



RESTORATIVE DEVELOPMENT NEIGHBORHOOD PLAN

Community Update
February 2024

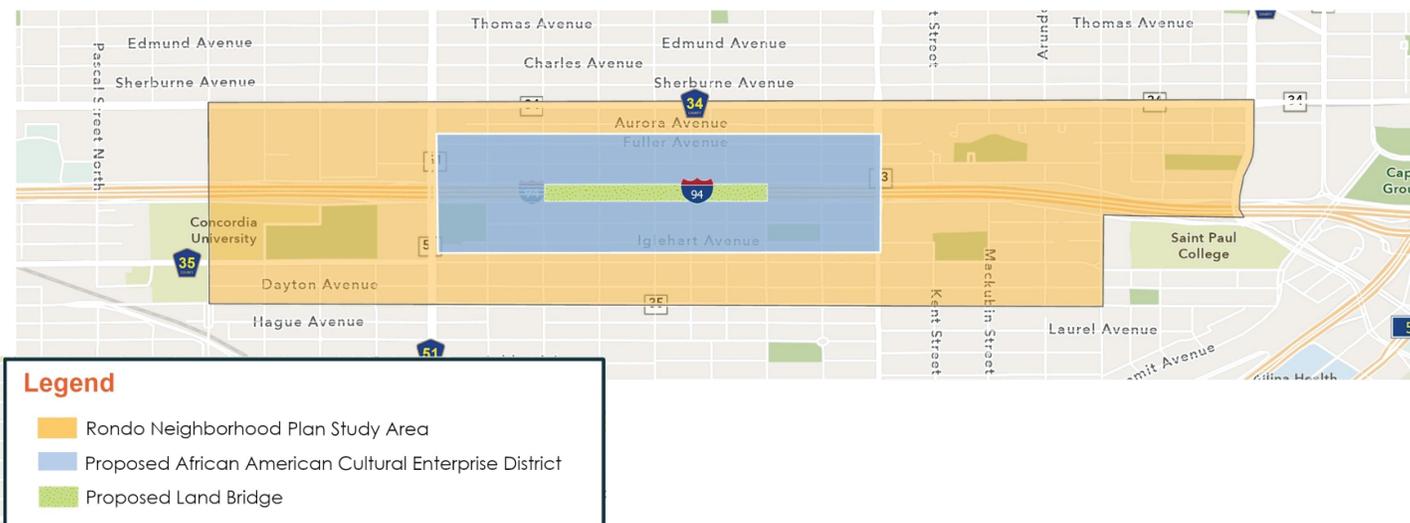


THE HISTORY OF RONDO

The Rondo neighborhood was devastated when I-94 ripped through the community. This vibrant neighborhood was shattered with the 1956-1968 construction of Interstate 94. 700 family homes were demolished. 300 businesses were closed or torn down. And to make matters even worse, inadequate compensation went to the families for their significant losses. The effects of the fateful decisions made decades ago, are still being felt today.

It's time to make up for past mistakes. It's time to go well beyond the pavement and create a land bridge that repairs, restores and revitalizes the Rondo community for African Americans and other residents and organizations.

The map below identifies the proposed land bridge, African American Cultural Enterprise District, and Neighborhood Plan study area:



THE BIG IDEA

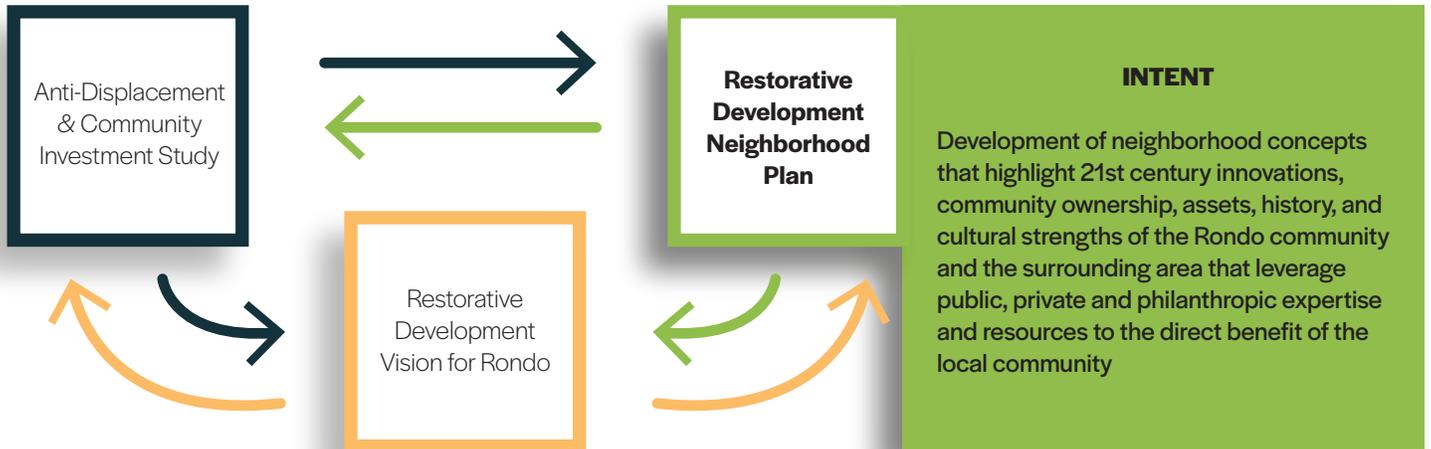
**MINNESOTA'S FIRST
AFRICAN AMERICAN
CULTURAL ENTERPRISE
DISTRICT CONNECTED BY A
COMMUNITY LAND BRIDGE**

The big idea is to create Minnesota's first African American cultural enterprise district connected by a community land bridge. This will not only repair, restore and revitalize Rondo, it will help reverse racial disparity gaps in Minnesota once and for all. We must make a difference for our community that has lost so much. We must build a bridge to better. Together, we will:

- Revitalize, protect and promote Rondo as a thriving, heritage-rich neighborhood.
- Restore wealth and control for African Americans and the Rondo community.
- Support prosperous new opportunities for African American businesses.
- Cultivate African American leadership ensuring greater equitable outcomes.

Family of Plans

To achieve the goals stated above, ReConnect Rondo is facilitating three planning efforts:



Neighborhood Plan Key Elements

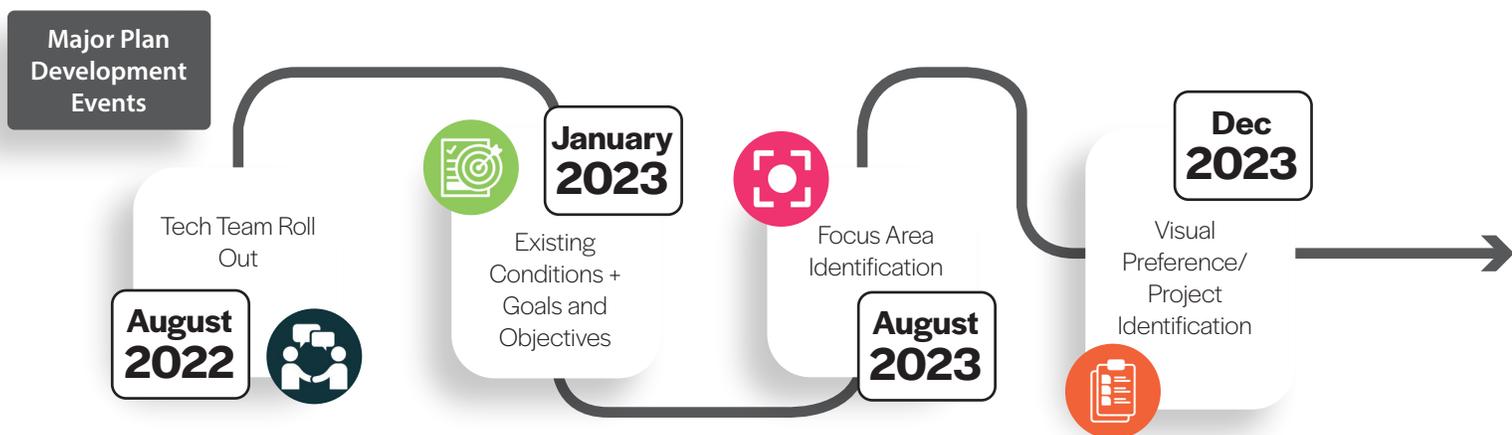
As we draft the neighborhood plan, it is centered around six key elements:



How Have We Engaged the Community?

The Rondo Neighborhood Plan is being developed by community, with community, and for community. Our collaboration with community has included:

- Presentations
- Worksheets
- Prioritization Marble Exercise
- Online Survey
- Large Group Discussion
- Small Group Collaboration
- Focus Area Development
- Visual Preference Exercise



“Encourage entrepreneurship, create entrepreneur programming, [...] support for new businesses and employment, youth development & business.”

“Housing options for different stages of life, special housing options for people who want to become homeowners, more single family housing, recycling and refurbish housing for African Americans, mixed income housing.”

“Community [...] hub for info & peace, better winter snow maintenance, create a cultural corridor.”

What Have We Heard?

“Have a community center in the neighborhood, historical walking [tour] and museum, incorporate education and home [ownership] education, education about cultural institutions, art cultural corridor.”

“Bike/walking trail garden, water fountains, passive recreation, small gardens, parks for celebration, infusing cultural and history into parks and open space to [improve] cultural competence.”

“Coordinate with churches for carpool opportunities, improved metro mobility services, better communication and education around transportation options and upcoming projects, bike lanes at sidewalk level.”

Upcoming Activities

1

POLICY DEVELOPMENT & ANALYSIS

Anti-Displacement policy, financing and funding models, and confirmation of policy alignment with City of Saint Paul

2

IDENTIFICATION OF PROJECTS WITHIN FOCUS AREA

Confirm project ideas with the community

3

PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGIES FRAMEWORK

Identify roles and responsibilities for implementation

4

PLAN DEVELOPMENT

Present draft plan for public feedback

During 2024, Reconnect Rondo will continue its efforts by building stronger awareness and support for a restorative and prosperous future.



BUILD A BRIDGE TO BETTER

**HAVE QUESTIONS
OR WANT MORE
INFORMATION?**

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