



Naperville Riverwalk Ecological Enhancements: Reconnecting with Nature



Background

Since the 1930s, much of the downtown Riverwalk contains concrete and stone to prevent erosion. Maintaining the Riverwalk with walls, ornamental plants, and native plants involves different types of care. Increasingly, off-trail pedestrian “shortcuts” compound the maintenance challenges, which result in inconsistent outcomes that compromise operations, safety and appearance.

Project Overview

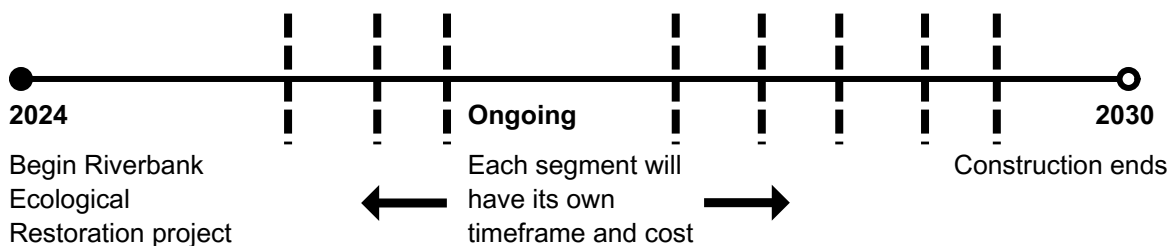
The Riverbank Ecological Restoration project aims to rejuvenate the downtown Riverwalk by restoring its natural beauty and functionality. This initiative will replace outdated concrete and stone structures with a sustainable, native plant landscape.

What it will Accomplish

- Enhance the Riverwalk's aesthetics through a natural, low-maintenance plant selection.
- Improve riverbank stability and reduce erosion for long-term sustainability.
- Create a more natural habitat for native wildlife.
- Reduce maintenance costs associated with the current hybrid plant landscape.
- Increase safety by addressing erosion caused by pedestrian shortcuts.
- Improve pedestrian flow with improved connections between upper and lower walkways.

Project Budget: \$71,500 - \$102,200 per 100-foot segment

Timeline:



“This project represents a commitment to sustainable development. It breathes new life into the Riverwalk and is an investment that reduces future maintenance costs.”

-Scott A. Wehrli

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