LAKEFRONT PORCHONWILSON AT CROWLEY STATION



THE CROWLEY STATION site sits at a major entrance to Madison's downtown, but its potential as a gateway to the city and a resource to the community has yet to be realized. Using funding from The Madison Neighborhood Grant Program and Madison Water Utility, community leaders and members developed a vision to transform this utilitarian structure into a Lakefront Porch for our entire city.

As one of the neighborhood's only public spaces, the Lakefront Porch on Wilson provides immense value for connection and respite in a dense urban setting.

This project aims to transform the existing public structure into an accessible and engaging community place for a broad range of activities, from downtown events and neighborhood gatherings to resident gardening and meet-ups with friends.



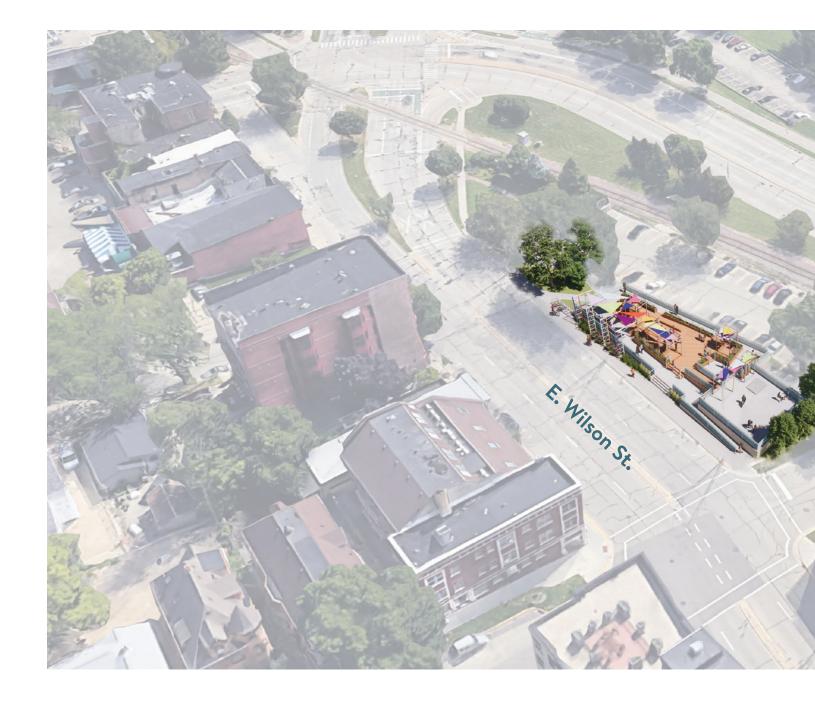
The Crowley Station site sits along a route historically traversed by indigenous people making their way through the marshlands and glacially formed ridges of the isthmus. After immigrants settled in Madison and East Wilson Street was created, the site became an active corridor that connected the Capitol Square with the Milwaukee Road Station and the North Western Railway.







"The [site] sits as an important part of the First Settlement District and it has great potential to serve as convivial place for friends and neighbors to gather, sit in solo contemplation and simply appreciate the lake view and our wonderful neighborhood. It will be many times more meaningful as we put creativity, energy and money into it as a place to rest, gather, and have special events."



Lakefront Porch Realizes the Vision of the City and the Community

Community groups have already brought the neighborhood to the Crowley Station platform by adding seating and making it home to the Crowley Station Community Gardens.

The vision for The Lakefront Porch on Wilson grew from the partnership among Capitol Neighborhoods, Inc., the Madison Water Utility, Madison Parks Division, and Madison Planning Division. Community leaders and neighbors have been actualizing this vision with these citizen and city partners and over 60 community members who contributed their ideas for creating a place for respite and social connection.



GOAL

Transform the underused space to be an artistic, comfortable, and engaging destination

GOAL

Enhance accessibility to one of downtown Madison's only public outdoor gathering places

Its location along bustling E Wilson Street and its interconnectedness with bike and pedestrian paths such as the Capital City Trail make this site easily reachable and offer an opportunity to increase the beauty and vibrancy of downtown Madison.

GOAL

Harmonize with existing gardens and waterfront to create an urban retreat

RAIN CATCHMENT SEATING POOLS O SYSTEM Ample benches, chairs, Colorful str and tables for relaxing and daytime en Harvests rainwater for the enjoying food and company reducir gardens and prevents runoff into the lakes **RAISED** WOODEN **PLATFORM Enables panoramic views** of the lake and creates a comfortable atmosphere LITTLE LIBRARY A resource for all ages Using the community's ideas, Saiki Design created this conceptual masterplan for the site, showcasing a cohesive vision for a warm, welcoming, and engaging neighborhood place.







Meet friends for casual conversation



Enjoy acoustic music, poetry readings, and art displays



Host neighborhood or organizational events

TIMELINE

2020	Community Visioning Sessions Funding procured from Madison Neighborhood Grant
2021	Saiki Design is hired to develop the masterplan concept for the site Madison Water Utility increased safety by updating the railings along the perimeter of the raised platform
2022	Planned construction of an accessible ramp from E. Wilson St. sidewalk, up to the platform April – Fundraising begins
2023	SPRING – Site design is finalized and construction begins SUMMER – New site improvements are finished and open to the public



Stop on the way from the farmers market to eat a scone or fresh produce



Pause along a run to stretch and do yoga



Grow vegetables in a community garden plot



BUDGET

The community must raise \$525,000 to build the *Lakefront Porch*. We have already raised funds towards this goal with the help of the Madison Neighborhood Grant Program, Madison Water Utility, and private donations.





"I've walked past this spot for 20 years and enjoyed the community garden planters, the beautiful wooden benches, the few tables and chairs and the Little Library. We have the right elements but we are still missing the full sense of place that would engage our Lakefront community and beyond. This is our chance to celebrate lakefront Madison!"

Ana Araújo - Neighborhood Resident



To support the Lakefront Porch through a donation or 2-year pledge, please see our webpage at lakefrontporch.org

The Lakefront Porch project works in cooperation with the Madison Parks Foundation to receive donations.

LAKEFRONT PORCH PROJECT COMMITTEE

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