

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: Adam Arvidson

Division/Department: Strategic Planning & Design and Project Management

Level of Engagement:

Project, Program, or Initiative Name: North Commons Phase 1 Implementation

Project Description (100 words recommended):

The project will focus on improvements to the North Commons Community/Recreation Center, water park features, and parking, as guided by the adopted North Service Area Master Plan, including the 17 North Commons Guiding Principles. Improvements will include the demolition of the current recreation center and replacement with a new community center that will serve the various needs of the North side, including expanded gym space, community rooms, arts and media spaces, and youth oriented gathering spaces. Parking will be reconfigured in a new location. The waterpark is planned to be expanded and largely rebuilt farther east and could include a variety of options. It is important to note that a wading pool/splash pad will be included in this area but should remain fee-free as a replacement for the existing wading pool. If there is any remaining funding available, prioritization of additional potential project(s) will be discussed with the community.

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.*

The project is an implementation of an adopted master plan. The scale of the project, however, suggests that extensive consultation with the community is necessary and beneficial. The amount of engagement and the expected level of detail in community conversations potentially fit more in the INVOLVE category. MPRB staff expects to work closely with the community in envisioning how to engage and to then execute that engagement, which rises above the CONSULT category in practice. However, a CAC is not required in this case, and MPRB staff feel it will be more effective to work directly with community stakeholders of various ages, and primarily with park users and potential park users rather than rely on a single appointed committee. Therefore the CONSULT category is most appropriate, with the recognition that engagement will be robust, community driven, and highly detailed.

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.*