

Draft Regional Parks Policy Plan Amendment: Release for Public Comment

August 17, 2020

Community Development Commission



Today

- Provide overview of proposed plan modifications
- Recommend release of draft plan for public comment
- Discuss next steps



Timeline for Plan Amendment

Propose action to release Policy Plan amendment for public comment, open public comment period

August

- August 3 – CDC **info** item
 - Draft recommendation
- August 13 - MPOSC **business** item
 - Propose action to release Policy Plan amend. for public cmnt on Aug. 26
- ★ August 17 - CDC **business** item
 - Propose action to release Policy Plan amend. for public cmnt on Aug. 26
- August 26 - MC **business** item
 - Release Policy Plan amendment for **public comment** through Oct. 30 and set public hearing date for Oct. 19
- August 27 - I.A. partner meeting

Update on comments, open public hearing - Close public comment period and public hearing

October and November

- October 1 - MPOSC **info** item
 - Update on comments rec'd to-date
- October 19 - CDC **info** item
 - **Open public hearing**
- October 29 - I.A. partner meeting
- October 30 - **Public comment** period and **public hearing** close
- November 5 - MPOSC **info** item
 - Update on comments rec'd and themes
- November 16 - CDC **info** item
 - Update on comments rec'd and themes

Summarize public comments, propose Policy Plan amendment adoption

December

- December 3 - I.A. partner meeting
- December 3 - MPOSC **business** item
 - Summary of public comment, how it has impacted staff recommendation; propose Policy Plan amendment adoption
- December 7 - CDC **business** item
 - Summary of public comment, how it has impacted staff recommendation; propose Policy Plan amendment adoption
- December 9 - MC **business** item
 - Summary of public comment, how it has impacted staff recommendation, Policy Plan amendment adoption

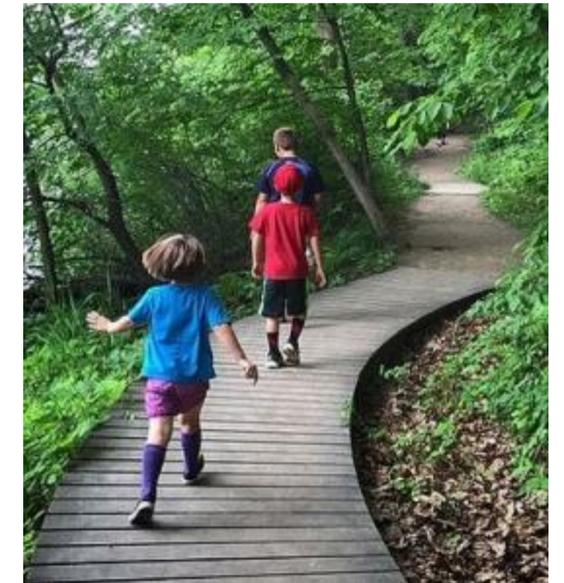
Participation: Who helped inform the amendment

- Implementing Agency Partners
- Metropolitan Council Committees
 - Metropolitan Parks and Open Space Commission
 - Community Development Committee
 - Land Use Advisory Committee
- Community Development Division staff
 - Regional Parks and Natural Resources
 - Research
 - Local Planning Assistance



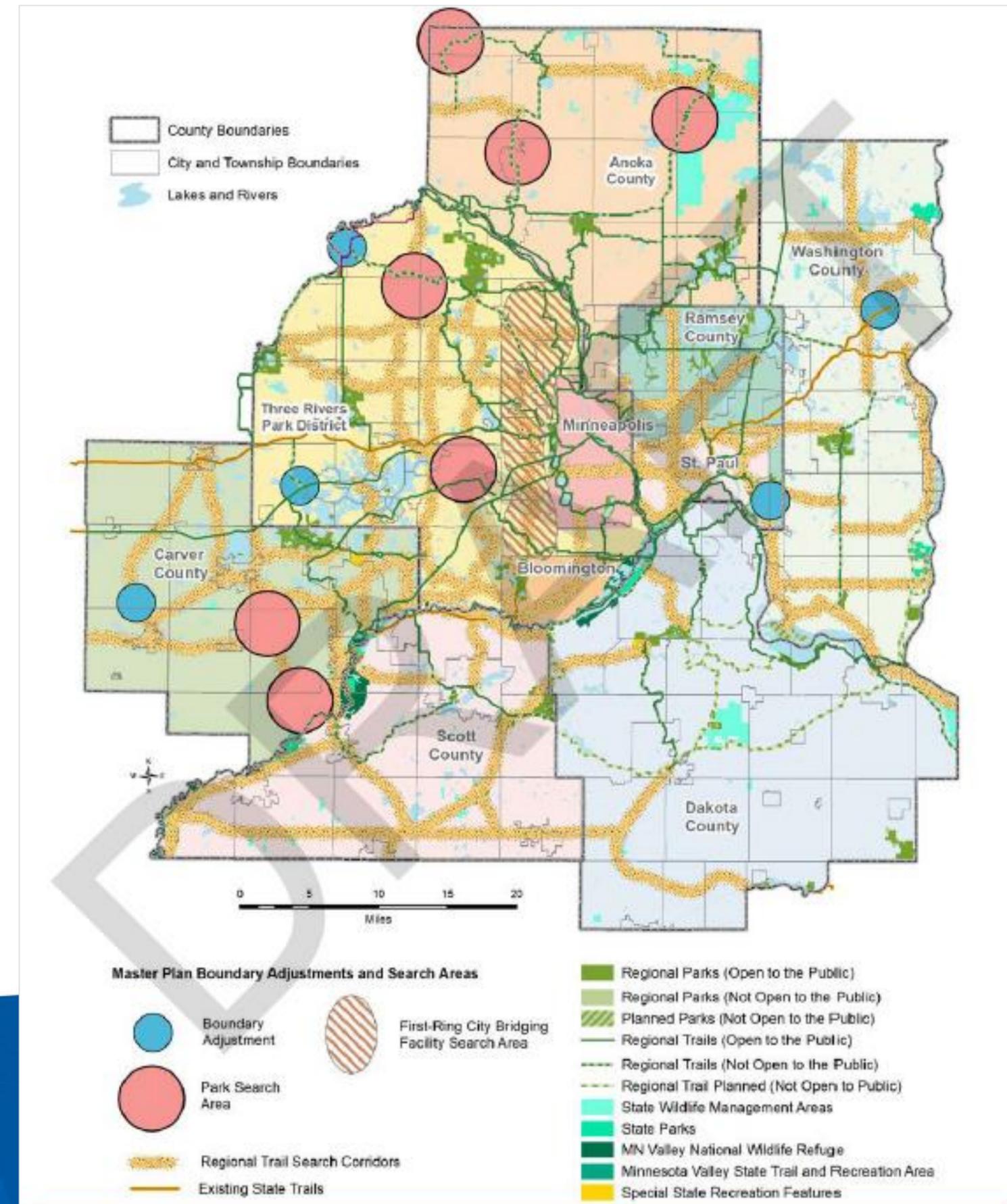
Six Most Significant Things about the Amendment

1. Regional Designations (ch. 3)
2. Boundary Adjustments
Policy Clarification (ch. 4,5)
3. Bridging Facilities (ch. 4)
4. Equity Analysis Requirement
for master planning (ch. 5)
5. Estimated Costs to
Complete the System (ch. 8)
6. Workplan for the Regional
Parks Policy Plan (ch. 9)



Chapter 3: System Plan

- Regional Designations
 - 26 recommended system additions
- Regional Parks System map changes
 - 55 Regional Trails (increase of 6)
 - 8 Planned Regional Trails (decrease of 2)
 - 5 Boundary Adjustments (increase of 4)
 - 7 Regional Park Search Areas (increase of 4)
 - 1 Special Recreation Feature Search Area (increase of 1)
 - 53 Regional Trail Search Corridors (increase of 8)



Chapter 4: Siting and Acquisition Policy

- Boundary Adjustments
 - Major boundary adjustments require a Policy Plan amendment, while minor boundary adjustments can be accomplished through a master plan amendment.
- Bridging Facilities
 - Bridging facilities are designed to prototype new ideas that advance equitable usage, focusing on underserved groups in the Regional Parks System.
 - Update provides greater definition to the concept.



Chapter 9: 2020-2021 Workplan

- Workplan for the Regional Parks Policy Plan
 - Updated to reflect new topics, including new studies, which will be informed by the Council’s work to prepare the 2050 Metropolitan Development Guide.
 - This workplan will continue to evolve over the next four years. Some highlights:
 - Explore development of a land acknowledgement that recognizes and respects Indigenous residents and the histories of the land where our regional parks and trails are located.
 - Conduct a cultural-historical study that describes and documents the impacts inequitable policies have had on the development of the Regional Parks System.
 - Develop a long-term vision for regional trails that explores geographic balance, spacing, equity, character, and natural resource values.

Parks Policy Plan: Next Steps

- Community Development committee: August 17, 2020
- Metropolitan Council: August 26, 2020
 - Draft Regional Parks Policy Plan Amendment will be available on the Council's Parks Policy Plan webpage (<https://metro council.org/Parks/Planning/Parks-Policy-Plan.aspx>): August 26, 2020
- Public Hearing at Community Development Committee: October 19, 2020
- Public Comment Period Closes: October 30, 2020
- Present Parks Policy Plan for approval: December 2020

Public Comment Invitation

- Public Comment Period
 - August 26th – October 30th
- Targeted approach consulting:
 - Youth serving and parks organizations, and the broader public
- All engagement approaches are valuable
 - Sharing information, attending meetings, interactive exchanges



Growing the System



History



Equitable Access



Climate Resilience

Proposed Action

That the Metropolitan Council:

1. Release the 2020 draft amendment to the *2040 Regional Parks Policy Plan* for public comment.
2. Authorize a public comment period from August 26, 2020, to October 30, 2020, including a public hearing to be conducted at 4:00 p.m. on Monday, October 19, 2020, at the regularly scheduled Community Development Committee meeting.

Thank You

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