# West Side Flats Community Open House Notes

What do you think about community identity?

* Integrated with west side and flow to the river (not like Riverplace!)
* Yes, integrated with west side!
* As a ‘green community” – space for local food production
* Flats is critical to west side “mood” and feel
* This is a great effort to help redefine the whole west side
* Can we add area west of Wabasha to this planning area
* A gem
* West side spilling down the bluff to water – recall the neighborhood that generated neighborhood house

What do you think about built form?

* A wider mix of styles. Not all the same.
* Taller buildings away from the river
* Not blocky and view blocking like condos on the other side of the river
* Can you leave space between the “blocks” so (3-4 stories) it doesn’t look like a wall?
* Green roofs with food production gardens, bee hives etc.
* Second previous statement
* Garden space/ urban agriculture space helps the third comment
* Grocery store
* Community scale agriculture (Raspberry Island?)

What do you think about land use?

* Mixed uses including parks, residential, live/work, light industrial, entertainment, grocery store(s), restaurants
* Community orchards in the parks! Community gardens and designated urban agriculture areas for food production – healthy, accessible, affordable food
* I would like to see a “Sea Salt” type of restaurant on Harriet or on a new planned promenade. It would stimulate all kinds of activities and good, plus be fun thing and destination
* Retain industrial uses and their jobs (good wages!)
* Community garden space to keep away from “massed building” look and other benefits

What do you think about the public realm?

* Riverfront is a great public resource
* Robert and Wabasha pedestrian friendly for elderly
* Urban forest? Why not fruit trees?
* Things to do that bring people in: bocce ball courts for leagues, ??, horseshoes
* Robert St. really needs to be beautified – see it as an asset and a main corridor have it look great – be friendly for parking, biking, walking, etc.
* Unique spaces w/ restaurant that enables people to relax and stay- outdoor restaurants of varying price ranges – carts to high end – I’d love to have a beer and chill out down there
* Public trail on XXX from Robert Street Bridge to GAP school

What do you think about movement?

* Love idea of bike – only corridors and shuttles to downtown
* Street cars to downtown
* Neighborhood shuttles to neighborhood destinations
* Shuttles/walkways for seniors/ handicapped acc.
* Beautify Robert – connect it stylistically + at least minimally w’ Robert in WSP
* Bike lanes into the west side
* Bike path GAP school atop XXX to Robert Street Bridge

What do you think about sustainability?

* How could solar power – and even hydro power – serve to power the west side – off the grid?
* Artists could design and make the functional amenities + streetlights, etc by working with Foundry and all the community needs can come from the area?
* Promote community orchards and gardens for food production – healthy, affordable, access
* Giving the river more room to be a river again
* State of the art stormwater ponding as part of industrial, commercial etc. development
* More community gardens – bring local people out and together
* Stormwater infiltration rather than runoff