

INDIANA LAKE MICHIGAN COASTAL PROGRAM



PROJECT LEAD
City of Michigan City

YEAR
2011

COUNTY
LaPorte

PROJECT COST
\$27,000
(\$13,500 Lake Michigan Coastal
Grant/\$13,500 Local Match)



The Sheridan Beach and The Esplanade Public Access, Land Management, and Implementation Plan

The Sheridan Beach and The Esplanade Public Access, Land Management, and Implementation Plan (“the Plan”), commissioned by the Michigan City Parks Department and the Parks and Recreation Board and carried out by SmithGroupJJR, focuses on recommendations for improving public beach access and wayfinding and facilitating adjacent property owner beach access through sensitive dune areas. The Plan is included in the Parks and Recreation Master Plan, and informs city decision-making about land use and management decisions within the Sheridan Beach Esplanade area.

The Plan was created to address two public access and land management issues: (1) difficulties in accessing the beach due to steep, sandy slopes and (2) the consolidation of “volunteer pathways” to the beach that damage dune stabilizing vegetation.

A stakeholder group made up of adjacent private property owners, municipal staff, and Michigan City residents was formed to guide the Plan development so that it would reflect the goals of different user groups. The stakeholder group worked with the consulting team to develop a strategy for reducing the number of volunteer pathways and creating a boardwalk system informed by where popular paths already exist, design standards for universally accessible boardwalk construction, and a dune restoration and sand management plan.



For More Information:
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