







# The Pattern of Our Public Riverfront

From the Chain of Lakes to the Riverfront, the City of Minneapolis' identity is tied closely to the spectacular public spaces the City maintains along its key waterways.

Critical to this success is a uniform adherence to a particular pattern of development that preserves our waterfront as an understood public space. The parkway system is what delineates the purely public spaces along the waterfront from the increasingly private spaces along the other side of the parkway.

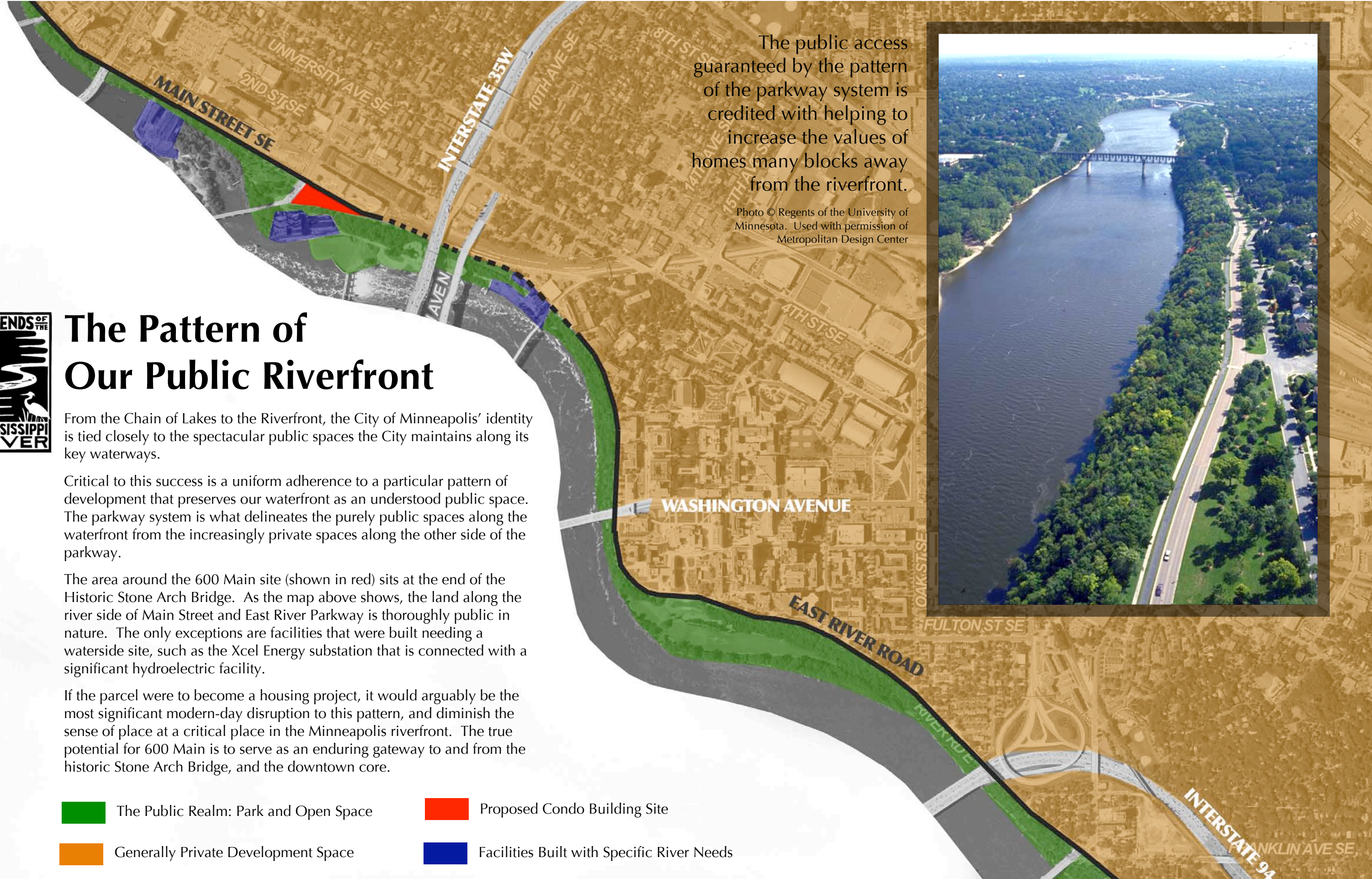
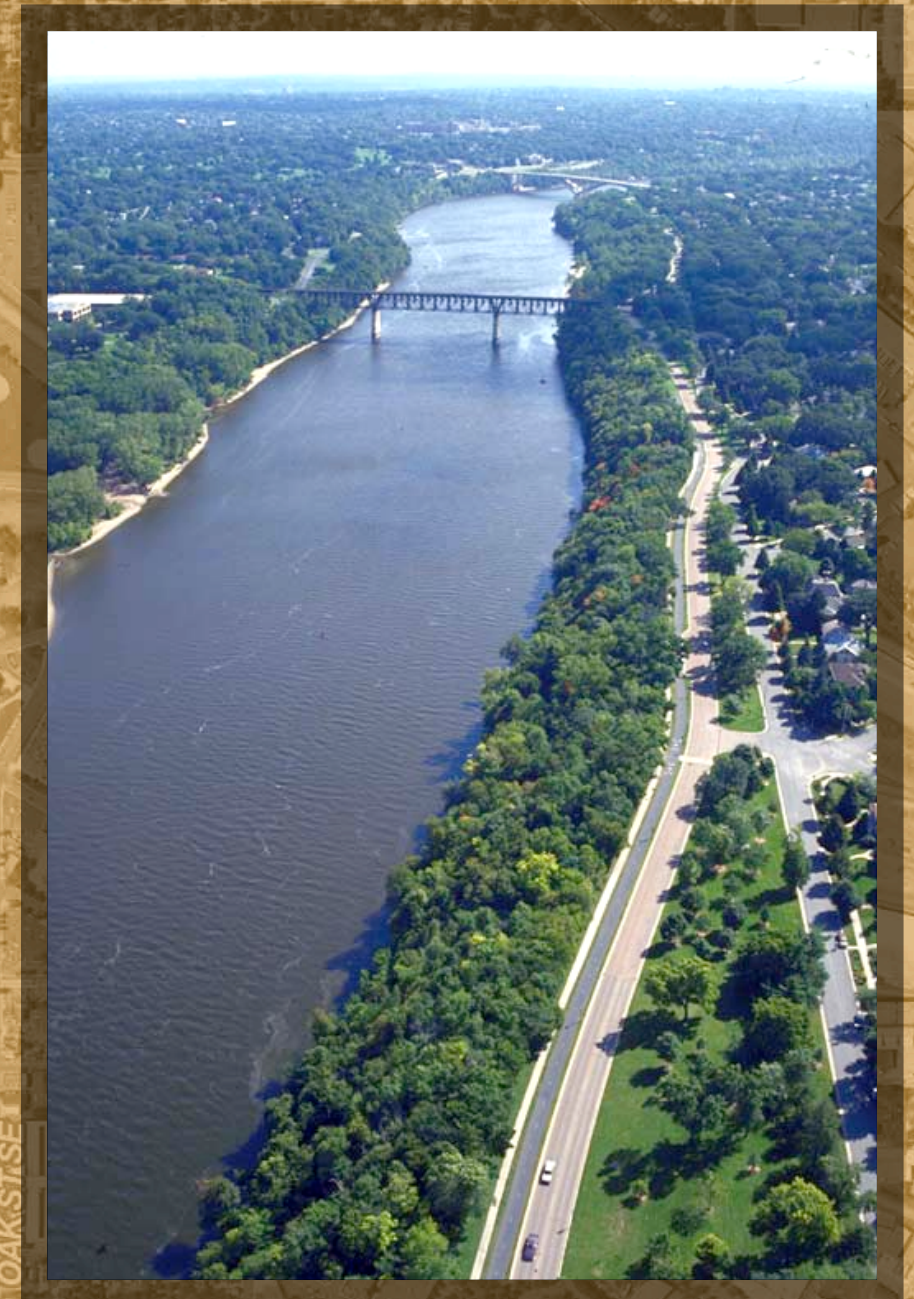
The area around the 600 Main site (shown in red) sits at the end of the Historic Stone Arch Bridge. As the map above shows, the land along the river side of Main Street and East River Parkway is thoroughly public in nature. The only exceptions are facilities that were built needing a waterside site, such as the Xcel Energy substation that is connected with a significant hydroelectric facility.

If the parcel were to become a housing project, it would arguably be the most significant modern-day disruption to this pattern, and diminish the sense of place at a critical place in the Minneapolis riverfront. The true potential for 600 Main is to serve as an enduring gateway to and from the historic Stone Arch Bridge, and the downtown core.

-  The Public Realm: Park and Open Space
-  Proposed Condo Building Site
-  Generally Private Development Space
-  Facilities Built with Specific River Needs

The public access guaranteed by the pattern of the parkway system is credited with helping to increase the values of homes many blocks away from the riverfront.

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The view down the Historic Stone Arch Bridge terminates in the 600 Main Parcel. A 68-foot building would be built where the cars are parked in this photo.



# A Natural Riverfront Gateway

The proposed 600 Main site stands at the northern terminus of the historic Stone Arch Bridge.

There is a long-term potential to develop this area as a key gateway from downtown to Main Street, but that potential would be significantly compromised if the 600 Main site visually hems in the area with housing.

The 68 foot condo building would be built where the cars can be seen in the photo above right.

Map from USGS • Graphic: Bob Spaulding • 4/16/09

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