



CITY OF SAINT PAUL
Mayor Christopher B. Coleman

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**Lower Landing Park Renovation
Upper East Downtown Residents Meeting Notes
October 20, 2017 9am to 11am
Sibley Park Apartments-Community Room**

Attendees:

Kassim Busuri – Somali Youth Activist
Amina Hassan -Resident
Shushri Ali - Resident
Sehra Yusef - Resident
Maayen Svad- Resident
Lul Mohamoud Resident

Don Varney City of Saint Paul Parks
Bianca Paz City of Saint Paul Parks

Kassim Busuri, Somali Youth Activist, facilitated and provided translation at the meeting with the Somali Residents in Downtown Saint Paul. Don Varney and Bianca Paz presented a slide show with the project planning process and the two concepts for the park plan.

Items discussed:

1. Project Scope
2. Summary of past meeting
3. Development of Two Concepts:
Trail and Nature Oriented Program
Active Recreation Program
4. Discussion and Comments.

The following are the observations and comments made by the meeting attendees:

General Comments;

- Families love living in this neighborhood. They feel safe. Some have been lived here for 14 years or more.
- There are many families living in the building and around that area and they often have 3 to 5 kids.
- They would like to have access to more activities for the children.
- They mentioned they need more active recreational activities for their children especially teenagers.



- Kassim, based on his experience working with youth, suggested that having basketball courts at this location is a great idea because there is no residences in the proximity that would be affected by noise and it would allow kids to play until late hours. This is something that is not allowed in residential neighborhoods.
- Kids like to play soccer and basketball at Wacouta Commons. They would like to have more room for these activities near their homes.
- Some moms expressed concerns about the proximity to the river at Lower Landing. They fear the kids could fall in the river. They would like to see some type of protection or barrier to prevent kids running in the river.
- They expressed concern about seeing dog poop around kids play area at Wacouta Commons Park. They prefer not to have a dog park close to the play area.
- They were grateful to have this meeting with the City of Saint Paul Park staff. This was the first time they have been approached by the City representatives. They showed interest in having another meeting with City Staff where they can invite more residents to see Lower Landing Plans and discuss other community needs in Downtown.