

Robert Mattson, FASLA

Minneapolis Parks and Recreation Board (Retired)



Bob, a native Minnesotan, received his Bachelor of Science in Landscaping (Horticulture) from the University of Minnesota in 1962. He received his professional education from Harvard University, earning a Master of Landscape Architecture in 1966. In mid-career, he took part in the Executive Development Program for park and recreation professionals at Indiana University.

After brief periods of employment with the Architects Collaborative (Walter Gropius' firm) and Charles Wood Associates, Bob started work with the Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board (MPRB) in 1968. He served 32 years progressing from an entry level landscape architect to Assistant Superintendent for Planning, one of five who together formed the administrative leadership for the agency. He retired in 2000.

During his tenure, the MPRB rebuilt and greatly expanded the neighborhood park facilities, redesigned and reconstructed much of the Grand Rounds Parkway System and began the development of the Mississippi Riverfront as it passes through the City of Minneapolis. He has coordinated over \$100 million



West River Parkway - Minneapolis, MN
Designed by BRW Inc.

of planning and development projects and has been involved with the reorganization of most of the 6,000 acres that comprise the park system. Primarily due to the excellence of its park system, Minneapolis was named one of the six cities worldwide in "Cities that Work" (US News and World Report, June 8, 1998).

Although Bob and his wife Pat have retired at their lake home, he remains an active volunteer and serves on the Park and Recreation Board and the Capital Long Range Planning Committee for the City of Cross Lake, Minnesota.



Stone Arch Bridge - Minneapolis, MN
Designed by A.G. Lichtenstein & Associates, Inc.



Lake Harriet - Minneapolis, MN
Designed by BRW Inc.



Nicollet Island - Minneapolis, MN
Designed by Martin & Pitz