

Community Development Committee

Meeting date: September 17, 2018

Subject: Public Hearing on the 2018 update to the 2040 Regional Parks Policy Plan

District(s), Member(s): All

Policy/Legal Reference: Minn. Stat. 473.147

Staff Prepared/Presented: Emmett Mullin, Manager of Regional Parks and Natural Resources (651-602-1360) and Dan Marckel, Planning Analyst (651 602-1669)

Division/Department: Community Development / Regional Planning

Proposed Action

No action—Public Hearing to begin at 4:00 p.m.

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, that is the *Regional Parks Policy Plan*, as part of the Council's metropolitan development guide. The Council has consulted with the Metropolitan Parks and Open Space Commission (MPOSC), regional park implementing agencies, other partners and stakeholders, and the residents of the region as part of the development of the draft 2018 update to the *2040 Regional Parks Policy Plan*. This plan builds on the policy direction established in the most recent policy plan update adopted in early 2015, as well as direction provided in *Thrive MSP 2040*.

The draft plan was released for public comment on July 25, 2018. The public record will remain open until 5:00 p.m. on Thursday, September 27, 2018. The draft of the 2018 update to the *2040 Regional Parks Policy Plan* is available for review on the Council's website at:

<https://metro council.org/Parks/Planning/2018-Regional-Parks-Policy-Plan-Update.aspx> .

Rationale

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

Thrive Lens Analysis

The *2040 Regional Parks Policy Plan* provides the policy framework for the Regional Parks System, which represents one of the Council's primary means of advancing the Thrive outcomes by responsibly managing natural resources (advancing Stewardship), planning for the quality of life needed for economic competitiveness (advancing Prosperity), creating real choices in where we recreate for all residents (advancing Equity), increasing access to nature and outdoor recreation (advancing Livability), and supporting bicycle facilities to promote bicycling for recreation and healthy lifestyles (advancing Livability).

Funding

Updating the *2040 Regional Parks Policy Plan* is a regular part of the Community Development Division budget.

Known Support / Opposition

The purpose of the public hearing is to learn more about the known support and opposition for the language in the draft *2040 Regional Parks Policy Plan*.