

***JACKSON PARK  
SOUTH SHORE CULTURAL CENTER***



**South Lakefront Framework Plan, Phase 2**

# 1 INTRODUCTION

## ● Overview

The Chicago Park District (CPD) authorized framework plans for three historic parks: Jackson, Washington and South Shore Cultural Center. In an effort to define the changing needs of these parks, to provide a plan to enhance each of the parks' commitments to serving the neighboring communities and to preserve the intended historic character, the CPD developed this Framework Plan for Jackson Park and South Shore Cultural Center. Washington Park's Framework Plan is a separate report.

A team of consultants, led by JJR, worked with Chicago residents, community supporters and the CPD to develop a long-range plan for each of the parks, building on the Jackson Park Guidelines of 1996. Through 10 public meetings, 13 focus groups, numerous steering committee meetings and community presentations, a collaborative plan was developed to address each park's issues.

## ● Objectives

The purpose of the Framework Plan is to outline recommendations that will guide land use and management over the next 10 years for Jackson Park and the South Shore Cultural Center. Intended as a living, working document, the Framework Plan is a starting point for a long term process of change that will enhance and preserve the park's character, as well as anticipate future needs. The framework plan will address the following objectives:

1. Improve park and recreation facilities for local residents.
2. Improve park and recreation facilities to accommodate regional and city wide events.
3. Involve local residents, concerned civic groups and institutions, park users and advisory councils, Chicago Park District staff, and elected and appointed officials in the planning process to achieve a joint vision for the future that will be promoted and supported by all concerned interests.
4. Recognize and respect the historic significance of these parks.
5. Upgrade the visual quality of park landscapes and facilities.
6. Coordinate project planning for South Lake Shore Drive reconstruction, and other circulation improvements.
7. Restore and enhance shoreline protection systems, including revetments, groins, breakwaters, piers and beaches.

## ● Next Steps...

To continue the planning process, the collaboration between Park District leadership, the community and park users needs to continue. Additional planning is warranted as ideas move towards implementation.

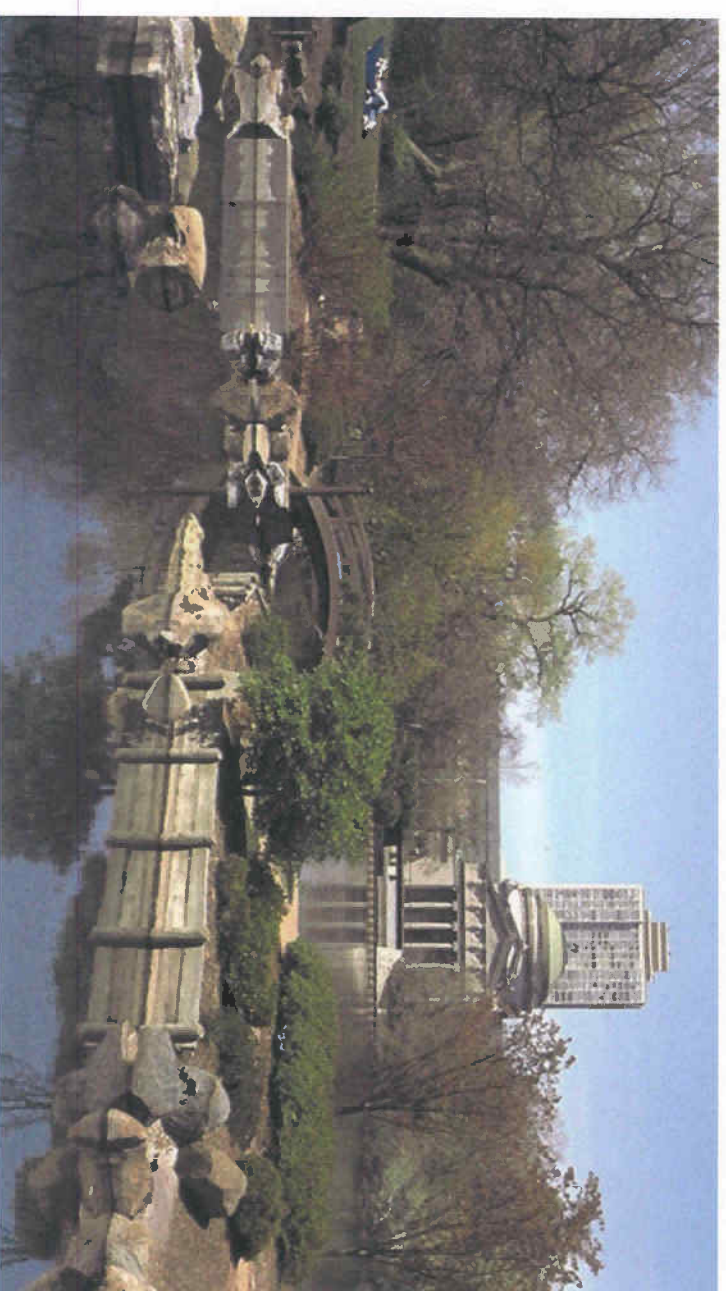
The Jackson Park Advisory Council, the South Shore Cultural Center Advisory Council and the Chicago Park District encourage your participation as this process continues. The Advisory Councils meet regularly at locations in their respective parks. For more information, call the Jackson Park Field House or the South Shore Cultural Center.



*South Shore Cultural Center*

## Mission...

*To preserve, enhance and manage our historic lakefront park resources as an integral part of our neighborhoods, our City and our region's recreational, cultural, environmental and educational experience.*



*Jackson Park*



● **Principle 5: Protect and Enhance Landscape Beauty**

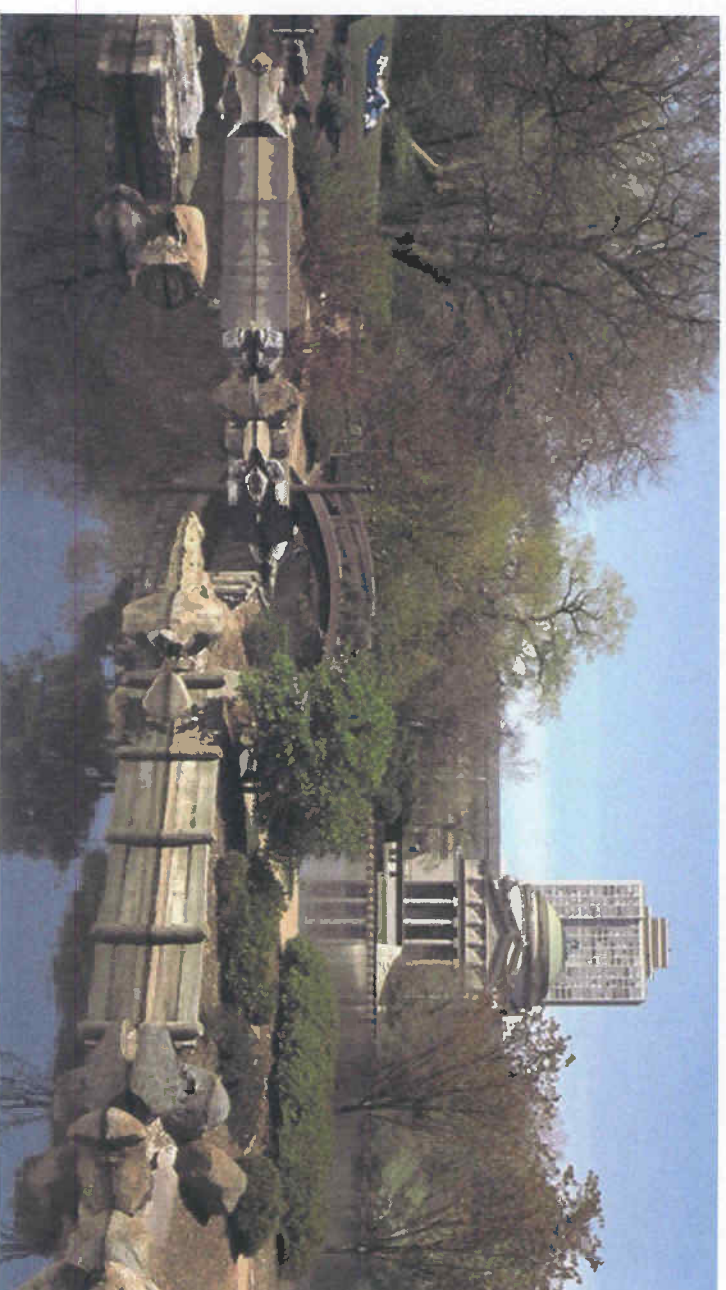
- Manage the landscape to reflect and build community appreciation and stewardship.
- Create a cohesive and compelling (predominantly naturalistic) planting design that will be one of the three dominant physical features of each park, along with landforms and water elements.
- Respect the significance of each park's water bodies and their visual and physical qualities.
- Provide more variety and quantity of plant material to provide greater visual, horticultural, ecological and educational interest.
- Establish landscape planting designs that will minimize the noise and visual impact of roadways and parking lots and that will screen and soften architectural elements.
- Examine support facilities (primarily Chicago Park District maintenance shops.) Modify or relocate facilities that unnecessarily disrupt the landscape and park use.
- Balance the objectives of landscape management and design in the placement and distribution of understory species.

● **Principle 6: Improve Environmental Features**

- Maintain and/or change the shape and size of each park-parcel to enhance the environmental, aesthetic and recreational benefits, to provide better wildlife habitat, and to improve maintenance efficiency.
- Use an approach to landscape management and maintenance that considers the parks' historic and ecological quality. Include consideration of environmental impacts in the management and design of recreational uses.
- Improve the water quality in Jackson Park's lagoon and harbor systems.
- Respect and enhance environmentally sensitive areas in each park.
- Provide more variety and quality plant material to provide better, more ecologically sound wildlife habitat and greater visual, horticultural, and educational interest.
- Develop educational and enforcement programs to increase public awareness and appreciation of the park's environmental features.

● **Principle 7: Enhance Historic Features**

- Respect and enhance each park's historic character, and consider the park's historic significance as a key factor when evaluating changes to the park.
- Provide treatments for historic features that are consistent with the U.S. Department of Interior's Historic Preservation Guidelines.
- Locate and design new structures and features in a way that retains or enhances the historic fabric.
- Remove and/or redesign in a more sympathetic manner, features that detract from the integrity of the historic character of the park, an area or an historic resource.
- Consider the reuse of historic structures before developing new structures, when economically and structurally feasible.
- Consider each park's historic precedents for landscape form, landscape design, planting, circulation, and views when evaluating or designing changes to the park.
- Treat historic structures and features in a manner appropriate to their relative significance.



*Japanese Garden, Jackson Park*

