

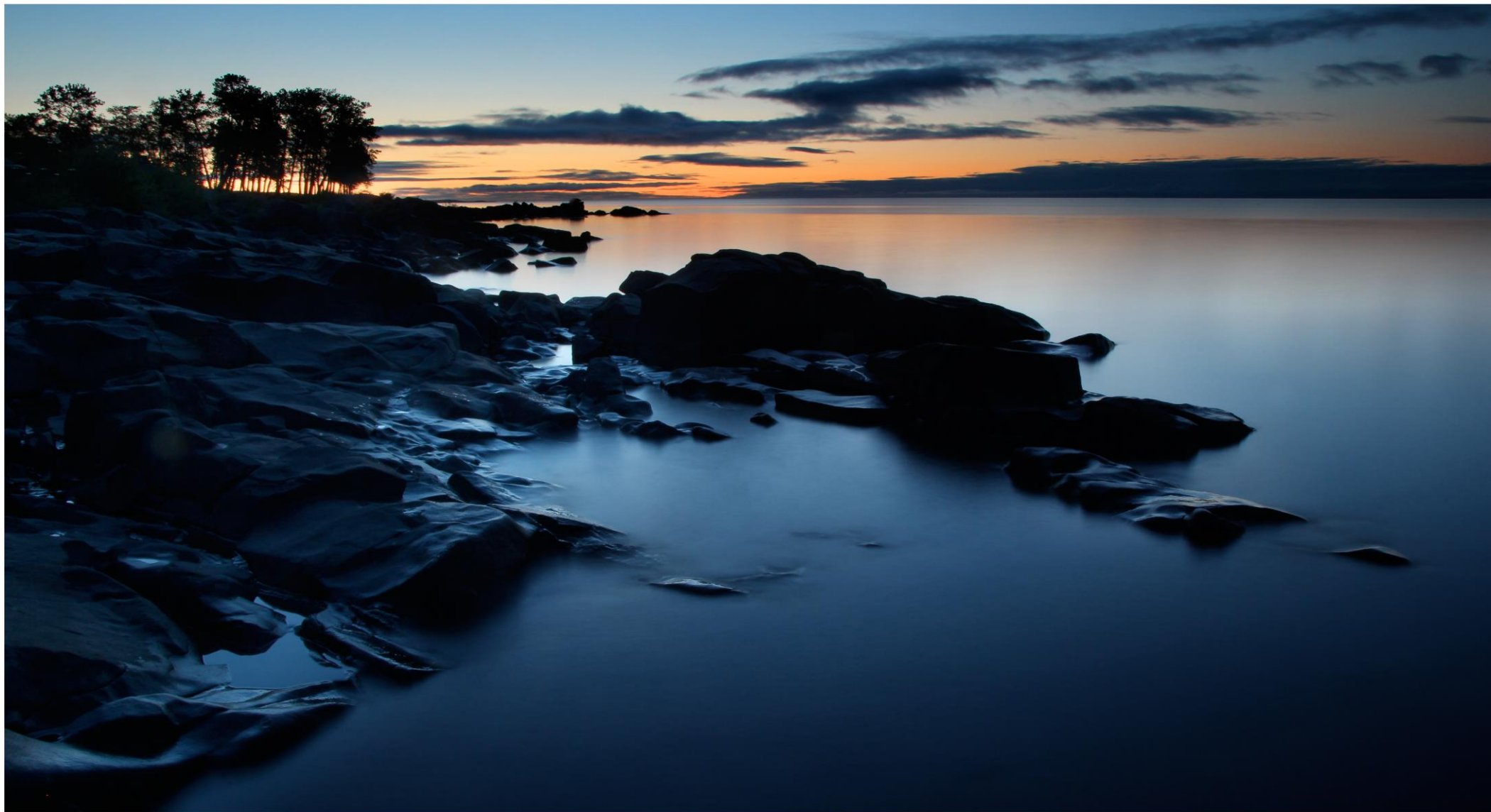
Kitchi Gammi Park Brighton Beach

Revision to the Mini-Master Plan

Commission Information Presentation

June 12, 2019





Brighton Beach

Kitchi Gammi/Brighton Beach Park History

- 1922 city's first tourism camp at Brighton Beach was created.
- 1926 the lakeshore areas unofficially became known as Kitchi Gammi Park.
- Brighton Beach Tourism Camp was hugely successful – originally offering tent sites, water and toilet facilities. Eventually hosting a total of 20 cabins.
- The Tourism Camp operated until the late 1950's and the majority of the land became the site of the EPA's Mid-Continent Ecology Division

Photo Source: www.PerfectDuluthDay.com



Revising the 2012 Mini-Master Plan

The 2012 Plan called for the reconfiguration of road, trail, parking and green space improvements; however, starting in 2017 significant shoreline erosion has necessitated the study of modifying the location of the road and trail further from the shoreline.

The land for the park was purchased in 1922 as a campground to provide auto tourists with access to Lake Superior: hence the primary access to the park is a motor vehicle road. Brighton Beach was then, and remains, one of the top Duluth recreational destinations.

Mid-summer user counts reflect an average of 400 bicyclists, 975 pedestrians and 278 vehicles per day and occur exclusively by those wishing to access Lake Superior or park facilities. Park amenities include a pavilion and historical fireplace building, picnic tables and grills, benches, and wide smooth beaches for canoe kayak and other paddleboard launching.

Popular activities include outdoor yoga, worship, public meetings, weddings, family reunions, school groups, recreational instruction and the like. Attendance for these special events is close to 3,000 persons annually.

2012 Mini Master Plan Recommendations

- Recommendations for reconfiguration of roadway, formalized parking
- Recommended 10' wide trail running adjacent to rock shoreline edge, next to road
- Permanent Restrooms
- Acknowledged erosion issues
- Included recognized Lake Superior Water Trail Kayak/Canoe launch "Trailhead"



2015 Transportation Alternatives Funds

In 2015, the City was awarded a Federal Transportation Alternatives (TAP) grant to support the final segment of the Lakewalk to be built in 2020.

The motor vehicle lane is currently the only route within the boundaries of the park and serves conflicting modes of transportation, including motorists, bicyclists, in-line skaters, and pedestrians all trying to access Lake Superior.

There is no designated pathway for users to exit the roadway and access the water, creating a free-for-all mix of vehicles, pedestrians and bicyclists. Determining the final alignment of the trail is necessary to move the project to design in the winter of 2019, and construction in 2020.

2017/18 Storm Surges



2017/18 Storm Surges



2017/18 Storm Surges



Historical Erosion at Brighton Beach



1983



1983



1983



1983



2001



2001



2001



2001

The revisions to the Mini-Master Plan will address the following goals:

1 Reduce City infrastructure within the DNR 10 ft. wave zone of the shoreline

2 Increase circulation safety for all parks users – vehicular, bicycle, and pedestrian.

3 Increase shoreline resiliency by formalizing trails, access points and parking area to minimize shoreline erosion.

4 Provide high quality experience for recreational access to the lake and adjacent green space



Existing Conditions

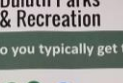


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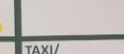

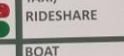

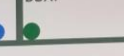
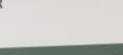
A group of people, including adults and children, are gathered under a wooden shelter at a park. They are looking at large maps or plans spread out on green picnic tables. The shelter is situated on a grassy area with a lake and trees in the background. A bicycle is parked on the right.

Online Survey
24 Respondents
11 Days

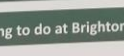
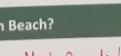

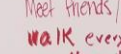


Help us improve Brighton Beach!

How do you typically get to Brighton Beach?

WALK 	BUS 
DRIVE 	TAXI/ RIDESHARE 
BIKE 	BOAT 
OTHER <i>Rain</i> 	

What is your favorite season to visit Brighton Beach?

SPRING 	SUMMER 
FALL 	WINTER 

What is your favorite thing to do at Brighton Beach?

WALK ✓✓✓ Observe fun boaters ✓ Throw rocks into the water ✓✓✓ Wade (kids) when things are calm Listen to the waves crash on the shore ✓✓✓ Watch waves crash ✓✓	Meet friends/sit by lake ✓ Walk every day! ✓ Walk on trails - spring flowers ✓ Picnic ✓ Enjoy ice forms ✓✓✓✓	Sit by the lake, pick rocks w/ my kids ✓ come down on stormy days ✓ launch my canoe or kayak ✓
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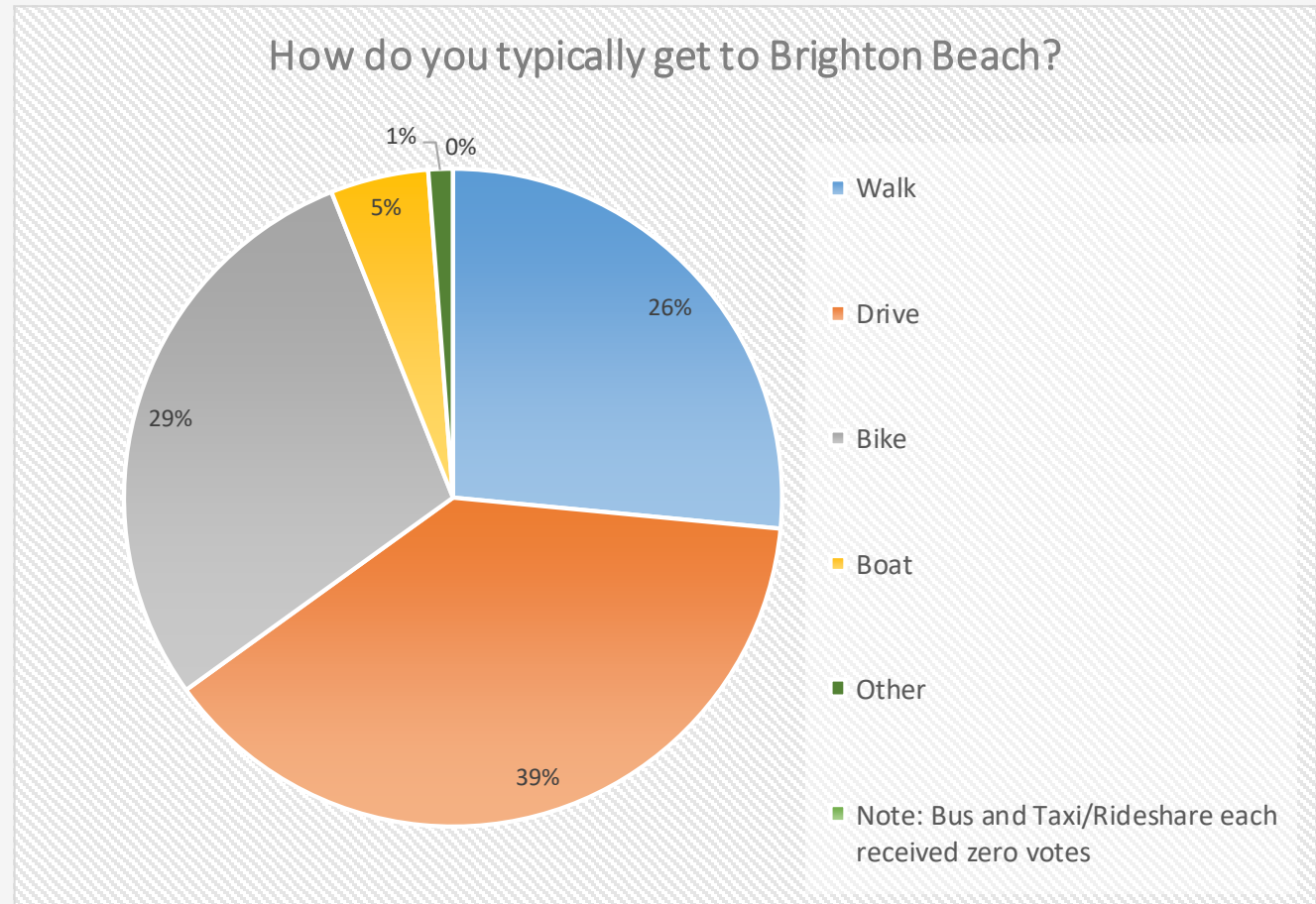
Online Survey & Open House Findings

Top 5 Activities

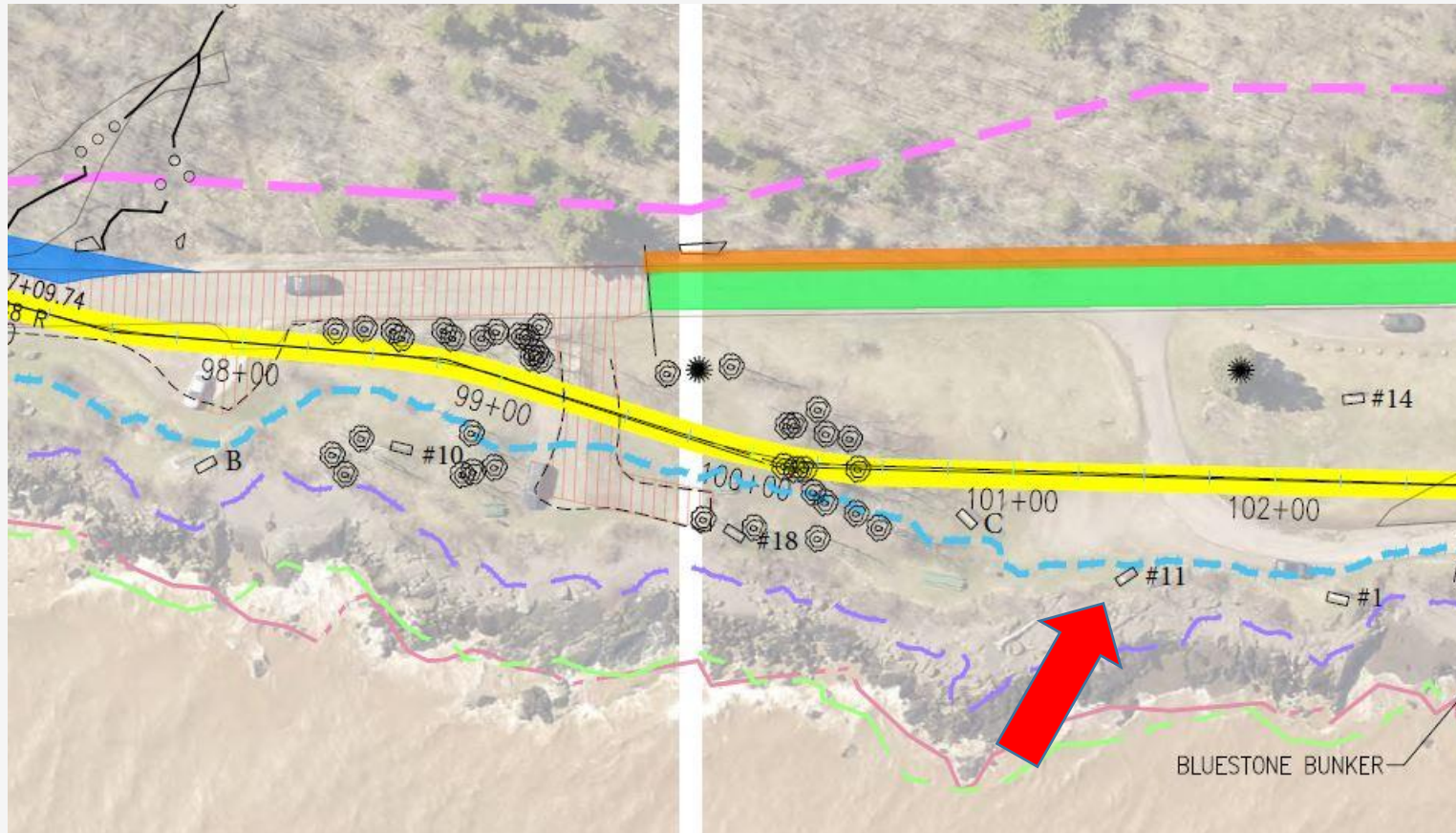
1. Walk
2. Observe from beach / observe waves / observe storms
3. Sit by lake
4. Beachcomb / throw rocks into the water
5. Enjoy ice formations

Top 3 Suggestions

1. Separate walking areas from driving areas
2. Permanent restroom facilities
3. One-way traffic



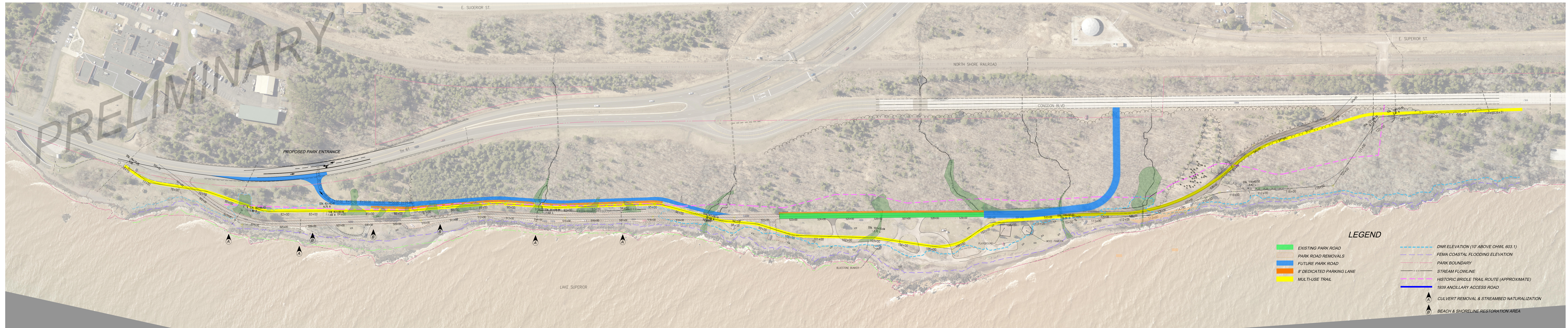
Inventory of Existing Memorial Benches



Projected Timeline

Parks & Rec Commission Informational	June 12, 2019
Public Comment Period	June 13 – 26, 2019
Parks & Rec Commission Recommendation	July 10, 2019
City Council Approval	August 19, 2019
Trail Project – Full Design	Sept. – Nov. 2019
Apply for State Water Access Grant for road	November 2019
Trail Project to Bid	Winter of 2020
Trail Project Construction	Summer/Fall 2020

Site Plan Recommendation



SCALE 1" = 80'

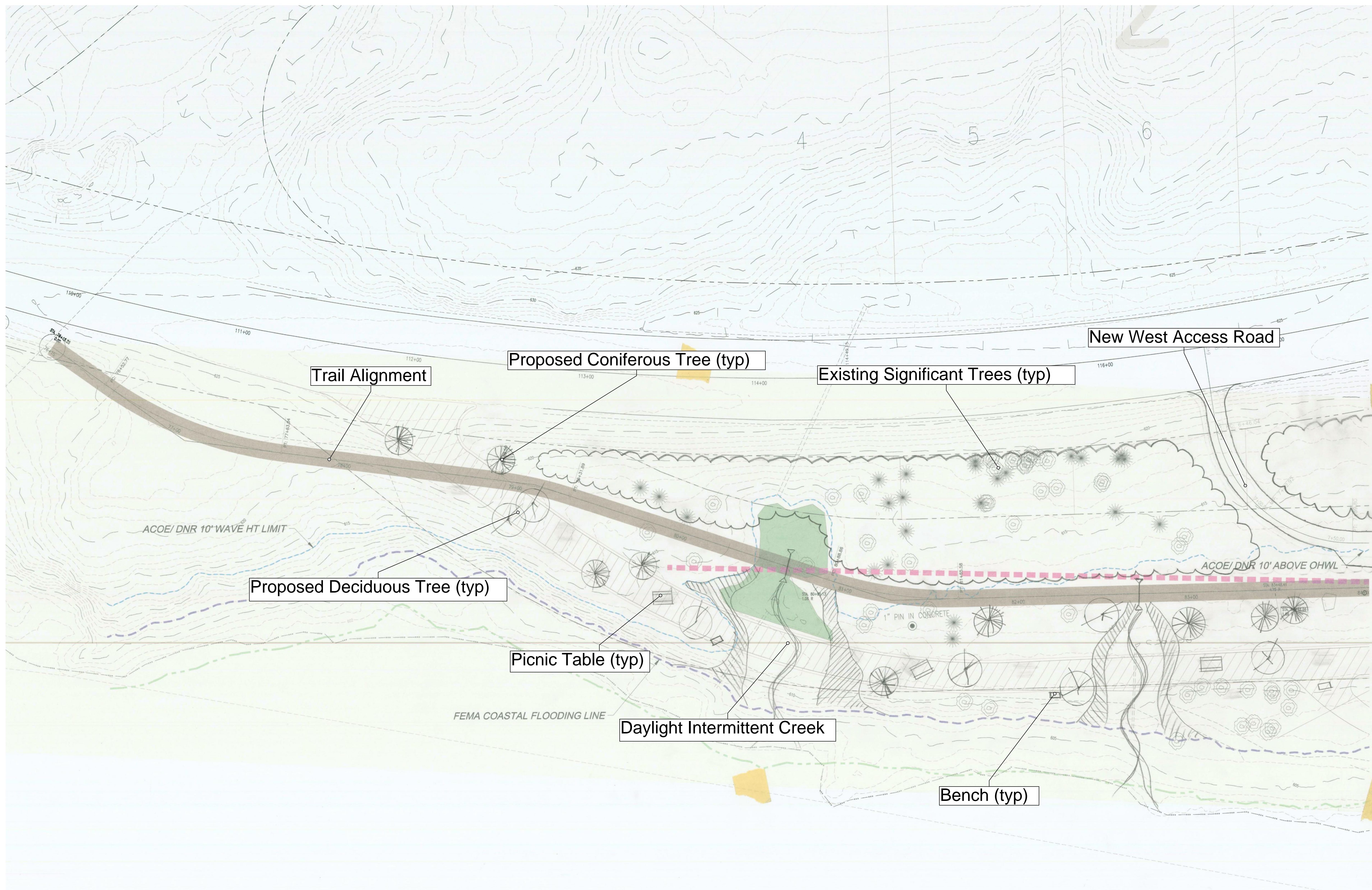


LAKEWALK TRAIL EXTENSION - (BRIGHTON BEACH)



PARK IMPROVEMENTS

- REDUCTION OF IMPERVIOUS SURFACE NEAR SHORELINE 1.2 ACRES
- RESTORED/NATURALIZED BEACH ZONE 1.9 ACRES
- RESTORED/NATURALIZED STREAM BEDS
- REDUCED PEDESTRIAN / MOTOR VEHICLE CONFLICTS
- IMPROVED VISITOR PARKING ALONG PROPOSED ROAD

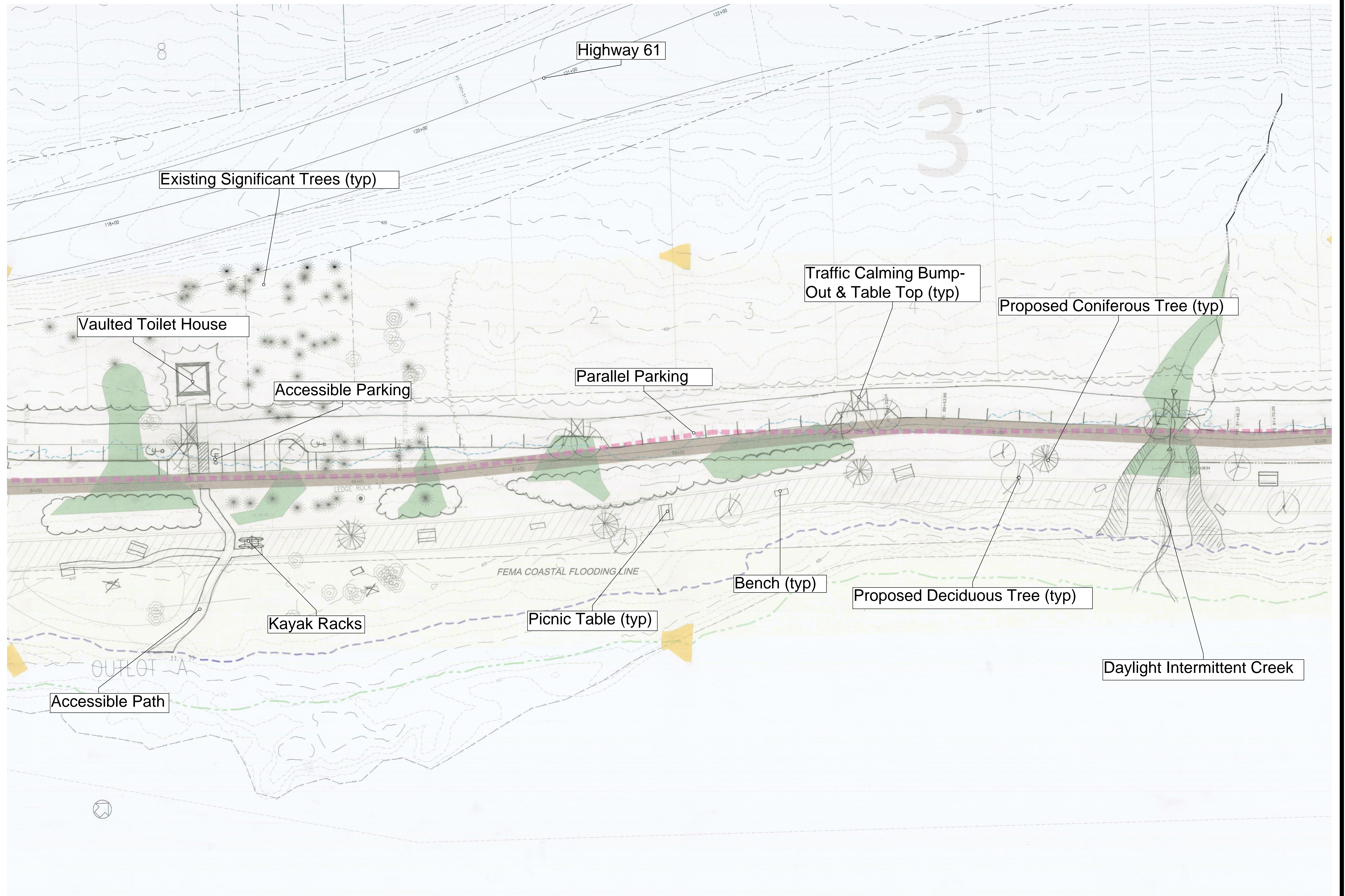


- NO INFRASTRUCTURE BELOW 6'0"
TABLE/BENCH EVERY 70'



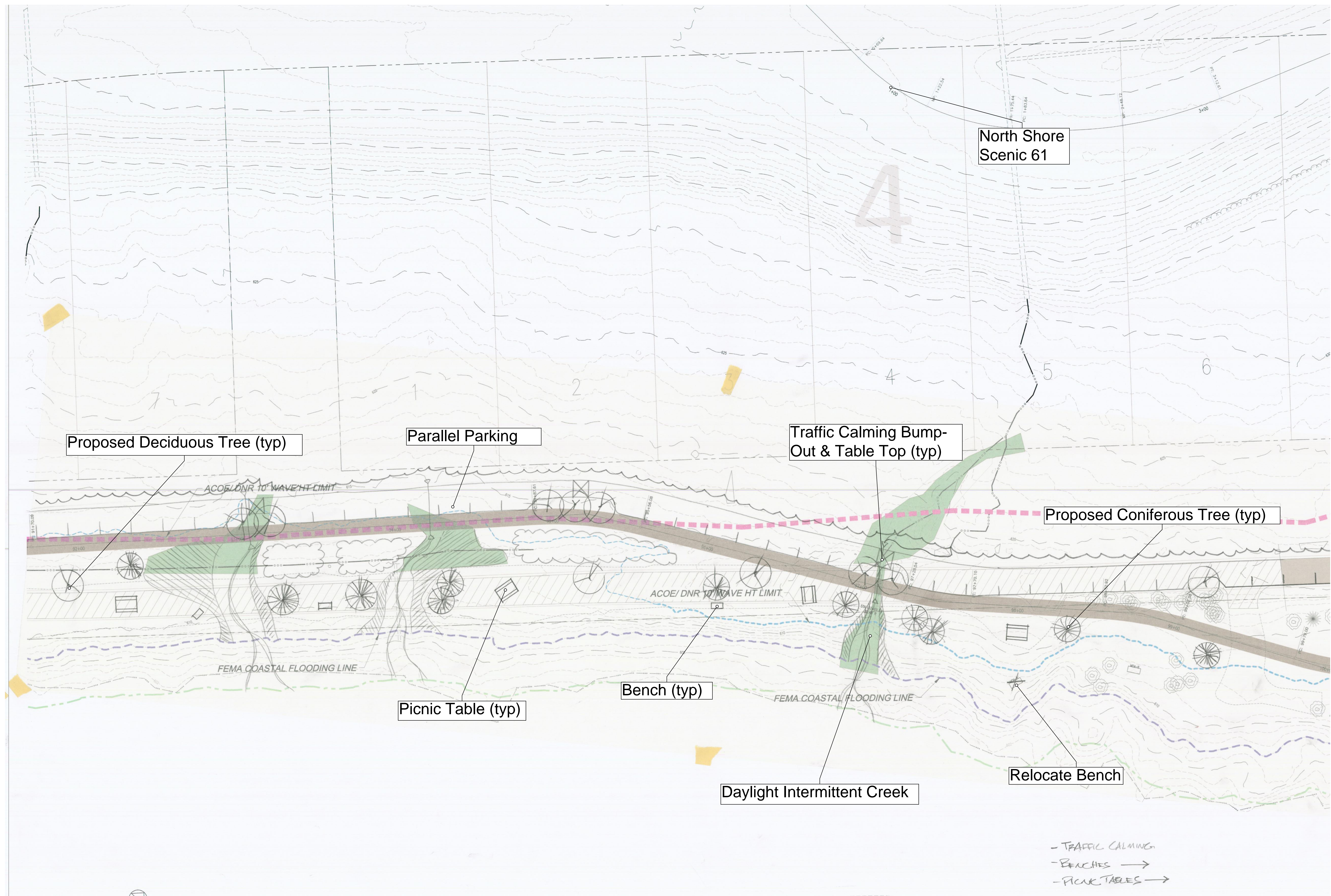
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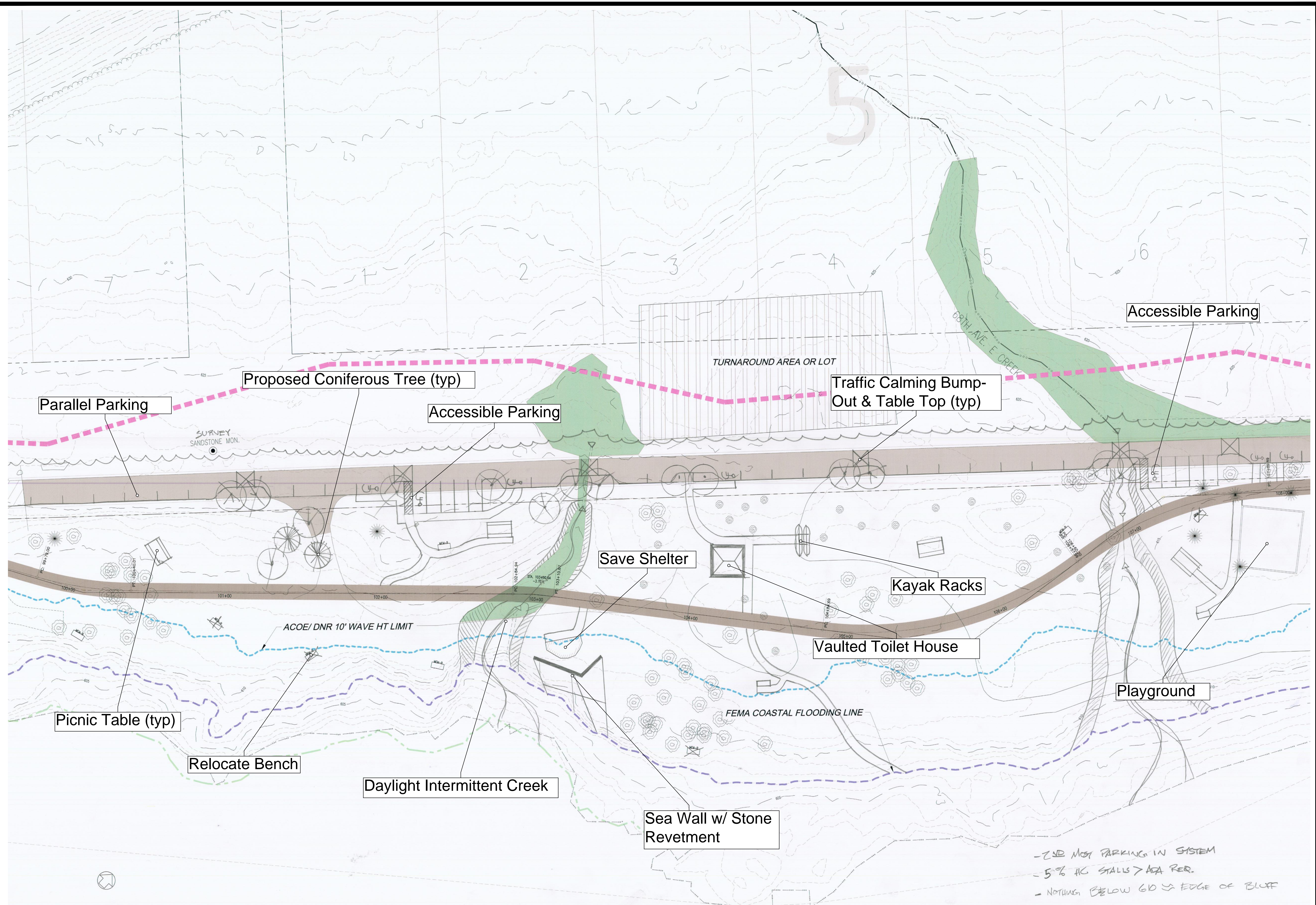
LAKEWALK TRAIL EXTENSION - (BRIGHTON BEACH)





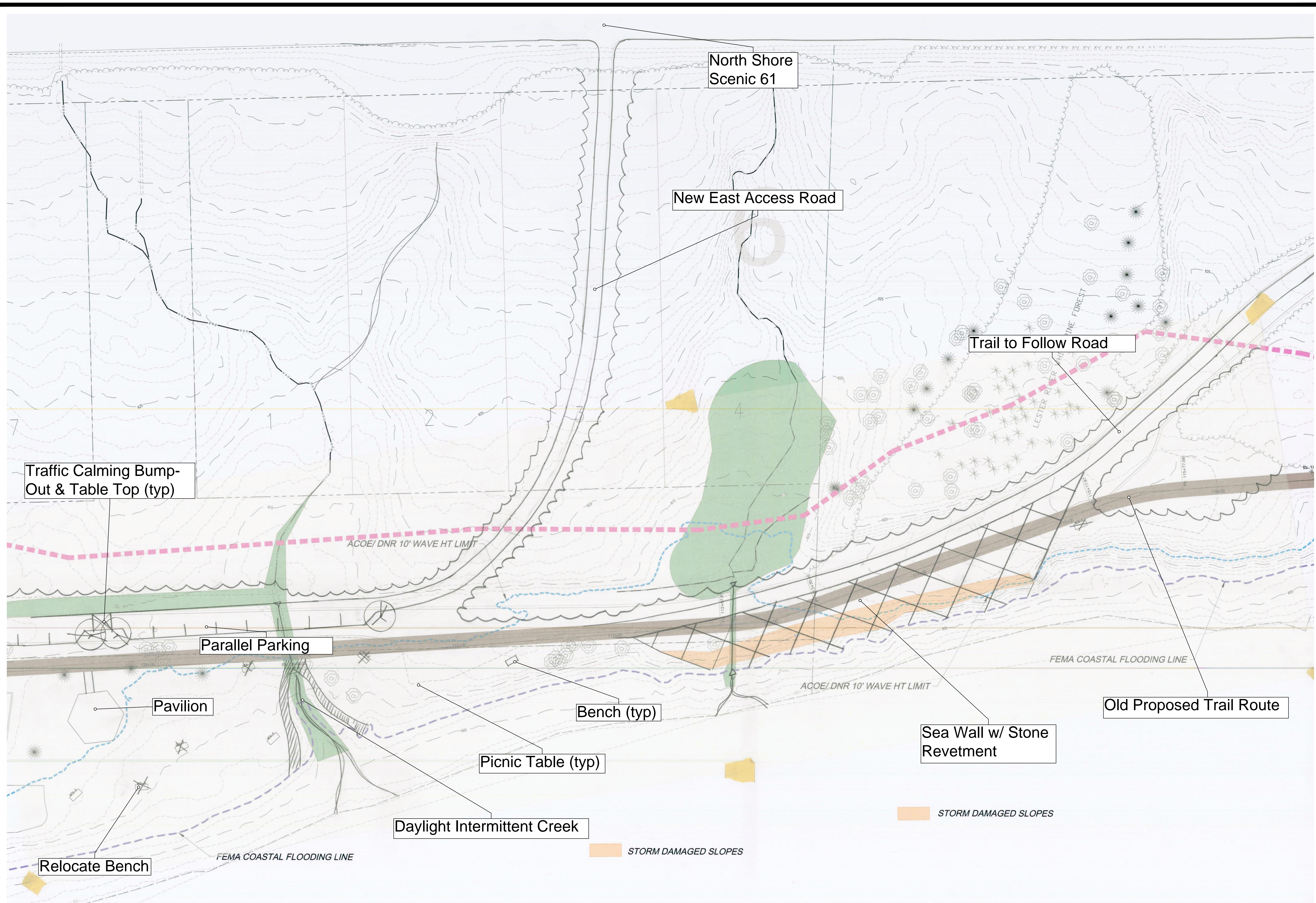
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