

Community Development Committee

Meeting date: August 17, 2015

For the Metropolitan Council meeting of: None—Public Hearing

Subject: Public Hearing – *2016-2021 Regional Parks Capital Improvement Program*

District(s), Member(s): All

Policy/Legal Reference: Minn. Stat. 473.147, Subdivision 1 and MN Statute 473.325

Staff Prepared/Presented: Mark VanderSchaaf, Regional Planning Director (651 602-1441)
Jan Youngquist AICP, Manager (651 602-1029)

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

Proposed Action

None—Public Hearing

Background

MN Statutes Section 473.147, Subdivision 1 requires the Metropolitan Council, after consultation with the Metropolitan Parks and Open Space Commission (MPOSC), municipalities, park districts and counties in the metropolitan area to prepare and adopt a system policy plan for regional recreation open space as part of the Council's development guide. The law also requires the Council to include a multi-year capital improvement program (CIP) in the parks policy plan, which should be revised periodically, and to establish criteria and priorities for the allocation of funds from the capital improvement program. The CIP must be considered through a public hearing process.

The draft CIP was released for public comment on June 24, 2015. This draft will be updated with specific project descriptions in priority order from Dakota County, Minneapolis Park & Recreation Board, and Three Rivers Park District which the Metropolitan Council required to be submitted no later than August 17, 2015. The updated draft will be posted at the following Council website on or before August 18, 2015: [http://www.metrocouncil.org/News-Events/Parks/Parks-News-Articles-\(1\)/Public-Hearing-August-17-for-the-draft-2016-2021-R.aspx](http://www.metrocouncil.org/News-Events/Parks/Parks-News-Articles-(1)/Public-Hearing-August-17-for-the-draft-2016-2021-R.aspx)

The public record will remain open until 5:00 p.m. on Tuesday, September 1, 2015.

Rationale

The public comment period and public hearing will offer partners, stakeholders, and the public an opportunity to formally comment on the draft *2016-2021 Regional Parks CIP*.

Funding

Not applicable

Known Support / Opposition

There is no known support or opposition to conducting a public hearing.

Metropolitan Council

Notice of Public Comment Period and Public Hearing for the Draft *2016-2021 Regional Parks Capital Improvement Program*

The Metropolitan Council has released the draft *2016-2021 Regional Parks Capital Improvement Program*, the proposed spending for regional park capital improvements, for public comment.

The public is encouraged to view the *2016-2021 Regional Parks Capital Improvement Program* and provide public comment through Tuesday, September 1, 2015 as follows (comments must be received by 5:00 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 *2016-2021 Regional Parks Capital Improvement Program*:

Monday, August 17, 2015 at 4:00 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 draft *2016-2021 Regional Parks Capital Improvement Program* to address the comments submitted by the public. A recommendation for final adoption of the *2016-2021 Regional Parks Capital Improvement Program* will be considered by the Metropolitan Council in September 2015.