



The Next Generation of Parks

# Minneapolis Riverfront

[minneapolisriverfrontdesigncompetition.com](http://minneapolisriverfrontdesigncompetition.com)

A competition sponsored by The Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board and The Minneapolis Parks Foundation, with creative partners The University of Minnesota College of Design and Walker Art Center

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **“DESIGNER ASK” SURVEY INVITES COMMUNITY TO SHARE KNOWLEDGE WITH MR|DC DESIGN TEAMS, BEGINNING DECEMBER 7**

***Community May Respond Online or at Minneapolis Park and Recreation Centers;  
Are Invited to December 7 Community Meeting for Information and Feedback***

**MINNEAPOLIS, Minn., November 30, 2010** – The Minneapolis Riverfront Design Competition (MR|DC) will issue a “Designer Ask” Survey beginning on December 7, 2010. The survey is called “Designer Ask” because it will comprise questions for the community from MR|DC’s four competing landscape and urban design teams, who are exploring the 220-acre project area and surrounding neighborhoods along the Upper Riverfront this week.

“As part of the information gathering phase of the design process, the Designer Ask will provide an opportunity for the community to share with design teams what they know best – knowledge of the river and neighborhoods,” says Mary deLaittre, MR|DC Project Manager. Design teams will submit their questions following this week’s research visit. The survey will be available online at the competition home page and also printed and distributed via Minneapolis Park and Recreation centers through December 21, 2010.

“The Mississippi River is an American icon and often called the “fourth coast” of the United States for both its size and natural significance. In Minneapolis, the river has long been both our cultural and economic engine,” continues deLaittre, who notes that Minnesotans prize parks and other natural resources for their recreational and environmental value. “We’re asking each design team to build on our legacy of stewardship and create an inspirational, sustainable parks concept that goes beyond ‘turf and trees’ to enhance our quality of life, knit communities together and create opportunities for economic development.”

Members of the community are also invited to attend a Community Meeting, Tuesday, December 7 at 7:00 PM at the Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board, 2117 West River Road, Minneapolis. MR|DC Project Manager deLaittre will update the community on the design competition, and along with representatives from the Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board and the Minneapolis Parks Foundation, will be on-hand to answer questions and facilitate feedback.

### **About the Minneapolis Riverfront Design Competition**

MR|DC challenges four landscape and urban design teams to each create an over-arching vision for five and half miles of Mississippi riverfront from the Stone Arch Bridge to the city’s northern limits. Built on the Park Board’s award-winning 2000 master plan and addressing current demands as well as future needs, the winning design will be a comprehensive, integrated vision for the Upper Riverfront that establishes parks as the engine for economic development, transforms the river into a connector rather than a barrier between east and west banks, and refocuses Minneapolis toward what is one of the three great rivers of the world. MR|DC is co-sponsored by the Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board and the Minneapolis Parks Foundation, with creative partners the University of Minnesota College of Design and the Walker Art Center. Learn more at [MinneapolisRiverfrontDesignCompetition.com](http://MinneapolisRiverfrontDesignCompetition.com).

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