

CONSOLIDATED COMMUNITY CONVERSATION 2

RULES OF THE ROAD



ROOM 1 ROOM 2

Past - What is your relationship to the River as a living system? What is your experience with the plants, fish, animals, flows, and seasons of the River?



1. Raise hand or write message in the chat to speak.
2. Remain muted while others are speaking.
3. Disrespectful language or comments will not be tolerated.
4. Keep comment to under 2 minutes.
5. We invite Native elders to speak first.

RESOURCES

MAP



FORAGING & EXPLORING

Juanita G Espinosa (elder) - relationship to foraging and traveling along many different places. Has always had a relationship to the river, water has always been a central part of her existence.

FINDING ACCESS & RELATIONSHIP

Juanita G Espinosa (elder) - when going to Rapid runs tobacco in the creek and thanks it for keeping her grandmother with her in flood.

SELF-EXPRESSION

Juanita G Espinosa (elder) - must thank the water, respect water (offer tobacco) because it feeds them, we drink from the water.

RIVER AS PART OF DAILY LIFE

DM - is the river part of your daily life? How do you think about it now do you know it?

PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION

Brian Monson - usually with public transportation in the Twin Cities the river does not seem accessible, takes a dog down to the river to run around.

RESEARCH & LEARNING

Sima - Mismehaha creek collects and studies plants along the creek. Wants to see true authentic learning and ability to access what is around you.

RIVER AS A RELATIVE & MEMORY

Edna Brazzato - can see the river from her window, walks along it every day and is being always different and always surprises you. How high is the water? A lot of change through seasons, flooding.

CAMPING & CANOEING

Brad Perki - very complex project, parallels between the way the federal gov works with indigenous communities and what is trying to be accomplished on this local level. Hopes that they can work together.

EXPERIENCED FROM ABOVE OR IN THE WATER

Edna Brazzato - Minnesota environmental activists, a case where wild rice brought a lawsuit on the behalf water has rights and perhaps can be used to protect itself.

Present - What limits your ability to access the river today?



LACK OF ACCESS TO INFORMATION

Karen Monson - this project is bigger than the Twin Cities, effect of project can extend to other places in Minnesota.

LACK OF PHYSICAL ACCESS

Sally Grant Korch - north east Minneapolis, at level with the River. Also has kayak. Very concerned about river and history of it. Trying hard to tell the people history, maybe needs to broaden to animals and plants.

LACK OF NATURE & HEALTH

Theora - river is cleaner and healthier than what it was, but perception that it's unsafe and unclean and not safe for recreation is not minimized to increase.

COMMUNITY CONVERSATIONS

Inka Mani - growing up in Mexico in rural setting, there are no physical structures that support regarding the river or industrialization. Lack of nature and nature landscape is a limitation.

SCHEDULE



Future - Imagine a day at the River 5 years from now, what do you see and experience?



FREE FLOWING

Sally Grant Korch - since Covid has occurred, there is a lot more people have discovered it, hope it stays that way.

SWIMMING & TOUCH

Being able to swim in the Mississippi River would be fantastic - Sally

CLEAN & HEALTHY

Robert (talking to NPC) - touching the water releases its spirit

RESTORATION OF NATURE & LAND MEMORY

Bringing back cottowood trees along the river, seeing stretches of that again - Inka Mani

LINKS

Survey Link
<https://new.maptionnaire.com/q/3wl7hpa3pdx7>

Project Information
www.TheFalls.org

Virtual Exhibit
<https://stage.virtualrem5.com/3FECCPp/fallsy1/>

Books
Mni Sota Makoce: The Land of the Dakota - Bruce M. White & Gwen Westerman

There, There - Tommy Orange

The Soul of an Indian - Charles Eastman

Decolonizing Wealth: Indigenous Wisdom to Heal Divides and Restore Balance - Edgar Villanueva