HELP US IMAGINE SAINT PAUL’S RIVER BALCONY!

Community Workshop
February 10, 2022
6:00-7:30 p.m.

This first workshop will include a short design presentation of initial ideas for the River Balcony, followed by breakout discussion groups, and a large group discussion to share feedback and ideas.

greatriverpassage.org/projects/river-balcony/
**TONIGHT’S CONVERSATION**

- **RESPECT:** Please maintain a tone of respect during tonight’s conversation. We reserve the right to remove anyone who communicates in a way we perceive to be discriminatory or harmful to other community members in attendance.

- **MUTE:** Please keep yourself muted during the presentation. You will have the opportunity to unmute and speak when we move to smaller group conversations following our presentation.

- **CHAT:** We encourage you to use the chat feature if you have questions during the presentation.

- **RAISE HAND:** We encourage you to use the raise hand function in the breakout rooms. Our team will be monitoring for people who have raised their hands and will call on you speak in the order which you raise your hands.

**INSTRUCTIONS FOR RAISE HAND**

*Computer or Laptop:* If you’re joining on a computer or laptop, you can access the raise hand function by clicking on the icon labeled "Reactions" in the toolbar on the bottom center of your screen. A new window should pop out on your screen after clicking "Reaction". At the bottom right of the screen, you should see the button labeled "Raise Hand." Click that button.

*Mobile Phone:* If you’re joining on a mobile phone, click on the three horizontal dots, labeled "More" located in the toolbar in the bottom right corner of the screen. In the pop-up at the bottom of your screen, tap "Raise Hand."

You’ll know your hand is raised as a participant when you see an emoji hand on the screen next to your name.
**PURPOSE**

- Share progress & initial ideas
- Foster conversation & feedback to inform the design
- Build community support

**AGENDA**

- Welcome & Overview
- Design Presentation
- Breakout Conversations
- Report Back & Share Key Takeaways
- Next Steps & Adjourn

**DESIGN TEAM**

**James Corner Field Operations**  
project management / landscape architecture & urban design

**HR&A Advisors**  
M&O planning / partnerships, governance & funding strategy

**106 Group**  
community engagement lead / cultural resources

**Claim Our Space**  
community engagement / equity & inclusion consultant

**Forecast Public Art**  
community engagement / public art planning & strategy

**SEH**  
gineering / phasing & implementation strategy

**Dharam Consulting**  
cost estimating
SCHEMATIC DESIGN SCOPE

• **Schematic Design** - site analysis, exploring design concepts, basic features and programming, and getting a general idea of the look and feel of the project.

• **Preliminary Estimates** - capital costs and long-term maintenance, and operations costs.

• **Preliminary Phasing Plan & Implementation Strategy**

• **High-level funding strategy**

• **Preliminary Partnerships and Governance Approach**

• **Preliminary Public Art Approach & Strategy**
ENGAGEMENT

ENGAGEMENT TEAM

• 106 Group
• Claim Our Space
• Forecast Public Art
• Sam Olbekson (GRPC’s Tribal Consultant)

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT PLAN SUMMARY

• Technical, Advisory & Stakeholder Committees;
• Focus Groups (with historically under-represented populations including Hmong, Somali, Black & Latinx/Hispanic communities);
• Public Community Workshops;
• Surveys;
• Passive Engagement (large scale boards in lobbies of institutions and project partners with information about the project and link to website);
• Translation in Spanish, Hmong, Karen and Somali;
WALKING TOURS & SURVEY

Top 3 Priorities

- Connect People with the River: 70%
- Create Public Space at the River’s Edge: 56%
- Access Quality Outdoor Space: 38%
- Link Development to the River: 33%
- Other: 21%
- Encourage and Support River-Based Tourism: 19%
- Promote Longer Visits in St. Paul: 16%
- Develop Underutilized Sites: 12%
- Provide Economic Opportunities for Businesses: 9%

Top 3 Uses

- Walk the Paths: 77%
- Grab a Bite to Eat: 56%
- Relax & Enjoy the View or People Watch: 47%
- Access the Mississippi River: 40%
- Attend Special Events: 40%
- Bike on Trails: 19%
- Participate in Active Recreation: 16%
Parks, even internationally renowned parks, primarily serve surrounding residents.

- 51% of Central Park visitors live in adjacent neighborhoods
- 61% of Central Park visitors live in Manhattan
- 70% of Central Park visitors are NYC residents

Downtown St. Paul is growing - attracting not only highly-educated, younger people, but also families and older adults, including immigrants.

**NORTH AREA**
- +470 older adults
- 24% foreign-born
- 25% Black

**DOWNTOWN CORE**
- +400 children
- +520 older adults
- 60% Bachelor’s or higher

**SOUTH AREA**
- +220 Asian pop.
- 21% foreign-born
- 27% Hisp./Latx.

Demographic analysis is based on the 2010 Census and 2019 ACS 5-Year Survey. “Children” are defined as 0-18, “Older Adults” are 65+.
While local residents may be the most frequent visitors, the River Balcony will serve diverse groups across the region.

**Local Visitor Audiences**
- Adjacent Immigrant and BIPOC Communities
- Affluent, Well-Educated Downtown Residents

**Regional Visitor Audiences**
- Residents From Across the Metro Region
- Downtown Workers
- Downtown Tourists

**Benchmark Analysis**

2.2M - 5.0M
annual visits to comparable parks

**2.9M**
estimated annual visitation to the River Balcony

**60%**
share of annual River Balcony visits that are St. Paul residents
Parks deliver a range of benefits that are aligned with Saint Paul’s goals for equitable economic development.

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Benefit</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Real estate value</td>
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<tr>
<td>Equity and inclusion</td>
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<tr>
<td>Green infrastructure</td>
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<tr>
<td>Attraction/retention of residents/jobs</td>
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<tr>
<td>Earned income/entrepreneurship</td>
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<td>Health</td>
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<td>Tourist spending</td>
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<td>Career tracks</td>
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<tr>
<td>Safety</td>
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<td>Park operator spending</td>
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STAKEHOLDERS

STREETScape
- City of St. Paul
- Ramsey County
- Xcel Energy Center
- Rivercentre
- Rivercentre Ramp
- Science museum
- Library
- Amtrak
- Union Pacific Railroad
- Canadian Pacific Railroad
- Mndot
- Kellogg condos

Kellogg Triangle
- City of St. Paul
- Xcel Energy Center
- District Energy

Rivercentre Ramp
- City of St. Paul
- Rivercentre
- Xcel Energy Center

Science Museum
- Science Museum of Minnesota
- National Park Service
- District Energy

Library Quad
- George Latimer Central Library
- First & First Creative Real Estate

River’s Edge
- City of St. Paul
- Ramsey County
- District Energy
- Aecom

Kellogg Mall Park
- City of St. Paul
- Kellogg Square Development
- Dorothy Day Center
- Higher Ground
- Naomi Family Residence
- The Family Place
- Salvation Army

2nd St Connector
- City of St. Paul
- Ramsey County
- Custom House
- Union Pacific Railroad
- Canadian Pacific Railroad

Parking Lot
- City of St. Paul
- Ramsey County

Lambert’s Landing
- City of St. Paul
- Ramsey County
- Us Army Corps
- Viking River Cruises
- Visit St Paul

Tunnel & Underpasses
- City of St. Paul
- Union Pacific Railroad
- Canadian Pacific Railroad
- Mndot
- Ramsey County

Union Depot, Hyatt, Tpt, Custom House
- Tpt
- Hyatt Place Hotel
- Union Depot
- Regional Rail
- Ramsey County

Other Stakeholders
- West Side Community Organization
- Ex: Active Transportation Groups
- Capital River Council (District 17)
- Others
OVERARCHING PRINCIPLES

• Build on what is already here
• Establish critical connections
• Create discrete and distinctive elements
• Prolong and extend the stay
• Foster programmatic extensions and synergies
• Cultivate connection to place and a sense of belonging
• Build excitement and activate through interim use
• Meet the needs of local communities and residents and attract the larger St. Paul community
NOTE: Initial plan and sketches are conceptual. The design is being explored with partner institutions and will be informed by community input.
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Exchange St connects Washington St and Eagle Pkwy is part of the Bridge renovation project which will provide pedestrian access to the river and to downtown.

Skyway connects RiverCentre and RiverCentre Ramp.

Kellogg Blvd Bridge

Kellogg Blv Ramp

Kellogg Blv West (from 7th St W to Washington St) is part of the Bridge renovation project

Science Museum

RiverCentre Ramp

RiverCentre

XCEL Energy Center

Kellogg Triangle
PRELIMINARY PLAN
RIVERCENTRE RAMP & KELLOGG TRIANGLE

RIVERCENTRE BRIDGE
WATCH TOWER

TAILGATING + ART PLAZA
KIOSKS & FOOD TRUCKS

RIVER BALCONY CUT
DEVELOPMENT FOOTPRINT
‘BIG WOODS’ WALK
PLATFORM SEATING

RIVER BALCONY BRIDGE

ADA COMPLIANT RAMP

SCIENCE MUSEUM AMPHITHEATER

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EXISTING - EAGLE PARKWAY
PROPOSED - BIG WOODS WALK
REFERENCE IMAGES
LOCATION & EXISTING CONDITIONS

RiverCentre Ramp

RiverCentre

Science Museum

Science Museum Plaza

and overlook on upper level @Kellogg Blvd

Science Museum stairs and terraces provides the connection between Kellogg Blvd and Shepard Rd

District Energy

Bluff under/behind the Kellogg Blvd and Science Museum Ramp
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LOCATION & EXISTING CONDITIONS

- Narrow sidewalk at the end of Washington St that connects Science Museum and District Energy
- Science Museum Ramp
- Retaining wall covers all bluff under Kellogg Blvd
- On grade railway track
- Sheet piles along the river
- City Hall
- Kellogg Mall Park
- District Energy
- Shepard Rd
NOTE: Initial plan and sketches are conceptual. The design is being explored with partner institutions and will be informed by community input.
REFERENCE IMAGES - PLAY FEATURES
REFERENCE IMAGES - INTERIM USE PROGRAMS
LOCATION & EXISTING CONDITIONS

28ft wide E 2nd St, with 8-9ft wide sidewalk connects Kellogg Blvd and Jackson St

Nature plantation on top of the bluff right next to E 2nd St

Kellogg Mall Park

County parking lot

Ramsey County Social Services

Culture Park

County parking lot

Kellogg Mall Park

Wabasha St Bridge

Raised railway track

Kellogg Mall Park

28ft wide E 2nd St, with 8-9ft wide sidewalk connects Kellogg Blvd and Jackson St

Wabasha St Bridge

Kellogg Mall Park

County parking lot
NOTE: Initial plan and sketches are conceptual. The design is being explored with partner institutions and will be informed by community input.
REFERENCE IMAGES - KELLOGG MALL PARK

WaterColor, Walton County

Domino Park, Brooklyn

Barangaroo Reserve, Sydney

Metropolitan Museum, New York

Quilotoa Shalalá Overlook, Ecuador

Westmoreland Park, Portland

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PRELIMINARY PLAN
2ND STREET CONNECTOR & COUNTY PARKING LOT

NOTE: Initial plan and sketches are conceptual. The design is being explored with partner institutions and will be informed by community input.
REFERENCE IMAGES - 2ND ST CONNECTOR
REFERENCE IMAGES - PARKING LOT
EXISTING - E. 2ND STREET
PROPOSED - BLUFF WALK & OVERLOOK
EXISTING - E. 2ND STREET
PROPOSED - KELLOGG CUT

2ND ST CONNECTOR

FLOATING LOOKOUT

STACKED SANDSTONE WALL

RIVER BALCONY - 50% SCHEMATIC DESIGN

FIELD OPERATIONS
LOCATION & EXISTING CONDITIONS

- Ramsey County Social Services
- Union Depot
- Robert St Bridge
- Lambert’s Landing (Viking River Cruises)
- Raised railway track
- Jackson St underpass
NOTE: Initial plan and sketches are conceptual. The design is being explored with partner institutions and will be informed by community input.
REFERENCE IMAGES - UNDERPASS
EXISTING - LAMBERT’S LANDING
PROPOSED - THE LANDING

- The Port Portal
- Trail Connector
- River Balcony Paver
- River Bleachers/Sandstone Seating Steps
- Push Ramp Back
- Pier Pavilion/Kiosk/Cafe
REFERENCE IMAGES - LAMBERT’S LANDING

Cherry Street Pier, Philadelphia
Samuel-de-Champlain Promenade, Canada
Barangaroo Reserve, Australia

Rail Park, Philadelphia
Riverwalk, Chicago

Lambert’s Landing Reference Images
RIVER BALCONY AT NIGHT

LAMBERT'S LANDING
SIBLEY UNDERPASS
UNION DEPOT
OVERLOOK
JACKSON UNDERPASS
THE KELLOGG CUT
LAMBERT’S LANDING
SIBLEY UNDERPASS
UNION DEPOT
OVERLOOK
RIVER BALCONY GATEWAY
RIVER BALCONY OVERLOOK
RIVERS EDGE STAIRS
RIVERS EDGE OVERLOOK
KELLOGG MALL PARK
OVERLOOK
RIVER BALCONY - 50% SCHEMATIC DESIGN
FIELD OPERATIONS 53
INITIAL SITE PLAN

NOTE: The initial plan and sketches shown are conceptual. The design is being explored with partner institutions and will be informed by community input.
Thank you!

We will now move into breakout rooms so we can have conversations in smaller groups. There will be a facilitator and scribe in each room.

BREAKOUT ROOMS

• 5 questions / discussion
• Identify Key-Takeaways
• Please designate a community participant to report-back to the larger group
THANK YOU!

Stay connected by visiting the project website:
greatriverpassage.org/projects/river-balcony/

If you have questions, please reach out to:

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