



CITY OF SAINT PAUL  
Mayor Melvin Carter

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## MEETING NOTES

### Indian Mounds Regional Park Cultural Landscape Study and Interpretive Plan Community Engagement Event 2

**MEETING DATE:** December 12, 2018 - 5 -7pm

**LOCATION:** Marian Center of Saint Paul, Parkview Room (200 Earl Street)

**ATTENDING:**

Ward 7: Jane Prince, Councilmember; Stephanie Harr. Legislative Aide  
Corrine Bauer  
Rebecca Nelson  
Marjorie Otto  
Kathie Madwig  
Luke Lasecke  
Clarissa Lasecke  
Marjorie Pitz  
Sheri Riemers  
Richard Janke  
Patrick Hill  
Barry Frantum  
Holly Windingstad  
Louis Perez  
Sky Lamont  
Carol Sommers  
Tom LaBlanc  
Brett Hussong, City of Saint Paul Parks & Rec  
Angie Tillges, City of Saint Paul Parks & Rec  
Karin Misiewikz, City of Saint Paul Parks & Rec

**Project Team Members:**

Bianca Paz, City of Saint Paul Parks  
Ellen Stewart, City of Saint Paul Parks  
Brenda Williams, Quinn Evans  
Shelby Scharen, Quinn Evans  
Mona Smith, Allies, LLC  
Maura Rockcastle, TenxTen

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#### Introductions (All)

**Introduction to Meeting** (Brenda Williams)

- BW welcomed the group and summarized the PAT meeting for the community
- The group watched “All We Are is Story” video: <https://vimeo.com/215053067>

**History of Physical Changes** (Shelby Scharen)

- Description of the physical landscape and how it was modified
  - o Mound construction and appearance of the landscape
  - o Archeological investigations and destruction of the mounds; transformation

of the place into a public park, and later changes to the park (roads, buildings, playground, etc.)

18 December 2018

Page 2 of 3

### **Trail Project Update** (Brett Hussong)

- Description of parallel project for the trail reconstruction (and realignment)
- Trail to be built this summer

### **Draft Project Vision** (All)

· The group brainstormed a project vision statement to guide the decision-making process for the project.

· The vision statement will be a one-sentence statement describing the clear and inspirational long-term desired outcome of this project.

· The group put forth the below items as potential ingredients in the vision statement:

#### o Protect and Respect the Place

- ❖ Give this place the respect it deserves
- ❖ The whole bluff/ area is sacred – not just “over there” (TB)
- ❖ Holy place – Wakan Tipi
- ❖ Develop respect for the land
  
- ❖ Educate and Teach Protocols
- ❖ Opportunities to educate neighbors – teach things didn’t learn inschool
- ❖ Teach others how to be respectful
- ❖ Education – needs to happen in school; bring this into the park (signage or digital)
- ❖ Integrate Neighbor Concerns
- ❖ Protect this place as a park/ protect neighbors rights too
- ❖ Respect secular uses of the park
- ❖ Importance of Water/ High Point / Connections to Natural Surroundings
- ❖ Significant connection to water, high point – earth water air (mind,body, spirit). Spiritual significance to this place. Opportunity to learn/experience this connectedness –starting point of a body
- ❖ Imensia ska – white cliffs/rocks
- ❖ Use by Indigenous People
- ❖ Time for people to use the park, unmolested. Need place to call home. Assert Dakota influence. No place to bury dead. Provide dignity
- ❖ Place of reverence – appreciate water, air, earth and people who call it home
- ❖ Ceremonial, correct past actions, honor and respect where you are at; peaceful ceremonies –red rock
- ❖ Repatriation of remains
- ❖ Need place for peaceful ceremonies – not a tourist attraction; need privacy; need changes to permitting process

#### o Use by All

- ❖ Other citizens should still feel comfortable using the park
- ❖ Let all residents enjoy the park

#### o Name/Language

- ❖ Shared land – see “park” erased, think of this place differently so
- ❖ we treat it differently. Be visionary. Communal, belongs to all
- ❖ people. Sanctuary
- ❖ Bureaucratic language; careful with language- would name change
- ❖ effect funding? (protections would still be there)
- ❖ Mni Sota Makoche

#### o Physical Conditions of the Landscape

Don’t want anything else added – no more buildings, no more

- ❖ cement; want to connect with Ancients
- ❖ Limit/remove paved roads- come in and walk; need to control
- ❖ traffic; river as freeway, need to get back to that
- ❖ Park needs caretakers – grow things, take care of trails
- ❖ Parking areas provide place for disrespectful activities; closing road/parking at certain times, at night
- ❖ Adding more trails could also be disrespectful; still want to use the
- ❖ park but no additional structures; removing trail next to moundwould be good
- ❖ Trails – use natural materials, or not paved; permeable pavement

- ❖ Expanding trails isn't always good
- ❖ Keep existing facilities but don't add any new structures/buildings

o Safety

- ❖ More police protection
- ❖ Need to limit traffic (vehicular)

· Following the meeting, the team drafted this statement to reflect the guidance from the PAT and CEE. We will continue to review and refine at the next meeting.

*o Develop a plan for the future of the landscape that is guided by **MitakuyeOwasin** reflecting the interconnectedness of people, land, water, sky, animals, and plants, to provide a place for reverence, remembrance, reconciliation, healing in a way that protects, honors, and recognizes the sacredness of the place.*

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