

Payne Maryland Project Community Design Development Phase Presentation

December 8, 2011

Arlington Rec Center

Convener & Hosts: Saint Paul Parks and Recreation & St. Paul Public Library

(Verbatim Community Input from Cards distributed at the meeting).

Note: This list does not attribute comments to individuals. Many people put their names and local addresses on the comment cards. Some sections were left blank on many cards.

These comments represent 16 respondents. Notes were assembled by District Five.

Comments and feedback about the Building. Design and Exterior

I like the design. It is good to create something new, and I believe much thought has gone into the design. Could you have solar panels on the roofs?
I really do object to the name "Miracle Center" It needs to have an East Side related name, nothing that one single person has dreamed up.

Looks good – but as you know – controversial.

We don't need a fitness center. Do any fitness centers exist today??
Will the Rec Center Staff be able to see the playground? Need to see the view from the East!

I do not like the new design. We need to keep to old and not forget the past.
Don't forget what St. Paul is based on.

Collaboration is essential to the success of the project and program. Many families have issues/challenges that cannot be solved by one effort (Organization). "Collaboration" is not an add-on. It is a essential to the success of programs. What practical steps are being taken to assure that supportive services are available to all members of families? Some of the problems of working with youth are problems with their parents!! How can we work with the parents?

Should have first asked the residents what they wanted. Bad plan right from the start because of that. Who was contacted or informed about the focus groups?

LOVE the new design – thank you. Turn the volleyball court and make two or three! Love BIG windows – natural light is attractive.

Bridge between old and new – old people in the neighborhood may not be happy but this building has the potential to push the neighborhood forward, excite young people to move in here to stay – I see this modern building really having the potential to revitalize the Payne Maryland area as it is. A full historic look isn't what we need – this is what we need to get more people into this community.

Disappointed at the loss of 6000 Sq Ft. I do not understand how 6000 SF was “lost”. Yet the cost remains the same. In addition, the previous plans seemed larger than 45,000 plus 6,000 = 51,000 sq ft.

I think you need to pay more attention to the people who ACTUALLY live in the neighborhood and use the already existing buildings.

Just want to counterbalance some of the negative complaints. I thought this is ALL FABULOUS!

So now we've gone from 1st plans to a large ugly brick building! Just one story shorter. You can't have looked at other Payne Avenue buildings as stated. Still too modern looking, ugly and totally unimpressive, non-descript.

VERY NICE!

SEAL OF (OFF?) THE ALLEY

Comments or feedback about programming needs in our community. What do you like best about what you heard tonight?

Safety and Security
Lighting
Play areas staged by ages
Fitness Room
Brick patterns

Multiple meeting rooms.

The children's' area in the Library.

Not sure about the kitchen – it looks smaller
We can't close other rec centers on east side when this opens.
Reducing profile (of building) seems to be a good thing!
But how will Phase 2 look?

Need more info on senior programs, computers and libraries.

I like that you increased security and especially the lighting.

Library- Rec Centers working together – and other efficiencies. Every space seems to be multipurpose and is really well thought out.

It has potential.

Bob Schmidt is right. Done deal. Dog and pony show.

<p>What challenges do you see? What would you like to see more of in this project?</p>
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MORE ALLEY SEAL OFF

Are we losing the tax base?
I don't think we need a walking track.
Will this require adding city employees?
Where will kids go after football practice? Are toilets accessible?

Music opportunities/ classes

Art Classes

Comparing Phalen Rec to North Dale: I see an advantage to having a counter visible to the entrance in this design. I think it's much more welcoming to have it at the front. I would really like to see a performance space in the community room or somewhere.

Study and small group spaces.

SPPL only has 3 branches with study rooms and they are very heavily used. St. Paul need to increase the capacity of that kind of resource.

I am interested in seeing how this building uses and work with its impacts on storm water. I would like it to be educational in terms of helping people better understand how water moves. Can it be cleaned and make less of an impact on the local watershed? Here is an opportunity to create connections between the local water environment (Lake Phalen) and the neighborhoods potential to be stewards of this valuable local amenity.

I am concerned about the City's ability to staff this new building for the long hours some of us are hoping for. Especially night hours in the summer – kids need a safe place to go off the streets.

The fundamental challenge is a separation of church and state. Should an active church be supported with public funds? The decision to purchase the church site is not a constitutional challenge, however to co-mingle, support and promote the activities of organized religion is. I'm not sure if Emanuel /Lutheran and Arlington Lutheran are both ELCA. But I would suggest a buyout of Arlington Hills and suggest a merger of the 2 congregations.

It will attract more young thugs from neighborhood than we have now.

The "wrong" people accessing the project.

What else should planners know or consider as we move forward with this facility?

HOW ABOUT THE ALLEY? (Geranium resident who abuts the project area)

Long term maintenance is a concern.

Who will coordinate the room use?

What will Phase 2 look like?

The place needs to always be clean!

Please don't make this building look like it's trying to be an old historic building. It's new and fantastic – that is part of the appeal.

Go into the businesses – talk to businesses.

“Payne” (pain) has such a negative feel to it. “Miracle” reminds me of the Miracle of Birth Center at the State Fair. Why not keep it Arlington or a historical linkage. Event Maryland or Brooks would be better than Payne.

While there have been many meetings on the project, I don't feel that the issue is whether the community wants a community center, particularly at the sacrifice of neighborhood mediation centers.

What the other buildings in the area look like!

<p style="text-align: center;">What about the Carnegie Library? What might be the best new use for this asset in our neighborhood?</p>
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I know of at least two non-profits that work with middle school aged kids that are looking for more space. Community Design Center and Bolder Options. That would complement the Rec Center. Also a senior center.

Something that is still community based: a museum of St. Paul history maybe?

I heard that new library space won't be any larger than the current library – so WHY abandon the Carnegie library? Per responses tonight – hope it's larger!
How long will Carnegie Library sit vacant – ripe for vandalism?

Expanded homework help
Meeting rooms with tech support.
Quiet areas for teens to use.
Start educating parents here.
May be a senior center
Community services center
Rent to a business

Connect with people. Visit businesses on Payne.

I will BUY IT AT the right price. I am an investor on the East Side and know what to do with it. I also am a friend with a person rehabbing a Carnegie Library in Superior WI.

How would you like to be involved in the future?

I wish to be informed if there will be Bradshaw or Arlington Hills involvement?

Art center
Senior Center
Pre-school / Day Care
Merrick

What restrictions are involved in the transfer (re-using) of the facility.

A Senior Center with Adult Day Program.