



CITY OF SAINT PAUL
Christopher B. Coleman, Mayor

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To: Planning Commission
From: Neighborhood Planning Committee
Date: August 24, 2016
RE: Union Park Community Plan (District13)

On August 5, 2016, the Planning Commission held a public hearing on the Union Park Community Plan. (A copy of the draft District Plan is available at https://www.stpaul.gov/sites/default/files/Media%20Root/Planning%20%26%20Economic%20Development/UPDC_District_Plan_5-8-16.pdf.) Julie Reiter, Executive Director of Union Park Community Council (District13), spoke at the meeting and was available for questions. No other testimony was received. The public record was left open for written testimony until 4:30 pm on Monday, August 8, 2016. No letters or emails were received.

The draft plan was reviewed by the Heritage Preservation Commission on June 23rd and the Transportation Committee on June 27th.

Committee Recommendation:

The Neighborhood Planning Committee recommends that the Planning Commission approve the attached draft resolution recommending approval of the Union Park Community Plan, as amended, and forward it to the Mayor and City Council for their consideration.

city of saint paul
planning commission resolution
file number _____
date _____

Resolution to Recommend Adoption of the *Union Park Community Plan*
as an Addendum to the Saint Paul Comprehensive Plan

WHEREAS, the *Union Park Community Plan* was created by the Union Park District Council through a community-based process over the past several years; and

WHEREAS, the Union Park District Council adopted a draft of the Plan November 4, 2105; and

WHEREAS, the *Union Park Community Plan* outlines priorities and guiding policies for the District 13 planning district in the areas of land use and economic development, transportation, parks and recreation, housing, natural resources and the environment, and historic preservation; and

WHEREAS, the Saint Paul Heritage Preservation Commission recommended adoption of the *Union Park Community Plan*, subject to certain modifications; and

WHEREAS, the Transportation Committee of the Planning Commission reviewed and commented on the *Union Park Community Plan*; and

WHEREAS, the Saint Paul Planning Commission held a public hearing on the *Union Park Community Plan* on August 5, 2016; and

WHEREAS, the Neighborhood Planning Committee of the Saint Paul Planning Commission reviewed public testimony and the recommendations of the Heritage Preservation Commission and comments from the Transportation Committee, and amended the *Union Park Community Plan* to reflect its consideration of the testimony, recommendations, and comments; and

WHEREAS, the Saint Paul Planning Commission is authorized under Minnesota Statutes Section 462.355(2) and Chapter 107 of the Saint Paul Administrative Code to recommend to the Mayor and City Council amendments to the comprehensive plan; and

WHEREAS, the Saint Paul Planning Commission finds the *Union Park Community Plan* to be consistent with the Saint Paul Comprehensive Plan;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Saint Paul Planning Commission recommends adoption of the *Union Park Community Plan* as an addendum to the Saint Paul Comprehensive Plan subject to review and approval by the Metropolitan Council, and replacing all three of the previous plans: Lex-Ham Tomorrow Plan adopted in 2000; Merriam Park Community Plan adopted in 2003; and Snelling Hamline Community Plan adopted in 2007.

moved by _____
seconded by _____

Saint Paul Planning Commission

Resolution _____

in favor _____

against _____

Union Park Community Plan

Proposed Amendments and Analysis

1. Staff recommends incorporating all of the HPC recommendations contained in its June 23, 2106 resolution regarding the Union Park Community Plan.
2. Staff recommends the following minor typos corrections.

Page 9 Transportation Objective

T1.6 Promote measures to improve the pedestrian experience on bridges over I-94, through improved lighting, safer sidewalks, and other measures in conformance with the Saint Paul bridge design standards.

Page 13 Parks and Recreation Strategy

The following Transportation strategy was accidentally repeated in the Parks and Recreation section of the plan and should be deleted. Since it is being deleted here, the numbering of subsequent strategies is impacted and requires correction.

PR3. *Support development of new parks and green spaces.*

~~T3.1 Support efforts by the City of Saint Paul and other organizations to develop and implement a citywide pedestrian plan.~~

PR3.~~12~~ Encourage the maintenance of public spaces by residents, including the Oxcart Garden and the small green space at the southwest corner of Snelling and Concordia Avenues.

PR3.~~23~~ Promote community development of pocket parks using environmental design strategies to enhance the safety and usability of underutilized parcels, including the northwest corner of Snelling and St. Anthony Avenues and the northeast corner of Snelling and Marshall Avenues.

PR3.~~34~~ Identify an existing or new park space to carry the name “Union Park.”

PR3	Support the development of new parks and greenspaces.	UPDC, PR, PED, PW, MnDOT Landscape Team, private partners	3.1 Ongoing 3.12 Short term 3.23 Ongoing 3.34 Short term
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Page 23 Historic Preservation

History provides perspective and enriches the experience of living in our neighborhoods. When history connects people, it provides a sense of community, promotes neighborhood investment, and shapes future housing and development.

3. The draft plan contains neighborhood demographics and appendices. When the Neighborhood Planning Committee reviewed the plan it talked about whether district plans typically contain demographics and appendices. A quick review of the district plans reveals that one other district plan contains demographics and three district plans have appendices. *Staff recommends no change to the draft plan.*

4. The Neighborhood Planning Committee discussed the plan's cover photo and suggested a higher resolution image be used. *Staff will work to use a higher resolution image when the final plan is produced.*

5. The Transportation Committee talked about adding a map showing transit routes in the neighborhood but no formal recommendation was made. Staff consulted with Union Park staff who indicated they do not think they are prepared to include maps at this point, especially with digital resources so readily available for any reader who would like to refer to visuals. *Staff recommends no change to the plan.*