



The Most
Livable City
in America



SAINT PAUL COMPREHENSIVE PLAN 2040

Heritage Preservation Commission

March 9, 2017

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SPACES

Today's Presentation

- Comprehensive Plan Update process
- Overview of existing chapter
- Community engagement – what have we heard to date?
- Next steps

SAINT PAUL COMPREHENSIVE PLAN 2040

A little bit about the Plan

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- A vision or “blueprint” for guiding future development through 2040
- Focus on the built environment of land, streets, buildings, and the infrastructure that supports them
- Implemented through:
 - ✓ Zoning regulations
 - ✓ Public capital investments
 - ✓ Selective financing of private development

CHAPTERS OF THE PLAN

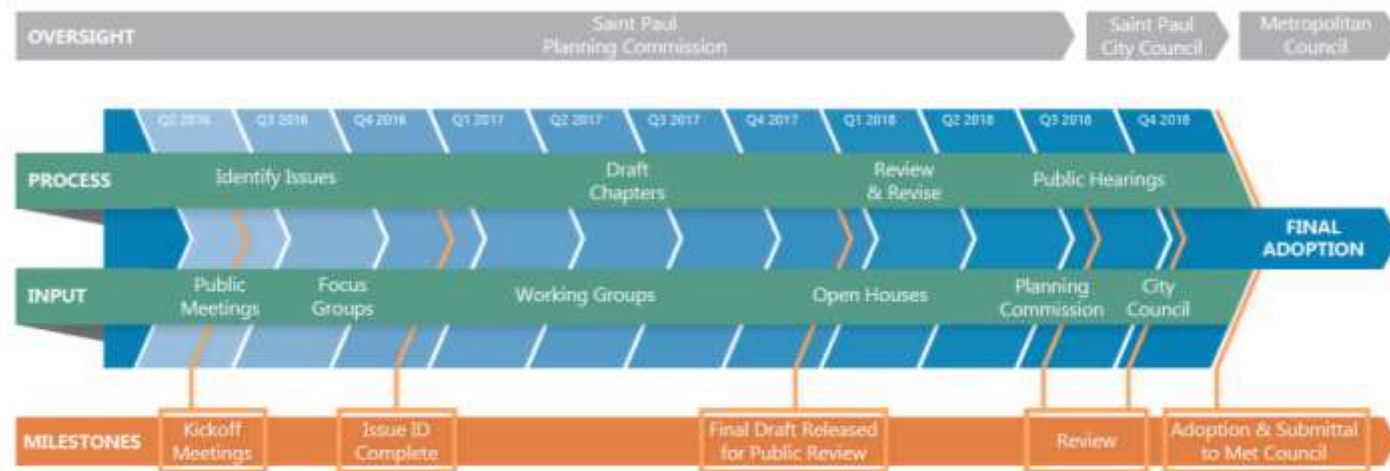
- *Transportation*
- *Parks and Recreation*
- *Housing*
- *Historic Preservation*
- *Land Use*
- *Water Resources*

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Timeline

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COMPREHENSIVE PLAN 2040 PROCESS



CHALLENGES & OPPORTUNITIES FOR THE FUTURE

- **Equity** – reducing racial disparities in jobs, income, home ownership
- **Growth & density** – infill development, resistance to density in fully- developed neighborhoods
- **Economic development** – increased focus on creating jobs
- **Large redevelopment sites** – Ford, Snelling-Midway (soccer), West Side Flats
- **Climate change** – resiliency and reducing carbon footprint
- **Designing a city for all ages** – especially aging baby boomers
- **Fostering the next generation** – future labor force
- **New technologies** – impact on development patterns

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Historic Preservation Chapter today

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- First-ever for Saint Paul
- Official policy as part of the Comprehensive Plan adopted in 2010
- State law requires a provision for protecting historic sites in the plan
- The 106 Group served as the consultant alongside a Planning Commission-appointed 17-member task force, working with a cross-disciplinary core team.



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Historic Preservation Chapter today

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Key Trends 2007-2010:

- Broadened definition of preservation
- Increased focus on sustainability
- Increased awareness of our place in history
- Awareness of economic development as a key tool
- Awareness of the city's role in education

Facts:

- Seventy one (71) pages
- Seven (7) strategies with
- Seventy (70) policies
- Most policies' topics are relevant, may need evaluation of the "methods"
- Very thorough

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Historic Preservation Chapter Values

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- **Social/Quality of life**
- **Economic**
 - Revitalized downtowns
 - Stimulates economic development
 - Resource conservation
 - Heritage tourism
 - Creates jobs/incubator for small business
 - Brings properties back on the tax rolls
- **Aesthetic**
 - Community character vs. “Generica”
 - Sense of time and place
 - Connect past with present
 - Connect people of today with those whom have come before
- **Environmental Sustainability**
 - “The greenest building is the one that is already built.” – Karl Elefante



Potential changes

- Better “integrate” HP into all levels of planning
- Include foundational basis for strategies
- Establish priorities
- “Workplan” → “Visionary policy”
- Revisit method of incorporation of legal and policy appendix

In other words:

- Simplify
- Make it more timeless
- Improve our ability to implement



COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

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- ✓ Meetings with district councils, community-based organizations, etc.
- ✓ Community events – Safe Summer Nights, National Night Out, Frogtown Farm, etc.
- ✓ Pop-up meetings
- ✓ Social media - Open Saint Paul, Facebook, Twitter
- ✓ General community meetings at key points in the process

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT TO-DATE

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- More than 1700 people
- 35+ events – e.g. kick-off meetings, district council board meetings, interest groups, pop-up meetings, Safe Summer Nights, Frogtown Farms grand opening
- Focus groups re: embedded issues (aging in community, access to food, community health, sustainability, equity)
- Good representation across the city
- Age, race diversity reflective of city-wide demographics
- Councilmember briefings
- Comprehensive Planning Committee

WHAT WE'VE ASKED

Visioning questions

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- What places in Saint Paul have the most potential to be great in 20 years?
- What would you change about your neighborhood, community or city?
- What do you cherish about your neighborhood, community or city?
- What BIG or little idea do you have for Saint Paul?
- What do the principles of stewardship, prosperity, equity, livability, and sustainability mean for you/Saint Paul?

WHAT WE'VE HEARD

Themes and Priorities

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- **Livability and equity**
- **Parks and open space**
- **Sense of community**
- **Public safety**
- **Road safety for non-vehicles**
- **Invest in people**
- **Jobs**
- **Quality affordable housing**
- **Saint Paul is full of opportunity sites**

WHAT WE'VE HEARD

Historic Preservation

- **Most HPC-coded comments came from events in:**
 - Payne-Phalen (District 5)
 - Thomas-Dale/Frogtown (District 7)
 - Summit-University (District 8)
 - Capitol River Council (District 17)
- **Most HPC-coded comments aligned with values around:**
 - Public art and urban design
 - Economic development
 - Equity
 - Age/ability-friendly and walkability
 - Community engagement



WHAT WE'VE HEARD

Historic Preservation

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➤ Ideas:

- Preservation and expansion of housing in Railroad Island
- Minimize tear-downs
- Preserve history of the Rondo neighborhood
- Modernize the city without losing history/historic charm
- Provide funding for rehabilitation of historic homes
- Maintain affordability in historically affordable neighborhoods
- Lid over I-94

NEXT STEPS FOR ENGAGEMENT

Near term:

- **Advocacy groups & experts**
 - E.g. Historic Saint Paul; MnDOT staff, Business Review Council
- **Focus groups**
 - E.g. Affordable housing

Longer term:

- **Open houses, public hearings, and outreach for the draft p**
- **Complete draft by end of 2017, adoption process in 2018**

NEXT STEPS FOR CHAPTER DEVELOPMENT

Near term:

- **Staff teams meet monthly**
 - **Homework each month**
 - **Draft due to Comprehensive Planning Committee in September**

Longer term:

- **Complete draft by end of 2017**
- **Open houses, public hearings, and outreach for the draft plan**
- **Full adoption process in 2018**

KEEP IN TOUCH AND HAVE YOUR SAY!
Visit the project website and sign up for updates

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stpaul.gov/SaintPaul4All

- Learn about Plan activities
- Sign up for e-mail updates

stpaul.gov/OpenSaintPaul

- Review past feedback and look for future questions

