

Meeting Information

Date: May 30th, 2017

Location: Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board, 2117 West River Road, MPLS

Time: 7-8:30 pm

Number of attendees providing input: 50 +/-

History Timeline

Meeting participants were shown the graphic with photos and aerial photographs showing the site over time. Participants were asked to identify any memories or history that they associated with the site and the river and add these thoughts to the board.

Before 1900's

- Dakota history, what does the water mean to the first people?
- Trade – French/British portage routes, first contact with natives
- (1880-1890's) Grand Rounds Plan, we've been waiting 130 years for green space on the river

1945

- Gedney Pickle Plant (Location of Orvin "Ole" Olson Park)

1960-1980's

- Is our industrial history worth memorializing?
- 1980's – Fishing at the Xcel Plant

1980-2000's

- Why memorialize ugly stuff like the domes?
- Going to boom Island to boat (closest docks to north side)

Destinations

Meeting participants were shown aerial photographs of North Minneapolis and asked to identify current community destinations and what made them popular attractions.

- 1) Shopping in Brooklyn Center
- 2) Ryan Lake - Xerxes Ave. and 46th Ave.
- 3) Victory Park - 4414 Upton Ave. N
- 4) Retail in Robbinsdale
- 5) Theodore Wirth Bike Trails - 1339 Theodore Wirth Pkwy
- 6) Tubing at Theodore Wirth Park – 1339 Theodore Wirth Pkwy

- 7) Milda's Café - 1720 Glenwood Ave.
- 8) Sumner Library - 611 Van White Memorial Blvd
- 9) Minneapolis Farmers Market - 312 East Lyndale Ave. N
- 10) North Community High School - 1500 James Ave. N
- 11) Franklin Middle School - 1501 Aldrich Ave. N
- 12) Mississippi Riverfront Trails
- 13) Capri Theater - 2027 W Broadway Ave.
- 14) West Broadway Farmers Market - Freedom Square 2034 W Broadway Ave.
- 15) Cookie Cart - 1119 W Broadway Ave.
- 16) Juxtaposition Arts - 2007 N Emerson Ave.
- 17) Avenue Eatery - 1101 W Broadway Ave.
- 18) Cub Foods - 701 W Broadway Ave.
- 19) Breaking Bread Café and Catering - 1210 W Broadway Ave.
- 20) CVS - 2426 W Broadway Ave.
- 21) Live on the Drive - Victory Memorial Drive between 34th and 36th Ave.
- 22) Tooties on Lowry - 2706 Lowry Ave. N
- 23) ALDI - 3120 Penn Ave. N
- 24) Banana Blossom - 1724 Lowry Ave. N
- 25) North Regional Library - 1315 Lowry Ave. N
- 26) Mississippi Paddle Share - North Mississippi Regional Park to Boom Island Park, or Lowry Ave.
Bridge to Boom Island Park
- 27) Firebox BBQ - 4707 Lyndale Ave. N
- 28) The falls at Shingle Creek Park - 5016 Morgan Ave. N
- 29) Webber Library - 4440 Humboldt Ave. N
- 30) The Yoga Room at Northside Center for Emotional Wellness LLC – 4151 Thomas Ave. N
- 31) Patrick Henry High School - 4320 N Newton Ave.
- 32) Victory 44 - 2203 N 44th Ave.
- 33) Camden Farmers Market - 4400 Osseo Rd.
- 34) The Goddess of Glass and Friends - 4400 Osseo Rd.
- 35) Emily's FM Café - 2124 N 44th Ave.

Notes

- Move the junkyard off the river... Northern Metal and GAF out!
- Marshall Terrace is downwind sound pollution in winter
- Bicycling on city streets from NE to Victory

Destinations

Meeting participants were shown the graphic used during previous engagement asking people to identify what would bring them to the river. Music, trails, food, river access, and markets were the most popular selections across dozens of meetings and events in 2015 and 2016. Participants were

encouraged to speak with neighbors in a small group format but write down their individual responses in packets with pictures and questions.

What makes you interested in the Upper Harbor Terminal Site?

- *40 year resident of Marshall Terrace neighborhood*
- *The river, I'm a neighbor living close to the site*
- *Northeast resident, lived by/near the river for the past 15 years*
- *Natural areas*
- *Community resident that would like to see better access and connection to the river. Active space to be green, commercial retail, housing, entertainment site, and community asset that can connect, educate, train people, and providing opportunity.*
- *More business on the north side*
- *Potential for nationally recognized riverfront development that provides public use of riverfront*
- *Live in the neighborhood*
- *It's a bore and it's a live river*
- *Close to home*
- *Across the river from home and Mississippi mushrooms*
- *Across the river*
- *Park, destination, restaurants, marine hosing, like trails, music venues*
- *Want to see it as a destination place with strong links to neighborhood. Upper Mississippi River Smithsonian style museum and Red River Ox Trail Indian Heritage Center, and environmental/water center*

How can a music/event area benefit North Minneapolis?

- *Community Accessibility*
- *Draw people to the area, provide a needed outdoor venue, not really benefit to north per say?*
- *Revenue could go back into north Minneapolis education and programming or TBD by communities who live in north. Directly invest in communities that have been historically disinvested in.*
- *Make people aware of the site.*
- *Music event revenue could be used to partially fund educational and arts programing at the site that benefits schools in north and northeast Minneapolis.*
- *We need more places to gather. This would accomplish that and draw people in to support our economy. Music and movies in the park in North!*
- *It brings people together from all parts of the city. It could be a larger area than what is currently available.*
- *It could showcase local talent*
- *Bring outsiders in, show beauty of north side, skyline*

- *Great destination for various ages and groups of people*
- *It could be a good destination or also something that further alienates the surrounding community*
- *It would pull people regionally to come to north*
- *Accessible to all, music should vary, classical, jazz, rock etc. perhaps show summer movies*
- *Celebration of diversity, primarily seasonal/bringing people together outdoors, more food/beverage venues = more jobs in those venues*

Imagine a music/event venue in 10 years. Describe what a successful venue looks like? Describe failure.

- *Band shell, lawn and bench seating (Like Harriet band shell and Como)*
- *Lots of well attended concerts, opportunity for local musicians*
- *Successful=safe, fun, and accessible environment. Failure=disorganized, unsafe, inaccessible environment.*
- *Success= outdoor music festival (hip-hop), Failure=indoor folk venue*
- *Successful because of multiple adjacent uses that have a synergetic effect*
- *Success means it brings people together, failure only appeals to small segment of population*
- *Success= attendance, controlled/responsible concert-goers, failure=costs for attendance, irresponsible concert staff*
- *Used 2-3 nights a week, clean, up-to-date, Failure= poor place to play/watch shows, unsafe, unclean*
- *Host few thousand people*
- *Indoor & outdoor facilities – unique/stunning architecture, excellent acoustics*

What concerns might people have over this use? Who would be concerned?

- *Who programs – park board with community*
- *Waste and trash generated by these events, events that do not serve residents of north and/or money that may leave the community. Profit/stays in the community.*
- *Loud music disturbances, parking and traffic issues*
- *Concerns that the current music partners on the project do not reflect people of color and low wealth communities. Partnerships with KmoJ were overlooked.*
- *Too loud, opportunity to get too rowdy*
- *Public safety, family, elderly*
- *Loud, traffic, police/security, families*
- *Noise, safety*
- *Some are concerned not enough parkland, users need to have various price point ex: canoe, kayak rental cheaper, some healthy fast food like Panera or noodles and company, plus high end restaurants*
- *Sound travels easily outside, need extensive toilets for large crowds. Nearby residents*

North Mississippi Regional Park (just to the North) offers natural areas and trails, but remains somewhat unknown and little used. What would make some of the same public areas at Upper Harbor Terminal successful when North Mississippi Regional is still underutilized?

- Accessible public transit to it
- More interactive use, restaurants, markets, swimming
- Connection to other trails, connection to east side of the river, water access/activity.
- Scenic connections going southward and northward
- Integrate amenities coming to Upper Harbor Terminal site into north Mississippi Regional Park. Leverage opportunities from each location to compliment and provide richer; seamless experience.
- Multi-purpose, retail/commercial
- Needs mixed use in addition to park land, restaurants, marina, shops, brewery, boat rentals
- Restaurants, skate parks
- Invitations via boat tour, bike tour, walking tour
- Trail connecting the park to the site
- Need “events”/destination reasons... music, food, farmers market, food trucks, summer movies, restaurants, boutique hotel, jobs, keep green industry (Mississippi Mushrooms) and build on that.
- Connection to rest of park trail system on the river
- More open space from the road, housing would provide 24 eyes on the park – thereby more people would feel safe visiting, also restaurants, etc. businesses open past 5:00 pm
- Promotion – marketing/branding – people need to know about it. Extend bike rentals in the area, including bike services/unusual bikes (like in Minnehaha Park). Increased water access – swimming, canoe rental, kayak rental, cute paddle boats, and splash pad. Public art – particularly items that engage participation, i.e. sound gardens, something with glass/prisms that break up & reflect lights. Wooden/natural structures that can be walked into (like at the arboretum). Arts activities that can be signed up for/ art studios. Attraction of animals/birds in natural habitats. Mass transit access to it.

What organizations in North Minneapolis might be most interested in this use? How can we build energy during the planning process that can transfer to a built project?

- Accessible public transit to it
- NOC – Neighborhoods organizing for change, Appetite for change, North Minneapolis Farmers market (Contact Devon Nolan), Juxtaposition Arts, City of Lakes Community Land Trust, Hmong American Farmers Association (Pakou ED on food connect).
- Bicycling groups, kayaking, birding/nature.
- Small businesses, Banana Blossom, Cookie Cart, Ave Eatery, Fire Box Deli, EL Burrito Cubano, Youth farm, McKinley Neighborhood CSA/W. Broadway farmers market.
- Capri Theater for entertainment programming, farmers markets, bolder options, the yoga room and Noir elite fitness and docs gym for fitness.

- *Bicycle groups, juxtaposition, Capri theatre, Victory 44, Minneapolis schools*
- *Camda communitcator, area schools, water development, Xcel Energy, TC river rats? Bars along the north side, park board, city of Minneapolis north side legislators, elected officials, Northside musicians/artists, businesses, nice ride, community kitchen connection?*
- *Schools*
- *AFC – Kindred Kitchens*
- *Bike shops, neighborhood restaurants, more housing, clean good paying jobs*
- *Food related mostly*

Who would use this? And how? If built, what are potential barriers to river access being widely enjoyed?

- *Private canoe and kayak vender chosen by park board*
- *Swimming would be a great way to create a world class destination for locals and families. I mentioned the swimming barge idea as seen above and was told it couldn't be done. Seems like the wrong forum to dismiss ideas.*
- *Area of river blocked at Coon Rapids dam and lock and dam.*
- *Programs targeting youth and demographics that don't know how to swim or that have never been on a boat/kayak/canoe on the river. Fishing + sustainability education around water quality is another important piece to incorporate into planning process.*
- *Families, tourists, couples, I think there needs to be a harbor/barrier so people feel safe.*
- *Families, lovers, kayakers (exercise), transport to other places/venues on the river, COST*
- *Free or low cost use of kayaks/canoes, scenic overlook/docks with benches*
- *Make it affordable and attractive to all, please consider all comments...*
- *Should have ability for those to rent who do not own supplies/equipment to do these activities ex: fishing equipment*
- *Barrier is that river use is limited due to depth to north and closed locks to south. How to make community feel welcome*
- *The freeway is a barrier, activities should be for all ages and abilities*

What play experiences are lacking in the area? How can play best support larger community use of the Upper Harbor Terminal?

- *Playgrounds, picnic shelters with river views*
- *Swimming*
- *River usage*
- *Nature playground, swimming lessons*
- *Ice skating, lazy river, kayaking, petting zoo, berry/pumpkin/apple picking, fishing*
- *Obstacle course/exercise for adults*
- *People need to disconnect and get outside, change the general attitude, keep it outside...like go outside. People arepeople need to play. People take care of things they experience + understand*

- *Water play is always an attraction*
- *Water spots, canoe, etc.*

Are you comfortable with private enterprises in a public space? What is the public benefit? What are some concerns?

- *Public must be involved in choosing private business*
- *No "Suburban style" individual parks use the space for as much 'interacting' as possible. Swimming, eatery, markets, play, music, etc.*
- *Yes, job creation, traffic to the area, creating awareness.*
- *Concerns that private entities will not grant easements for trail access.*
- *Benefit is bringing in people who are not north siders. Our economy on the north side is limited because of outsiders are afraid to come here. A regional destination like UHT would hopefully quell the fear of outsiders and help to build are economy in the interior of north. A concern is that it becomes too busy and begins to feel touristy and not community oriented.*
- *Yes, absolutely. Benefit is browsing, shopping, adds another reason to visit the waterfront. Think Tin Fish at Calhoun Lake.*
- *Yes, community involvement*
- *Need a balance. But know your private company; know who is feeding the kitty. Don't allow the "buddies"*
- *Needed but not as needed as other areas*
- *Love idea of markets, studios, restaurants, and brewery? Food truck kitchen?*
- *Yes, pull people from all over metro to come spend time and money at the upper harbor. Imagine this could be like Vancouver public market. Restaurants and food vendors where people come 2-3 times a week*
- *Yes, very, farmers markets, biking*

Is the Upper Harbor Terminal a good location for an open green that can serve as a sports field? What is lacking in the area? Would this location serve the groups most in need?

- *Risky use of park board fields already used by suburban residents*
- *If space allows*
- *If this project wants to serve the groups most in need in will leverage public-private partnerships to fun programmatic activities for local schools + parks in North + northeast receiving the least investment.*
- *Yes, sand volleyball courts, need a place where we can drink alcohol and play in sports leagues in one location.*
- *Yes, Lacking? Community involvement... Most in need? Communication. Ask other community centers how to get people there*
- *Could be tied in with other entertainment venue*
- *Seems like we have a lot of this already*
- *Maybe, but not enough space? Baseball or soccer field*

What purpose should food at the Upper Harbor Terminal serve?

- *Lunch meals – food trucks, affordable light foods, snacks, summer treats*
- *Provide and encourage affordable fresh healthy food for community*
- *Compost/recycling, partner/work with existing restaurants on north side if possible, fresh food not junk food – understanding + acknowledging north Minneapolis has traditionally had lacking food access.*
- *Healthy food, affordability, job creation*
- *Urban agriculture training ground, outdoor market, farmers.*
- *A place to gather, patio on the water, places that are licensed to serve hard alcohol (north currently has one), recreational marijuana usage permitted, Ice cream shop please.*
- *Restaurants with food grown at the site, it would add to the “destination” if people didn’t have to leave to feed themselves.*
- *All people deserve (it’s a right) to good food, real food. Need to promote what real food is, seasonal, regional, and real.*
- *Meeting place, draw crowds to support financially, need to create a true destination (ex: people stay all day or longer time periods)*
- *Very needed! Maybe farmers market, growing, collaborative production – important green/local movements need to be embraced. Farm to table on site? With learning opportunities for kids/community?*
- *Food, market, restaurant, taproom. Destination for frequent users*
- *A lot – healthy eating restaurants, coffee shops all price points, community garden, local grocery for those who live there and others*

How can food expand the local food movement and avoid competing with what is already happening?

- *Partner with north side food co-ops + existing organizations + farmers, night market with local food vendors + artists*
- *Partner with existing farmers markets*
- *Partner with local urban agricultural groups, non-profits, and restaurant industry to support + compliment efforts taking place in North/north east Minneapolis.*
- *Do a scan of the restaurants that already operate here, lease to restaurants that buy local produce from our local community gardens.*
- *There needs to be beer restaurants and bars along the riverfront, I don’t see how they would compete??*
- *Maintain friendly competition. How about growers for north Minneapolis...priority.*
- *Very little already happening on north side, brings people to do things in the area and more likely to come back in the future*
- *Co-ops*
- *Just another destination, not a competition*

Who do we need to build relationships with if this idea of a food hub builds momentum?

- *Farmers + food producers, restaurateurs*
- *Minneapolis homegrown food council, north Minneapolis farmers market, north side urban farmers, HAFA (Hmong American Farmers association)*
- *Co-ops, local markets, farmers markets*
- *(Small businesses listed before)*
- *NEON, W Broadway Coalition, Northside Fresh, Green gardens bakery (they need commercial space), Appetite for chars*
- *Co-ops, north side market*
- *Community members, food shelf spaces, homeless, local restaurants, local assisted living, local committee to help and develop of food movement*
- *Restaurants/breweries who already have a name in the Twin Cities alongside new ideas*
- *Local farm to table producers & restaurants, current food producers*
- *Farmers, bakers*

Equitable Development Scorecard

Meeting participants were shown the Equitable Development Scorecard & Principles worksheet that had been modified by a focus group of community participants and staff to better fit the Upper Harbor Terminal project. Participants were asked to identify which of the principles was most important to them. Each measure could be scored on a scale from 1-5, with 1 being low and 5 being high. There were four participants scoring, with one additional participant leaving comments.

1. Equitable Community Engagement Practices

- a) Community engagement involves local community members within the first 6 months of the planning process – Total points: 16***
- b) Project was community initiated – Total points: 14***
- c) Planning requires community engagement to establish priorities and criteria for land use and economic development to guide future development and growth – Total points: 18***
- d) Community has authority in the decision making process such as community representation on project advisory team/task force/committee – Total points: 17***
- e) The plan and project includes the community's goals, priorities, and criteria for growth and reinvestment – Total points: 18***
- f) Significant changes to the scope of the plan and/or project triggers more community engagement – Total points: 15***

2. Equitable Transportation Practices

- a) **Development infrastructure provides safe, attractive, and convenient access to pedestrian, bicycle, and transit systems with Complete Streets principles incorporated into the design**
Total points: 20
- b) **Provide a holistic package of alternative transportation infrastructure, programming, and education to encourage familiarity and comfort with options** – *Total points: 17*
- c) **Priority is given to bicycle and pedestrian circulation. Parking facilities accommodate bicycle daily use and storage and do not limit access by pedestrians. Bicycle parking is provided near front doors and elevators in highly visible and safe areas.** – *Total points: 20*
- d) **Attractive, comfortable, accessible transit facilities are available, or future facilities are adequately planned for** – *Total points: 15*
- e) **Presence of way finding and systems information for pedestrians, bicyclists, and transit users** – *Total points: 14*
- f) **Development promotes traffic calming and pedestrian safety through building and public realm design tools** – *Total points: 16*
- g) **Outdoor public realm infrastructure is accessible to all abilities through the incorporation of Universal Design. Provide clear signage, convenient accessible parking, and safe travel ways** – *Total points: 17*

Comments

- 1. a) All were invited, were all reached?
- 1. b) If the community doesn't want it, it shouldn't happen
- 1. d) Should be yes! Community is in charge!
- These all seem equally important to me