

Milwaukee Sediment Management Facility

Accelerating the Restoration of Lake Michigan



PROJECT

The final [Great Lakes Area of Concern](#) (AOC) in Southeastern Wisconsin along the Lake Michigan shoreline is listed as one of the most contaminated places on the Great Lakes. Referred to as the Milwaukee Estuary AOC, the goal of this signed Great Lakes Legacy Act Project Agreement is to remediate the AOC and remove it from this list.

There are two urgent and critical components to the Milwaukee Estuary AOC cleanup effort:

- ◆ Design and construction of a [Sediment Management Facility](#) (“the Project”) for safe, secure containment of 1.7 million cubic yards of contaminated dredged sediment at an approximate cost of \$70 million.
- ◆ Dredging of 2 million+ cubic yards of sediment to meet environmental and navigational needs at an approximate cost of \$250 million.

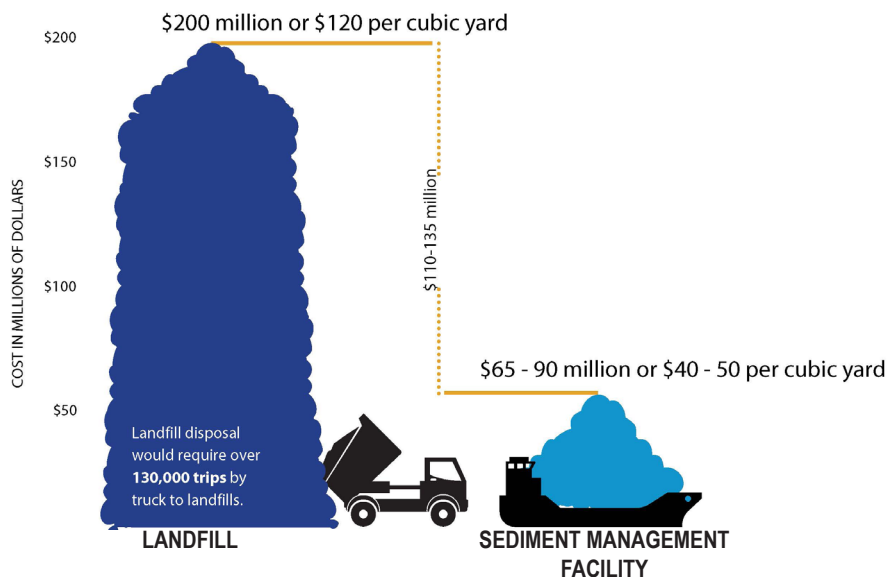
The dredging component cannot occur without a place to manage the dredged material. A [local](#) Sediment Management Facility (SMF) is the preferred option due to reduced cost, truck traffic and need for landfill expansion.

Funds are needed now to accelerate the AOC cleanup through construction of the SMF. The \$70 million investment in the Facility can then be used to leverage \$250 million currently available in federal funds to cover the cost of dredging.

BENEFIT

- ◆ **Efficiency:** Use of a Sediment Management Facility eliminates need for additional upland space for dewatering prior to disposal at landfills saving over \$100 million.
- ◆ **Cost:** Cost of landfill disposal is approximately \$200 million vs. Sediment Management Facility cost of \$70 Million. The SDF reduces cost of the project by over 60% and saves \$130 million from other landfill disposal options.
- ◆ **Employment:** Approximately 325 full-time jobs will be gained during construction of the Facility.
- ◆ **Economy:** Completion of the cleanup effort components will open the most critical maritime channel(s) linked to Wisconsin economic markets.
- ◆ **Environment:** This historic Great Lakes revitalization Project brings to closure significant AOC cleanups extending from Marinette, to the Fox River, to Sheboygan, and now Southeastern Wisconsin.
- ◆ **Recreation:** The Milwaukee Estuary AOC restoration will enhance recreational opportunities, such as fishing, currently not advised due to exposure to contaminants.

Cost Comparison: Sediment Management Facility vs. Landfill Disposal



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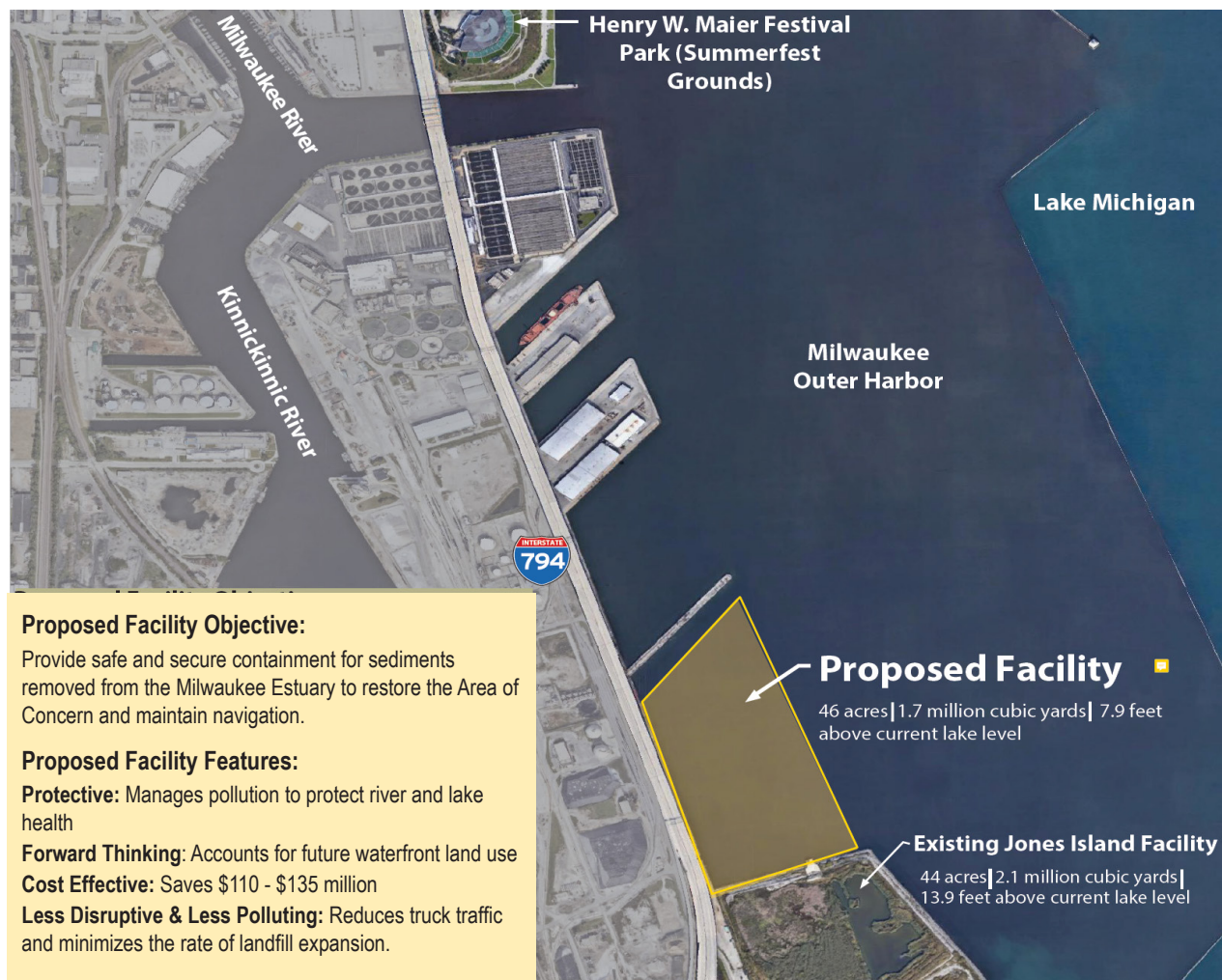
URGENCY

- 1 There are 31 U.S.-based AOC identified projects within the Great Lakes under the 1987 Great Lakes Water Quality Agreement.*
- 2 10 of those 31 projects are believed to be “Shovel Ready”.
- 3 Of the 10 “Shovel Ready” projects, only this Project and one other are expected to be granted federal funds at this moment.

EPA and WDNR officials, among others (key business, Federal, State and Local organizations and governments), deem this Project critically important for long-term waterway improvement and are supportive due to its readiness, significance, and potential for return on investment.

This is the moment when the goals of this Project are attainable.

*USEPA Milwaukee Estuary GLLA Fact Sheet



For more information, contact:

Revitalize Wisconsin, Inc.
6650 W. State Street, Unit D
Wauwatosa, WI 53213

info@revitalizewisconsin.org