



Calumet Collaborative Nature for All Meeting
Tuesday August 11, 2020
Zoom Conference Call

In Attendance:

Annette Anderson, Friends of the Chicago River
Nina Baki, FPDCC
Mitch Barloga, NIRPC
Jessica Becker, FPDCC
Stephen Bell, Chicago Park District
Serrater Chapman, Calumet Collaborative
Tess Conway, Calumet Collaborative
Sarah Coulter, Calumet Collaborative
Stephen DeFalco, Sandridge Nature Center
Bradford Kasberg, Audubon Great Lakes
Laura Milkert, The Field Museum
Michelle Pagano, REI
Nicole Pellegrini, Calumet Collaborative
Emily Reusswig, Openlands

Objective: This meeting's objective is to identify criteria for adding to Openland's Get Outside Map and discuss ways to incorporate active transit to the map.

AGENDA

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|----------------------------|--------|-------------|
| 1) Welcome & Introductions | (Tess) | 3:00-3:10pm |
| 2) Project Update | (Tess) | 3:10-3:20pm |
- Short term goals
 - Calumet Collaborative and Openlands will be partnering to include more Calumet region specific sites to the [Get Outside Map](#).
 - The map needs site addition assistance specifically in south Cook County and NW Indiana.
 - Tess has created a google form and sheet with Emily where natural sites can be submitted by the working group. The deadline for submissions is 2 weeks.
 - If data on map becomes outdated, users should contact Emily (ereusswig@openlands.org) to update.
 - The Indiana Dunes National and State Park sites need to be updated with more detail on specific sections of the park.
 - Once sites have been submitted, Emily and the Openlands team will update the map with a Calumet region specific filter.
 - Trails and longer linear sites can be added by highlighting the trailhead as the destination and including trail information in the description section.

- Intermediate Goals

Calumet Collaborative: the advancement of a thriving Calumet region through transformative sustainable development. www.calumetcollaborative.org

- The hope for the next phase of the map would be to add more trail networks to increase accessibility to natural sites.
- There was discussion of also including paddling routes and water trails and detailing an experience that includes different aspects of outdoor exploration.
 - Openlands is currently talking to a developer about integrating all of those pieces. Late winter 2021 they will be looking for more trails and water trails.
- NIRPC has a paper map that is updated every two years. They have been looking to transition to a mobile app using My City Bikes. The Chicago Southland CVB is also working with My City Bikes to create a trails app.
- In an effort to work collaboratively and to cover the bi-state region, NIRPC is working to extend the map into the Calumet region. This area includes Lake, Porter, and LaPorte County with boundaries in Illinois still needing to be defined.
- There are discussions about using the Calumet Heritage Area and Calumet Collaborative area to extend trails even farther. Currently, Chicago Southland CVB trail networks extend out of their geography to draw visitors outside of the region.
- NIRPC map's will be interactive and have a variety of features. Current completion date is winter 2020 following approval by the City of Chicago.
- Another suggestion was adding more detailed day trip maps, such as including unique birding experiences on specific trails and other ideas to curate nature experiences, such as 2- or 3-day trips.
- Long term goals
 - Spatial analysis Esri map with mobile friendly map.

3) Criteria for Site Additions (Group) 3:20-3:40pm

- All site criteria are included in the [google sheet](#).

4) Including Active Transportation (Group) 3:40-3:55pm

- The Openland's map currently includes active transportation options through google maps. Once a site is selected on the map users can choose biking or walking directions to reach their chosen sites.
- In the future, potentially incorporate NIRPC's and CSCVB trails apps.

5) Next Steps & Closing (Tess) 3:55-4:00pm

- Tess will send an email that will include Google form, google sheet for mass site submission, and the submission deadline.
- Tess will send out a doodle poll for the September meeting. This meeting will focus on the Calumet specific map launch.