



**CITY OF NEWPORT
PLANNING COMMISSION MEETING
NEWPORT CITY HALL
JULY 19, 2017 – 5:30 P.M.**

Chairperson:	Kevin Haley	City Administrator:	Deb Hill
Vice-Chair:	Marvin Taylor	Asst. to the City Admin:	
Commissioner:	Anthony Mahmood	Planner:	Sherri Buss
Commissioner:	David Tweeten	Council Liaison:	Bill Sumner
Commissioner:	Saengmany Ratsabout		

AGENDA

- 1. CALL TO ORDER**
- 2. ROLL CALL**
- 3. APPROVAL OF PLANNING COMMISSION MINUTES**
- 4. APPOINTMENTS WITH COMMISSION**
 - A. 2040 Comprehensive Plan Mississippi River Corridor Critical Area (MRCCA) Mapping and Field Review
- 5. COMMISSION & STAFF REPORTS**
- 6. NEW BUSINESS**
- 7. ANNOUNCEMENTS**
 - A. Upcoming Meetings and Events:

1. City Council Meeting	July 20, 2017	5:30 p.m.
2. Park Board Meeting	July 27, 2017	6:00 p.m.
3. City Council Meeting	August 3, 2017	5:30 p.m.
- 8. ADJOURNMENT**

444 Cedar Street, Suite 1500
Saint Paul, MN 55101
651.292.4400
tkda.com



Memorandum

To:	Newport Planning Commission	Reference:	2040 Comprehensive Plan MRCCA Mapping and Field Review
Copies To:	Deb Hill, City Administrator		
From:	Sherril Buss, RLA AICP, City Planner	Project No.:	16296.000
Date:	July 5, 2017	Routing:	

BACKGROUND

The 2040 Comprehensive Plan needs to include a chapter about the Mississippi River Corridor Critical Area (MRCCA) within Newport that meets DNR and Metro Council requirements.

I have attached a map that shows the Corridor boundaries and some of the mapped data over an aerial photo.

The MRCCA Chapter needs to include maps and policies for the following MRCCA elements:

- MRCCA districts
- Primary conservation areas
- Public river corridor views
- Restoration priorities
- Open space and recreational facilities
- Surface water uses
- Water-oriented uses
- Transportation and public utilities

Our field and map work on July 19 will focus on identifying the **Primary Conservation Areas, Public River Corridor Views, Public Recreation Facilities and Restoration Priority Areas** within the MRCCA. Commission members can use the attached aerial photo to put some thoughts together before the meeting, and I will bring a larger scale map for us to work with on July 19.

The MRCCA rule definitions of the elements we'll be identifying on July 19 include:

Primary conservation areas – " key resources and features, including shore impact zones, bluff impact zones, floodplains, wetlands, gorges, areas of confluence with tributaries, natural drainage routes, unstable soils and bedrock, native plant communities, cultural and historic

properties, significant existing vegetative stands, tree canopies, and other resources identified in local government plans."

- I have attached some maps from the 2030 Comp Plan that show the Floodplain, Historic resources, wetland and native or semi-native plant community areas. I don't think these areas have changed much since the 2030 Plan.
- We will need to consolidate this info onto a map, along with the shore impact zone (area within 50 feet of the ordinary high water line), bluff impact zone (bluff area and 20 feet from top of bluff), drainage routes and soil info (from Engineer)

The aerial photo attached shows the MRCCA boundary, bluffs, and floodplains—the Commission should review and identify proposed primary conservation areas based on the mapped info provided for the meeting.

Public river corridor views – "views toward the river from public parkland, historic properties, and public overlooks, as well as views toward bluffs from the ordinary high water level of the opposite shore, as seen during summer months."

The Commission should identify the significant public river corridor view areas to include on the MRCCA maps and policies.

Public recreational facilities – "recreational facilities provided by the state or a local government and dedicated to public use, including parks, scenic overlooks, observation platforms, trails, docks, fishing piers, picnic shelters, water access ramps, and other similar water-oriented public facilities used for recreation.

The Draft Land Use Plan includes the existing and proposed parks and overlooks. Are there other recreational facilities to include in the MRCCA maps?

Restoration Priority areas – areas that the community identifies as important for restoration of natural vegetation, erosion prevention, stabilization, and other restoration activities

Are there some areas within the MRCCA boundaries that Newport should consider for restoration and stabilization? Identify potential areas on the aerial photo.

PLAN CONTENTS FOR EACH ELEMENT

The Comprehensive Plan must include **maps, policies, and implementation provisions** to

- Identify and protect the Primary Conservation Areas
- Identify and protect Public River Corridor views and other scenic views deemed important by the community
- Identify areas that are priorities for restoration of natural vegetation, erosion prevention, bank and slope stabilization, or other restoration activities.

IMPLICATIONS FOR ORDINANCES—THE AREAS THE CITY INCLUDES ON THE MAPS WILL HAVE IMPLICATIONS FOR PRIVATE AND PUBLIC LANDOWNERS—PLEASE READ

The MRCCA areas that the City maps in its Comp Plan will have some future implications for the Zoning Ordinance and public and private lands within those mapped areas. The MRCCA rules require the following:

For all variance requests within the mapped areas:

- The City's review of variance applications must consider potential impacts of the variance on the Primary Conservation Areas, Public River Corridor Views, and other mapped resources
- If the City determines that a variance would negatively affect primary conservation areas, public river corridor views, or other identified resources, the City must require mitigation for the impacts and the mitigation must be "proportional" to the impacts.
- The findings of fact for the variance must include findings and evidence related to the impacts to MRCCA resources and required mitigation, if any.

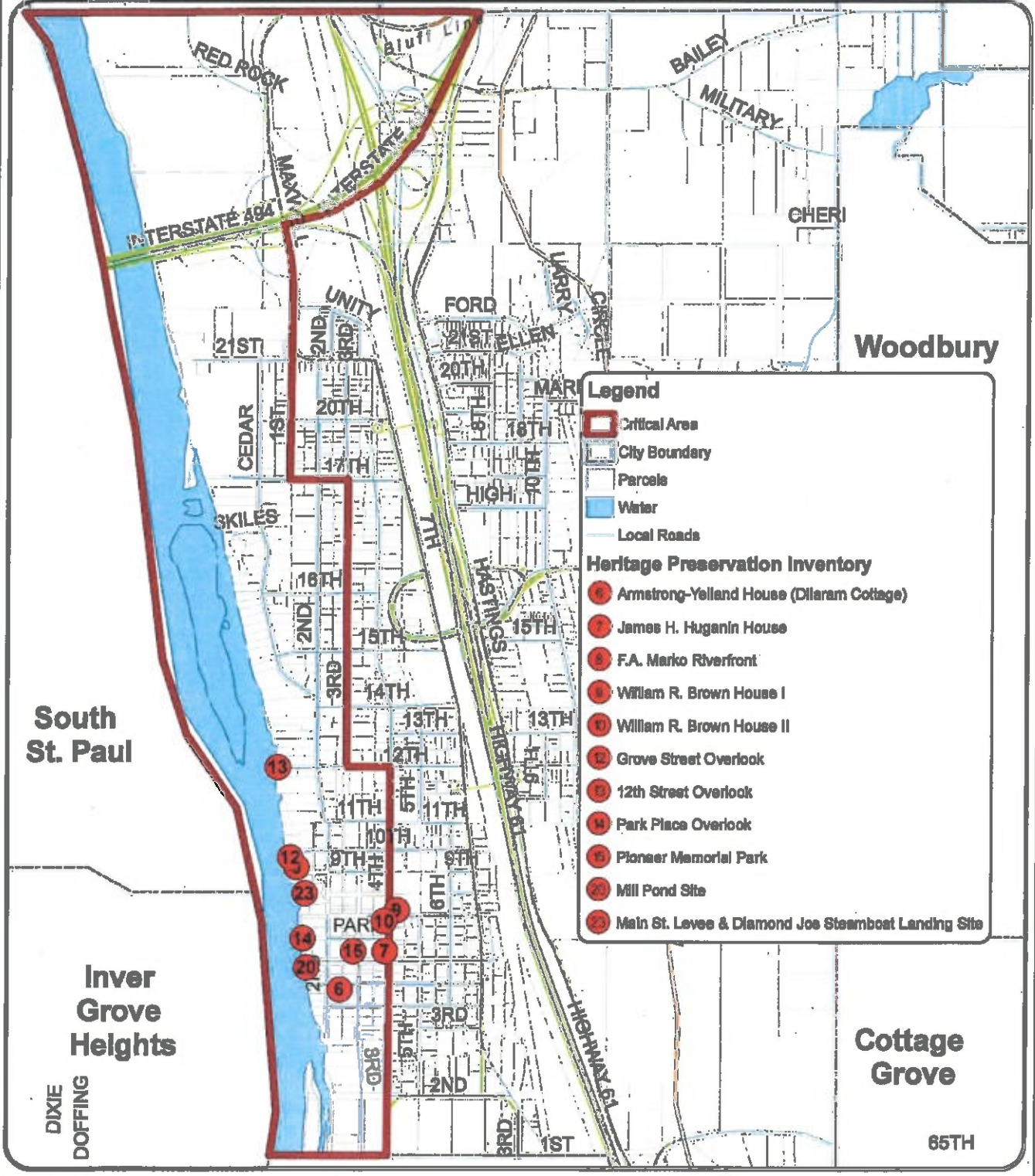
For all major subdivisions and PUD's

- Areas mapped as Primary Conservation Areas must be set aside as protected areas—as public open space, with a permanent conservation easement or deed restriction, or similar mechanism.
- If the Primary Conservation Areas do not have natural vegetation, then an assessment and restoration must be completed
- If a Restoration Priority area exists on the parcel proposed for development, vegetation must be restored



City of Newport Critical Area Heritage Resources Inventory

Comprehensive Plan - Draft



Legend

- Critical Area
- City Boundary
- Parcels
- Water
- Local Roads

Heritage Preservation Inventory

- 1 Armstrong-Yelland House (Dilaram Cottage)
- 2 James H. Haganin House
- 3 F.A. Marko Riverfront
- 4 William R. Brown House I
- 5 William R. Brown House II
- 6 Grove Street Overlook
- 7 12th Street Overlook
- 8 Park Place Overlook
- 9 Pioneer Memorial Park
- 10 Mill Pond Site
- 11 Main St. Levee & Diamond Joe Steamboat Landing Site

TKDA
 2008-2010-2015
 10/10/2010

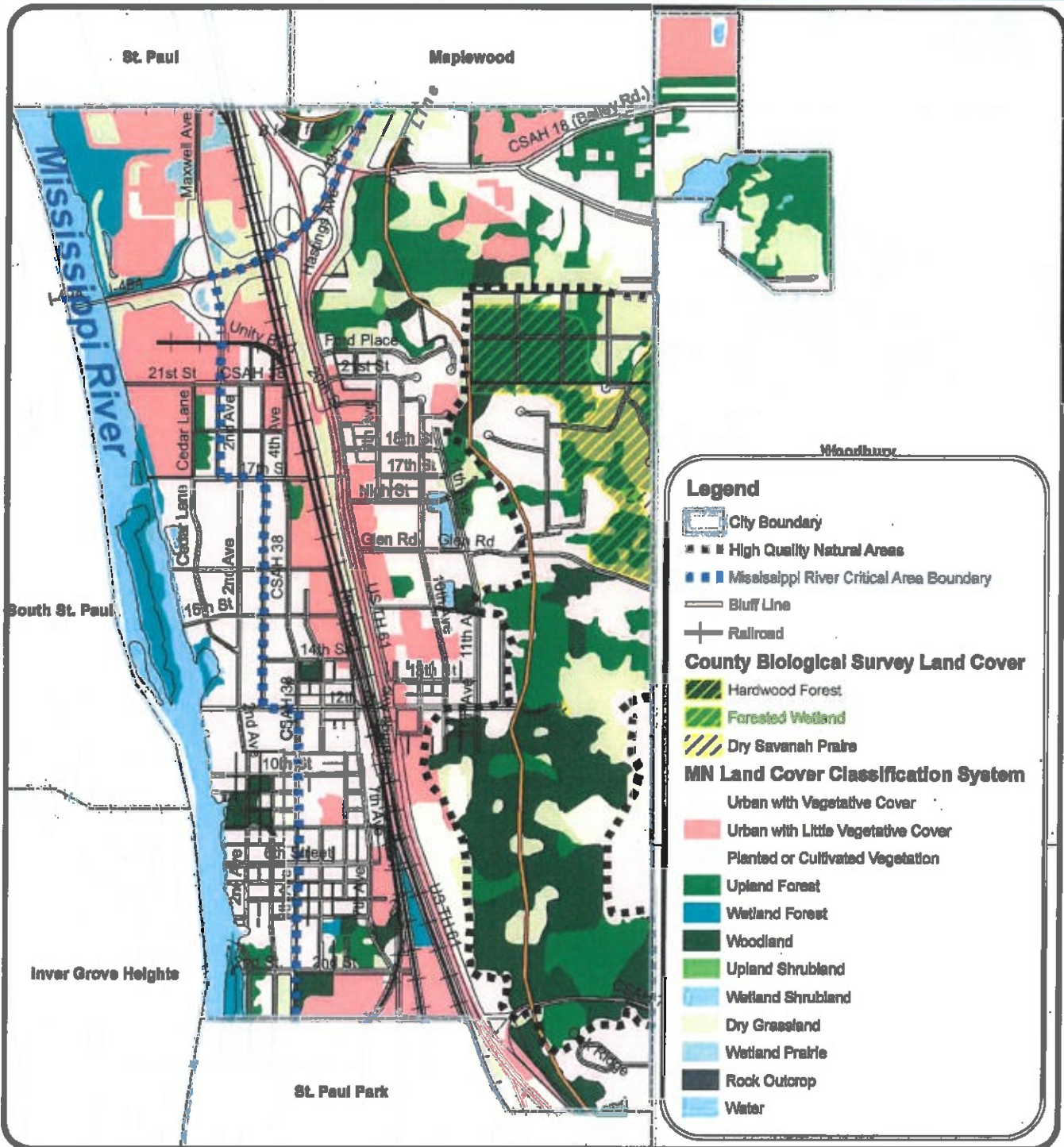
TKDA
 ENGINEERS-ARCHITECTS-PLANNERS
 Data sources include the Heritage Preservation Commission, City of Newport, Metropolitan Council and TKDA.





City of Newport Land Cover and Natural Features

Comprehensive Plan - DRAFT



Legend

- City Boundary
- High Quality Natural Areas
- Mississippi River Critical Area Boundary
- Bluff Line
- Railroad

County Biological Survey Land Cover

- Hardwood Forest
- Forested Wetland
- Dry Savannah Prairie

MN Land Cover Classification System

- Urban with Vegetative Cover
- Urban with Little Vegetative Cover
- Planted or Cultivated Vegetation
- Upland Forest
- Wetland Forest
- Woodland
- Upland Shrubland
- Wetland Shrubland
- Dry Grassland
- Wetland Prairie
- Rock Outcrop
- Water

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TKDA
BUSINESS ARCHITECTS PLANNERS

Data sources include the MN Department of Natural Resources, MN County Biological Survey, City of Newport, Metropolitan Council and TKDA.



2,000

Feet



City of Newport - MRCCA Map

2016 Aerial

