

Community Development Committee

Meeting date: August 18, 2014

For the Metropolitan Council meeting of August 27, 2014

Subject: Release the draft *2040 Regional Parks Policy Plan* for public comment and set public hearing date

District(s), Member(s): All

Policy/Legal Reference: Minn. Stat. 473.147

Staff Prepared/Presented: Jan Youngquist AICP, Planning Analyst (651 602-1029)
Rainry Salk PhD, Senior Parks Researcher (651 602-1669)

Division/Department: Community Development, Regional Parks and Natural Resources

Proposed Action

That the Metropolitan Council:

- Release the draft *2040 Regional Parks Policy Plan* for public comment;
- Authorize a public hearing to be conducted regarding the draft *2040 Regional Parks Policy Plan* at 5:00 p.m. on October 20, 2014 as part of the Community Development Committee meeting;
- Keep the public record open until 5:00 p.m. on October 30, 2014; and
- Direct staff to publish public hearing notices and distribute copies of the draft *2040 Regional Parks Policy Plan* for public comment under the Council's administrative procedure for public hearings.

Background

The Council is required by Minnesota Statute 473.147 to prepare and adopt a long-range system policy plan for regional recreation open space as part of the Council's Metropolitan Development Guide. The Council has consulted with the Metropolitan Parks and Open Space Commission, regional park implementing agencies, other partners and stakeholders, and the general public as part of the development of the draft *2040 Regional Parks Policy Plan*, which builds from the policy direction provided in *Thrive MSP 2040*.

Rationale

The public comment period and public hearing will offer partners, stakeholders and the public the opportunity to formally comment on the draft *2040 Regional Parks Policy Plan*.

Funding

N/A

Known Support / Opposition

The Metropolitan Parks and Open Space Commission unanimously recommended approval of the proposed action at its meeting on August 5, 2014. There is no known opposition.

Metropolitan Parks and Open Space Commission

Meeting date: August 5, 2014

For the Community Development Committee meeting of August 18, 2014

For the Metropolitan Council meeting of August 27, 2014

Subject: Release the draft *2040 Regional Parks Policy Plan* for public comment and set public hearing date

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Rationale

The public comment period and public hearing will offer partners, stakeholders and the public the opportunity to formally comment on the draft *2040 Regional Parks Policy Plan*.

Funding

N/A

Known Support / Opposition

There is no known opposition to releasing the draft *2040 Regional Parks Policy Plan* for public comment or conducting a public hearing.

Metropolitan Council

Notice of Public Comment Period and Public Hearing for the draft *2040 Regional Parks Policy Plan*

The Metropolitan Council has released the draft *2040 Regional Parks Policy Plan*, the regional parks and open space chapter of the comprehensive development guide for the Twin Cities metropolitan area, for public comment.

The public is encouraged to view the plan and provide public comment through Thursday, October 30, as follows (comments must be received by 5 p.m.):

Written comments: Metropolitan Council
390 N. Robert St.
Saint Paul, MN 55101

Send TTY comments to: 651-291-0904

Email: public.info@metc.state.mn.us

Record comments on the Council's Public Comment Line at 651-602-1500

Submit comments through the Council's online Your Ideas site at:
<http://yourideas.metrocouncil.org>

The Metropolitan Council will hold one public hearing on the draft *2040 Regional Parks Policy Plan*:

Monday, October 20, 5 p.m.
Metropolitan Council Chambers
390 N. Robert Street
Saint Paul, MN 55101
Served by many transit routes

All interested persons are encouraged to attend the public hearing and offer comments. Those attending may register in advance to speak by calling the Council at 651-602-1500. Upon request, the Metropolitan Council will provide reasonable accommodations to persons with disabilities. Advance notice, indicating the specific accommodation needed is appreciated.

Staff will review public comments and evaluate changes to the proposed policies to address the comments submitted by the public. A recommendation for final adoption of the *2040 Regional Parks Policy Plan* will be considered by the Metropolitan Council in January 2015.