

# The Marquette Plan

## Management and Implementation

The Marquette Plan illustrates a changing landscape where more compact viable industries co-exist with public parks, mixed-use neighborhoods and business-oriented developments. With this said, a process will need to be established to manage this change – be it the needed land transactions such as sale, conservation easements, or the clean-up of divested industrial properties for re-use as parks or other public-focused uses. This same need exists to raise and manage funds that will be needed for this land use transformation. While this plan makes the assumption that new and existing parks and trails will be owned and managed by the same local, county, state and federal entities that do this today, it is not inconceivable that some form of regional management or coordination would be needed to ensure success and consistent standards.

Based on this review and specific opportunities and constraints associated with this plan, the following outlines the preferred approach to management and implementation of the Marquette Plan.

### ONGOING MANAGEMENT STRUCTURE

#### Why is one necessary?

An ongoing entity needs to continue leading the planning process through implementation and establish a consistent “Waterfront District” for the entire Indiana lakeshore (see graphic).

#### What is the right entity?

Authorized in 2001, the Shoreline Development Commission (SDC) can serve as the management entity.

#### What makes the SDC the right entity?

The SDC membership consists of many major shoreline stakeholders and can evolve to include others, including an elected or appointed “champion” to lead the effort. It is designed to coordinate regional development, receive grants and appropriations, and administer a shoreline environmental trust fund.

### What will be the SDC's specific roles?

- Providing ongoing leadership and coordination.
- Allowing for continued public engagement and information.
- Evolving to include appropriate Marquette Plan stakeholders.
- Modifying its scope to allow implementation of Marquette Plan recommendations.
- Seeking additional funding mechanisms.
- Reviewing projects for appropriateness.
- Acquiring & holding voluntary property transfers.
- Prioritizing projects for funding.

*Note: The Shoreline Development Commission (SDC) has yet to receive funding. In the interim, the Northwestern Indiana Regional Planning Commission (NIRPC) is well positioned to perform the above referenced roles. When state funding becomes available to the SDC, and if deemed necessary and appropriate, NIRPC could provide technical and organizational support.*

