

The Grandview area has been the hotbed of several years' worth of discussions, work and studies regarding redevelopment of the City's former Public Works site and the area as a whole. Two separate studies currently under way are taking this interest to the next level.

Grandview Transportation Study

What sort of transportation challenges and opportunities exist in the Grandview area? How will future development and changes affect how residents and shoppers navigate the area?

This fall, the City hired architecture and engineering firm LHB, transportation firm and national transportation planning experts Nelson/Nygaard Consulting, and Alta Planning + Design to lead the study and answer those questions. The consultants will identify needs, challenges and opportunities to review and evaluate recommended changes to the Grandview transportation network to meet the community's long-term needs.

The transportation study builds off the 2011 development framework for Grandview and will provide an analysis of existing transportation conditions and explore, refine, clarify and expand on recommendations made in the framework. The study focus is on the Grandview area as a whole, not on one specific site.

The process kicked off in November with a public workshop and presentations to the City Council and Transportation Commission. In mid-February, additional meetings and public input sessions will be held as part of "Imagine Week." Participants will have an opportunity to imagine Grandview's transportation in several different high- and low-density redevelopment scenarios.

"We want to involve those who live and work in and around Grandview and hear, from their perspectives, the challenges and opportunities that exist for all modes of transportation in the area," said Transportation Planner Mark Nolan.

For more information and future meeting dates, visit www.EdinaMN.gov/Grandview, or contact Nolan at mnolan@EdinaMN.gov.

Operations and Feasibility of Public Facility

What would the financials of a multi-use community center look like? How could the space be programmed? How would it compete against the rest of the market in the Twin Cities?

A new study seeks to answer those questions. In late 2014, the City partnered with Frauenshuh Inc. to study and plan potential redevelopment scenarios for the City's former Public Works Site at 5146 Eden Ave. In June, the City Council provided preliminary direction on its preferred development scenario – a mixed-use, public/private development.

Soon after, ESG Architects was asked to further refine that scenario, imagine the look and feel of a potential Grandview community facility and conduct a preliminary architectural study to ensure civic program elements are feasible for the site.

The City Council generally agreed that the Edina Art Center and Edina Senior Center could be combined at this site, creating multi-generational community programming, with the intention of closing the two existing facilities. However, before staff or the Park Board can make a recommendation to the City Council on the facility and programming components, further study and refinement is needed.

HGA Architects & Engineers was selected as a partner and lead for the feasibility study. Its work will consist of visioning and programming, site analysis and conceptual design, and estimating costs.

Pros Consulting was selected to complete an operational analysis of the feasibility study, including a business plan for the facility. The operational plan will include revenue and expense details, financial modeling and pro formas. It will also work with HGA and City staff to study programming needs and interests and to determine the operational feasibility of each programming component.

Sutton + Associates was selected to complete an analysis of the arts portion of the study. In addition to making recommendations on programming and operations, it will also study the arts market of the Twin Cities to determine which arts components are needed and desired in Edina and which components would be successful.

“This is a critical next step in the planning of a potential community facility at Grandview,” said Parks & Recreation Director Ann Kattreh. “This study will take information and data that has already been collected from resident input, further study the needs and interests of residents and the competitive market, determine which components fit best into a new facility and then study the financial viability of the facility.”

Two open houses will be scheduled for this process: the first 7 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 21, to gather information to include and consider in programming models and the second March 10 to gather final feedback. The entire process should be complete in May.

For more information, visit www.EdinaMN.gov/parks or contact Kattreh at akattreh@EdinaMN.gov.