

Katie Tuma

Please please in these crazy times do not rush to just take off a few feet of gunk that does not address the real problems just so you can feel good about it just because you have money to spend right now when the Ford Dam is gonna be released in the not so distant future. It's just the truth. So much can be done with this space for the sake of the City's River plans and outdoor plans for people living at the Highland Bridge. Too much at stake too many possibilities. And the money can be dug up. We have to start getting things right. And anything with the River needs to have full Native American leadership involved. It is their land not ours their birth stories along the Bdote not ours their creation story not ours. Watch "Stories I didn't Know" on PBS "Bdote a Birthing Island" on PBS YouTube and TPT Marlena Myles "Realms of Resilience" PBS wait until Peter Myers drops his new documentary about the River which is soon. Learn more learn deep!! And then Clean!!

LET'S CLEAN AND DREAM

Instead of a partial Cleanup Dead zone that will need to be fully cleaned up when the FORD Dam is released,

Ford Area C is a toxic dumpsite on the Riverfront in St. Paul near the newly redone **Hidden Falls**. How can we develop the River Front with access to the Mississippi when we disregard the perfect access point near a Highland Bridge that will be teeming with people ready to become stewards for the River via family friendly exciting adventures!



IMAGINE in the background a full City with apartments, homes, retail and outdoor activities...**HIGHLAND BRIDGE DREAM CAME TRUE** now outdoor activities and the Mississippi River need to be attended to!

DREAMING: TOXIC WASTE SITE C could be turned into a Secret City Mountain Biking path like similar ones in Montreal. An even more splendid experience for families and visitors to our **Destination City** with a beginning Mountain Biking path that connects to **Hidden Falls Regional Park** which is redesigned and set for construction in **Spring 2026** with reimagined picnicking spots, bathrooms, Native American ceremony space, boating, fishing, hiking and biking.

This trail could be a **Ford Legacy Project** to denote the history of the Ford Plant along the River.

It aligns with Henry Ford's love of Nature and all things Wheels!! He began his career creating a Quadcycle that could run on tough terrain and he studied Bicycles. What if that mobile was recreated to bring out on special occasions and the rest of the time Mountain bikers could use the already used and accessible trail to Hidden Falls.

TOXIC SITE C and the Ford Steam Plant building has Premier River access for Mountain Biking connecting to the Hidden Falls Regional Park, kayaking and canoeing, rowing, ziplining and more! Do not forget how this would attract residents to **Highland Bridge!**

Even AI knows this!!

As AI notes:

The Ford Steam Plant

- Preservation Hopes: The steam plant, designed by renowned architect Albert Kahn, has been spared from demolition in **hopes that it can be repurposed for a future civic or commercial use.**
- *No Active Projects: There are no approved construction or renovation projects for the plant as of early 2026. **Any future reuse is contingent upon the successful completion of the MPCA's environmental cleanup in the surrounding Area C.***
- Maybe it would be cheaper and more sustainable to renovate the Ford Steam building as the new **River Leaning Center** with a FULL cleanup. And then saved money could go towards making the Mississippi River in Downtown St. Paul more accessible to all as part of the infrastructure and new development projects.

Begs the question. Do we need a building at Crosby Farms? By the Marina?

We have The Ford Steam Plant and the Science Museum of Minnesota close to the Mississippi River and Wakan Tipi close to Downtown.

Spend money in **Downtown St. Paul** to create a **Destination City** second to none!

These conversations should be happening and at the core should be the **FULL Toxic Site C cleanup.**

LET'S CLEAN AND DREAM
And create a FORD LEGACY PROJECT TOGETHER

- Have you talked to Ford Philanthropy people about a Legacy Mountain Biking park connected to Hidden Falls that would include a full clean up??
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- Have you connected with the **Riversedge** people in St. Paul about their plans that would include River access at this point as part of a City River project that would need a Full Clean up!

Have you discussed the Ford Steam Plant and its reusable renovated prospects by the Toxic Waste dump?

- Have you opened up a discussion Period that includes Transparency of which Native American Tribes you have worked with. Cause they are not afraid to be named!!! Name all of the Tribal Leaders with their opinions and also how much you have worked with them!
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- Overlay and create a map that shows all of the Native American Dakota burial sites along the River by the toxic waste C site By showing us the MNdot Mapping of Native cemeteries and burial sites.

