Beyond Burnham: Reinventing Three Iconic Landscapes for Chicago’s Next Millennium

The Burnham Plan established Chicago’s open space legacy more than 100 years ago. Within this historic framework, the city is reinventing many of its iconic landscapes to enhance livability and urban identity. This session explores three case studies where innovative design and programming creates newly active and culturally significant spaces.

PRESENTERS:
Marshall Brown, Architect, IIT, Marshal Brown Projects
Matthew Bird, Michael Van Valkenburgh Associates
Sarah Astheimer, James Corner Field Operations
Gina Ford, ASLA Sasaki Associates

LEARNING OBJECTIVES:
1. Understand the legacy of Burnham’s Plan and how it relates to contemporary Chicago life.
2. Learn how landscape architects are reinventing the function and identity of today’s city.
3. Examine three projects that carry on Burnham’s legacy while creating distinct, contemporary public spaces.
4. Explore how three projects address the technical challenges of their historic context and aging infrastructure.
NAVY PIER:

1. Connecting the City and Lake: Re-imagining the pier as a new green line.
2. Authenticity: Re-Making the mid-west’s #1 tourist destination into a place for locals.
3. Programming: New venues for culturally significant events and activities.
4. Infrastructural Opportunities: Adapting a historic structure for contemporary use.

A. How have we moved forward from Burnham?
B. How do the projects reflect differing and evolving notions of the "civic" in civic space?
C. How is the infrastructural condition of the projects being used to some advantage?
D. What are the new relationships between landscape architecture, tourism, city politics, and city marketing?
**Maggie Daley Park / Design Principles**

1. Blend Programmatic Ambitions
2. Choreograph a Complex Landscape that Offers Experiential Range
3. Unify the Site with Constructed Topography and Vegetation
4. Increase Comfort through the Mitigation of Noise, Wind, and Sun
5. Create Accessible and Accommodating Paths

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**Blend Programmatic Ambitions**

**Choreograph a Complex Landscape that Offers Experiential Range**
MAGGIE DALEY PARK:

1. Blending Programmatic Ambitions: Creating a space for residents and visitors alike.
2. Complementing the Neighbors: Building a connection between the neighboring residential developments, Millennium Park, and Historic Grant Park.

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RIVERWALK:

1. Connecting the City to the River: improving vertical and horizontal access.
2. Riverbank Typologies: From the Marina to the Jetty.
3. The Life of the River: New models for funding, programming and operation.

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