

Downtown Open Space Inventory

Prepared for:

The City of Minneapolis

Prepared by:

**METROPOLITAN
DesignCenter**

University of Minnesota

In Conjunction with:

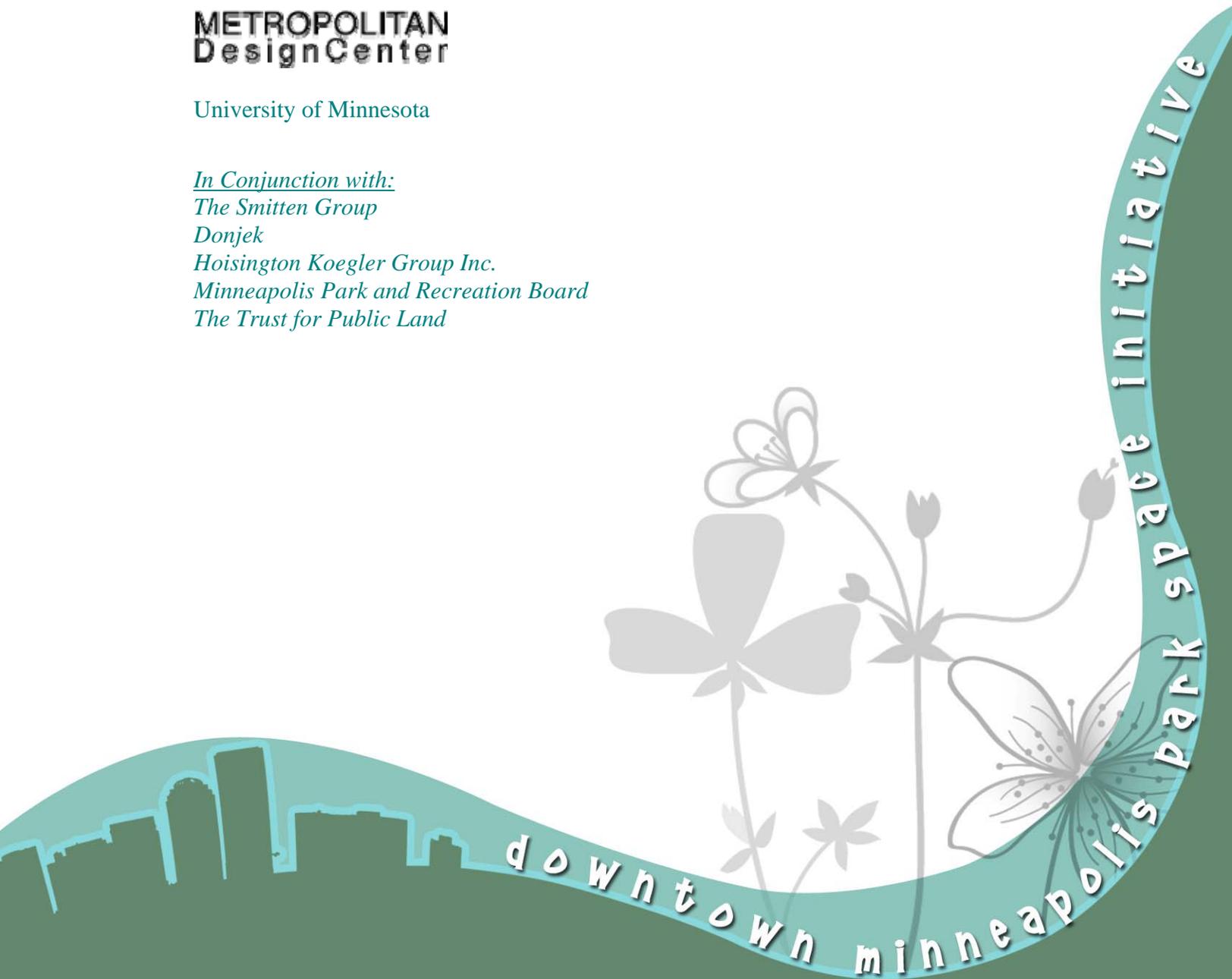
The Smitten Group

Donjek

Hoisington Koegler Group Inc.

Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board

The Trust for Public Land



June 30, 2008

Summary:
Downtown Open Space Inventory

Direct Design Assistance by the Metropolitan Design Center at the University of Minnesota

An inventory of 58 open spaces in downtown Minneapolis is a preliminary assessment conducted by the Metropolitan Design Center for the Downtown Minneapolis Park Space Initiative. The inventory was made up of a list of several questions which analyzed the physical characteristics of the park including: size, amenities present, type of open space, and the presence of seating, lighting, and water (just to name a few). This inventory is an update of one conducted in 2005 and also includes the North Loop neighborhood. The investigation of the North Loop neighborhood only added one open space to the list. Additionally, spaces identified in 2005 were re-inventoried, checked for any changes, measured with a wheel or using digital orthophotos, photographed, and evaluated based on maintenance. In addition, four open spaces were inventoried that were not included in the 2005 inventory. For the purposes of this assessment the downtown was defined as the area bounded by I-94, I-35W, the Mississippi River, and Plymouth Ave.

The productions of this project include a table that summarizes the findings of the inventories for each open space, an illustrated handbook with photographs, short descriptions, and key facts for each open space, and a map locating each open space.

The project represents work through the Metropolitan Design Center's free Direct Design Assistance program.

The 116-page report is available upon request.

