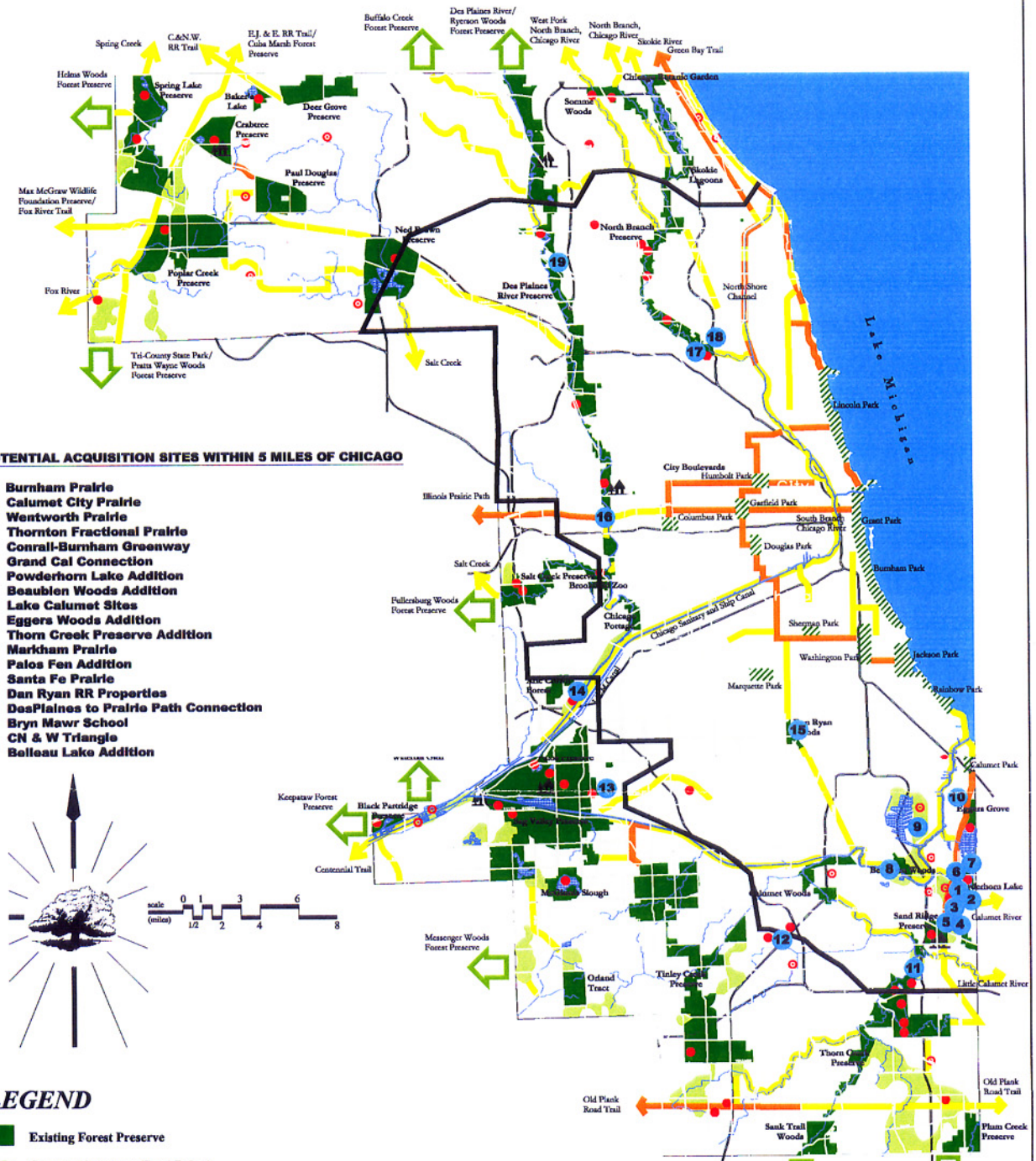

POTENTIAL ACQUISITION SITES WITHIN 5 MILES OF CHICAGO

1. Burnham Prairie
2. Calumet City Prairie
3. Wentworth Prairie
4. Thornton Fractional Prairie
5. Conrail-Burnham Greenway
6. Grand Cal Connection
7. Powderhorn Lake Addition
8. Beaubien Woods Addition
9. Lake Calumet Sites
10. Eggers Woods Addition
11. Thorn Creek Preserve Addition
12. Markham Prairie
13. Palos Fen Addition
14. Santa Fe Prairie
15. Dan Ryan RR Properties
16. DesPlaines to Prairie Path Connection
17. Bryn Mawr School
18. CN & W Triangle
19. Belleau Lake Addition

LEGEND

- Existing Forest Preserve
- Opportunity Areas *(See 1 Below)*
- Existing Greenways
- Proposed Greenways *(See 1 Below)*
- Protected Natural Area Sites *(Illinois Natural Area Inventory Sites and Illinois Nature Preserves)*
- Unprotected Natural Area Sites *(Illinois Natural Area Inventory Sites)*
- Chicago Park District Regional Parks
- Nature Education Centers *(See 2 Below)*
- Border Demarcating 5 Miles Outside of City Limits
- Potential Aquisition Sites

1 The Forest Preserve Opportunity Map targets potential areas to expand and improve the existing open space system in Cook County through preserving significant native ecosystems, major expanses of open space, and greenways. Such opportunities span municipal, county, and state boundaries, which underscores the importance of all agencies in the region working as partners toward a common goal of an improved open space network. This map serves as a general guide for determining which sites should be evaluated and rated according to a comprehensive set of criteria. Sites scoring within a predetermined threshold will be further evaluated for feasibility of acquisition by the Forest Preserve District. Strategies will then be recommended for protecting the desirable qualities of the sites.

2 In Chicago's core, the Forest Preserve District will continue its efforts with the City of Chicago and the Chicago Park District to acquire parcels and manage them through the NeighborSpace Program. The Forest Preserve District will also focus on expanding its network of nature education and outreach programs. These existing sites could include schools, parks, community centers, and other public spaces that span Chicago. This initiative will also bring people from the city to the nearby preserves to enjoy, learn and work in a natural setting. Ultimately, the Forest Preserve District could explore partnerships with the City and the Chicago Park District to add new nature education centers and staffing to underserved neighborhoods of Chicago, as well as increasing the accessibility of the preserves to Chicagoans.

3 This Map is a snapshot of opportunities the District is aware of at this point in time. This Map is not intended to show exact land acquisition sites or to commit the Forest Preserve District to any specific land purchases or action. Also, it may not identify or reflect all the open space opportunities that may be beneficial to the Forest Preserve District in the future. Small sites cannot be shown due to the scale of the map, but will be evaluated in the same manner as larger sites that are shown on the map.

JULY 2000

2000
FOREST PRESERVE OPPORTUNITY MAP

Land Acquisition Plan
Forest Preserve District of Cook County Illinois