



MEETING NOTES

CITY OF SAINT PAUL

MEETING DATE: September 13, 2017

LOCATION: Nova Classical Academy

ATTENDING: Kent Petterson, Bob Fossum, Britta Gelden, Karin Misiewicz, JoAnna Craighead, Nikki Schlepp, Walter Eshenaur, Ellen Stewart, Kathy Hoffmann, Jim & Vicki Barnes

NOTES BY: Brett Hussong, Nikki Schlepp, Walter Eshenaur September 26, 2017

DISCUSSION TOPICS:

Brett opened up the meeting and highlighted meeting agenda.

- Meeting Goal: To receive feedback from the community regarding the proposed Stormwater Feasibility Study Concept Plan and proposed supporting stormwater system.
- Project Goals:
 - Provide a unique stormwater feature that celebrates stormwater as a park amenity.
 - Determine future stormwater needs and capacity onsite.
 - Create a stormwater amenity that is safe for human interaction.
 - Determine stormwater system costs and future maintenance needs.
 - Advance concept to guide future implementation and assist with state and local grant applications.

Recap of Master Plan by Brett.

- Brett presented the approved 2013 Victoria Park Master Plan and reviewed the community's priority items completed to date:

Priority Projects	Project Phase
○ <i>Internal park trail system</i>	<i>Complete</i>
○ <i>Picnic shelter/restrooms - north side</i>	<i>Planning</i>
○ <i>Play area - north side</i>	<i>Planning</i>
○ <i>Picnic shelter/restrooms - south side</i>	<i>Design</i>
○ <i>Multi-use athletic field</i>	<i>Planning</i>
○ <i>Play area - south side</i>	<i>Design</i>
○ <i>External trail connections</i>	<i>Planning</i>
○ <i>Boardwalk in wetland</i>	<i>Planning</i>
○ <i>Mown turf open space</i>	<i>In progress</i>
○ <i>Bird habitat</i>	<i>In progress</i>
○ <i>Recirculating water feature</i>	<i>Planning</i>
○ <i>Shepard Road overlook</i>	<i>Complete</i>
○ <i>Invasive plant management</i>	<i>Complete</i>
○ <i>Community gardens</i>	<i>Planning</i>
○ <i>Amphitheater</i>	<i>Planning</i>

- *Fishing pier and shoreline enhancements* *Planning*
- *Historic quarry/interpretive opportunity* *Planning*
- *Public art* *Planning*
- *Bread oven* *Planning*
- Brett presented other work completed onsite:
 - Shared use parking lot installed on north side
 - Victoria Park Apartments completed.
 - Monitoring wells capped and remediation pump house removed.
 - Berms, native seeding, native trees and Shepard road overlook completed on south side.
 - Stewart Avenue Expansion and internal park trail substantially complete.
 - Universal play area project on south side is beginning final design.

Presentation of proposed Stormwater Feature concept by Nikki & Walter.

Nikki presented the concept plan, sections and precedent images.

- Concept plan is a refinement of the approved master plan.
- Concept plan is comprised of a series of interactive water experiences including:
 - Entry Plaza:
 - Raised vegetated pools
 - Meandering runnel system
 - Meandering stream with integrated natural play:
 - Series of small (up to six inch) cascades
 - Open water feature with zero depth entry
 - “The Confluence”
 - Approximately a three-foot cascade into treatment train below
 - Point where recirculated water meets treated stormwater
 - Braided stream channel
 - Stream designed to mimic natural meandering stream
 - Limestone bluff steps and vegetated stream banks
 - Wetland with boardwalk and overlooks
- Stormwater treatment is moved to the northeast closer to shared parking lot. Stormwater would be piped to a “treatment train” system with a series of three basins to clean stormwater.
- Restroom and picnic areas were combined into one building.
- Amphitheater is now centrally located.
- Community Gardens were relocated near the railroad tracks.
- Play area proposed as a nature base play area to relate to natural environment.
- Athletic fields, western parking lot, wetland with boardwalk, and circulation to remain similar to master plan.

Walter presented the stormwater circulation plan.

- Currently, stormwater is collected from adjacent streets flows onsite via a swale into an infiltration pond. In the new concept, this stormwater runoff would be collected into a pipe running parallel with Victoria Way with its outlet at the start of the “treatment train”. Stormwater runoff from the 80 stall shared-use parking lot would outlet into the start of

the treatment train as well.

- Stormwater would flow through a series of three natural treatment basins. The first, a forebay, would typically be wet basin and trap the most sediment. The second, would typically be a dry pond that would act as a filtration area. The third, would be a vegetated basin to provide additional cleansing and filtration. As the stormwater moves from basin to basin, it would pass through a medium (sand and/or biochar) that would further filter the stormwater so each successive basin would be cleaner than the first.
- Treated stormwater would meet the recirculated water at the “Confluence” point and travel down the braided stream channel to the wetland.
- Treated water would be recirculated and pumped from the wetland back to the Entry Plaza at the corner of Victoria Way and Adrian to provide a continuous wet stream and interactive water experience through the site.

Questions/Comments:

- How is the plan solving the issue of excess water onsite and should it consider more storage onsite and closed system? *Answer: The system was already designed with an overflow basin at the wetland and it was approved by the watershed district. The team will look into additional site storage.*
- Is there enough parking when entire master plan is fully built and should we conduct a parking study? *Answer: The City is pursuing agreements with local businesses to provide overflow parking on the weekends.*
- Will the turf on the athletic field be natural or artificial? *Answer: This project is focused on the Stormwater Feasibility Study and not the athletic field. That will be determined during a different project phase. Due to the projected high use of the athletic field it would most likely need to be artificial turf to be sustainable. As determined during the master planning process, there will be further discussion with the community regarding the plans for the fields.*
- Will the pathways and associated stream “bridges” be ADA compliant? *Answer: All pathways and trails need to be ADA compliant. Detail design and materiality of these spaces will happen in a further final design phase that is not included as part of this feasibility study.*
- Does the wetland contain enough water to keep the recirculation system operating? *Answer: Yes, the wetland contains more than enough water to feed the recirculation system. It will also be replenished during rainfall events.*
- What are the next steps? *Answer: The project team will refine the stormwater concept plan based upon the public meeting comments. We’ll present the final study to the CRWD Board of Managers in December 2017 (date TBD). The team will conduct a preliminary environment review, cost estimate, and operations/maintenance plan.*

Tentative Schedule

July 2017: ~~Project Kickoff~~
August 2017: ~~½ day design charrette~~
September 2017: ~~Design Advisory Committee/Community Meeting~~
September: 2017: 30% Conceptual Level Drawings
October 2017: Conduct Preliminary Environmental Review (State & Local)

October 2017: 90% Conceptual Level Drawings/ Preliminary Construction Drawings
November 2017: Final Drawings/ Estimate of Probable Cost/ Annual O&M costs
December 2017: CRWD Board of Managers Presentation (Open to Public)

Brett Hussong and Nikki Schlepp thanked everyone for coming. Stated that next step is to refine the concept plan and for plan to go before Capitol Region Watershed District Board of Managers for comment in December 2017.

Please contact Brett Hussong at 612-210-7195 if any items are missing from the meeting notes or items were listed incorrectly.