# MILWAUKEE RIVER ESTUARY: AREA OF CONCERN

## **GREAT LAKES:** Quick Facts

### 40,000,000

people rely on this resource for drinking water



of the surface freshwater in United States

### **99 YEARS**

amount of time to replace the water in Lake Michigan

# WHAT IS THE MILWAUKEE ESTUARY?

The Milwaukee River Estuary represents the confluence of the three major rivers in Milwaukee, the Milwaukee the Menomonee and the Kinnickinnic Rivers and Lake Michigan. This area has deeper water than elsewhere in the Milwaukee River Basin.





#### WHAT IS AN AREA OF CONCERN?

An AOC is a location that has experienced significant environmental degradation and the public is unable to fully use the resource in a safe or beneficial way. The Milwaukee Estuary was designated an Area of Concern (AOC) in the 1980's.

### WHAT IS A BUI?

The term BUI stands for "Beneficial Use Impairment." The presence of these BUIs in our waterways, means the public isn't able to fully use or enjoy their water resources in a safe way for eating, drinking, swimming, fishing, etc.

Milwaukee has 11 of 14 possible BUIs.

- **1. Restrictions** on Dredging Activities
- 2. Fish Tumors or Other Deformities
- Bird or Animal Deformities or Reproduction
   Problems
- 4. Restrictions on Fish and Wildlife Consumption
- 5. Degradation of Benthos
- 6. Degradation of Phytoplankton and Zooplankton Populations
- 7. Loss of Fish and Wildlife Habitat
- Degradation of Fish and Wildlife
   Populations
- 9. Beach Closings/Recreational Restoration
- 10. Eutrophication or Undesirable Algae
- 11. Degradation of Aesthetics



#### HOW DO WE FIX AN AOC?

To reach our goal and 'de-list' Milwaukee as an Area of Concern, we must clean up our rivers and Lake Michigan, to restore some of their natural function by: creating habitat, removing invasive species, planting vegetation, reducing pollutants, etc.

# **ECONOMIC & COMMUNITY GAINS!**

# \$2-\$3 for every \$1

as a result of remedial actions and restoration work

## \$50,000,000,000

in benefits from tourism to increased property values and decreased costs for cities and counties

### Kletzsch Park Project – WP548



### September 17, 2019 Public Information Meeting Held Kletzsch Park Project Components



East Abutment Dam Repairs Public River Access, Portage, & Overlook

Fish Passage









**61%** Great Lakes Restoration Initiative (GRLI) \$1,200,000 FISH PASSAGE

#### **Kletzsch Park Project Funding**



**County Capital Funds** \$165,000 for EAST ABUTMENT DAM REPAIRS



**WDNR Municipal Dam Grant** \$165,000 for EAST ABUTMENT DAM REPAIRS



**WDNR Stewardship Grant** \$229,536 for OVERLOOK & PUBLIC RIVER ACCESS



Fund for Lake Michigan (FFLM) \$200,000 for FISH PASSAGE

#### **Kletzsch Park Project Considerations**

East Abutment Dam Repairs	<ul> <li>Address deficiencies identified by the DNR inspection</li> <li>Make the bypass structure functional</li> <li>Remove woody vegetation to protect the integrity of the dam structure</li> </ul>
Public River Access, Portage & Overlook	<ul> <li>Must provide universal access</li> <li>Refresh the overlook and address unvegetated areas</li> <li>Provide improved and accessible portage</li> </ul>
Fish Passage	<ul> <li>Cannot impact floodplain</li> <li>Needs correct slope and velocity to work for native fish</li> <li>Desirable to build on publicly owned property</li> <li>Entrance to fish passage best located near base of dam</li> </ul>
Cultural Assets	<ul> <li>SHPO reviewing updated cultural resource information for in- river bypass option, EPA review also underway</li> <li>City of Glendale Historic Preservation Commission must review and approve</li> </ul>

#### January 9, 2019 Public Information Meeting #1:

- When: Wednesday, January 9, 2019 5:30 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. Open House format, with presentation from 6:00-6:30 p.m.
- Where: Glen Hills Middle School 2600 W. Mill Road Glendale, WI



#### County Board Resolution 19-335, April 18, 2019:

"...BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that before proceeding with the project, the Parks Department will present the proposed final design at another Public Information Meeting, at a location near the project site, to address the new alternatives and how the proposed final design addresses the various concerns raised by the public; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the proposed final design shall require County Board approval before construction of any project can proceed."

#### September 17, 2019 Public Information Meeting #2:

#### When: Tuesday, September 17, 2019 | 5:00 to 7:30 p.m.

- Open House: 5:00 5:45 p.m.
- Presentation and Q & A: 5:45 6:30 p.m.
- Small Group Discussion: 6:30 7:30 p.m.

#### Where: Glen Hills Middle School | 2600 West Mill Road, Glendale



#### Kletzsch Park Fish Passage Design

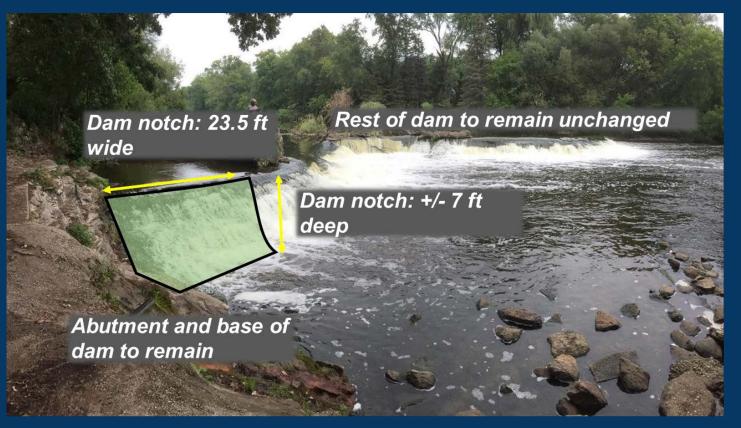


#### Plan View Option 2

Kletzsch Park River Access, Dam Repair & Fish Passage Project Milwaukee River



#### **Kletzsch Park Fish Passage Dimensions**



Total Dam Length: 245 ft

#### Kletzsch Park Project View: In-River Fish Passage



### Kletzsch Park Project View: River Access & Portage



#### Kletzsch Park Project View: Lower Overlook



### October 11, 2019 – Frequently Asked Questions Document Released

#### Kletzsch Park

- Is dam removal an option?
- Will this project impact the mature oaks?
- Why can't the fish passage be on the east bank of the river?
- Why improve the overlook area?
- Were Tribal Communities in Wisconsin notified about this project?
- Why a fish passage at the Kletzsch Dam?
- What is the history of the Kletzsch Park dam and what repairs are required?
- What is universal design?
- Will the project impact Native American burial mounds or other cultural resources?

Sort by Popularity

- What is the project schedule?
- Why improve the river access & portage?

#### Public Comment Period Open Until October 18, 2019

Current PEEC Request:

Review and approval to proceed with in-stream fish passage option as presented at September 17, 2019 Public Information Meeting.