



Date of Board P+C: April 7, 2021

Date of Most Recent Update:

Staff Lead: Madeline Hudek

Department or Division: Planning Division/Strategic Planning

Project Name: Minnehaha Parkway Regional Trail Master Plan – Phase 1 Implementation

Engagement Level: Consult (See Engagement Assessment attached)

This plan serves as a guide for the community engagement process for the Minnehaha Parkway Regional Trail Master Plan – Phase 1 Implementation. 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: Neighborhood organizations, noted in section 3, and the Community Advisory Committee from the recently adopted Minnehaha Parkway Regional Trail master plan were invited to comment on the draft community engagement plan prior to and concurrent with submittal to the Board of Commissioners.

1. Project Description

1a. Project Overview:

The project will focus on intersection improvements at 50th Street and Minnehaha Parkway, located in the Portland and Parkway Focus area within the adopted Minnehaha Parkway Regional Trail Master Plan. Improvements will include intersection re-alignment, a 3-way stop, intersection treatments for improved pedestrian and bicycle safety, and medians on 50th Street east of 4th Avenue. This area raised the most points of concern during the master planning process and was rated as the highest priority item for the master plan's Community Advisory Committee. If there is any remaining funding available, prioritization of additional potential project(s) will be discussed with the community.

1b. MPRB Outcomes

Comprehensive Plan

- Goal: Parks shape an evolving city
- Goal: Parks are safe and welcoming by design
- Value: Responsiveness and Innovation

Racial Equity Action Plan

- E: The MPRB provides programs and services that are responsive and reflective of community needs.

1c. Project Timeline:

- Community engagement and design – Spring and Summer 2021
- Bid – Winter 2021
- Construction – 2022

1d. Project Funding:

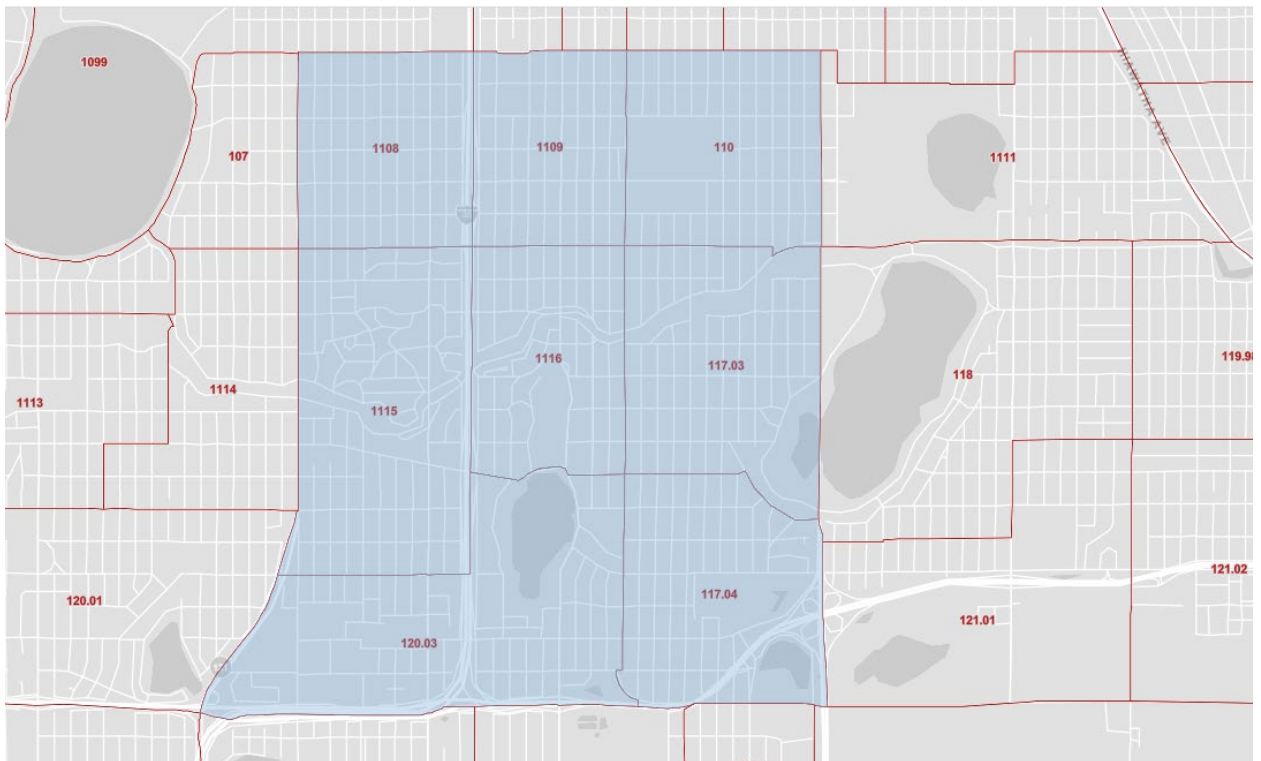
<u>Capital Sources</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Expiration</u>
\$550,000 - \$800,000 depending on bridge repair plans	Met Council Regional Funds	n/a

<u>Supplemental Sources</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Expiration</u>
Total:		

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 50th St & E Minnehaha Parkway intersection is located within the Field and Page neighborhoods. Near these two neighborhoods are the Regina, Northrop, Hale, Diamond Lake, Tangletown, and Windom neighborhoods. The following census tracts were included to provide an overview of the demographics for these local/potential trail users: 110, 117.03, 117.04, 120.03, 1108 ,1109, 1115, 1116



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:

Neighborhoods (Local)	City	Region (Hennepin County)
34,084	429,605	1,245,837

Race by Percentage of the Population:

Race	Local	City	Region (Hennepin County)
White	77.5%	64.3%	72.1%
Black or African American	11.5%	19.3%	13.3%
American Indian and Alaska Native	1.3%	1.2%	0.7%
Asian	2.7%	4.8%	7.1%
Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander	0.0%	0.1%	0.0%
Some other race	3.6%	4.6%	3.0%
Two or more races	3.4%	5.6%	3.7%

Median Age:

Local (averaged)	City	Region (Hennepin County)
37.2	32.2	36.5

Median Household Income:

Local (Averaged)	City	Region (Hennepin County)
\$102,091	\$65,889	\$78,167

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

Local	City	Region (Hennepin County)
13.3%	20.4%	18.1%

Percentage of the Population with a Disability:

Local	City	Region (Hennepin County)
7.7%	11.0%	10.1%

Percentage of the Households with a Computer:

Local	City	Region (Hennepin County)
96.3%	95.5%	95.3%

Percentage of the Households with Broadband Internet Subscriptions:

Local	City	Region (Hennepin County)
93.0%	87.4%	89.6%

Data source for all tables: 2019 American Community Survey 5-year estimate

ANALYSIS

Local Residents Are Generally:

- Older than the City of Minneapolis and Hennepin County
- Whiter (but with a slightly higher Indigenous population compared to the City of Minneapolis and Hennepin County as a whole)
- Wealthier than both the City and Hennepin County
- Less likely to have a disability
- More likely to speak primarily/only English at home
- More likely to have computer and internet access

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:

This project will be primarily guided by the adopted Minnehaha Parkway Regional Trail Master Plan. That plan unfolded over the course of approximately two years with significant community engagement. The plan includes specific projects for the ‘Portland and the Parkway’ area in Segment 3, generally including intersection treatments to promote safety (such as re-alignment and other traffic calming measures). Project 3.1-G will inform the intersection improvements portion of this project. Guiding principles within the plan will also help to guide improvements, which include, but are not limited to the following topics: connectivity, intersections, trails, and safety.

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 Minnehaha Creek Regional Park and Regional Trail 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.

Project Stakeholder <i>(students, ethnic communities, neighborhood groups, community leaders)</i>	Outreach: How will you reach out to the stakeholder? <i>(i.e. go to parks, neighborhood listserv, engage with cultural media)</i>	Engagement: How will they participate? <i>(i. e. online survey, focus group, community open house, intercept survey)</i>	Reflecting Back: How will stakeholder groups be reflected back to about the project progress or outcomes? <i>(Posted on project website, ribbon cutting, e-blast, site visit, celebration)</i>
Area neighborhood organizations (Field, Regina, Northrop Neighborhood Group; Hale, Page, Diamond Lake Community Organization; Tangletown Neighborhood Organization; and Windom Community Organization)	Direct email	Online survey, virtual open house, possible direct engagement at neighborhood organization meeting	Project updates via email and project website updates
Minnehaha Parkway Regional Trail Master Plan Community Advisory Committee members and community participants	Direct email, social media, Minnehaha Parkway Master Plan listserv	Online survey, virtual open house	Project updates via email and project website updates

Area residents	Postcard mailing, neighborhood newsletter, social media, Minnehaha Parkway Master Plan listserv, on site signage	Online survey, virtual open house	Project updates via email and project website updates
Preserve the Parkways group	Direct email, social media, Minnehaha Parkway Master Plan listserv, on site signage	Online survey, virtual open house	Project updates via email and project website updates
General park and parkway users	On site signage, neighborhood newsletter, social media	Online survey, virtual open house	Project updates via email and project website updates

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

3a. Advisory Committees:

The Technical Advisory Committee may meet as a group or may be one on one meetings as needed. This has not yet been determined.

Technical Advisory Committee: This roster is a list of agencies and groups that are on the TAC
City of Minneapolis – Public Works, Surface Water and Sewers
City of Minneapolis – Public Works, Transportation Planning
Minnehaha Creek Watershed District

Project Advisory Committee: This roster is a list of MPRB departments and divisions that are on the PAC
Asset Management
Customer Service
Environmental Management
Forestry
Public Safety

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?

Due to the intersection improvements being highly technical, questions for outreach and engagement will be primarily focused on how any remaining funding should be spent within Minnehaha Parkway Regional Trail.

If there are remaining funding available after the intersection improvements the following would be asked:

- With the remaining funds available, here are some potential project options. Please rank the projects in order by highest to lowest priority.
- Do you have ideas for how MPRB can be engaging with more people around this project?

Additional questions related to the selected project would be determined following project selection.

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

The neighborhoods selected to focus engagement on are both immediately adjacent and extend slightly further out from the project area. This was done to ensure a broader range of community members are aware of what will be taking place and are invited to provide input as needed. Communities further away from the immediate project area are also more diverse and represent a slightly broader demographic.

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 (i.e. Draft design review, draft policy review, project mid-point)

Upon completion of a 50% plan set and cost estimate, staff will determine whether additional projects will be added to the work. If so, this plan will consider MILESTONES 1 and 2. If no additional projects are added, this plan will consider MILESTONE 2 only.

- MILESTONE 1: Upon completion of concept design and final selection of additional project(s)
- MILESTONE 2: Upon completion of 90% construction plans, prior to release for construction bidding.

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?