

Date	July 25, 2025	Project Name	Hermantown Uptown
		Project Number	24-227
		Meeting Location	Hermantown City Hall
Subject	Stakeholder Engagement Sessions #3- Adjacent Landowners July 22, 2025		

NOTES

Engagement Session #3 - Adjacent Landowners**Summary of Key Themes**

For this engagement session, attendees were adjacent owners who were invited with a post-delivered letter to their homes. Joe Wicklund gave a quick background overview and played a video giving a quick summary of what the Uptown project is. The consulting team then explained the extents of the study area, and some clarifying questions were asked. Once a clear understanding of what and where the Uptown project is was established, the team moved into the engagement questions. Below are the questions the team asked, and the answers received.

1. What are some of your favorite places in Hermantown? What made you choose to live here?

- Trail/ Boulder Trail
- Jackson Project Homes- History and look of them (brick)
- Seeing new eating offerings come into the region- Chik-Fil-A, Popeyes, Valentini's
- XC Skiing
- Horse Trails
- New Playground
- Feels like you are both in the middle of nowhere and in the middle of everything
- United neighborhoods: friendly environment, supportive, tight-knit community
- Schools
- Safety
- Unique restaurants- the Beacon

2. What types of places are missing from Hermantown today?

- Private Development
 - Trader Joes
 - Scheels
 - Liquor store
 - Indoor conference/ event spaces/ banquets
 - Entertainment/ sports complex like Proctor
- Municipal/Government
 - Zip code/ Post office
 - Library (books, community events, resources, maker spaces, classes)

- Public Amenities
 - More trails, more access to trails
 - Indoor play area for kids
 - Splash pad
 - Outdoor pool/ Public pool
 - Indoor/outdoor pool
 - Floating dock/ bog/ nature walk
 - Sitting areas
 - 3rd places that don't require spending money
 - Remove barriers to cost
 - Better location for the farmers market
 - Public art park/ sculptures
 - Public park
 - Movies/music in the park
 - Bandshell

3. What are some place you have been that you feel Uptown could be like?

- Edinborough Park in Edina- Indoor play area
- Centennial Park, Edina
- A historic-like downtown created in the Dominican Republic
- Don't replicate Duluth
- A walkable place
- A good local brewery
- Madison State Street
- Austin Riverwalk
- Dog Park near a playground
- Northfield, MN Historic Downtown
- Waukee, Iowa

4. What concerns do you have about the development of Uptown?

- How is this being financed?
- How big will the buildings be?
- Light pollution
- Loss of trees
- Another parking lot with stores
- High-rise apartment buildings
- Don't want to lose nature or Hermantown
- Sea of parking
- Traffic impacts
- Pedestrian safety
- Impacts on private property due to widening roads
- Loss of soccer fields
- Cost of utilities/ infrastructure (City's role/ plan) cost to the community
- Ongoing maintenance costs- who pays for this?
- TIF/ Special service district- tools to aid development
- More people/ traffic/ noise
- Losing the rural character

- Half-baked development
- Low-quality development
- Unsafe routes for kids
- Early-wins would be good
- Future of Okerstrom Road
- Hearing more voices from the community
- Will the city take my land?
- Has the city had conversations with potential developers?
- Will there be affordable housing options?
- Will there be a golf course?
- Bear problems