

Calumet Brownfield Community Engagement

ABOUT THE PROJECT

The Calumet Collaborative is partnering with Delta Institute to develop a community engagement strategy to capture important community perspectives that will inform redevelopment of underutilized land in the Calumet.

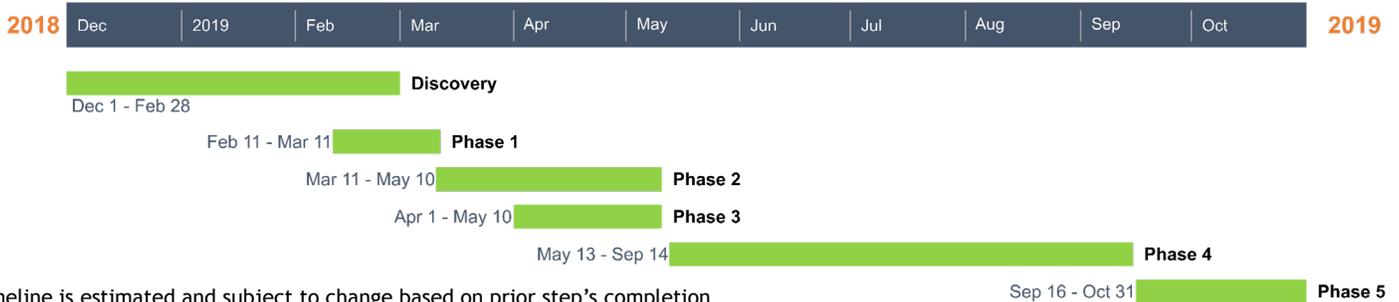


The community engagement strategy will ideally form advisory panels placed in 3-4 key sub-regions of the Calumet region, although these engagement platforms could take on another form based on what works best for the community. These panels, or engagement platforms, aim to identify regional goals, needs, concerns, priorities, community assets, and opportunities for subregion collaboration. Findings will inform and help finalize the regional Brownfield strategy.

When underutilized and contaminated sites are redeveloped and more closely aligned with desired community outcomes, there is more buy-in and the projects are more likely to proceed smoothly. In the long run, these developments will better meet the economic, environmental and social needs of the community. Once the advisory panels are in place, they could be used for other projects and initiatives requiring community input in the Calumet.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT PROJECT STEPS

Discovery	Funded	Understand recent and upcoming community engagement in the Calumet by administering surveys and interviews. Identify key contacts for the project.
Phase 1	Funded	Using the Calumet Brownfield Map, pinpoint target neighborhoods and jurisdictions to conduct community engagement.
Phase 2	Funded	Create 3-4 sub-regions in the Calumet that incorporate key jurisdictions. Each sub-region will have a community advisory panel.
Phase 3	Funded	Create a larger Calumet Advisory Panel, made up of representatives from each sub-region advisory panel.
Phase 4	Requires Funding	Identify sub-region and regional goals, needs, concerns, priorities, community assets and opportunities for subregion collaboration.
Phase 5	Requires Funding	Finalize and present the community engagement report that will be incorporated into the larger Calumet Brownfield redevelopment strategy.
Beyond project	Requires Funding	Calumet Collaborative to maintain this network so it can inform and add value to future projects and initiatives.



BROWNFIELD INITIATIVE

This community engagement project supports a larger initiative of the Calumet Collaborative: Brownfield redevelopment. This initiative aims to explore and align Brownfield redevelopment strategies that build off existing resources including: underutilized sites, brownfields, productive reuse examples, and identify opportunities for action.

BROWNFIELD WORK GROUP

The Calumet Collaborative convened the following organizations to provide strategic guidance throughout this project

MWRD, UIC, SSMMA, NIRPC, Delta Institute, Chicago Community Trust, Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning (CMAP), City of Gary, Northwest Indiana Forum, Neighborhood Housing Services of Chicago, Chicago Neighborhoods Initiative, Metropolitan Planning Council (MPC), Illinois International Port, OAI Inc, Illinois Department of Natural Resources, The Cook County Department of Planning and Development