



CITY OF SAINT PAUL

Mayor Christopher B. Coleman

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June 22, 2007

Harriet Island Phase II Design Task Force

Meeting Notes – June 18, 2007

Wellstone Center

Meeting Attendees:

Design Task Force: Steve Komula, Steve Howell, Peggy Lynch, Jim Smith, Gregory Page, Peter Kramer, Gjerry Berquist, Brian Joyce, Deb Williams and Kathleen Anglo

Community Members: Truman Howell, Jim McGowan, Howard and Lois Dahlgren

A. Kathleen Anglo of Parks and Recreation welcomed attendees. Attendee introductions.

B. Presentation of preliminary program

- Shoreline Restoration
 - Clean and maintain sand beach area
 - Replace asphalt/rubble shoreline
 - Determine if emergency river access is needed
 - Existing shoreline tree inventory (retain or remove?)
- Site Accessibility
 - Enhance access to the river and beach
 - Create trails to the western edge
 - Trail connection to existing trail on top of the levy
 - Continue Riverwalk
 - Provide safe access to park amenities
 - Lighting
- Site Enhancements
 - Capture views from picnic area
 - provide variety in spatial experience, from quiet contemplation to large picnic gatherings
 - site interpretive signage
 - enhance biofiltration plantings
 - preserve native plant materials and the implementation of new planting areas
 - enhance bird and wildlife habitat
 - enhance views to Harriet island
- Site Amenities
 - picnic area (tables and grills)
 - picnic pavilion in architectural style of other new buildings
 - site furnishings to be same character as phase I
 - possible additional restroom facility
 - additional benches and bike racks
- Sustainability and Maintenance



CAPRA Accreditation

AA-ADA-EEO Employer



National Gold Medal Award

- emphasize use of native and low maintenance plantings
- research opportunities for aesthetic and sustainable stormwater management
- use natural materials where possible
- incorporate signage describing native plant communities

C. Surrounding Land Use (Existing and Proposed)

- Harriet Island Phase I
 - Ohage Great Lawn, Target Stage, Renovated Pavilion, Levy Connection, Riverwalk
 - Completed in 2000
- Sam Morgan Regional Trail
 - 2 mile trail segment along north side of Mississippi River from Randolph to Sibley St.
 - Completed in 2003
- Upper Landing Park
 - 5 acre park completed in 2005
- Chestnut Plaza
 - Plaza with fountains, seating, arbor, terminus of Chestnut St. adjacent to Upper Landing Housing Development
 - Under construction 2007
- Raspberry Island
 - New parking, paths, shoreline restoration, restrooms, and landscaping
 - Under construction 2007
- Harriet Island Future Phase (to the west of the Upper Harbor Marina)
 - Possible parking expansion
 - Proposed clubhouse, trail head, service facility building located near Upper Harbor marina
 - Currently no funding for construction

D. Presentation of Site Analysis

- Shoreline
 - Remove rubble and asphalt
 - Preserve healthy trees
 - Camouflage emergency river access (remove metal grating)
- Wooded Peninsula
 - Clear understory of non-native plants and replace with native plants
 - Install signage indicating native plant materials
 - Maintain sand beach which is naturally protected from strong currents due to less slope to river, bend in river, and shoreline projection farther upstream
 - Provide permanent access to beach
 - Signage to discourage swimming
 - Opportunities for picnicking
- Open Area
 - Preserve large trees = shade
 - Capture river views
 - Best area for open air picnic pavilion due to flat, open space
 - Maintain recognition of Kelly's Landing
 - Remove existing gravel drive, divides site
- Trail Connection
 - Narrow pinch point between parking lot and slope down to Upper Harbor Marina

- Slope constraint going up the steep slope of the levy to connect to existing trail - trail needs to be ADA accessible
- Parking
 - Limited opportunity to expand the parking lot within the project limits
 - Constraints building over large storm sewer line
 - Funding has been allocated for 172 car parking lot on south side of levy (not part of this project)
- Circulation
 - Improve connections
 - Create a loop trail
 - Control vehicular access (use of bollards, planters, etc)
- Biofiltration Ponds
 - Enhance plantings
 - Provide interpretive signage
- Riverwalk
 - Need to separate pedestrians from vehicles
 - Great opportunity for overlook/terminus at bend in river

E. Discussion/Comments/Questions:

- Relocate Play Area
 - Too sunny in present location
 - Will research cost, feasibility
 - If relocation isn't feasible, could additional play equipment be installed by new picnic area?
- Restrooms in Picnic Pavilion
 - Lack of restrooms and location may be too far from existing restrooms
 - If nothing else, then a port-o-pottie enclosure
- Parking Issues
 - Use pervious materials
 - Remove parking from along the river
 - How many spaces could be gained within project limits?
- Safety and Lighting
 - Light trail for safety
 - Additional lighting will only contribute to light pollution
 - Will need to do a lighting study to balance safety and light pollution
 - Use fixtures that do not cast light into the night sky, direct light downward
- Signage
 - How Harriet Island relates to the whole "Great River Park" Master Plan
 - Bronze relief maps
- Art
 - Work with City's artist in residence, Marcus Young, to discover opportunities within design for public art
- Shoreline
 - Prefer non-rip rap shoreline to protect existing trees

F. Next Steps:

- Concept Design
- **Next Meeting:** Monday, August 20th 4:30 PM at Wellstone Center.
- **PLEASE REVIEW THESE NOTES AND CONTACT ME (651-266-6368) IF COMMENTS ARE INCORRECTLY NOTED OR MISSED COMPLETELY.**

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