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PORT & RESOURCE RECOVERY DEPARTMENT

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Here's your opportunity to help plan the future of Renard Island

Port of Green Bay invites public to be part of three-day Interactive Planning Event

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(Green Bay, WI) The future of a 55-acre piece of waterfront property in Green Bay will be decided shortly, and the public has a say in what that decision will be. The Brown County Port & Resource Recovery Department is holding a three-day Interactive Planning Event, October 16-18, 2018, to develop an end-use plan for Renard Island. The event is built around stakeholder meetings which provide multiple opportunities for the public to offer suggestions and feedback, including public workshops at 6 each night of the event.

"At the beginning of October, we held a very productive kickoff and educational meeting about this process," said Dean Haen, Port of Green Bay Director. "The public had a chance to learn some background information about Renard Island and offer their initial suggestions. This three-day Interactive Planning Event is where we get to actually start planning and incorporating ideas into the end-use plan. Our consultant team will be working each day, meeting with a variety of stakeholders, to gather feedback and input. Each evening, we invite all residents to weigh in on the progress that the team has made on the plan."

This unique planning method, where the public is continually involved and the plan is created in a short timeline, is called a Charrette. The Charette process is being led by a team of experts who will not only collect information and feedback, but summarize it and help focus on areas of agreement and concern as the end-use plan is developed.

The 55-acre Renard Island is one of the only areas in the Green Bay metropolitan area that provides direct access to the waters of the bay. It is anticipated that the end-use plan, the "Renard Island Strategic Master Plan," will include designs for a number of small projects that can be implemented over time, as an integrated approach. End use goals may include a mix of recreational projects such as fishing piers, recreational trails and wildlife viewing areas as well as wildlife-related beneficial uses.

"It's rare to have an undeveloped piece of waterfront property in your city," said Haen. "So, this is a unique opportunity we have to create something new and something that the public will be able to enjoy for years to come. For the people who participate in this planning event, they'll be able to look back years from now and know that they were a part of making Renard Island a recreation destination."

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Renard Island Interactive Planning Event -Public Involvement Opportunities:

The three-day event will take place Tuesday through Thursday, October 16-18, 2018 at the T2 Accelerator, 340 N. Broadway, Green Bay. The design studio (where planning work takes place) will be open to the public at several points in the process and a public workshop will be held each night at 6 p.m. The public is invited to attend any or all of the open studio times, as well as all three of the public workshops. There is no charge for participation. Parking is available on North Broadway and behind the T2 Accelerator and Titletown Brewing Company's Tap Room.

In addition, public site tours of Renard Island will be held on Tuesday, October 16, at 9 and 10 a.m. Tours will be approximately one hour long. Please note that the tour will include walking on rough terrain, so wear comfortable, flat walking shoes and dress appropriately for the weather. Parking will be available at the Bay Beach west parking lot and the parking lot adjacent to the access road. (Please see parking map for details).

The public involvement schedule is as follows:

October 16 (Day 1):

- Renard Island Site Tours: 9 10 a.m. & 10 11 a.m. (weather dependent)
- Studio Open: 2 5 p.m. at the T2 Accelerator, 340 N. Broadway, Green Bay.
- Public Workshop: 6 8 p.m.

October 17 (Day 2):

- Studio Open: 9 11:30 a.m. & 1 5 p.m. at the T2 Accelerator, 340 N. Broadway, Green Bay.
- Public Workshop: 6 8 p.m. at the T2 Accelerator, 340 N. Broadway, Green Bay.

October 18 (Day 3):

Public Workshop: 6 - 8 p.m. at the T2 Accelerator, 340 N. Broadway, Green Bay.

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About Renard Island: Renard Island was constructed in late 1978 and operated until 1997; providing an area for placement of approximately 2.7 million cubic yards of contaminated, dredged sediment. The County, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (WDNR) agreed to a final Closure Plan detailing the construction of a cover of clean dredged material protecting human health and the environment. As part of the closure process, the Corps built a causeway to access the island. Afterwards, ownership of the island was transferred from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to Brown County in 2017. This year the Wisconsin Coastal Management Program provided a grant that, along with Brown County funding, allowed the Port to develop this end-use plan.

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About the Port of Green Bay: The Port of Green Bay exists to enhance the prosperity of the people of Northeast Wisconsin by providing facilities and infrastructure able to effectively and efficiently move commodities and goods across the nation. As the western-most port of Lake Michigan, the Port of Green Bay offers a direct route for shipping from the Midwest to the rest of the world. The Port of Green Bay has 14 active terminal operators located along three miles of the Fox River involved in shipping commodities: Ace Marine, C. Reiss Coal Company, Construction Resources Management, Flint Hills Resources, Fox River Terminals, Georgia-Pacific, Graymont, GLC Minerals, KK Integrated Logistics, Lafarge Northern America, RGL, Sanimax, St. Mary's Cement and U.S. Venture.

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