COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT PLAN
Project Title: Bde Maka Ska Public Art Project

MPRB Division: Planning
Project Managers: Deborah Bartels/Colleen O’Dell/Dan Elias

As required by the Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board (MPRB) Code of Ordinances, every construction or redevelopment project undertaken within the MPRB Capital Improvement Program (CIP) is to have a community engagement plan. The plan serves as a guide for the community engagement process through the multiple phases of planning and project development. 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.

Project Description
This project will create a gathering space and memorial at Lake Calhoun/Bde Maka Ska to reveal and celebrate the history of Mahpiya Wicasta (Cloud Man) and the village site Heyata Otunwe (Village to the Side) also known as Cloud Man’s Village, which existed on the southeast lakeshore in the 1830’s. Public art and historic interpretation will be included to honor and educate visitors about the broader history and culture of the Dakota and other Indigenous peoples who frequented and/or resided in this area over time.

The Bde Maka Ska Public Art Project will be funded and built collaboratively between Art in Public Places (Minneapolis Community Planning and Economic Development) and the MPRB. Through an Art in Public Places program, visual and literary artists or an artist team will be selected to create and/or integrate site-specific art into a gathering space which will be built near the lake shore of Lake Calhoun/Bde Maka Ska as a result of this project’s community engagement process.

In 2012, descendants of Mahpiya Wicasta and other community members began meeting with MPRB staff to plan a plaque and tree memorial in the village’s approximate historical location. For years prior descendants discussed how to honor the village. A Board resolution approved the memorial if funds were raised by the memorial committee. A site was chosen but it later flooded, delaying the planning process.

In early 2015 MPRB began a two year master planning study of Lake Calhoun/Bde Maka Ska and Lake Harriet, two parks within the Minneapolis Chain of Lakes Regional Park. The impetus was $3.7 million in funding from Metropolitan Council for planning and construction of site improvements. The memorial group decided to merge its efforts with the Calhoun/Bde Maka Ska – Harriet master planning process. A Community Advisory Committee (CAC), appointed by elected officials and neighborhood organizations, met twelve times between July 2015 and May 2016. During the master planning process, it became
evident that there was little recognition or expression around the lakes of the history or culture of Native Americans, especially the Dakota people, who inhabited the area for centuries before European settlement. The CAC made several master plan recommendations to remedy this situation:

- That the Park Board support the official and legal restoration of the Dakota name "Bde Maka Ska" to Lake Calhoun and advocate for such restoration in all appropriate fora, including the Hennepin County Board, the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources, and the Minnesota Legislature. To the extent that the Park Board determines that such restoration requires legislative action, the CAC recommends that the Park Board include such action in its legislative agenda.

- Reveal and interpret the natural and human history of the lakes. Expand interpretive programming around the lakes regarding Native American use and history of the area.

- Include universal icons in wayfinding and interpretive signage to improve the experience of park users. Where appropriate, signs may be multi-lingual, including Dakota and Ojibwe. As part of the theme of story awakening, look for opportunities to share diverse narratives in additional languages as well as English.

- Where appropriate, include diverse community perspectives in crafting and displaying the content of storytelling and historic and cultural interpretation.

- For the South/Southeast Calhoun and William Berry Focus Area: In collaboration with the Native American community, descendants of Mahpiya Wicasta/Chief Cloud Man and other interested participants, create a gathering place/interpretive area along the south and southeast shores of Bde Maka Ska to commemorate Chief Cloud Man and his village and honor the broader history and culture of the Dakota and other indigenous peoples who frequented and/or resided in this area.

Although the approval process for the Master Plan has not yet been completed, the CAC and public supported these recommendations. As a result, MPRB pursued an application to Art in Public Places, a City of Minneapolis program to fund the incorporation of public art into future building projects. The application was enthusiastically awarded $225,000. In response the MPRB set aside a $250,000 match from the $3.7 for site improvements at Lake Calhoun/Bde Maka Ska to create the gathering space and memorial project. The constructed site improvements will set the stage for public art.

The Art in Public Places application included the following description of the project:

This public art site would be part of the construction improvement projects directed by the master plan for Lake Calhoun/Bde Maka Ska and Lake Harriet. One of three major concepts explored in the Master Plan process was “Story Awakening” to highlight and describe the natural and human history of this area. The MRPB proposes to create a gathering space with visual and physical access to the water and views of the lake that would serve several complementary purposes to park patrons, including contemplative, ceremonial, and educational uses. One intention of this welcoming space is to reveal
and celebrate the history of Mahpiya Wicasta (Cloud Man) and the village site Heyata Otunwe (Village to the Side) also known as Cloud Man’s Village, which existed on the east lakeshore in the 1830’s. Another intention of the site design and art is interpretation: to honor and educate visitors about the broader history and culture of the Dakota and other Indigenous peoples who frequented and/or resided in this area over time.

This public space may be used for formal and informal gatherings of varying sizes, with a key intention of providing public education and a welcoming space for sunrise ceremonies, youth instruction, and family or large group gatherings. The space should ideally incorporate a plaque memorializing Chief Cloud Man and his village, as well as natural elements such as native stone and trees, seating, interpretive and educational elements. Artist(s) are encouraged to design a gathering/ceremonial/memorial space in both literal and more creative, broader terms. The space will challenge a public artist (or artist team) to achieve an artful balance between various factors: natural and constructed elements, enclosure and openness, activity and stillness, personal design vision and community desires, and literal and figurative interpretation. The chosen public artist(s) will work collaboratively with community members and MPRB staff to determine the final schematic elements and scope of program. The public artist(s) will work with community members and MPRB staff to create a design that will harmonize stylistically with the surrounding natural area, accommodate increasing public use, and blend with the high level of activity that surrounds the selected site.

Total integration of the site design process and public art process is desired by all, but integration is limited by schedule constraints for available funding from Metropolitan Council for the site construction. The $225,000 for public art expires in 2020, allowing a relaxed schedule for artist selection, community engagement, design, fabrication and installation. The $250,000 for site improvements will sunset in June of 2018, necessitating community engagement and design completion in the first quarter of 2017, in order to bid and construct the project by the end of the fall construction season.

**Project Funding Source(s)**

For community engagement, design and construction of site work only:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Capital Sources</th>
<th>Amount</th>
<th>Expiration</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2016 Met Council Parks and Trails</td>
<td>$250,000</td>
<td>June 30, 2018</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

For artist work, community collaboration, fabrication and installation:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Supplemental Sources</th>
<th>Amount</th>
<th>Expiration</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Art in Public Places Grant</td>
<td>$225,000</td>
<td>January 2020</td>
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</table>
**Engagement Recommendation**

**Recommended Level of Engagement:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Engagement Goal:</th>
<th>Inform</th>
<th>Consult</th>
<th>Collaborate</th>
<th>Partner</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>To provide stakeholders with factual, balanced, and timely information to help them understand the project.</td>
<td>To obtain stakeholder feedback on project analysis, alternatives, or decisions.</td>
<td>To work directly with stakeholders throughout the process to ensure that perspectives are consistently understood, considered, and reflected in project decisions.</td>
<td>To partner with stakeholders in each aspect of decision making in order to develop and implement collaborative project solutions.</td>
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**MPRB Promise to the Public:**

- The MPRB will keep stakeholders informed.
- The MPRB will keep stakeholders informed, listen to and acknowledge feedback, and work to ensure stakeholder feedback is reflected in alternatives developed.
- The MPRB will work with stakeholders for advice and innovation in formulating solutions and incorporate recommendations to the maximum 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.

Because Art in Public Places will contribute art project funds, facilitation and coordination, it will be considered a **Partner** throughout the design and construction phases of the project. Art in Public Places staff will be included in the project design team and will review/approve schematic designs.

The Project Design Team which includes MPRB, the selected landscape architect and artist(s), and Art in Public Places staff will work with descendants and the memorial group to engage Native American community members, area stakeholders, and the general public at the **Consult** level in order to inform the artist(s) designs for the space.

**Anticipated Project Outcomes**

The project will provide a unique public gathering space and lake access that may see use year-round. Two important goals of project are engagement that reaches out to and is facilitated by the Native American/Dakota and to create a space (or series of spaces) at the lake that is welcoming to all public users and to the Dakota people in particular. The space, along with the public art, will reveal and recognize the Native American history and culture of the lakes in an engaging way. Existing recreational uses - trails, parking, and the fishing dock - will be accommodated. Construction of this public gathering space offers the opportunity to create an elegant, meaningful, and environmentally sound landmark at a much beloved lake.
This project could mark the beginning of a deeper conversation between the MPRB and Native Americans, especially the Dakota people who were exiled from Minnesota in 1862. This conversation can only occur if relationships are built and trust develops, a process that will require patience of all those involved.

The project supports the following elements of the MPRB Comprehensive Plan:

- **Theme: Dynamic parks that shape city character and meet diverse community needs**
  - Goal: Parks shape an evolving city.
    - Strategy: Provide a well-maintained, safe, and continuous trail system, giving priority to completing the “missing link” of the Grand Rounds Parkway, and providing trail connections in north and northeast Minneapolis.
  - Goal: Park facility renewal and development respects history and focuses on sustainability, accessibility, flexibility, and beauty.
    - Strategy: Build or renew facilities to meet or exceed standards for accessibility.
    - Strategy: Build quality facilities that can be adapted to new uses as community needs change.
    - Strategy: Maintain an inventory of historic structures, documents, landscapes, features, and archeological sites that includes site analysis, evaluation of integrity, and historic significance. Develop a management and interpretive plan for significant historic resources.
    - Strategy: Beautify the park system by integrating gardens and art into park designs, and provide strategically placed gardens and art displays throughout city parklands and facilities.
  - Goal: Financially independent and sustainable parks prosper.
    - Strategy: Obtain grants that further the work of the Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board.
  - Goal: Through outreach and research, park and recreation services are relevant today and tomorrow.
    - Strategy: Regularly review social and demographic trends that affect service delivery. Be the first to identify and address new recreational needs and to reposition those recreational facilities that are no longer relevant.
    - Strategy: Engage and involve residents in identifying the program, service, and facility needs of their respective communities.
    - Anticipate and respond to the cultural diversity of the population.

- **Theme: Recreation that inspires personal growth, healthy lifestyles, and a sense of community.**
  - Goal: People play, learn, and develop a greater capacity to enjoy life.
    - Strategy: Provide opportunities to interpret the park system’s history and historic features through venues that are engaging and fun.
  - Goal: People connect through parks and recreation.
    - Strategy: Encourage the use of parks for public cultural, art and history events, giving priority to those that support local artists or foster an understanding of local cultures and history.
    - Strategy: Tell the story of the park system through interpretive displays and programming, and by celebrating key milestones in park history.

- **Theme: Urban forests, natural areas, and waters that endure and captivate.**
  - Goal: Residents and visitors enjoy and understand the natural environment.
Strategy: Encourage people to experience the natural environment by providing
and maintaining, where feasible, trails and access points that serve people of all
ranges of ability.

Strategy: Develop a strong connection between community/neighborhood
center programming and the natural areas in the regional parks.

Stakeholder Roles and Responsibilities
All stakeholders are expected to work collaboratively to inform, create and refine design concepts and
provide input toward final project recommendations for approval by the Board of Commissioners. Participants are expected to engage in the process in a manner that promotes respectful civil discourse and enhances mutual understanding of all stakeholder viewpoints. Any requests for public or project information should be directed to the project managers.

Identification of Project Stakeholders

Chief Cloud Man Memorial group
A committed group has met since 2012 to develop a memorial to Mahpiya Wicasta (Chief Cloud Man) and the settlement, Heyata Otunwe, on the east side of Lake Calhoun/Bde Maka Ska. The group has included a local architect and city historian, a neighbor and community member, a descendant of Mahpiya Wicasta, and a Dakota elder and educator.

Descendants of Chief Cloud Man
Descendants of Chief Cloud Man who served on the CAC for the Calhoun/Bde Maka Ska – Harriet Master Plan have also stepped forward to help the MPRB with the public art project and site development. Dr. Kate Beane, American Indian Community Liaison at Minnesota Historical Society, has been hired by Art in Public Places to interview other descendants of Cloud Man in outstate Minnesota and in the Dakotas. The stories that Dr. Beane collects from other descendants of Chief Cloud Man will inform the site design and the public art.

Lisa Ferguson, another CAC member, has served on the Cloud Man Memorial group. In addition, Syd Beane, a Dakota elder, filmmaker, and retired educator, has also met several times with City and MPRB staff to help guide the process.

The committed group of descendants and members of the memorial group was sometimes referred to as a “steering committee”.

Project Design Team
MPRB staff is in the process of establishing a Project Design Team (PDT) to lead the site design and public art process. The PDT will consist of MPRB staff and Art in Public Places staff, a Native American landscape architect, Chief Cloud Man descendants, Dakota elders and education leaders, and perhaps a Native American artist. Some members of the PDT will serve on a separate panel that will select the public artist(s). The PDT will have direct oversight of the work of the selected artist(s), recommend (after wider community engagement) a preferred project scope/schematic design for the site improvements for approval by the MPRB Commissioners. The PDT will include three MPRB staff
representatives (from the Planning Division and from Community Outreach) and two representatives from Art in Public Places/CPED.

**Community Meetings**
Adjacent neighborhood organizations and cultural, historical and subject experts from the following groups will be invited to participate in two to three community meetings and/or discussions:

- Native American Community Development Institute (NACDI)
- Direct descendants of Mahpiya Wicasta/Cloud Man
- Cloud Man Memorial Group members
- Phillips Indian Educations (PIE), a subcommittee of Metropolitan Urban Indian Directors (MUID)
- Minneapolis American Indian Center
- MIGIZI Communications
- Little Earth of United Tribes
- Minneapolis Public Schools Indian Education Department
- B’dote Learning Center Charter School
- Nawayee Center School
- Oceti Sakowin Omniciy
- First Universalist Church
- East Calhoun Community Organization
- East Harriet Farmstead Neighborhood Association
- Linden Hills Neighborhood Association
- Linden Hills History Study Group
- Minnesota Historical Society
- Bakken Museum

**Project Advisory Committee**
A non-appointed Project Advisory Committee (PAC) will be formed to provide advice to the PDT and MPRB staff through the design phase. The PAC will meet as a group during the design process and will assist with outreach to the community:

- MPRB staff including Planning, Operations, Environmental Stewardship, Park Police, Forestry, Recreation, Events and Enterprise
- Art in Public Places staff

**Outreach Methods**
An appointed Community Advisory Committee (CAC) is in place to guide creation of the Lake Calhoun and Lake Harriet Master Plan. That plan, which is in the final stages of concept design, public comment and MPRB review, designated a general location for this gathering space. Therefore, an appointed CAC for the remaining design process of the Center is not required by ordinance or policy.

1. **Focus Group meetings, Interviews and Visioning Sessions**
   - Visioning session with Native American artists
• Focus group discussion with Indian educators
• Interviews with Dakota elders and descendants of Mahpiya Wicasta

2. Community Meetings
   Up to three community open houses will be held during the design process:
   • Open House #1 (late January 2017): the purpose of this event will be to inform the public about work done to date related to Bde Maka Ska, Cloud Man Village, and the public art grant and to solicit general input on the program and aesthetic of the gathering space, visual and literary art, historic interpretation and site.
   • Open House #2 (late February 2017): the purpose of this event will be to present schematic designs for the gathering space art, historic interpretation and site and to solicit public comment. Open House #3 (optional)

3. Public Hearing
   • Approval of the site concept

4. Board Approvals
   • Site concept
   • Bid award for site improvements
   • Public art concept

Project Schedule (see following page)
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Month</th>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2016</td>
<td>July</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>Public Art - Owamni - Falling Water Festival</td>
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<td>Aug</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>Site Development - Meeting with MIGIZI Communications</td>
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<td>Sept</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>Calhoun/Bde Maka Ska - Harriet Master Plan - Mendota Wacipi (Powwow)</td>
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<td>Calhoun/Bde Maka Ska - Harriet Master Plan - Mahkato (Mankato) Wacipi (Powwow)</td>
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<td>28</td>
<td>Site Development - Meeting #1 with steering committee</td>
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<td>Oct</td>
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<td>Calhoun/Bde Maka Ska - Harriet Master Plan - Meeting #2 with steering committee</td>
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<td>17</td>
<td>Site Development - Site visit with steering committee</td>
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<td>Nov</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>Calhoun/Bde Maka Ska - Harriet Master Plan - Planning mtg for Visioning Session</td>
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<td>12</td>
<td>Calhoun/Bde Maka Ska - Harriet Master Plan - Visioning Session with Native American Artists</td>
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<td>Dec</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>Calhoun/Bde Maka Ska - Harriet Master Plan - Meeting with PIE (Phillips Indian Educators)</td>
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<td>20</td>
<td>Calhoun/Bde Maka Ska - Harriet Master Plan - Community Engagement Plan submitted</td>
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<td>29</td>
<td>Calhoun/Bde Maka Ska - Harriet Master Plan - Hire landscape architect consultant</td>
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<td>29</td>
<td>Calhoun/Bde Maka Ska - Harriet Master Plan - Charrette for site and art with LA</td>
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<td>2017</td>
<td>Jan</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>Calhoun/Bde Maka Ska - Harriet Master Plan - Call for Artists</td>
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<td>17</td>
<td>Calhoun/Bde Maka Ska - Harriet Master Plan - Artist Informational Meeting</td>
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<td>19</td>
<td>Calhoun/Bde Maka Ska - Harriet Master Plan - 45 Day Comment Period begins</td>
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<td>27</td>
<td>Calhoun/Bde Maka Ska - Harriet Master Plan - Call for Artists deadline</td>
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<td>31</td>
<td>Calhoun/Bde Maka Ska - Harriet Master Plan - Community meeting #1</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Feb</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Calhoun/Bde Maka Ska - Harriet Master Plan - Study Report at Board mtg on Master Plan</td>
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<td>Calhoun/Bde Maka Ska - Harriet Master Plan - Artist finalists announced</td>
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<td>Calhoun/Bde Maka Ska - Harriet Master Plan - Artist finalists interviewed</td>
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<td>16</td>
<td>Calhoun/Bde Maka Ska - Harriet Master Plan - Issue Trail and Access Improvements bid documents</td>
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<td>25</td>
<td>Calhoun/Bde Maka Ska - Harriet Master Plan - Community meeting #2</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Mar</td>
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<td>Calhoun/Bde Maka Ska - Harriet Master Plan - Artist in place to work with site design team</td>
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<td>Calhoun/Bde Maka Ska - Harriet Master Plan - Close 45-day comment period for Master Plan</td>
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<td>16</td>
<td>Calhoun/Bde Maka Ska - Harriet Master Plan - Bid opening &amp; review- Trail and Access Improvements</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Apr</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>Calhoun/Bde Maka Ska - Harriet Master Plan - Public Hearing for Master Plan</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Construction contract award - Trail and Access Improvements project

Potential construction start - Trail and Access Improvements

Issue site development bid documents

Open and review site development bids

Submit Board Action to award bid

Construction contract award

Construction start

2017 construction season ends

Construction season begins (weather dependent)

Construction complete; all invoices submitted

Board approves project close-out

Funding sunsets and is no longer available

Resources
To design and construct the gathering space and lake access, $250,000 has been set aside from the $3.7 million in funding available for Calhoun/ Bde Maka Ska – Harriet planning and site improvements. The $250,000 will be used for
- Community engagement costs related to the project;
- Landscape architect consulting fees for concept design and construction documents;
- Geotechnical testing;
- Construction, including up to $50,000 for trail relocation needed to create an area along the lakeshore for the of the gathering space and lake access.

Art in Public Places will contribute an additional $225,000 to the project to enhance the gathering space and lake access through public art.

Evaluation Summary
Following project completion, the project manager will analyze the effectiveness of the engagement process from both stakeholder and organization points of view and will provide a brief summary statement. The summary statement will indicate how the process advances policy goals, and will assist the Board and staff in evaluating and informing an ongoing community engagement process.

Summary Statement: Statement pending plan completion.