

River Ecology and Governance Task Force
Chicago River Design Guidelines | Development Review

Project Name: _____

Developer Name: _____

The following development review worksheet is organized into three sections as follows:

- Part I: River Design Guidelines – Baseline Compliance
- Part II: River Design Guidelines – Menu of Improvements
- Part III: Chicago River Ecology and Government Task Force Criteria
- Part IV: Additional Comments and Feedback

Each section includes multiple criteria, instructions, and space for additional feedback. Here's a link to the [River Design Guidelines](#) as reference.

Part I: Compliance with Requirements of Chicago River Design Guidelines

The Department of Planning and Development has completed an initial review on compliance with the Chicago River Design Guidelines relating to the following criteria: setback, multiuse path, public access, site furnishings, seating and gathering areas, lighting, wayfinding and signage, landscaping, river edge and river bank treatments.

Additional questions and comments related to the public access and ecological design of the multiuse path, lighting, and river edge and river bank treatments would be helpful.

Comments: _____

Part II: River Design Guidelines Menu of Improvements

Each development is expected to incorporate menu items as part of the project. The following criteria are pulled from the menu items across three main categories: Nature, Recreation, and Connectivity. The size of the development dictates a minimum number of required menu items, but developers are encouraged to incorporate as many items as possible. Please assess the proposed development based on the description for each criteria.

1. Nature:

Items within the Nature menu improve the natural environment, including both the river ecology and wildlife habitats of the site. There are six sub-categories in Nature. Select the items that are proposed as part of this development. * represent priority menu items.

- | | |
|---|------------------------------|
| _____ New Naturalized Shoreline* | _____ Robust Upland Habitats |
| _____ Stormwater Management Best Practices* | _____ Increased Setback |
| _____ Aquatic Wildlife Habitats* | _____ Large Riverfront Park |

The goal of the nature design principles is to connect existing remnant landscapes and habitats with newly created and restored landscapes contributing to a healthy, functioning ecosystem that leads to increased biodiversity, high-quality habitat for wildlife, and enhanced well-being for users and residents. How well does this project fit into a system approach for building out high-quality habitat and a functioning ecosystem?

Comments: _____

2. Recreation:

Items within the Recreation menu enhance the river corridor as a recreational asset and destination. There are five sub-categories in Recreation. Select the items that are proposed as part of this development.

- _____ Access to Water & Docking Facilities
- _____ Expanded Seating Area(s)
- _____ Riverfront Outlook
- _____ Recreational Areas
- _____ Support Amenities

The goal of the recreation design principles is to create passive and active recreation opportunities beyond the multi-use path to develop unique, diverse and well-utilized recreation features. How well does this project include opportunities for recreation and gathering along the river?

Comments: _____

3. Connectivity:

Items within the Connectivity menu enhance the river corridor as a key component of the City’s multi-modal system, and encourages the movement of people through the City, enhancing connections between the river corridor and the surrounding neighborhoods. There are six sub-categories in Connectivity. Select the items that are proposed as part of this development.

- Underbridge Connections
- Enhanced Connections to Street and Transportation Network
- Elevator / Increased Accessibility
- Cantilevered & Floating Walkway
- Interpretive Signage
- Public Art & Lighting

The goal of the connectivity design principles is to bring people to the Chicago River through sidewalks, public streets, promenades, bike lanes, and transit connections that facilitate safe and engaging passengers and reinforce the riverfront as a public amenity that connects various neighborhoods. How well does this project make connections to the riverfront and connect people to other modes of transit and neighborhoods?

Comments: _____

Part III: Chicago River Ecology and Governance Task Force Criteria

The following criteria are based on input from Chicago River Ecology and Governance Task Force meetings and members. Please provide short written answers to each criteria/question below. There will be space for additional feedback in section IV.

1. Community Input and Outreach:

Do you believe the project has completed sufficient community outreach in regards to any potential effects it may have on the riverfront, watershed, or surrounding community? *If yes*, what aspects of the community outreach do you feel were successful? *If no*, where do you believe community outreach can be improved, initiated, or completed in a more transparent and responsive matter? Please provide a few short sentences in response to these questions in the space below:

2. Neighborhood Context:

Do you believe the project fits well with the other land uses within the neighborhood? Does the project seem to be of similar character to ongoing development within the community? Does the project align with existing city and neighborhood plans? How will users on the water experience the project? Does this project add something to this section of the river that is needed? Does it enhance the river and riverfront? Please provide a few short sentences in response to these questions in the space below:

3. Community Health:

Do you believe this project will have a positive impact on human and community health? Do you believe this project will have a positive impact on ecological health? Please provide a few short sentences in response to these questions in the space below:

Part IV: Additional Comments and Feedback

Please provide any additional feedback or comments you may have about the specific proposed development that were not included in your responses to Part I, II or III. All feedback is welcome to ensure that any questions and comments inform the further development of this project. Thank you.
