



FOX RIVER CORRIDOR PLAN

FROM BURTONS BRIDGE TO FOX BLUFF

Visioning Workshop
September 21, 2017





ABOUT THE FOX RIVER CORRIDOR PLAN

- There are no plans to construct a trail along this segment of the Fox River. This is not the objective of this plan.
- We want to hear what you want to see for the area. Please stay for the entire meeting so we can learn about your vision for the future, which will form the foundation of the plan.



FOX RIVER CORRIDOR PLAN VISIONING WORKSHOP

Agenda

1. Overview of Fox River Corridor Existing Conditions
2. Visioning Activity
3. Wrap-Up and Next Steps

Meeting time: Approximately 90 minutes



ABOUT CMAP

- Established in 2005
- Mission: To plan comprehensively for economic prosperity and quality of life.
- Serves the third largest metropolitan region in U.S.
 - 7 Counties
 - 284 Municipalities
 - Over 1,200 units of local government
- To learn more about CMAP, visit www.cmap.illinois.gov





ABOUT CMAP

- **Comprehensive Regional Plan**



- **Local Technical Assistance Program**

- **Over 160 projects completed to date**



THE FOX RIVER CORRIDOR PLAN FOR MCHENRY AND LAKE COUNTIES

The corridor plan will be the vision of what the communities want the area to become over the next 10 to 15 years and the steps needed to meet that goal.

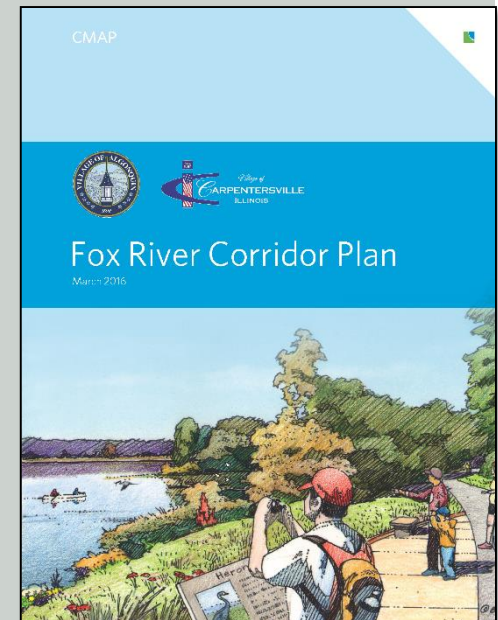
The plan will likely cover the following elements:

- Natural Resources
- Recreation and Programming
- Transportation and Connectivity
- Economic Development
- Climate Resilience



THE BENEFITS OF HAVING A CORRIDOR PLAN FOR THE FOX RIVER

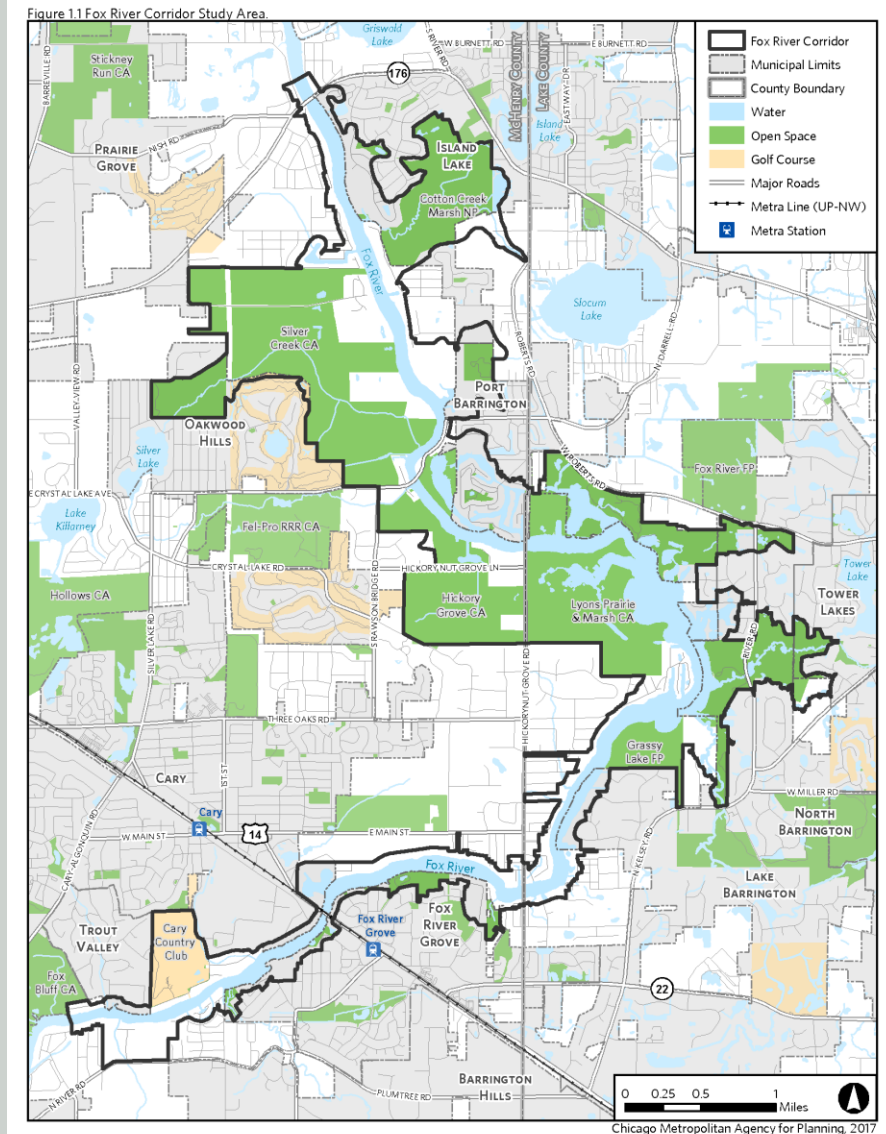
- Builds on Village, County, Conservation District, and Forest Preserve District plans
- Recommends actions for county, village staff/officials, residents, and businesses
- Helps set priorities, coordinate decision-making, and obtain grants
- Will not be set in stone; it is a long range guiding document



*Fox River Corridor Plan for
the Villages of Algonquin
and Carpentersville (2015)*

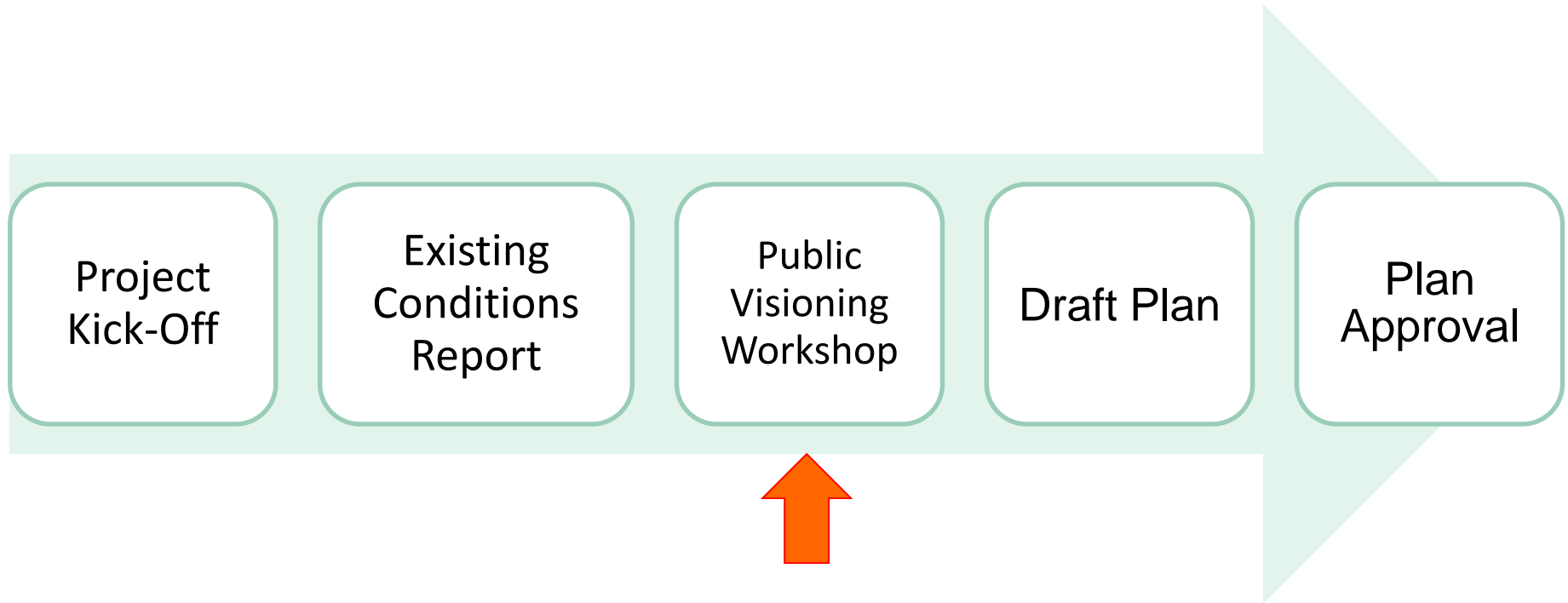
THE FOX RIVER CORRIDOR: STUDY AREA

- From Burtons Bridge to Fox Bluff Conservation Area
- Includes parcels adjoining the Fox River
- Conservation areas, forest preserves, and state nature preserves
- Plan will explore connections outside study area





THE PLANNING PROCESS



REVIEW OF EXISTING CONDITIONS



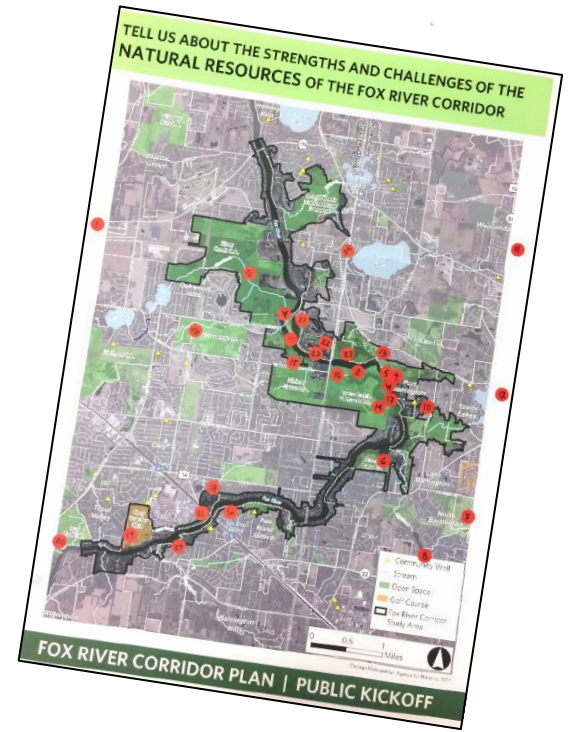
- Corridor Profile (overview)
- Community Outreach
- Water Quality and Flooding
- Open Space, Habitat, and Recreation
- Access and Circulation
- Economic Development
- Climate Vulnerability

COMMUNITY OUTREACH ACTIVITIES

- Project Steering Committee
- Stakeholder Interviews
- Public Open House (March 2, 2017)

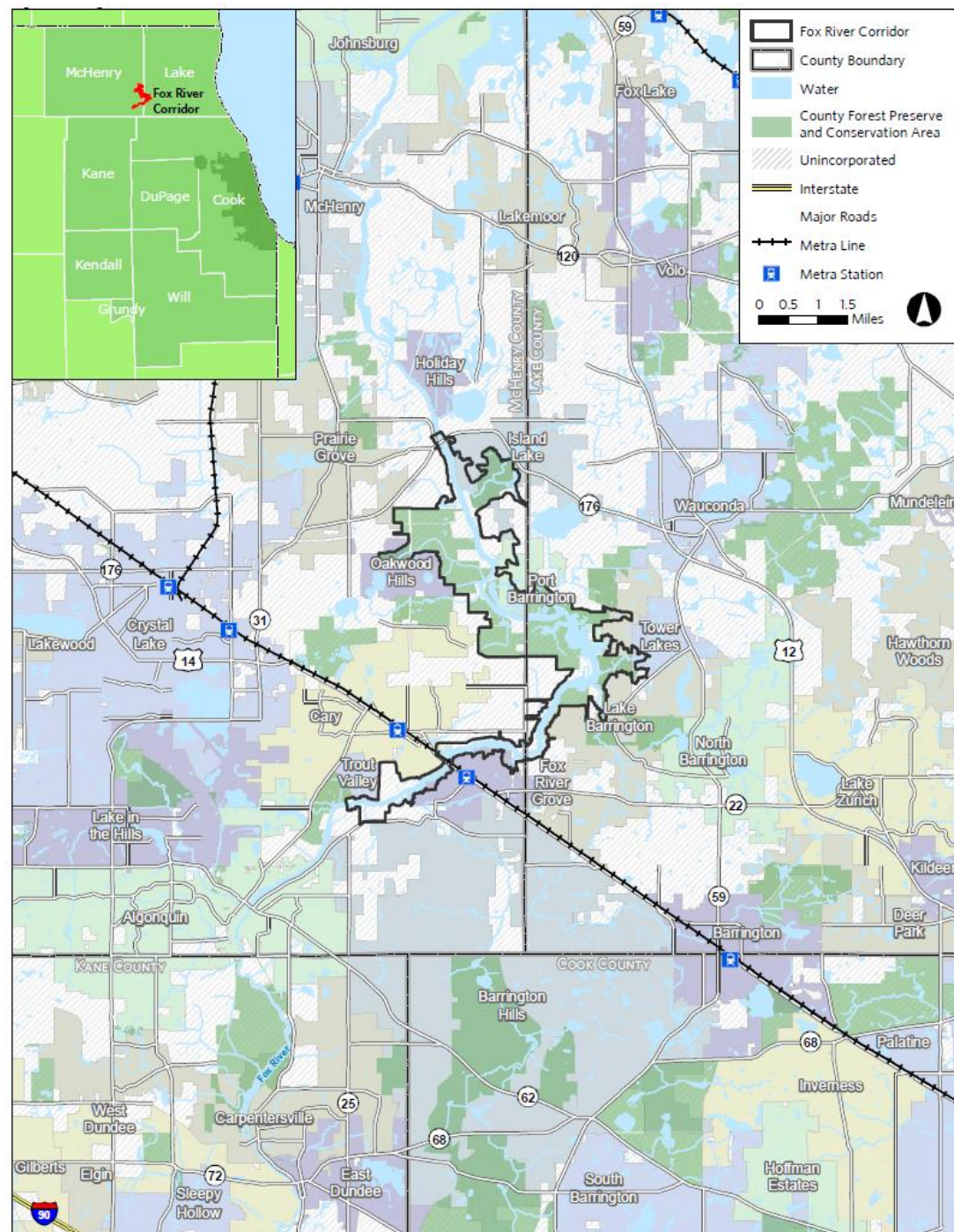
Broad themes:

- Preserve the scenic beauty and environment
- Balance a mix of activities
- Provide more public riverfront access, but no river trail
- Attract more family-friendly businesses and activities

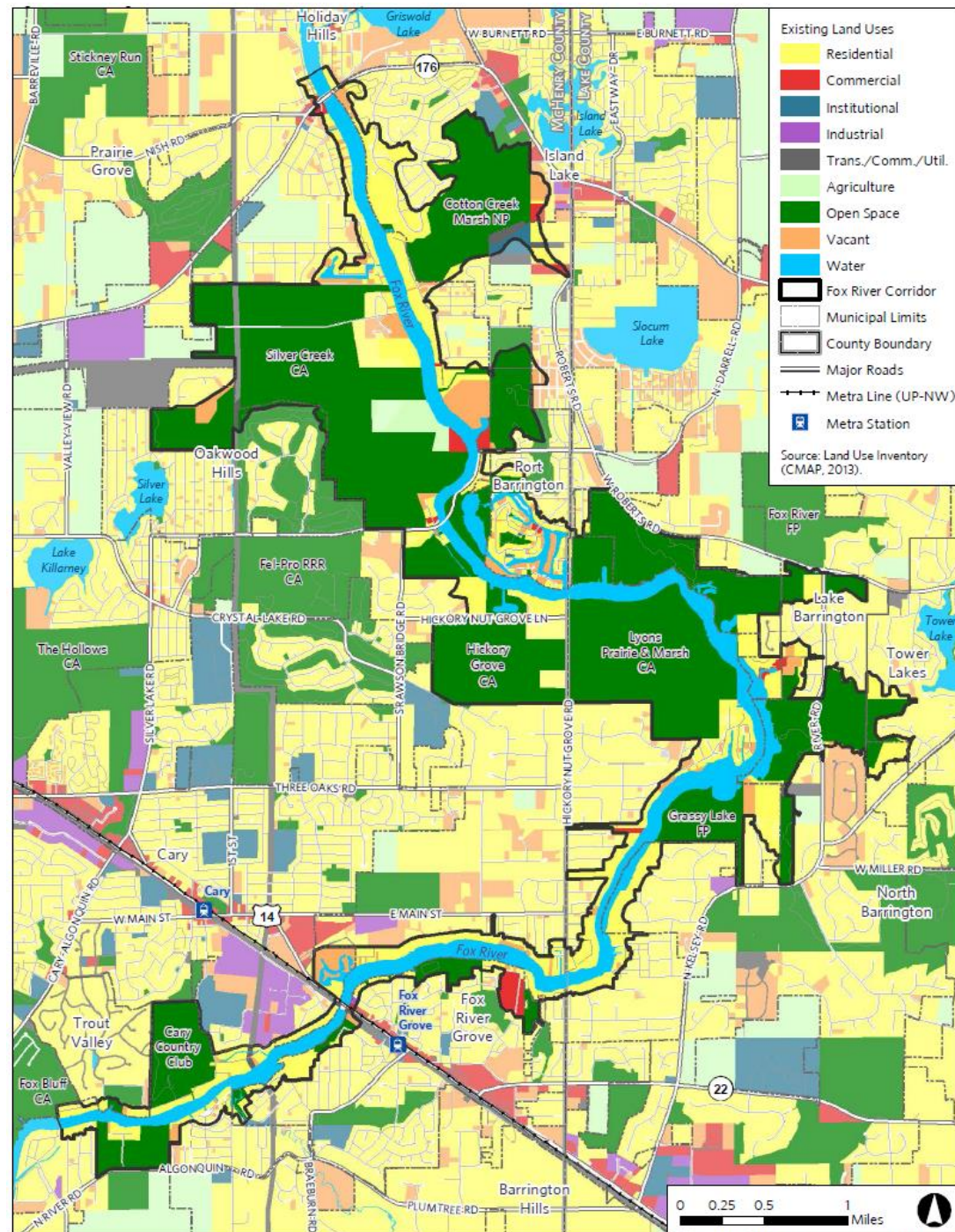
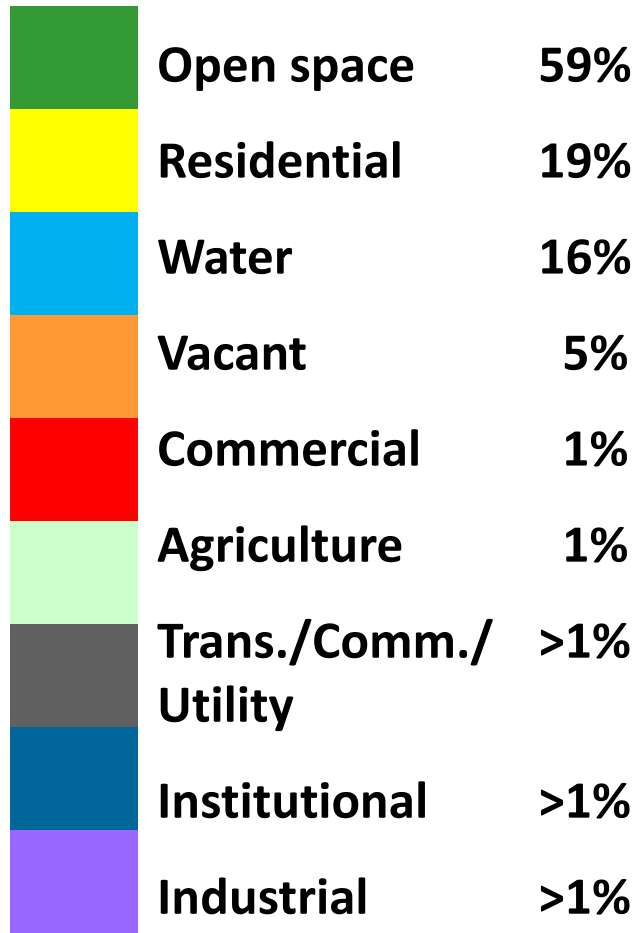


GOVERNANCE

- 2 counties
- 8 villages
- Unincorporated areas
- McHenry County Conservation Areas
- Lake County Forest Preserves
- State Nature Preserves
- Fox River (Fox Waterway Agency, IL Department of Natural Resources, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers)



LAND USE



WATER QUALITY

- **Water pollution affects aquatic life and limits recreation**
- **Groundwater contamination and depletion are threats to water supply and aquatic habitat**
- **Many groups are working to improve water quality**



FLOODING

Causes property damage, reduces quality of life and business revenue, and water quality issues



FLOODING

- **A 100-year flood:** has more than a 1 in 4 chance of occurring within the term of a 30-year mortgage
- **We are experiencing more precipitation:** between 1979 and 2009, the Chicago region experienced 40 percent more precipitation than the prior 30-year period.
- **Storm events are also getting bigger:** up to 40 percent of total annual precipitation in recent years came from the top 10 rainiest days.

Source: "Report for the Urban Flooding and Awareness Act Report," IDNR, 2015

OPEN SPACE AND HABITAT

Open space in the Corridor provides multiple benefits (biodiversity, flood control, water quality enhancements, recreation)

Access to open space can be limited due to environmental constraints



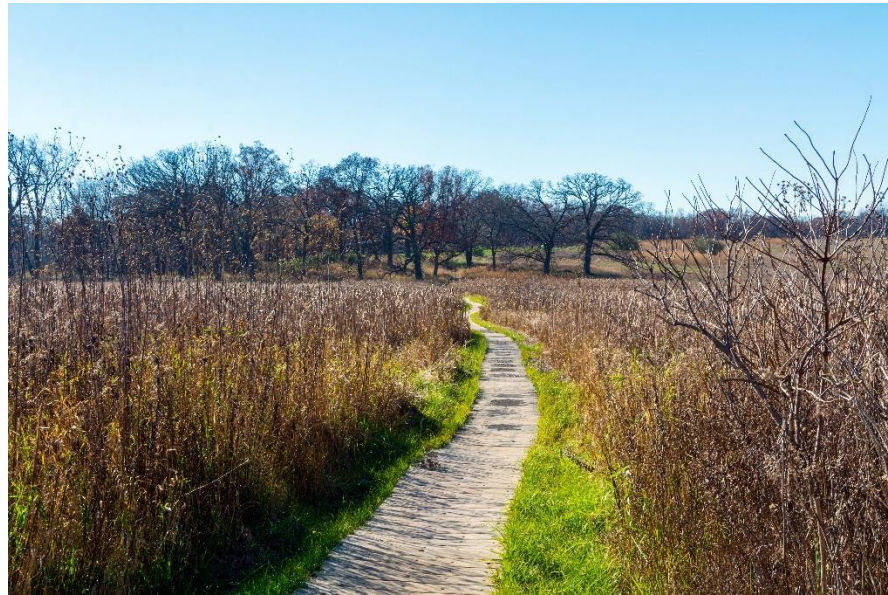
PARKS & RECREATION

**Opportunity to expand
recreational amenities
and improve safety for
all users**



TRANSPORTATION & CONNECTIVITY

- **Few public access points exist**
- **Sedimentation limits access for boaters**
- **Recreational paddling is increasing in popularity**
- **Existing and planned trails support a robust bicycle and pedestrian network**
 - **Planned trails are on streets and other public land. There is no planned riverfront trail.**



ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

- Opportunity to expand businesses offerings and events
- Some development opportunities exist and should protect natural resources
- Capitalize on downtown reinvestment in Fox River Grove and Cary





VISIONING EXERCISE

Purpose

To understand the community's goals for the future of the Fox River Corridor.

Small Group Exercise

- Count off
- Go to table with map and visioning booklet
- Work through booklet
- Report out on your big ideas



VISIONING EXERCISE

LIVE KEYPAD POLLING

- **Firmly press the button (1-10) that corresponds to your answer choice**
- **Votes are anonymous**
- **If you make a mistake or change your mind, vote again, as long as the polling is open**
- **Your last vote is the vote that counts**

NEXT STEPS

- **Draft Fox River Corridor Plan**
- **Public Open House**



Please provide your email address to stay informed about the process.

THANK YOU!

Kate Evasic

Associate Planner

kevasic@cmap.illinois.gov

312-386-8782

<http://www.cmap.illinois.gov/programs-and-resources/Ita/fox-river-mchenry-lake>