

Information Item

Committee of the Whole



Meeting Date: February 21, 2024

Topic

2050 Parks Policy Plan Update

District(s), Member(s):	All
Policy/Legal Reference:	Minn. Stats. §§ 473.145 and 473.147
Staff Prepared/Presented:	Colin Kelly, Planning Analyst (651-602-1361) Emmett Mullin, Parks Manager (651-602-1360)
Division/Department:	Community Development / Regional Parks

Proposed Action

Information item; no action is proposed at this time.

Background

The Council continues its work on developing the 2050 Regional Development Guide, *Imagine 2050*. The current Regional Development Guide, *Thrive MSP 2040*, along with the Council's system and policy plans, help guide the orderly growth and development of the Twin Cities metropolitan region. System and policy plans include the *2040 Regional Parks Policy Plan*, the *2040 Transportation Policy Plan*, the *2040 Water Resources Policy Plan*, and the *2040 Housing Policy Plan*.

At today's meeting, Council Parks staff will share an update on the development of *Imagine 2050* and the *2050 Regional Parks Policy Plan*, including a parks policy plan timeline (Figure 1) and draft regional parks and trails objectives (Figure 2). Staff will seek Council Members' advice on draft objectives and emerging policies and actions.

At the February 1, 2024, Metropolitan Parks and Open Space Commission meeting, staff shared an updated set of draft regional parks and trails objectives, and a summary of feedback from recent discussions with Commissioners and Regional Park Implementing Agencies. Council staff asked for the Commission's advice on priorities to achieve the draft regional parks and trails objectives.

Staff will continue to engage with the Council committees throughout the project to provide updates on the planning process and seek Council Members' and Commissioners' guidance and feedback.

Minnesota law requires the Council to conduct a comprehensive review of the Regional Parks Policy Plan at least every four years (Minnesota Statutes, section 473.147). The policy plan was last updated in December 2020. Completion of the policy plan update is expected in late 2024 or early 2025.

Figure 1: Parks policy Plan Timeline – Summary

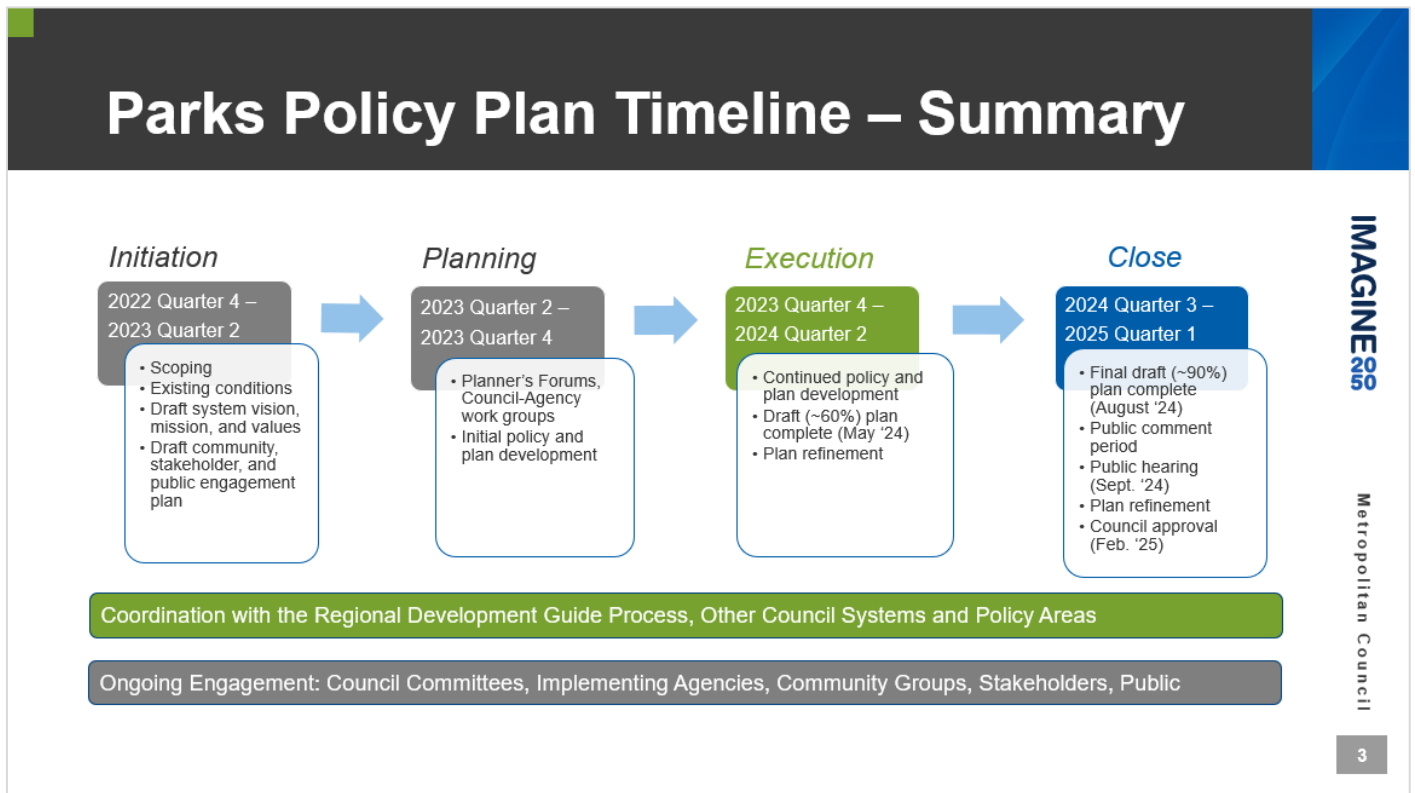


Figure 2: Draft Regional Parks and Trails Objectives

