



The Most Livable
City in America

CITY OF SAINT PAUL
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PAYNE MARYLAND PROJECT COMMUNITY MEETING AUG. 24, 2011
GROUP FEEDBACK QUESTIONS TRANSCRIPTION

(Note: to view actual forms collected, see: [Group Feedback Forms](#))

1. What does your group agree they like most about the design (design elements, purpose, possibility or potential)?

- Openness of spaces, accessibility of spaces; i.e. open/common spaces - use of spaces even though other spaces are closed.
- It good as far as it goes; what about Phase II?
- Elevated walking track
- Having the library right there.
- Height is good (not too high).
- No church or funeral home or social service components - b/c it seems to serve the community in which it is set and not the whole City.
- Town square.
- Town square and green space.
- Outside and inside inviting.
- Multi-level, good functional, multi-purpose space.
- Rooms for community use.
- Square on Payne Ave. which will have many uses.
- Sandstone colored bricks-our history.
- 3 levels of fitness.
- Design of gym open to be seen.
- Maintaining outdoor field and young child playground.
- New/up-to-date spacious library.
- No parking ramp.
- Investment in a needed community.
- No swimming pool to heat.
- Multi-use building is great.
- Much better entry to neighborhood.
- Lots of small seating/meeting spaces.
- Children's area.
- Gym, running and fitness (it's about time!).
- Windows.



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- Center for changing lives as precedent - is it on public land?
- Appealing - one person said - but doesn't like the idea. I don't like it. It doesn't look like the neighborhood. It looks like it belongs in Maplewood. We don't like. Its pretty. Its modern. We will lose other recreation centers, the hardware store.
- A good location/good use of space.
- Beautiful design.
- Will there be a kitchen?
- Design team? interesting.
- Quality of materials - brick and glass.
- Basketball courts.
- Library.
- Flexibility of spaces for public use.

2. What challenge or problem do you see that may need to be addressed (unaddressed issue, need to take a 2nd look)?

- Is there going to be enough parking available and computers for community use?
- When were the three house/space removed from the plan? Will not this be ideal property?
- Parking - not enough and green features? Church (funeral home - does not belong who was the appraisal for property?)
- Parking, lighting, safety within the building (i.e. corridors, etc.).
- Parking/traffic.
- Will there be adequate parking?
- How park rec and library will coord./???
- Light on field/on building.
- Not enough gym space.
- No area that would interact w/ the fields - bathrooms (right by field), concession area, or warming room (if have ???) i.e. long walk to building.
- Concessions - area that opens out - kitchen.
- Is field big enough for football/soccer?
- Nice design but ... too modern - does not fit with the old style of Payne Ave.
- Commercial delivery trucks unloading?
- Is there enough parking?
- Only 1 basketball court? Need more basketball court space.
- Making sure there are different spaces/activities for different ages of kids.
- Will there be adequate staffing?
- Area for ping pong tables?
- Concern about so much glass (with shootings, etc.) that could be very expensive.
- Restrooms should be near library for safety.
- Mechanical room near meeting room = too loud to hear.
- When will be the next meeting?
- Surveillance cameras?
- Can we have solar lighting as much as possible?
- Are there kitchenettes?
- Are you looking at using "green" energy like solar power?
- LED construction (solar and garden)?
- Security (where is security desk, how will provisions be in place for vulnerable adults?).
- How will entrance accommodate ALL racial ethnicities to welcome all?
- Buildings too square (look @ Dale/University bldg.).
- Can we please look at adding a theatre/stage space? This would accommodate racial diversity

(hip hop, spoken word).

- Reminder of past poor investments - something needs to be done about this neighborhood – this is not the answer.
- Historical significance of Arlington Library cost “HPC” staff-non-presence.
- Purchase of existing, viable businesses or empty residential property (eg. Payne Reliever?).
- Renovate church vs. new church “reincarnation.”
- Need to address virtually no public support in neighborhood. Also the legality of the church’s involvement must be addressed. One person wanted more detail.
- \$ cost to run facility - monthly/annually?
- Payne Phalen neighborhood is mostly people of color: soccer, basketball, D Valley primary recreation for many young, 20%. Households without vehicle. How will the regional Payne Maryland Center?
- Closing the A.H. Carnegie Library/neighborhood not involved in this plan.
- Critical need for programming to engage community members of all ages. Staff specifically assigned for community programming.
- A fee structure yet to be revealed/usage priority.
- Need for clearly lit sidewalks from Greenbrier and Geranium.
- Stage and theatre/badminton.
- Landscaping of perennials along the Rose Ave. corridor.

3. What is your top priority question to have addressed tonight (the top priority question from this group)?

- Does the City have enough money to pull this off?
- The non-City partner have not met their part of project, land is being held for their benefit.
- Worried about lack of communication about the project - seems to be more behind the scenes stuff.
- Offset on Payne Ave. - how far/wide sidewalk?
- Can you dress it up? Too plain.
- Where is the money coming from?
- Can there be an opportunity for follow-up feedback once the design is changed/created based on the input tonight?
- What is the total cost of Phase I?
- Cost?
- Why are you paying more for the buildings than their assessed value during difficult financial times?
- How will existing plans work with Phase II?
- Easy access for all (bus, hours, socioeconomics).
- If the majority of the people here (an in previous surveys) don’t want this, will you push this project, esp. with borrowed \$!
- \$ has been allocated for renovation and repair one side - when will it be released and how can we know that?
- This has cost too much and all the money given to businesses that have moved has been excessive. Why has so much money been spent without adequate input from the neighborhood?
- Complete use of building. Who/times. Care of grounds.
- Could you include a homeless shelter? Why not.
- What will happen to hardware store?
- Crossed out - hardware store, membership fees? Kitchen for meeting rooms?

- Better security, groups of kids/homeless hanging around.
- Programming.
- Staffing.