

Business item 2018-261

FY2020-2021 Parks and Trails Legacy Project Recommendations

October 15, 2018

Community Development Committee

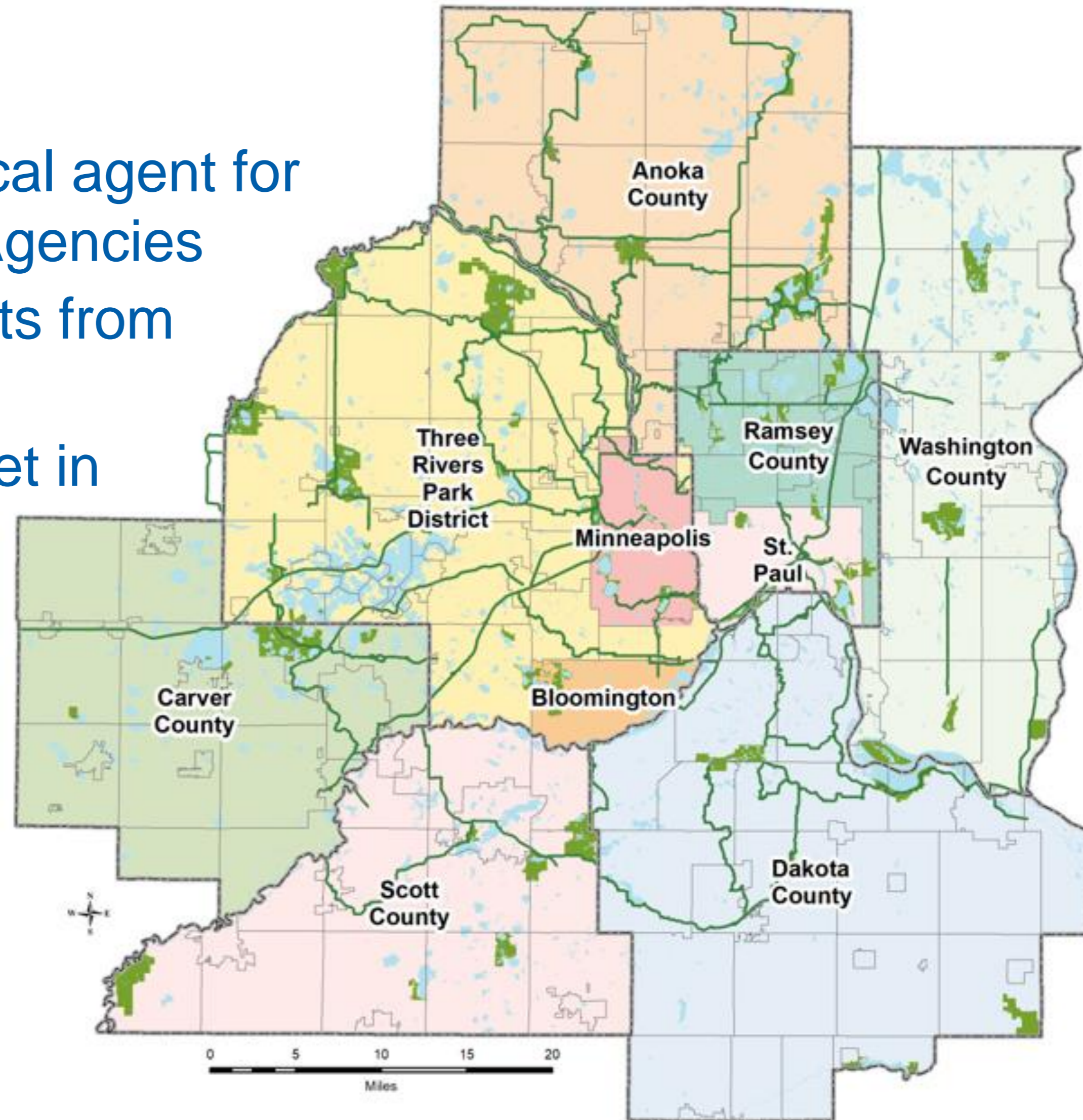


Parks and Trails Legacy Fund

- Voters approved an amendment to the state Constitution in 2008
- Amendment provides a special sales tax of 3/8 of 1% through 2034:
 - 33% Clean Water Fund
 - 33% Outdoor Heritage Fund
 - 19.75% Arts and Cultural Heritage Fund
 - 14.25% Parks and Trails Legacy Fund
- The Parks and Trails Legacy Fund is further split:
 - 40% MN Department of Natural Resources for state parks and trails
 - 40% Metropolitan Council for the metropolitan Regional Parks System
 - 20% Greater Minnesota Regional Parks and Trails Commission
- By statute, Legacy funds for the Regional Parks System are set aside:
 - 10% land acquisition
 - 90% projects (or 5.13% of the total special sales tax revenue)

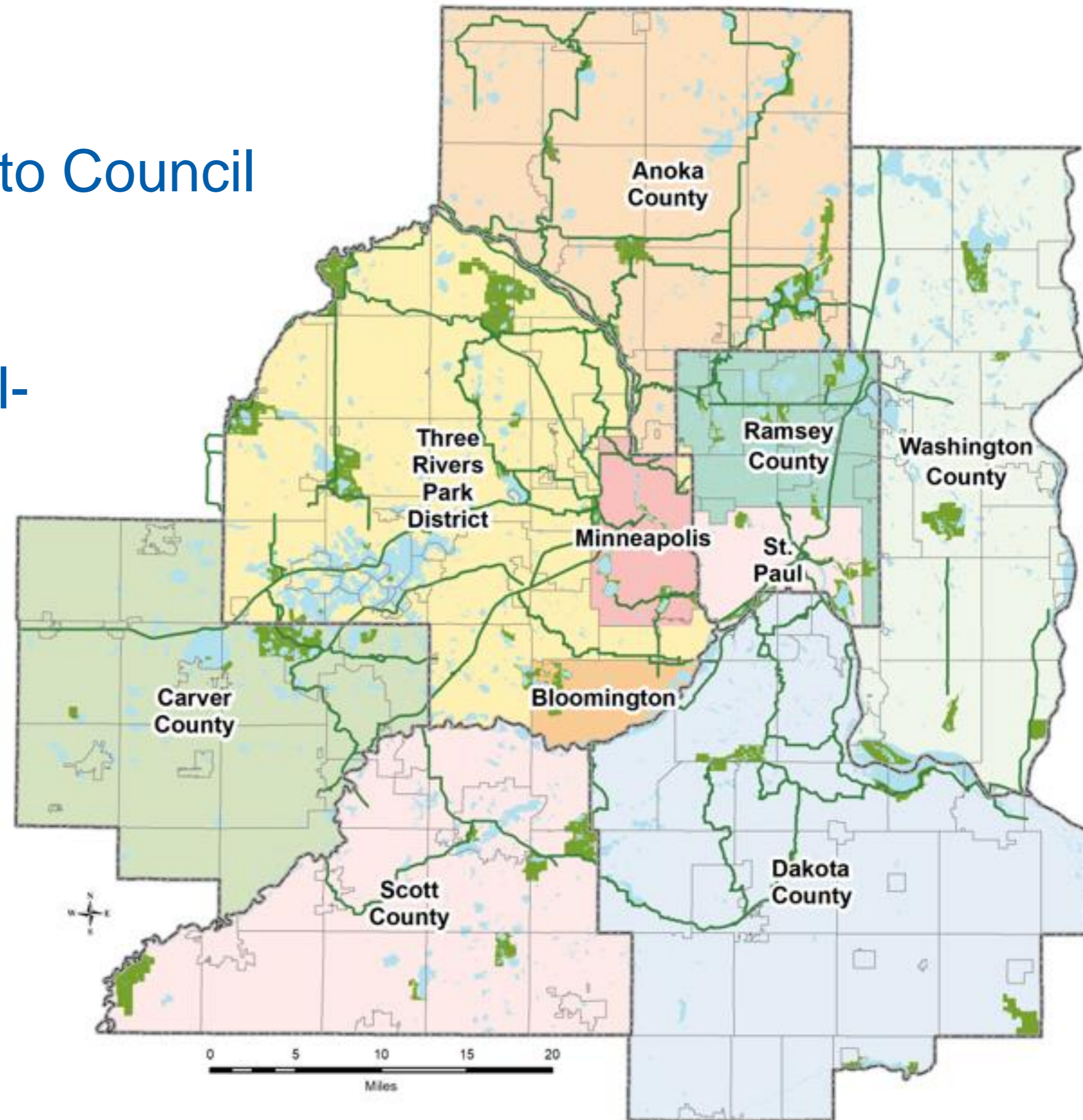
Process

- Metropolitan Council serves as the fiscal agent for the 10 Regional Parks Implementing Agencies
- By statute, the Council can make grants from these funds only to the Agencies
- Funding split among the Agencies is set in statute
- Agencies develop their list of projects according to their individual needs
- Agency boards are in the process of adopting the project lists through their Capital Improvement Plans



Process, continued

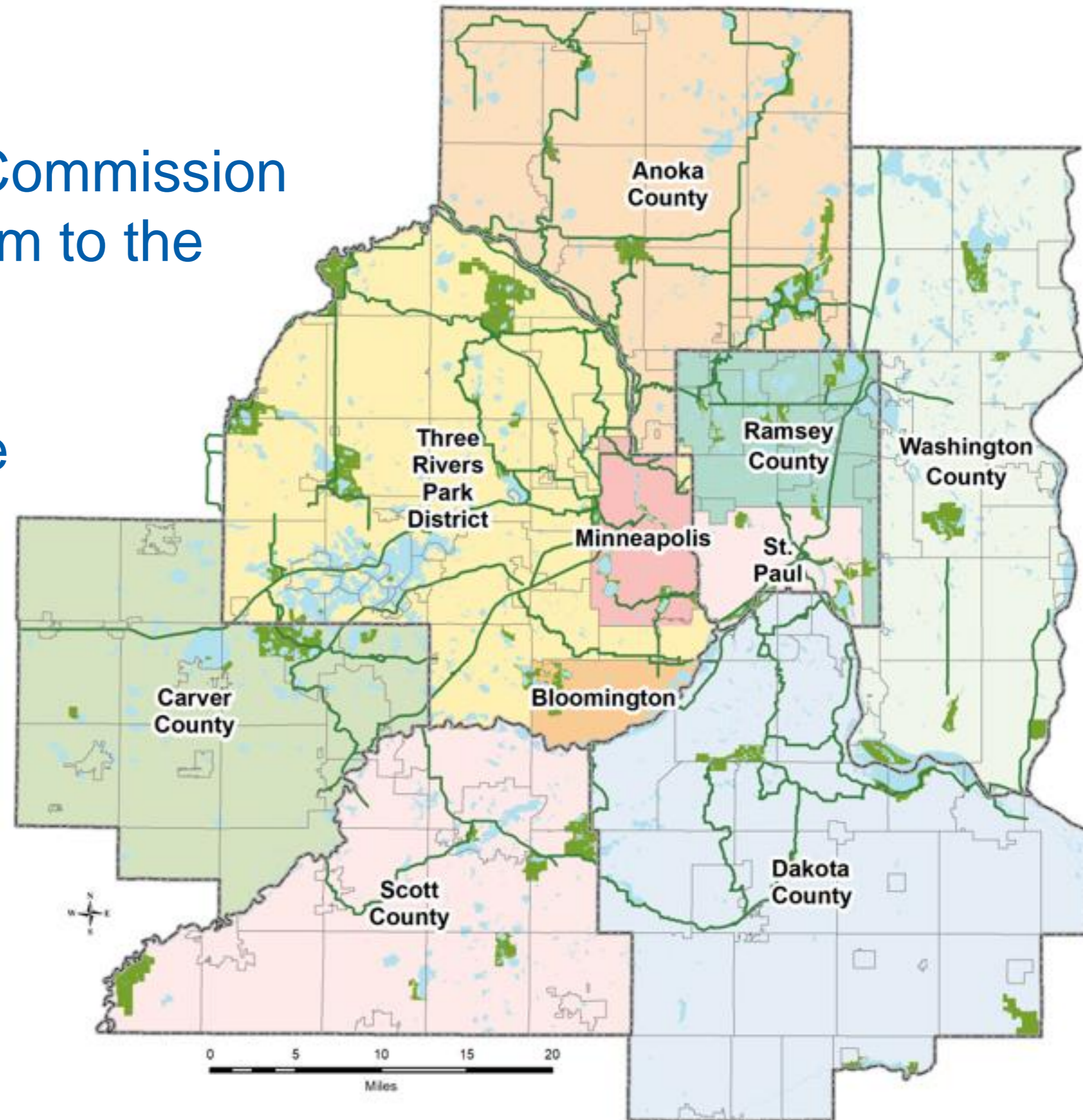
- Agencies submitted project proposals to Council staff in June 2018
- Staff reviewed proposals to ensure:
 - Projects are included in a Council-approved master plan
 - All activities are eligible
 - Projects are sufficiently defined to create enforceable grant agreements and meet state reporting requirements
 - Equity Toolkit questions had been properly addressed



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Process, continued

- Metropolitan Parks and Open Space Commission reviews projects and recommends them to the Council
- Council reviews the recommendation
- Staff forwards the set of projects to the Governor's office by November in even-numbered years
- Appropriation amount is finalized during the legislative session
- Agencies adjust their projects to match the appropriated amount
- Grants are awarded and budget is authorized in 2nd quarter amendment to the Authorized Capital Program



Summary of Requests

Agency	Projects	SFY 2020 (in 1000s)	SFY 2021 (in 1000s)
Anoka County	4	\$1,661	\$1,675
Bloomington	3	337	340
Carver County	5	396	400
Dakota County	4	1,422	1,434
Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board	7	4,306	4,342
Ramsey County	10	1,498	1,511
Saint Paul	10	2,664	2,685
Scott County	3	669	674
Three Rivers Park District	3	4,354	4,390
Washington County	4	945	952
Total	53	\$18,252	\$18,403



Types of projects

- Infrastructure improvements
- Natural resource restoration
- Interpretive and wayfinding signage
- Outreach
- Volunteer and education coordinators
- Trail construction
- Improvements to meet requirements of the Americans with Disabilities Act
- Transportation (shuttle service, etc.)
- Development
- Marketing



Mississippi Gateway Regional Park

Recommended Action

- That the Metropolitan Council accept the list of 53 proposed Parks and Trails Legacy Fund projects for the 2020-2021 state biennium.