmental Assessment and Remediation – Burns Harbor**

- **Non Site-Specific**

  - **Visitor Management Plan – All lakeshore communities, Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore, Indiana Dunes State Park, Indiana Department of Transportation**
    - Manage visitor by capturing at key locations (lakeshore gateways) to guide to lakeshore destinations
    - Address parking and traffic issues in lakeshore communities
    - Improve wayfinding and signage
    - Mitigate conflicts between resident and visitor
  - **Fund the Shoreline Development Commission (SDC)**
    - As the management entity, the SDC will be charged with implementing the recommendations of the Marquette Plan
  - **Update the Marquette Plan every 5 years**

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**LOCAL**

- **North End Consolidated Plan – Michigan City**
  - Consolidate the studies for the ‘6 zones’ in the north end of the City into a single sub-area plan to guide future improvements in the North End.

- **Beverly Drive Feasibility Study – Beverly Shores**
  - Commission a feasibility study to develop a community supported solution to improve Beverly Drive.

- **White Ditch Water Resources Demonstration Project – Michiana Shores**
  - Commission a demonstration project to improve water quality through best management practices and improve pedestrian connections to Moore Road and Grand Beach

- **Step 24 – Lakefront Park Master Plan – Long Beach**
  - The Plan will offer recommendations regarding the consolidation of town-owned parcels at the Step. The plan will also consider programming elements of the park including: cafes, boardwalks, and gathering spaces.

- **Marquette Greenway Trail – E/W Connector – Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore**
  - Evaluate the studies for the ‘6 zones’ in the north end of the City into a single sub-area plan to guide future improvements in the North End.

- **Abandoned Truck Stop Environmental Assessment and Remediation – Burns Harbor**

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**Short-Term Projects**

Prepared for NIRPC & IDNR

February 2008