



9. Implementation

Introduction

This Plan will update the Minneapolis Plan regarding land use and land use designation. Adoption of this Plan by City Council should signal the beginning of a new era for Uptown. The Plan will be implemented over the next 15 to 20 years with both private and public resources. Implementation will amount to significant changes and improvements in Uptown – changes that are both qualitative and quantitative.

Partnerships and civic cooperation are as important to the implementation of this Plan as the physical legacies. This Plan is not a blueprint for how to spend public resources. Rather, it is a document designed to raise investor confidence, form partnerships, and inspire new ideas. The ideas come from vested interests and passions of Uptown's diverse body of stakeholders. The realization of these ideas depends on continued cooperation and coordination between an active public sector, an entrepreneurial private sector, and an engaged citizenry. The result of such partnerships will be a renewed Uptown – a place that embodies the best qualities of urban living in Minneapolis.

The table on the following pages outlines initial thoughts for how the recommendations in this Plan can begin to be realized.

Land Use Recommendations

Recommendations	Responsibilities	Time Frames	Notes
Discourage one-story commercial buildings.	CPED	Near Term	Rezoning Study: Consider minimum Floor Area Ratio for Pedestrian Oriented Overlay.
Encourage mixed-use blocks along Lake Street with the goal of improving walkability and connectivity between Uptown and Lyn/Lake	CPED	Near Term	Rezoning Study: Consider requiring retail in defined locations through an overlay district.
Encourage mixed-use blocks along Lake Street with the goal of improving walkability and connectivity between Uptown and Lyn/Lake.	CPED	Near Term	Rezoning Study: Focus on mix of uses.
Encourage office and employment uses in the Core as means of boosting daytime population.	CPED	Near Term	Rezoning Study: Focus on mix of uses
Create transitions between the Core and the neighborhoods by encouraging medium-density housing.	CPED	Near Term	Implement land use map as development occurs.
Encourage medium density housing and neighborhood retail on Hennepin Avenue, north of 28th Street.	CPED	Near Term	Implement land use map and pursue opportunities for rezoning.
Create a Live/Work district on West Lake Street.	CPED	Near Term	Evaluate zoning code to allow live/work opportunities.
Preserve the character of existing residential low-density housing in the neighborhoods.	CPED	Near Term	Implement land use map as development occurs.
Explore opportunities for encouraging additional live/work projects.	CPED	Near Term	Will likely require changes to the zoning code.

Built Form Recommendations

Recommendations	Responsibilities	Time Frames	Notes
Concentrate density and intensity in the Core.	CPED, Development Community	Near Term	Rezoning Study: Implement land use map as development occurs
Encourage buildings in the Core to fit within a sculpted envelope that maximizes sunlight to the Greenway, Lake Street and Lagoon Avenue.	CPED, Development Community	Near Term	Follow guidance of Plan when reviewing design concepts.
Set buildings back on the north side of Lagoon and Lake Street to create broad sidewalks.	CPED, Development Community	Near Term	Follow guidance of Plan when reviewing design concepts.
Encourage buildings south of Lake Street to step down to meet the neighborhood scale.	CPED, Development Community	Near Term	Follow guidance of Plan when reviewing design concepts.
Encourage buildings on Lagoon Avenue to create a three to four story street wall.	CPED, Development Community	Near Term	Follow guidance of Plan when reviewing design concepts.
Encourage buildings west of the Activity Center to gradually step down in height to 2.5 stories at the Lake, in compliance with the Shoreland Overlay District.	CPED, Development Community	Near Term	Follow guidance of Plan when reviewing design concepts.
Encourage buildings on Hennepin Avenue, north of 28th Street to contain active fronts, and wide sidewalks.	CPED, Development Community	Near Term	Rezoning Study: Consider requiring retail in defined locations through an overlay district
New buildings throughout Uptown are encouraged to be designed as Green buildings with sustainable landscaping.	CPED, Development Community	Near Term	
Encourage all buildings on Lake Street and Lagoon Avenue, east of Hennepin Avenue, to contain storefronts.	CPED, Development Community	Near Term	

Open Space Recommendations

Recommendations	Responsibilities	Time Frames	Notes
Create several small urban gathering spaces.	CPED, Development Community, Private property owners	Near Term	Encourage the use of tools such as PUD to negotiate for additional and improved public amenities.
Create a year round indoor/outdoor gathering space in Calhoun Square that accommodates existing and attracts new, diverse residents and customers.	Calhoun Square	Near Term	Current developers are planning improvements.
Establish upper pedestrian promenades on both the north and south sides of the Greenway.	CPED, Development Community, Property owners	As opportunities arise	Encourage and implement as development occurs.
Create Girard Meander, a narrow street with wide sidewalks connecting Mozaic to Calhoun Square. Design Girard Meander such that it can be closed to vehicular traffic as necessary during evenings and on weekends.	CPED, Development Community, Public Works	Medium Term	Consider as Mozaic and Calhoun Square plans are finalized and committed.
Where sidewalks are less than 8' wide, consider either setting back buildings five to ten feet to create wider sidewalks that can be used for outdoor seating, widening narrowing the street and widening the sidewalks to provide additional pedestrian amenities.	CPED, Development Community, Public Works	As opportunities arise	
Consider a public open space at the eastern terminus of Lagoon Avenue in front of the Lehman Building.	CPED, Development Community	Long Term	Consider as a part of redevelopment of Lehman Building.
Aggressively pursue private/public funding and operational options for the development of additional public spaces.	CPED, Development Community, MPRB	Medium Term	City and MPRB should work together to explore all options for Open Space development.
Explore options for additional greening of 31st Street east of Hennepin Avenue.	CPED, Public Works, Neighborhood.	Medium Term	Right-of-way east of Hennepin is more limited than west of Hennepin. Explore options for some form of greening/median.

Open Space Recommendations (cont'd)

Recommendations	Responsibilities	Time Frames	Notes
Create broad promenades along the north side of Lake Street and Lagoon Avenue.	CPED, Development Community, Public Works	As opportunities arise	
Create additional small triangular urban plazas on Hennepin Avenue north of 28th Street as properties are redeveloped.	CPED, Development Community, Public Works	As opportunities arise	
Create terraces to the Greenway on development blocks that are graded down to the Greenway.	CPED, Development Community	As opportunities arise	
Encourage new development on the north side of the Greenway to animate the Greenway with active privately owned open spaces.	CPED, Development Community	As opportunities arise	

Pedestrian and Bicycle Recommendations

Recommendations	Responsibilities	Time Frames	Notes
Shorten the walk distance for pedestrians crossing streets in Uptown by providing bump outs at signalized intersections.	Public Works, Hennepin County	Medium Term	See the Access Minneapolis Street Design Guidelines which are currently under development for additional info.
Install pedestrian count down meters at busy intersections in Uptown so pedestrians know how much time they actually have to cross the street.	Public Works, Hennepin County	Medium Term	
Reestablish practice of striping crosswalks annually rather than every two years so that markings are clearly visible to drivers and pedestrians.	Public Works, Hennepin County	Near Term	The Minneapolis Pedestrian Master Plan which is currently under development will address this and other best practices for crosswalk design and maintenance.
Where streets have been vacated, encourage new and existing development to establish sidewalks, paths, trails, or promenades to complete the pedestrian network (refer to map for specific locations).	CPED, Public Works, Developers/Property Owners	As opportunities arise	
Encourage setback for new developments in areas where the existing sidewalk is less than 12 feet wide.	CPED, Public Works, Developers/Property Owners	As opportunities arise	
Pursue placing the reconstruction of Lake and Lagoon on the Hennepin County Capital Improvements Program	CPED, Public Works	Near Term	
Develop the Girard Meander to connect the Mozaic to Calhoun Square.	CPED, Development Community, Public Works	Medium Term	Consider as Mozaic and Calhoun Square plans are finalized and committed.

Pedestrian and Bicycle Recommendations (cont'd)

Establish upper pedestrian promenades on both the north and south sides of the Greenway In locations where buildings engage the Greenway at the lower level, efforts should be made to maintain pedestrian connectivity.	CPED, Development Community, Property Owners	As opportunities arise	Encourage and implement as development occurs
Ensure that new development (residential and commercial) provides an adequate number of bicycle parking stalls.	CPED	Near Term	Consider requiring more bicycle parking through the Pedestrian Oriented Overlay.
Encourage centralized bicycle parking (such as on-street bike parking corrals) at convenient locations for bicyclists to “park their bikes and walk” to several places in Uptown. Also explore ways to incorporate localized bike parking into street furniture configurations.	CPED, Public Works	Near Term	Coordinate with upcoming Bicycle Master Plan efforts
Work with the neighborhoods to identify inter-neighborhood bicycle routes and / or “park to park” routes.	Neighborhoods, Public Works, CPED	Near Term	Coordinate with upcoming Bicycle Master Plan efforts
Explore design options for bike lanes on 31st Street and Bryant Avenue.	Neighborhoods, Public Works, CPED	Near Term	Coordinate with upcoming Bicycle Master Plan efforts
Improve bicycle connections between the Greenway and the Core of Uptown (refer to map for specific location).	CPED, Public Works, Hennepin County, Development Community	As opportunities arise	Coordinate with upcoming Bicycle Master Plan efforts
Study the narrowing of the curb-to-curb dimensions of Lake Street and Lagoon Avenue, west of Hennepin Avenue; use the additional width to create promenades on the north sides of these streets.	CPED, Public Works, Hennepin County		
Consider reducing the lane count on Lake Street to two lanes in each direction, thereby matching the lane count on East Lake Street. Explore interim measures for improving pedestrian comfort and safety.	CPED, Public Works, Hennepin County		

Transit Recommendations

Recommendations	Responsibilities	Time Frames	Notes
Establish a group of business leaders, property, owners, residents, that would promote better management of existing parking resources, promote transit options and help implement other transportation recommendations.	Metro Transit, CPED, Public Works	Near Term	Explore if this group could become a Transportation Management Organization (TMO).
Encourage new developments to provide transit facilities (shelters and boarding areas).	CPED, Metro Transit, Property Owners	As opportunities arise	Some incentives already exist in the code.
Implement Southwest Transit Corridor to either connect through Uptown or to extend possible future streetcar system to future West Calhoun Transit Center.	CPED, Metro Transit	Near and long term	Decisions will be made as a part of Access Minneapolis and Southwest Transit Corridor Studies.
Enhance and expand service on existing and new routes (increase frequency, hours, and non-rush hour service).	CPED, Metro Transit	Near term	
Explore a reduced rate for “Uptown Zone” riders or aggressively market and promote existing low cost fares and services.	Metro Transit		
Pursue, through public/private cooperation, a circulator along Lake Street and Lagoon Avenue connecting Uptown with the lakes and Lyndale/Lake.	CPED, Property Owners	Long Term	Concept to be further explored in Lyn/Lake Small Area Plan process. Circulator should not replace other transit initiatives.
Support the possible future development of streetcars on Hennepin Avenue.	CPED, Metro Transit	Long Term	Streetcar routes to be determined by Access Minneapolis.
Support transit by promoting land uses and development densities that create and support strong transit markets, such as high density housing, employment, and retail.	CPED, Development Community	As opportunities arise	Implement land use map as development occurs.

Transit Recommendations (cont'd)

At the future rail transit stop at Hennepin Avenue, create a new gathering space at the Greenway level.			
Encourage employers to increase transit use by participating in existing programs that allow them to treat the costs of employee bus passes as a business expense.	CPED, Metro Transit, Employers	Near Term	
Design streets that prioritize the transit experience, including comfortable loading and waiting areas. Streets that require transit to exit traffic flow do not prioritize transit because they require busses to merge and yield back into traffic.	Public Works, Metro Transit	Medium or Long Term	
Assess bus stop locations throughout Uptown to determine most efficient locations and benefits of consolidation.			

Parking Recommendations

Recommendations	Responsibilities	Time Frames	Notes
Establish a group of business leaders, property, owners, residents, that would promote better management of existing parking resources, promote transit options and help implement other transportation recommendations.	Metro Transit, CPED, Public Works	Near Term	Explore if this group could become a Transportation Management Organization (TMO).
Establish shared parking practices which could allow for better utility of larger lots such as Lunds and YWCA in the evenings.	CPED, Public Works, Private Property Owners	Near Term	
Encourage property owners on Hennepin Avenue (north of 28th Street) to combine parking lots in the rear of their buildings and to connect them to side streets allowing the reduction of curb cuts, the addition of on-street parking and the reduction of mid-block left turns.	CPED, Private Property Owners	Near Term	
Develop district parking facilities in the Core.	CPED, Private Property Owners, other stakeholders	Long Term	Opportunities will arise on a project by project basis over time.
Encourage shared parking practices between complimentary uses such as entertainment and offices.	CPED, Private Property Owners	Long Term	Can be encouraged by group of business leaders, property, owners, residents, responsible for promoting better parking management.
Adjust cost of parking at metered on-street parking to maintain 85% occupancy throughout the day and evening. Low occupancy is inefficient; occupancy greater than 85% discourages parkers and encourages “cruising” or “trolling.”	Public Works	Near Term	

Parking Recommendations (cont'd)

Work with businesses to create a voucher parking program for visitors and consumers.	CPED, Private Property Owners	Near Term	Can be encouraged by group of business leaders, property, owners, residents, responsible for promoting better parking management.
Create a transportation and parking guide.	Business Associations and other stakeholders	Near Term	Can be encouraged by group of business leaders, property, owners, residents, responsible for promoting better parking management.
Promote the existing parking card (debit card to eliminate need for quarters at parking meters) similar to Downtown.	City, Business Associations and other stakeholders, Public Works	Near Term	Can be encouraged by group of business leaders, property, owners, residents, responsible for promoting better parking management.
Coordinate the criteria and processes of the Critical Area Parking System with area wide parking supply and demand.	CPED, Public Works	Near Term	
Improve signage and wayfinding (LCD screens with directional arrows to available parking spaces) to public parking area. Use “smart signs” and consistent signing practices to assist motorists in finding available parking thereby reducing cruising.	Public Works, Business Associations and other stakeholders	Medium Term	
Encourage parking garages to be on the interior of the block, minimally visible to the street. If the façade of a garage is visible from the street it should be architecturally treated as a “parking building.”	CPED	As opportunities arise	
Conduct employee surveys to determine where they live and what improvements would encourage them to use transit.	Business Associations and other stakeholders	Near Term	

Traffic Recommendations

Recommendations	Responsibilities	Time Frames	Notes
Establish a group of business leaders, property, owners, residents, that would promote better management of existing parking resources, promote transit options and help implement other transportation recommendations.	Metro Transit, CPED, Public Works	Near Term	Explore if this group could become a Transportation Management Organization (TMO)
Explore interim measures for improving pedestrian comfort and safety.	CPED, Public Works	Near Term	Measure may include curb extensions at intersections, strategic planter placement.
Study design options and impacts of converting Lake Street and Lagoon Avenue into two-way streets. Key criteria in judging the feasibility should be expected traffic impacts, potential loss of existing and future pedestrian space, and potential impacts on businesses.	CPED, Public Works	Medium Term	Additional funds will be needed to conduct studies.
<p>Pursue placing the reconstruction of Lake and Lagoon on the Hennepin County Capital Improvements Program:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Study the narrowing of the curb-to-curb dimensions of Lake Street and Lagoon Avenue, west of Hennepin Avenue; use the additional width to create promenades on the north sides of these streets. - Consider reducing the lane count on Lake Street to two lanes in each direction, thereby matching the lane count on East Lake Street. 	CPED, Public Works, Hennepin County	Medium Term for study, Long Term for implementation	Additional funds will be needed to conduct studies.

Reconnect street grid as it becomes possible when these properties are redeveloped.	CPED, Private Property Owners	As opportunities arise	Funding and/or incentives for new streets would need to be explored
Examine possibilities for improving the Dupont Avenue/Lake Street intersection by creating developable blocks and restoring the street grid.	Public Works, CPED, Private Property Owners		Could be part of one-way/two-way study.