



Minnesota  
Chapter of the  
American Society  
of Landscape  
Architects

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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### **MASLA Tests First-Ever Wiki Site for City's Comprehensive Plan**

**Minneapolis, MN, January 8, 2008.** The Minnesota Chapter American Society of Landscape Architects (MASLA) is testing a Wiki for gathering input on The Minneapolis Plan for Sustainable Growth, the City's 2008 Comprehensive Plan. This pilot concept is intended for testing by area professionals in MASLA, plus The American Institute of Architects (AIA), the American Planning Association (APA), and the Urban Land Institute (ULI). MASLA has posted the Urban Design chapter of the plan on its website at [www.masla.org/mn\\_resources/MplsComp.htm](http://www.masla.org/mn_resources/MplsComp.htm). It is available for editing January 5-February 15, 2008.

"This pilot effort is a chance to help shape the future of the City of Minneapolis, and a fresh new way to gather public input," says David Motzenbecker, a landscape architect and Chair of the Minneapolis Planning Commission. "If we can get enough contributors and the input is well-thought out, there is the possibility that we would expand the Wiki formats to other planning forums."

By using the Wiki, anyone can actively edit the language of the Urban Design section of the Comprehensive Plan in real time, from any computer, whether they are in their office, in a coffee shop or home after dinner.

"We're very excited about this," says Joni Giese, President of MASLA. "It's a great alternative to meetings or email and a good complement to the traditional public input processes already in place. We especially appreciate the opportunity to make the Urban Design component of the Plan easily accessible for input by our members and other design professions."

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**How it works.**

Individuals using the Wiki simply follow the link, [www.masla.org/mn\\_resources/MplsComp.htm](http://www.masla.org/mn_resources/MplsComp.htm), go to the bottom of the page and click “Edit.” If you would like to change a section, a sentence, a phrase, just start typing over the old text. The changes are saved for others to see. And someone may come along and change it again. “In the end,” says Motzenbecker, “it is hoped that the best ideas rise to the top and that the City Planners can look at this and incorporate the suggestions into the final plan.”

**The Minneapolis Plan for Sustainable Growth**

The comprehensive plan provides a policy framework for all planning, development and other investment decisions made by the City of Minneapolis. The plan is used to develop and adopt neighborhood, small-area and city-wide plans; review and approve project-specific site plans and land use applications; review and approve public land-acquisition and disposition proposals; plan and prioritize capital improvement and infrastructure projects; and determine priorities for public financing of projects and programs. The updated plan will also include a future land use map. For more information see <http://www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us/planning/mplsplan.asp>. Content questions about the Plan can be directed to 612.673.2098 or [planupdate@ci.minneapolis.mn.us](mailto:planupdate@ci.minneapolis.mn.us).

**About ASLA**

Founded in 1899, The American Society of Landscape Architects is the national professional association for landscape architects, representing more than 16,500 members in 48 professional chapters and 68 student chapters. Landscape architecture is a comprehensive discipline of land analysis, planning, design, management, preservation and rehabilitation. ASLA promotes the landscape architecture profession and advances the practice through advocacy, education, communication and fellowship. Learn more about landscape architecture online at [www.asla.org](http://www.asla.org) or the Minnesota chapter at [www.masla.org](http://www.masla.org).

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