



Belle Isle Park Annual Report, Fiscal Year 2017

May 22, 2018 Detroit, MI

In Partnership with the Belle Isle Conservancy



STRIVING GOALS 2014-2017

- Safe and clean park
- Customer-oriented thinking
- Growing partnerships and alliances
- Stewardship of Belle Isle resources
- Continuous improvement



Volunteers on clean up duty





DNR Responsibilities



Volunteers planting bulbs for Daffodils4Detroit



- **Ownership**
City of Detroit
- **Management**
Department of Natural Resources,
Parks and Recreation Division

In Collaboration with:

MDOT

- Roads and Bridges

DNR - Law Enforcement Division, Michigan State Police & U.S. Border Patrol

- Public Safety

City of Detroit DWSD

- Public Water/Sewer Utilities



Belle Isle Park Advisory Committee



- Formation outlined in lease
- Appointed by the Mayor, City Council and Governor
- Eight members
- Eleven meetings held in 2017
- Public comment encouraged during meetings
- Update public on planning projects in progress and improvements completed on Belle Isle



Michele Hodges
CHAIR



**Rev. Lonnie
Peek, Jr.**
VICE - CHAIR



Brad Dick



Bryan Barnhill



Sommer Woods



Bud Denker



Michael Curis



Ron Olson



Improvements Operations & Maintenance

- Additional seasonal and full time staff hired
 - 2 Seasonal Park Rangers
 - 2 Additional Janitors (1 Seasonal & 1 Full Time)
- Belle Isle Operations & Maintenance Manual prepared
- DNR staff performed lawn maintenance, reducing contract fees by \$200,000
- Volunteer Coordinator position - jointly funded with DNR Parks and Recreation and Belle Isle Conservancy



DNR-PRD and Belle Isle Conservancy staff preparing to lead volunteers together



Connecting with the Community



Public engagement meeting for Belle Isle Park Strategic Management Plan



Events

- Third annual Harvest Festival
- Holiday Stroll
- Metro Detroit Youth Day
- Grand Prix
- Boo at the Belle Isle Nature Center

Programs

- Stewardship Saturdays
- Stepping Stones Youth Program
- DNR Wildlife Programs
- Belle Isle Park Volunteer Program

Community Engagement

- 4 public and stakeholder meetings for Belle Isle Strategic Management Plan
- 2 public meetings for beach revitalization project
- 1 public meeting for Lake Okonoka Habitat Restoration Project
- 2 public meetings Piet Oudolf Garden proposal
- Belle Isle Park Advisory Committee meets monthly
- Belle Isle Conservancy



Public Safety Partnership



DNR Law Enforcement Officers engaging with Metro Youth Day Participants

Michigan Department of Natural Resources Conservation Officers, Michigan State Police And U.S. Border Patrol

- Working together to provide public safety for all major events
- Positive visitor feedback on public safety
- Assisting park visitors
- Conservation Officers and Michigan State Police on patrol 24 hours a day, 7 days a week
- Over 16,000 positive interactions with park visitors



Youth Employment

187 Detroit Youth Participants

Detroit Hispanic Development Corporation

- Drainage field/clean-up

Detroit Zoological Society,
Belle Isle Nature Center

- Litter pick up, brush removal, invasive species removal, painting benches

2017 Detroit Summer Youth Employment Initiative Program



Detroit youth in the DNR Summer Youth Program



Youth Opportunities



DNR Stepping Stones

285 youth participated

- 10 week program to expose children to nature and engage them in experiential learning in a fun and safe park environment

Belle Isle Conservancy

Third and Fourth grade field trips

- 1,069 DPSCD and Hamtramck Students (11 DPSCD & 3 HPS Schools)
- Participated in field trips to the Belle Isle Aquarium and Anna Scripps Whitcomb Conservatory



DNR-MSU Stepping Stones partnership



Belle Isle Conservancy field trip program for Detroit Public Schools and HPS students at the BIA and ASWC



Island Visitor Attendance



- **FY 2017 Attendance**
4,200,000 park visitors
- **FY 2016 Attendance**
4,100,000 park visitors
- **FY 2015 Attendance**
3,600,000 park visitors



Kite Festival at Belle Isle Park



Island Attraction Attendance



Belle Isle Aquarium – Belle Isle Conservancy

- 194,749 visitors
 - 2016 visitors 162,331
- 19.7% increase

Anna Scripps Whitcomb Conservatory – DNR Parks and Recreation

- 305,036 visitors
 - 2016 visitors 250,430
- 21.8% increase

Dossin Museum – Detroit Historical Society

- 50,915 visitors
 - 2016 visitors 46,459
- 9.6% increase

Belle Isle Nature Center – Detroit Zoo

- 111,928 visitors
 - 2016 visitors 95,363
- 17.3% increase



Large community events at the Casino



Youth programming at the Belle Isle Nature Center



State Park Passport Participation



Recreation Passport Participation

City of Detroit participation:

% of motorized vehicles:

- 2016 - 31.25%
- 2017 - 34.36%
- Up 3.11%



Recreation Passports are Required for all State Parks



Fiscal Year 2017 Park Revenue

- All Island generated revenue returns to Belle Isle Park
- Revenue placed in sub-account to administer, maintain and improve park
- 164 special events / police training
- Forty-three (43) of those activities utilized the paddock for parking or the event itself

Events, Permits, Rentals & Donations \$467,729



Harvest Festival





Shelter and Athletic Complex Rentals

20 shelters available for rent

- 933 Rentals
- Reservations available through DNR's central reservation system up to 12 months in advance

Athletic Complex Fields And Courts available for rent by Concessioner, Come Play Detroit

- 29 rentals of fields and courts



ComePlayDetroit schedule 7 sport leagues at the Belle Isle Athletic Complex



Sunset Point



Facilities Use

- 73 casino rentals
- 81 Flynn rentals
- 133 Conservatory rentals
- 17 Scott Fountain

Rentals



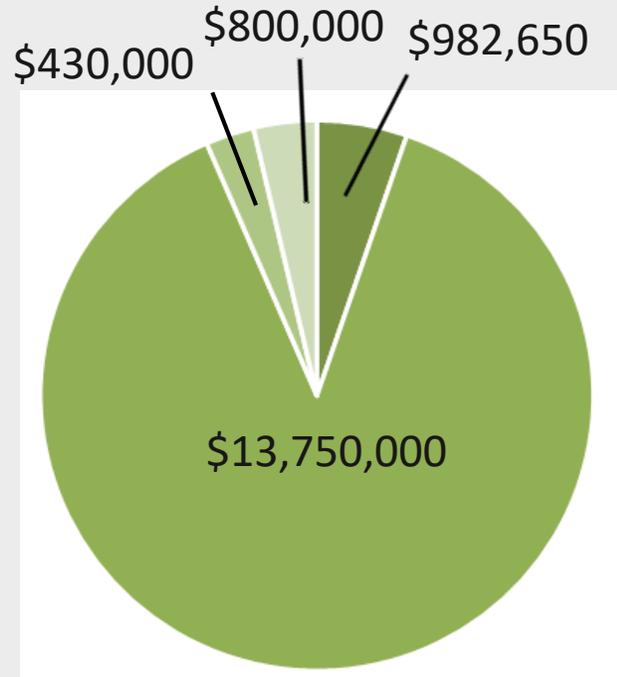
Community event at the Casino



James Scott Memorial Fountain



Fiscal Year 2017 Total Investment



Total Maintenance, Operations & Capital Improvements \$15,960,000

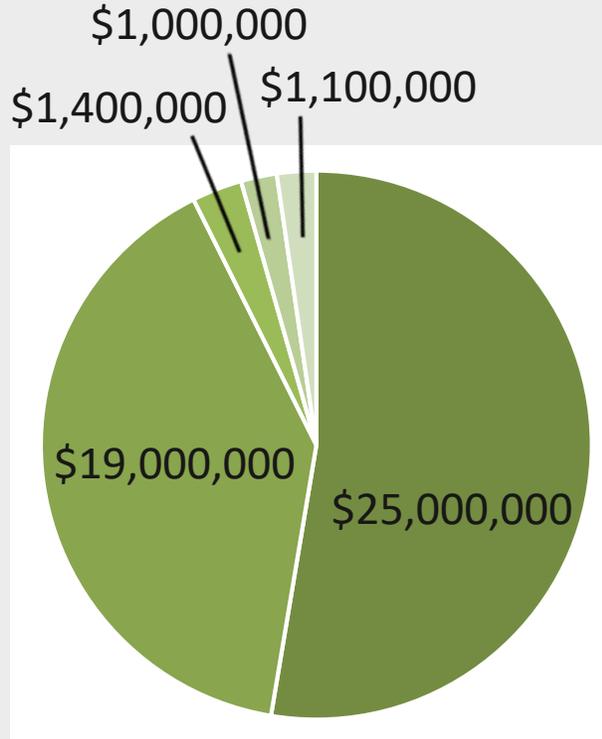
- DNR Investment**
\$13,750,000
- Volunteer In Kind**
Contribution in partnership with Belle Isle Conservancy
\$430,000
- MDOT and MSP Expenditures**
\$982,650
- Belle Isle Conservancy**
\$800,000



Volunteer paddlers cleaning up Belle Isle Park canals



Investment FY 2014- 2017



Total Investment from Multiple Sources \$48,000,000



- 1 **Capital improvements, grants, and partnership projects**
\$25,000,000
- 2 **Operational & Infrastructure Improvements**
\$19,000,000
- 3 **Volunteer In Kind Contributions**
\$1,400,000
- 4 **Private Donations**
\$1,000,000
- 5 **Total Revenue**
\$1,100,000

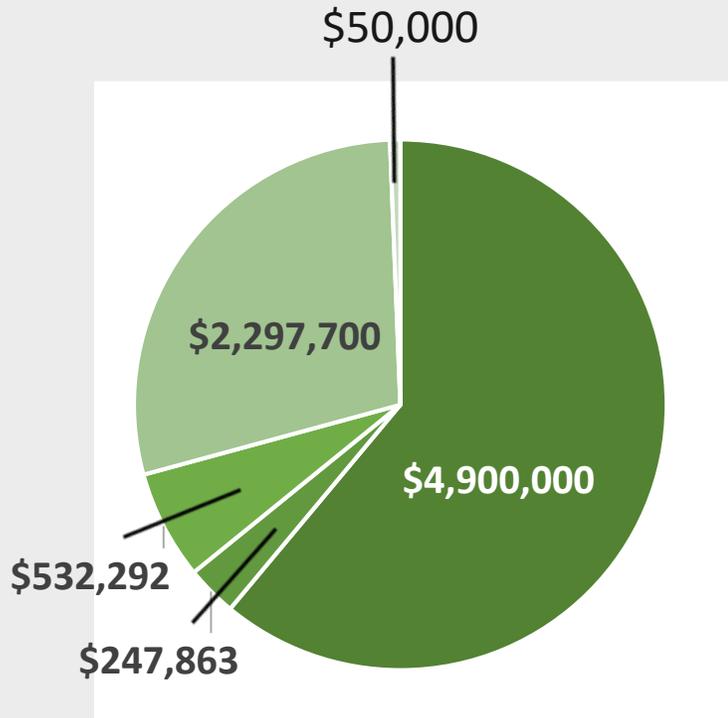


Lake Okonoka habitat improvement project

The DNR and the Belle Isle Conservancy partner to leverage funding with many nonprofits and other government grant partners



FY 2017 Capital Improvements



Infrastructure Investment \$8,752,855



- 1 **Partnership Projects**
\$4,900,000
- 2 **Utility Improvements**
\$247,863
- 3 **Recreation Improvements**
\$532,292
- 4 **Building Infrastructure**
\$2,297,700
- 5 **Planning**
\$50,000

In partnership with the
Belle Isle Conservancy



*Roof and decking replacement on new
Administrative Office*



FY 2017 Capital Improvements



Partnership Projects

- **MDOT \$3,400,000**
McArthur Bridge surface maintenance repairs
- **PLA, \$1,500,000**
Replacement of street lights



MDOT road maintenance repairs



New street lights installed by PLA



FY 2017 Capital Improvements

- Storm Water System assessment
- Storm Drain repair
- Water Main line valve repairs



New storm drain line and cover

Utility Improvements



Replacement of utility lines for new bridge on Lakeside Drive for Lake Okonoka Habitat Restoration Project



FY 2017 Capital Improvements

1. Iron Belle Trailhead design
2. Improvements to Lake Okonoka picnic areas
3. Picnic Shelter #2, #5, and #6 repaired
4. Improvements to South Shoreline fishing
5. Nashua Canal ADA kayak launch design
6. Boating Access Site assessment



Recreation Improvements



New ADA accessible shoreline fishing rails



Picnic shelter improvements

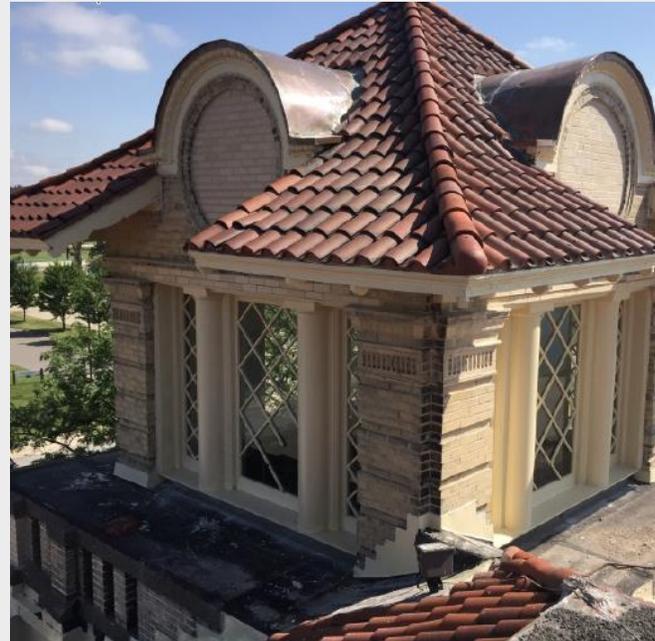


FY 2017 Capital Improvements

1. Casino Fire Suppression installation
2. White House & Flynn repairs
3. Internal Affairs building, Police HQ and Casino roof repairs
4. Engineering Customer Center and Offices



Building Infrastructure



Roof and cupola repairs at the Casino. Roof repairs replacement of 30' valley beam and steel reinforcement to ensure structural stability of roof.



Roof repairs at the Police Headquarters. Roof repairs required construction of structural supports to shore up roof.

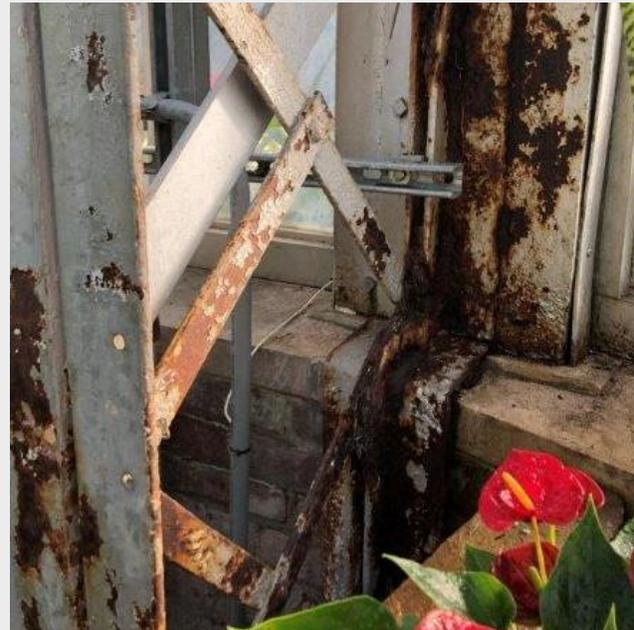


FY 2017 Capital Improvements

1. Structural analysis of BIA and ASWC
2. Engineering for ASWC ventilation and computerized climate control system
3. ASWC Dome structural truss engineering
4. Glazing repairs in ASWC
5. North half of ASWC gardens replanted with design referencing historic species
6. Planned and partially funded with the Belle Isle Conservancy



Belle Isle Aquarium (BIA) and Anna Scripps Whitcomb Conservatory (ASWC)



Steel trusses requiring replacement at ASWC



Testing points at BIA



FY 2017 Capital Improvements



Ecological Restoration Improvements

- Engineering of hydrologic restoration of Wet-Mesic Flatwoods
- Oak Wilt management in Wet-Mesic Flatwoods
- Funded through a state invasive species grant of \$200,000, with fiduciary assistance from the Belle Isle Conservancy



Wet-mesic flatwoods



Historic hydrologic flow through wet-mesic flatwoods



FY 2017 Capital Improvements

- Agreement with the Garden Club of Michigan for Nancy Brown Peace Carillon site garden design by Piet Oudolf - Design underway
- ASWC Koi Pond repairs
- In partnership with the Belle Isle Conservancy



Private Gifts



Piet Oudolf Garden, Maximilian Park, Germany



Piet Oudolf at the Nancy Brown Peace Carillon site



Belle Isle Park Strategic Management Plan Drafted



Highlights

- Strategic direction established for next ten years
- \$20,000,000 anticipated funding over next ten years
- Action items identified for next 5 years
- Management Zones mapped
- Public meetings held
- Belle Isle Conservancy Board endorsed
- Target completion:
 - June 2018
- Developed in partnership with the Belle Isle Conservancy

Belle Isle Park infrastructure needs

- \$300,000,000

Anticipated Investment vs. Infrastructure Needs on Belle Isle Park



Community meeting for Belle Isle Park Strategic Management Plan



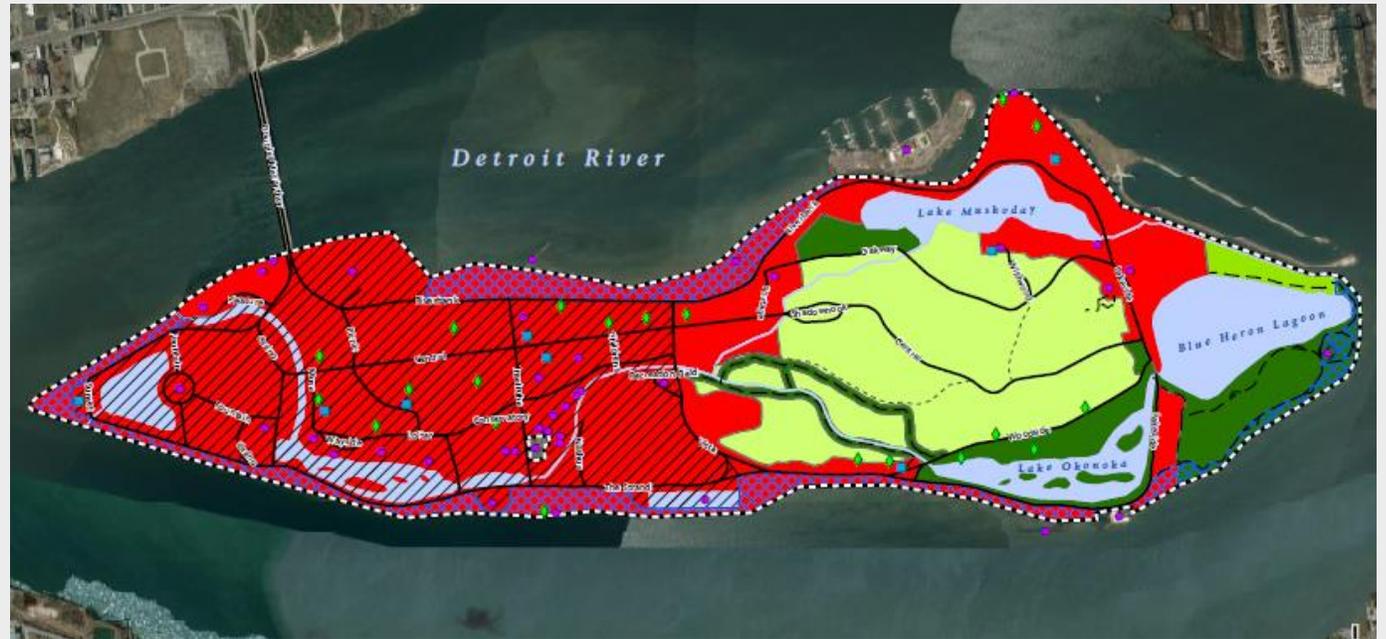
Belle Isle Park Management Zones



MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
Belle Isle Park - Draft Management Zones

Data Sources: State of Michigan Geographic Data Library, Michigan Department of Natural Resources, Esri Basemap

- Belle Isle Park Boundary
 - Roads
 - Trails
 - Abandoned Roadbeds
 - Restroom Buildings
 - Shelters
 - Park Infrastructure
- Management Zones**
- Primitive
 - Backcountry
 - Natural Resource Recreation
 - Developed Recreation
 - Cultural Landscape Overlay
 - Scenic Overlay

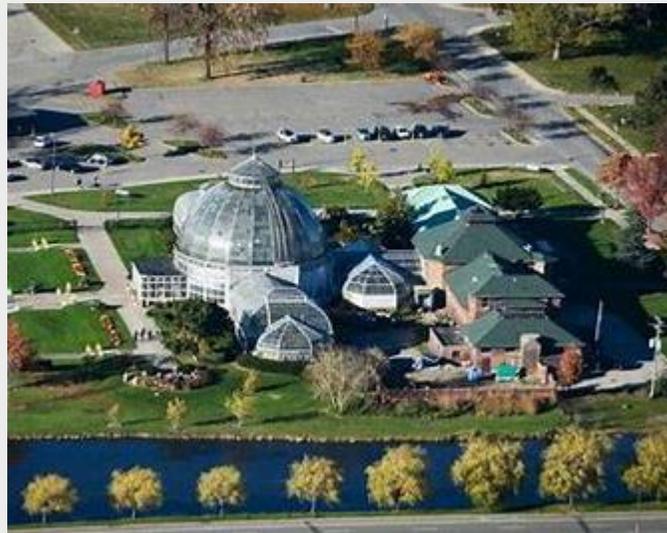


Belle Isle Park Management Plan zones



FY 2018 Capital Investment

- The operating budget, including public safety, will be maintained at the same level as 2017
- The DNR will invest \$1,250,000 in capital projects for FY18
- \$1,750,000 in grant funded projects
- \$700,000 in partner investments



Master Plan for Belle Isle Aquarium, Anna Scripps Whitcomb Conservatory and the Belle Isle Greenhouses (operated and managed by the city of Detroit)



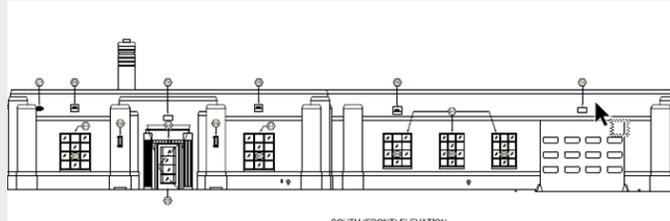
Detroit river boating access site assessment



FY 2018 Capital Investment

- Belle Isle Park Administrative Office renovations to former Internal Affairs Building to replace White House functions
- Replacement of vertical structural steel trusses in Anna Scripps Whitcomb Conservatory Dome
- Geothermal assessment for Belle Isle Aquarium
- Drainage assessment for Aquarium and Conservatory
- Master Plan for Aquarium, Conservatory and Greenhouses
- Assessments and planning completed in partnership with the Belle Isle Conservancy

Key Building Improvements



Administrative office location



Steel trusses at ASWC

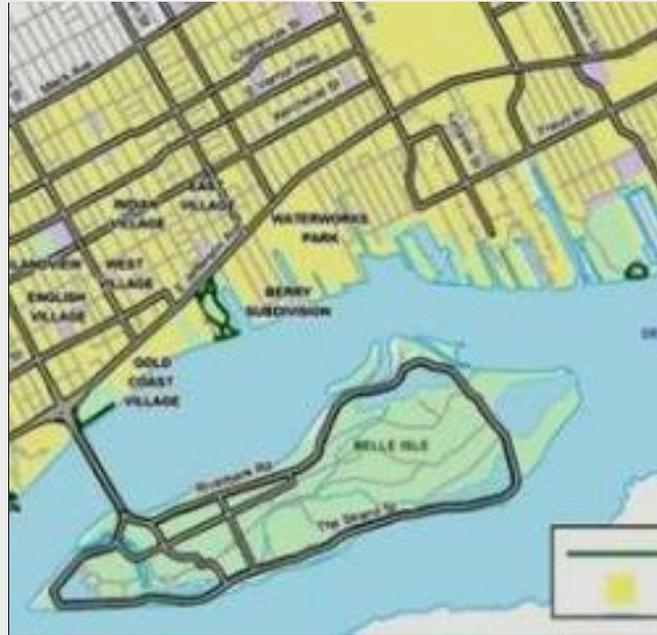


FY 2018 Capital Investment



Recreational Improvements

- Iron Belle Trailhead development at Livingstone Lighthouse
- Engineering for Belle Isle - Iron Belle Loop Trail
- North Shoreline fishing renovations
- Universally assessable walkways at James Scott Fountain



Iron Belle Trail (IBT) loop around Belle Isle Park will connect with IBT trails along the Detroit riverfront and into Detroit neighborhoods



The Iron Belle Trail southern terminus will be located on the East Side of Belle Isle Park



THANK YOU

Partners in Stewardship of Belle Isle Park

