

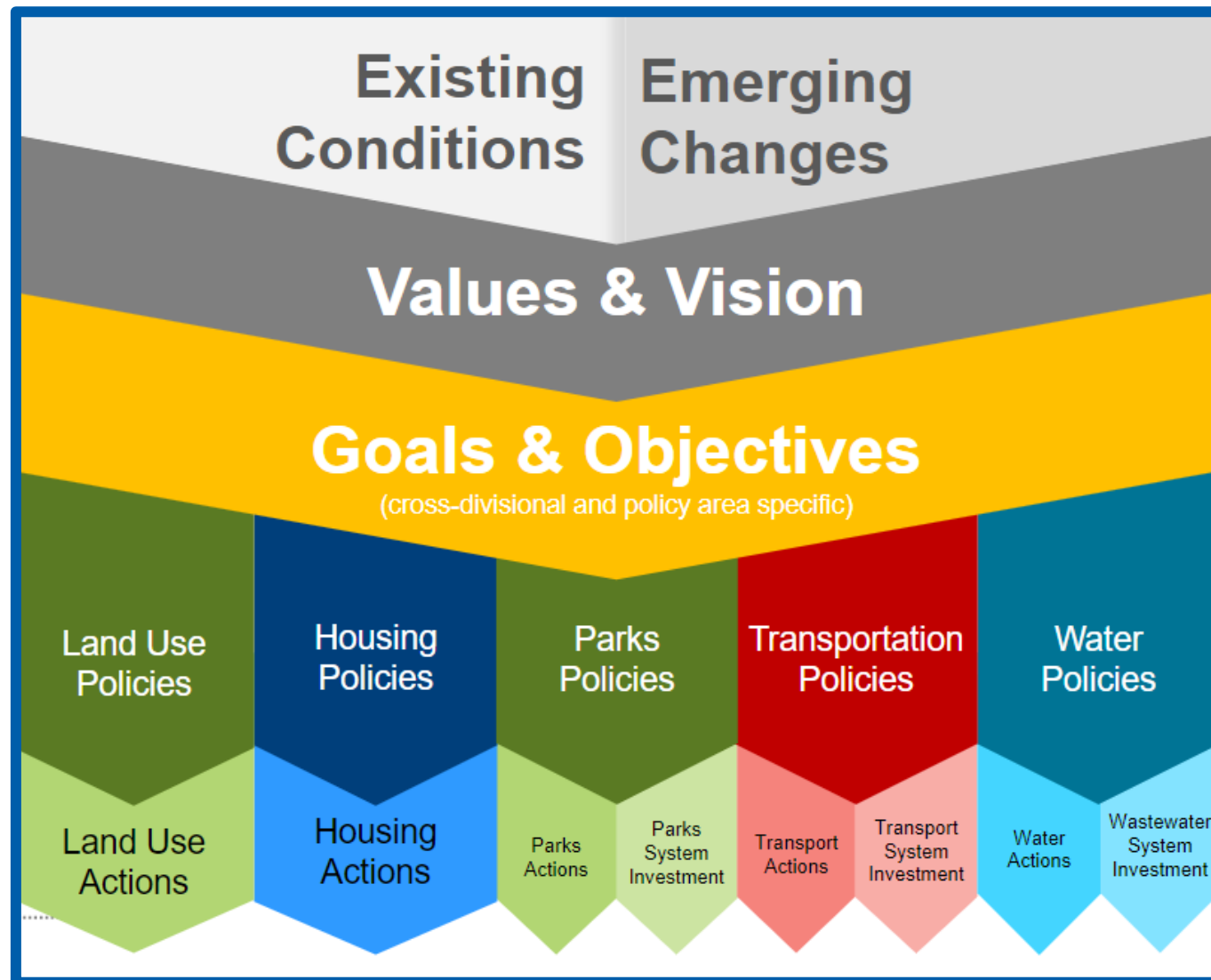
2050 Regional Development Guide & Regional Parks Policy Plan Update

Metropolitan Council meeting

July 26, 2023



Regional Development Guide – Proposed Structure and Definitions



Values

Values are core beliefs or principals that guide the work of the Council, our expectations of partnerships, and our policy and program development.

Vision

Our vision is what we want to achieve for the region through our policies, practices, programs, and partnerships.

Goals

Our goals will broadly describe the desired end states that we want to achieve for the region.

Regional Development Guide – Values

Equity

We value the people and communities of our region.

Leadership

We value those in our region who inspire and motivate others for positive change.

Accountability

We value being effective in our work and achieving measurable outcomes.

Stewardship

We value our region's abundant resources.

**Council endorsed draft values.*



Regional Development Guide – Vision Examples and Goals

Vision Examples

“We envision a healthy, just, and resilient region where future generations thrive and experience new opportunities supported by planning that results in economical services, housing affordability, clean water, thriving ecosystems, and safe, accessible transportation throughout the region.”

“We envision an equitable future where our region’s residents, communities, and economy thrive. Through collaborative leadership and innovative planning, we will deliver of equitable and affordable services and infrastructure; we will confront challenges, including those related to equity and climate change; and we will seize opportunities to ensure the wellbeing of our natural and built environments.”

Goals

Our Region is Equitable and Inclusive

Racial inequities and injustices experienced by historically marginalized communities have been eliminated; and all residents and newcomers feel welcome, included, and empowered.

Our Communities are Healthy and Safe

All our region’s residents live healthy, productive, and rewarding lives with a sense of security, dignity, and wellbeing.

Our Region is Dynamic and Resilient

Our region meets the opportunities and challenges faced by our communities and the economy including issues of choice, accessibility, and affordability.

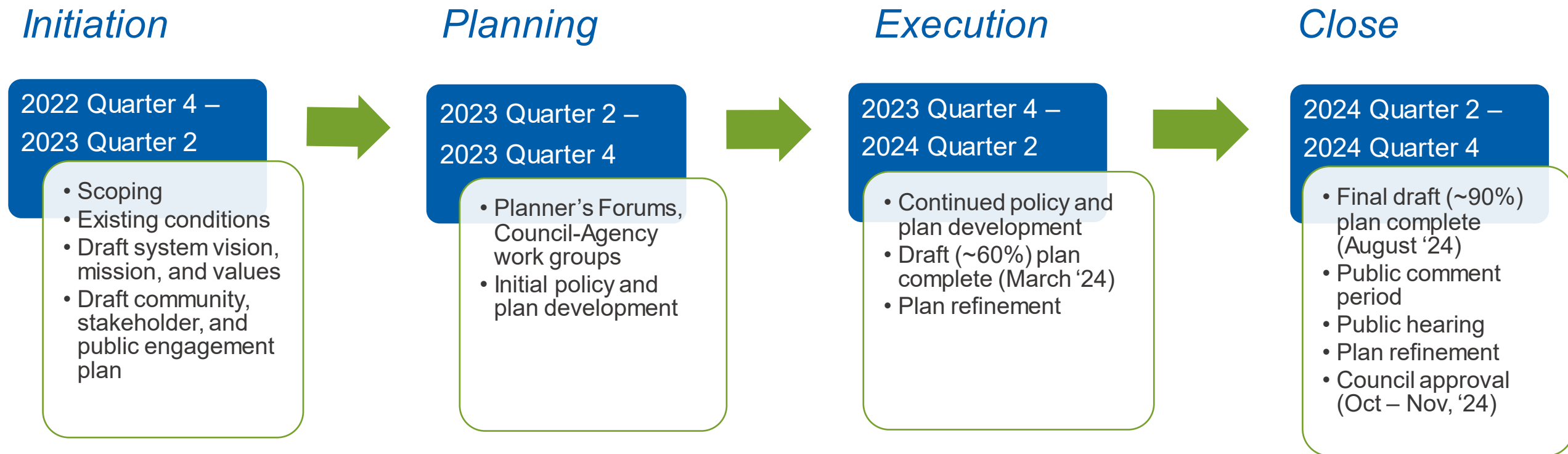
We Lead on Addressing Climate Change

We have mitigated greenhouse gas emissions and have adapted to ensure that our communities and systems are resilient to climate impacts.

We Protect and Restore Natural Systems

We protect, integrate, and restore natural systems to protect habitat and ensure a high quality of life for our region

Regional Parks Policy Plan Timeline



Coordination with the Regional Development Guide Process, Other Council Systems and Policy Areas

Ongoing Engagement: Council Committees, Implementing Agencies, Community Groups, Stakeholders, Public

Initial Agency-Council Policy Plan workgroups

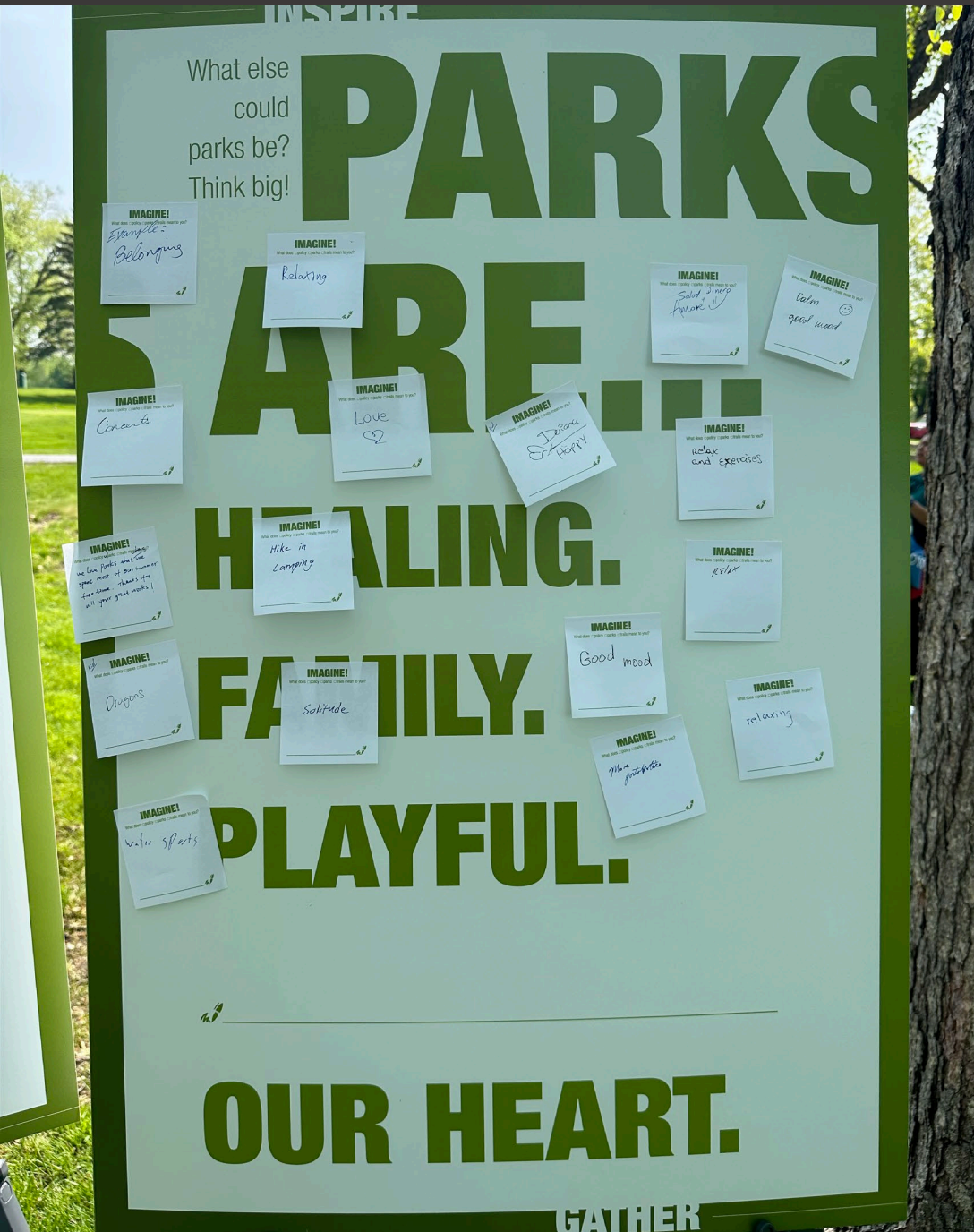
1. Community, Stakeholder and Public Engagement
2. Regional Parks and Trails System Vision, Mission and Values
3. Strategic, Sustainable Funding
4. Recreation Activities and Facilities
5. Park and Trail Plan Requirements, incl. Equity Analysis Requirement
6. System Plan Considerations, incl. Recreation Opportunity Spectrum
7. Regional Trails and Regional Bicycle Transportation Network

2023 Q1-
2023 Q2

2023 Q3 -
2024 Q1



Community, Stakeholder, and Public Engagement workgroup update



Key takeaways

- Support for developing a parks policy-focused engagement plan and community engagement tool
- Recognize different communities communicate and participate differently
- Respect and learn from priority groups' lived experience
- Make policy easier to understand, use plain language
- Draw from agencies' existing plans and reports
- Tap into other areas of engagement like Public Health and Community Services
- Remain flexible

Where we've been, where we're going

Looking back

In-Park Experience and Focus Groups

- Urban Bird Collective – LGBTQ+
- Solcana Fitness – LGBTQ+
- Macalester College, Outdoor club – Youth/Students

Pop-up/Tabling

- Scott County Community & Wellness Fair – Cleary Lake Regional Park
- Ramsey County, Sign Celebration – Keller Regional Park

Looking forward

- Review and synthesize past agency work (e.g., comprehensive and system plans, regional park and trail long-range plans), Youth in Parks Study, Youth Leaders Collaboration findings, etc.
- Four in-park experience and focus groups,
- Pop-up/tabling at community events
- Continue to coordinate with other Council policy areas and systems
- Continue engaging Council committees and key stakeholders
- Public comment period, public hearing

Regional Parks and Trails System Vision, Mission and Values workgroup

Key takeaways

- Support for the workgroup approach.
- Interest in developing system-wide, partnership approach to vision, mission, and value statements; as well as describing the Council's role.
- Vision statements should be short, inspirational.
- Statements should not duplicate one another.
- Education should be considered as a value statement.
- Intentionally connect parks and trails vision, mission, and values to the Council's vision and values for a high-level strategic orientation.
- Maintain the contemporary and futuristic threads.

Vision

- Two statements resonated with the group:
 - Connect community, inspire health and healing, and protect nature.
 - A premier system of connected nature-based parks and trails fostering healthy people, communities and natural systems.

Mission

- “Support,” “partnership, and “interconnected nature-based system of parks and trails” resonated with the workgroup

Values

- Minor modifications to the values of stewardship and education.

Workgroup proposal to Implementing Agency partners: Draft Vision, Mission, and Values

Vision

Together, growing community connections and inspiring health and healing through exceptional outdoor experiences and high-quality natural areas.

Mission

A partnership committed to an interconnected, nature-based parks and trails system, where everyone belongs.

Values

- Collaboration: Recognizing that we are one part of a broader community working together to create regional parks and trails for all. Building strong partnerships is vital to sustaining and living out our values.
- Belonging: Committed to offering processes, spaces and programming that are inclusive, welcoming, safe, and accessible to all individuals.
- Stewardship: Caring for the natural environment today and for future generations.
- Well-being: Knowing that the outdoors is vital for personal and community health.
- Adaptability: Challenging ourselves to grow, by creating a culture of innovation.
- Education: Inspiring learning about outdoor skills, culture, history, and natural systems.

Questions? Advice?

- What are your questions about the Regional Parks Policy Plan update process?
- What advice do you have for Council staff conducting this work?



Thank you!

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