MEETING #3

RICE PARK REVITALIZATION
Design Advisory Committee

March 3, 2015
3:00-5:00 pm
Saint Paul Parks and Recreation
MEETING GOAL

- Review and approve updated concept plan

- Committee to make final recommendations and suggestions for open house

- Review next steps for project
  *(Funding construction, phased installation, ongoing conversations)*
AGENDA

- Introductions
- Design Advisory Committee Role
- Recap and Follow up from Meeting #2
- Presentation of Concept Plan
- Rough Budget
- Priorities & Phasing
- Discussion
- Next Steps
Charge of the **Design Advisory Committee:**
- To provide input to the City of Saint Paul Parks and Recreation staff for the concept plan development for the revitalization of Rice Park

Role of the **Design Advisory Committee:**
- Define the community needs of the park site
- Review concept plans and provide input on proposed major design elements and park improvements
- Bring suggestions from area residents to the attention of the design team
- Help communicate project progress to community members
- Provide guidance to the Parks and Recreation design staff on the final design recommendations for this project
- Ensure that the full range of local issues are addressed during this design process

**How does the Design Advisory Committee process work?**
- Decisions for moving forward will be made by consensus.
- Design Advisory Committee meetings end after design development is complete and consensus has been reached for major project elements

*Design Advisory Committee process determines the direction of development and refinement of concept designs*
PROJECT INFORMATION

Project information is available to the public on the city website:

www.stpaul.gov/riceparkdesign
Meeting 1:
- Project Introduction
- Survey Results
- History
- Site Analysis
- Brainstorming/Discussion
- The top five items to change include garden plantings, added lighting, improved lawn area, pathways paving, and trees.

- The top three items in need of physical improvements include new seating, flower and shrub plantings, & lawn

- Results indicate adding gardens, more seating, food truck space for eating, and lighting are highly preferred.

- Comments indicate that the top issues to address include the homeless population, safety, lighting, circulation design, and change of seating.

- Results show the favorite aspect of Rice Park includes character of the park, the surrounding buildings, and the fountain.
Meeting 2:
Review of historical imagery
Design goals
Design process
Precedents
Presentation of design concepts
MEETING 2 : Design Goals

Project description:
Develop a concept plan for the phased improvements to Rice Park to revitalize this significant public space in Saint Paul located on the block bounded by Washington Street, 5th Street, 4th Street, and Market Street. The park is 1.6 acres.

GOAL 1: ENCLOSE
Preserve the sense of enclosure from the buildings as a significant historic feature of the park
- Selectively remove trees to preserve sightlines to buildings and maintain sense of enclosure

GOAL 2: INVITE
Create a welcoming and safe place for all users
- Reinforce entry points and edges
- Improve lighting and decrease hiding places by selectively removing trees

GOAL 3: UPGRADE
Improve infrastructure to support operation staff and programmed use of space
- Upgrade irrigation and electrical system for improved lawn and to accommodate events

GOAL 4: ACCOMODATE
Maintain space for large events but also provide space for small groups and ‘conversational seating’
- Provide seating for small groups to sit for lunch such as moveable tables and chairs

GOAL 5: CONSOLIDATE
Organize and limit the number of monuments and plaques on site
- Design a location for all significant plaques and historical signs
# Preliminary Budget

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Ongoing conversations:

1. Traffic calming along 5th
   - Bumpouts at corners for safe pedestrian crossings and concern for historic character
   - Other measures: paving, trees, stop sign

2. Homeless Population
   - Parks department to bring to the Design Center

3. Event needs and electrical upgrades

4. “Entice into Rice” Proposal by Lighting Artist Jeff Bartlett

5. Garden Club – Discussion of coordination of garden improvements and responsibilities

6. Funding
Next Steps:

*Open House* (public review):
Wednesday, April 8, 2015 – 5-7pm
Landmark Center