



MEMORANDUM

To: Planning and Policy Committee (PPC)
From: Michael Hayman
Date: April 23, 2018
Re: Item 4.1 – Oxford Industrial Partners MOU

Purpose:

The purpose of this memorandum is to provide the members of the Planning and Policy Committee (PPC) a brief overview of the draft Oxford Industrial Partners memorandum of understanding (MOU).

Background:

Throughout the transformation of the Minnehaha Creek Greenway and the restoration work that continues within the urban corridor of the Minnehaha Creek watershed, the District has built and maintained strong partnerships with the cities of Hopkins and St. Louis Park and numerous private business such as Park Nicollet and Japs-Olson. These partnerships often form around the shared interest of enhancing social, economic and environmental vitality within a given geography, furthering the goals and purposes of the parties in a manner that could not be achieved if an individual entity were to work on their own.

The budding partnership with Oxford Industrial Partners is founded on these very tenets.

Oxford Industrial Partners currently owns 5.79 acres of industrial property adjacent to the Minnehaha Preserve and is considering the redevelopment of the site with a focus on future corridor transformation and success.

Oxford Industrial Partners and the District share an interest in planning this redevelopment opportunity in a manner that meets Oxford Industrial Partners commercial needs while also protecting and enhancing the Minnehaha Creek corridor and the area’s associated natural resources.

Through ongoing conversations regarding this opportunity, the District and Oxford Industrial Partners identified a shared goal of pursuing this redevelopment transformation in a creative and collaborative manner with a mutual interest in integrating redevelopment and water resource

We collaborate with public and private partners to protect and improve land and water for current and future generations.

goals for the area. The prospect exists to jointly explore redevelopment scenarios that expand and enhance the Minnehaha Creek corridor, allow for upgraded area stormwater and floodplain management, and enhance the community relationship to the natural environment through multi-modal connections among the planned Southwest Light Rail Transit (SWLRT) stations

With this shared vision in mind, the District and Oxford Industrial Partners began drafting a MOU to document these mutual goals and establish a cooperative framework within which the potential for beneficial and cost-effective integration of redevelopment and water resource interests may be explored and an integrated plan may be developed and pursued.

Next Steps:

Staff will provide a presentation at the PPC meeting on April 26, 2018, further detailing the District's history of work in the corridor, its continued partnership with the City of St. Louis Park and the budding partnership opportunities that are captured in the draft MOU with Oxford Industrial Partners.

If there are questions in advance of the meeting, please contact Michael Hayman at mhayman@minnehahacreek.org.

We collaborate with public and private partners to protect and improve land and water for current and future generations.



Attachment 1: Oxford Industrial Partners – located adjacent to the Minnehaha Preserve on the northern boundary line.

