

## Request for Proposals | Limited Traffic and Parking Study

### **THE MALL PARK**

Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board

14 August 2024

#### OVERVIEW

The Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board (MPRB) is seeking proposals for the conduct of a traffic and parking study focused on potential impacts of removing portions of roadways within The Mall Park, a property owned and operated by the MPRB as a part of the Minneapolis neighborhood park system. This study intends to identify impacts specific to traffic with a focus on a change in circulation patterns that would result from the elimination of certain parts of The Mall Park's roadways. Parking would be eliminated as a consequence of the elimination of roadways, therefore the study further intends to characterize the impacts of a diminished parking in The Mall Park relative to remaining available parking in the area.

The MPRB is the entity responsible for owning and operating parks within the City of Minneapolis, and for providing recreation programs and opportunities for residents and visitors. Park roadways are not intended to serve a primary conveyance of vehicle traffic but rather to provide access to park resources and, in some cases, allowing roadways themselves to support the enjoyment of park spaces by motorists. In the conduct of this study, it will be important to frame impacts of the elimination of those certain roadways in The Mall Park from the perspectives of overall traffic or circulation limitations and from the perspective of reduced convenience for motorists as well as a perspective for park roads founded in park and recreation experiences.

The long-range plan for The Mall Park can be viewed at:

[https://www.minneapolisparcs.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/01/4\\_park\\_concepts\\_m-q\\_a.pdf](https://www.minneapolisparcs.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/01/4_park_concepts_m-q_a.pdf)

Questions regarding this request may be directed to Colleen O'Dell, Senior Planner at:

[codell@minneapolisparcs.org](mailto:codell@minneapolisparcs.org)

Questions must be submitted via email.

#### SCOPE OF WORK

Responders to this request are encouraged to prepare an approach to conducting the requested work. The MPRB is primarily interested in the outcomes of this study and will leave day-to-day tasks of performing the work to the discretion of the consultant as it

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prepares the study. The deliverables shall include a written report augmented by diagrams and illustrations sufficient to demonstrate the consultant's findings.

The work shall consider the following:

- Engagement of the public is not anticipated as a component of this work. The MPRB views this work as a technical exercise. If engagement becomes necessary, the MPRB will engage the consultant for those additional services on an hourly basis.
- The consultant shall include time for presentation of findings to the Board of Commissioners of the MPRB during a regularly scheduled meeting of that body.
- The MPRB has no base data supporting this work. The collection of data necessary for the conduct of this work shall be wholly the responsibility of the consultant, although the MPRB will work with the consultant as needed to gain access to information held by the City of Minneapolis.

For each area of study, the consultant shall prepare a work plan for consideration by the MPRB. Such work plan shall be included in the response to this request.

*Part A: Traffic Study*

The consultant will analyze current and potential future traffic operations considering the elimination of roads with The Mall Park. This analysis shall consider peak and non-peak conditions with roads in their extant condition and with road eliminations as proposed in the MPRB long-range plan for The Mall Park. Peak conditions may consider time of year, as this area may experience increased traffic during peak park use periods, particularly because of the proximity of Lake of the Isles and the Minneapolis Chain of Lakes Regional Park. The consultant shall use its best judgement to determine peak and non-peak activities. The consultant shall describe impacts of the elimination of portions of roadways within The Mall Park and offer recommendations for mitigation of other park roads and roads under non-MPRB jurisdictions related to the proposed elimination of park roads within The Mall Park.

Area residents have noted the elimination of park roads results in congestion and "circling" traffic, and results in traffic having to move onto other streets under unsafe conditions.

The assessment of the impacts from elimination of park roads shall consider several separate or combined conditions:

- 1) the elimination of the two westerly blocks of the north park road, essentially between East Bde Maka Ska Parkway and Irving Avenue South;
- 2) the elimination of portions of the two westerly blocks of the south park road, where the master plan directs eastbound traffic movements to alleys; and

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- 3) the elimination of park roads as described in both conditions (1 and 2).

Each shall be compared to traffic operations with all park roads remaining in place as the baseline condition.

As a part of this work, the consultant may offer recommendations for improving traffic operations under any condition (existing park roads, elimination of all or portions of the park roads as indicated in the long-range plan for The Mall Park).

*Part B: Parking Study*

The parking study is limited to an assessment of the loss of those parking spaces associated with the elimination of park roads within The Mall Park. Area residents have suggested the lack of parking is a burden and that park users occupy significant numbers of available on-street (on-park road) spaces, forcing residential parking into surrounding residential areas.

The parking study shall assess the elimination of parking spaces related to park roads under several separate or combined conditions:

- 1) the elimination of parking related to the two westerly blocks of the north park road, essentially between East Bde Maka Ska Parkway and Irving Avenue South;
- 2) the elimination of parking related to portions of the two westerly blocks of the south park road, where the master plan directs eastbound traffic movements to alleys; and
- 3) the elimination of parking related to park roads as described in both conditions (1 and 2).

Each shall be compared to parking conditions with all park roads and associated parking remaining in place as the baseline condition.

As a part of this work, the consultant may offer recommendations related to improved parking accommodation within the bounds of The Mall Park.

**RESPONSES**

Responses to this request may be submitted digitally to the MPRB on or before 4:00 pm CT on 6 September 2024. Responses may be provided in letter form with contents not greater than ten letter-sized pages. Responses shall be directed to:

Colleen O'Dell, Senior Planner  
Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board

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[Codell@minneapolisparcs.org](mailto:Codell@minneapolisparcs.org)

Late submittals will not be considered.