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**Red Wing Riverfront
Redevelopment Plan**
Red Wing, Minnesota 2005 **JJR**





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The Red Wing Riverfront Redevelopment Plan is the result of extensive public dialogue and the perseverance of numerous individuals and groups. Special thanks are due to the many dedicated participants recognized here.

Now that a broad consensus has been forged for the principles and plan contained within these pages, it is the ongoing energy of each of these champions, as well as newly-recruited participants, that will bring this plan to fruition. The Implementation Matrix will serve as a guide for striding forward together to honor our natural and cultural heritage while transforming our riverfront as envisioned.

- Mayor Donna Dummer

Mayor's Comprehensive Plan Steering Committee

Donna Dummer	Mayor
Mike Hall	Council Member
Jerry Cook	Council Member
Richard Henderson	Planning Commission Member
Ralph Rauterkus	Planning Commission Member
Scott Wordelman	Red Wing 2020 Board Member
Pierre Menard	Red Wing 2020 Board Member
Bob Kastner	Red Wing 2020 Board Member
Michael Kuehn	Red Wing 2020 Board Member Downtown Main Street, Inc. President
Arne Skyberg	Red Wing 2020 Board Member Chamber of Commerce President
Linda Hamilton	Red Wing Arts Association Director
Gary Nordmark	Council Member Red Wing Port Authority Board Member
Dewey Baringer	Red Wing Resident
Roseanne Grosso	Red Wing Resident
Fred Rucker	Red Wing Resident
Timothy Sullivan	Red Wing Resident

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Dean Hove	Council Vice President Wards One and Two
Gerald Cook	Council President Pro Tem Fourth Ward
Mike Hall	Council Member Wards Three and Four
John Key	Council Member Third Ward
Gary Peterson	Council Member Second Ward
Gary Nordmark	Council Member At-Large Member

Advisory Planning Commission

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Jim Foster	Vice Chairperson
Marilyn Wrich	
Ralph Rauterkus	
Scott Safe	
Roy Harley	
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Leanne Knott	GIS Intern

Prairie Island Tribal Council

Doreen Hagen	President
Ron Johnson	Vice President
Vicky Winfrey	Secretary
Lu Taylor	Treasurer
Alan Childs II	Assistant Secretary/Treasurer

Concerned Citizens Committee

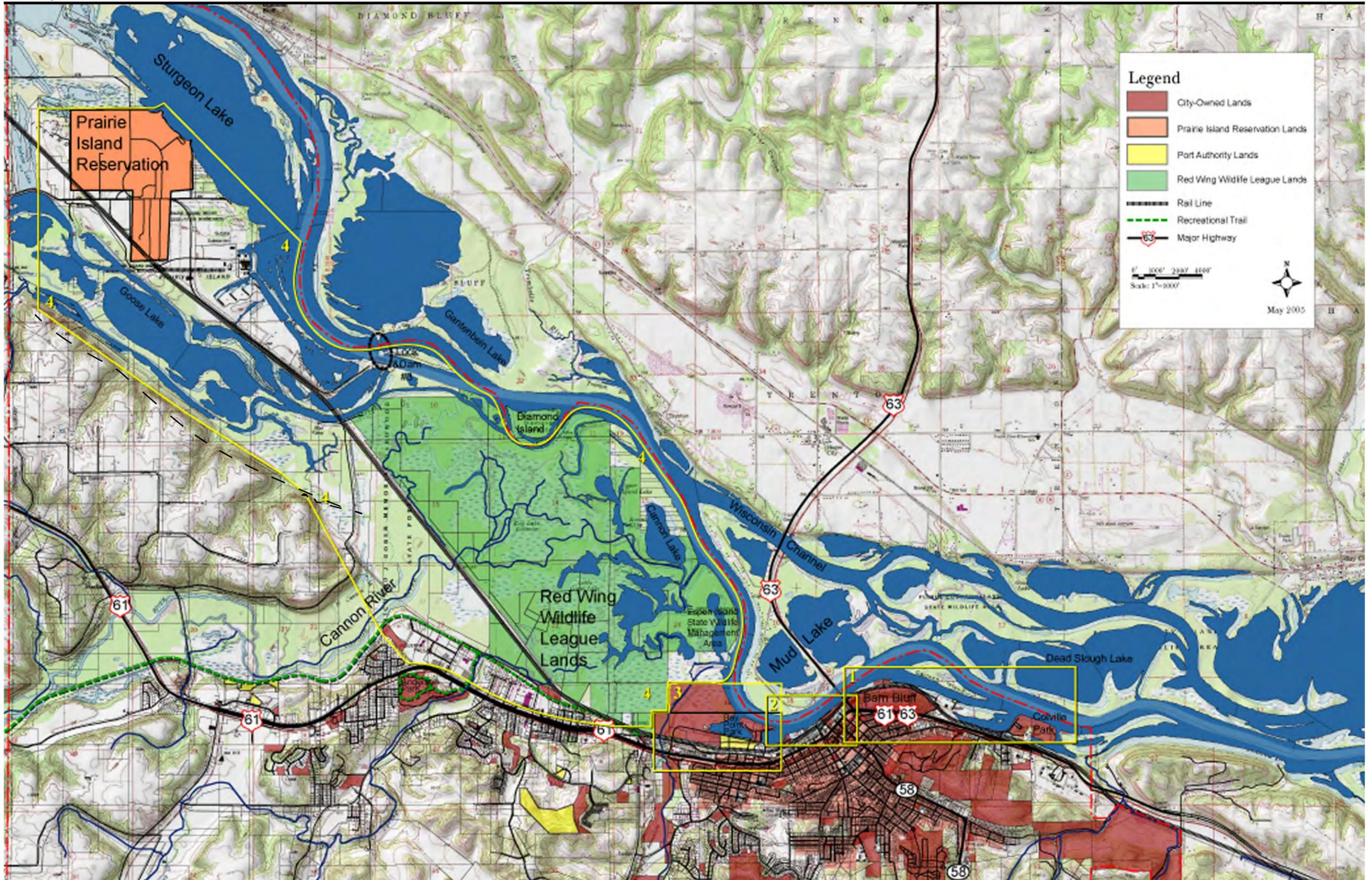
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Riverfront Stakeholders

Dave Turner	ADM
Jan Prigge	Red Wing Grain
Kathy Silverhorn	Red Wing Visitor and Convention Bureau
Myron White	Red Wing Port Authority
Marty Smith	Red Wing HRA
Kay Kuhlmann	Council Administrator
Denny Tebbe	Public Works Director
Ron Rosenthal	Engineering Department Director
Roy Neufeldt	Chair of the Harbor Commission
Dave Borgen	Red Wing Community Recreation
Darrell Breuer	Treasure Island Resort and Casino
Kim Pang	Treasure Island Resort and Casino



Project Overview

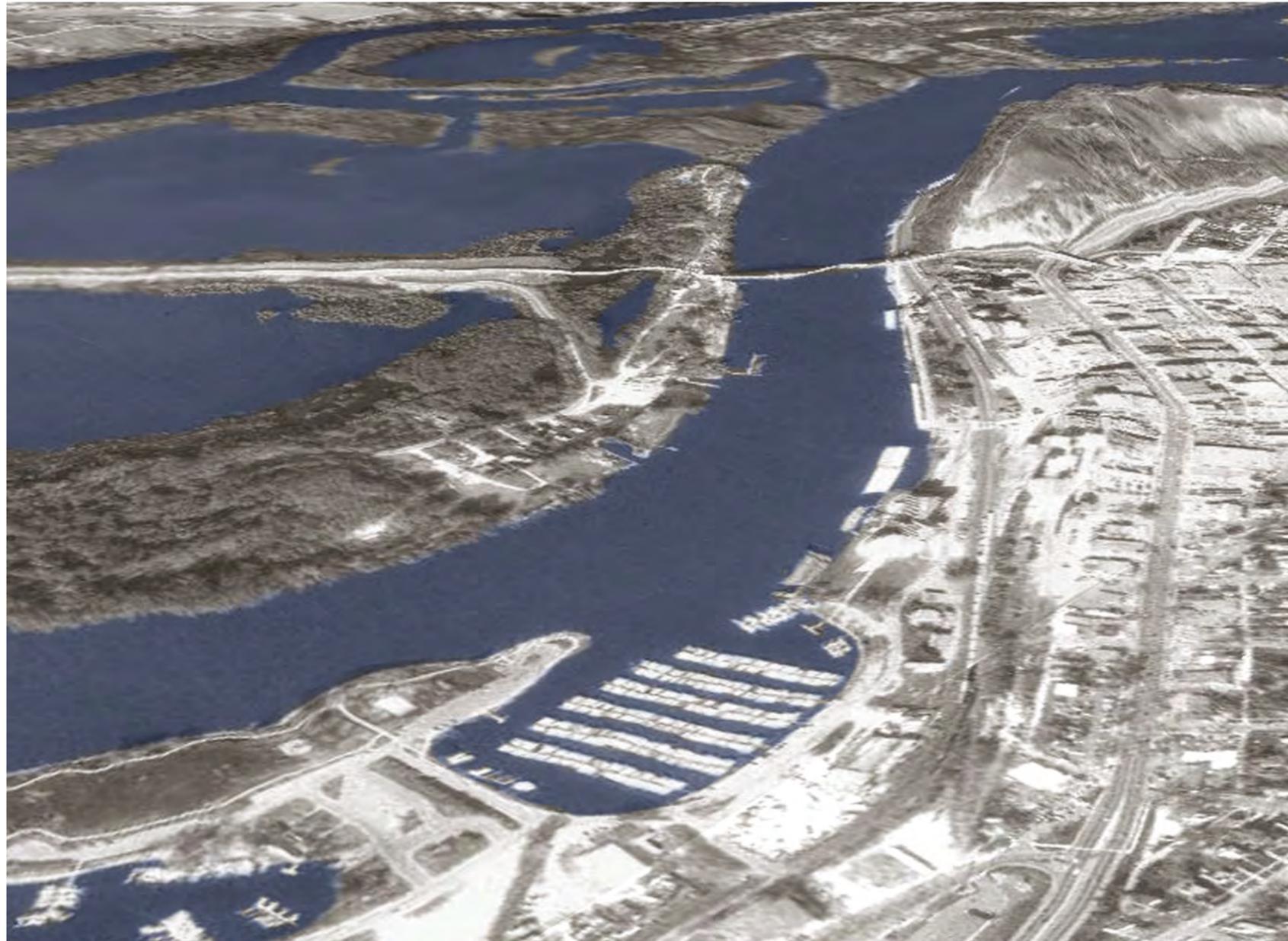


Introduction

Developing the Riverfront Redevelopment Plan was identified as a critical part of the process of updating the City of Red Wing's Comprehensive Plan. The overarching goal of this effort has been to identify the community's shared vision for the Riverfront and craft a means for achieving that consensus vision. This document summarizes the process and results of this effort in the following sections: Project Overview, Redevelopment Plan; Trails Projects; Design Character Guidelines; and Action Plan.

Riverfront Planning Area

The Riverfront District is illustrated in the accompanying map. The area includes over eight miles of Mississippi River shoreline, a lower river terrace that floods with the River, railroad tracks parallel to the River; and a steep bluff up to an upper terrace. The area extends from Prairie Island Tribal Lands to Covill Park; and from the River inland to Highway 61. Connections to the downtown, neighborhoods, parks, Prairie Island, and across the railroad tracks are critical components of the study area.



Riverfront Principles

A list of Guiding Principles was developed as a result of the series of community forums that were conducted during the week of May 24th. The following list of principles will be used to evaluate riverfront planning options and guide riverfront use during the several decades needed to fully realize the community's vision:

- Recognize the Mississippi River as a priceless, irreplaceable natural and cultural heritage with significance nationally, regionally, and to local citizens.
- Recognize that benefits to residents will also benefit visitors.
- Promote views of River; promote physical public access to and along the River.
- Foster the ongoing vitality of existing commercial enterprises.
- Promote economic sustainability.
- Accommodate many types of circulation needs including pedestrian, bike, automobile, truck, boat, etc.
- Comply with regulatory requirements of the multiple jurisdictions that govern the Riverfront.
- Maintain ecological health of Rivers (i.e. water quality, wetland systems, wildlife habitat, etc.)
- Engage residents and visitors via public art, programming and events that celebrate the River.
- Retain City ownership of land currently owned; retain City right of review and approval.
- Require compatibility of riverfront development with the Red Wing Comprehensive Plan update.
- Commit to ongoing meaningful public dialogue.
- Successfully balance diverse interests to best serve Red Wing's future.



Project Overview



Planning Process

The Mayor's Comprehensive Plan Steering Committee and the Red Wing Planning Commission have led an unprecedented effort to involve Red Wing citizens in a process of creating a new Riverfront Section of the City's Comprehensive Plan. The Red Wing Riverfront Redevelopment Plan summarizes the broad vision identified by the community including the intended character, use and improvements for the Riverfront District.

Below is a time line of activities and events conducted in order to complete the Riverfront Redevelopment Plan.

- November 22, 2004 – City Council adopted Resolution No. 5311 supporting the Planning Commission recommendation to update the City's Comprehensive Plan.
- January 25, 2005 – Mayor's Comprehensive Plan Steering Committee was formed and held its first meeting.
- April 11, 2005 – Council approved contract for JJR to provide professional consulting services.
- April 21, 2005 – The Steering Committee arranged for three "Imagine Red Wing" events to kick off the Comprehensive Planning program. The "Imagine the Riverfront" session brought over 100 citizens together to learn about what and how other communities are planning for their riverfront areas.
- May 11, 2005 – JJR conducted a public forum at the Library.
- May 24, 25, 26 – JJR met with community Stakeholders and led public forums that resulted in the drafting of the Riverfront Guiding Principles and Option Plans for the riverfront.
- June 21, 2005 – The City Council conducted a special meeting to preview the Option Plans.
- June 22, 2005 – A public open house was conducted to further review the Option Plans and associated materials drafted for the various surveys and questionnaires.

- June 27, 2005 – City Council approved the telephone survey questions with some modifications.
- June 30 and early July – Special Edition of City "Current", Republican Eagle, and special public television program provided information about the Option Plans.
- July 1 to July 22, 2005 – Public completed short questionnaire in the City "Current"; long questionnaire via the City Web site; long questionnaire from the Republican Eagle's special coverage; and/or telephone questionnaire as prepared by Decision Resources.
- July 25, 2005 – Council reviewed surveys' and questionnaire's results.
- August 2, 2005 – JJR conducted a public forum to review the Draft Consensus Plan that was crafted based upon the combined feedback from the various community input.
- August 15, 2005 – Red Wing Port Authority adopted Resolution No. 197 in support of the Riverfront Guiding Principles and "sensitive mixed use" development of designated riverfront properties.
- August 16, 2005 – Mayor's Comprehensive Plan Steering Committee approved Riverfront Consensus Plan.
- August 18, 2005 – Planning Commission approved Riverfront Consensus Plan.
- August 22, 2005 -- City Council unanimously approved the Riverfront Consensus Plan.
- October 6, 2005 – Public Forum was held to review the Draft Riverfront Redevelopment Plan was presented to the public for review and comment.
- October 12, 2005 – Mayor's Comprehensive Plan Steering Committee met to review and approve the Draft Riverfront Redevelopment Plan.
- October 18, 2005 -- Planning Commission Review of the Draft Riverfront Redevelopment Plan.

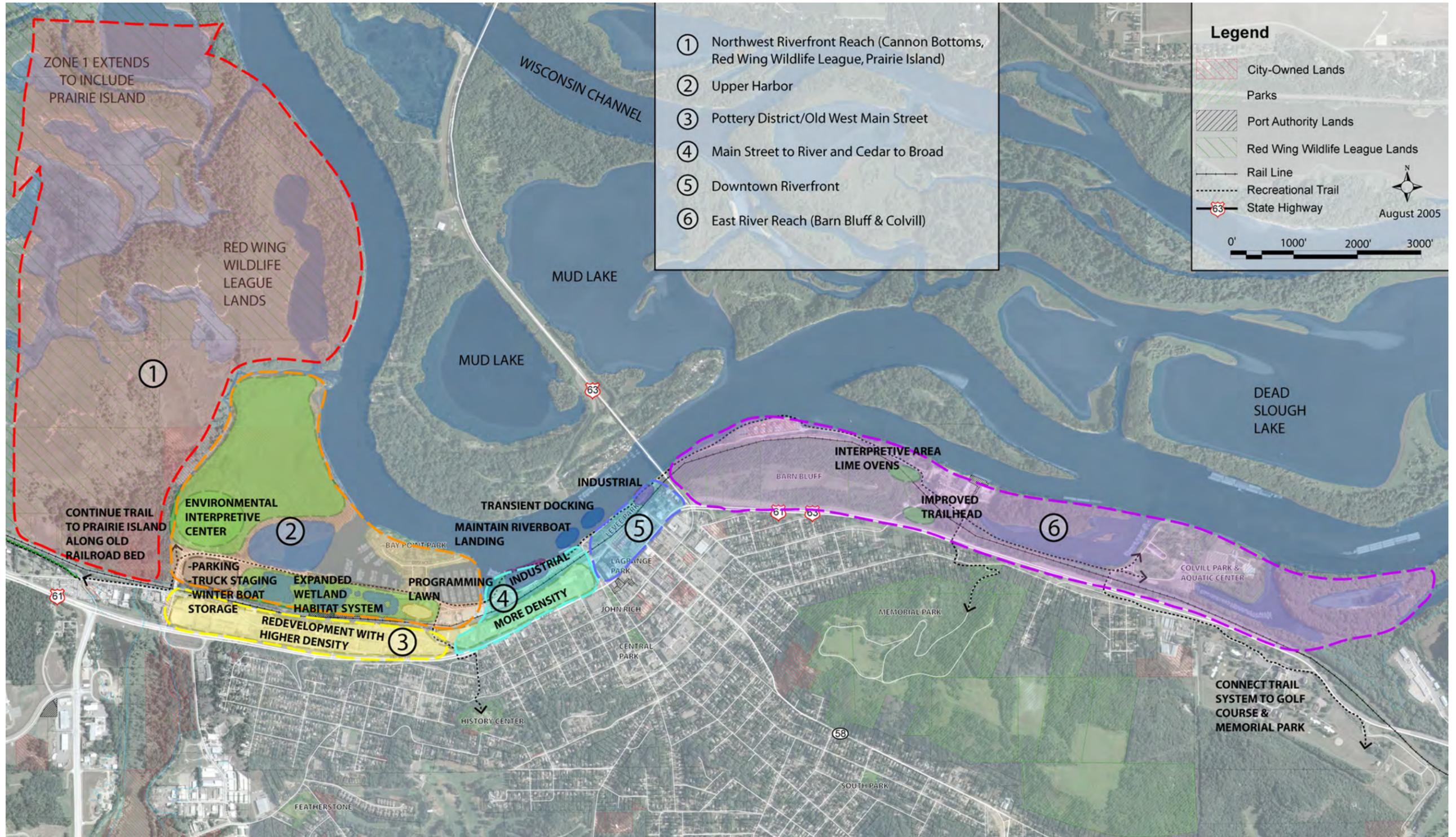
Survey/Questionnaire Results

The City contracted with Decision Resources, Inc. to complete a telephone survey; the City also provided citizens with an opportunity to register opinions through questionnaires provided in the City's newsletter, the Republican Eagle newspaper, and via the City website. The participation in the telephone survey and questionnaire was outstanding, as indicated by:

- Nearly 1000 responses received.
- Random Telephone Survey (300); Newsletter Questionnaire (458); Website Questionnaire (264); Record Eagle Questionnaire (171).
- Good agreement between responses from survey and questionnaires.
- Broad participation across four wards, gender, and age.
- Strong support for Open Space and Park Expansion in the Upper Harbor; Redevelopment of the Pottery District and Area North of Main; Maintenance of the Working Waterfront; and Trail/Pedestrian Linkages.
- Strong opposition for Residential and Office Use in the Upper Harbor.
- Mixed response for Boat Launch, Restaurant, Floating Museum and Truck Parking.



Redevelopment Zones



Introduction

This Plan addresses a broad range of requested program elements and reflects the community's input. Following the review of input received via the telephone survey, newsletter questionnaire, website questionnaire and Republican Eagle questionnaire, it became clear that there was strong consensus for a majority of the program elements considered and for the locations identified for these program elements. These surveys also revealed that additional discussion was necessary for several program elements related to whether or where they should occur.

Consensus Program Elements

The summary below lists these program elements for which there is good consensus.

Develop a continuous riverfront trail along the Mississippi River and develop additional linkages

- Connect to and extend the Cannon Trail
- Riverfront Promenade along Upper Harbor
- Develop regional bike route connection to Wisconsin over Highway 63 when future highway improvements occur
- Develop a trail loop into the city yard property along Hay Creek and the Mississippi River
- Develop a trail to Prairie Island along the old railroad bed
- Enhance trailhead on the east end of Barn Bluff
- Develop connections to Colvill Park
- Develop connection to Memorial Park and the East End Neighborhood
- Develop connections to Memorial Park, Mississippi National Golf Course and Sorin's Bluff walking trails

Maintain existing industrial working waterfront

- Coordinate public trail access along riverfront
- Improve and develop appropriate management plan for truck fleeting/parking
- Maintain current barge loading and unloading facilities

Develop downtown docking opportunities

- Maintain riverboat landing at Levee Park
- Maintain and improve transient recreational watercraft dockage parallel to the levee wall at Levee Park

Expand open space

- Develop the 9-acre parcel (currently managed by the Port Authority) and additional private land east to Jackson Street (as available) as programmable open space for active recreation and seasonal events
- Create opportunity for publicly owned concessions
- Expand the Pottery Pond and related programming
- Expand Pottery Pond into Wetland Habitat Project

- Develop Outdoor Amphitheater
- Incorporate transient dockage
- Maintain the existing bulkhead bump outs

Redevelop city yard and recycle center

- Relocate city yard and recycle center
- Develop a trailhead
- Incorporate an Environmental Interpretive Center (EIC)
- Develop an environmental interpretation program
- Develop a management program to preserve and restore the area north of the proposed EIC for wildlife conservation

Capitalize on economic development opportunities

- Encourage mixed-use redevelopment (potentially a combination of housing, office, retail, restaurant and public open space uses) of Old West Main Street /Pottery District as part of city economic development program
- Encourage mixed-use redevelopment (potentially a combination of housing, office, retail, restaurant and public open space uses) from Cedar Street to Broad Street north of West Main Street as part of city economic development program

Additional Programmatic Users Under Consideration

The following program elements were identified as needing additional evaluation prior to determination of whether and/or how they should be included along the Riverfront:

As a component of "Maintain existing industrial working waterfront"

- Improve and develop appropriate management plan for truck fleeting/parking

As a component of "Develop downtown docking opportunities"

- Incorporate transient recreational watercraft dockage at the west end of Upper Harbor

As a component of "Expand open space"

- Incorporate dockage for a music / performance barge in the Upper Harbor
- Restaurant use question
- Develop a shared parking and vehicle staging area at far west end for a combination of satellite parking for special events, truck fleeting/parking, winter boat storage, and boat launch trailer parking.

As a component of "Redevelop city yard and recycle center"

- Coordinate with floating museum programming to allow for visitor research and science vessels.

As a component of "Relocate farmers market"

- Explore relocation of expanded, year-round farmers market

Plan Highlights

Red Wing's Riverfront Redevelopment Plan was prepared based on the synthesis of extensive community input, creation of several options, crafting of a consensus plan, and refining the consensus into a comprehensive, coherent plan of action with a pragmatic implementation strategy.

Below are major highlights of the Riverfront Redevelopment Plan:

Pedestrian and Trail Linkages

There is clear public support for efforts to construct pedestrian and trail linkages along the riverfront and from the riverfront to adjoining neighborhoods and business districts. The Prairie Island Indian Community also expressed interest in a connection between Prairie Island and the Cannon Valley Trail.

Port Authority Property and area east to Jackson Street

The current Comprehensive Plan encourages commercial development in this area. The Consensus Plan calls for a change in the current Comprehensive Plan by stating that the area should be developed as programmable open space for active recreation and seasonal events. In addition, there is an opportunity to create opportunities for publicly owned concessions (for example: food and beverage uses); and incorporate an outdoor amphitheater.

Redevelopment/Economic Development Opportunities

There is clear public support to capitalize on economic development opportunities that are available by focusing efforts on redevelopment of the upper terrace that lays above Red Wing's riverfront i.e. the Old West Main/Pottery District; Main Street District between Cedar Street and Broad; and the Downtown Business District. There is support for improving the connections of these areas to the riverfront and there appear to be a number of underutilized properties that represent opportunities for redevelopment.

Environmental Interpretive Center

The current Comprehensive Plan encourages the development of festival grounds in the location of the current city yard west of the Upper Harbor and north of Levee Road. The location of the site adjacent to the Red Wing Wildlife League conservation area makes it ideal for consideration of an environmental center with a trailhead; access to nature walks; and environmental center, interpretation and programming. The design programming and phase development of a future environmental center is a logical next step to be determined.



Northwest Riverfront Plan

