



Minnesota State Capitol Restoration Project

Capitol Preservation Commission Meeting

April 14, 2016

mn.gov/admin/capitol-restoration/



Restoration Progress



Restoration Progress



Planning for Grand Opening

- “Welcome Back to the Capitol” celebration—
January 2017
- Grand Re-opening -- formal public celebration and turnover of the restored State Capitol back to the people of Minnesota and all branches of government.

Proposed Governance Structure

Capitol Preservation Commission Oversight

- Approve budget and schedule of events

Capitol Grand Re-Opening Committee (21 members; appointed by Commission)

- Recommend budget and schedule of events
- Fundraise
- Plan for logistics, security, event management
- Promote and market events
- *Report to Preservation Commission*

Planning Work Group/Admin (Sub-group of committee members plus relevant Admin, DPS & other agency staff)

- Administrative support
- Technical support for logistics, security, event management
- Research ideas
- Contract management
- Support day-to-day activities related to event

Key Priorities-Potential Timeline

- Major action items needed in the next 18 months:
 - Appointment of committee
 - Determination of event date(s)
 - Passage of legislation
 - (passed full Senate unanimously, awaiting passage in the House)
 - Fundraise
 - Planning of events
- Two month window – September 1 to November 1, 2016
 - Re-opening committee will select a date, keeping in mind State Fair, Labor Day, Twin Cities Marathon, other potential events

Grand Re-Opening – Action Needed

“The Capitol Preservation Commission establish a 21-member Grand Re-Opening Committee to fundraise and plan for the formal re-opening of the Minnesota State Capitol. The committee is to be appointed by the Governor, with input from the full Capitol Preservation Commission, and be provided administrative and planning support from the Commissioner of Administration.”

Restoration Progress- Supreme Court Chamber



Restoration Progress- Supreme Court Chamber



Possible Celebration Activities

- Hand over a key to officially return the Capitol back to its “owners” Ribbon Cutting Ceremony
- Worker Appreciation Day
- Tours of the Capitol
- Games, foods, activities popular 100 years ago (baseball) on upper mall
- Cultural Celebration Day
- Art exhibit opening (new and conserved)
- Made in Minnesota Exhibits
- Blessing of the Capitol
- Local food and beverages events
- Saturday afternoon/evening concert of MN musicians
- Minnesota State Band concert
- Stone Carving exhibition
- Reception on the loggia
- Dance party
- Rathskeller beer event
- Supreme Court – ceremonial session
- Supreme court dining room event
- Multi-media exhibit that showcases images/video of the restoration process over the last four years
- Outreach event to Minnesota school children

New Public Spaces In Restored Capitol

Public Space Advisory Committee Report

- **Restored Capitol will have 36,758 sq. ft. of public space; an increase of 16,786 or 84%.**
- **The increased public space provides an unprecedented opportunity to:**
 - Provide better public access to the legislative process, including making it easier to find legislators.
 - Create an inclusive space that welcomes all Minnesotans into the “People’s House”.
 - Enhance the public’s use of and experience with the building.
 - Allow for more and different public uses than prior to restoration.

Expanded Public Space Taking Shape



Expanded Public Space Taking Shape



Public Space Advisory Committee Report

- **Key Objectives:**

- Be innovative, inclusive, and pragmatic.
- Recommend types of events that can be held in the public spaces of the Capitol.
- Recommend whether events are fee-based or free to the public.
- Recommend Capitol building hours of operation.
- Recommend protocols for use of public space and public rallies.

Public Space Advisory Committee Report

- **Discussions not focused on types of events**
- **Discussion focused on protocol that should apply to any event, such as:**
 - What spaces are available for public use
 - Hours of operation (including after hours events)
 - Process for reserving space and equipment
 - Operations
 - Food and Beverages
 - Noise
 - Charging Fees/Exchange of Money
 - Sale and Use of Alcohol

Public Space Advisory Committee Report

- **Key Recommendations:**
 - Admin should create mobile capable website and online reservation system (one-stop shop).
 - Fees should be assessed to cover staffing needs if after hours events occur (Admin, DPS).
 - If fees assessed, IRS tax code provisions and restrictions will apply.
 - Identify preferred vendors for food service and equipment rentals, and related procedures for equipment drop off/pick up.
 - Admin should conduct a *Noise Study* to determine the appropriate volume level(s) throughout the Capitol.

Public Space Advisory Committee Report

- **Unresolved Issues**
 - After hours events
 - Exchange of money
 - Sale and use of alcohol
 - Charge of fees for space during business hours
- Tension exists between the desire to open up the Capitol in a non-traditional way and diversify public uses of the Capitol, with concerns over practical matters of safety, cost and process.
- Commitment from advisory committee to revisit and stay engaged as policies are developed over the next 12 months.

Expanded Public Space Taking Shape

