

# Capitol Area Architectural and Planning Board

Presentation to House Economic  
Development Finance and Policy  
Committee

March 24, 2023

By Merritt Clapp-Smith, Executive Secretary  
Capitol Area Architectural and Planning Board

# Capitol Area Architectural and Planning Board (CAAPB)



- CAAPB authorized under MN Statute 15B
- Zoning and Regulatory Roles in MN Rules Chapter 2400
- Planning and Zoning Authority for 60-block Capitol Area (instead of St. Paul)
- 12-member Board (Lt. Governor as Board chair, 2 Senators, 2 Representatives, 4 Governor appointees; 3 City of St. Paul appointees)
- 2.5 FTE (Executive Secretary, Principal Planner and Zoning Administrator, part-time Office Assistant)
- 3 Architectural Advisors to the Board



# CAAPB Roles and Responsibilities



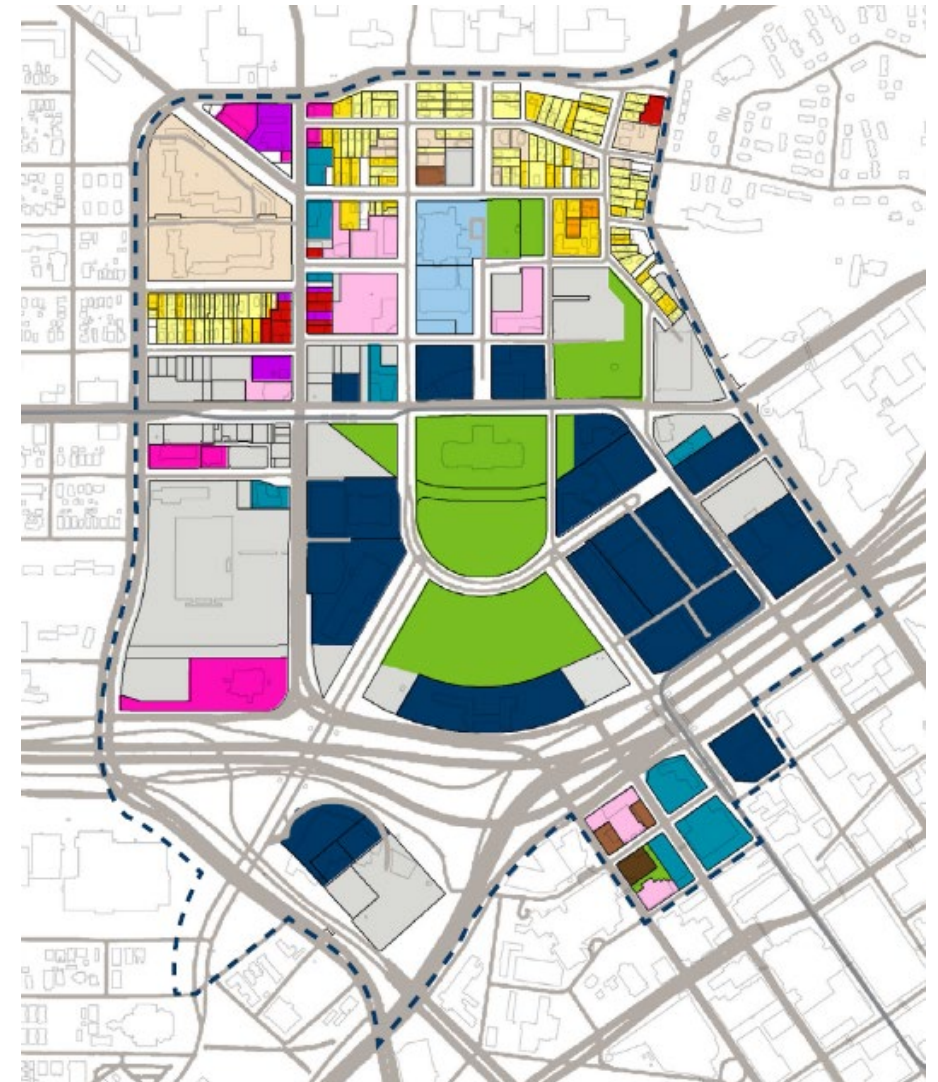
Joint authority with MN Historical Society for all changes and renovations to the Capitol building

Planning and Approval for Capitol Mall design, landscape and memorials

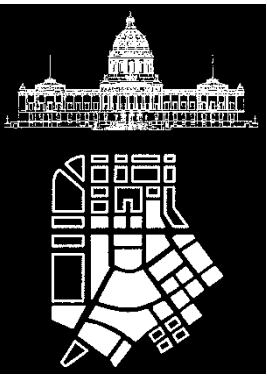


Comprehensive Planning for 60-block Capitol Area

Zoning & Permitting for State, public and private land uses and development in the Capitol Area







# 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







## Capitol Rice 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 Herrerro & Micho Keagan  
• CHAT Performers (Center for Hmong Arts and Talent)  
• Music by Chris Bates Trio

**3 pm Presentations** Past & 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! *Vote for your favorite idea!*

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

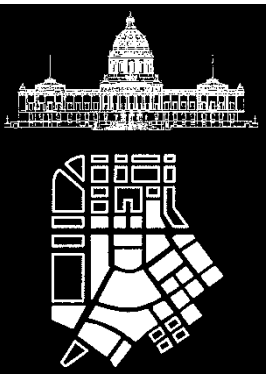
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September 12<sup>th</sup> Event at the Capitol







# Capitol Area Community Vitality Task Force

Prepare plan for community vitality and economic development in the Capitol Area that improves its livability, economic health, safety. Focus efforts on community wealth building.

\$150,000 to support task force work (economic development consultants and public engagement)

## **Proposed Task Force composition**

- CAAPB Executive Secretary of the Capitol Area Architectural and Planning Board;
- CAAP Board member
- 2 House Representatives appointed by Speaker (1 each from majority and minority caucus)
- 2 Senators appointed by Majority Leader (1 each from majority caucus and minority caucus)
- 4 Capitol Area residents, businesspeople, or members of local organizations appointed by the mayor of Saint Paul
- 1 member of the public appointed by the governor.

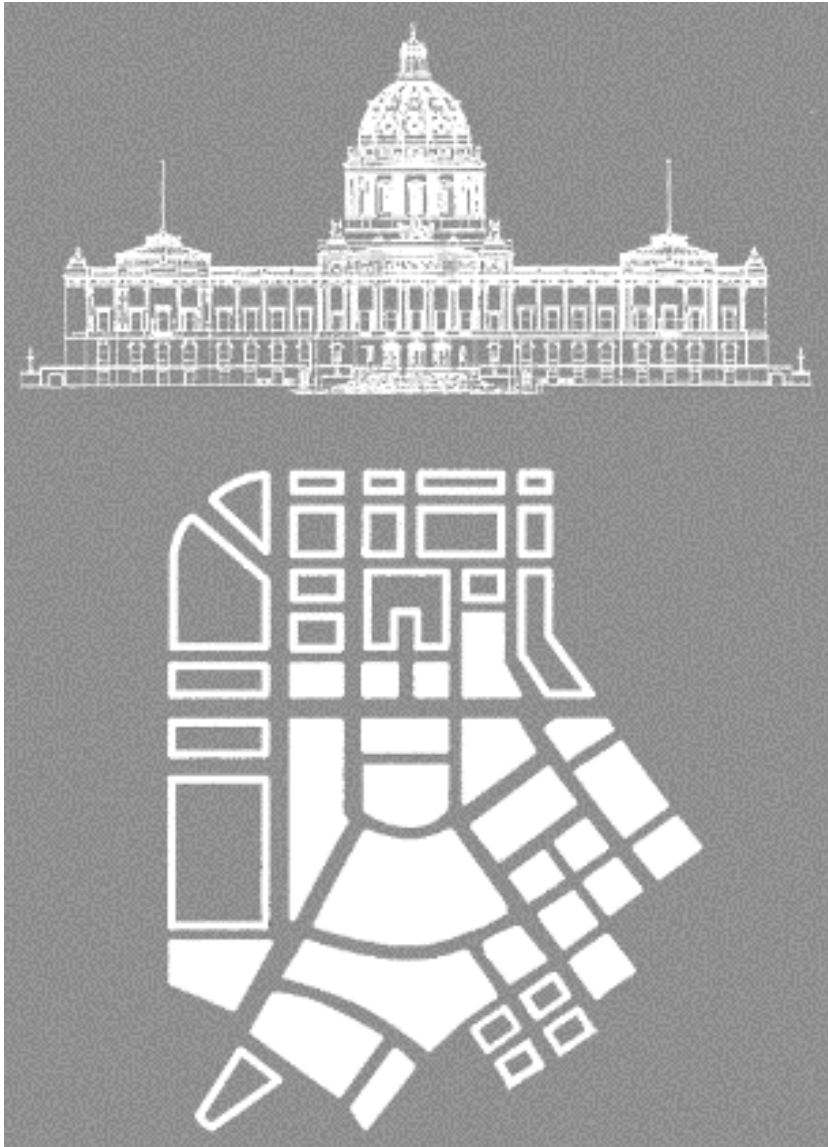
# Capitol Area Community Vitality Fund and Transportation Corridors

Special revenue fund to improve the livability, economic health, and safety of communities within the Capitol Area.

\$5,000,000 for community development investments + \$5,000,000 for transportation investments, based on recommendations of Capitol Area Community Vitality Task Force.







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

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THANK YOU