



## City of Faribault: Journey to 2040 *"Shaping our Future"*

### Project Oversight Committee (POC) Meeting #5 - Meeting Minutes

Meeting Purpose: Review of Materials for Parks Kick-off Meeting

Meeting Date: July 19<sup>th</sup>, 2018 Time: 6:00 – 8:00pm

Location: Faribault City Hall – 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor Room

Action items are shown as bold, italic, and underlined items.

#### Meeting Goals:

- *Review of Integrating Vision 2040 Joint Steering Meeting Results*
- *Overview of Parks, Trails, and Open Space Kick-off Meeting*
- *Review of Placemaking Week Activities*

**POC Attendees:** Steve Underdahl, Janna Viscomi, Steve White, Tom Spooner, Kevin Voracek

**City Staff:** Dave Wanberg, Deanna Kuennen, Paul Peanasky, and Tim Murray

**Consultant Staff:** Jay Demma and John Slack

#### Meeting Overview.

John explained that Ana Nelson has resigned from Perkins+Will and that Jay Demma will now be the project manager for Journey to 2040.

#### *Using the Results of the Integrating Vision 2040 Joint Steering Committee Meeting:*

Jay presented results from the June 21 Joint Steering Committee Meeting. Regarding the Vision 2040 exercise, Jay asked the POC how the main themes could influence the local economy. Janna connected nearly all the themes to economic activity and cited several examples. Kevin said that all of the themes are attributes of tourism. Steve W. mentioned that what is missing from the results is any mention of the importance and influence of manufacturing in the community. Steve W. also mentioned the importance of improving the educational systems in Faribault at all levels, primary, secondary, and post-secondary.

Deanna responded to Steve W.'s comments that the City has been actively working toward linking its economic development strategies to improving educational opportunities. She specifically mentioned the focus of the community college's new president on training, such as a push to support more apprenticeship level training, and a coordinated effort to leverage more state dollars on higher education in communities like Faribault.

A POC member noted the importance of quality of life as something that links all of the identified themes. Another POC member reminded the group of the importance of the Academy for the Deaf, as many of these students stay in the community once they graduate.

It was also mentioned that only the natural resources theme is the only truly unique theme because all the other themes can be found in other nearby communities. However, one of the POC members responded that only Faribault has all four of the themes.

The location of Faribault was cited by one of the POC members as being unique in that it is at the center of a triangle formed by the Twin Cities, Rochester, and Mankato, which are three important centers of economic activity. Deanna then responded that Faribault needs to consider itself a part of a larger region and how it can benefit from this location. Drives times to these major economic centers should be considered in any analysis.

Jay presented findings from the Joint Steering Committee Meeting that were specific to the three planning processes: the downtown master plan, the parks/trails/open space master plan, and the comprehensive plan. Regarding

affordable housing in the downtown, Janna noted that the primary concern is the quality of the housing and dealing with landlords that don't care. This comment was seconded by another POC member. Regarding downtown development and parking, Steve W. noted that there is not enough parking. Tom responded to Steve W. by stating that there is enough parking downtown, though it may mean that people need to walk one to two blocks to get to their destination.

Regarding the expansion of the City into the surrounding townships, one of the POC members asked about big economic development projects. Jay replied that the steering committee members who discussed this issue came down in the middle because they saw both the positive and negative of the City investing in new infrastructure to support such development. Therefore, they concluded such situations would be best addressed on a case by case basis. Related to this topic, one of the POC members asked if the City can annex anywhere in the townships. Tim responded that the townships adjacent to Faribault have zoning authority, which means the City does not have extraterritorial authority to plan for those areas and the process to annex those areas is much more complicated.

Jay noted that some of the comments received via various outreach methods (e.g., facebook, attendance at events, project website, etc.) have indicated strongly divergent opinions on how inclusive Faribault can and should be toward people of all backgrounds (i.e., age, income, race, ethnicity, sexual orientation, physical abilities, etc.). It was noted that at the June 21 Joint Steering Committee Meeting, when the same issue was raised, an attendee stated that the community needs to have an honest discussion that addresses such differing opinions. The question was then posed to the POC whether an additional joint steering committee meeting should be held specifically to address this issue.

Although the POC did not necessarily endorse the need to convene an additional Joint Steering Committee Meeting, they did agree that continuing efforts should be made to include as many perspectives as possible in the planning process. Dave mentioned that City staff and the consultant team have been working on convening an advisory group that would be made up of attendees that would represent a wide range of backgrounds. This group would weigh-in on each of the three plans with the purpose of focusing on different perspectives, such as sustainability, economy, physical conditions, and social/human conditions. It was noted that a similar, highly successful meeting was held as part of the Vision 2040 process that could serve as a model meeting format. The POC was in general agreement that convening such an advisory group would be valuable.

#### *Overview of Parks Background Information:*

Jay presented background information on the City's park system, which will be included as part of the kick-off meeting for the PSC. This was followed by a short exercise in which the POC members were invited to view a map of the parks and trails system and provide their input on areas or locations regarding: places they like or love; assets; barriers; needed connections; challenges; or needed improvement.

Place based comments:	General comments:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Proposed Mill Towns Trail Connection: Needs to happen ASAP</li><li>• Teepee Tonka Park: Not accessible</li><li>• Spring Greenway: Trail needs to connect</li><li>• Prairie Ridge Park: Need age correct parks</li><li>• South Lyndale Avenue: need trail connection</li><li>• Straight River in Downtown: river is underutilized; railroad is a barrier</li><li>• North Alexander Park: asset</li><li>• South Alexander Park: BMX facility is an asset</li><li>• Cannon River at City's western boundary: need park on river</li><li>• River Bend Nature Center: great wildlife/nature</li><li>• 29<sup>th</sup> Street: trail connection needed</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Need activity center on north end of city</li><li>• Need east-west bike trail</li><li>• More trails needed along each river</li></ul>

Proposed Mill Towns Trail Connection  
*NEEDS TO HAPPEN ASAP.*

*NEED activity center on north end*

*Need East/West  
Bike Trail*

**EXIST  
CITY  
PARKLAND**

*Park*

*Asset*

*Asset Box*

*20th Street*

*7th Street*

*4th Street*

*Division Street*

*9th Avenue*

*230th Street*

*Need for count trails*

*Not accessible*

*RR Barrier*

*1st Street*

*Glymview Trail*

*Great wildlife/nature*



*Overview of Placemaking Activities discussion:*

Jay presented an overview of the upcoming placemaking event in downtown that is scheduled for Thursday, August 16<sup>th</sup>. It was mentioned that the firm organizing the event is currently recruiting businesses and organizations interested in sponsoring a particular activity. Dave added that initial feedback has been really positive, and he read a list of businesses and organizations that have already mentioned they are interested even though recruitment has only just begun.

*Broaden Public Participation discussion:*

This agenda item was discussed as part of the Using the Results of the Joint Steering Committee Meeting agenda item.

*P+W believes that this document accurately reflects the business transacted during the meeting. If any attendee believes that there are any inconsistencies, omissions or errors in the minutes, please notify Jay Demma at 612.851.5016 or [jay.demma@perkinswill.com](mailto:jay.demma@perkinswill.com)*