

# Upper Harbor Terminal Community Advisory Committee Meeting #7

January 13, 2020

## General Meeting Notes

CAC Chair opens the meeting. MPRB staff provided general project updates:

- January and February – MPRB is moving into the design stage of the project. Park design workshop on Thursday, Jan 16 is an informal opportunity for people to drop by and work with the project team to sketch and review ideas for the park.
- Wednesday, Jan 15 – Learning Table by Pillsbury United Communities team on Community Ownership
- City and developer Collaborative Planning Committee meetings – Wednesday, Jan 22 is tentative date to discuss music venue. Community Advisory Committee previous recommendations were given to CPC but not presented or discussed. CAC Chair Robin Lewis asked if someone from the park team could present the recommendations so City CPC members are aware of concerns and questions and how projects may intersect. MPRB CAC Chair may present briefly at the Jan 22<sup>nd</sup> meeting. (Post meeting note: presentation was not scheduled for Jan 22<sup>nd</sup> meeting, but may happen in February).
- Check project website for latest information.

## Discussion

- CAC Member: Is City and MPRB working on a joint CPC and CAC meeting?
- Kate: Yes, a joint meeting has been discussed since the beginning of the two committees and is still being talked about. CPC members brought this up recently too. I was planning to discuss that at the end of today's meeting because I wanted to see how people felt about such a meeting and what kind of format might be useful. I am concerned that a 34 person committee meeting could be challenging to run productively. If we do convene a joint meeting we want to make sure it is useful. It would definitely be a public meeting, but it could be less formal than a committee meeting, could be a working session of some kind. Let me know your thoughts during the meeting.
- CAC Member: At the last meeting I asked if you knew what Northsiders wanted in their park? If so, can you explain what they are looking for? Have you gone to talk to Northsiders about what they want in their park? If not, when will that happen?
- Kate: We have engagement going on all the time. We have been out to talk to community more since our last meeting and we do have plans to go out more. We did find as we distill engagement from the last four years that we had tagged comments with Northside zip codes by two different methods so our search weren't isolating those comments properly. We are fixing that and will get a summary out to you as soon as possible. We do intend to go out more but we feel that people have given us a lot of feedback on very general topics and it's hard to get deeper engagement when everything is wide open at the beginning of a project. Part of the reason we have created these design exercises is to drive the conversation deeper. We have taken versions of these design exercises out to groups and we plan to take them out more.

- CAC Member: So any of the ideas that we discuss today have been listed by the community as things they want? This is the list of what they want?
- Kate: The ideas that we will play with today are drawn from community conversations, but it's not a final list. These are so you can understand how different options fit on the site. People want a lot of different things and not everything is necessarily going to fit on site. We want people to understand the parameters of what can fit and how it impacts other options. Sometimes it helps to put down ideas that people familiar with, so they get a better sense of space. We also want people to think about ideas in context; what you arrive at first, what kinds of park features should be next to certain other features. We don't feel that we can have a final program (or list of what will be in the park) without entering into the design conversation. Finalizing what will be in the park needs to be done as part of the design.
- CAC Member: So did you record the discussion we had as a group about green gentrification previously? I think we collectively as a group came to the understanding that we need to slow down and be green until we know more about what will happen in the area. We need to know what the City will do and pump the brakes until then. How are we doing that now?
- Kate: We have not forgotten that conversation; we think it is one of the most important discussions we've had to date. We talked about a park that is "just green enough" vs a "destination park" and the possibility of phasing a park from just green enough at first into a destination over time. But a park that is "just green enough" is still yet to be defined. That is really what is before us during the design phase because that idea may still mean different things to different people.
- CAC Member: So how do this without having all of the community information incorporated so we know what people want in this park?
- Kate: I don't think there is a point where we can have all of the community information defined and then start our design process. Design needs to be iterative and showing how ideas play out on paper is part of getting community input. We can't do engagement and make an exact list and then do our design. We have to go back and get engagement around the design and that back and forth information will always continue. There is never a point where we say that we have all the information we need from the Northside. As we proceed with the project, we will uncover new information and new questions that prompts additional conversations.
- CAC Chair: When I've met with Kate we've talked about how this park needs to make a space for what the Northside community needs. That's how we create Northside vibrance and discourage gentrification coming up the river in this park. Once we have created that space, we can encourage people to come and use it. Once they see it, they can tell use their thoughts on the space, but also ideas on what could happen. I think we need to engage where people can see something and they can respond. That is what my understanding of this meeting is for today. We need to get a baseline understanding of the physical space. Up until this point we haven't had a baseline for these ideas yet; we have put them into physical space. This engages us to create a vision for the park. My understanding it isn't just about what is here physically, but who are we targeting. I think we should go ahead and go through the exercise and see what questions and ideas come out of this. The issues are not going away and haven't been ignored, but we can see how they work out in this exercise.

## Public Art Update

Juxtaposition Arts instructors provided an update of the public art master planning underway. February will be a public art focused meeting.

Sam (JXTA Instructor) provided an introduction to the organization, Enviro Design Studio, and other JXTA studios. Youth artists ask critical question and have been going to the site and helping with engagement since 2015. Artwork should look like the community and be co-created with the community. Art isn't defined yet, but JXTA brings a process and historic knowledge of the site.

Kristen (JXTA Instructor) JXTA is working with the design team and is starting to brainstorm ideas internally and with artists. Youth apprentices are meeting regularly and starting to develop themes and critical questions that are important. JXTA is considering more typical public art such as murals, sculptures, signage, incorporating art in wayfinding, but also thinking very broadly about art, such as performances and events that bring people together. Art should also extend across time - from design through construction and beyond. Art can change over time or get updated every few years. JXTA is also identifying storylines from the community. Important stories are really powerful ways for artists to create work and also important to communicate to visitors. Keeping community stories alive through public art is a critical way to combat cultural gentrification.

Roxanne (JXTA Instructor) JXTA has been discussing ideas like murals that explain the history of the river, including the history of Indigenous people. Murals can tell the deeper story of the industry, such as what happened with the workers. There may be ways to bring in clean energy opportunities, such as fitness equipment. JXTA would welcome ideas from others and are available for conversations.

Sam: Park needs to have youth take ownership of the park. The Northside has the highest concentration of people under 18 so we need to provide things for them.

Public Comment: The JXTA apprentices here previously had some great ideas and input. They talked about needing a place to go to rest and get find sanctuary. Is it possible to have nature be the artist and use that as sanctuary. Do we need murals and statues? There are so many ideas and I don't think that is what the apprentice was talking about. She was talking about that quiet place where the sun goes down, not another teen park and not another art gallery.

Kristen: That is a great idea. As we explore storylines that Roxanne mentioned and determine what the possibilities are, we want to make a collection of possibilities. Those ideas get merged with the design and we can select the right ones so we make the park that people want to see. We would love input on storylines and priorities, and if you have ideas like letting nature be the artist.

Public Comment: It seems like she (the apprentice) wanted the opposite.

CAC Member: At the same time there will be an open air music venue there. How does that impact this?

Public Comment: If you have been to Silverwood Park, that is very art and nature focused. The art isn't overwhelming, but it's very present and helps draw people in. They have classes and programming and changing exhibits. Could there be some aspect of that here?

Kristen: It could include programming. Art doesn't have to be a sculpture or a mural either, it can be many things.

Public Comment: They have a gift shop of things artists have made.

Roxxanne: The idea of statues and murals are also about really highlighting the history of our community. It's art, but there is a lot of history here that we relate to. That story needs to be told as well as the story of how we are changing things. Like a timeline that shows that has happened. We have plenty of statues of colonists and murderers, but what about the people who protected this area. We want our art to mean something.

Kristen: it's a large site with opportunities for different experience. Some places can have a light touch and others can have a more visual story for example.

Sam: The JXTA skate park is temporary while we do a capital campaign for our headquarters. Rather than have it be empty, we wanted something that engaged people during that interim time. At Halloween it was a flex space for pumpkin carving. Thinking about public space in a way that facilitates public use is important and allows us to prototype different things allows us to see what works. This is such a long term process, prototyping is a good solution.

Kate: I suggest people write questions down because this is exactly why we wanted to have a longer meeting about this topic, but we also want to get to this exercise. Part of the point of public art master planning is also so that we can plan to develop ideas that we may not be ready for yet. It should be an ongoing process over time, but we plan the infrastructure to accommodate future needs. The whole point of a just green enough park is to allow us time to develop these ideas even after the initial park is built.

Public Comment: I've heard someone suggest a natural park, another person suggest a meditative space. But one thing no one is talking about is the fact that this small park is separated from the community. Unless the community is taken into consideration, no one is planning how the community can get here. You can do all the exercises you want, but if this park does not transcend this small piece of land called the UHT, this park becomes only an event space. We have plans of what we can stuff into the park, but this is not a build out. It won't be designated and open and all of a sudden people will be there. We can't consider this in isolation of the development because there is no way for people to physically access it. It can't happen just within these borders. No one is talking about the Northside being part of this event. It's all here and people have to get to it. That takes a different kind of design thinking that the City, UP, and MPRB haven't ever considered.

Kate: This concern is better talked about during the design exercise because we are very aware and very concerned about the challenges facing this park. We've had many discussions about the fact that if we just build a park, it may not be the park that we want it to be for the Northside. We need to actively make that connection happen.

Roxxanne: I am a Northsider and I know what we are facing. I'm in it with my whole heart because I and my family are involved. I don't want to be gentrifying myself too.

CAC Chair: I think we are all aware of this issue. I want to see this park serve black people from the Northside; I want to see them there and enjoying it.

Roxanne: Its not just art, it's art, organizing, politics, and more.

### Program Model Update

Chris Des Roches provide an update of the program model work. The key handout showed how the team distilled previous input on programming and activation into the physical spaces and provisions needed to support various activities. Program is what should happen in a space. The conversation in the meeting echos the thoughts the project team has been working through. Space should be dynamic and change over time, but also accommodate different activities. Programming is a key tool to connect an reflect community members. The program model can continue to be updated as the design progresses.

Sam: Can team explain the Motion and Skills and Services categories?

Chris: We were trying to organize ideas into buckets and Motion is activities that involve people moving (skateboard, fitness, biking). Sils and Services are ideas about learning how to garden or learning regenerative land care practices or at a local bike shop. Partly it's a way to communicate more simply.

Kate: We expect this is the start of many conversations, but on a project like this, design is very messy and we need to start this work in order to flush out more questions.

### Design Exercise Notes

John Slack introduced the design exercise and showed the site information boards (on website). Some ideas provided for scale; options to add and draw new ideas.

The purpose of the design exercise is to:

- Better understand the site and what the size and structure will accommodate
- See how some familiar and generally requested park amenities fit onto the site
- See how the existing structures locations impact potential layouts
- Discuss the relationships between park amenities
- Consider experiences as users move through the site
- Consider park evolution over time

### Group 1 (Chris, Crystal)

General Discussion:

- Community Member: How far can we build into the river? What is allowed?
- MPRB: We would need to look into this. I don't have an answer off hand.
- Lao Assistance Center: From the Lao community I have heard that having access to the water via a boat launch is important.

- Community Member: There are several boat launches nearby.
- MPRB: There is a boat launch just north of the site at North Mississippi, but perhaps people don't know it's there. Maybe signage is needed.
- Lao Assistance Center: I think what people are wanting is a boat launch with some sort of building to support events, such as a boat festival.
- Community Member: I don't see many boats on the water with people fishing.
- MPRB: Does the group feel shore fishing is more needed?
- Group agreed that shore fishing might be more of a need.
- Community Member: What about having a beach, how do we get down to the river?
- Group looked at the different pathway options; noted that it was a fairly steep grade and existence of riverwall.
- Community Member: We should keep piers or things in the water and not spend money on removing them. Noted the high cost listed in the matrix.
- Community Members: Access to the site is an issue.
- CAC Member: We really need to get back to the basics of the issue that there is poor access to the site. MPRB and the City and other agencies involved need to get back to that, without knowing that how can we design the park? By the time the park gets built who knows what transit will be like. We need to focus on means other than cars. It's important that for any venue or large event that the city take on some of the parking needs.
- Community member: What about the large asphalt parking area on the south end of the site, why build more parking lots when you have great parking already? Spend the money on the park not on parking.
- MPRB: We will need to have some parking close to amenities, for example if we have a playground, we would need accessible spots nearby.
- MPRB: Since right now Dowling is the only access point, how could Dowling be a better entrance into the park?

#### Group Comments:

- Park should have benches for sitting to watch the river and having more than one restroom. There are not enough restrooms along the river.
- Like Harriet and Powderhorn Park because they had a variety of spaces for people to perform. The topography is interesting.
- Keep the domes because of the expense of removing. Winter skating in one of the domes, a pavilion in the summer in another and something else in the third.
- Cutting off the top of the dome might make it structurally unsound.
- Like the idea of cutting off the top of the dome or not and doing art on them.
- Would like a learning or interpretive center. North Mississippi Regionals Center (Kroenig Interpretive Center) is out of the way and people don't know it's there. Move that here. This could be the place where the stories of the neighborhood are told.
- More dog leash signage needed everywhere.
- Lighting on the trail.
- In terms of safety make sure the park uses defensible space techniques.

- The CAC should visit parks around the Twin Cities to develop a vocabulary of park features and parks they like to draw from to design this park.

#### Key Points from Group 1:

1. SE Asian Community would be interested in a Boat Launch (individuals would bring their own boats) and doing a large festival/gathering on the site. Would need to accommodate 250+ people.
2. Interest in a meeting space
3. Interest in fishing
4. Indoor spaces could happen in development spaces with a use agreement/negotiation with the developer
5. In-depth discussion about how access and parking is very key to the site
6. Question: Is there a possibility to use the asphalt space on the South side of the site as a temporary parking space for the park?
7. Interest in turning the dome into a bandshell
8. Interest in using the site as the end of a boat trip from upstream
9. Idea to cut the domes down and use only the bottom 10'
10. Question: Historical status of the domes vs. historical status of the whole site and how those two can be separated.
11. Interest in putting some sort of community center or interpretive center on the site.
12. Stressing the importance of some sort of indoor space and bathrooms
13. Since the site is so flat adding topography to the site would be really interesting
14. Comments about making sure the site was safe and that the design of the space think about creating a safe space for everyone

#### *Group 2 (Vanessa, Max)*

##### General Discussion:

- 3-5 Artist Mural Areas - Various Artist Kiosk
- 5 Sculptures integrated in the events sites.
- 1 covered band shell
- 1 Dock boat slips 50-200. Separate fishing dock.
- 5 EVENT SITES (see diagram)
- 3 Playgrounds (1 Splash Pad)
- 2 boat launches
- 4 Bathroom Facilities (1 Lg Park Recreation building across the street all year long heated. 3 on site (1 plumbed middle ctr, two satellites near beach and by dock slips)
- 5 art spaces, signage and informational kiosk.
- 1 river overlook board walk
- 1 Band Shell that is reminiscent of the Domes but not to scale. Should offer art applications and information about historical site.
- Note: cascading elevations so all areas can enjoy the river from all area within the park.

- Pathways with underground drainage with natural grasses with natural filtration.
- (1) Elected to have the park center/ bathrooms/food center and parking ramp across the street in the site dedicated to the redevelopment of the UHT. (Top Left Corner) located across the street.
- Main feature: huge walking path from Dowling across from Park Rec Center/ Parking Ramp / Food Center. HUGE Park SIGN: FPO PURPLE PARK OR North Mississippi Park the tree line Native Tree Canopy path that directs everyone down to river. The Focal Point to the rivers edge grow overtime of course.
- (2) Want to keep the river wall that allows for beautiful overlook to the bird area and river. But low elevations on both sides should drop naturally to the water with dock / boat slips and recreational fishing, canoes and kayaks for visitor on the north end. The south end is for the rowing club, more fish and retain the 70' beach area that should connect to the walking paths that go along the entire river front connected up river with the lower river amenities. Note: picnic table placed randomly all around the entire site on all elevations: by the river, by the playgrounds and by the upper areas by the parkways.
- (3) The plans for the 4 main event spaces are organically shaped for different size events and or on cascading plains at different elevation so we can provide sight lines to the for-everyone. Also, more importantly they will be boarder by trees and natural grasses and plants that filter rain water and we end underground irrigation to control the watershed requirements to prevent flooding and storm water issues in relationship to the river. Paths with pea gravel that will be strategically placed with natural carved stone steps and walk ways as need between each event plateaus: across the street from the event center/park board building is the small lawn welcoming guest with a beautiful tree promenade down to the river. Picnic areas that connect to  
A winding natural paths that lead to the river to the left up river (shown in diagram). Other pathways up river and a health array of plants that support the bee populations and wild life and natural filtration.

To the left is a natural toddler playgrounds.

The Pocket lawn is the highest event location and there needs to be bathrooms in the middle of the park to accommodate all event areas. There needs to be two locations to go to the bathroom in this huge park. Maybe one down by the docks on the shore line and one at the far end by the beach. (Optional bathroom C. Paisley Port Dock Slips bathrooms, D. South Beach).

- (4) Each Event Space NAME should be named after some form of historical land reference weather it's Native American or African American or American Settlers or "The Purple Park" which can be PRINCE or the Vikings. Maybe Bob Dylan.

Mid Size area accommodates 60 to 100 event size with an elevated cover band shell (dome) for group events.

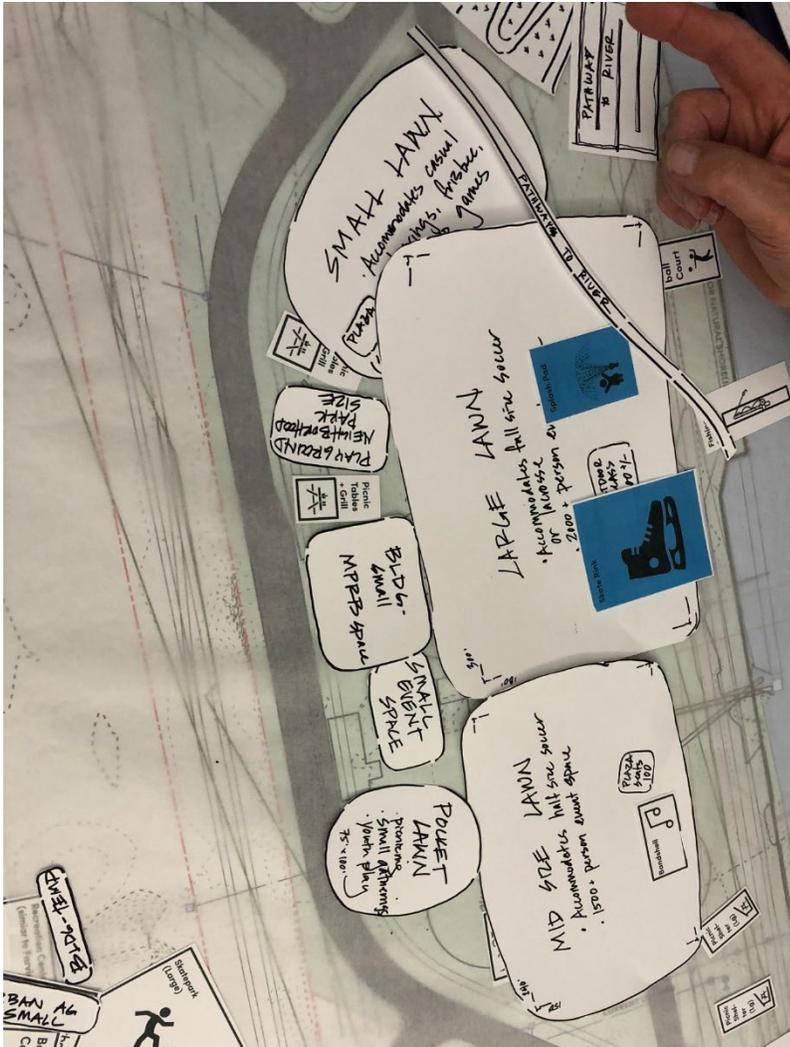
The Large Lawn accommodates 200 plus multi use drops down in elevation and can accommodate a ice skating rink in the winter months (optional), Splash Pad for kids in the

winter to cool off far enough from the river so parents can watch the kid fenced in.  
Should have many picnic and areas overlooking the river and docks.

- (5) Docks and boats slips on the river called FPO "Paisley Port" bellow large park lawn at the end of the main pathway tree lined to dock area. Below splash pad for kids.
- (6) RIVERWALL: The could have a beautiful Wild like name reference it's (Great Blue Overlook) Great Blue Heron (Andes Herodias) Native American "Totems Habitat a scared wild bird according to the history the birds bring messages of self-determination and self reliance. We have riverwall, let's keep it and use it with a beautiful board walk area with running paths, walking paths, skating, biking. Overlook area with signs blended in with historical information. Art and educational habitat information.
- (7) Three corners of the park should have blend of art sculptures and informational signs and onsite revolving art work from area artisans.
- (8) South BEACH area (possible off leash dog area) picnic sites (bathrooms satellites) 70' walking, running, biking and skate paths paths, but a beautiful natural sandy beach with boat landing for all types of recreational boats, canoes, kayaks, rowing club off 26th.

Natural sculptures like the giant rocks with iron found in the Camden area and Northeast.  
Sculptures that are natural elements.

- Mural Venue reference is to the Musical Venue being able to accommodate large wall murals to support artists and personalize the spaces.



Group 2, Photo 1 adjacent layout (north is up): Building centrally located off of the parkway with picnic areas, play, and small events space nearby. Several different sized lawns across most of the site, fishing piers and water access by the river, pathways to the water in the main park area.

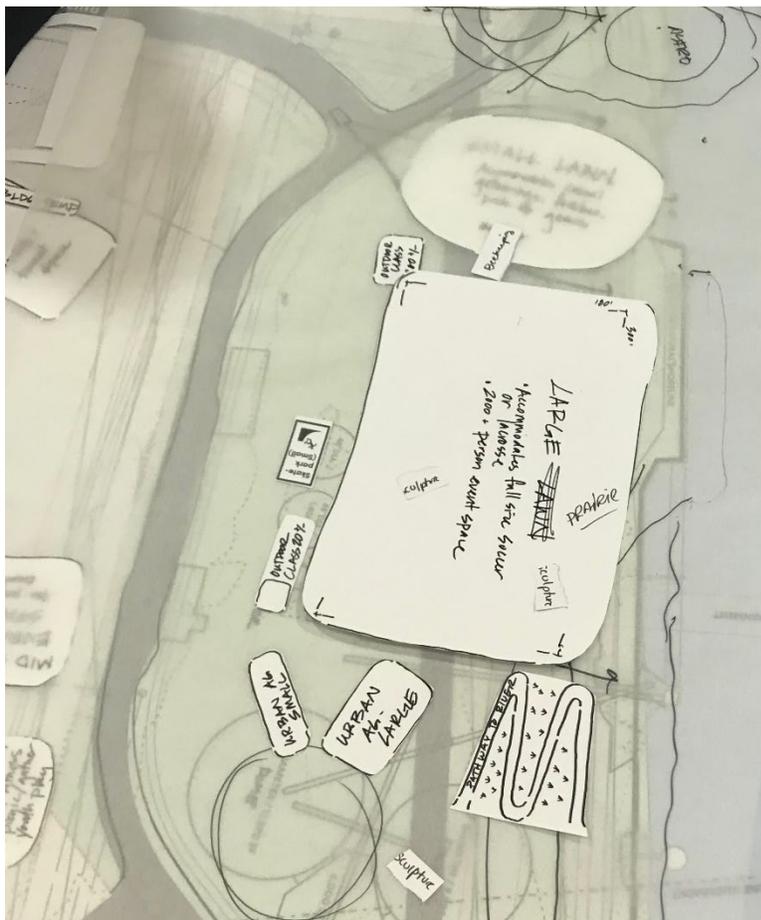
### Group 3 (John, Ella)

#### General Discussion:

- Question posed: What is the most important thing to happen on site?
  - Boat access x3
  - Walking along the river and in loops x3
  - Connecting to the river via natural habitat
  - All season activities – outdoors and indoors
  - Gathering places: picnics, grilling, seating, tables and chairs, seating in shade,
- Arrival from Dowling

Make sure there is visual connection to the the river from the approach

- Storm water
  - Terracing down to the river from the river road, also serves to create dynamic open area
- Interaction with surrounding development
  - Explore park facility in adjacent developments
- Design overall
  - Active uses along the perimeter of the site
  - Seating and congregation along pathways
  - Pathway loop
  - Open, more flexible area in the middle
  - Places to play, like nature play, liked North Loop playground. Small play areas along the pathway, especially along Phase 2 pathways to the south



Group 3, Photo 1 adjacent: large and small lawn/flex spaces with access down to the water, urban ag, small skate park area, outdoor class, and beekeeping areas. Significant areas available to be left natural.



6. Other: Multi-generational park users. Built spaces should go between the access point and the river to activate, and naturalize the rest of the space. Important to have space for school groups and family groups.

#### *Group 4 (Kate, Kristen)*

##### General Discussion

- Like the idea of event spaces
- People should not have to pay for rentals. Rentals should be free here; they are free in other areas of the city. Ice skating at Loring Park is an example.
- Should have a place for small lawn type games – bocce ball, horseshoes, etc.
- Have a place for BBQ's, picnicking, and gathering
- Like the idea of cutting off the tops of the domes and putting uses inside, like rinks
- Garden spaces and places for pollinators should be very evident and should dominate the site. Want to see lots of natural spaces throughout the area.
- Show Indigenous history and incorporate Indigenous language. Do they want a place like Rondo Commemorative plaza? Could there be an intergenerational healing space about Native American history?
- Do Indigenous people want a place for pow-wows. What would they need?
- Am fine with some dedicated sports area – fields to play on, or sport courts (one person)
- Not a fan of basketball courts (different person)
- Midsize lawn with a bandshell or amphitheater for events (like at Lake Harriet, and outside of the zone of where shore would retreat to if seawall goes away).
- Fountain and/or labyrinth with community garden, and skate park in the domes (cut off the tops, so there are low walls).
- Playground, near/accessible to housing.
- Urban ag, disability parking by road and building.
- Playground + urban ag. Fishing dock and canoe launch down river.
- Youth focused space right near the Dowling entry and river - roller rink/ice rink with small skate park and mini lawn.
- Thinking about enough open space for Juneteenth celebration. Garden with native pollinator plants.
- Playground and lawn by river.
- Canoe/kayak launch closer to First Ave venue.
- In two domes, roller rink/ice rink and skatepark.
- Urban ag by road.
- Event space by Dowling. Two pathways to river and fishing pier(s) near Dowling.
- Play areas typically included
- Fountain areas and/or labyrinth with community gardens
- Road should be hempcrete and park should incorporate sustainable materials.

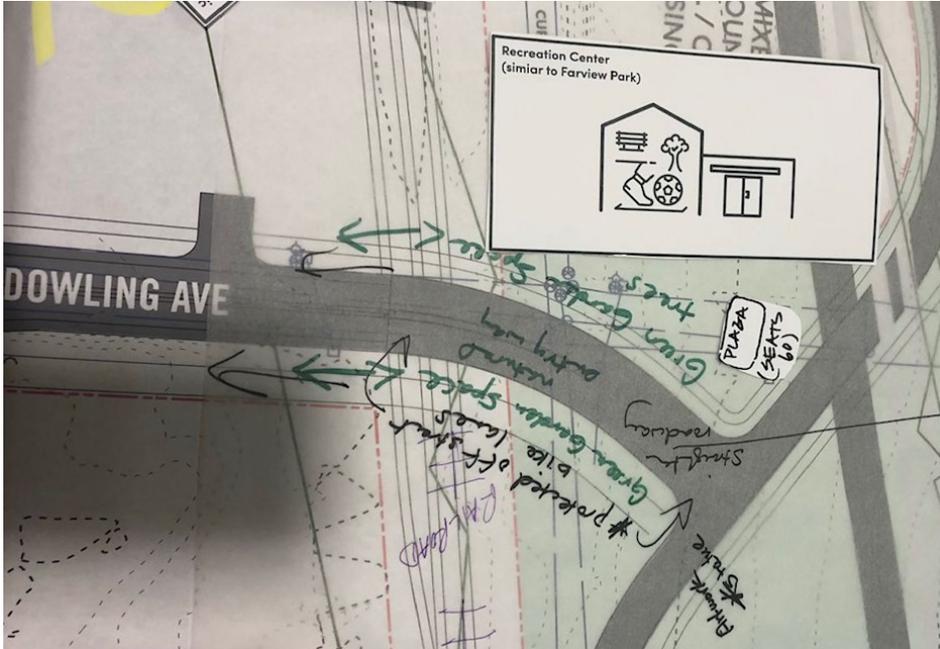
## Park Building

- Need bathrooms and structure
- Buildings and bathrooms should generally be by parking lot.
- There is logic in having supportive spaces (parking, bldg, bathrooms, seating, etc in a cluster)
- Bldg should be central – should support a lot of areas
- Assume developers want to have a plaza near their buildings. MPRB only spend public money if it is for the public and benefits the public
- Like the idea of the park building supporting affordable housing residents. MPRB tenant in ground floor of building at the north end of the site (river & Dowling), IF the building is affordable housing
- Put the building at the edge of the river at first, but upon understanding that removing the riverwall could be ecologically beneficial, would want to maintain the possibility of restoring the ecological edge someday.
- Want a community center
- Building (with bathrooms) that is centrally located - easy to get to from the river and road, away from the road for safety (small kids running around), bbqs and picnic areas, basketball court.
- Large building with tenant and picnic space around it.
- Building should allow for cooking classes

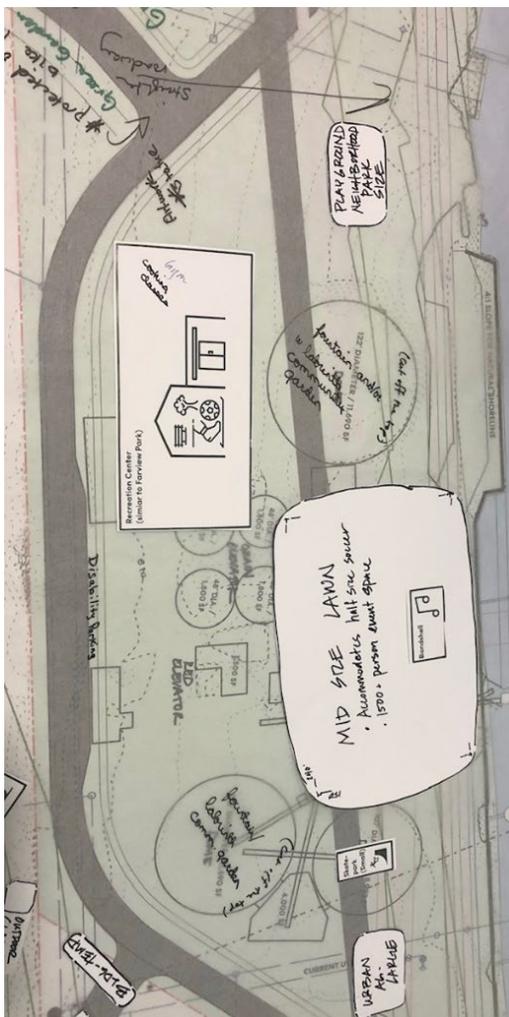
## Dowling entrance and experience:

- Lots of green and trees. Want a very green and beautiful experience.
- Want to see the river ASAP and have the entrance oriented toward the river.
- Keep a straight or direct route as much as possible
- Like the idea of cars moving through a plaza, rather than a traditional road feel. Look for creative ways to make it feel nice.
- trees, natural-feeling entry to the park area. Focal point art where road meets the park. Road at Dowling towards the river that doesn't feel like a traditional road, open with bollards, and protected bike lanes running up to Dowling.
- Like the goal of straightening Dowling entrance as much as possible and sending people directly to the river.

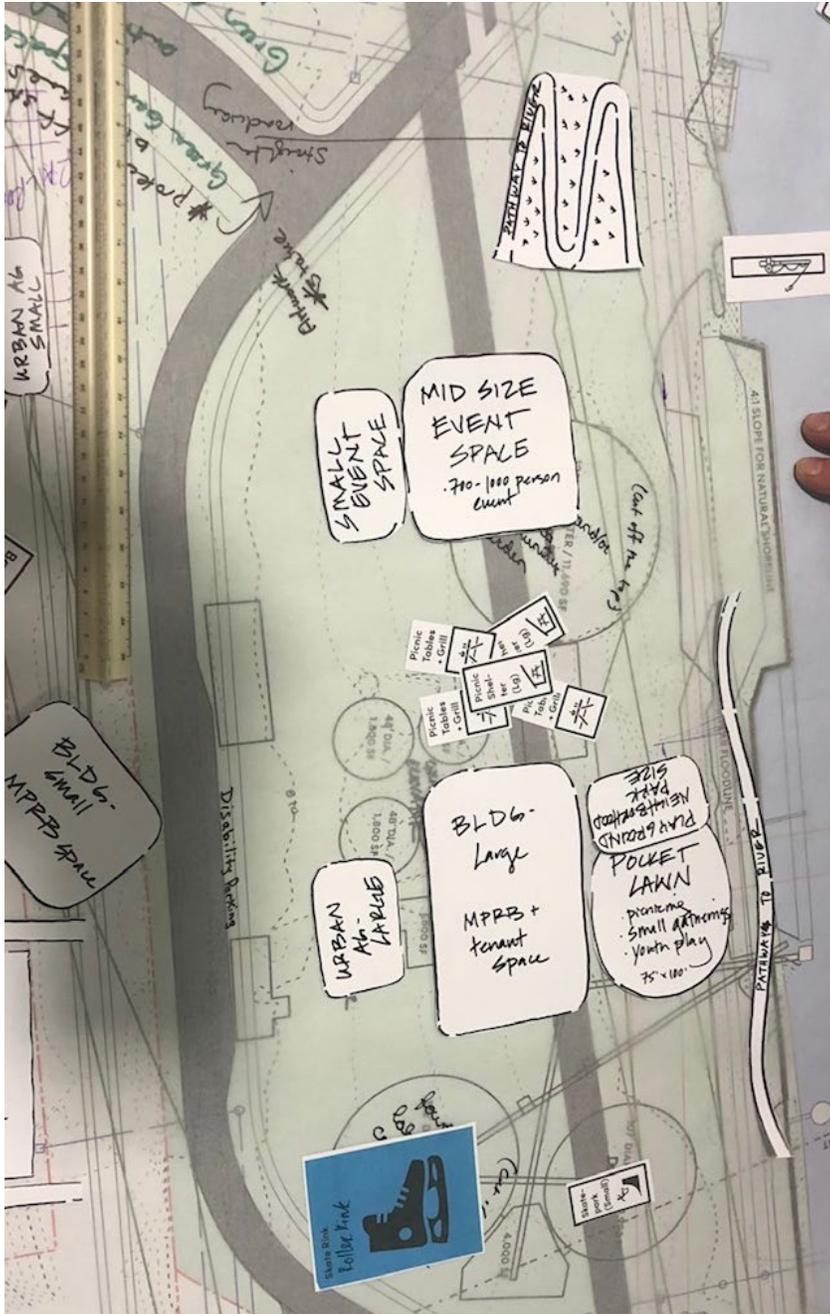
Layout in photo below (north is up): Dowling Avenue leading into the site is a green, tree lined corridor with protected bikeways. Dowling corridor is oriented toward the river as directly as possible. Artwork along the corridor defines the character of the route and the park. Dowling entrance is a plaza as well as a travelway. Park building to the north (incorporated into potential residential building) is large enough to accommodate a full recreation center.



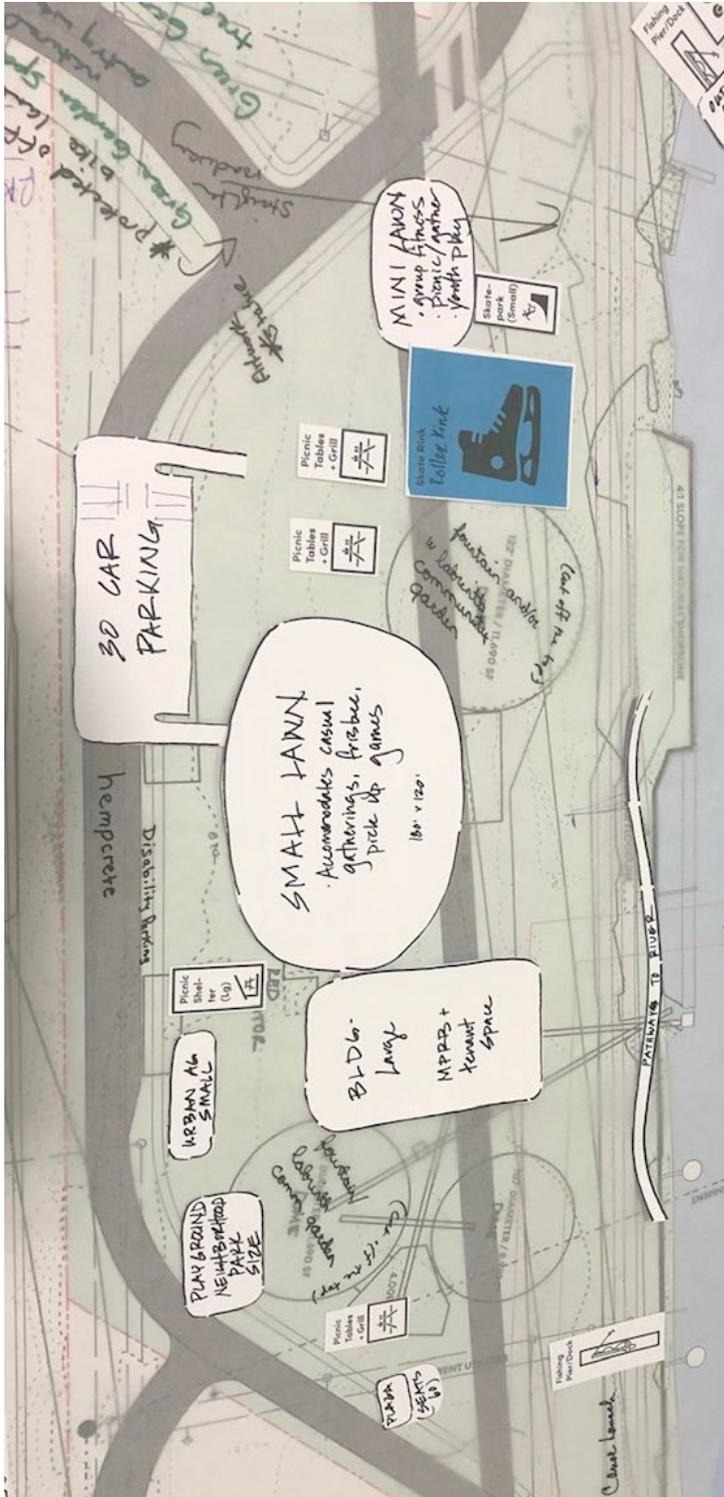
Group 4, Photo 1 adjacent layout (north is up): Building large enough to include a gym is north/centrally located near the parkway and below the Dowling Avenue entrance. Playground, community fountains/labyrinth and gardens near the building in a dome footprint. Mid-size lawn centrally located by the river. Skate park in southern dome footprint with more art, gardens, and urban ag.



Group 4, Photo 2, adjacent layout (north is up): Building large enough for MPRB staff and gym or partner user central to park. Pocket lawn and play areas toward the river. Picnic/grill areas north and adjacent to building. Pathway to the river and pier off of the end of Dowling Ave. Urban ag to west of building, roller rink / small skate park to the south.



Group 4, Photo 3, adjacent layout (north is up): Includes parking near parkway. Building large enough to accommodate MPRB staff and public space, and potentially a gym or another users central in park area, but far back enough from the river to allow for future restoration of ecological edge. Small lawn north of building with nearby picnic areas/grills. Small event space/lawn and roller rink or skate park areas near the end of Dowling Ave. Playground and picnic areas south of building.



Group 4, Photo 4 layout adjacent (north is up): Includes parking near parkway. Building large enough to accommodate MPRB staff and public space, and potentially a gym or another users central in park area, but far back enough from the river to allow for future restoration of ecological edge. Small lawn north of building with nearby picnic areas/grills. Small event space/lawn and roller rink or skate park areas near the end of Dowling Ave. Playground and picnic areas south of building.

#### Key Points from Group 4:

1. Lots of ideas involve programming and could happen on general and flexible spaces
2. Mixed feelings about dedicated sport spaces such as basketball courts, skate parks. Some desire to put into dome footprints.
3. Want a green, beautiful, natural, river-oriented experience
4. Park should support a variety of events – community festivals, music
5. Interconnected midsize and small event spaces (lawn and paved) used more than single, very large event spaces
6. People should be able to come and gather on their own: picnic and grill areas, lawn games
7. Building should be well connected to several areas that are supportive (parking, play, picnics)
8. Building should be centrally located
9. Dowling Avenue should be river oriented so people have a pleasant and green corridor and know they are going to the river.
10. Dowling Avenue should have activity near it so it's visible to people approaching
11. Dowling Avenue should be creatively designed to avoid feeling dominated by cars
12. Park should respect Indigenous community members wishes for the space, through art, language, history, and providing space for their preferred park activities

*Meeting adjourned after group exercises*