

# Upper Harbor Terminal Public Park – Church of Ascension Focus Group

## Board Notes and Comments

2019-12-15

MPRB reached out to the Latinx community at the Church of the Ascension located on; 1723 Bryant Ave N, Minneapolis, MN 55411 and got input on the Upper Harbor Terminal project. There were two activity boards on which the community participated.

*Activity 1: EXPERIENCE MAPPING – The future public space at Upper Harbor Terminal should offer Engaging experiences. Think about the time of day and week you are most likely to visit the park in the future. List 3-5 things that you would like to do during that time.*

### *Question 1: Warm Season Weekday*

#### Morning

- Gardening with recycled water from the Mississippi River
- Edible gardening
- Fruit Trees
- Summer daily camps for youth
- Educational Sculpture
- Art
- Indoor water park
- Free spaces for all ages to run around
- Designated park spaces for youth with Autism or other specific needs where they feel comfortable and people are not judging them or scared of them

#### Afternoon

- For walks
- Edible gardening
- Fruit Trees
- Spaces to read and relax with shade
- Quiet spaces to read
- Summer daily camps for youth
- Playground for all ages and abilities
- Hiking
- Educational Sculpture
- Art
- Indoor water park
- Free spaces for all ages to run around
- After school activities

- Zumba and dance
- Designated park spaces for youth with Autism or other specific needs where they feel comfortable and people are not judging them or scared of them

#### Evening

- Some type of Fair
- 4<sup>th</sup> of July event
- Gardening with recycled water from the Mississippi River
- Edible gardening
- Skating
- Family gatherings; grilling, large picnic tables and shades
- Quiet spaces to read
- Exercise
- Open safe spaces for kids to run around freely; I always tell my kids not to run
- Playground for all ages and abilities
- Spaces to host ceremonies/parties
- Fruit Trees
- Educational Sculpture
- Art
- Indoor water park
- Free spaces for all ages to run around
- Program activities
- Space to host a marathon or triathlon
- Plaza platform for performance and dance
- Designated park spaces for youth with Autism or other specific needs where they feel comfortable and people are not judging them or scared of them

#### Night

- Some type of Fair
- Spaces to host ceremonies/parties
- Educational Sculpture with lighting options
- Art
- Indoor water park
- Space to host a marathon or triathlon
- Plaza platform for performance and dance

#### *Question 3: Cold Season Weekday*

#### Morning

- Indoor water park
- Recreation Center where the community is a priority to use
- Free and affordable programs for kids and adults

#### Afternoon

- Indoor water park
- Program activities
- Recreation Center where the community is a priority to use
- Free and affordable programs for kids and adults

#### Evening

- Indoor water park
- Program activities
- Recreation Center where the community is a priority to use
- Free and affordable programs for kids and adults

#### Night

- Indoor water park
- Recreation Center where the community is a priority to use
- Free and affordable programs for kids and adults

#### *Question 4: Cold Season Weekend*

#### Morning

- Program activities
- Skiing
- Skating
- Exercise
- Walks
- Winter Marathon

#### Afternoon

- Program activities
- Skiing
- Skating
- Sledding
- Exercise
- Walks
- Winter Marathon

#### Evening

- Program activities
- Skiing
- Skating
- Sledding

- Winter Marathon

#### Night

- Program activities
- Skiing
- Skating
- Sledding
- Winter Marathon

*Activity 2a: NATURAL VS BUILT – We want your input to help inform the future character of Upper Harbor Terminal. We've gathered past community comments and listed them in order of popularity for each end of the spectrum. Place a dot where you think the right balance of Natural and Built spaces is on the spectrum. Tell us why you put your dot there. Write your zip code next to your comment.*

From previous engagement, ideas for a natural park include amenities such as prairies, natural habitat, native plants, wildlife, less developed, green, peaceful, and pollinators. Ideas for a more built park include amenities such as dining, amphitheater, recreation center, skate park, sports courts, fields, playgrounds and entertainment.

#### 85% Natural

- 8 participants responded 85% Natural
- Comments:
  - People are forgetting green spaces they need to be saved
  - The Greener the better because the parks are being forgotten
  - The Greener the better because the city is being expanded and 20 years from now their will not be a lot of green spaces to enjoy.
  - It is better to start with as much as natural space because it is easier to end in built in 30-40 years.

#### 65% Natural

- 12 participants responded 65% Natural
- Comments:
  - Need a balance of Natural and leisure.
  - I want to be able to sit in the green spaces.
  - I want to enjoy the space while my kids play

#### 50% Natural and Built

- 6 participants responded 50% Natural and Built
- Comments:
  - Somewhere in between for everyone

#### 65% Built

- 6 participants responded, no comments

*Activity 2b: JUST GREEN ENOUGH VS A DESTINATION PARK – One idea being tested to mitigate green gentrification is parks that are ‘just green enough; or parks that satisfy residents needs but are generally not a major attraction. Given the lack of riverfront park on the North Side, we are determined to ensure this park serves the community. What is a good approach and balance? What should we keep in mind? Place a dot on the spectrum where you think this balance should fall. Add notes to tell us why.*

100% just green enough is local where it is diversity, affordable for north side, local culture, accessible, wildlife works for the existing and for the community members. A destination park has large events more like Millennium Park in Chicago and it is designed to attract tourists.

65% Local

- 8 participants responded to 65% local

50% Local and Destination Park

- 9 participants responded to 50% local
- 1 participant responded in between 50% and 65% Destination Park

65% Destination Park

- 3 participants responded in between 65% and 85% Destination Park
- Comments:
  - I would like to show the beauty of the river here in our hometown
  - When friends visit, I would like to take them here
  - Everyone should have access to the park and the river

85% Destination Park

- 4 participants responded 85% Destination Park
- 3 participants responded between 85% and 100% Destination Park