



Date of Board P&C: January 7, 2026

Community Engagement Assessment

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

Staff Lead: Jon Duesman

Division/Department: Design & Project Management, Planning

Level of Engagement: Inform

Project, Program, or Initiative Name: Lake Nokomis Shoreline Improvements Phase 2

Project Description (100 words recommended): Increasing the amount of naturalized landscape within the park with areas of restored wetland, prairie and meadow will increase beneficial vegetation around the lake, stabilize the shoreline, and improve wildlife habitat for birds, pollinators, softshell turtles, and fish. Phase 1 shoreline improvements restored approximately one-third of the lakeshore. Phase 2 shoreline improvements would add another roughly 4,000 linear feet of restored shoreline. Specific project goals would be converting turf-dominated shoreline into an ecosystem of diverse native prairie for increased wildlife habitat, removing hard-armored sections of shoreline to improve nesting opportunities for softshell turtles, improving water quality and fish population, and providing dedicated points of lake access.

Review the criteria to determine the level of engagement that your program, project, or initiative falls under. Provide an explanation of how your project meets the criteria in the Justification section below.

Level of Engagement	Inform	Consult	Involve	Partner
Engagement Goal	To provide stakeholders with factual, accessible, balanced, and timely information to help them understand the project, program, or initiative.	To obtain stakeholder feedback on project, initiative, or program analysis, alternatives, or decisions.	To work directly with stakeholders throughout the process to ensure that perspectives are consistently understood, considered, and reflected in project, program, or initiative decisions.	To partner with stakeholders in each aspect of decision making in order to develop and implement collaborative project, program, or initiative solutions.
Criteria to Determine Level of Engagement (Which level of engagement best describes your project?)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> This is a decision that should be based on technical, operational, or safety constraints only. This is a project, program, or initiative that does not result in a change in the type, location, or extent of the current facility or service. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> This project takes place in a park that has been master planned. This a new city-wide initiative or program. This is a new public policy or public policy update. The outcome is likely to change based on community input. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> This project requires a CAC. This project does not have other policy guidance such as an existing master plan or public policy. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> This program, project, or initiative is being developed in partnership with another agency or organization.
MPRB Promise	MPRB will keep you informed.	MPRB will keep you informed, listen to and acknowledge feedback, work to integrate stakeholder feedback into the alternatives, and provide feedback on how public input influenced the decision.	We will work with stakeholders for advice and innovation in formulating solutions and to incorporate recommendations to the extent possible.	The MPRB and partner entity will be accountable to their roles as negotiated in the partnership and regularly evaluate overall success of the partnership.
Examples of project types	Repaving a parking lot, cutting down a tree, beach or swimming pool closures, ADA improvements, rehab	Approved master plan design implementation, city or service area wide program development, public policy development, Participatory Project Scoping	Master plans, any process that includes a formal public body making recommendations.	Jointly owned and/or operated facilities, co-creation, public/private partnership, community led projects.

This engagement grid was adapted from the IAP2 International Federation 2014 Public Participation Spectrum.

Justification (100 words recommended): *Please explain how your project meets the criteria in the Engagement Grid on pg. 2. Provide a justification for each criterion corresponding to the Level of Engagement that will guide your project.*

Community Engagement Plans are not required if the project results in no change in type, location, or extent of the current project, or if the project is a technical, safety or operations-based decision. The project advances an element of an already Board approved Park Plan that went through an extensive community engagement process. The overall nature of this project is technical with the transformation of turf-dominated areas into naturalized areas. The inclusion of critical habitat improvements will be based on research that has already been developed.

For projects, programs, or initiatives that fall under the Inform category of engagement: what are your planned methods for informing the public? (i.e. posting on a project website, GovDelivery email blast, flyer onsite, multi-lingual and/or graphic information) *You do not need to answer this question if you are completing a CE Plan.*

Multiple methods will be employed to inform the public on this project. A project page will be set up on the MPRB's website with key information about the project. We also plan to reach out to local organizations and neighborhood groups such as Nokomis East Neighborhood Association and Friends of Lake Nokomis, so they are aware of this project. In addition to that we also intend to hold 2 open house meetings to share information to the public about the project.