

Lakewalk & Coastal Improvements Project Update

Allison Brooks, Project Coordinator

FRIENDS OF THE LAKEWALK ANNUAL MEETING

6:30 PM

NOVEMBER 12, 2026

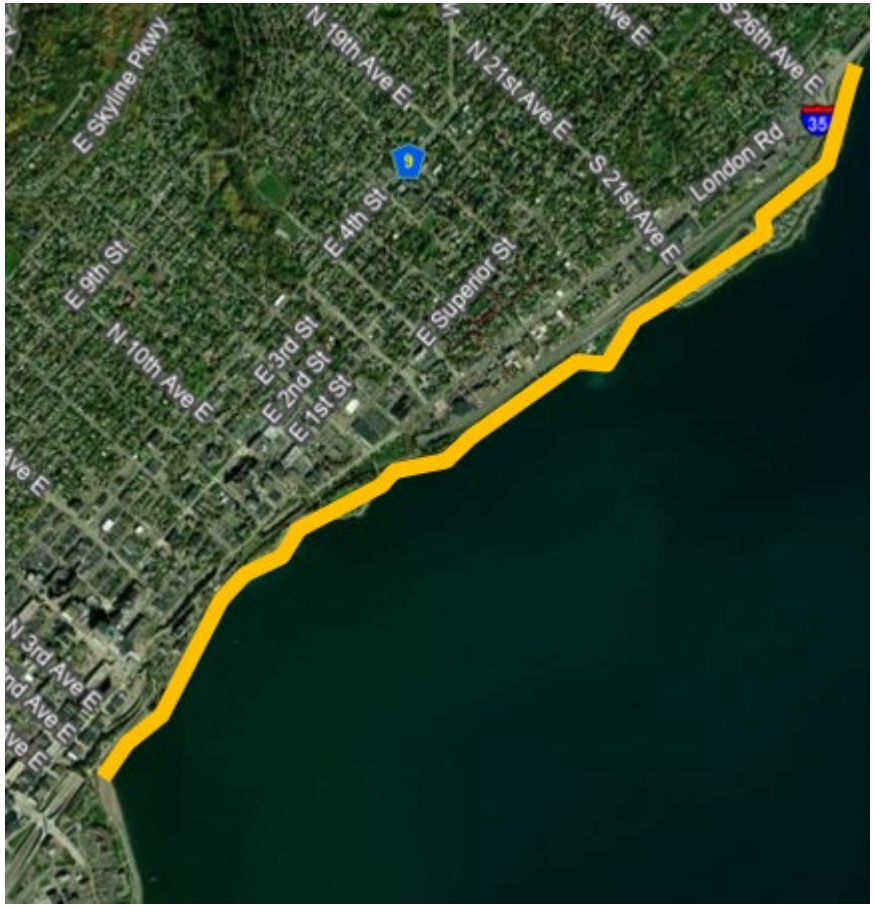
Project Overview

Where: Endion Station to 27th Ave E

Why: Better protecting the Lakewalk, and downtown, as a popular public greenspace and critical transportation route while addressing safety and access problems and improving user experience.

Scope: Trail reconstruction – retreating from shore where possible – and coastal restoration

- Repaving, replacing fencing, widening at key pinch points
- Improving sightlines, turning radius, and accessibility
- Stabilizing shore, consolidating and improving water access
- New wayfinding, interpretive signage, and amenities



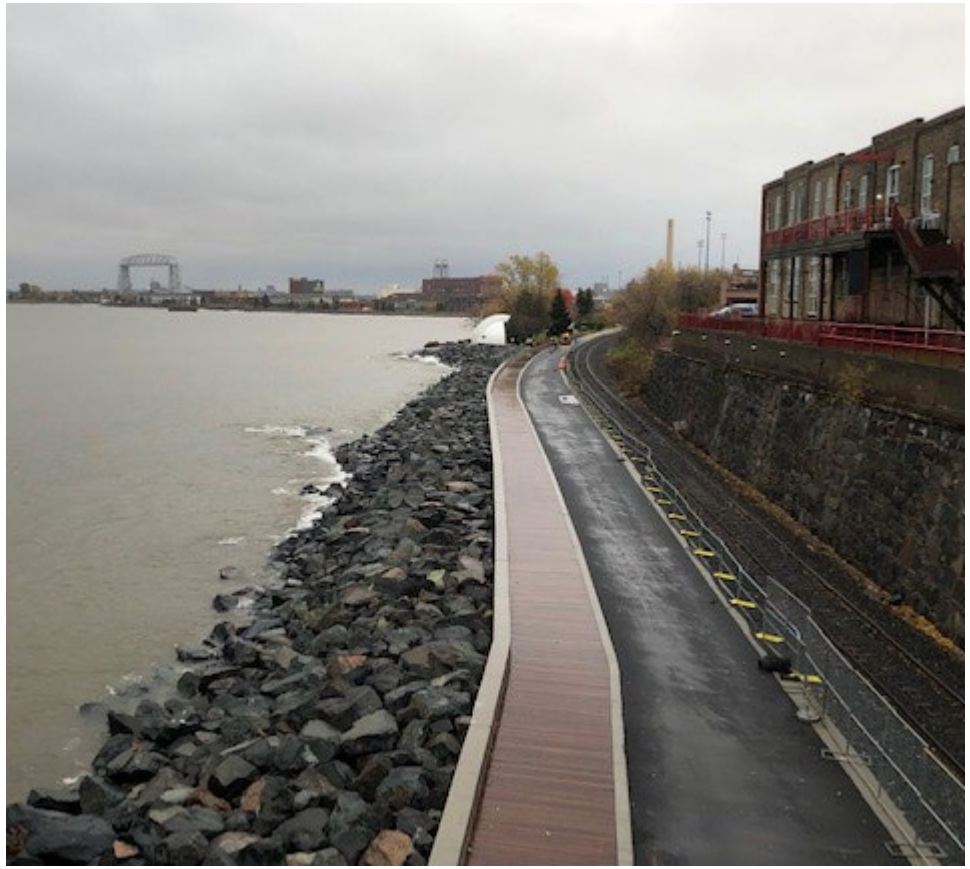
Project Webpage

Website has contact information, project updates, and previously presented materials.

Visit the project webpage for more information bit.ly/lakewalk-project or scan:

Sign up for emailed project updates

- Linked under “Project Update” or visit https://forms.cloud.microsoft/g/cj0dVbVByK



2026 Progress

August 18, 2026 – now

Constructing Leif Erikson Park bypass

- Site preparation, tons of soils removed, temporary shoring installed, retaining walls progress

Site preparation from Leif Erikson to 27th Ave E

- Completed clearing and tree removals
- Chipmunk Hill (below 13-14th Ave E) cleared and graded – staging area for Leik Erikson Park work

Started building water access steps and closing eroded social trails

- East of Leif Erikson, near Chester Creek outlet, and Chipmunk Hill



Leif Erikson – South of West Bridge

9/9/2026



10/28/2026



Leif Erikson – North of West Bridge

9/9/2026



10/28/2026



Leif Erikson – East Bridge

9/9/2026



11/10/2026



Leif Erikson – East Bridge Cont.

9/9/2026



10/28/2026



Water Access Steps



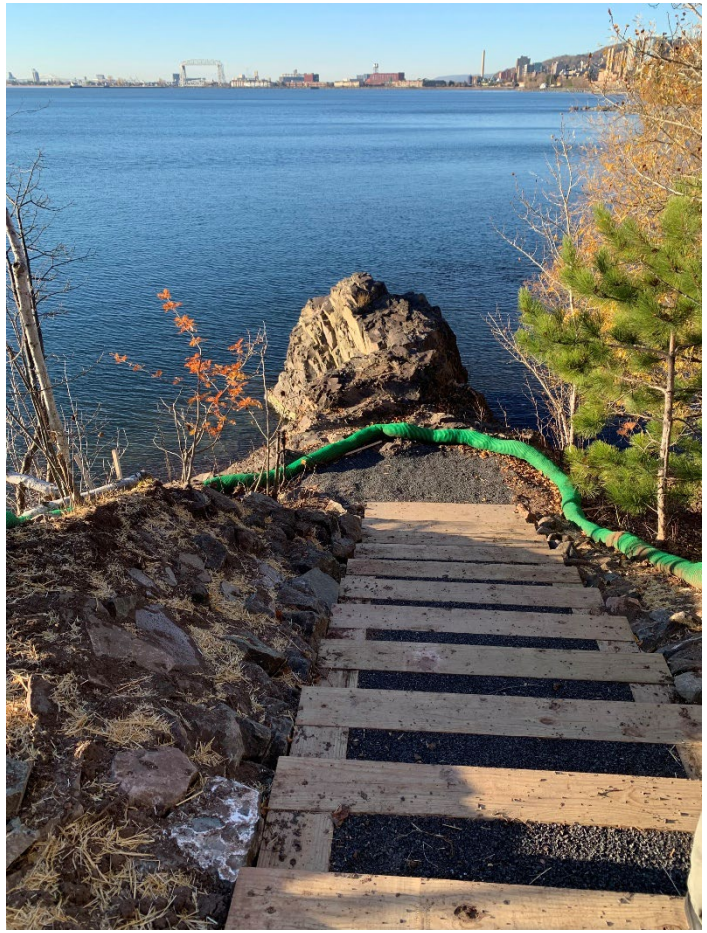


Each set of steps are custom built to their location with rebar pinned into bedrock.

After steps are built, rock is placed along sides to protect steps and better blend into landscape.

Old social trails are closed by blocking them with woody material cleared from the site to encourage re-vegetation.

Water Access – Completed Steps



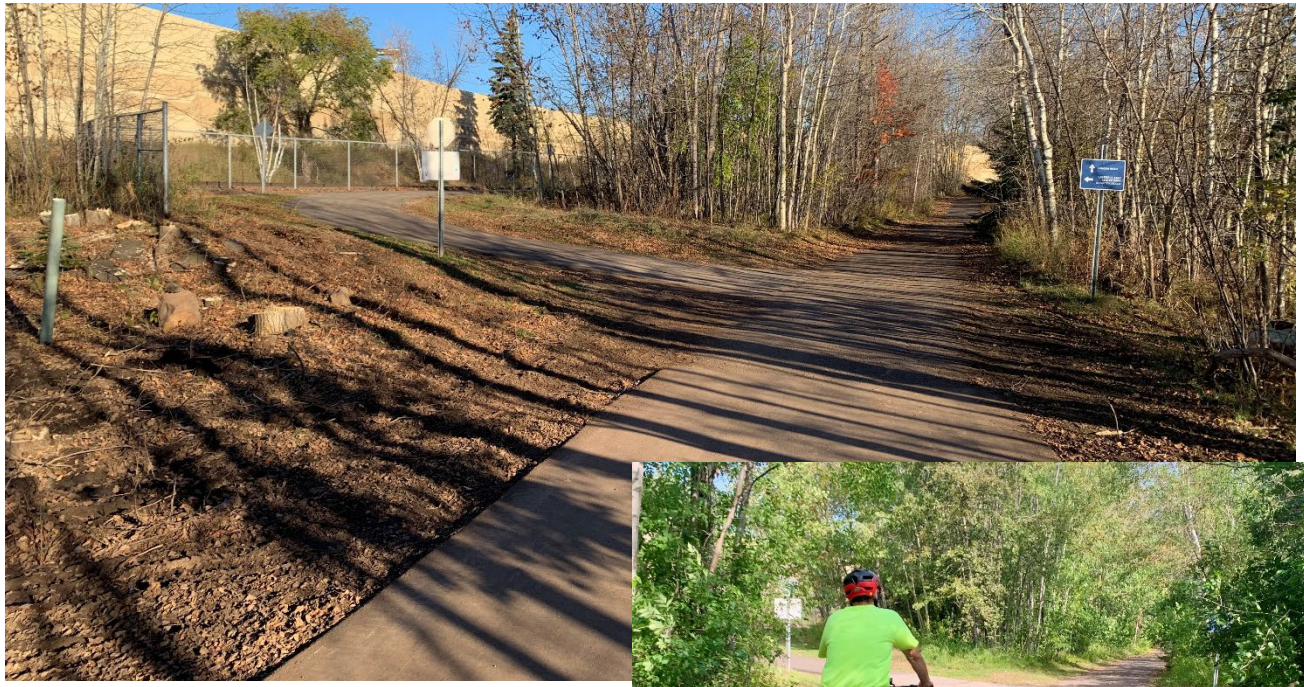




Water St. to 27th Ave W

Clearing and tree removals complete – prepared for realignments next year







2026 Remaining Work

Leif Erikson Park bypass

- Complete retaining walls and re-grade
- Remove temporary shoring
- Build new western connection to bypass
- Install temporary fencing
- Lay gravel patches where needed

Water access

- Continue building steps as weather allows



Winter Expectations





2026 Lakewalk Reopening: Had planned for mid-November, but rain delays and poor conditions create uncertainty.

May stay closed until ground freezes, or later.

Project work has created a rough surface from Leif Erikson Park to Water Street – gravel patches.

As construction wraps up, we'll continue to evaluate and determine re-opening.

2027 General Timeline

Expect disruptions and long detours!

Work to start ASAP in spring– possibly April

Anticipating substantial completion by end of 2027

Some planting or final touches could push to 2028

Scheduling to happen this winter, but here's what we expect so far:

- Limited construction access and accessible routes along Lakewalk means long detours
- Endion Station and Corner of the Lake – priority to finish before Grandma's Marathon 6/19/27





Lakewalk & Coastal Improvements Project Update

Friends of the Lakewalk Annual Meeting

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