

VISION STATEMENTS (Sorted)

Duluth WPAN Area Wide Plan Stakeholders Group Quarterly Meeting

Date: Wednesday, June 22, 2016
Location: MR. D's Bar and Grill (5622 Grand Ave, Duluth, MN 55807, 218-624-4178)
Time: 1:30 – 3:30 PM

Attendees: see attached sign-in sheet for list of attendees

Collected Vision Statements for WPAN in 2036

Comments collected related to **economy**

- Viable retail and business sites
- Destination area where people come to visit, play, eat, and enjoy nature. Culture, small shops
- Sustainable economic development
- Business and industry working with residents of the WPAN
- Mixed use development
- Neighborhood commercial districts in Irving
- Business and economic growth
- Responsible expansion of services within walking or biking distance and connection to them
- Improvements to property values
- 1,000 new light mfgs/tech assembly jobs in WPAN
- Small businesses thriving and connected to community (local people first, keeping local dollars local)
- Updated draws (restaurants, shopping, etc.) to make it a neighborhood people want to move to/live in
- Businesses that provide stable jobs for people in the neighborhood
- New construction of modern housing
- New businesses
- Mixed use development with retail amenities within the Fairmont neighborhood that show new investment along Grand Ave.
- Local markets/cafes/breweries
- Manufacturing growth/jobs/transportation to jobs
- Local economy
- Financially successful
- An area that provides a conduit of beneficial uses – where the WPAN provides tangible assets and opportunities to draw people and businesses to spend their time and capital – making it an attractive place to be, key to this will be linking to and drawing from surrounding developed and relatively undeveloped assets.
- More business developed through less large industry and more small manufacturing, retail, food
- Stimulate business growth
- Grand Ave major shopping/with loft/artist studio living above shops – think world market/trader joes/restaurants style
- multiple job-centers, housing, local industries (similar to Loll, Moline) which provide living-wage jobs to area residents



- employment to sustain a high quality of life within the WPAN area

Comments collected related to **connectivity + access**

- The Western Waterfront Trail connects Grassy Point and Indian Point running along the whole south edge of WPAN
- The Cross-City Trail is busy with adults biking to and from work
- Cross-City Trail completed connecting Irving and Keene Creek Parks and DWP Trail.
- Trail extended on BN track to connect to CCT
- More pedestrian friendly!
- Access to the river!
- Connectivity in community, walking community, connection to St. Louis River, connection to BAYFRONT/DOWNTOWN
- Complete Streets
- Access to St. Louis River – Port area
- Sustainable trails through green space with new forest of desirable tree species. Trails to connect neighborhoods, businesses. Keep trails of quiet sports, i.e. hiking, biking, skiing, and snowshoeing. Trailheads for all trails.
- The residents are able to walk and bike comfortably and safely regardless of their age or ability to their daily destinations and other trips
- increased and improved transportation options
- Easy and safe connections to parks
- Strong, safe, active ped/bike connections btw WPAN + Spirit Valley
- Much stronger access to river
- Access to River
- More friendly walking and cycling trail access, better access to the river
- More connectivity up the hill + to the zoo + spirit mountain would also be ideal
- Improve traffic flow, heavy truck traffic re-route, maintain street repairs in a timely matter
- Greater connection of the neighborhoods to the river, to Fairmont park and to spirit Valley's retail center
- Easy access to the waterfront
- Better ramps (less confusing) on/off ramps to I-35
- Access to views of the river area
- Water access
- Divisions between small areas eliminated
- Able to walk, or bike undeterred from area to area
- Connected trail systems
- Pedestrian and bike friendly
- Somehow diminish the 35 overpass
- Connections we need connections
- Wasca open to Grand Ave
- high community connectivity – people can walk/bike to work, to park, to water access

Comments collected related to **parks + recreation**

- Irving Park and Keene Creek Park are bustling hubs of family recreation
- Existing parks better maintained and signed (hard to find, lack of mowing, etc.)
- Be careful with any new city parks – how will they be maintained when existing parks in area aren't maintained currently
- Better access to green space
- More parks
- Park and recreation amenities



- Strong focus on the outdoors/environment with access to clean St. Louis River offering year round recreation
- Truly make this an outdoor community
- Community spaces for recreation – teen center, community center, YMCA center with a holistic programming approach
- utilization of vacant brownfields and new recreation options
- Extended Western Waterfront Trail to Grassy Point and beyond
- Recreational Development of 54th Ave + Penn
- Big green spaces connected by pedestrian and bike community connectivity
- Connected green spaces
- Green space – parks and trails
- Area for neighborhood kids to play
- Maybe a youth center
- Bike rentals, kayak rentals
- Historical interpretive signage
- Community gathering space
- Families able to WALK to recreation areas within 6 block of their homes – FREE ACCESS
- Embracing the natural resources that already exist and funding safe access for those living in neighborhood – ex. Smithville + Gary have fishing piers
- Camping access by river
- Playground equipment that can be used by all ages like exercise equipment
- Places on trail to rest + facilities available when need arises, also places for waste
- An area with access to the river to/by the public
- Improved and expanded green spaces
- A centralized park at Irving
- Bring in tourists by developing Superfund sites for recreation
- Keene needs to be taken back and turned into a major city park like Lincoln or Chester
- Shoreline down of Waseca/major rec area
- parks of multiple types providing for different outdoor/nature/active experiences – plus pocket neighborhood parks + community centers
- , access to a useable river with recreational opportunities, usable parks

Comments collected related to **resilience + sustainability**

- Promotion of healthy food and community gardens
- Bike friendly streetscapes
- Progressive (cutting edge) permaculture – design with growing surfaces to extend growing seasons – food forests
- Bioremediation in brownfields, techniques used that are successful over time
- MECCA on the River – food, forest, housing, water
- Sustainable energy – leading technology
- Trail + bikeways, pedestrian friendly with “strong towns” concepts
- Rebuilding economic centers that are walkable and viable
- Energy neutrality – make this an area that is a model for the national discussion – create solar communities/neighborhoods
- See the WPAN greener, less hardscapes
- No wasteful spending that burdens existing businesses/residents in the long run
- Connectedness between school and community – “service learning projects”
- Community gardens w/ education for youth
- Clean energy, microgrid, clean air, water and land, low-carbon



- Environmental + social equity
- Walkable
- Neighborhoods becoming somewhat self-sustaining. That makes for a more secure style of life
- Green energy, community gardens
- Energy/solar heating in new buildings

Comments collected related to **environmental quality**

- Kingsbury Bay has open water and restored aquatic habitat
- Green space conservation and clean up
- Tree-lined streets and full of vibrancy
- Restored and revitalized Keene Creek
- Connection to the restored and revitalized Grassy Point Area
- Connection to the restored and revitalized Kingsbury Bay
- Access to the newly cleaned up Area of concern in the St. Louis River
- Move Sky Harbor ____ to this area and return the current ____ to a natural state.
- Care for Keene Creek
- Environmentally secure neighborhood with healthy trout streams

Comments collected related to **neighborhood vision + values**

- A neighborhood well connected, with growing businesses and improved amenities (parks/trails/water access)
- Increased housing – owner and rental – broad price range, 1 story homes for aging in place.
- How does the Superfund Red. Initiative Study Area fit within this process?
- Brownfield sites are cleaned up and re-used/re-purposed in some fashion – parkland, commercial or industrial development or residential
- The industrial uses and facilities that remain still feel like a welcome neighbor and their transportation needs are met
- Vibrant housing with better river access
- High quality of living through good planning and policy
- Neighborhood image – Gateway to River, recreation, and vitality
- Walkable, bikable, mixed use neighborhood
- Range of affordable – market rate + mixed income housing for all ages + backgrounds
- NW area of WPAN needs help
- Leadership that is fair and equitable focused
- safe and affordable housing options to encourage residential growth
- Noise pollution and industrial smells to levels that increase quality of life
- Level playing fields among neighborhoods
- Remove barriers to social cohesion
- Blight removal – tear down and clean up blighted properties
- Less dense – more modern feel to the neighborhood
- More user friendly
- No more stigma about West Duluth area
- In flux of newer young community members, families with children relocating to the area because it is a positive and desirable place to live with a fully capacity of services
- The schools are supported by parents and the Denfeld H.S. is experiencing capacity and there is as much pride in Duluth as a connected community and East vs. West is only a fun and healthy competition, NOT an assumption of the haves vs. have nots
- The WPAN to be the gateway into Duluth that becomes a destination in itself



- The conversation about the WPAN to evolve into one of redevelopment and energy, not about brownfields
- Sense of community
- Invest in things that need attention first rather than negotiating (repurpose existing buildings rather than always building new)
- We are actually moving backwards to what worked 75-80 years ago
- Hopefully less government involvement
- Vibrant neighborhood with following features – a) multiple job-centers, housing, local industries (similar to Loll, Moline) which provide living-wage jobs to area residents; b) sensible traffic separation – industry/commercial from residential/service industry; c) high community connectivity – people can walk/bike to work, to park, to water access; d) parks of multiple types providing for different outdoor/nature/active experiences – plus pocket neighborhood parks + community centers; e) pride in place + strong neighborhood identity.

Comments collected related to **quality of life + equity**

- High quality educational opportunities
- Safe, affordable housing
- Mental health facility/residence
- Housing options to fit various family types
- Fresh food access
- Access to affordable housing and green space
- Updated housing + infrastructure to make it easier for the community to have access to various areas of parks/businesses
- Stable, lasting infrastructure (roads, utilities)
- Healthy options for families
- Have an upkeep team in place to ensure it stays nice
- Safe housing
- Healthy affordable housing
- Local food options (healthy)
- Community gardens, people being able to work from home. Taking away blight
- Affordable, fair housing for all
- Neighborhoods will have developed great schools
- New housing, empty lots filled
- CNO low-income – we have lived that idea for decades in this area



Duluth WPAN Area Wide Plan

Stakeholders Group Meeting July 22, 2016 Sign in Sheet

Last Name	First	Organization
Sylvan	Idella	St. Louis County Public Health
Hogg	Kenneth	Local interest
Slack	John	Perkins+Will
Demma	Jay	Perkins+Will
Resberg	Kathy	Irving Community Club
Hanson	Rose	Irving Neighborhood Col.
Paquetta	Jack	Irving Neighborhood Col.
Koneczny	Jeanne	Irving Recreation and Events
Slick	Jodi	Ecolibrium 3
Zwiebel	Zandy	NA
MacInnes	Josh	City of Duluth
Coen	Susan	West Duluth Business
Hinnenkamp	Genny	Irving Community Club
Knight	David	MPCA
Casey	Mike	Old RCC Trails/Parks
Kennedy	Janet	Duluth Planning Commissioner
Sampson	Larry	Superior Hiking Trail Association
Stauduhar	Charlie	Spirit Lake Development
Lynch	Denette	Dog park advocate/old RCC Parks/Trails
Tomprowski	David	MnDOT Freight Planning
Luokkala	Lisa	City of Duluth
Kramer	Pam	Duluth LISC
Clarke	Rosita	USEPA – Region 5
Heilig	Jim	Duluth Transit
Slade	Andrew	Duluth Parks and Rec
Eilers	Kris	St. Louis River Alliance
Fulton	Adam	City of Duluth
Lindgren	John	MN DNR
Gibbs	Judy	City of Duluth
Bodell	Madison	City of Duluth
VanTassel	Ben	City of Duluth
Kelley	John	City of Duluth
Brown	Natalie	MN Brownfields
DeLuca	Deb	Duluth Seaway Port Authority
Tanski	Anna	Visit Duluth
Knutson-Kaske	Jill	HRA
Priley	Guy	Verso
Bolgren	David	US EPA ORD
Gittmeier	James	MIC
Urbaniak	Jeff	Irving Rec and Events Association
Johnson	Hansi	MN Land Trust
Hallfrisch	Dean	Moline Machinery
Moline	Dan	Moline Machinery
Benson	Greg	Loll Designs
Olson	Terry	Asbury Church
Thapa	Rachel	Lincoln Park Middle School
Bodette	Jamie	Raleigh Edison Charter School



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