

# PROPOSED MEASURES FOR THE 2050 REGIONAL PARKS AND TRAIL PLAN



## Regional indicators

These measures describe high-level trends about the Twin Cities metro or region. Regional indicators can provide context on whether—and to what extent—our region’s trends are similar to other places and offer a sense of scale and persistence. These measures reflect the impacts of intersecting “macro” systems and require collective and sustained action to counter or advance. For that reason, it may be difficult to understand what drives change in regional indicator trends without additional analysis or data.

Regional indicators	Policies							Relates to another policy area	Included in regional goal measures
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7		
Estimated visits to Regional Parks and Trails System per capita	X					X			X
Number of lakes in the Regional Parks and Trails System delisted from the impaired waters list		X						X	
Travelsheds by transportation mode to parks and trails				X				X	
Annual funding gap for operations and maintenance							X		

## Regional and Met Council Measures

- Regional Measures:** These measures describe how Met Council’s local partners advance Imagine 2050 goals, objectives, and policies. They may capture work among local governments, regional parks implementing agencies, community organizations, or other organizations or agencies within the region. Regional measures acknowledge that the regional values, visions, and goals described in Imagine 2050 cannot be achieved alone. These measures are often derived from primary data collection efforts led by Met Council, through surveys, plan reviews, and other research methods. The development of these data, as well as their findings, further our understanding of systems change within the region.
- Met Council Measures:** As a large organization with a diverse portfolio of work and roles within the region, Met Council measures highlight how our own grant and investment programs, services and operations, engagement practices, convening and coordinating of partners—among other actions—advance the regional goals and policy direction established in Imagine 2050. Incorporating Met Council measures in the Imagine 2050 Outcomes Measurement Program not only facilitates internal alignment and a clearer communication of our role, it also demonstrates how the Met Council leads by example.

### Cross-Policy measure(s):

- **Net change in park acreage and trail mileage in the regional system.**  
*(Regional measure; speaks to all policies)*

### Policy 1: System Plan

Maintain a robust and current set of data, maps, plans, processes, and applications to support regional parks and trails planning.

#### Proposed measure(s):

- No additional regional measures or Met Council measures identified.

### Policy 2: Natural Systems

Identify lands with high-quality natural features and/or with high restoration potential that are desirable for Regional Parks and Trails System activities and put these lands in a protected status so they will be available for recreational uses and preservation purposes in perpetuity.

#### Proposed measure(s):

- Number of water bodies in the Regional Parks and Trails System that are regularly monitored for water quality. *(Regional measure)*
- Miles of natural and protected shoreline in the Regional Parks and Trails System. *(Regional measure)*

### Policy 3: Climate Resilience

Adapt and enhance the Regional Parks and Trails System to promote resilience to climate change, including the mitigation of greenhouse gas emissions.

#### Proposed measures:

- Metric tons of carbon sequestration for system acquisitions (per square km). *(Regional measure)*

### Policy 4: Planning

Promote long-range planning and help provide integrated resource management across jurisdictions in order to create a seamless system that connects everyone to the outdoors.

#### Proposed measures:

- No additional regional measures or Met Council measures identified.

### Policy 5: System Protection

Protect public investments in acquisition and development by assuring that every component in the system is able to fully carry out its designated role.

#### Proposed measures:

- No additional regional measures or Met Council measures identified.

## Policy 6: Recreation, Facilities, Programming

Foster a sense of belonging by providing a wide spectrum of leisure and play opportunities while connecting people, places, and the natural world.

### Proposed measures:

- Inequities in regional parks and trail visitation, by age, race/ethnicity, gender, and income level. (*Regional measure*)
- Number of regional trail miles funded by Active Transportation grants. (*Met Council measure*)

## Policy 7: Finance

The Met Council administers, provides financial oversight, and collaborates with a range of partners to fund the ten regional park implementing agencies in support of the Regional Parks and Trails System.

### Proposed measures:

- Met Council's Equity Grant Program builds Agencies' capacity to serve marginalized populations. (*Met Council measure*)

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