RIVER NORTH PARK

Meeting Date: June 22, 2017
Re: Public Open House
Location: Summit Church
Notes by: Nicole Horst (WA)
Date Issued: July 6, 2017

Project Team present:
Sloane Nystrom: Denver Parks / NDCC
Lisa Gedgaudas: Denver Arts and Venue
Jack Ricci: tres birds workshop
Bryan Peterson, Ty Sturgeon, Nicole Horst: Wenk Associates (WA)

Summary of Open House:

The purpose of the public open house was to update the public on the status of the buildings and to gather feedback on the public’s desires for potential programming of the buildings.

Approximately 20-25 people attended the open house.

Information was available on the public meeting boards (attached) and the project team was available to share information and answer questions.

Key information that was shared included:

- Park schedule: Final design is anticipated to be complete in 2017. The park construction will start in 2018 with the anticipated park opening in 2019.
- Building Status: The City does not have funding to complete the construction for the buildings. The City will issue a Statement of Interest in the fall of 2017 to solicit a partnership for the final building renovations, programming, and management of the buildings. The goal is to align the buildings with the park schedule. If a mutual benefiting partnership cannot be found, the EEB building may be removed.
- Past input: During the master plan of the park, the buildings were identified as potential opportunities to activate the park, provide flexibility, and offer diverse program for kids and adults. The EEB Building was divided into two future buildings. Building 1 (7,000 SF) was identified as potential makers space, a library “idea lab”, arts and culture, and affordable artist spaces. Building 2 (2,000 SF) was identified as potential retail or restaurant space. The Interstate Building (5,500 SF) would remain as one fully covered structure (a change from the master plan) in order to provide more flexible space. Potential opportunities identified were a multi-purpose gallery/event/social space, park pavilion, offices, and rental space.
Attendees were encouraged to participate in providing feedback for each building. The EEB Building and the Interstate Building each had a table with a blank sheet of paper with the following questions:

- How can the building activate and complement the park?
- What programming is best suited at the building?
- What events should happen in the building?

Participants were invited to help create “idea boards” for each of the buildings by leaving comments or cutting out images from magazines that represented the types of programming that they would like to see in each building. In general, the themes represented on the boards were consistent with public feedback during the master plan phase, described above. The “idea boards” are attached.
The following documents the hand-written comments and images on the idea boards.

**EEB Building – Idea Board Comments**

Some common themes on the Idea Board for the EEB Building include a partnership with the library, interest in a food co-op, live music, live performing arts, maker spacers, and connection to the river and outdoors.

The following comments and images were written, drawn, or taped onto the EEB image board:

- Themes include a partnership with the library, interest in a food co-op, live music, live performing arts, maker spacers, and connection to the river and outdoors.
- An art resource, events, music, arts education, etc *(agreed by 1)*
- Drawing people can activate. Buildings should be a reflection of the neighborhood. Arts related, studios, makers performance.
- Food co-op farm
- This could be the DESTINATION for everyone’s ride along the bike path.
- Music + Film – Live
- Buildings should have exhibits/activities emphasizing the River and importance of water in Denver/the State
- This neighborhood needs a library *(agreed by 1)*
- Textile image
- Space for a vocational/residency program
- Remember bikers- make this a “pit stop/meet up”
- Activate the river!
- Partnership with Museum of Outdoor Arts?
- More regular “Yoga Rocks the Park” type elements
- Libraries Rule it!
- Outdoor maker space for tiny houses
- The library is such a natural partner here! They are experts at makers spaces, creative uses, and serving the full range of the neighborhoods people.
- Yes Library Maker Space Art Space
- Food co-op. There is no food co-op in Denver nor this neighborhood.
- Library, Makers Spaces, Temporary Studios? Gallery focusing on river issues. Clean water, wildlife, etc.
- Outdoor film, exercise, DIY makerspace
- There are thousands of tiny apartments in RiNo now. The park/library/event space should be the extension and completion of these home – a living room and backyard for the neighborhood.
- Performing Arts – Yes!! I second this! Please give space for the performing arts!
- Tech/vocational programs for neighboring communities
- RiNo is where art is made. Make art there. A hub for urban agriculture.

*Found images:*
*Image of Textile / Fashion*
“where music moves mountains” – image of outdoor music venue
“working at a data center” – image of technology
Image of a person drawing/making a guitar
Image of library books
Image of man reading
Image of “know your drill bits”
Image of mountain biker
Image of cooking
Images of performing arts dancers / stage
Image of SUP
Image of person making art
Image of people working together on glass blowing

**Interstate Building – Idea Board Comments**
Some common themes on the Idea Board for the Interstate Building include importance of arts and programming for the arts, connecting to the diversity of the surrounding neighborhoods, and providing places for kids.

The following comments and images were written, drawn, or taped onto the Interstate Building image board:

- The Library should be the destination.
  The bike path connects to the whole city.
  The Park is the place to hang out.
- Rotating Arts Installations in Park – possibly even fabricated in Makers Space!
- Tie to surround neighborhood families
- The Art District should be a major partner. They can help run programming and events.
  Activation through art. Empower the community and give them the chance to express their creativity.
- A place to play with art.
- The art of parks! Showcase that!
- Tie to CSU (agricultural image)
- Environmental education – take advantage of the location on the river! *(I second this!)*
- 7,000 square foot is the perfect size for a small, creative library.
- Arts Programming things that support our surrounding communities and neighborhoods.
  Drop in Art programs. *(FREE to kids)*
- Like Civic Center Eats but 3-4 seasons in pavilion
- Observatory with telescope
- Diversity!
- Afterschool theatre/dance programming
- A hub for arts district events
- Dance Performances & Music
- Rent for special events
- Food trucks
- Pop up art shows and festivals
- River performances
- Art, kayaks
- Local Farmers Market / crafts (*I agree*)
- Performing Arts
- Film, Music
- Exercise with the community (like promotional yoga classes, etc.)
- Flexible venue like Skyline Park
- Activities for kids
- Places to learn
- Places to create

Found Images:
- Canned food
- Person with beer & pretzel
- Outdoor rock climber
- “Indigenous”
- Images of gardening
- Images of cooking recipe (graphic)
- Rafting
- Kids on a rope course / outdoor adventure
- Children’s garden with rocks
- “Rezpect our Water” (Diversity)
- “Joy”
- Performing Arts / Dancers / Performance images
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>NAME</th>
<th>EMAIL</th>
<th>ADD ME TO THE EMAIL LIST? (Y/N)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tish Tilly</td>
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PREFERRED CONCEPT

RIVER NORTH PARK
SUSTAINABLE ICONIC CREATIVE ARTS & CULTURE ECOLOGY RIVER CORRIDOR

DENVER PARK & RECREATION
NORTH DENVER CORNERSTONE COLLABORATIVE
EEB BUILDING

Building 1 - 7,000 SF
- Maker Space
- Library ‘Idea Lab’
- Arts and Culture
- Affordable Artist Space

Building 2 - 2,000 SF
- Restaurant, Retail

Elevation from Festival Street
Elevation from 35th Street

RIVER NORTH PARK
SUSTAINABLE ICONIC CREATIVE ARTS & CULTURE ECOLOGY RIVER CORRIDOR

DENVER PARKS & RECREATION
NORTH DENVER CORNERSTONE COLLABORATIVE
INTERSTATE BUILDING

5,500 SF
Fully covered structure

WHAT WE’VE HEARD
Multi-purpose gallery/event/social space

Offices, event rental, park pavilion

Shared indoor/outdoor space?

RIVER NORTH PARK
SUSTAINABLE ICONIC CREATIVE ARTS&CULTURE ECOLOGY RIVER CORRIDOR

DENVER PARKS & RECREATION
NORTH DENVER CORNERSTONE COLLABORATIVE
IDEAS TO INSPIRE

Boulder Library Makers Space

Boulder Library Makers Space

Boulder Library Makers Space

RIVER NORTH PARK
SUSTAINABLE | ICONIC | CREATIVE ARTS & CULTURE | ECOLOGY | RIVER CORRIDOR

DENVER PARKS & RECREATION

NORTH DENVER CORNERSTONE COLLABORATIVE
**BUILDING STATUS**

**CITY GOALS**

• Identify partnership for **final improvements & programming**

• Issue a **Statement of Interest** (Fall 2017)

• Great opportunity to meet **arts & culture needs in the City**

• Align with park schedule (**partner by end of 2017**)

• Without a mutual benefiting partnership, the EEB building may be removed

**WHAT WE’VE HEARD...**

• Activate **indoor & outdoor space**; while still allowing ‘park’ experiences

• **Flexible**

• **Accessible** for everyone

• Diverse offering of **programs for kids, adults**

• Rentable, but also occupied the majority of the time

• Provide **eyes on the park**

• Collaborate and **complement other programming** in the area
How can the building activate and complement the park?

An art resource, events, music, arts education, etc.

Drawings people can activate. Buildings should be a reflection of the neighborhood, arts related, studios, makers, performance

This could be the destination for everyone’s ride along the bike path

Food Co-op

Farm

Library

Maker space

Art space

Where music moves mountains

Music + film + live

Outdoor art

Yoga

Museum

Partnership

Tech/ Vocational programs for neighboring communities

What programming is best suited at each building?

Library

Makerspaces
tenants + allies

Gallery focusing on river issues + green building, wildlife, etc.

Food coop

There is no food coop in Dunbar. key to neighborhood

What events should happen in the park/buildings?

Outdoor film, canoeing, BYO

No rain where art is made. Make art here.

A hub for urban agriculture
How can the buildings activate and complement the park?

What programming is best suited at each building?

What events should happen in the park/buildings?

What is the best programming for 7,000 young people? How do we utilize the resources we already have?

Environmental sustainability and artistic and cultural supports:

1. Arts Programming
2. Interactive Venues
3. FLEXIBLE USE

Diversity & Interstate Connections

Artwork: exhibit, prous, bike notion

The Tie to CSU

Implement guidelines

THE NEIGHBORHOOD

A hub for arts events, music, and performances

River Performances