We will introduce the design parameters of the 3 GeV NSLS II machine as well as the six project beamlines and their initial goals. The only soft x-ray beamline of the six, the Coherent Soft X-ray beamline (CSX), will be described in more detail. CSX has two independent branches, one dedicated for studies requiring fast polarization switching (up to 1 kHz) and the second one dedicated to coherent diffraction imaging and scattering. The source of the two branches is a pair of identical APPLE II devices that can be operated either canted or phased. In the canted mode they will provide polarized radiation of opposite helicity or perpendicular linear polarizations to the fast polarization switching branch; or one beam to each branch. In the phased mode of operation the beam will be used in the coherent branch. Both branches are based on plane VLS grating monochromators and will cover the energy range 200-2000 eV. The expected flux in the fast polarization switching beamline at a resolving power of $10^4$ will be in the $10^{13}$ photons/s range. The coherent flux at moderate resolving power in the coherent branch will be in the same range.