

PLANNING SUB-COMMITTEE

Public Realm Discussion

February 21, 2013

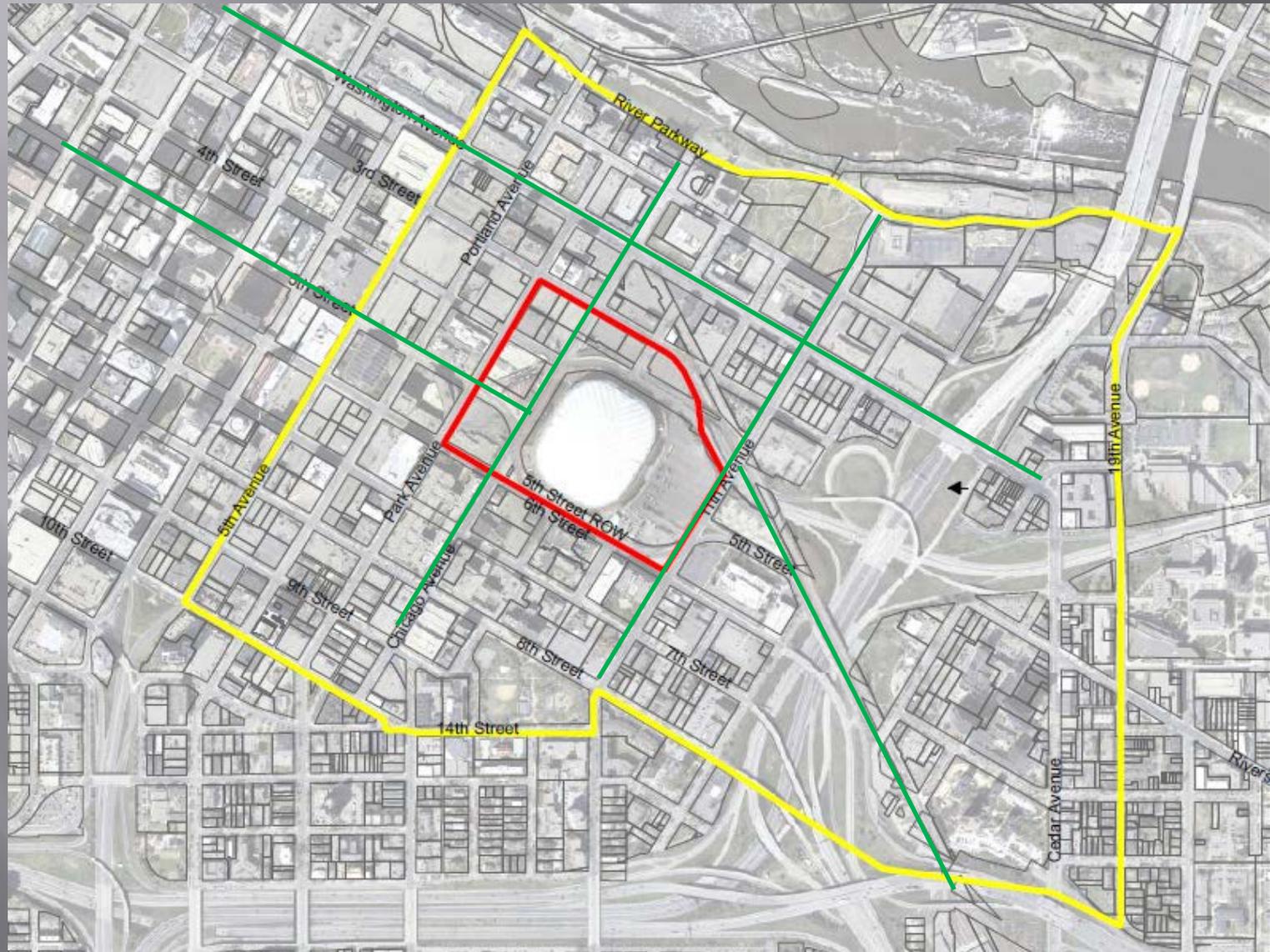
Topics

- ▣ Corridors
- ▣ Viewsheds
- ▣ Parks and Plazas

Corridor Principles

- Design the stadium so that the locations of entries, facades, commercial uses, and other major exterior features reflect the existing context surrounding the stadium including street grid, traffic patterns, pedestrian and bicycle routes, and future plans for the neighborhood.
- Site the building so that no street closures are required, to allow for the reopening of closed streets where practical, and to allow for the creation and strengthening of pedestrian connections to Elliot Park, Cedar-Riverside and Downtown East.
- That creates green corridors by integrating strong streetscape design features such as continuous street tree canopy, pedestrian and bicycle systems, public art, seating opportunities, rain gardens, “sensory” gardens, and storm water management systems.
- That uses green corridors and view corridors to connect the site and area to the Mississippi River, enhance Chicago Avenue, 5th Street and 11th Avenue, and strengthens connections between the riverfront, Cedar Riverside, Elliot Park and the Central Business District.
- Coordinates with planned infrastructure improvement projects in the surrounding area to eliminate barriers and enhance connections between the neighborhoods and to the Mississippi River.
- That stimulates and enables the growth of existing corridors and including the Chicago Avenue commercial corridor and the Washington Avenue arts corridor and that strengthens connections to existing cultural and community assets in the surrounding neighborhoods.
- That creates green corridors by integrating strong streetscape design features such as continuous street tree canopy, pedestrian and bicycle systems, public art, seating opportunities, rain gardens, “sensory” gardens, and storm water management systems.

Corridors





Franklin Ave at 11th Ave



Lake St at 11th Ave



Chicago Avenue

Before



After

Viewshed Principles

- ❑ Create dramatic approaches, vistas, and archways that take advantage of existing and create new view corridors of the stadium site.
- ❑ That highlights the history of the area, values its historic resources, and places a priority on preserving and reusing important buildings.

Viewsheds



1a
A shift in the Downtown street grid frames the view of the City Hall Clock tower from Park Avenue South (from as far away as Lake Street).



1b
A shift in the Downtown street grid frames the view of the City Hall Clock tower from North 4th Street in the North Loop.



1d
Because the North Star Blanket Mill is visible along the Hiawatha alignment it will serve as a landmark / gateway for those arriving in Downtown by LRT.



1e
The view into Downtown from Washington Avenue North is punctuated by a view of the landmark former Federal Reserve Bank (now Marquette Plaza).

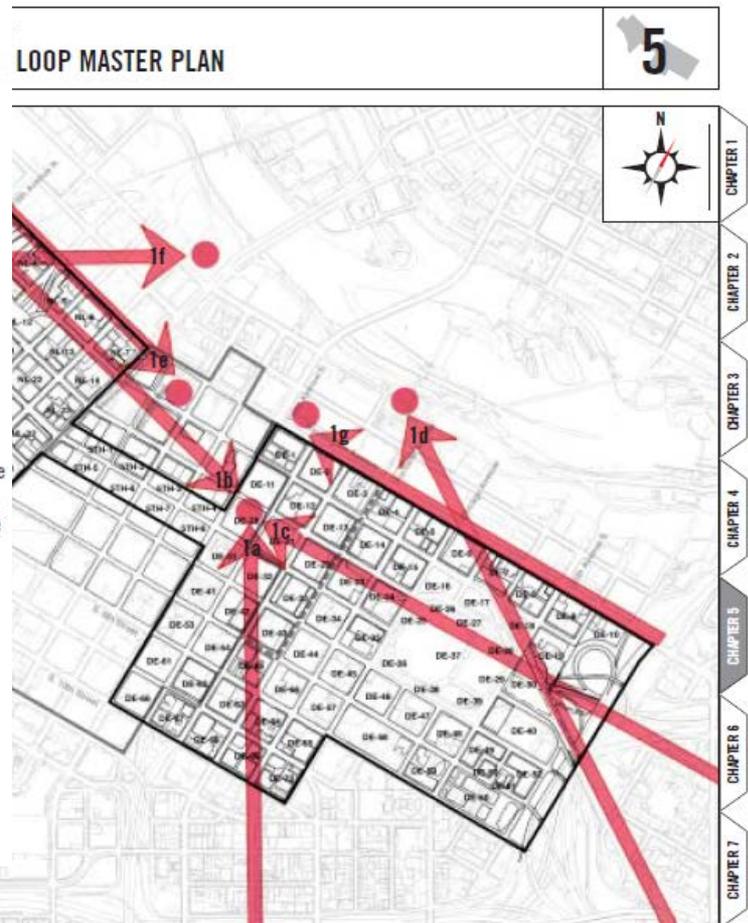


Figure 5.29 Map of Gateway Views to Downtown Landmarks

Viewsheds

10/10/03

CITY OF MINNEAPOLIS PLANNING DEPARTMENT
DOWNTOWN EAST / NORTH LOOP MASTER PLAN

5

LEGEND



VIEW CORRIDORS



SPIRES

- B1 – South 5th Street at Chicago Avenue
- B2 – 5th Street at Hennepin Avenue
- B3 – Multimodal Station
- B4 – Burlington Northern Right-of-Way

Creation of gateways to serve as points of entry to downtown and “spires” to aid in navigation and orientation in Downtown East and the North Loop

Concepts: Orienting and navigating between districts

- Four strategically located light towers or spires are arranged along the LRT corridor to provide reference points that help pedestrians orient themselves and navigate between major points of interest in Downtown East, the North Loop, and the Downtown Core.



B1 Tower/spire strategically located in the southeast corner of the new Metrodome Plaza will help pedestrians locate the Metrodome and the LRT station:

- From the Warehouse District along the 5th Street LRT corridor
- From HCMC looking north up Chicago Avenue
- ◀ From the central riverfront in the Mills District outside of the new Guthrie Theatre and the Mill City Museum (as shown in the photo at left).

Figure 5.23 Map of Lighted Gateway Spires

Plaza/Park Principles

- Create direct and seamless connections to the Downtown East LRT Station from the stadium structure.
- Create a bold, iconic, urban plaza and world-class outdoor destination that stands up to and complements the stadium design.
- **Make the plaza a cherished community destination that is flexible, multi-functional and beautiful to look at, walk by, and pass through every day, day and night, year round, and through the winter, even when it is not in use.**
- Implement a landscape design that is lush and green to attract people to the plaza from the neighborhoods to the north, south, and east, the downtown core to the west, and the Mississippi River.
- **Make the plaza a safe place by using principles of crime prevention through environmental design. Incorporate physical features designed for people and activities that maximize visibility and natural surveillance to foster positive social interactions.**
- Use daylight and sun angles to inform the design and minimize shade and shadow in the plaza and on features and at the entrances, particularly in the winter months.
- Prioritize quality over quantity in the sizing, design, and materials selection for the plaza.
- **Plan the site, plaza, and related design features to reflect the existing context, street grid, the needs of pedestrians, and future plans for the neighborhood and the city.**
- Design the plaza as a 21st Century urban landscape with an ecological ethic rooted in natural and cultural processes that integrate storm water management, native plants and regional materials.
- Use high-quality materials - ranging from paving and trees to lights and street furniture - to create a memorable urban experience.
- Include a generous tree canopy to provide shade, wind protection, and reduce heat-island effects.
- Integrate family-friendly features for use on game days and for neighbors year round.
- Integrate public art into the infrastructure of the plaza space.
- Design to allow active programming and use on game days and every day.
- That engages with the stadium and plaza by supporting commercial activity and flexible formal and informal programming and use at the stadium, on the plaza, and in the surrounding areas on game days and every day, day and night, and all year round including the winter months.

FEATURES AND USES OF SUCCESSFUL DOWNTOWN PARKS

Features of Downtown Parks

Eating & Drinking

Vending carts
Coffee shops
Cafés
Restaurants
Farmers' markets

Recreational

Ice rinks
Dog runs
Spraygrounds
Playgrounds
Bocce courts

Transportation

Bike racks & garages
Transit stops
Car parking garages

Logistical

Trash bins
Lighting for day & night
Signage
Wireless Internet

Arts & History

Public art
Weather mains
Statues & monuments
Outdoor art galleries

Rest & Relaxation

Benches & seating
Fountains & water
Gardens
Trees & grass

Entertainment & Events

Stages
Speaking lecterns
Amphitheaters

Educational

Outdoor classrooms
"Reading rooms"

Whimsical

Pioneer Courthouse Square

1.6 acres - Portland

Park Features

- The "Allow Me" statue of a man offering his umbrella
- Bronze chess boards
- Amphitheater
- Sign posts showing distances to Portland's nine sister cities
- The former Portland Hotel entry gate
- Waterfall fountain
- "Keystone" lectern for speaking events
- A weather machine that shows different symbols for different weather



- Tourist and transit information center
- Starbucks
- An ATM
- Wireless Internet
- Vending carts for flowers, Philly cheese steaks, hot dogs and burritos.

Post Office Square

1.7 acres - Boston

Park Features

- Milk Street Café
- Moveable chairs
- Benches
- 24-hour staffed underground parking garage
- A garden trellis
- Two "fountain sculptures"
- A small open lawn
- Shoe shining
- Trees
- Decorative gardens
- Performance area on the open lawn,
- Information kiosk



Bryant Park

8-acres - New York City

Park Features

- Bryant Park Grill & Café
- Wireless Internet
- Chess tables
- Gardens that include seasonal planting displays
- A "boule" board
- Moveable chairs
- A "Reading Room" (custom designed carts have books and newspapers, and children's and other programs offered at lunch time and after work)
- A carousel
- Four kiosks that separately host coffee & hot beverages, creamery, soups & salads, and sandwiches
- A 170' by 100' ice rink



Campus Martius

1.6 acres - Detroit

Park Features

- Ice rink
- A holiday tree
- Wireless internet
- Café
- Fountain
- "Water wall" near sitting areas
- The Michigan Soldiers & Sailors Monument
- Two 22-foot stainless steel "corner markers"
- Two performance/event stages that recess into the ground when not in use



**CRIME PREVENTION
THROUGH
ENVIRONMENTAL
DESIGN
(CPTED)**

CPTED Principles

Site plans shall employ best practices to increase natural surveillance and visibility, to control and guide movement on the site, and to distinguish between public and non-public spaces. Site plans shall include the following crime prevention design elements:

- **Natural surveillance and visibility.** Design the site and landscaping to **promote natural observation and maximize the opportunities for people to observe adjacent spaces** and public sidewalks.
- **Lighting levels.** Provide lighting on site and along walkways that **maintains a minimum acceptable level of security while not creating glare or excessive lighting** of the site.
- **Territorial reinforcement and space delineation.** Locate landscaping, sidewalks, lighting and fencing to clearly **guide pedestrian movement on or through the site** and to control and restrict people to appropriate locations.
- **Natural access control.** Locate entrances, exits, signs, fencing, landscaping and lighting to **distinguish between public and private areas**, control access, and to guide people coming to and going from the site.

PLAZA DESIGN STANDARDS

Plaza Standards

- Placement.

- The placement should **enhance natural surveillance** and visibility of adjacent spaces and public sidewalks and **facilitate pedestrian access** and circulation.
- Designed to **maximize interaction with occupants of adjacent buildings and uses.**

- Access.

- Allow for **pedestrian and bicycle access** through and/or around the plaza.
- **Provide multiple entrance points** for each plaza, with one access point being connected to a public street, public sidewalk or public pathway.
- Designed in accordance with the accessibility requirements of the **Americans with Disabilities Act.**
- **Connect the plaza to adjacent buildings.**
- When adjacent to a transit stop, said **transit stop shall be integrated into the design of the plaza.**

Plaza Standards

- *Natural surveillance and visibility.*

- Designed to **control and guide movement** through the site, promote **natural observation** and maximize opportunities for people to **observe adjacent spaces** and public sidewalks.

- *Aerial obstructions.*

- **Unobstructed to the sky** except for seating, arbors, trellises, kiosks, lighting, water features, public art and landscaping. Up to thirty (30) percent of the plaza area may include umbrellas, awnings or an arcade.

- *Surface materials.*

- With the exception of landscaped areas, plazas should be **surfaced with durable and decorative materials**, including but not limited to pervious pavers, decorative pavers, stamped concrete, colored concrete, or brick.

- *Seating.*

- **1 linear foot of seating for each 50 square feet of plaza area.** 20 percent of the required seating should be **fixed seating** and 20 percent of the required seating should be **seating with backs**.
- Provide a **variety of seating types**, provided that it is accessible.

Plaza Standards

- *Plantings.*

- Provide a minimum of **1 tree for each 1,000 square feet of plaza area.**

- *Additional amenities.*

- ***Living walls.*** Provide a living wall on at least one building façade directly fronting on the plaza. A portion of the plantings shall provide greenery year round, if possible.
- ***Water features.*** Water features shall be designed and maintained for year-round functionality and aesthetics.
- ***Art features.*** Art shall strive to promote quality design, enhance a sense of place and be maintained in good order for the life of the plaza. The art shall be located where it is highly visible to the public.
- ***Moveable chairs.*** Such chairs shall be equivalent to 25 percent of the minimum seating requirement.
- ***Game tables and associated seating.***
- ***Kiosks.***
- ***Public drinking fountains.***
- ***Stormwater functionality.*** Provide capacity for infiltrating stormwater generated onsite.

Plaza Standards

- **Lighting.** All **plazas shall be illuminated** in accordance with Chapter 535, Regulations of General Applicability.
- **Winter use.** Plazas shall be **designed for winter use** and relate to the built form with consideration given to elements such as providing shelter from winds, utilizing seasonally appropriate materials, maximizing access to sunlight and providing for snow and ice removal. Plazas should be **located so that they receive natural sunlight during daytime hours in all seasons.**
- **Trash receptacles.** A minimum of **one trash receptacle and one recycling receptacle** shall be provided for each 2,000 square feet of plaza area.
- **Mechanical equipment.** All exhaust vents and mechanical equipment located adjacent to a plaza **shall be screened.**

Subtle Differences Can Make All The Difference



So what's different?

There are really five subtle enhancements to the Norseman:

- ▣ **1) Horn Shape**
The shape of the horns has been adjusted and the shading in the horns has changed.
- 2) Horn Base**
The base of the horn now resembles the horn on the players' helmets.
- 3) Face Detail**
Thicker lines have been added to the mustache and face.
- 4) Vikings Gold**
The Vikings Gold is now brighter and less brassy.
- 5) The Braid**
The braid has been shortened, resulting in a reduced logo height.

Source, Vikings.com, 2-14-2013