

Economic Development

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February 2, 2015

Former Public Works Site Exploration Phase – Small Session Summaries January 2015

The City/Frauenshuh team is midway through the “Exploration” phase of this land planning process. Several strategies have been implemented to solicit suggestions from a broad spectrum of community members. In addition to outreach to the general public, City staff has reached out to 120 community groups actively involved in Edina. The types of groups include: civic & community causes, sports-related, education-related, business-related, youth-related, neighborhood groups & associations, and appointed City Commissions.

This packet contains summaries of comments expressed at these small-group conversations.

- 1) Letter sent to community groups
- 2) January 8, 2015 Public Art Edina
- 3) January 14, 2015 Lake Edina Neighbors
- 5) January 22, 2015 Arts & Culture Commission
- 6) January 23, 2015 Edina Basketball Association
- 7) January 25, 2015 Edina Baseball Association

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Date: December 22, 2014
To: Edina Civic & Community Organizations
From: Bill Neuendorf
Economic Development Manager
**Re: **Redevelopment of former Public Works site
Exploration Session****

The City of Edina is exploring ideas to re-use the 3.3-acre parcel in the Grandview commercial district that was formerly used by the Public Works Department. The site is located west of Highway 100 at Eden Avenue; behind Jerry's Foods and north of Our Lady of Grace church. A flyer that describes the project is attached. For more information, visit www.EdinaMN.gov/Grandview.

This project follows a multi-year conversation about the type of development preferred for the Grandview commercial/industrial area that surrounds the site. After two years of community meetings, the City Council adopted the *Grandview Development Framework* in 2012. The *Framework* envisions a mixed-use building on the former public works site that includes a combination of public and private uses. This strategy was selected instead of a sole public or sole private use on the site.

Frauenschuh Inc. has been selected as the private partner to collaboratively prepare mixed-use development options for review in spring 2015. The City Council is anticipated to select the preferred option in June 2015.

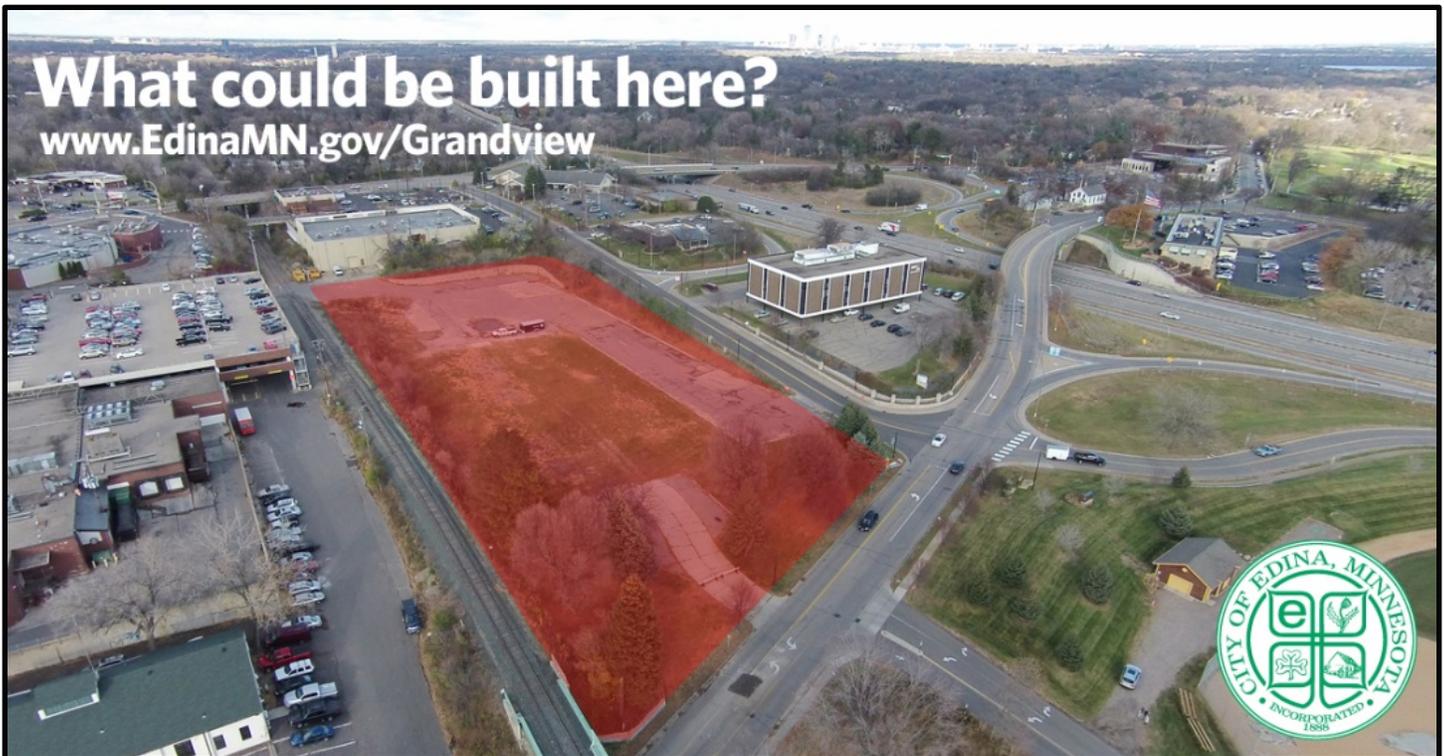
The City and Frauenschuh are seeking input from the leaders and members of your organization regarding the types of public and private uses that would best reflect the needs of the community. Suggestions are also needed regarding the funding for the new public facilities at this site.

City staff would like to hold an Exploration Session with your board, members and guests. Sessions may be customized to be as brief as 15-minutes or up to 1-hour in length depending on the time available.

You can schedule an Exploration Session during the months of January and February by contacting Heather Branigin at (952) 826-0403 or HBranchin@EdinaMN.gov.

Thanks for all you do for Edina!

Edina's former Public Works site



Renewal of the outdated properties in the Grandview district has been discussed for several years. In 2015, the City of Edina intends to implement the long-term community vision beginning with the site of the former Public Works facility at 5146 Eden Ave. (shown above).

The City has partnered with Frauenshuh, Inc. to collaboratively prepare re-use options for the site. It is intended that part of the 3.3 acre site will be rebuilt with a significant public use while the remainder of the site will contain a private use, like housing, office or retail. The proceeds from the private use are intended to help pay for the new public facility.

Your help is needed to plan the best mixture of uses on this site!

- **What type of new public facility is needed?**
- **What goods and services are lacking?**
- **What are you willing to support?**
- **What is needed for tomorrow's generation?**
- **What opportunities do you see here?**

Call 952-826-0403 to schedule an exploration session in Jan. or Feb. 2015.

All ideas and suggestions will be considered as the design consultants prepare concepts for public review in March/April 2015.

Public Art Edina
Thursday, January 8, 2015
4:00 to 4:30 PM
4 people
Michael Frey, coordinator

OPPORTUNITIES / SUGGESTIONS

- New location for expanded Art Center
- Gallery space for art and local history
- Community space
- Affordably-priced housing
- Outdoor programmed space, like amphitheater
- Walkable from adjacent neighborhoods
- Public sculpture included in any project
- Nice, sit-down restaurant in mixed-use facility

OTHER COMMENTS

- Try to preserve mature trees
- Which elementary school is impacted by new students living in new housing?

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Lake Edina Neighbors
Wednesday, January 14, 2015
6:30 to 8:00 PM
2 people
Peter Choukalas, coordinator

OPPORTUNITIES / SUGGESTIONS

- Sell to a new start-up business that invests in Edina and changes the industrial-nature of the Grandview area
- Year round farmers market (although it may compete against Jerrys)
- Can't think of any public facility that is missing

OTHER COMMENTS

- Not a good place for a park
- No more large indoor sports facilities – we have enough
- No need for public fitness center, private companies already provide this service
- Prefer land to be back on tax rolls to increase overall tax base
- Any public use should be revenue neutral
- Affordable housing is a difficult decision
- Schools just built new performing arts center
- Outdoor amphitheater at Centennial Lakes fits that need

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Arts & Culture Commission
Thursday, January 22, 2015
4:00 to 4:30 PM
8 people
Michael Frey, coordinator

OPPORTUNITIES / SUGGESTIONS

- Green roof on top of new ramp
- Expanded senior center
- Outdoor plaza/open space that can be programmed for multiple purposes
- New art center to replace existing
- Include “hands on” art experience in any new public facility
- Education dance or theater facility
- Community performing arts center
- Climbing wall for teens
- Flexible space for many public purposes
- Artist studio space

OTHER COMMENTS

- Connect to Jerry’s Ramp for more parking
- Add coffee shop at Senior Center to attract teens and young adults – similar to “The Garage” in Hopkins

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Edina Basketball Association
Friday January 23, 2015
8:00 to 9:00 AM
4 group leaders
Mic O'Brien, coordinator

OPPORTUNITIES / SUGGESTIONS

- Indoor court space is needed; high demand by youth and adult leagues is not met by current public facilities or private rental facilities
- multiple courts are best, but even a single court could relieve pressure on other facilities
- Indoor walking track suggested
- Indoor meeting space also needed
- Multi-purpose court with related community spaces paired with multi-family housing that appeals to all ages (not just seniors)
- Expansive Community Recreation Center like Chaska

OTHER COMMENTS

- It is difficult and expensive to schedule court time at Edinborough and Southview
- Site may not be large enough for expansive community center like Chaska
- Maple Grove is good example, they added 3 full courts onto junior high school
- Indoor sporting events continue to get larger; currently the boys basketball tournament hosts 234 teams from across the state on a single weekend. It is difficult to find courts for all the times.

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Edina Baseball Association
Sunday January 25, 2015
7:15 to 7:40 PM
Approx. 25 people
Greg Brown, coordinator

OPPORTUNITIES / SUGGESTIONS

- Would like to see more commercial uses here – restaurants & retail, similar to Excelsior & Grand but scaled down to fit the site
- Gathering place for youth and all ages – pool, gym, restaurants
- The pre-teen / early teen age kids are the most difficult to program for. This is an underserved age-group. Suggest a place where kids can go after school to do homework (with homework help), play games (basketball, foosball, etc), have a coffee/beverage bar (could be student operated)
- There are more than enough private fitness clubs in and around Edina – no need to build a new one at taxpayer expense
- Provide a good mixture of condos, good restaurants & retail, along with a public use that is needed in Edina; no fast food; no marginal tenants (like pet grooming, etc)
- Like housing, but include elderly and non-elderly
- Would like to see some 'green space' included on site with buildings

OTHER COMMENTS

- Coordinate after school access to/from the site with Metro Transit
- The new Dome was very well done – serves many ages in all seasons – a result to emulate
- Edinborough is outdated and focused on younger kids – its not of interest to school-age kids and their parents
- Is it too late to reconsider a sale to a private owner? The City & School District have many new projects, a new private development could provide missing services and boost tax base to help pay for other new facilities.
- Access across Hwy 100 is difficult, especially for kids; consider the Lid or similar improvements to make it easier and safer to cross Hwy 100
- Hwy 100 creates distinct 'east' and 'west' sides of town; would be nice to unify and reconnect both 'sides' of Edina
- Transportation improvements in the area are essential
- Adjust roads and lights to accommodate new construction
- This is a place for density – go high – 8 or 10 stories, for example
- Make parking and pedestrian access easy

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