



Date of Board P+C: 12/16/2020

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

Date of Most Recent Update: 12/02/2020

*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://minneapolisparks.sharepoint.com/planning/SitePages/Home.aspx>.)*

**Staff Lead:** Dan Elias

**Department or Division:** Design and Project Management

**Project Name:** Bde Maka Ska Refectory Rebuild

**Engagement Level:** Consult

This plan serves as a guide for the community engagement process for the Bde Maka Ska Refectory Rebuild. 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:** Several local and proximal neighborhood organizations (see Section 2a) were provided 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:

This project will design and construct a new building and site amenities on the northeast shore of Bde Maka Ska, where the former refectory building was lost to fire in 2019. With the recently passed Bde Maka Ska-Harriet Master Plan as guidance, the rebuilding of the refectory will include a restaurant and associated spaces, ADA compliant restroom facilities, and an additional auxiliary space to be determined through the design process. The design process will consider the site around the refectory building, a

portion of which was recently reconstructions with enhanced trail routing. Though the master plan ultimately envisions relocation of the sailing school and rental facility away from the refectory, the project will not include these moves at this time. Instead, the design process will consider the site with these uses existing both in place and relocated.

**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?):*

**Comprehensive Plan Vision Theme 1:** Urban forests, natural areas, and waters that endure and captivate

GOAL: Knowledgeable stewards and partners generously support the system's natural resources

STRATEGY: Develop programming to educate residents and park visitors of the importance of preserving and properly managing natural resources for health, water, and air quality, and general environmental benefits

STRATEGY: Be a resource for residents and visitors seeking information about the park system's natural resources and urban forests

**Comprehensive Plan Vision Theme 3:** Dynamic parks that shape city character and meet diverse community needs

GOAL: Park facility renewal and development respects history and focuses on sustainability, accessibility, flexibility, and beauty

STRATEGY: Integrate sustainable practices, ecological design for landscapes, and green building techniques into new construction and renewal of all amenities....

STRATEGY: Build or renew facilities to meet and exceed standards for accessibility

STRATEGY: Build quality facilities that can be adapted to new uses as community needs change

GOAL: Financially independent and sustainable parks prosper

STRATEGY: Create opportunities for entrepreneurs...to enrich the park experience and implement innovative approaches to revenue generation

**Comprehensive Plan Vision Theme 4:** A safe place to play, recreate, contemplate, and celebrate

GOAL: Parks and safe and welcoming by design

STRATEGY: Design parks to meet or exceed safety standards, building codes, and CTPED principles

STRATEGY: Provide access to restrooms, drinking water, bike racks, and shade throughout the park system

**1c. Project Timeline:**

- Concept Design Jan-Mar 2021
- Concept Design Board Approval April 2021
- Schematic Design April-May 2021
- Design Development June-Aug 2021
- Construction Documents Sept-Dec 2021
- Bidding Jan-Feb 2022
- Construction Contract Award March 2022

- Construction April 2022-March 2023
- Fit Out Vendor Space April 2023
- Initiate Full Vendor Operations May 2023

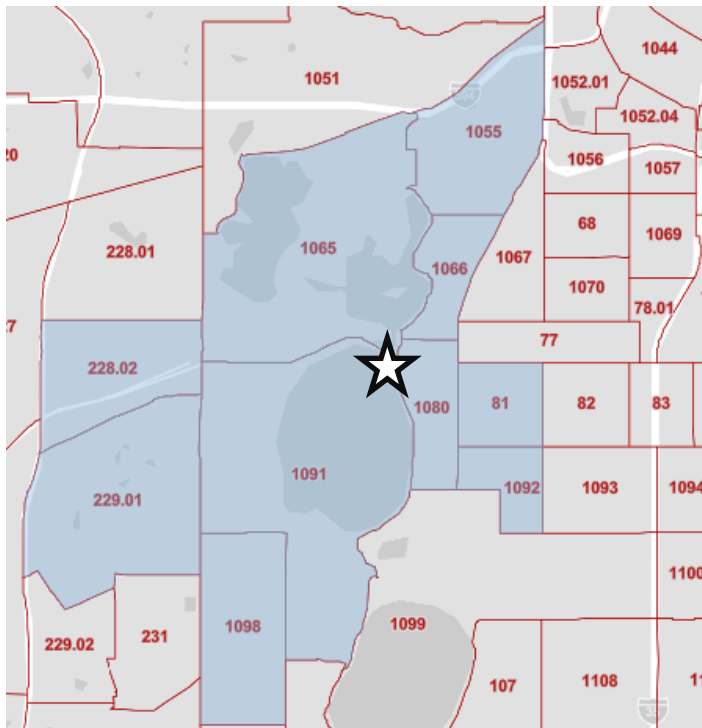
**1d. Project Funding:**

<u>Capital Sources</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Expiration</u>
<b>Insurance Claim - Advance</b>	\$38,580.18	
<b>Insurance Claim – Lose/Structure Replacement</b>	\$637,901.52	

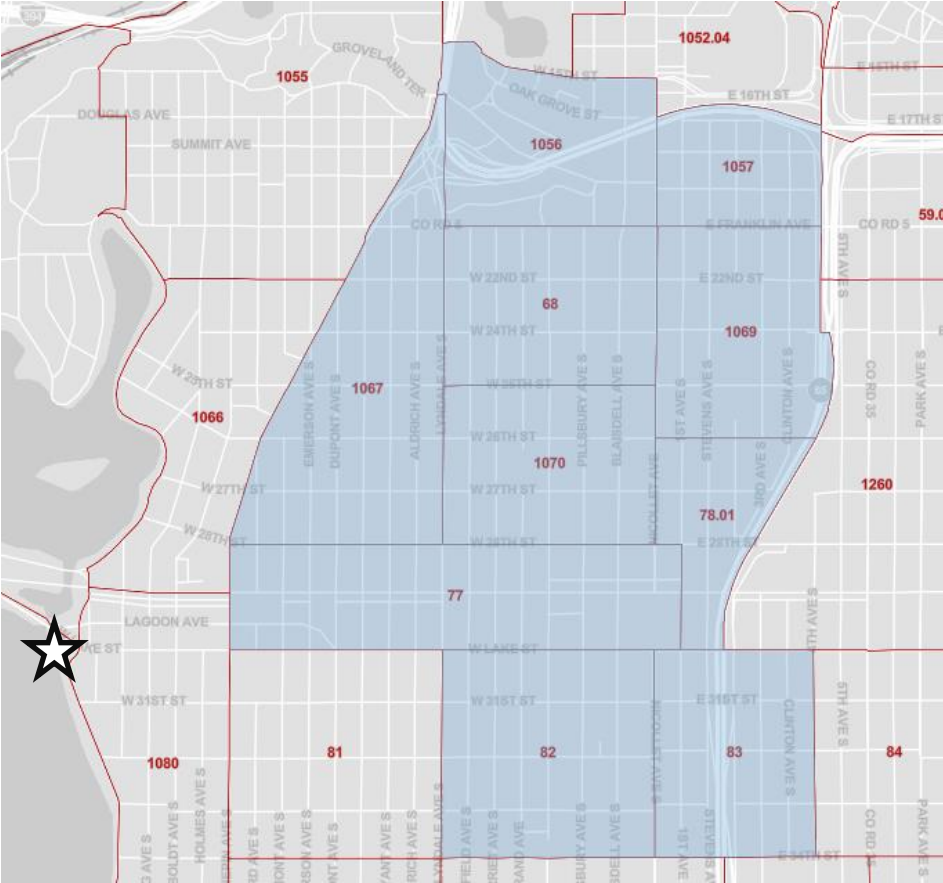
**2. Project Data:**

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

**Local:** The local demographics include census tracts (81, 229.01, 228.02, 1055, 1092, 1065, 1066, 1080, 1091, 1098) immediately adjacent and nearly immediately adjacent to the project location. These tracts include all of the immediately adjacent neighborhoods. The star represents the project location.



**Proximal:** The census tracts (68, 77, 78.01, 82, 83, 1056, 1057, 1067, 1069, 1070) identified as proximal are ones that are slightly further away from being immediately adjacent to the project location and regional park. They represent potential users for whom this is the closest regional park. The star represents the project location.



**Regional:** Regional users are represented through Minneapolis and Hennepin County data. While there are users from all over the state and beyond, city and county data were used to represent park users who are more likely to frequent this location.

**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:

Local	Proximal	City	Region (Hennepin County)
38,374	34,659	416,021	1,235,478

Race by Percentage of the Population:

Race	Local	Proximal	City	Region (Hennepin County)
White	88.4%	63.9%	63.8%	72.6%
Black or African American	3.2%	20.9%	19.4%	13.1%
American Indian and Alaska Native	.3%	.7%	1.4%	.7%
Asian	3.5%	3.6%	6.1%	7.1%
Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander	0%	0%	0%	0%
Some other race	1.4%	6.5%	4.7%	2.9%
Two or more races	3.2%	4.4%	4.6%	3.6%

Median Age:

Local (averaged	Proximal	City	Region (Hennepin County)
35.7	29.75	32.1	36.4

Median Household Income:

Local	Proximal	City	Region (Hennepin County)
\$81,259.10	\$40,422.6	\$58,993	\$74,113

Percentage of the Population That Speaks A Language Other than English at Home:

Local	Proximal	City	Region (Hennepin County)
8.7%	28.2%	22.3%	18.3%

Percentage of the Population with a Disability:

Local	Proximal	City	Region (Hennepin County)
7.7%	11.4%	11.2%	9.9%

Percentage of the Households with a Computer:

Local	Proximal	City	Region (Hennepin County)
95%	92%	91.5%	92.6%

Percentage of the Households with Broadband Internet Subscriptions:

Local	Proximal	City	Region (Hennepin County)
89%	80.3%	81.6%	85.3%

*Data source for all charts: 2018 American Community Survey 5-year estimate*

Analysis:

As a key site in the most visited regional park in the state, the project area must recognize that users will come from beyond the immediate vicinity. Therefore, our demographic analysis considered not only the surrounding area, but a so-called “proximal” area and two larger geographic boundaries. The purpose of the analysis is to see if community engagement methods and needs might change as we move away from the immediate vicinity of the park. The demographics of the proximal area are in fact quite different than the local area: the proximal area is significantly less white, younger, more likely to speak a language other than English at home, and has half the average income as the local area. Furthermore, proximal area residents are less likely to have a computer and broadband internet access than local area ones. This knowledge will drive decision-making around specific engagement activities.

**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 primarily guided by the adopted Bde Maka Ska/Harriet Master Plan. That plan unfolded over two years with significant community engagement. The plan called for an eventual relocation of the sailing school away from the northeast corner of the lake, relocation of the Wheel Fun rental area, and inclusion of a restroom building and some kind of visitor center. Though the plan was prepared prior to the burning of the refectory and assumed the old building would remain, many of the design principles contained in the plan still govern.

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

The principal data gap is knowledge of demographic characteristics of users of the Minneapolis Chain of Lakes Regional Park broadly and the project site specifically. Though there is broad understanding of the demographics of regional park users overall, we do not feel these are an appropriate measure for the single park area. We have therefore used both city and county data to understand this user group, demographically, while we also understand these are not fully accurate measures.

### 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>
Nearby neighborhood organizations	Direct e-mail to organizations.	Community open house (digital or outdoor in-person, depending on COVID factors). On-line survey. Possible direct engagement at standing neighborhood meeting.	Project website. GovDelivery. Direct e-mail to organizations.
Nearby residents	Signage on-site in project area and nearby. E-mails coordinated with neighborhood groups. GovDelivery notices. Leverage Cedar/Isles Master Plan engagement.	Community open house (digital or outdoor in-person, depending on COVID factors). On-line survey.	Project website. GovDelivery.

General Regional Park system users	Signage on-site in project area and nearby. Leverage Cedar/Isles Master Plan engagement.	Community open house (digital or outdoor in-person, depending on COVID factors). On-line survey.	Project website. GovDelivery.
Potential Regional Park system users for whom Bde Maka Ska is the nearest regional park, specifically the Whittier and Lyndale neighborhoods (proximal neighborhoods)	Connection with neighborhood organizations. Leverage Cedar/Isles Master Plan engagement (Whittier).	Community event(s) targeted specifically to these areas. On-line survey.	Project website. GovDelivery.
Native tribes	Direct connection via established relationships and consultant relationships.	Direct interaction with project staff.	Ongoing direct project communication.
On-site stakeholders: Lola's, Bde Maka Ska sailing school, Wheel Fun	Individual stakeholder meetings.	Direct interaction with project staff.	Ongoing direct project communication.
Boat ramp users	Because the ramp will be closed for the duration of the engagement, we will engage with MPRB staff to understand needs/operations for this user group.	Staff participation on the PAC (see below).	Staff participation on the PAC (see below).

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

**3a. Advisory Committees:**

<b>Technical Advisory Committee:</b> This roster is a list of agencies and groups that are on the TAC
Minnesota Department of Natural Resources
Minnehaha Creek Watershed District
Metro Transit
City of Minneapolis Community Planning and Economic Development Department



<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
Environmental Management Department
Athletics, Aquatics, and Ice Department
Information Technology Department
Communications Department
Park Police Department
Forestry Department
Customer Service Department (Permits)

**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?**

- What is the most effective overall layout of the site and building for the public?
- What aesthetic goals and visions does the public have for the site and building?
- How does the public see themselves using this space?
- How can the new site and building be made welcoming for all users, including youth, people of color, Native people, and new park users?

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

This project’s outreach will specifically work to engage Native peoples and tribes in the design of the site and building. Bde Maka Ska is the ancestral and contemporary homeland of the Dakota people, a fact that has been recognized in part with the new Cloudman Village Memorial. Including Native perspectives ensures a deeper understanding of the land and water and will lead to greater inclusion of and a welcoming environment for Native people at the site, once it is completed.

The project’s outreach will also go beyond the immediately adjacent neighborhoods into areas less well represented in regional park use. For several neighborhoods, Bde Maka Ska is the nearest regional park site. Engaging with users and potential from these areas will encourage greater use from these census tracts, which tend to have higher numbers of people of color and lower income levels.

The Bde Maka Ska refectory is a high-profile site that will surely draw attention and engagement from nearby residents and regular park users. This population tends to be wealthier, older, and more white than the population of the city as a whole. Expending effort to engage beyond this local area will ensure

a more diverse voice in the process, and will lead to a design that is more appealing and welcoming to a broader cross section of park users.

**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**

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

**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?**