



## PROJECT SUMMARY

### MISSISSIPPI RIVER FOCUSED RECREATION & EDUCATION

\$20 million in state funding is requested to design and construct a mixed-use, river-focused space and office headquarters for major partners and non-profits at Crosby Farm Regional Park, serving as a national gateway to the Mississippi River with year-round regional river learning and outdoor recreation experiences on and along Saint Paul's River.

### PROJECT TIMELINE: JULY 2024-JUNE 2027

- July 2024- August 2025 - Site investigation and Design
- August- October 2025 - Bidding
- September 2025- December 2026- Construction
- January - June 2027- Furnishings and Program Planning

### EXISTING CONDITIONS

- Currently, the location for the Mississippi River Learning Center is unnoticed and underutilized. A site of such significance with access to the river's edge presents an opportunity for the region's residents and visitors to touch the water of the Mississippi River and to experience the dynamic river landscape and ecosystem. Within a half-mile are low mobility residents and a community categorized as low income and highly diverse. A facility and activity hub to provide new experiences in nature and along the Mississippi River for recreation and learning will be an asset to the region and one-of-a-kind.



### PUBLIC PURPOSE

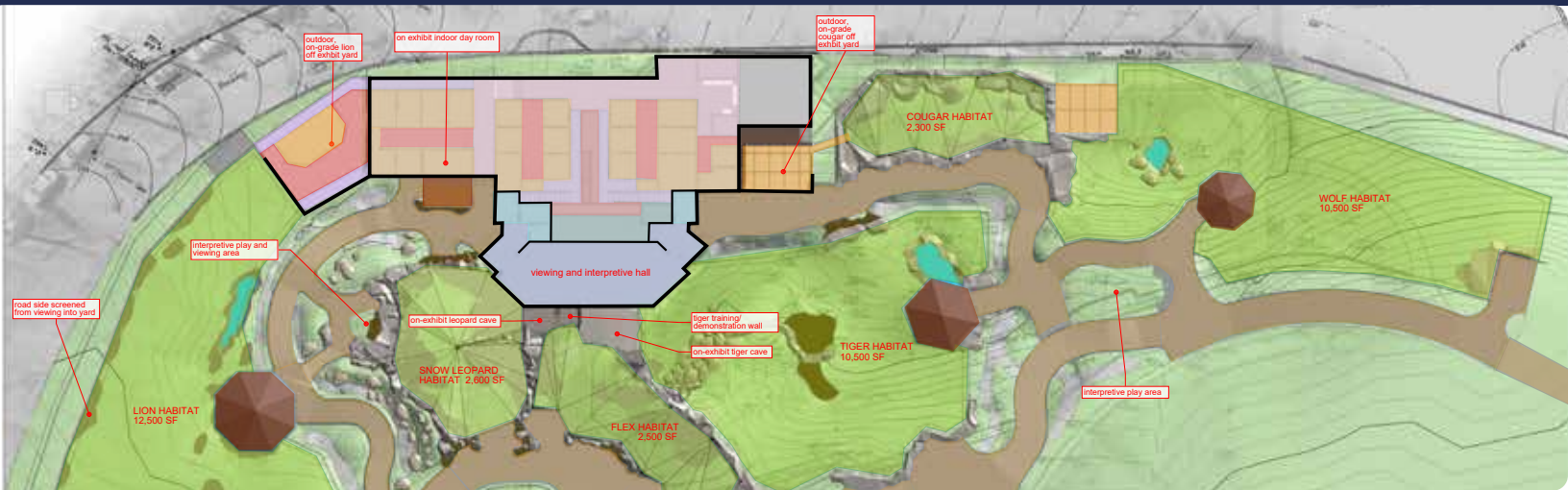
- A unique opportunity, this project will redevelop an underutilized location along the Mississippi River to create a center of river exploration and learning. The 25 acre site near the Bdote, where the Minnesota and Mississippi Rivers join together, will bring people and nature together to engage the Mighty Mississippi and experience the land, water, and culture of this region.
- A series of buildings are planned to create a welcoming gateway, provide office and headquarter space for supportive organizations, create facilities for environmental learning and instruction and accommodate motorized and nonmotorized watercraft.
- The site is on a steep river valley bluff so the design considers the topographic change and accessibility needs in addition to sensitivity of the floodplain and dynamic quality of the river.
- The plan honors the cultural significance of this area to the Dakota people and increases access to the park in a way that strengthens wellness of people, plants, animals, and water. The plan seeks to maintain this place of healing and restoration for people and ecology, including those of Saint Paul and the broader Metropolitan region.



**\$22,638,000** of funding is requested

\*amount requested is reflected by inflationary adjustment\*





## PROJECT PROPOSAL

### PROJECT DESCRIPTION

Como's mission is to inspire the public to value the presence of living things in our lives. As one of the State's most visited cultural destinations, providing access for all Minnesotans FREE of charge, this project serves our residents. Como Park Zoo and Conservatory's Campus Framework plan addresses critical habitat updates, energy efficiency asset preservation and ADA issues.

The Big Cat Habitat project includes designing new habitats for lions, tigers, cougars, snow leopards and wolves. The habitats will feature public spaces to provide nose-to-nose views that Como guests have known for generations and will provide world-class housing needs for the residents in regard to animal welfare and wellness. Opportunities for operant conditioning training, natural enrichment, off exhibit spaces, and veterinarian care will be included for animal welfare and wellness.

### PUBLIC PURPOSE

- Como Park Zoo and Conservatory is a statewide asset that provides meaningful educational opportunities FREE of charge by showcasing species ambassadors to connect Minnesotans to nature and inspire them to value the presence of living things in their lives.



**\$25,659,000** of funding is requested  
\*amount requested is reflected by inflationary adjustment\*



### PROJECT TIMELINE: JULY 2024 - JANUARY 2028

- July 2023-January 2024 - Design
- February 2024-April 2024 - Construction Documents
- May 2024-Aug 2024 - Bidding
- Sept 2024-Oct 2026 - Construction
- Plant stabilization, animal acquisition and acclimation -public opening

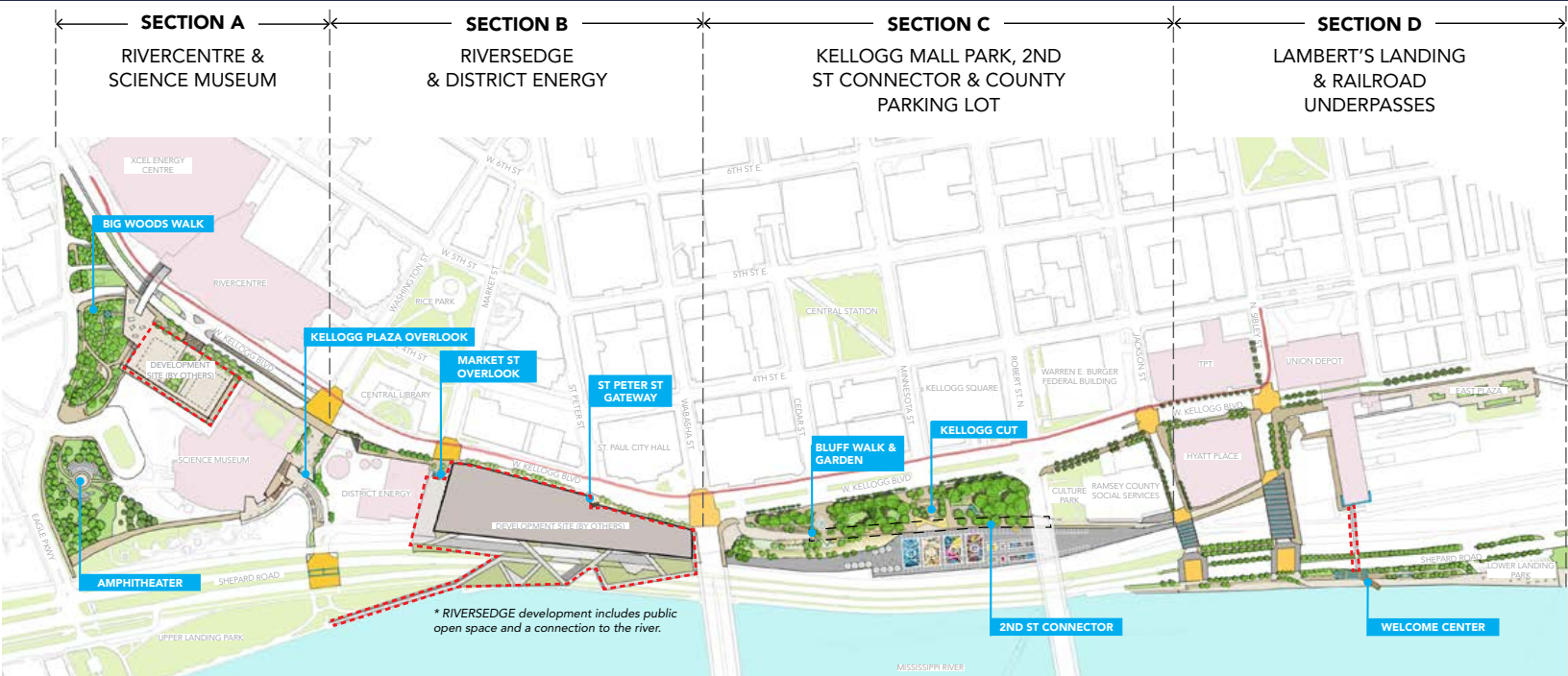
### EXISTING CONDITIONS

The Big Cat Habitat has been identified as a major priority. A recent structural survey has found the structural integrity of the bridges need repair, and because of this the bridges have been closed since July 2022 restricting visitor access to the cats. While a short-term solution has been identified and underway, a long-term look of this space needs to be addressed, or Como may have to close this habitat representing 1/6th of the Como Campus exhibits and decommission the collection. ADA issues with the building with stairs on one side and long slopes are an issue. Upgrading the HVAC systems for energy efficiency is a long-term sustainability goal.

### ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Como Park Zoo and Conservatory is admission FREE and welcomes over 2 million guests per year from across the State of Minnesota.





## PROJECT PROPOSAL

### PROJECT DESCRIPTION

- The River Balcony is a proposed 1.5-mile promenade along downtown Saint Paul's river bluff, connecting public spaces, civic landmarks, and development sites, providing new connections to the river and sparking economic development along the riverfront. The project seeks to reorient and reconnect Saint Paul to the Mississippi River, expanding Saint Paul's narrative around the river and bringing the river to the center of public life.
- A schematic design was completed in 2022 that identified improvements and revitalization to 1) Lambert's Landing/ Lower Landing Park (Section D above) and 2) Kellogg Mall Park (Section C above).

### PUBLIC PURPOSE

- The Balcony will be a publicly owned feature that is available for use by residents and visitors alike. The project creates a series of spaces along the Balcony including opportunities for programming, public art, events, food, walking, viewing, sitting and relaxing.

### EXISTING CONDITIONS

- The design approach builds on what is already there and establishes critical connections, and creates a series of distinctive elements that help to activate the bluff and riverfront and cultivate connections to this special place.

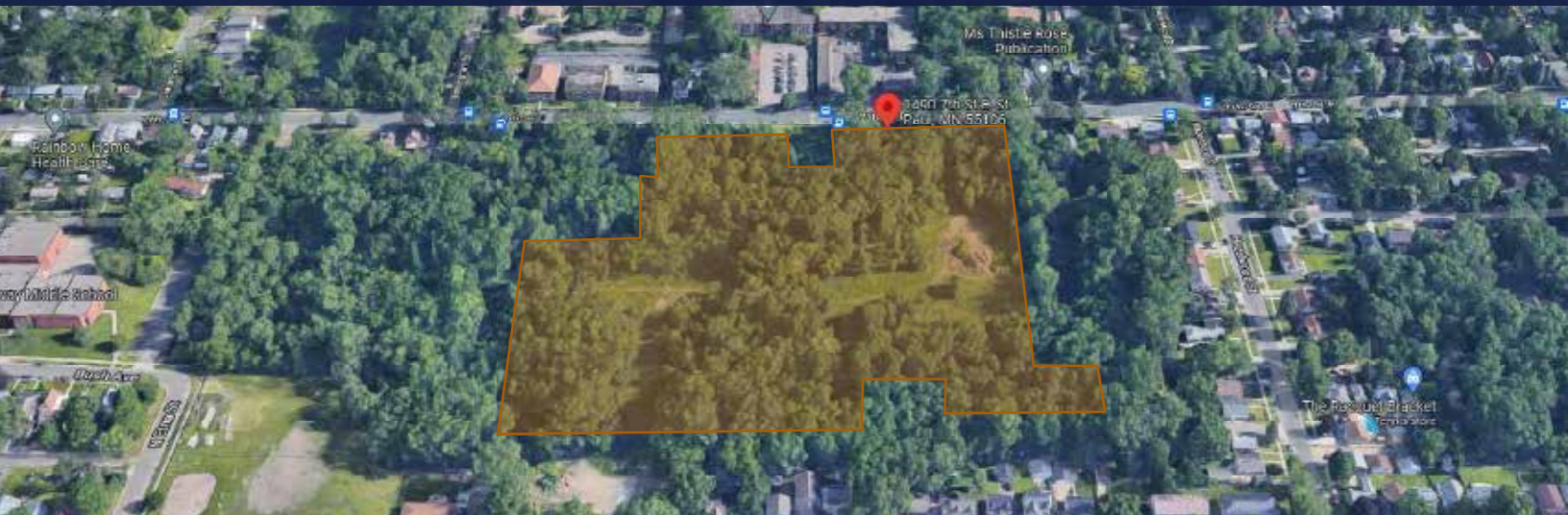
### PROJECT TIMELINE: 2024-2028

- 2024 Design Development
- 2025-2026 Construction Documents
- 2027-2028 Construction

**\$24,902,000** of funding is requested  
\*amount requested is reflected by inflationary adjustment\*







## PROJECT PROPOSAL

### PROJECT DESCRIPTION

- 13.5 acres of land along E 7th Street in Saint Paul was acquired by a development team to convert a former demolition and concrete landfill into new tennis facility for Saint Paul Urban Tennis (SPUT), affordable housing, and a new city park.
- Ramsey County has identified this area as being a “park desert” and the project has the opportunity to transform a former landfill into publicly accessible land closing a gap in parkland on the east-side of Saint Paul.
- Funding is needed to investigate environmental conditions, develop an appropriate environmental clean-up plan, engage the community in the design for new parkland and build a new park.

### PUBLIC PURPOSE

- Accessible public parkland is critical to the livelihood of residents. It provides a place to move, meet neighbors, and take a mental break from daily life. Conversion of a landfill/demolition site into public parkland will have a positive environmental impact by addressing a known contamination site in Saint Paul. In addition, partnering with SPUT provides an opportunity for the public to participate with a regional partner focused on youth development using tennis to develop social and emotional skills preparing students be leaders on and off the tennis court.
- As the city continues to grow, providing new, quality open space is important to support residents moving into Saint Paul. This requires creative thinking and re-purposing of land across the city. This project is an example of transforming a former landfill into an active and publicly accessible space that will increase vitality for Saint Paul. It will close an existing gap in parkland while also addressing an existing brownfield site within a growing neighborhood in Saint Paul.

**\$5,876,000 of funding is requested**  
\*amount requested is reflected by inflationary adjustment\*



### PROJECT TIMELINE: JULY 2024-OCTOBER 2027

- July 2024 - January 2025 Environmental investigation and reporting
- February 2025 - August 2025 -Design
- September 2025 - February 2026 - Construction Documents
- March 2026 - May 2026 - Bidding
- June 2026 - April 2027 Construction
- May 2027 - October 2027 - Plant stabilization

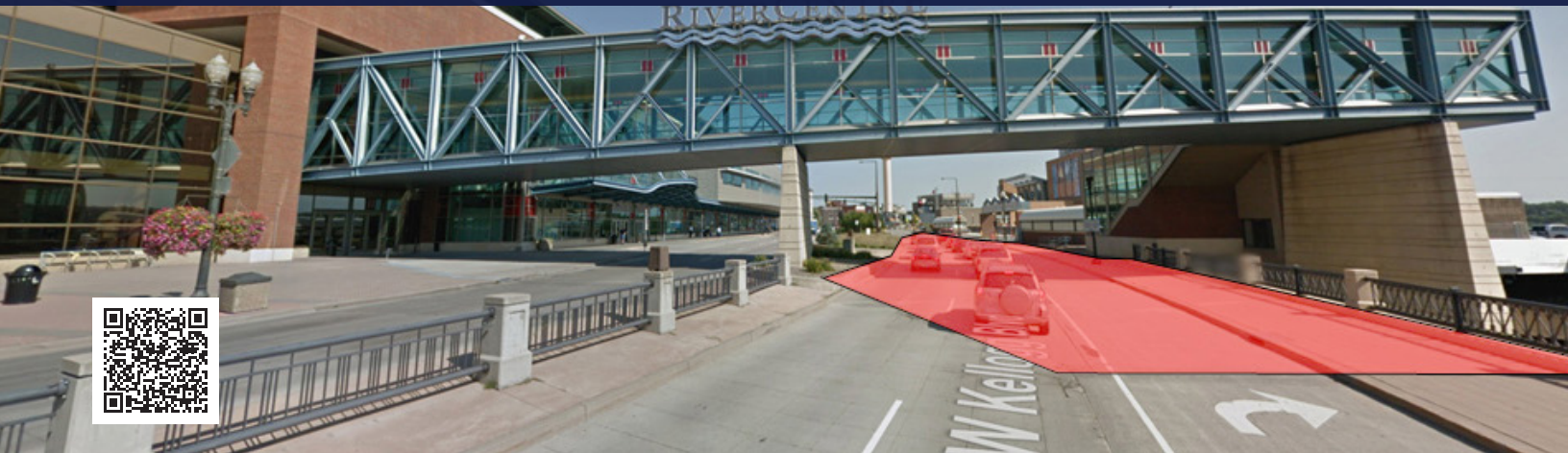
### EXISTING CONDITIONS



### ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

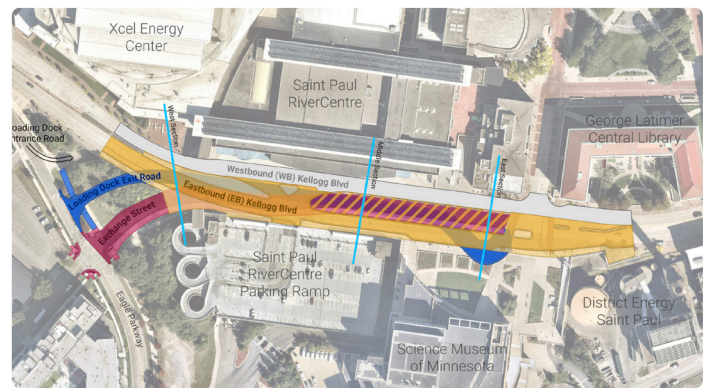
- Saint Paul Urban Tennis serves 2,700 youth each year in free and low-cost tennis lesson programs, community engagement programs and Academic Creative Camps for ages 5-18 at over 30 locations in Saint Paul.





## PROJECT BACKGROUND AND SCOPE

- At 87 years old, the concrete bridge has served downtown well and it has reached the end of its functional design life.
- Demolish the current single bridge structure and reconstruct new foundations, bridge supports, concrete deck slabs, barriers, retaining walls, railings, and pedestrian and bicycle facilities.
- Replace existing single bridge structure with two independent tunnels under Eastbound Kellogg Boulevard to streamline traffic circulation.



## "BRIDGING" REGIONAL CONNECTION & IMPACT

- Bridge serves as a **gateway for more than 7 million visitors** each year to experience downtown businesses, attractions, restaurants and entertainment district: Minnesota Wild, Xcel Energy Center, RiverCentre, Roy Wilkins Auditorium, Ordway, Science Museum of Minnesota, and much more.
- Connects downtown **access to regional transit system**, creating a vibrant downtown core, attracting and supporting long-term economic development.
- Improves **pedestrian and bicycle safety and access** to downtown, the river, and regional trails with new barrier-protected pedestrian and bicycle facilities.
- Provides opportunities for local utilities to make improvements, expand distribution systems, and increase electric supply.

## BRIDGE STATS

- Built in 1936 over the river bluff.
- 1,000+ feet long bridge structure from West 7th Street to Market Street, includes the Exchange Street viaduct.
- Bridge connects two critical access points into downtown: West 7th and Kellogg Blvd. and Kellogg Blvd. down to Exchange Street (viaduct).
- Provides underground vehicular access to Xcel Energy Center and RiverCentre, loading docks (current exit is into Exchange Street viaduct underneath Kellogg bridge), and RiverCentre and Science Museum parking ramps.
- The Xcel Energy Center, Roy Wilkins Auditorium and the RiverCentre host a combined 1200+ events annually.



**\$51.9 MILLION**  
of funding is still needed

**\$64.1 MILLION**  
estimated project cost

**Project is shovel-ready. Final plans and specifications completed in June 2022.**

*Receiving the 2024 legislative bond funding will eliminate the risk of losing previously secured \$7M of federal bridge funding. This project was requested in prior bonding years. Project cost has been adjusted for inflation and available funding.*





## PROJECT BACKGROUND & SCOPE

- This project will reconstruct Randolph Avenue Bridge over UP railroad
- Reconstruction will address rapid age-related deterioration and will restore load carrying capacity of the bridge for multi-modal use
- Project scope includes removing the existing structure, reconstructing new bridge, 1000 ft of approach roadway between Shepard Road and James Avenue, acquisition of ROW, design, construction engineering and inspection
- Opportunity to improve pedestrian facility and the Sam Morgan Regional Trail
- City and Xcel Energy will explore opportunities to improve Randolph Avenue east of James Avenue including potential secondary connection point to Shepard Road



**\$11.6 MILLION**  
of funding is still needed

**\$14.3 MILLION**  
estimated project cost

**Project will be under  
design in 2024 with  
anticipated construction  
starting in 2026.**

*Project cost reflects inflation and available funding.*



***Extensive bearing repairs were performed by City forces in 2017 to avoid disruption essential business activity. The bridge remains load-restricted after repairs.***

## REGIONAL IMPORTANCE

- Bridge provides sole access to Xcel's Energy High Bridge Power Generating Plant, the RiverBend Business Park and Waterford Bay Apartments
- Xcel's High Bridge plant provides electricity to more than 500,000 Minnesotans in the Twin Cities area
- Reconstruction will restore truck legal load carrying capacity of the bridge alleviating burden on businesses to perform daily operations
- Replacement will resolve railroad clearance requirements and improve freight access
- Bridge is vital to avoiding disruption to residential, commercial and industrial activities in the area which has no alternative access route

## BRIDGE STATS

- Built in 1959 as a four-lane roadway
- Bridge 7272 over United Pacific railroad is a 3 span, 170-foot bridge carrying 2 vehicular lanes and the Sam Morgan Regional Trail. The project will add sidewalk to the bridge
- The bridge is load posted and structurally deficient. Extensive repairs in prior years were completed but load restrictions remain.
- The bridge provides the sole access to businesses, residents and industry on Randolph Avenue.





## PROJECT PROPOSAL

### PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The City of Saint Paul is advancing design work to create a regional multi-use athletic complex to serve Saint Paul along with visitors from surrounding suburban communities. The 21st century facility would provide the ability to host premiere athletic tournaments, leagues and activities with the intention of promoting sports tourism and economic benefit for Saint Paul.

- Saint Paul's Regional Athletic Complex will be a minimum 20 acre location tentatively set to be built at 1500 Rice Street, replacing the current, and outdated, sports complex at this location.
- The new facility would include a multiple court field house and track, along with multi-purpose artificial turf fields in an effort to serve a wide ranging of sport offerings.
- Funding is needed to advance the design process, engage community, advance to construction documents, and the eventual groundbreaking.

### PUBLIC PURPOSE

- Saint Paul's recreation facilities are aging and represent programming trends and resident interests from the 1980s. Building a new multi-sport / multi-use athletic complex in Saint Paul will help address both of these issues. By building a new facility in Saint Paul, we will continue to provide high-quality recreation activities for free or at low-cost for the community.
- By increasing indoor facilities, Saint Paul Parks and Recreation will be able to increase the number of programs offered to youth and adults throughout the city, in addition to maximizing our ability to host large scale athletic tournaments throughout the year. The additional indoor amenities will also allow athletic leagues a consistent place to play and open up neighborhood recreation centers to be used for other purposes
- The outdoor improvements will increase our available multi sport fields for programming, leagues, tournaments and community use.

**\$35,637,000** of funding is requested  
\*amount requested is reflected by inflationary adjustment\*



### PROJECT TIMELINE: JULY 2024-JANUARY 2028

- July 2024 - December 2024 Schematic Design
- January 2025 - August 2025 -Design Development
- September 2025 - February 2026 - Construction Documents
- March 2026 - May 2026 - Bidding
- June 2026 - October 2027 Construction
- January 2028 - Public Opening

### EXISTING CONDITIONS



### ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

- In 2022, Saint Paul Parks and Recreation began offering free sports for young people ages 9 to 18 years old. The elimination of fees increased participation in year one by nearly 90% across our program offerings. To continue to serve the community and grow young people's participation in sports programs that help develop social and emotional skills to be used throughout their lives Saint Paul Parks will need more spaces available to offer programming.



## PROJECT PROPOSAL

### PROJECT DESCRIPTION

Since the Lakeside Center was constructed in the mid 1970s, minimal improvements have been made to the building. The facility is relatively hidden from park users although the location in the park, with great access to shoreline, has commanding views of the lake. The lack of improvements, visibility of the facility, and accessibility constraints have led to underutilization and vandalism of the facility.

### PUBLIC PURPOSE

Lake Phalen is one of St. Paul's largest natural lakes boasting exclusively non-motorized boating activities (sailing, kayaking, rowing, canoeing, paddle boarding). The length and depth of the lake are key attributes to attracting rowing and sailing instruction and competition. Advocates for rowing and sailing competitions have noted that with additional support facilities, Lake Phalen could be a venue for National Level competitions and events. Some of these advocates include youth and minority serving non-profit organizations whose missions are only limited by a lack of support facilities. Lake Phalen could easily become the focal point of paddle sports and sailing in the upper-Midwest if the Lakeside Activity Center were redesigned with that intent, and could support several private/public partnerships for the benefit of the community.

Reinvesting into this facility on the east side of Saint Paul would reinforce and strengthen Phalen Regional Park a neighborhood landmark for the surrounding community and a recreational destination for visitors from near and far.



**\$11,189,000** of funding is requested  
\*amount requested is reflected by inflationary adjustment\*



### PROJECT TIMELINE: JULY 2024-APRIL 2026

- July 2024-January 2025 - Design
- February 2025-April 2025 - Construction Documents
- May 2025-July 2025- Bidding
- Aug 2025-Dec 2025 - Construction
- April 2026-public opening

### EXISTING CONDITIONS

Currently, the facility is utilized for summertime programming such as instructional sailing and youth day camps. The majority of the year however there's only occasional boat building workshops and other intermittent programming. With renovations, the facility could be more visible, fully accessible, and utilized for greater programming, water recreation needs, and vendor spaces.

### ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Phalen Regional Park is one of St. Paul's most popular public park destinations in the region, noted for its natural beauty and characteristics.

Recent investment into the facilities within the park (beach house, China garden, golf course, parking lots, boat ramp, and pathways) has brought even more park goers and activity into the park.







## PROJECT PROPOSAL

### PROJECT DESCRIPTION

- Battle Creek Park provides critical recreational space on the East Side of Saint Paul. The existing sports fields are in poor condition and investment is needed to provide quality recreational opportunities in this well-used public park that is uniquely connected to a regional park operated by Ramsey County. The regional park, Battle Creek Regional Park, is a regional destination offering top of the line mountain biking in the summer and Nordic skiing in the winter.
- The existing fields support the regional park as well as the adjoining elementary school and residents.

### PUBLIC PURPOSE

- Saint Paul Parks and Recreation athletics programs provide our residents with the opportunity to be active and social, as well as develop skills and the life long love of healthy lifestyles at free or extremely reduced rates.
- In 2022, Saint Paul Parks and Recreation began offering free sports for young people ages 9 to 18 years old. The elimination of fees increased participation in year one by nearly 90% across our program offerings. To continue to serve the community and grow young people's participation in sports programs that help develop social and emotional skills to be used throughout their lives Saint Paul Parks will need to invest in locations offering programming.



**\$2,894,000** of funding is requested  
\*amount requested is reflected by inflationary adjustment\*



### PROJECT TIMELINE: JULY 2024-NOVEMBER 2026

- July 2024 - December 2024 Schematic Design
- January 2025 - May 2025 -Design Development
- June 2025 - December 2025 - Construction Documents
- January 2026 - March 2026 - Bidding
- April 2026 - November 2026 Construction

### EXISTING CONDITIONS

- Battle Creek Park provides critical recreational space on the east-side of Saint Paul. Existing sports fields are in poor condition and investment is needed to provide quality recreational opportunities in this well-used park.

### ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

- Saint Paul's recreation facilities are aging and represent programming trends and resident interests from the 1980s. Investment in high quality field space supports neighborhoods and allows Saint Paul to continue to provide high-quality recreation activities for free or at low-cost for the community.







## PROJECT BACKGROUND

Saint Paul Public Library will renovate Hayden Heights Library to transform it into a resource-rich hub that is welcoming, accessible, flexible, and reflects the cultures of the neighborhood.

### Interior | Children's Area and Public Computers



## PROJECT SCOPE

Community-informed updates to the building design will include:

- Large front windows that better connect the library to the neighborhood
- A new, flexible community room at the center of the building with movable walls that open to accommodate large-group events such as story hours, author readings, large group meetings, and more
- Three new study rooms to meet, work, and study
- Flex room for community and partner use
- Upgraded technology
- Vibrant children's area for learning through play
- The addition of an outdoor reading garden off the children's

**\$4 MILLION** of funding is still needed

\$5 MILLION estimated project cost

### Interior | Front Entrance and Study Spaces



## REGIONAL SIGNIFICANCE

- Less than one mile from The Heights development on the Greater Eastside that will include a minimum of 1,000 jobs and 1,000 housing units.
- Located in close proximity to routes under consideration for Purple Line Bus Rapid Transit. Metro Transit currently exploring (summer 2023) a potential route along White Bear Avenue.
- In 2022, Hayden Heights had nearly 32,000 visits and 33,000 items borrowed.

## BUILDING OVERVIEW

- Built in 1978
- No significant renovations in more than 30 years
- One-story library
- 11,356 gross square feet

### Interior | Public Computers and Information Desk



## Project Information

Marika Staloch, Library Special Projects and Initiatives Manager | 651-266-7068 | marika.staloch@ci.stpaul.mn.us | [sppl.org/transform](https://sppl.org/transform)

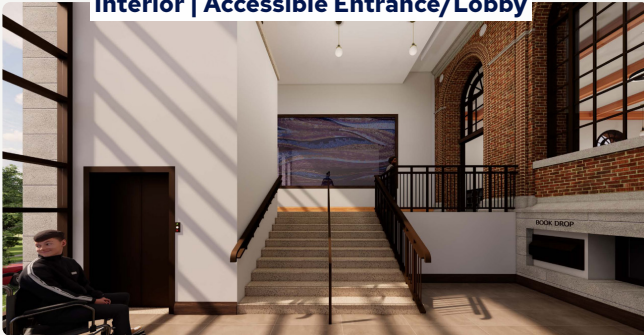




## PROJECT BACKGROUND

Saint Paul Public Library will renovate and expand the existing Riverview Library to transform it into a space that maximizes accessibility for all community members and represents the cultures and history of the West Side community.

### Interior | Accessible Entrance/Lobby



## PROJECT SCOPE

Community-informed updates to the building design will include:

- An accessible and equitable front entrance to welcome everyone through the same pathway and front door
- Single-story layout for improved safety through better sight-lines and equitable access to building amenities
- Dynamic spaces including two study rooms, a wellness room, and community room
- Outdoor reading plaza and outdoor spaces to gather, read, and attend events together
- Intentional space for public art that will reflect the cultural fabric of the neighborhood
- Environmentally sustainable upgrades

**\$5.7 MILLION** of funding is still needed

\$6.2 MILLION estimated project cost

### Interior | Public Computers and Reading Area



## REGIONAL SIGNIFICANCE

- Less than ½ mile from West Side commercial district along Cesar Chavez St, resources at Wellstone Center and El Rio Vista Rec Center and home to Saint Paul's most active Latino community.
- In 2022, Riverview Library had more than 32,000 visits and 36,000 items borrowed.

## BUILDING OVERVIEW

- Built in 1917
- Carnegie library with historic designation
- No significant renovations in more than 30 years
- Two-story building
- Currently 8,328 gross square feet
- Plans to add 2,735 additional square feet for a total of 11,063 square feet

### Interior | Children's Area



## Project Information

Marika Staloch, Library Special Projects and Initiatives Manager | 651-266-7068 | marika.staloch@ci.stpaul.mn.us | sppl.org/transform