

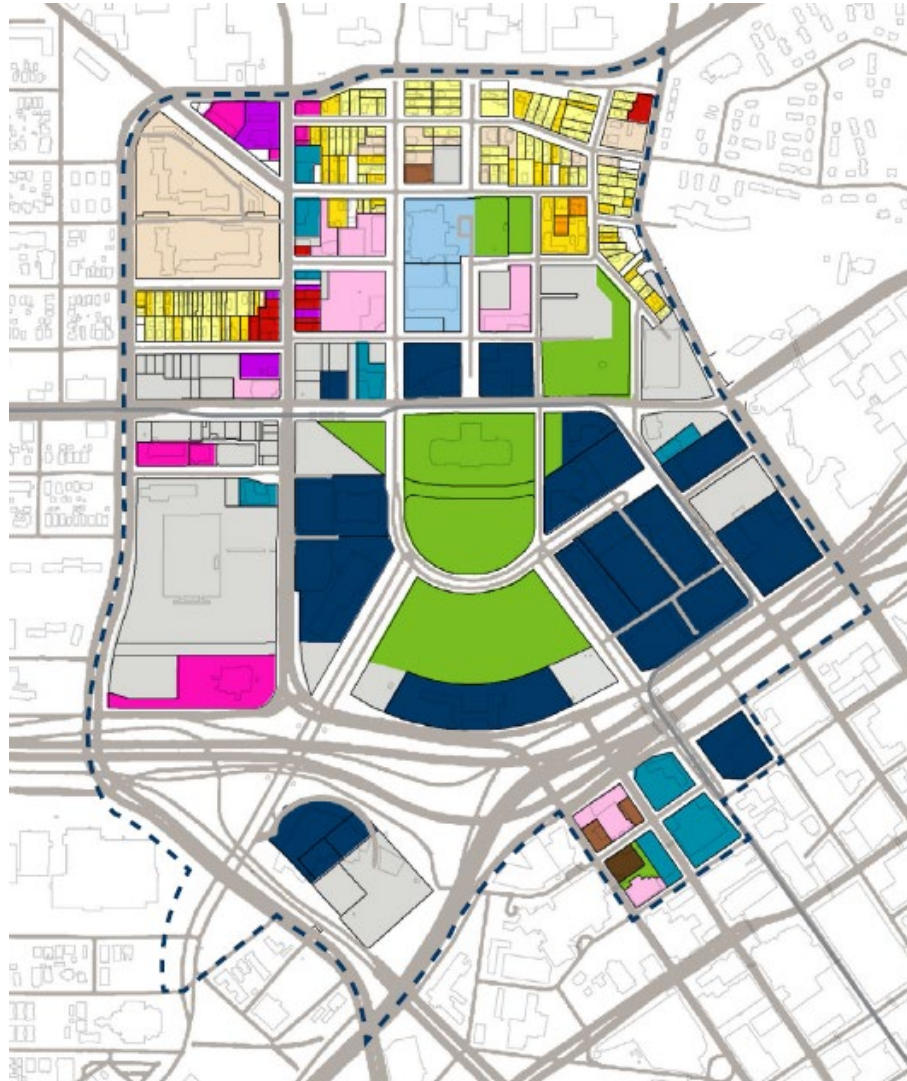
# Rice Street Capitol Area Redesign

Presentation to House Transportation  
Finance and Policy Committee

March 22, 2023

Merritt Clapp-Smith, Executive Secretary  
**Capitol Area Architectural and Planning Board  
(CAAPB)**

# Capitol Area Architectural and Planning Board (CAAPB)



- Planning and Zoning Authority for 60-block Capitol Area (instead of St. Paul)
- Design Review and Zoning Permits for public (State, City, Ramsey) and private land uses and development in the Capitol Area
- CAAPB staff assist with planning and design of streets and rights-of-way
- CAAPB authorized under MN Statute 15B and MN Rules 2400
- 12-member Board and 2.5 FTE and 3 Architectural Advisors



# H.F. 2618

## Rice Street Capitol Area Redesign

### Purpose:

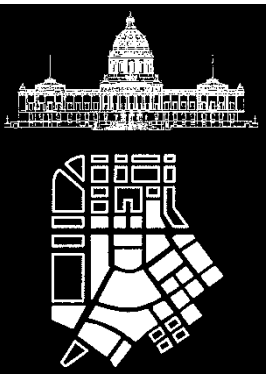
Planning, predesign, design, engineering, environmental analysis and mitigation, land acquisition, and reconstruction of the Rice Street in the Capitol Area

### Funding:

\$25,000,000 to MNDOT  
Commissioner for grants to City or Saint Paul and/or Ramsey County



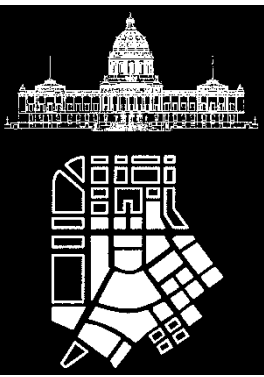




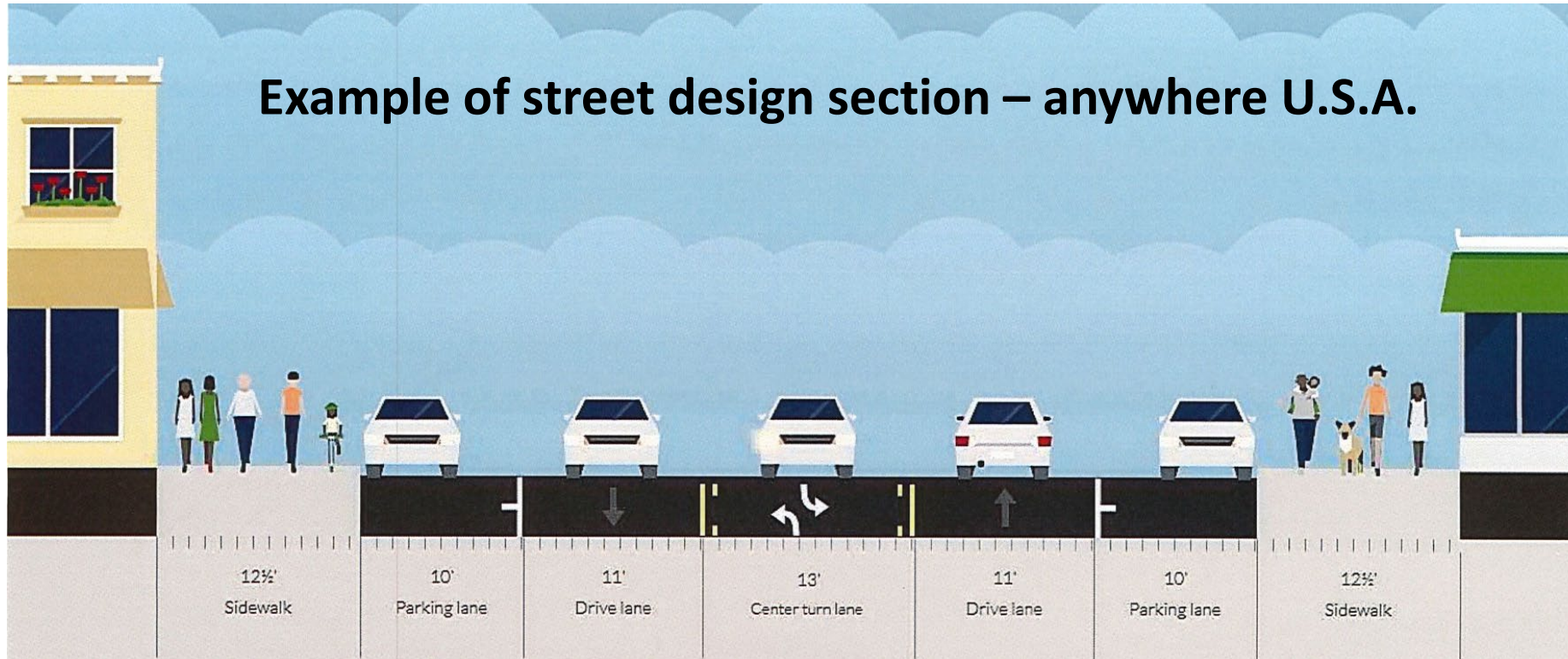
# Leveraging Economic Development and Quality of Life

- Sears Site redevelopment
- Rice Street businesses
- Traffic calming
- Pedestrian safety
- Bus Rapid Transit
- Connections to downtown
- Capitol Mall design Framework update for improved visitor experience





# Planning – What Street Design is Appropriate?



- Multiagency planning process to be coordinated by the Capitol Area Architectural and Planning Board.
- Redesign to conform with Comprehensive Plan for the Minnesota Capitol Area and the City of Saint Paul street design manual





## Rice Street Community Engagement (2017-2019)







October 3<sup>rd</sup> Event at League of MN Cities



October 3<sup>rd</sup> Event at League of MN Cities

# CAPITOL RICE

< LOWER RICE STREET >

**INPUT IS NEEDED**  
from SMALL BUSINESSES and  
COMMUNITY MEMBERS

on **COMMERCIAL VITALITY,  
SAFETY, PARKING and  
STREET DESIGN**

Informational  
Gathering  
Noon (Tuesday)  
**Sept 12**  
at the Capitol's NEW  
L'Etoile du Nord Vault  
RSVP (for lunch count) :  
[mn.gov/caapb](http://mn.gov/caapb)

Bring Placemaking &  
Street Design Ideas  
**Oct 3** (Thursday)  
Come Anytime: 4:00—7:00 pm  
to **League of Minnesota Cities**

These gatherings are sponsored and hosted through a City-County-State long-range planning collaboration: Ahead of private sector, public sector and capital investments in the corridor over the next 10 years, the **Capitol Area Architectural and Planning Board**, the City of Saint Paul, and Ramsey County Planners would like to gather ideas and input from community members. **TRACK the PROJECT** and **SIGN UP for EMAIL UPDATES** at [mn.gov/caapb](http://mn.gov/caapb)



Questions: contact CAAPB's Pete Musty 651-757-1501 [peter.musty@state.mn.us](mailto:peter.musty@state.mn.us)



CHAT (Center for Hmong Arts and Talent) artist, Mai Yee Chang Performs on January 29th at Christ Lutheran Church



From left to right: Paul Mandell (CAAPB) leads the discussion with panelists Witt Siasoco, Toua Xiong, Senator Sandy Pappas, and Pastor Joy McDonald Colvett

**CELEBRATE YOUR IDEAS**  
FOR **CAPITOL RICE**  
(LOWER RICE STREET NEAR CAPITOL)  
on **BUSINESS VITALITY, SAFETY,  
PARKING and URBAN DESIGN**

**Monday  
January 29**  
at **Christ on Capitol Hill**  
@ University & Park

**Artists**  
• Visual Artist Witt Siasoco w/  
Jonathan Harrezo & Michio  
Kegan  
• CHAT Performers (Center for Hmong Arts and  
Talent)  
• Music by Chris Bates Trio

**3 pm Presentations** Post & Present We Didn't Know  
**4 pm Panel** Discussing Future of Capitol Rice *Vote for your favorite idea!*  
**5-7 pm Idea Gallery** Five Big Themes Have Emerged!

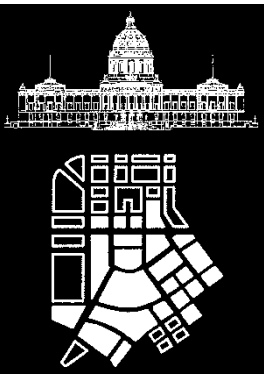
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September 12<sup>th</sup> Event at the Capitol





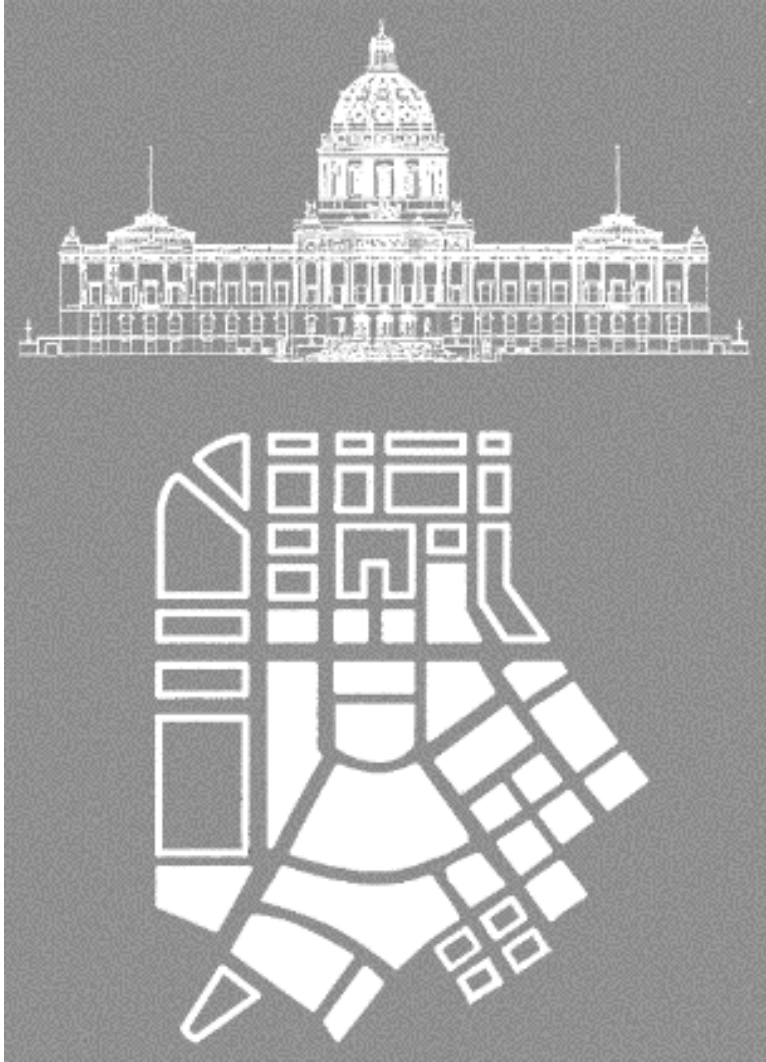


# Implements Chapter 7A of the Capitol Area Comprehensive Plan

- Rice Street as a neighborhood Main Street connector
- Functions as a seam rather than a barrier between institutional and office uses to east with residential uses to the west.
- Attractive connector of neighborhoods to the north with Capitol Campus and Downtown.







Merritt Clapp-Smith, Executive Secretary  
Capitol Area Architectural and Planning Board  
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651-757-1507

THANK YOU