



Date of Board P+C: 05/19/2021

*Please fill out this form if your project, program, or initiative includes community engagement beyond the "Inform" level. All Community Engagement Plans should be filed as Petitions and Communications with the MPRB Board of Commissioners and submitted to the MPRB Engagement Portal on SharePoint*

**Staff Lead:** Siciid Ali

**Department or Division:** Planning Division

**Project Name:** Corcoran Park Improvements

**Engagement Level:** Consult

---

This plan serves as a guide for the community engagement process for the *Corcoran Park Improvements*. The plan may be modified as circumstance warrants during project duration. Substantial modifications are to be communicated to stakeholders and the MPRB Board of Commissioners.

As required by the Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board Community Engagement Policy, this project requires a Community Engagement Plan because the project falls under the *consult* category of community engagement for which MPRB is required to obtain stakeholder feedback on project, initiative, or program analysis, alternatives, or decisions. This CE Plan was used with a GARE Racial Equity Tool Kit framework.

**Key Stakeholders should be engaged in the creation of this plan. This is to be filled out before the CE Plan is submitted to the Board as a P+C. Please explain how they were engaged:**

Corcoran Neighborhood Association were provided the opportunity to comment on the Draft CE Plan prior to and concurrent with the plan's submittal to the Board of Commissioners, and prior to initiation of community engagement activities.

**1. Project Description**

**1a. Project Overview:**

The Project will focus on building phase 1 of the Corcoran Park Master Plan. Staff will have a better understanding of what Phase 1 improvements will be after discussing it with the community. Some of the discussion would include what to prioritize in the Corcoran Master Plan and then the project will focus on the design of the prioritized amenities.

**1b. MPRB Outcomes** (*What goals, strategies, or values in the MPRB Comprehensive Plan does this project, program, or initiative relate to? What goal in the Racial Equity Action Plan does this relate to?}):*

Vision Theme 3: Dynamic parks that shape city character and meet diverse community needs.

Vision Theme 4: A safe place to play, celebrate, contemplate, and recreate.

**1c. Project Timeline:**

Community Engagement around Project Prioritization: Spring/Summer 2021

Community Engagement on Design: Summer/Fall 2021

Finalize design and bring concept to Board: Winter/Spring 2021-22

Bidding: Spring 2022

Construction: Summer 2022

**1d. Project Funding:**

<u>Capital Sources</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Expiration</u>
2021 CIP: NPP20	\$950,000	These funds do not expire; however, MPRB is recommended to initiate projects with these funds in 2021.

<u>Supplemental Sources</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Expiration</u>
2021 CIP Park Dedication	\$6,181	N/A
<b>Total:</b>	\$956,181	

**2. Project Data:**

**2a. What are the boundaries of the community engagement area?** *(For regional facilities include neighborhoods adjacent to the park and city/regional boundaries)*

The Corcoran neighborhood boundaries will be used as the community engagement area because the park falls in the heart of Corcoran park.

**2b. What are the demographics of the community engagement area?** (Please refer to percentages of the population when possible and note the sources of the data.)

**Total Population**

Corcoran Neighborhood	4,357
City of Minneapolis	429,606

**Age by Percentage of the Population**

Age	Corcoran Neighborhood	City of Minneapolis
Under 5 years	8.0%	6.58%
5-9 years	6.4%	6.26%
10-14 years	5.7%	5.83%
15-19 years	1.8%	7.02%
20-24 years	6.1%	10.7%
25-34 years	21.7%	20.64%
35-44 years	19.0%	15.92%
45-54 years	9.0%	12.01%
55-59 years	12.4%	3.45%
60-64 years	5.3%	2.47%
65-84 years	2.4%	7.45%
85 years and older	<b>NOT ENOUGH DATA</b>	1.67%

Median Age in City of Minneapolis is 32.1

**Race by Percentage of the Population**

Race & Ethnicity	Corcoran Neighborhood	City of Minneapolis
White	61.3%	63.6%
Black or African American	20%	19.2%
American Indian and Alaskan Native	4.0%	1.9%
Asian or Pacific Islander	<b>NOT ENOUGH DATA</b>	5.9%
Prefer to answer another way	<b>NOT ENOUGH DATA</b>	4.9%
Two or more races	2.6%	4.8%
Hispanic or Latinx	16.3%	9.6%

**Median Household Income**

Corcoran Neighborhood	\$62,782
City of Minneapolis	\$62,583

*\*\*For Corcoran it should be noted, that although the median household income is higher than the median household income compared to the entirety of Minneapolis, that the highest percentage of households make LESS than \$35,000 (approximately 29.6%)*

**Percentage of the Population that Speaks a Language Other than English at Home**

	English Only	Language other than English	Speaks English less than “very well”
Corcoran Neighborhood	75.8%	24.2%	12.1%
City of Minneapolis		22.3%	

**Percentage of the Population with a disability**

Corcoran Neighborhood	14.9%
City of Minneapolis	11.2%

**Renter v. Home Ownership**

	Owner-occupied housing	Renter-occupied housing
Corcoran Neighborhood	60.0%	35.0%
City of Minneapolis	47.2%	

**Analysis:**

The Corcoran neighborhood is a racially and ethnically diverse area in the heart of South Minneapolis. It should be noted that the neighborhood has a higher percentage of people who identify as Hispanic or Latinx when compared to the entirety of the city. People in this neighborhood are more likely to be homeowners, while renters account for the majority of households in Minneapolis according to data from the *American Community Survey*. This neighborhood has higher percentages of people who speak languages other than English in their homes. The neighborhood also has a HIGHER percentage of people who have a disability when compared to the City of Minneapolis as a whole.

**2c. List any key findings or excerpts from relevant plans or policies that are informing this project, program or initiative, especially if community was engaged in the policy or plan:**

The project will be guided by the adopted South Service Area Master Plan, completed in 2017 after a two-year community engagement process. The following lenses were used while developing the master

plan for Corcoran Park; Community Focus Lens, Racial Equity Lens, Gender Equity Lens, Lifelong Equity Lens, Design Lens, and an Environment Lens. There is an approved master plan for Corcoran that will be the starting point for the community engagement.

**2d. What are the data gaps? What additional research needs to be done to understand the project stakeholders and project scope?**

Some of the data gaps include not knowing who actually uses the park compared to the neighborhood demographics. But there is a need to do project scoping and prioritization with the community in the first stage of the process to determine what to focus on the CIP allocation on at Corcoran. Once the priority is determined, engagement will focus on the design details of the prioritized park features that will be designed and improved. Since it has been a few years since the Master Plan was adopted, it is important to understand how the park users are currently using the park and which aspects of the park master plan would be of greatest importance to current and potential park users.

**3. Community Engagement:**

The MPRB supports the use of a variety of techniques to interact with and obtain information from stakeholders. Outreach and research tools and methods can be applied for a variety of reasons, including but not limited to the following:

<b>Project Stakeholder</b> <i>(students, ethnic communities, neighborhood groups, community leaders)</i>	<b>Outreach: How will you reach out to the stakeholder?</b> <i>(i.e. go to parks, neighborhood listserv, engage with cultural media)</i>	<b>Engagement: How will they participate?</b> <i>(i. e. online survey, focus group, community open house, intercept survey)</i>	<b>Reflecting Back: How will stakeholder groups be reflected back to about the project progress or outcomes?</b> <i>(Posted on project website, ribbon cutting, e-blast, site visit, celebration)</i>
Neighborhood Associations	Project website, direct email, attendance at neighborhood meetings	Attendance at neighborhood meetings, design virtual open house, possible in-person pop-up events, online survey.	GovDelivery, MPRB project website, and opening park celebration.
Little Earth Residents Association and LaCrosse Players	Direct e-mail	Targeted stakeholder meeting, on-line survey	Direct e-mail, MPRB project website, and opening park celebration.
Nearby Residents	Possible in-person pop-up events, project website, email notification from neighborhood	Design virtual open house, possible in-person pop-up events, online survey.	GovDelivery, MPRB project website, and opening park celebration.

	organization, direct mailer to nearby residents		
Youth	Direct e-mail to school staff at nearby high schools and coordination with Corcoran Neighborhood Youth Program, outreach to youth at park rec center	Classroom conversation, targeted stakeholder meeting, on-line survey, rec center after school program design session	Direct e-mail, MPRB project website, and opening park celebration.
General Park Users	Project website, on-site signage, information at rec center	Design virtual open house, possible in-person pop-up events, online survey.	GovDelivery, MPRB project website, and opening park celebration.
Potential Park Users	Flyers at stores, restaurants, and public buildings	Design virtual open house, possible in-person pop-up events, online survey	GovDelivery, MPRB project website, and opening park celebration.

**If needed, describe the outreach, engagement, or reflection methods you will use that are referenced above:**

**3a. Advisory Committees:**

<b>Project Advisory Committee:</b> This roster is a list of MPRB departments and divisions that are on the PAC
Planning Division
Asset Management Department
Community Connections and Violence Prevention Department
Youth and Recreation Centers Department
Communications Department
Park Police Department
Forestry Department

**3b. Will a Community Advisory Committee be required for this project, program, or initiative?**

**NO**

**4. Analysis:**

**4a. What questions will you be asking community to respond to in your outreach and engagement?**

- How would you prioritize phase 1 improvements in the park?
- How should those facilities be designed?
- Who else should we be engaging during this project?

**4b. How will your community engagement outreach, engagement, and methods make MPRB a more equitable system?**

The community engagement outreach will specifically work to engage different races from all walks of life. This is the approach staff will take through community engagement to make a more equitable system for all park users.

One specific area of targeted engagement will be with the Little Earth community. During the master plan process, it became known that traditional lacrosse was experiencing a resurgence in the community, and that Corcoran Park was a primary location for practices. The master plan calls for expansion of the multi-use field in part to accommodate that use. It will be important to engage with traditional lacrosse players—by linking through existing connections at Little Earth—to understand prioritization and design needs.

We will also ask questions of what the most pressing needs are for the community in the park. The design will work to be inclusive and universal where possible, with a focus on providing a broad range of options for a wide range of ages and abilities.

**5. Evaluation Summary: *To be completed at one or more project milestones, and at the completion of the project, program, or initiative.***

**5a. Identify one or more key project milestones when project evaluation will be performed** (i.e. Draft design review, draft policy review, project mid-point)

At the conclusion of concept design, prior to board approval of concept designs

**5b. Who was engaged during the process?** (i.e. demographic info from online survey participants, the CAC, and community engagement whenever possible. Refer back to Section 2 in the CE Plan and how your engagement reflects the diversity of the community in the engagement area.)

**5c. How did the engagement inform the project outcome?** (i.e. public tabulation and amendments following a public comment period)

**5d. How did the project and engagement fulfill a goal or strategy in the MPRB Comprehensive Plan?**

**5e. Please describe any new or innovative engagement methods used during the process:**

**5f. What recommendations do you have for future engagement around this topic, park, or area?**

**5g. What, if any, were the unintended outcomes of your CE Plan?**

**5h. Were there any barriers to successful implementation of your CE Plan?**

**5i. Were you adequately resourced, including staff support, expertise, and funding?**

**5j. If applicable, how can this project, program, or initiative, or MPRB continue to partner and deepen relationships with underrepresented communities?**