Parks and Trails Legacy 25-Year Plan
An Overview
Clean Water, Land and Legacy Amendment
November 2008

• Authorized for 25 years: 2009 – 2034
  • Increased state sales tax by 3/8 of one percent
• The Parks and Trails Fund is one of four Legacy Funds
• The three entities charged with Implementing the Parks and Trails Legacy:
  • Minnesota Department of Natural Resources
  • Greater Minnesota Regional Parks and Trails Commission
  • Metropolitan Regional Parks System and the Metropolitan Council
Regional Park Implementing Agencies

- Anoka County
- Carver County
- Dakota County
- Ramsey County
- Scott County
- Washington County
- Bloomington
- Minneapolis Park & Recreation Board
- St. Paul
- Three Rivers Park District
Regional Parks grant programs

- By statute, the Council can give Regional Parks funding only to the Regional Park Implementing Agencies
- Three of the funding sources are formula-driven:
  - Operations and Maintenance funding
  - Parks and Trails Legacy Fund
  - Regional Parks Bonding program
- Park Acquisition Opportunity Fund Program is first come-first served

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Parks and Trails Legacy Fund

- 100% of Legacy Funds passed directly to 10 Regional Park Implementing Agencies as directed by Minn. Stat. § 85.53
  - Formula distribution set in law

- Supports the four pillars of the statewide Parks and Trails Legacy Plan:
  - Connect People and the Outdoors
  - Acquire Land, Create Opportunities
  - Take Care of What We Have
  - Coordinate among Partners

- Previous year's share of total O&M funding: 45.0%
- Population: 31.5%
- Non-local visits: 13.5%
- Set aside for land acquisition: 10.0%
Parks and Trails Legacy Funding Work Group

- Directed by 2019 State Legislature
- Nine person working group
- Develop a consensus recommendation for the future allocation of the parks and trails (Legacy) fund (Minnesota Session Laws – 2019, 1st Special Session)
  - Three members from each
  - DNR
  - Greater Minnesota Regional Parks and Trails Commission
  - Metropolitan Regional Parks System.
- Funding recommendation to be submitted no later than June 15, 2020
- Presented to the governor for consideration in the budget for fiscal years 2022 and 2023, and possibly beyond.
PARKS AND TRAILS LEGACY PLAN

Parks and Trails of State and Regional Significance
A 25-year long-range plan for Minnesota

February 14, 2011
By 2035, connecting all Minnesotans to the outdoors

Parks and Trails Vision for Minnesota

Coon Rapids Dam Regional Park
Anoka County

Dakota Rail Regional Trail
Three Rivers Park District
Four Strategic Directions

1. Connect People and the Outdoors
2. Acquire Land, Develop Opportunities
3. Take Care of What We Have
4. Coordinate Among Partners
1. Connect people and the outdoors

Lake Elmo Park Reserve, Legacy funded swim pond improvements
Washington County
2. Acquire land, develop opportunities

Lake Waconia Regional Park, Carver County

Coney Island of the West
2. Acquire land, develop opportunities
3. Take care of what we have
4. Coordinate among partners

New, coordinated website of state and regional parks and trails
Legislative Coordinating Commission

- Minnesota State Legislative Tracking System for the Legacy Amendment
- Annual reporting on all funds for all projects
- Lots of information on projects and progress
Thank You

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