

DNR Rulemaking: Mississippi River Corridor Critical Area (MRCCA)

Saint Paul City Council

18 May 2016

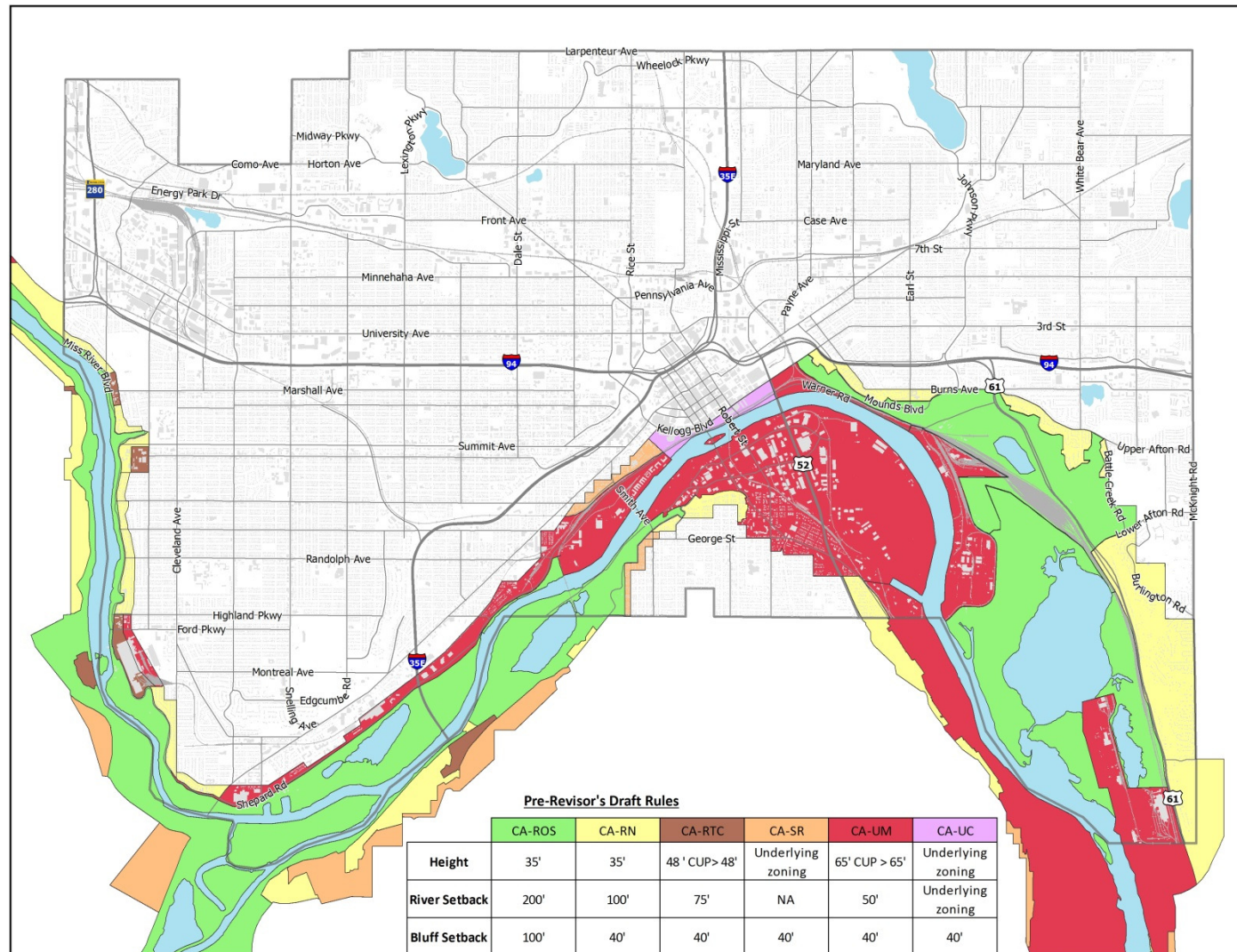
Topics

- MRCCA Basics
- History of MRCCA
- Rulemaking Process to Date
- Formal Rulemaking
- Rule Implementation

MRCCA Rules: Basics

- Mississippi River corridor from Dayton/Ramsey in the north to Hastings in the south (about 72 miles of river; coterminous with the Mississippi National River Recreation Area)
- Intent of MRCCA is to balance protection of natural systems with existing and future development (where appropriate)
- Management tools in rules include dimensional standards (setbacks and building heights) and development standards (stormwater, land disturbance, vegetation management, etc.)
- Communities in MRCCA will be required to adopt ordinances consistent with rules

MRCCA Rules: Basics



Source: City of Saint Paul, Department of Planning and Economic Development, Map/DNR

5/18/2016

Brief History

- MRCCA established in 1979 by Governor's Executive Order
- No current state rules
- Saint Paul adopted current ordinance in 1982
- DNR previous rulemaking authority expired in 2010
- Current rulemaking effort began in 2013

Process to Date (DNR and City)

- DNR staff met informally with various stakeholder communities beginning in 2013, held open houses and other public meetings
- Saint Paul Planning Commission held a public hearing on the a draft of the rules in October 2014
- Planning Commission made recommendations to Mayor and City Council regarding formal City comments on the proposed rules (August 2015)

Formal Rulemaking

- DNR initiated formal rulemaking on April 11, 2016
- **City Council hearing (May 18) to further inform formal City comments**
- DNR public hearings to be held in June 2016
- Rulemaking public comment period on rules to close July 6, 2016
- Administrative Law Judge report on rules due in August 2016
- Adoption of rules likely before the end of 2016

Implementation of Rules

- DNR staff have indicated they will spend about a year after adoption of rules on implementation planning
- First round of communities (including Saint Paul) to be asked to begin planning and ordinance development about 1 year after rule adoption
- Rules provide one year from DNR notification for communities to plan and adopt ordinances pursuant to rules