



Date of Board P+C: April 1<sup>st</sup>, 2020

Date of Board Approval (for CAC's only): n/a

Date of Most Recent Update:

*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 (A link to the Community Engagement Portal can be found at <https://minneapolisparcs.sharepoint.com/planning/SitePages/Home.aspx>.)*

**Staff Lead:** Siciid Ali

**Department or Division:** Strategic Planning

**Project Name:** Hiawatha School Park outdoor community gathering space

**Engagement Level:** Consult

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This plan serves as a guide for the community engagement process for the Hiawatha School Park outdoor community gathering space. 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:**

This plan is being developed in collaboration with community stakeholder and MPRB staff input. Community stakeholders include Minneapolis Public Schools, Hiawatha School PTO Group, Recreation Centers and Programs Department and Asset Management Department. Community feedback is being used to shape the engagement process.

**1. Project Description**

**1a. Project Overview:**

Hiawatha School Park is part of the South Service Area Master Plan, an approved Master Plan by MPRB’s Board of Commissioners. An allocation of \$25,000 in park dedication fees is available in the 2020 CIP. A total of \$308,810 in park dedication is available in the Hiawatha neighborhood.

The Master Plan calls out for an outdoor gathering space to be built between the recreation center and the school. The space will be used for recreational programming by the recreation center while the school intends to use it for an outdoor classroom.

**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 2: People play, learn, and develop a greater capacity to enjoy life.
- Vision 3: Dynamic parks that shape the city’s character & meet diverse community needs.

**1c. Project Timeline:** Design: May-June 2022 Construction: Late Fall 2022

**1d**

<u>Capital Sources</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Expiration</u>
<b>2020 CIP (Park Dedication</b>	\$25,000	N/A

<u>Supplemental Sources</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Expiration</u>
<b>Additional park dedication available in Hiawatha neighborhood (not allocated in CIP)</b>	\$283,810	N/A

## 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)*

- Community engagement boundaries will focus primarily on Hiawatha School and park users.

**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.)*

### Population(2017)

- Hiawatha: 5,800
- Minneapolis: 422,331

### Population by race/ethnicity (2017)

- White: 84%
- Black or African American: 8%
- Hispanic or Latino 3%

MNCompass.org

<http://www.mncompass.org/profiles/neighborhoods/minneapolis/linden-hills>

**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 purpose of community research is to collect data that will best inform specific project decisions or strategic direction and support the policy goals of effective community engagement. Research completed in advance of and during project development may include review of previously completed directives or mandates, master plans, community studies, industry trends and historical and demographic data. MPRB staff is responsible for determining the research data necessary to support and document decision-making for a project and building off prior community engaged*

The South Service Area Master Plan, completed in 2016, used the following lenses while developing the masterplan for Hiawatha School Park: community focus lens, racial equity lens, and lifelong design and environmental lens. In the Design Lens, SSAMP directs staff to “carefully plan, organize, in order to create a pleasing and comfortable environment where all people want to gather, converse, relax, play learn, and be active. Decisions should take design quality into account and should ensure parks are physically accessible to all people”. The Urban

Agriculture Activity Plan adopted in 2014, also directs staff to “Add flexible outdoor spaces within park master plans for promotion, sales and distribution of local food”

The space between school and park is of particular interest to parents at Hiawatha School and park users, as it could provide opportunities for both outdoor instructions by school teachers and outdoor programming by recreation center staff. It could be a perfect shared space for both school and park, therefore embodying the collaboration between MPRB and MPS at this park. The integration between the school day and the park play day is seamless at Hiawatha School Park and will be reinforced by breaking down physical barriers between the two and creating shared space though out.

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

Some of the gaps include:

- MPRB staff will work with the lead community member to ensure that outreach is done properly. We simply don't know the racial and economic make-up of the park users at Hiawatha or elsewhere. That is also true at the school. A data gap exists in terms of demographics of the school (racial make-up, free/reduced lunch) which Minneapolis Public School contains the data.

**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:

- a. Evaluate success and measure community impact of existing programs, services or facilities.
- b. Gain stakeholder insight and perspective regarding development of a new program, service or facility.
- c. Proactively identify or explore park and recreation trends or ideas.
- d. Determine essential services to be provided for a community or park area.
- e. Query stakeholders when proposing or revising policy.
- f. Resolve persistent conflicts or problems.
- g. Educate or inform the public on proposed changes, initiatives and projects.
- h. Reflect on projects, programs and initiatives after adoption by the Board or report on how community input has been integrated.
- i. Learn the history of local context and community.

<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>
Minneapolis Public School	Engage with school principal: in person meeting	They will be informed of the project and provide feedback	invitation to a ribbon cutting celebration
PTO Meetings	Email, phone lead PTO member	Participation in design development, provide feedback on final designs	Periodic check-ins during design development; invitation to a ribbon cutting celebration
MPRB staff, specifically Recreation and Asset Management	Meetings and emails	They will be informed of the project and provide feedback	invitation to a ribbon cutting celebration
Park and school users (kids and parents)	Email, Engage with teachers in person	Online survey	Website, celebration, and Eblast

**If needed, describe the outreach, engagement, or reflection methods you will use that are referenced above: Due to the Covid-19 pandemic, we will engage with teachers, students and park staff about the design of the outdoor gathering space. Staff will create a short video of the designs and post it online so everyone can vote on the design option they prefer. We want to do our part in reducing human contact in these unprecedented times.**

**3a. Advisory Committees:**

<b>Technical Advisory Committee:</b> This roster is a list of agencies and groups that are on the TAC . NOTE there will not be a formal TAC for the project, rather the project manager will work with the established PTO group and school staff individually.
Hiawatha School PTO members
Hiawatha School staff
Minneapolis Public Schools facility staff

<b>Project Advisory Committee:</b> This roster is a list of MPRB departments and divisions that are on the PAC. NOTE that the PAC will not meet formally, rather the project manager will connect with members individually.
MPRB Recreation Division (Recreation Centers and Programs)
MPRB Planning Division (Strategic Planning, Design and Project Management)
MPRB Environmental Stewardship Division (Forestry and Asset Management)
MPRB Community Outreach
MPRB Marketing & Communication

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

No

**4. Analysis:**

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

What are your needs?

How will you use this space?

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

**MPRB staff will leverage community engagement that was done prior by Hiawatha School which will give equitable access to the students who attend the school. Staff will then in turn use that community power data to carefully create a pleasing and comfortable outdoor space where all people want to gather, talk, relax, play and learn.**

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

In the final design stage but right before construction.

**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)

**5a. 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.)

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

