Upper Harbor Terminal Agenda

5:45   Optional Tech Support time

6:00   Welcome

6:05   Project update and discussion

6:20   Public comment

6:35   CAC discussion of park direction and recommendations

7:55   Next steps and adjourn at 8:00

Thank you

Technical support – call/text Francisca at 612-499-9074
DEVELOPMENT SCHEDULE

May - AUAR draft document 30 day review

July – AUAR revised document posted

September – Council adoption of AUAR

Fall/winter – Agency approvals of plans (development, public works infrastructure, park)

DEVELOPMENT AND PROJECT VARIABLES

2020 - AUAR may initiate changes – studies may show impacts to environment (including people), infrastructure, etc. Cost to mitigate negative impacts may make certain aspects of the project impractical.

2020-2022 - Future approvals – concept and layout approvals, permits etc.

2022 and beyond - Market changes, including construction and bidding environment
PREVIOUS PARK WORK

May 2020 – Draft Concepts

Change in approach:

Covid made engagement challenging

Process did not resonate

Focus on local investment, green jobs, programming, and staffing

Slow down and build in flexibility

Approach implementation differently
SUMMARY OF INPUT

Limited as we decided not to push engagement on draft concepts

**Key goals and attractions:** community spaces, family gatherings, education, nature, river

**Program:** activities, programming, large family gatherings

**Intensity:** very mixed, wanted to see several activities, also felt park was too busy

**Design:** no clear preferences, mixed level of interest

**Culture:** river, Black, Indigenous, Northside, ecology, let it grow

**Concerns:** safety, staffing, support, access, programming, benefits

Design discussion is the wrong focus at this time

Engagement process was not the right one
Park Direction Recommendations

#1  DO NOT PROCEED WITH PARK DEVELOPMENTS at this time

#2  PROCEED WITH CLEANING UP THE INDUSTRIAL SITE, RESTORING THE LAND, AND MINIMAL CIRCULATION COMMITMENTS but do not proceed with further park amenities

#3  BUILD JUST ENOUGH PARK TO ALLOW THE SITE TO SAFELY FUNCTION AS A PUBLIC PLACE AND SUPPORT DELIBERATE PROGRAMMING AND STAFFING.  Beyond basic improvements, focus on site clean-up and environmental restoration

These are fundamentally different directions the project could take
Park Detail Recommendations

*These recommendations are more detailed in nature and layer in among the other recommendations*

#4 SLOW DOWN park development and allow for park to evolve once more is known about adjacent development and how Northside community members are connecting with the park. It is premature to create a full concept plan until there is increased confidence that the park will serve American Descendants of Slavery (ADOS), Dakota, and Black, Indigenous, People of Color (BIPOC) residents

#5 MAXIMIZE COMMUNITY OPTIONS AND CONTROL over park development by investing only in basic, flexible, and generally reversible park improvements

#6 INVEST IN THE NORTHSIDE PEOPLE when building the park. Prioritize ADOS, Dakota, and BIPOC people when building working relationships and capacity

#7 PROGRAM AND STAFF the park to support and connect Northside residents and to build ownership in the park. Prioritize ADOS, Dakota, and BIPOC people when building working relationships and capacity

#8 ADDRESS LARGER ISSUES at MPRB that may be outside of the immediate UHT boundary, but impact work at this park and elsewhere in the system
Park Direction #1: Do Not Proceed with the Park Process

#1 DO NOT PROCEED WITH PARK DEVELOPMENTS at this time

1A. Developing a park now will advance the adjacent development and cause displacement or other negative impacts

1B. Premature to develop any park until more anti-displacement measures are in place.

1C. First offer the land back or leadership to Dakota people

1D. Restart park process to allow for Northside community leadership.

Investment at the wrong time, even in things people want and deserve, may be a greater problem than disinvestment.

The choice between degraded land or being priced out of a neighborhood is not a choice.

This would be a fundamental change in project direction and would need to come from the Board of Commissioners. Because the land is currently owned by the City, MPRB could make a request but the City would determine the outcome.
Park Direction #2: Clean-up and Restoration Only

#2 PROCEED WITH CLEANING UP THE INDUSTRIAL SITE, RESTORING THE LAND, AND MINIMAL CIRCULATION COMMITMENTS but do not proceed with further park amenities

2A. Proceed with land transaction from the City

2B. Maximize site clean-up – some industrial infrastructure will be future work

2C. Restore the land – maximum vegetation restoration

2D. Provide minimal circulation improvements

This would be a fundamental change in project direction and would need to come from the Board of Commissioners. Because the land is currently owned by the City, MPRB could recommend proceeding with the land transaction but the City would determine the outcome.
Park Direction #3: Just Green Enough

#3 BUILD JUST ENOUGH PARK to allow the site to safely function as a public place and support deliberate programming and staffing.

Beyond basic improvements, focus on site clean-up and environmental restoration

Domes and much of the industrial structures removed

Grain elevators repurposed for temporary storage or recycled water cisterns

Landscape mostly revegetated

50% Native Vegetation
Park Direction #3: Just Green Enough Park – Necessary Infrastructure

3C. Provide necessary infrastructure to support engagement at the park, as well as staffing and programming. Physical improvements should include staff space, storage, basic circulation, flexible accessible (paved) area, flexible green space, restrooms, site furnishings, public shelter, vegetation, and infrastructure for lights, water, parking, etc.

- Mobile buildings – indoor space, transit, shelter, restrooms, staff areas, storage, winter use
- Repurposed grain elevators – water recycling and storage
- Green infrastructure area – green houses, gardens, building, experimentation
- Infrastructure – parking, accessible circulation, lights, furnishings, railings, etc.
Park Direction #3: Just Green Enough Park – Basic Requested Experiences

3D. Physical improvements should be adequate and flexible enough to support commonly requested experiences such as picnicking, play, outdoor classes, informal events such as family gatherings, markets, performances, and other local events, individual use, and outdoor play.

Accessible water access for canoes and kayaks

Plaza - seating, events, markets, group fitness, performances

Lawn - athletics, picnics, group events, movies, performances, ceremonies

Picnic areas and play areas – along lawn and stormwater area allow for large or small groups. Also scattered along river.

Green infrastructure area – outdoor classroom and small event area

Stormwater and natural areas – gardens, outdoor classes, education, harvesting. Stormwater deters venue into park.
Park Operations – Construction and Design as Engagement and Investment

3F. Embed Black and Northside art and expression into the park

3G. Continue work with Dakota community members to acknowledge the land, create places for access, education, cultural practices

*This is the current project direction from the Board of Commissioners and staff is continuing work in this direction*
Future Park – Options and Commitment

What we’ve heard: there are too many unknowns to be sure of how this park will work. Plan for change where community members can have maximum flexibility and control.

Further structures could be removed with one grain elevator repurposed as a recycled water cistern

Green infrastructure area could be repurposed for sports or more plantings

Embed future commitments right into the park – murals and other art

Parcel 1B could be permanent park building space with adjacent plaza / landscape area

Plaza and lawn areas could be reshaped. Bandshell or larger performance area could be added.

Riverwall could be removed for ecological edge

Water access could be removed, moved, turned into a more permanent feature

Monitor air quality in the park – information available in real time
**Park Construction – Potential for Local Investment**

*What we heard: Having a park has limited benefits; Northside should get the money being spent*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Larger Industry opportunities</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Actively encourage BIPOC contractors to bid</td>
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<tr>
<td>Assist eligible contractors to become DBE and TMP* certified</td>
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<tr>
<td>Build connections between BIPOC and general contractors</td>
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<tr>
<td>Research existing BIPOC contractors and structure bids to be appropriately sized and scoped</td>
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<tr>
<td>Provide mentorship and training where opportunities exist for more BIPOC contractors</td>
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<tr>
<td>Blend construction with professional services to involve BIPOC contractors</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tailor construction to use local BIPOC produced materials</td>
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<tr>
<td>Hire MPRB youth teams to do appropriate construction work</td>
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<tr>
<td>Hire BIPOC organizations for work/learning days</td>
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<tr>
<td>Community volunteer/learning days</td>
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City Civil Rights and Procurement Departments assisting

Construct site furnishings from wood and build with Northside partners

Build outdoor shelters with Indigenous architecture

Hire local for building finishing work such as carpentry, painting, flooring

Partner with local growers to provide, nurture plants

Park itself is ecological adult and youth staff training, also serves public and other organizations

*DBE - Disadvantaged Business Enterprise*

*TMP - Target Market Program*
Summer 2021

What we found: People need longer term involvement and more collaboration in order to be comfortable shaping the park.

Summer 2021 / Experiment / Prototype / Engage

Indigenous architecture – explore with adult instructors and youth team through MPRB summer jobs program.

Local planting – Black and Indigenous farms help us grow better

Site furnishings – design and build prototypes of seating, tables, chairs, picnic tables, etc. test for a year

Summer 2022 / Full Construction

Shelters, planting, site furnishings, art, finishing work, people power and fitness, interpretation, language outdoor classrooms, signage, mentoring and apprenticeships
Park Direction Recommendations for Discussion

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#3  BUILD JUST ENOUGH PARK TO ALLOW THE SITE TO SAFELY FUNCTION AS A PUBLIC PLACE AND SUPPORT DELIBERATE PROGRAMMING AND STAFFING. Beyond basic improvements, focus on site clean-up and environmental restoration

6:20 – 6:35   Public Comment
6:35 – 7:10   CAC Member Round Robin #1
6:10 – 7:25   CAC Member Round Robin #2
7:25 – 7:35   CAC Member Check in on process
              – Vote?
7:35 – 7:55   CAC Member Check in on park direction OR CAC Member individual statements

Vanessa will flash 30 seconds left

Please do not write in chat while others are speaking