

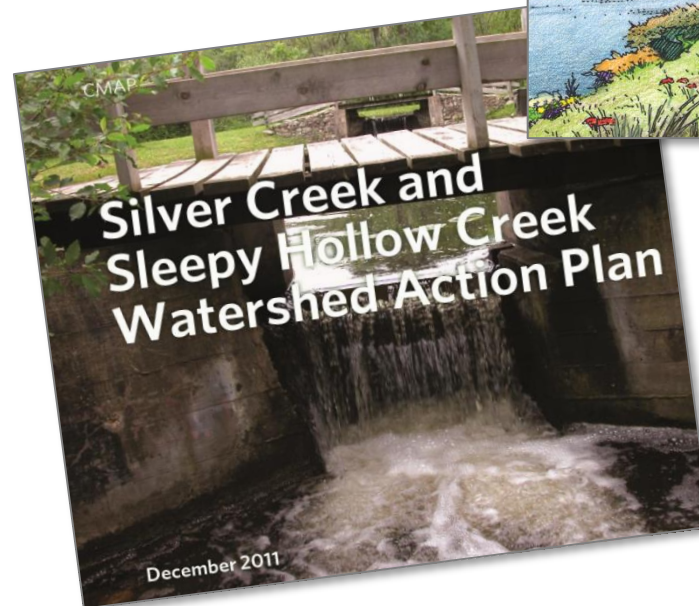
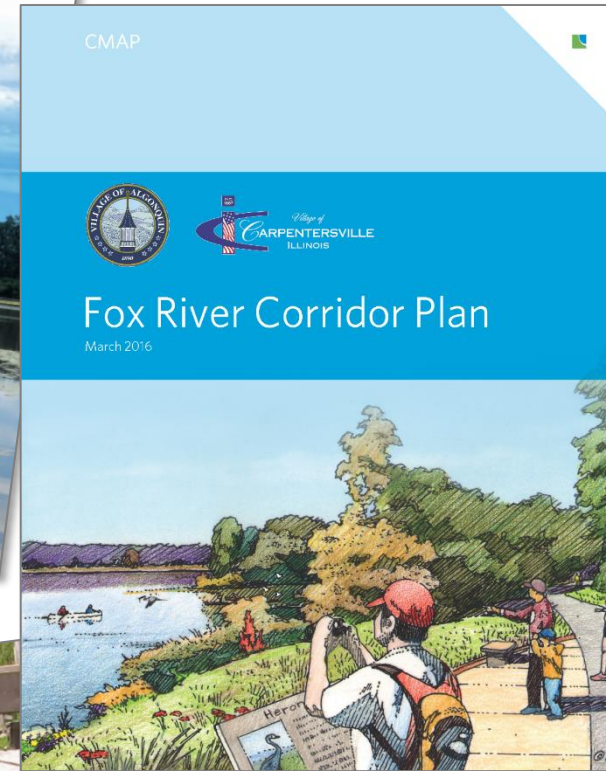
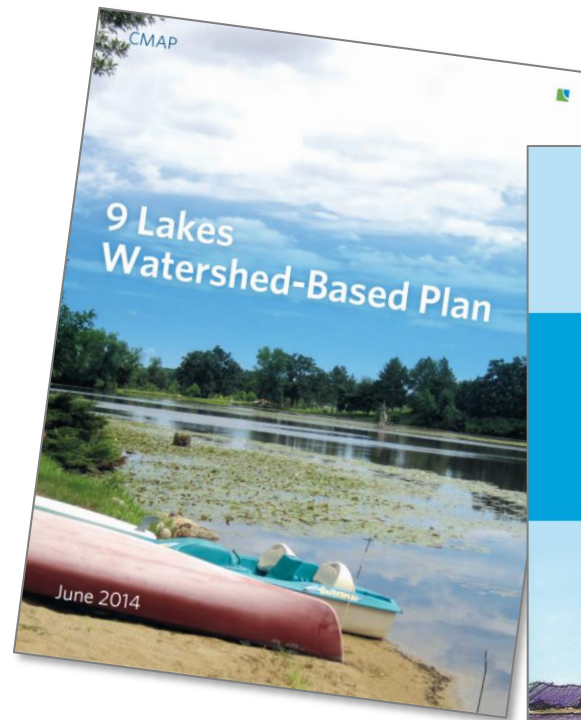


FOX RIVER CORRIDOR PLAN FROM BURTONS BRIDGE TO FOX BLUFF

Kate Evasic, Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning
ENR Committee Meeting
July 12, 2018



PREVIOUS PLANNING EFFORTS





THE FOX RIVER CORRIDOR PLAN

Establish a vision for the next 10 to 15 years.

Outline the steps needed to meet that goal.

Topic areas:

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



BENEFITS OF THE FOX RIVER CORRIDOR PLAN

- **Builds on existing plans, water trail**
- **Recommends actions**
- **Helps set priorities, coordinate decision-making, and obtain grants**
- **Will not be set in stone; it is a long range guiding document**

Collaboration between CMAP and McHenry County Planning & Development



**Funding: Federal Highway Administration,
Illinois EPA, NOAA, among others**

Steering Committee:

Cary Park District

**Environmental Defenders of McHenry
County**

**Flint Creek and Spring Creek Watershed
Partnership**

Fox River Study Group

Fox Waterway Agency

Illinois DNR

Lake County

Lake County Forest Preserves

McHenry County

McHenry County Bicycle Advocates

McHenry County Conservation District

Village of Cary

Village of Fox River Grove

Village of Lake Barrington

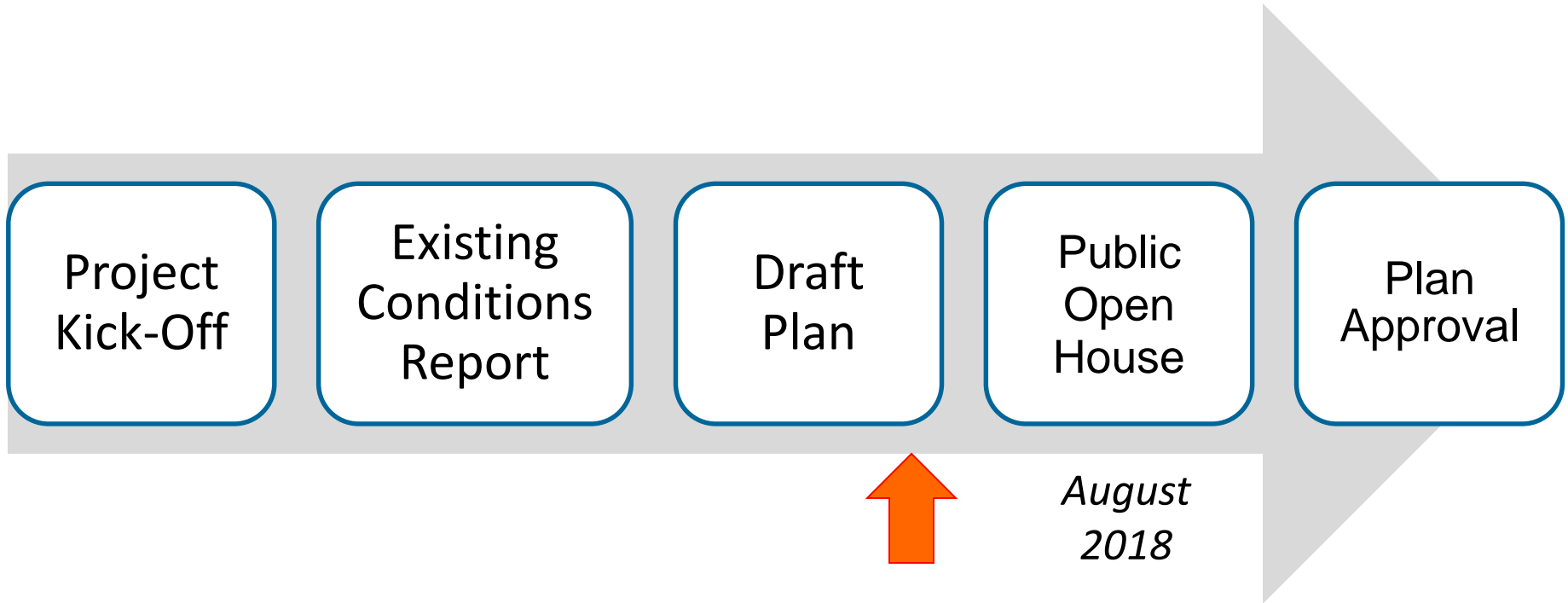
Village of Oakwood Hills

Village of Port Barrington

Village of Trout Valley

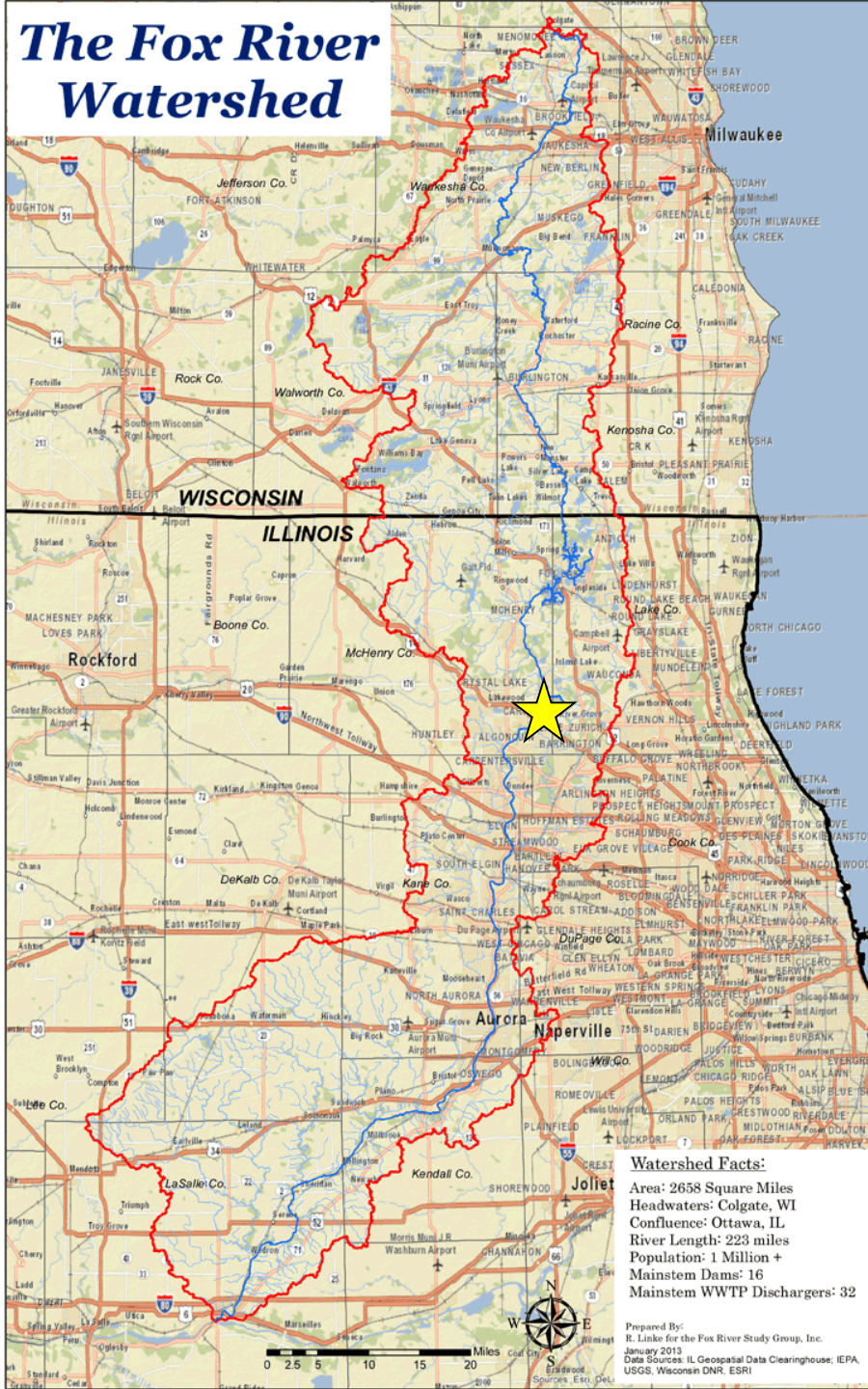
Visit McHenry County

THE FOX RIVER CORRIDOR PLAN



THE PLANNING PROCESS

The Fox River Watershed

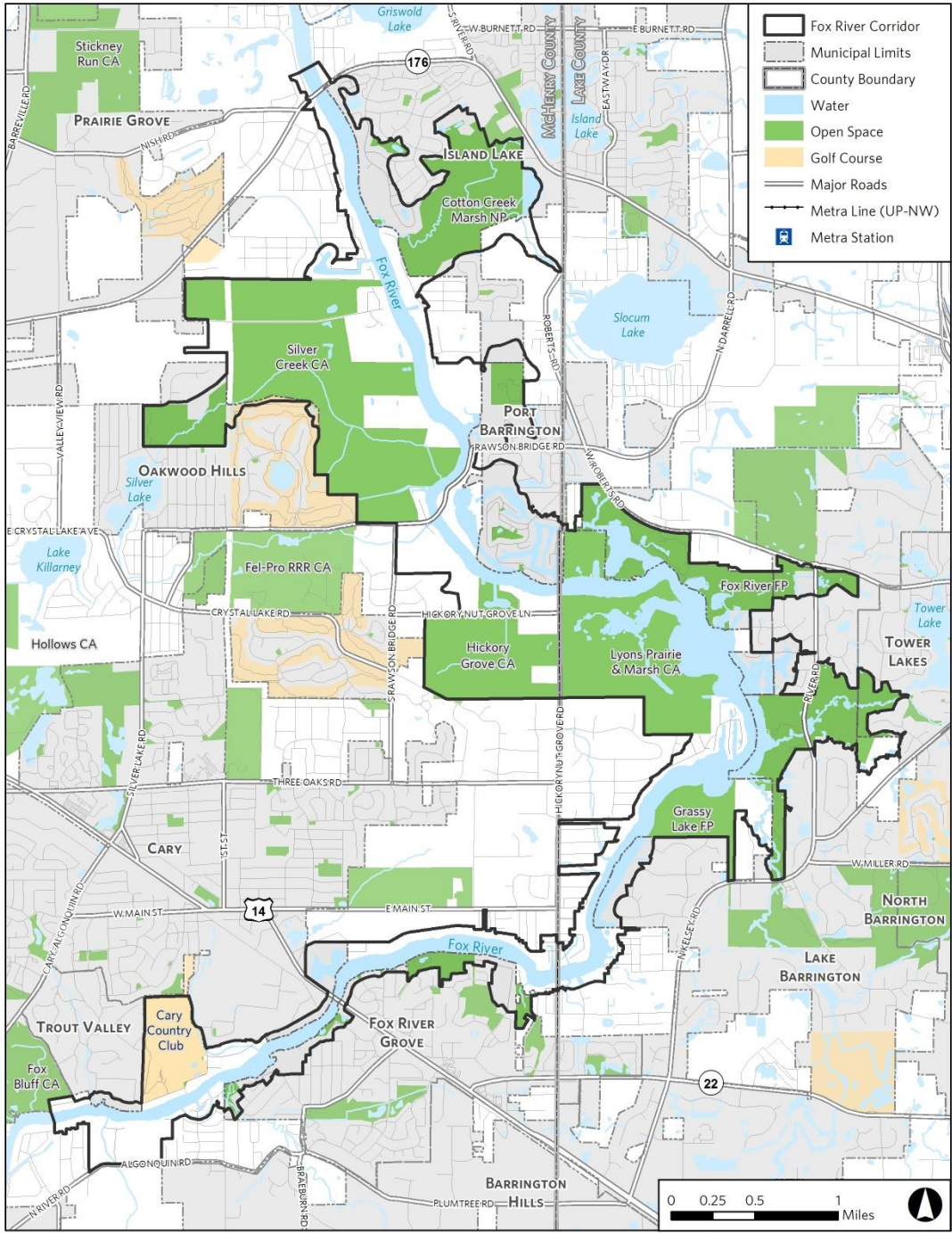


THE FOX RIVER CORRIDOR PLAN STUDY AREA

Watershed Facts:

- Area: 2658 Square Miles
- Headwaters: Colgate, WI
- Confluence: Ottawa, IL
- River Length: 223 miles
- Population: 1 Million +
- Mainstem Dams: 16
- Mainstem WWTP Dischargers: 32

Prepared By:
R. Linke for the Fox River Study Group, Inc.
January 2013
Data Sources: IL Geospatial Data Clearinghouse; IEPA,
USGS, Wisconsin DNR, ESRI
Sources: Esri, DeL



FROM BURTONS BRIDGE TO FOX BLUFF

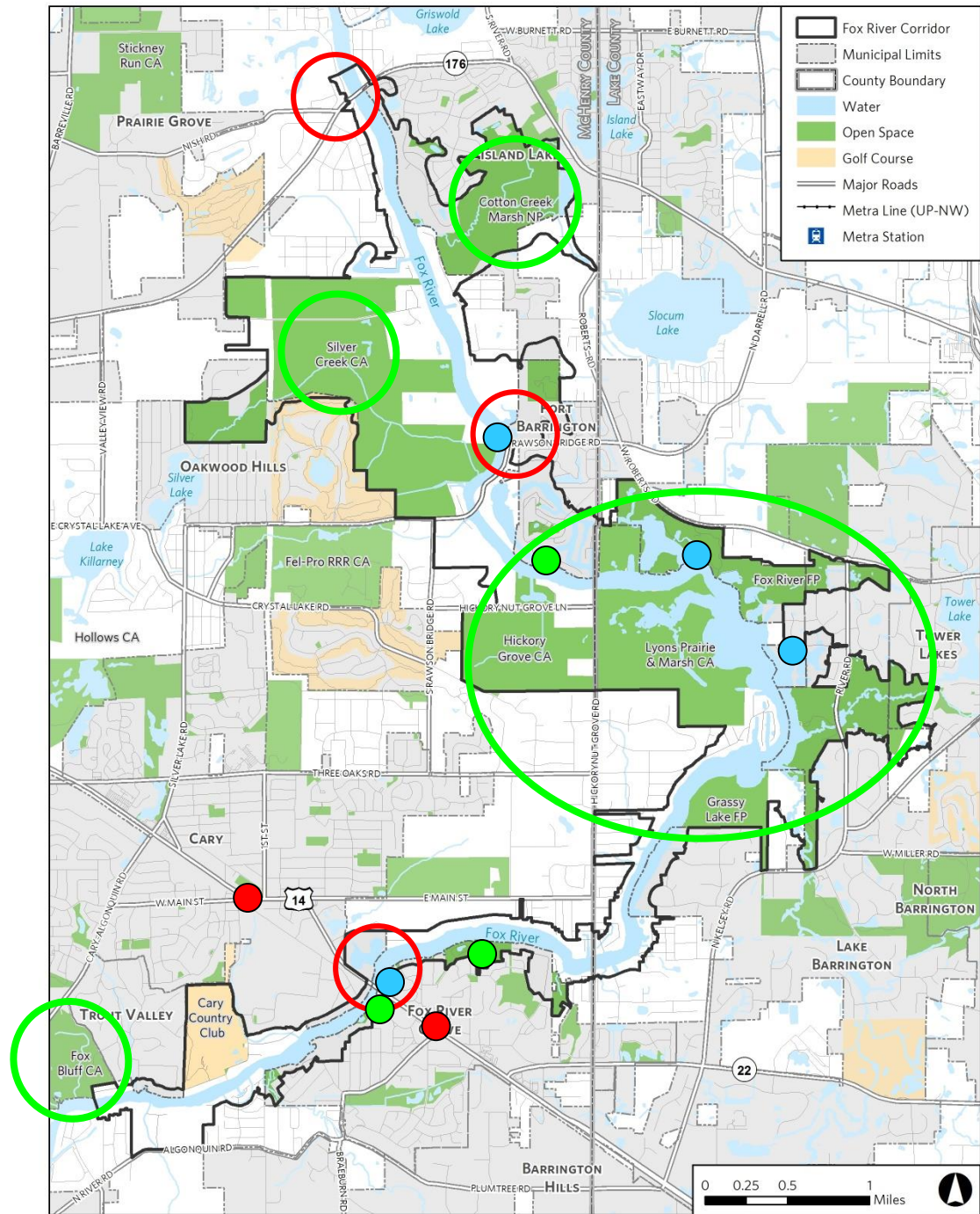
Riverfront
restaurants, bars,
entertainment

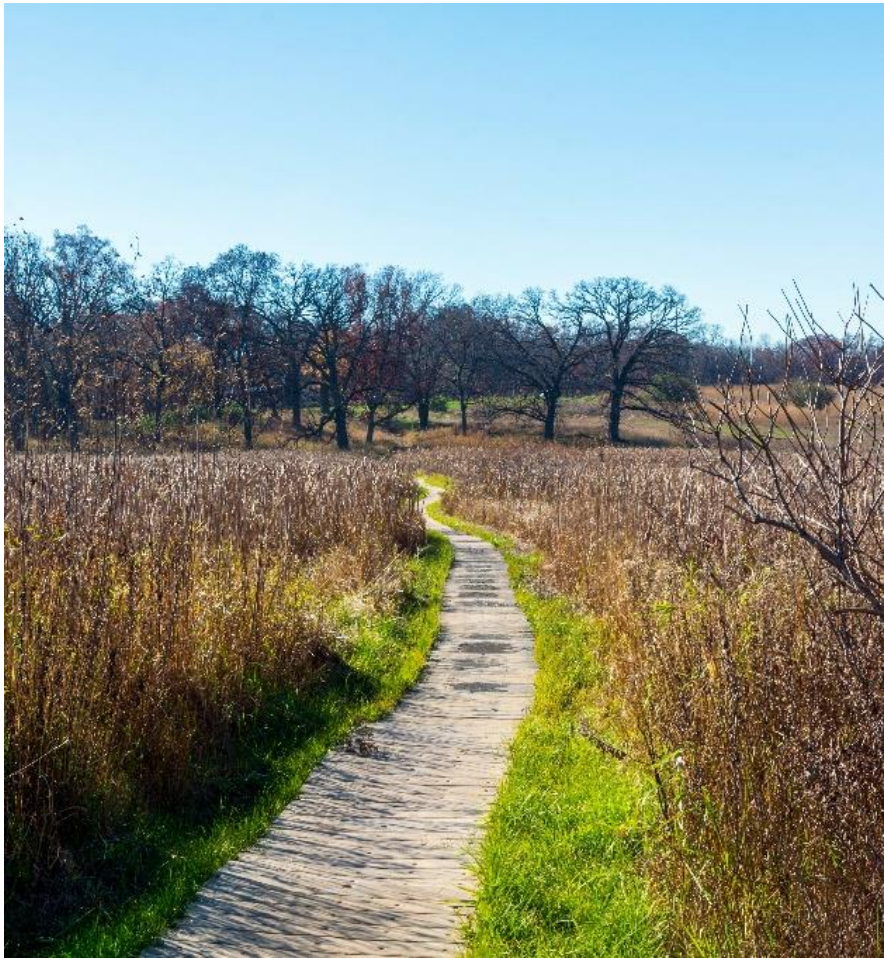
Riverfront
parks, festivals

Marinas, boat
launch

Protected open
space, habitat,
recreation

Transit-accessible
downtown areas





EXISTING CONDITIONS REPORT

Community Outreach

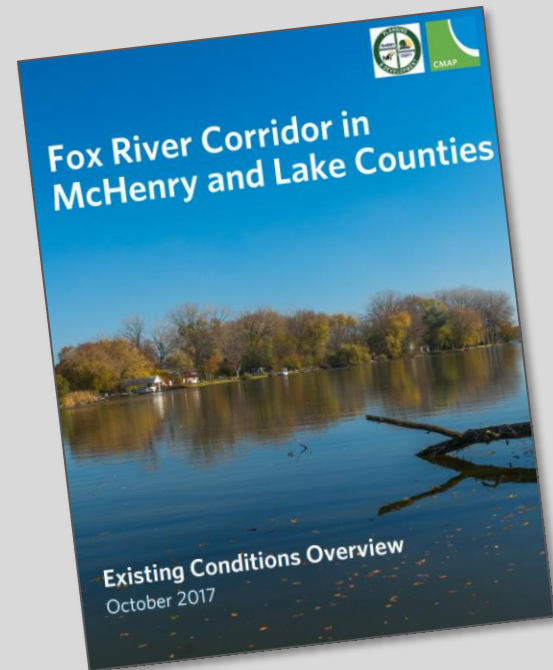
Water Quality and Flooding

Open Space, Habitat, and Recreation

Transportation and Access

Economic Development

Climate Vulnerability





COMMUNITY OUTREACH ACTIVITIES

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



COMMUNITY OUTREACH ACTIVITIES

Top five ideas from public visioning workshop:

1. Sediment management & dredging
2. Boater safety education
3. Water quality & environmental education
4. Stormwater management
5. Keep river as a local resource

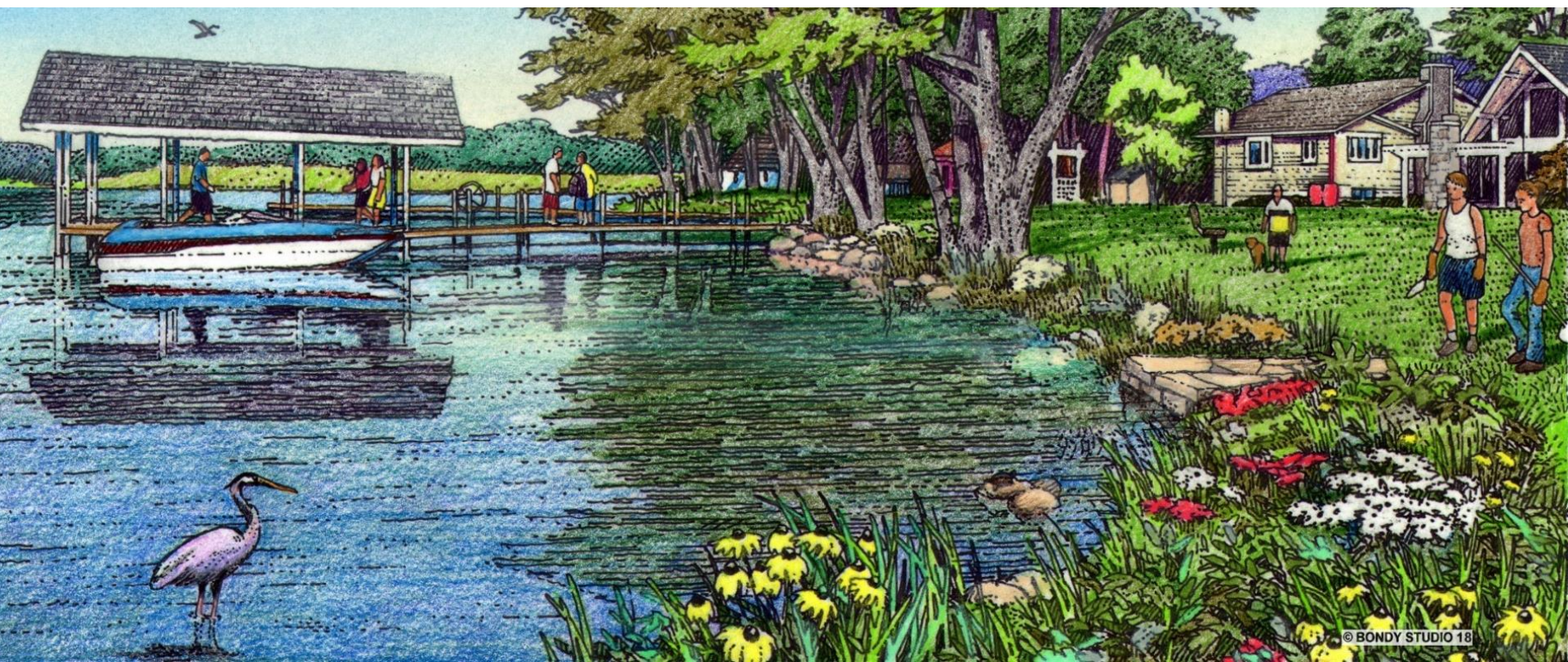
PLAN GUIDING PRINCIPLES

- Balance the **preservation and use** of the Fox River and natural areas
- Foster a culture of appreciation and **stewardship**
- Create a **safe, clean, and accessible** river environment
- Preserve the area's **rural and local character**
- Enhance the **vibrancy** of the riverfront and downtown areas
- Protect high quality and diverse **habitats**
- Strengthen Corridor **resilience** to climate extremes



KEY RECOMMENDATION AREA: RESTORE RIPARIAN AREAS

- Setbacks
- Targeted acquisition
- Shoreline stabilization
- Stormwater management



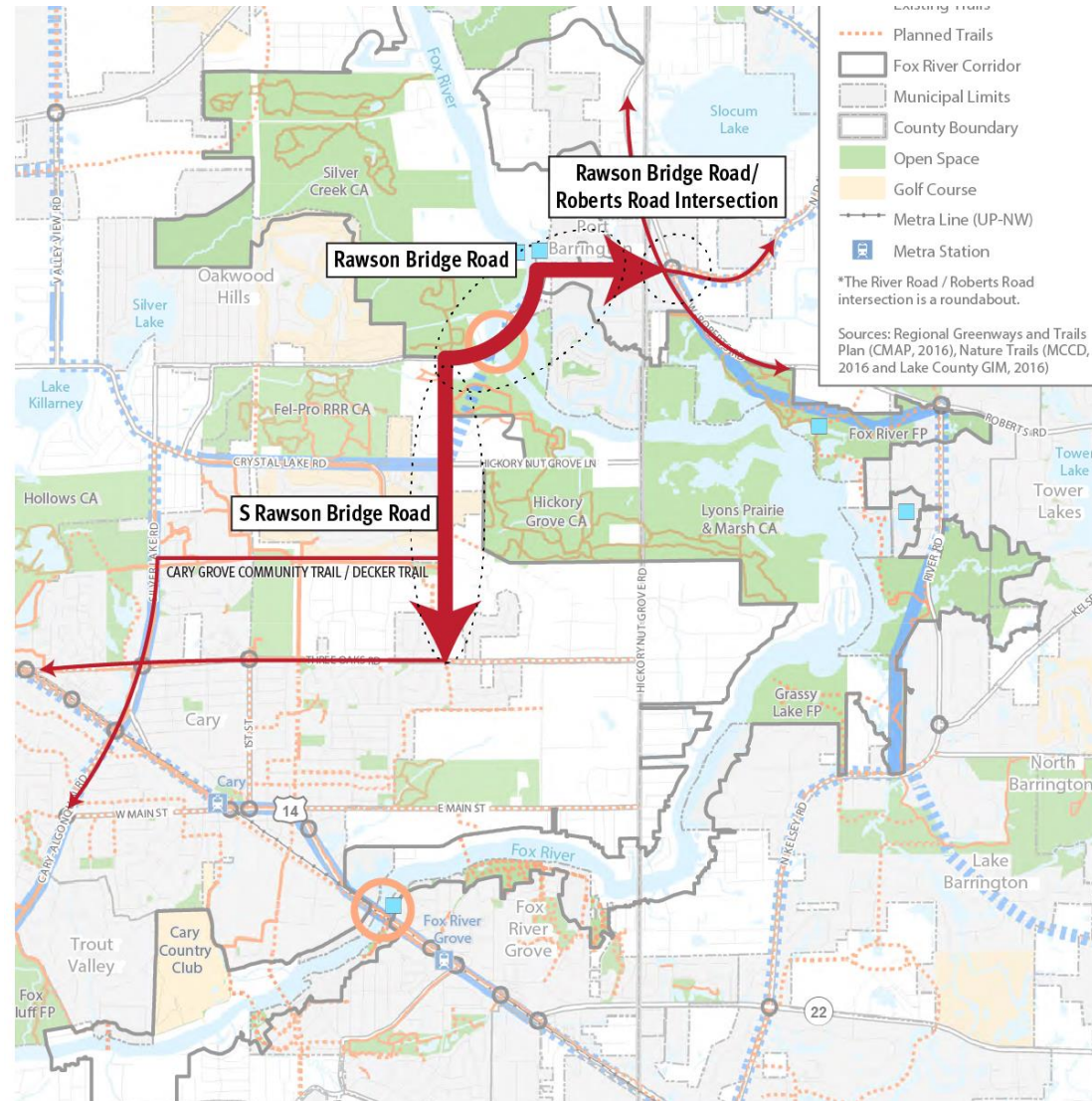
KEY RECOMMENDATION AREA: LEVERAGE WI-IL WATER TRAIL INITIATIVE

- Community engagement
- Access points
- Safety
- Branding and marketing



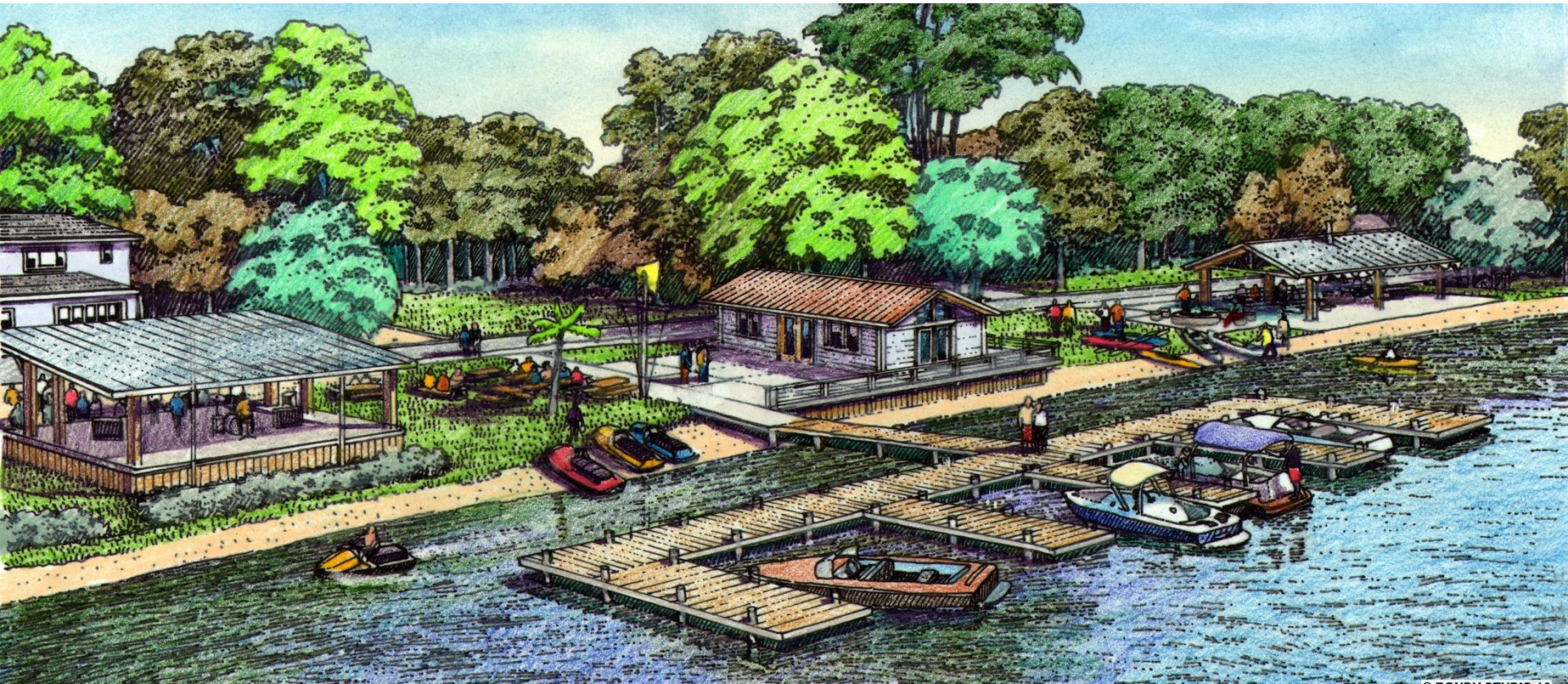
KEY RECOMMENDATION AREA: ADVANCE REGIONAL TRAIL CONNECTIONS

- Link to Prairie Path and Fox River Trail
- Coordinated investments across jurisdictions
- Phased implementation



KEY RECOMMENDATION AREA: ACTIVATE THE RIVERFRONT

- Variety of businesses, activities, and events
- Family-friendly
- Public docks, tie-ups
- Low impact, conservation design





THANK YOU!

Kate Evasic
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kevasic@cmapp.illinois.gov

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