

Meeting Information

Date: 5/24/2016

Location: Urban League, 2100 Plymouth Avenue North, Mpls

Time: 6pm – 8pm

Invitations sent: MPRB and City communications

Number of attendees providing input: 30+/-

Input and Discussion

What does a successful Upper Harbor Terminal project look like?

Comments on boards and shared with staff

- A project and engagement process that ensures the voice and vision of community members so that we build a project together that will encourage biking, walking, create a safe space for community/public activities, help improve recreation options for residents, increase home values, and draw new residents and investments.
- Park destination
- Residential development
- Jobs- we must create good jobs
- A place for people to meet
- Affordable housing and housing areas
- Restaurants, pavilion space for events, musicians. Family friendly such as at Lake Harriet, Calhoun, etc
- A spot/area that will draw people to this area of the city
- Clean energy! Energy efficiency to SB 2030
- Xcel lines removed, Land bridge 94
- A busy neighborhood with co-op housing and small businesses steps down to the river.
- Co-op housing with diverse ownership
- Safe picnic grounds with all four season activation
- Historical Monuments and history of shipping on river
- Being honest about I-94 and the rivers role in racial segregation and disinvestment in Northside.
- Affordable housing, Black and Hmong owned business
- Mix of public entities, recreation and small businesses, maybe tech stations
- Recreation attracting different communities
- Living wage jobs. Job park critical to closing the gaps
- Net Zero! Clean energy
- U of M extension campus
- Educational institution
- Unique to Minneapolis
- Maximizes the benefits of being between the river and I-94

What qualifications should a development team have?

Comments on boards and shared with staff

- Connections to neighborhood
- A racial justice frame work and mission
- Staff of color
- Knowledge of SB 2030 standard
- Commitment to equity and local (Northside) hiring on all build out, development and engagement
- Experience repurposing industrial sites while preserving original structures.
- Experience with doing development projects that impact low wealth communities and communities of colors (i.e. community benefit agreements).
- Experience in developing projects that provide green buildings and eco sustainable landscaping grounds etc.
- Local experience developing on/near the River and in North Minneapolis
- Knowledge of net zero/efficiency standards
- Experience repurposing industrial sites while preserving structures that already exist

What would bring you to the riverfront?

Comments on boards and shared with staff

- Kayaking
- Restaurant with a view
- Water access for swimming, rowing, canoes
- Shady walkways where one can see the rivers
- Green space with plants attracting birds and bees
- Soccer fields
- Dog parks
- Space to be loud away from residence
- 24/7 music venue
- Beach, shops, and beer
- Roller rink
- Tours for people outside/in Minneapolis
- Volleyball nets and basketball nets /courts
- Bike trails
- Recreational things like courts
- History learning (interpretive approach)
- Place for musicians/ concerts
- Amphitheatre in dome
- Activities for children to learn/ education for adults
- A big river

- About the river- perhaps a small river museum
- Museum using existing structures like Mill City Museum
- Good connections: Bike, Ped Transit

What other questions should we ask the community? What other information should we share with the community?

Comments on boards and shared with staff

- Is there pollution to be cleaned up?
- Priorities?
- Recruit local talent to help
- Strict zip code hiring to 2 mile radius from projects
- Local/state based procurement to invest in local economy
- How could this project displace communities of color and low wealth communities?
How can we make sure that doesn't happen
- The community should be asked (and should have already been asked) What #1 priority for park and city funding should be to revitalize North Minneapolis. Too many resource have been committed to streetcars, recent MPRB/city hall agreement without any focus on \$ for this project.
- Commitment to current Northside residents
- What do youth want? They will most use this park.
- What assets currently exist already between the river and I94?
- How do we add assets without displacing those that are already there?
- What traits are unique to the area between the river and I94?
- How do we capitalize on these traits without sacrificing the area's uniqueness?
- What would make this site an area that will encourage biking, walking, create a safe space for public activities, help improve recreation options on the area, would increase home values, and attract new invested.
- Connect with block club organizations and local churches to get info, connect with resident and listen to the folks who live on Northside.
- What would the African American Community want to there?
(Hmong, Latinos, Somalis, and etc)
- What assets already exist between the river and I94?
- How has the area between the river and I94 previously and presently been used recreationally by the people of Minneapolis.
- How do we protect assets already there while also creating new assets for the community?

The Mississippi River map showed the Above the Falls Regional Park aerial map and connecting travelways along Lowry and Dowling. At the map, the following four questions were asked:

- **What would bring you to the riverfront?**

- **What makes North Minneapolis special and how can we celebrate it on the river?**
- **What has it meant to be on the North or Northeast side of the river? What should it mean now?**
- **What route would take you to the river? What are the barriers to get there?**

Comments on map and shared with staff

Location: 42nd Ave North and Mississippi river.

- Replant Cotton Woods on the island

Locations: Washington and Camden Bridge

- Loud 24/7 Techno music Venues. "HUSH" "DVS1" ☺
- Look at Frankfurt Germany and it's public space on the main

Location: Dowling and the west freeway entrance/exit ramp intersection

- Horrible for biking

Location: I94

- Land bridge
- Solar panels

Location: Northern portion of UHT (north of Dowling)

- Boat house for racing, rowing, boats
- Protect bike ways
- Public art features
- Better walking green space
- Wetlands of even modest scale would be extremely helpful

Location: UHT site between Dowling Ave and 33rd

- Keep at least one of the dome things for:
 - Music venue
 - Amphitheatre
 - Cold area for frozen treats cooling down
 - Kayaking

Location: 36th Ave North and 33rd Ave North

- Cold Storage warehouse area:
 - Education institute/ expansion of the U of M
 - Living wage/job park
 - Restaurant/bandshell
 - Distilleries and tasting rooms
 - Warehouse for music and art events "premises"
 - Work with artists to activate engagement and be engaged before and during development

Location: Lowry Ave and 33rd Ave North

- Need better sidewalks and bike lanes
- Get rid of GAF
- Try to set an interim trail even before park is remodeled and redeveloped

Location: Lowry Ave and 30th Ave North

- “The longest bridge connects Poland to Africa”, the river has been a live racial segregation
- Under bridge connection

Location: 30th Ave North and 2nd Ave North

- Log jams
- MN performance arts council “Liquid Friday” music venue
- Save the party spaces! Incorporate into existing plans

Location: 33rd Ave North and 2nd Ave North

- Place to be 24/7 for art vibrancy opportunity
- Save the party spaces! Incorporate into existing plans

Location: 26th Avenue North

- Bike!!!
- Get a small board access near BNSF bridge or at 26th Ave North Overlook

Location: BNSF railroad bridge

- Rail to trail to better join North and Northeast

Location: North of Psycho Suzi’s

- Log jam and Boom’s (interpret)

Location: 22nd Ave North and Broadway

- Sheridan Memorial Park coning soon
- Trails connect

General Comments Received

- The open house was open and welcoming
- The open house boards are engaging, not too overwhelming
- I love the idea of “connecting” geographically to the neighborhoods. A freeway is a clear divider, whereas a river can be a connector on many levels
- Our history is important, the Mississippi Riverway is huge in US history
- Keep the context, keep the industrial history, don’t over-gentrify it
- The area needs a “destination” that makes money to stabilize the park. Needs a partnership.

- Rezone or re-evaluate the zoning so it can be activated all times of the day, not just during business hours.
- Improve access to Dowling
- 34th Ave N should have a pedestrian bridge
- The area needs blue collar jobs, “clean” jobs
- This project needs a world-class designer
- Have electric boats to ferry people around, like a water taxi, especially now that locks are closed. USACE has small electric boats that would be perfect, hold 2 people. But there need to be cool destinations for people to boat to!
- Get people on the water rather than fill up the land with stuff. Have a floating bar on the water, or a floating food truck on pontoons.

How did we get here?

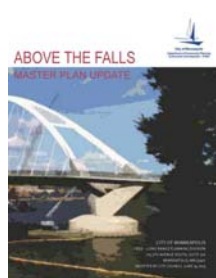
2011 - 2013

RiverFirst



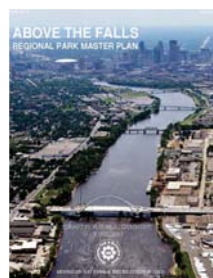
2012 - 2013

Above the Falls Master Plan Update



2012 - 2013

Above the Falls Regional Park Master Plan



2015

St. Anthony Falls Lock closes and barging ends to the Upper Harbor Terminal



2015 - 2016

Upper Harbor Terminal Initial Engagement

The RiverFirst Initiative seeks to place the Mississippi River and public green space at the heart of North and Northeast Minneapolis.

Extensive engagement was done and included attendance at events, meetings, open houses, focus group outreach, surveys, and more.

Key Community Input:

- Mobility, water, health, green economy are critically important
- Transform the river from a barrier to a connector by knitting both sides of the riverfront together with the surrounding communities
- Re-focus the city toward one of the world's three great rivers
- Establish parks as the engine for economic development along the river

The City and Park Board completed joint master plans and coordinated community engagement for the Above the Falls area master plan updates.

Coordinated community engagement built on RiverFirst and previous efforts.

City Plan Guiding Principles:

- Provide public access to the river
- Create linkages to neighborhoods and parkway system
- Support environmental restoration
- Link the upper riverfront to the Grand Rounds parkway system
- Realize the potential for community and economic development
- Establish design guidelines and standards

Regional Park Key Community Input:

- People want to EXPERIENCE and ACCESS the river
- People want to RESTORE and IMPROVE the river
- People want EQUITABLE development

The City and Park Board attended existing events and meetings to begin to raise awareness of the project and get initial input from the community.

Public events attended:

- 9/19/15 - NorthFirst by Northside Neighborhood Council
- 2/3/16 - Above the Falls Community Advisory Committee
- 3/12/16 - Northside Housing Fair
- 3/23/16 - Victory Neighborhood Meeting
- 4/2/16 - Community Connections Conference

The Upper Harbor Terminal now



Site Facts

- Owned by the City of Minneapolis
- 48+ acres and 7 parcels
- Nearly 1 mile long and generally 500 feet wide
- Currently adjacent to industrial land uses
- Existing structures are eligible for historic designation
- 2+ miles from downtown Minneapolis



What's been decided

- Redevelopment will include both park and private development
- Park improvements will include a parkway, bicycle and walking trails that will eventually extend north and south along the river.
- Site needs better connections to the community.
- Private development should be high quality and benefit the community.
- Project must serve the existing neighborhoods.

What we need to know

- What land uses are feasible in the current real estate market?
- Whether historic structures can be repurposed?
- What park and development features will bring people to the river?
- How to develop the site so it serves the existing community?
- How to keep the benefits of park and development within the local community.

What does a successful Upper Harbor Terminal project look like?

¿Cómo le gustaría ver al proyecto del “Upper Harbor Terminal” terminado? ¿Cómo se vería? ¿Qué incluiría?

Maxay mashruuca guul Upper Harbor Terminal u eg?

What would bring you to the riverfront?

Que te traería a la orilla del río (Riverfront)?

Maxaa aadiga kukeeni lahaa riverfront?

What qualifications should a development team have?

¿Qué requisitos debe tener un equipo de desarrollo?

Maxaa shahaadooyinka waa koox horumarinta ah ay leeyihiin?

What other questions should we ask the community? What other information should we share with the community?

¿Qué preguntas deberíamos hacerle a la comunidad? ¿Qué información deberíamos compartir con la comunidad?

Waa maxay su'aalaha kale waa in aynu ka barinno bulshada? Waa maxay macluumaadka kale waa in aan bulshada la wadaagaan?

What's Next?



How input will be used

Input from these events and past engagement will help us issue a Request for Qualifications for a development team.

Input may include:

- Summary of community visions
- Community questions for the developer
- Community input into developer criteria

Staff will summarize and synthesize input into a document that can be included in the Request for Qualifications. The document will be posted online, along with summaries of specific engagement.

What we cannot control

Many impacts on this project will be outside City and Park Board control. Some of these factors include:

- What funding is available (and what strings funding may come with)
- What developers will take risks on
- What the real estate market will support
- What lenders are willing to support
- If non-profit organizations are willing/able to run programs
- What legal requirements are in place for the City and Park Board

It is the goal of the City and Park Board to openly communicate the restrictions throughout the process

How can we keep you informed?

Sign up for email updates

The river map on this page was spread across several tables. The questions were spread around the tables and people were encouraged to write directly on the map and boards.

Write anything, anywhere, on any board that will help us understand how we can make this project better.

Escribir cualquier cosa, en cualquier lugar, sobre cualquier consejo que nos ayudará a entender cómo podemos hacer que este proyecto mejor.

wax ku qor, meel kasta, on board kasta oo naga caawin doonta in la fahmo sida aan ka dhigi kara mashruucan wanaagsan.

What would bring you to the riverfront?

¿Qué te traería al riverfront?

Maxaa kukeenilahaa riverfront?

What route would you take to the river? What are the barriers to get there?

¿Qué ruta tomaría hasta el río? ¿Cuáles son las barreras para llegar allí?

Dhineceeh aad uqaadan lahayd webega?



What has it meant to be on the North or Northeast side of this river? What should it mean now?

¿Qué significa estar en el Norte o Nordeste de este río? ¿Qué debe significar ahora?

See eey kulatahay inaad daganaadid dhinaca North ama Waqooyi-bari ee webiga? Hada see eey noqonleheed?

What makes North Minneapolis special and how can we celebrate it on the riverfront?

¿Qué hace especial el Norte de Minneapolis y cómo podemos celebrarlo en el riverfront?

North Minneapolis maxaad ku jeceshahay eey muhiim kuugutahay iyo see aan ugu dabbaal-deгнаa Riverfront?