

CENTRALCITY
2035

Central City Potential Swimming Beach Sites Study and the Eastbank Crescent Riverfront Plan

Portland City Council – June 7, 2017



Bureau of Planning and Sustainability
Innovation. Collaboration. Practical Solutions.
City of Portland, Oregon
Ted Wheeler, Mayor • Susan Anderson, Director



**PORTLAND
PARKS & RECREATION**
Healthy Parks, Healthy Portland



**ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES
CITY OF PORTLAND**



Central City Potential
Swimming Beach Sites
Portland, Oregon

October 5, 2016

Prepared for:

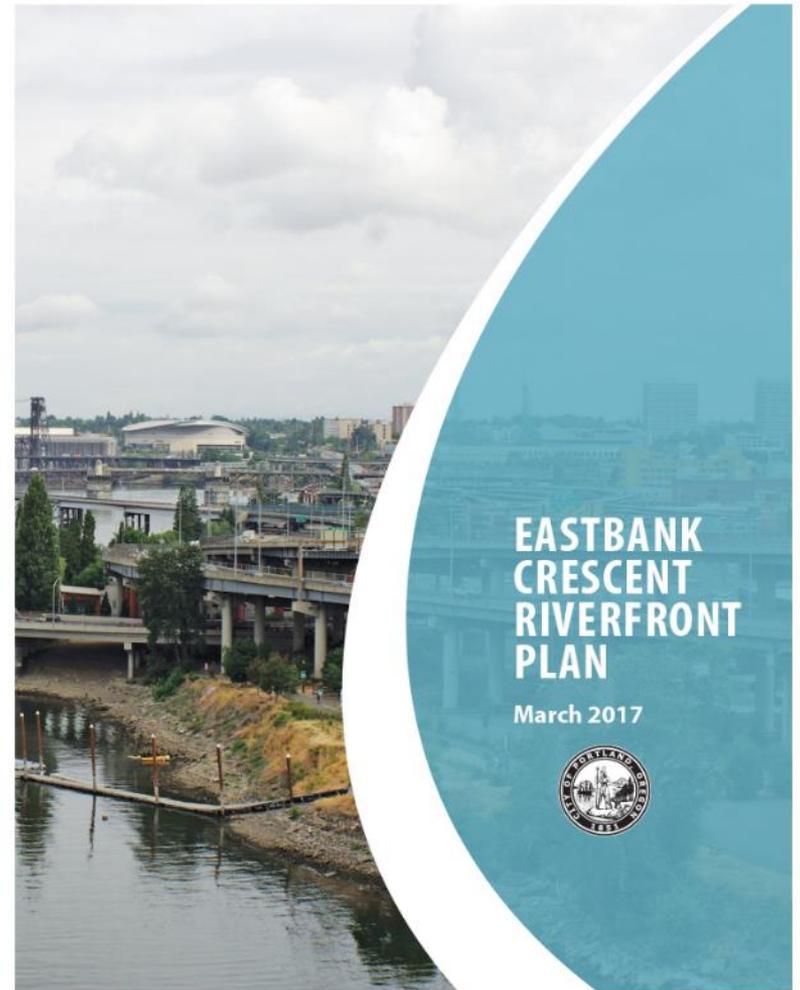


In partnership with:

Portland Development Commission
City of Portland – Bureau of Environmental Services

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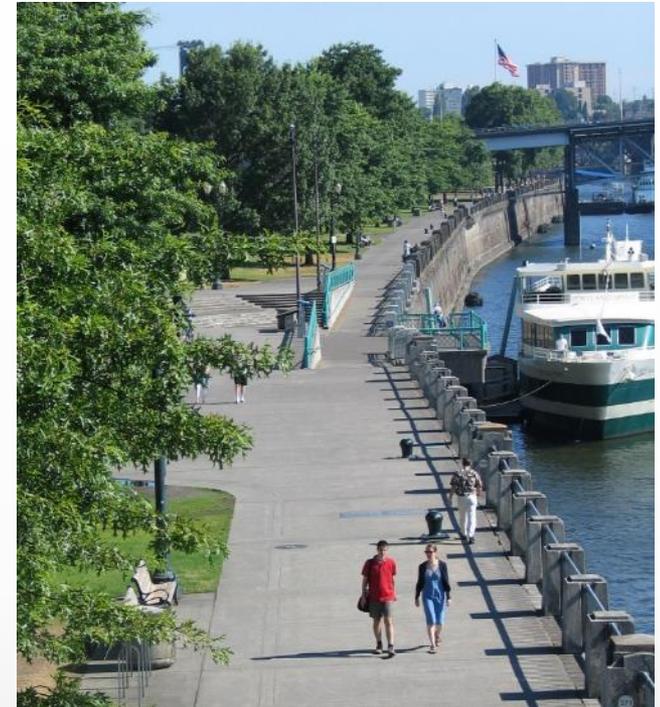


Bureau of Planning and Sustainability | Bureau of Environmental Services | Portland Parks and Recreation | Portland Development Commission

Background

Central City 2035 Plan

- Willamette Greenway Plan update for Central Reach
- Willamette River's role: environmental health, economy, recreation, urban form and character; reconnecting people to river





Central City Potential Swimming Beach Sites Study



McCormick Pier

Hawthorne Bowl

Eastbank Crescent

"Poetry at the Beach"

Zidell Property

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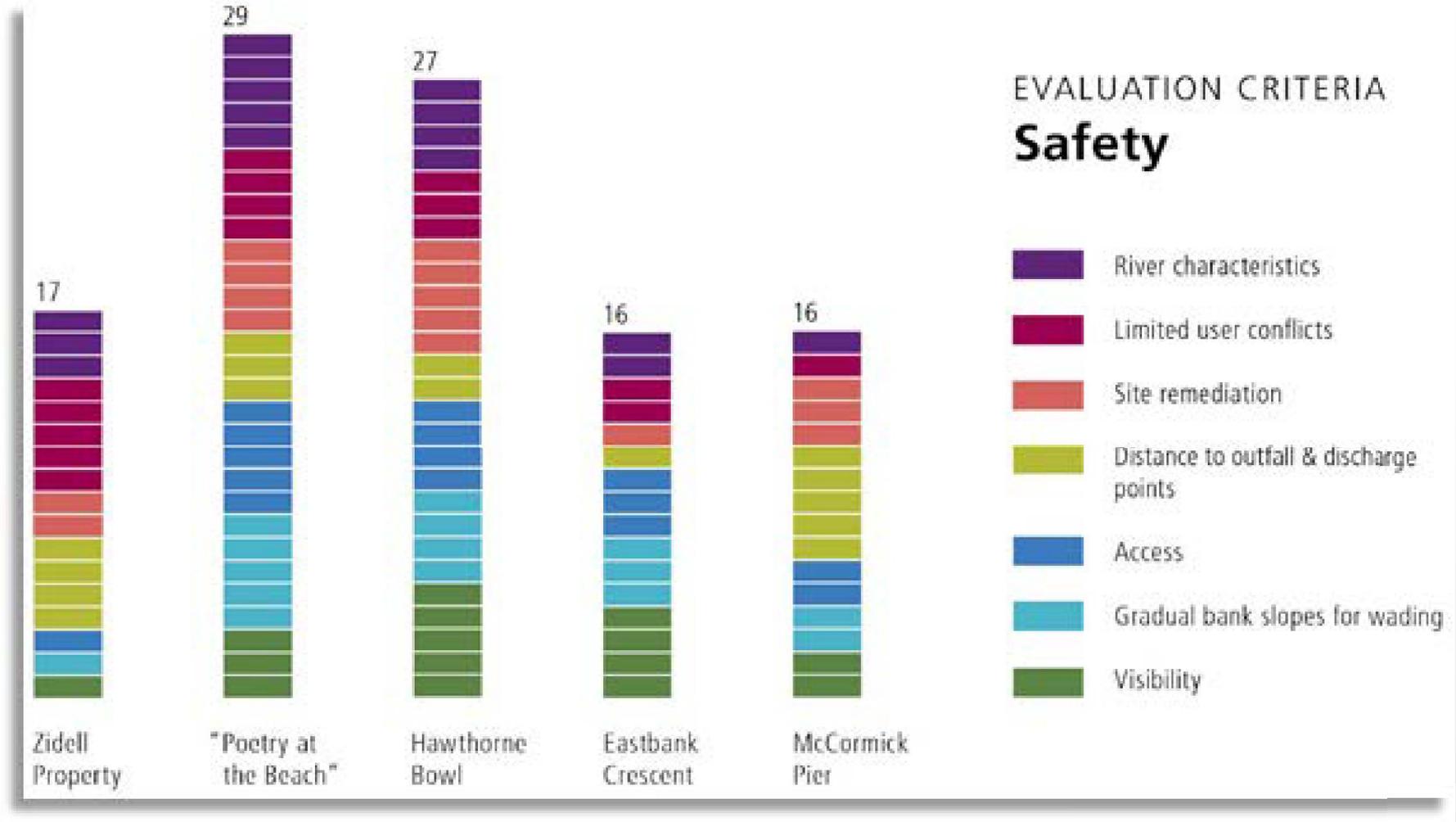


Central City Potential Swimming Beach Sites Study

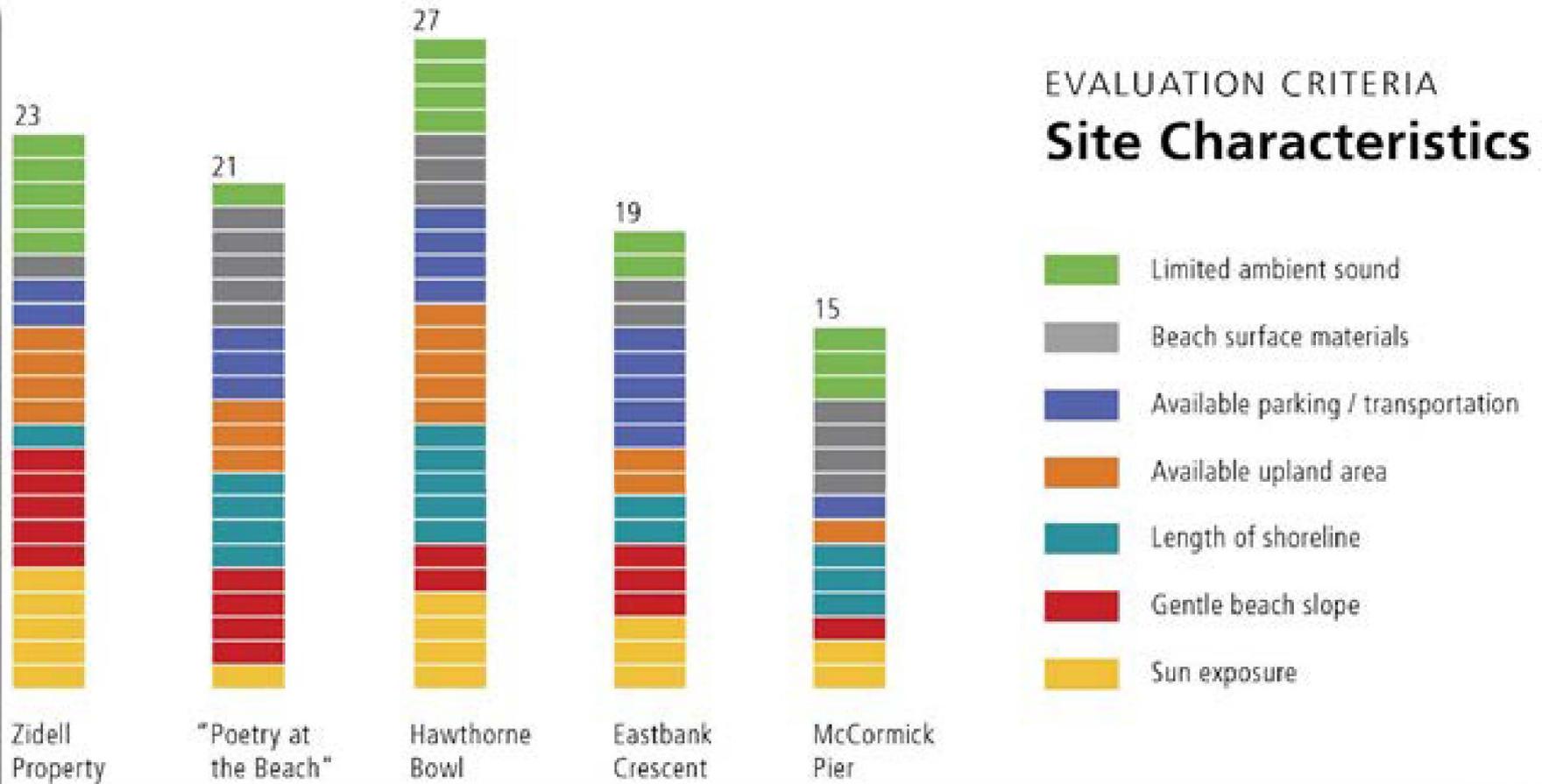
- Researched existing river swimming programs
- Completed site assessments
- Surveyed swimmers and non-swimmers
- Developed site and safety criteria
- Evaluated for family-friendly beach sites
- Held open house to review results



Central City Potential Swimming Beach Sites Study



Central City Potential Swimming Beach Sites Study



Central City Potential Swimming Beach Sites Study

TOTAL EVALUATION CRITERIA SCORE (Safety + Site Characteristics)

Hawthorne Bowl	54 points
Poetry at the Beach	50 points
Zidell Property	40 points
Eastbank Crescent	35 points
McCormick Pier	31 points

Central City Potential Swimming Beach Sites Study

Conclusions:

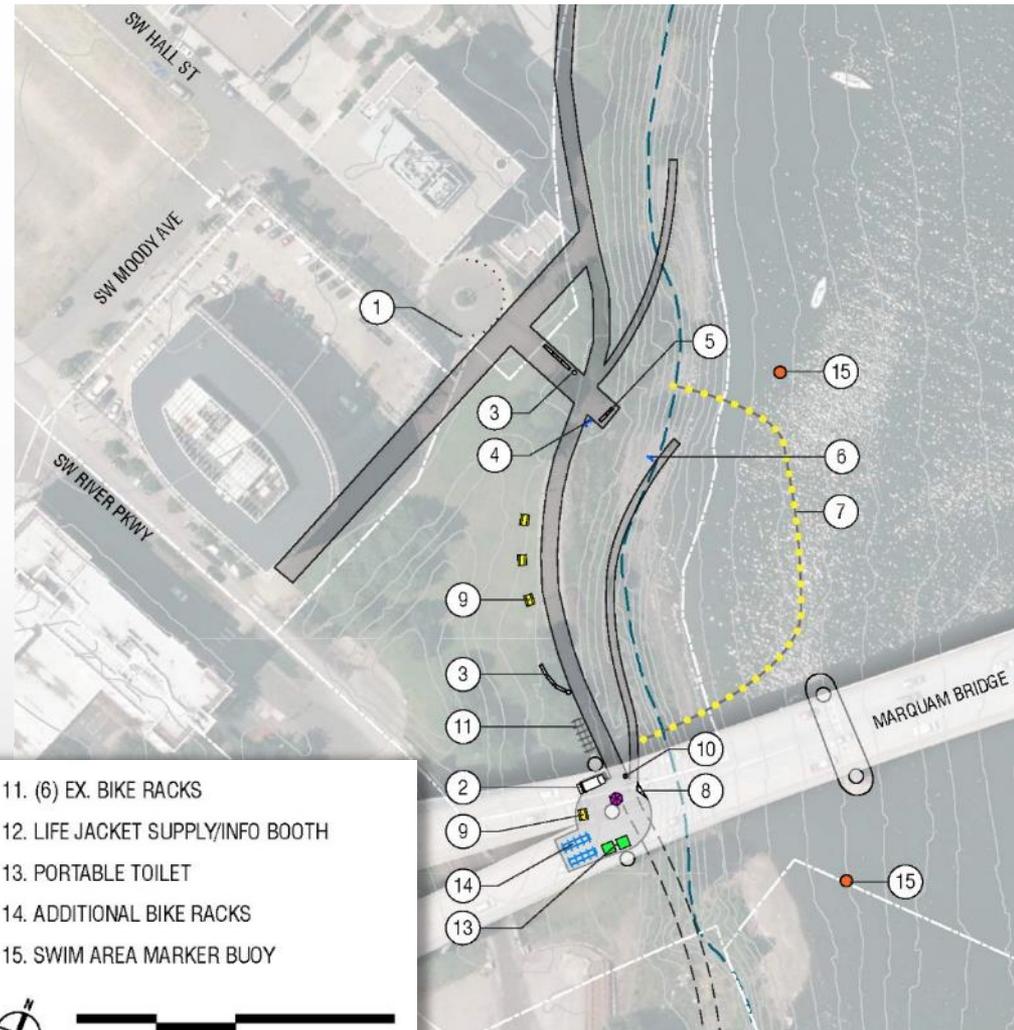
- Safety and site considerations are key for selecting and investing in a public swimming beach
- Site improvements and programming can help mitigate site-specific issues
- Funding is needed for implementation



Central City Potential Swimming Beach Sites Study

Temporary Swimming Program at Poet's Beach (2017)

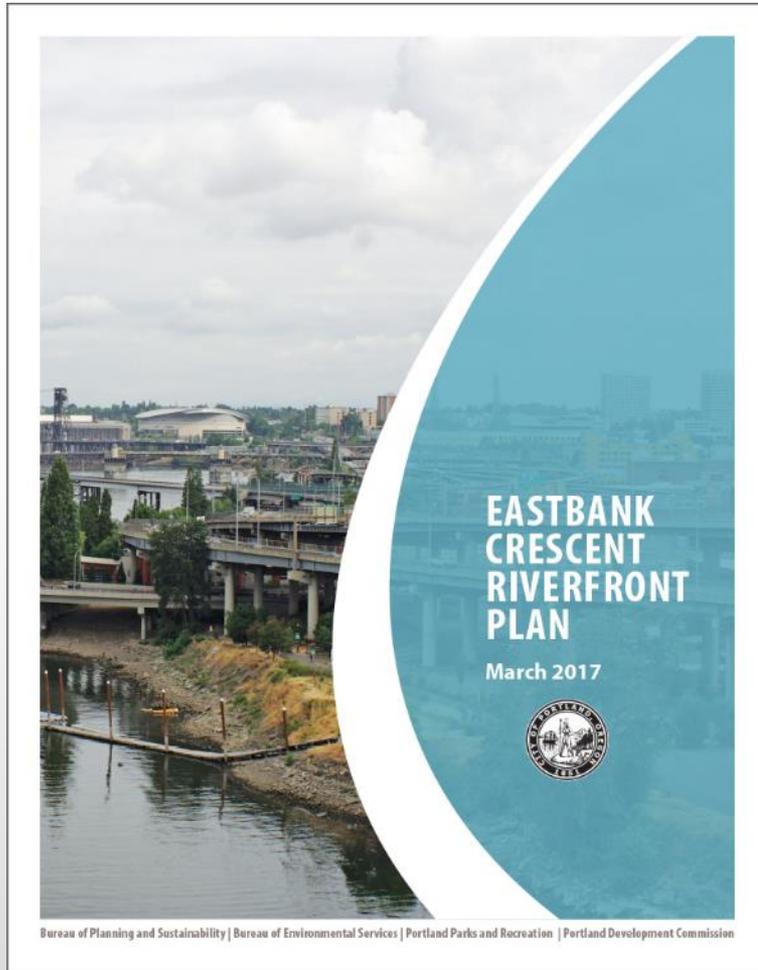
- Sandy beach and in-water swimming area delineated by float line
- On-land amenities
- Safety is priority #1



1. EX. REMOVABLE BOLLARDS	6. REGULATORY SIGN	11. (6) EX. BIKE RACKS
2. FOOD TRUCK	7. BUOY LINE	12. LIFE JACKET SUPPLY/INFO BOOTH
3. EX. SEATING & TRASH CAN	8. EX. IDENTITY SIGN	13. PORTABLE TOILET
4. IDENTITY SIGN	9. PICNIC TABLES	14. ADDITIONAL BIKE RACKS
5. EX. SEATING	10. TRASH CAN	15. SWIM AREA MARKER BUOY




Eastbank Crescent Riverfront Plan



Goals

- Provide safe public recreation
- Improve habitat
- Incorporate environmental education
- Integrate multiple uses while minimizing conflicts
- Create a practical design

Eastbank Crescent Riverfront Plan

Complex Site

- Multiple ownerships
- Numerous activities
- Physical condition challenges
- Future redevelopment



Eastbank Crescent Riverfront Plan Design Concept 1: Habitat Focus



- Riverbank laid back and in-water and on-land habitat treatments
- Trail relocated
- Dock redesigned
- Swimming beach maintained



Eastbank Crescent Riverfront Plan

Design Concept 2: Public Access Focus



- Riverbank laid back minimally, some habitat treatments
- Dock redesigned
- Beach access and seasonal improvements
- Greenway trail conflict resolution
- Public space and view overlook opportunities

Portland City Council Actions

City staff request that the Portland City Council:

- Accepts the *Central City Potential Swimming Beach Sites Study* and directs Parks and Recreation to consider the findings in future planning efforts and implement a pilot swimming beach program in Summer 2017; and
- Accepts the *Eastbank Crescent Riverfront Plan* and directs staff to seek funds to coordinate with OMSI and other property owners and to **return in the fall with a funding request** to develop a refined plan concept that integrates habitat restoration with public recreation and implements plan elements concurrently.