

Metropolitan Parks and Open Space Commission

Meeting date: December 2, 2014

For the Community Development Committee meeting of December 15, 2014

For the Metropolitan Council meeting of January 14, 2015

Subject: Metropolitan Regional Parks System Prioritized Project List for Parks and Trails Legacy Fund --Fiscal Years 2016-17

District(s), Member(s): All

Policy/Legal Reference: Laws of Minnesota 2013, Chapter 137, Article 3, Section 4(o) and MN Statute 85.53, Subd. 3

Staff Prepared/Presented: Arne Stefferud, Manager-Regional Parks and Natural Resources, 651-602-1360

Division/Department: Community Development Division/ Regional Parks and Natural Resources

Proposed Action

That the Metropolitan Council approve the attached Metropolitan Regional Parks System Prioritized Project List for Parks and Trails Legacy Fund--Fiscal Years 2016-17 and submit this list to the chairs and ranking minority members of the Minnesota Senate and House of Representatives committees and divisions with jurisdiction over the environment and natural resources fund and the parks and trails legacy fund.

Background

Laws of MN 2013, Chapter 137, Article 3, Section 4 (o) states:

“By January 15, 2015, the [Metropolitan] council shall submit a list of projects, ranked in priority order, that contains the council's recommendations for funding from the parks and trails [legacy] fund for the 2016 and 2017 biennium to the chairs and ranking minority members of the senate and house of representatives committees and divisions with jurisdiction over the environment and natural resources and the parks and trails [legacy] fund.”

This memorandum provides background information on the legislative history of the Parks and Trails Legacy Fund and explains how the prioritized list of projects was prepared in accordance with applicable state law and the 2030 Regional Parks Policy Plan.

Legislative History of Parks and Trails Legacy Fund

In 2008, the Minnesota Constitution was amended to increase the state sales tax by three-eighths of one percent. Revenue from this tax increase was dedicated to four funds—generically called the “Clean Water, Land and Legacy Funds”. One fund, called the Parks and Trails Legacy Fund, may only be spent to support parks and trails of regional or statewide significance. The Parks and Trails Legacy Fund receives 14.25% of the sales tax increase. The money dedicated in this Fund is appropriated by law. The appropriations from the Parks and Trails



Legacy Fund must supplement traditional sources of funding and may not be used as a substitute. [MN Constitution Article XI, Section 15].

In 2009, MN Statute 85.53 was adopted which governs how appropriations from the Parks and Trails Legacy Fund should be managed. Subdivision 3 of that law says:

“Money appropriated from the parks and trails [legacy] fund to the Metropolitan Council shall be distributed to implementing agencies, as defined in section 473.351, subdivision 1, paragraph (a), as grants according to the following formula:

(1) 45 percent of the money must be disbursed according to the allocation formula in section 473.351, subdivision 3, to each implementing agency;

(2) 31.5 percent of the money must be distributed based on each implementing agency’s relative share of the most recent estimate of the population of the metropolitan area;

(3) 13.5 percent of the money must be distributed based on each implementing agency’s relative share of nonlocal visits based on the most recent user visitation survey conducted by the Metropolitan Council; and

(4) ten percent of the money must be distributed as grants to implementing agencies for land acquisition within Metropolitan Council approved regional parks and trails master plan boundaries under the council’s park acquisition opportunity grant program. The Metropolitan Council must provide a match of \$2 of the council’s park bonds for every \$3 of state funds for the park acquisition opportunity grant program.”

In accordance with the formula described above, the Council has disbursed the Parks and Trails Legacy Fund appropriations as grants to the regional park implementing agencies to support the Regional Parks System. The grants have financed the following activities:

- land acquisition of parcels within Metro Council approved park and trail master plans
- redevelopment of existing park and trail facilities and natural resource restoration
- development of new park and trail facilities
- staffing costs for environmental educators, volunteer/resource coordinators, park programmer, and Minnesota Conservation Corps workers
- operating the shuttle bus service at Como Regional Park
- preparing master plans for regional parks and trails

Legislative debates on appropriating Parks and Trails Legacy Fund money have focused on how much of the appropriation should be given to the State Parks and Trails System, Metropolitan Regional Parks and Trails System and as grants for regional parks and trails in Greater Minnesota. 2011 session law called for the Commissioner of Natural Resources to convene a nine member working group comprised of representatives for these parks and trails to develop consensus recommendations on allocating Parks and Trails Legacy Fund appropriations between these park and trail systems for the Fiscal Years 2014-15 biennium. [Laws of MN 2011, First Special Session, Chapter 6, Article 3, Section 3(f)]

The working group recommended the following allocation of Parks and Trails Legacy Fund appropriations to the park and trail systems for Fiscal Years 2014-15, 2016-17 and 2018-19 biennia:

- 40% State Parks and Trails System
- 40% Metropolitan Regional Parks and Trails System
- 20% Greater Minnesota Regional Parks and Trails ¹

The Legislature and Governor followed that recommendation in 2013 when they crafted and approved appropriations for the Fiscal Years 2014-15 biennium.

The Legislature also passed a law in 2013 to create a Greater Minnesota Regional Parks and Trails Commission. The commission’s purpose is to conduct system planning and provide recommendations to the legislature for grants funded by the Parks and Trails Legacy Fund. The grants are awarded to counties and cities outside the seven county metropolitan area to support parks and trails of regional significance. [Laws of MN 2013, Chapter 137, Article 4, section 8]

How prioritized list of projects was prepared

Staff from the Metropolitan Council, MN Dept. of Natural Resources and the Greater Minnesota Regional Parks and Trails Commission collaborated with Minnesota Management and Budget staff to determine the Fiscal Year 2016-17 revenue that could be appropriated from the Parks and Trails Legacy Fund account. Based on that revenue projection and applying the 40%-40%-20% allocation recommendation described above, the following amounts were used to develop Parks and Trails Legacy Fund appropriation requests as depicted in Table 1 below.

Table 1: Fiscal Years 2016-2017 Parks and Trails Legacy Fund Requests

Entity	Fiscal Year 2016	Fiscal Year 2017	Percent of Total
State Parks and Trails System	\$17,310,000	\$18,109,000	40%
Metropolitan Regional Parks and Trails System	\$17,310,000	\$18,109,000	40%
Greater Minnesota Regional Parks and Trails	\$8,655,000	\$9,054,500	20%
Total	\$43,275,000	\$45,272,500	

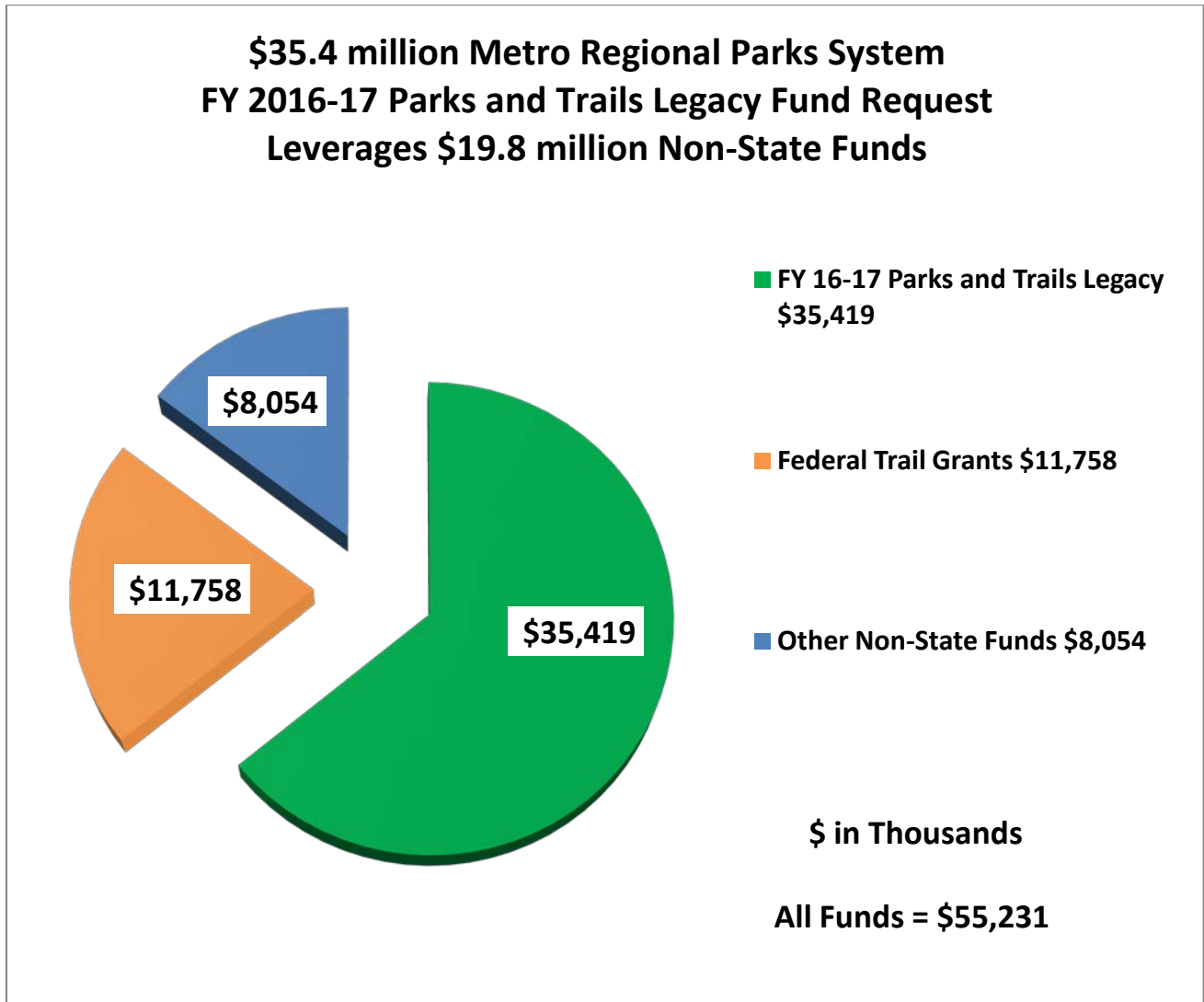
¹ Environmental Initiative, *Parks and Trails Legacy Funding Project, Recommendations from the Work Group to the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources*, November 2012, p. 4

Metropolitan Council staff then calculated the distribution of the Fiscal Year 2016 and 2017 appropriations to each regional park implementing agency based on the formula in MN Statute 85.53, Subd. 3. The results are shown in Table 2: Fiscal Years 2016-17 Parks and Trails Legacy Fund Allocations for Metro Regional Park Implementing Agencies.

Table 2: Fiscal Years 2016-17 Parks and Trails Legacy Fund Allocations For Metro Regional Park Implementing Agencies				
	Park Agency Allocations based on formula in MS 85.53, Subd. 3			
Metro Regional Park Implementing Agency	FY 2016 (\$ 000s)	FY 2017 (\$ 000s)	FY 2016-17 Total (\$ 000s)	Park Agency Allocation %
Anoka County Parks and Recreation	\$ 1,444	\$ 1,510	\$ 2,954	9.3%
City of Bloomington Parks and Recreation	\$ 285	\$ 298	\$ 583	1.8%
Carver County Parks	\$ 323	\$ 338	\$ 661	2.1%
Dakota County Parks	\$ 1,191	\$ 1,246	\$ 2,437	7.6%
Mpls. Park & Recreation Board	\$ 3,304	\$ 3,456	\$ 6,760	21.2%
Ramsey County Parks and Recreation	\$ 1,380	\$ 1,444	\$ 2,824	8.9%
City of St. Paul Parks and Recreation	\$ 2,438	\$ 2,551	\$ 4,989	15.7%
Scott County Parks and Recreation	\$ 578	\$ 604	\$ 1,182	3.7%
Three Rivers Park District	\$ 3,785	\$ 3,960	\$ 7,745	24.3%
Washington County Parks	\$ 851	\$ 891	\$ 1,742	5.5%
Park Agency Allocations Total	\$ 15,579	\$ 16,298	\$ 31,877	100.0%
10% for Park Acquisition Opportunity Grants Disbursed Under Rules for Park Acquisition Opportunity Grants	\$ 1,731	\$ 1,811	\$ 3,542	
Total Budget	\$ 17,310	\$ 18,109	\$ 35,419	

The regional park implementing agencies submitted a prioritized list of projects that supported regional parks and trails they managed. The total amount for their projects equaled the amount shown in Table 1. The cumulative list of projects is shown in **Metropolitan Regional Parks System Prioritized Project List for Parks and Trails Legacy Fund--Fiscal Years 2016-17**. The list begins on page 7 of this memorandum.

The \$35.4 million Parks and Trails Legacy Fund request would leverage \$19.8 million of non-State funds for a total public investment of \$55.2 million as shown in this chart.



Rationale

To comply with Laws of MN 2013, Chapter 137, Article 3, Section 4 (o) the Metropolitan Council must submit a list of projects, ranked in priority order, that contains the council's recommendations for funding from the Parks and Trails Legacy Fund for the 2016 and 2017 biennium to the chairs and ranking minority members of the senate and house of representatives committees and divisions with jurisdiction over the environment and natural resources and the parks and trails legacy fund.

Accepting the project priorities of the park agencies for their portion of the list is based on the following reasons:

1. The 2030 Regional Parks Policy Plan does not have criteria for the Metropolitan Council to prioritize funding requests from the regional park implementing agencies. The 2030 Regional Parks Policy Plan states, "Projects proposed by each regional park implementing agency are prioritized by that agency. Each park agency has unique capital needs, which that park agency can best determine." [2030 Regional Parks Policy Plan, page 4-90]

Instead of criteria to prioritize funding requests, the 2030 Regional Parks Policy Plan includes formulas to determine the amount each park agency would receive from State appropriations and Metro Council bonds that finance grants to the park agencies. The 2030 Policy Plan recognizes that the Parks and Trails Legacy Fund appropriations to the Metropolitan Council must be disbursed to the regional park agencies using the formula in MN Statute 85.53, Subd.

3. That formula was used to determine the amount for each park agency shown in Table 2: Fiscal Years 2016-17 Parks and Trails Legacy Fund Allocations for Metro Regional Park Implementing Agencies.

If less money is appropriated than the total shown in Table 2, each regional park implementing agency would receive their percentage allocation share of the appropriation as shown in Table 2. They must spend the appropriation on their projects in priority order. Consequently the park agency's highest priority project(s) are assured funding with lower priority projects deferred to a future biennium.

2. The 2013 session law requesting Metropolitan Council recommendations for a prioritized list of projects to be funded with Fiscal Year 2016-17 Parks and Trails Legacy Fund appropriations was passed after the 2030 Regional Parks Policy Plan was adopted. As noted in point 1, the prioritization of funding requests for projects is determined by the regional park implementing agency—not the Metropolitan Council under the 2030 Regional Parks Policy Plan.

Funding

The money to finance the appropriation is from the Parks and Trails Legacy Fund.

Known Support / Opposition

The prioritized project list complies with applicable State law and Council policy. There is no known opposition to approving the project list and submitting it to the Legislature as required by Laws of MN 2013, Chapter 137, Article 3, Section 4 (o).

Metropolitan Regional Parks System Prioritized Project List for Parks and Trails Legacy Fund--Fiscal Years 2016-17

Agency Name		Anoka County Parks and Recreation				
Staff Contact		Jeff Perry / Karen Blaska				
email:		jeff.perry@co.anoka.mn.us karen.blaska@co.anoka.mn.us				
Park Agency Priority	Park, Trail or Project Name	Project Description and Outcomes	FY 2016 (\$000's)	FY 2017 (\$000's)	Federal Trail Grant Leveraged (\$000's)	Other Non-State Funds (\$000's)
FY 2016 and 2017, Priority 1	Anoka County Riverfront Regional Park	Redevelop roadway, parking lots and trails, building enhancements, maintenance facility improvements, boat launch improvements, disc golf installation, natural resource restoration, signs, site furnishings, utilities, fees and contingencies. Project will enhance visitor experience and provide additional outdoor recreation opportunities. Park had 206,000 visits in 2013.	\$ 954	\$ 927		
FY 2016 and 2017, Priority 2	Anoka County Regional Parks & Trail System	Continue the Conservation Corps of MN contract for work throughout the regional parks & trails system. System had 3,178,000 total visits in 2013.	\$ 140	\$ 145		
FY 2016, Priority 3	Rice Creek Chain of Lakes Park Reserve	Improvements to the Rice Creek Maintenance Shop renovations and campground support facility improvements to improve maintenance and operations efficiencies and improve visitor experience in park. Park had 351,000 visits in 2013.	\$ 350			
FY 2017, Priority 3	Mississippi River Regional Trail	Reimbursement to the Cities of Anoka & Ramsey for costs to construct extension of Mississippi River Regional Trail from Anoka to Mississippi West Regional Park. This extends the trail 2 miles west. The trail had 116,000 visits in 2013.		\$ 340		
FY 2017, Priority 4	Bunker Hills Regional Park	Digital sign construction costs for Bunker Hills Regional Park south entrance. The park had 612,000 visits in 2013.		\$ 98		
Anoka County Parks and Recreation Totals			\$ 1,444	\$ 1,510	\$ -	\$ -

Metropolitan Regional Parks System Prioritized Project List for Parks and Trails Legacy Fund--Fiscal Years 2016-17

Agency Name		City of Bloomington Parks and Recreation				
Staff Contact		Randy Quale				
email:		rquale@BloomingtonMN.gov				
Park Agency Priority	Park, Trail or Project Name	Project Description and Outcomes	FY 2016 (\$000's)	FY 2017 (\$000's)	Federal Trail Grant Leveraged (\$000's)	Other Non-State Funds (\$000's)
FY 2016 and 2017, Priority 1	Hyland-Bush-Anderson Lakes Regional Park Reserve	Partial funding to reconstruct parking lots, driveways, parking lot lighting, boat ramp improvements and associated storm water improvements at the Hyland-Bush-Anderson Lakes Regional Park Reserve.	\$ 285	\$ 298		
City of Bloomington Parks and Recreation Totals			\$ 285	\$ 298	\$ -	\$ -

Metropolitan Regional Parks System Prioritized Project List for Parks and Trails Legacy Fund--Fiscal Years 2016-17

Agency Name		Carver County Parks Department				
Staff Contact		Marty Walsh				
email:		mwalsh@co.carver.mn.us				
Park Agency Priority	Park, Trail or Project Name	Project Description and Outcomes	FY 2016 (\$000's)	FY 2017 (\$000's)	Federal Trail Grant Leveraged (\$000's)	Other Non-State Funds (\$000's)
FY 2016, Priority 1	Recreation and Volunteer Specialist, all Regional Parks in Carver County	Continue Recreation and Volunteer Specialist position initiated in 2014 to develop and implement recreation and volunteer programs. Engage 3,000 park visitors through 90 programs provided in the County Regional Parks in outreach programming. Legacy funds will leverage \$42,000 in County General funds.	\$ 32			\$ 42
FY 2016, Priority 2	Extension of the MN River Bluffs Regional Trail	Design, engineer, construct 2.1 miles of paved trail between cities of Chaska and Carver, construct a pedestrian bridge and trailhead to service 131,000 annual user visits.	\$ 291		\$ 551	
FY 2017, Priority 1	Recreation and Volunteer Specialist, all Regional Parks in Carver County	Continue Recreation and Volunteer Specialist position initiated in 2014 to develop and implement recreation and volunteer programs. Engage 3,300 park visitors through 100 programs provided in the County Regional Parks in outreach programming. Legacy funds will leverage \$44,000 in County General funds.		\$ 34		\$ 44
FY 2017, Priority 2	Extension of the MN River Bluffs Regional Trail	Design, engineer, construct 1.3 miles of paved trail between County Road 61 and Bluff Creek Drive to service 131,000 user visits.		\$ 170	\$ 272	
FY 2017, Priority 3	Lake Minnewashta Park Trail, Dakota Rail Regional Trail	Crack seal and seal coat 1.5 miles of trail at Lake Minnewashta Regional Park and 3.4 miles of trail on the Dakota Rail Regional Trail. This maintains user satisfaction of 164,000 visits, and 107,000 visits annually to Lake Minnewashta Regional Park and the Dakota Rail Regional Trail respectively.		\$ 134		
Carver County Parks Department Totals			\$ 323	\$ 338	\$ 823	\$ 86

Metropolitan Regional Parks System Prioritized Project List for Parks and Trails Legacy Fund--Fiscal Years 2016-17

Agency Name		Dakota County Parks				
Staff Contact		Steve Sullivan - Parks Director				
email:		steve.sullivan@co.dakota.mn.us				
Park Agency Priority	Park, Trail or Project Name	Project Description and Outcomes	FY 2016 (\$000's)	FY 2017 (\$000's)	Federal Trail Grant Leveraged (\$000's)	Other Non-State Funds (\$000's)
FY 2016, Priority 1	Mississippi River Regional Trail - Rosemount West Segment	Design, engineer and construct 2 miles of Mississippi River Regional Trail from 117th Street E. to Pine Bend Trail in Rosemount. Annual visitation: 70,900.	\$ 370		\$ 1,440	\$ 270
FY 2016 Priority 2, FY 2017 Priority 1	North Urban Regional Trail - Hwy. 110 Segment	Design, engineer and construct a short segment of the North Urban Regional Trail including grade separated crossing at Hwy 110 and Dodd Road intersection and connection to Valley Park. Annual visitation: 20,700.	\$ 475	\$ 245	\$ 1,040	\$ 160
FY 2016, Priority 3	Vermillion River Greenway- Hastings Segment	Design, engineer and construct a regional greenway from the Mississippi River Regional Trail to the Vermillion River through the City of Hastings.	\$ 180		\$ 720	
FY 2016, Priority 4	Dakota County Regional Parks and Greenways	Natural resource management, stewardship, restoration and improvements throughout the park and greenway system per master plans. Annual visitation: 1,038,000	\$ 100			\$ 50
FY 2017, Priority 2	Minnesota River Regional Greenway - Eagan Segment	Design, engineer and construct 2 miles of trail adjacent to Hwy 13 from I-494 to approximately Lone Oak Road		\$ 210	\$ 560	\$ 70
FY 2017, Priority 3	Mississippi River Regional Trail - Pine Bend Trailhead	Design, engineer and construct parking lot and restroom trailhead for Mississippi River Regional Trail in Pine Bend SNA in Inver Grove Heights. Annual visitation: 70,900		\$ 410	\$ 400	\$ 75
FY 2017, Priority 4	North Creek Greenway Apple Valley Segment.	Design, engineer and construct tunnel to provide grade separated crossing of regional greenway to 157th Street in Apple Valley.		\$ 160	\$ 615	
FY 2016 and 2017, Priority 5	Dakota County Regional Parks and Greenways	Natural resource management, stewardship, restoration and improvements throughout the regional park and greenway system per master plans.	\$ 66	\$ 221		
Dakota County Parks Department Totals			\$ 1,191	\$ 1,246	\$ 4,775	\$ 625

Metropolitan Regional Parks System Prioritized Project List for Parks and Trails Legacy Fund--Fiscal Years 2016-17

		Agency Name	Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board			
		Staff Contact	Jennifer B. Ringold			
		email:	jringold@minneapolisparcs.org			
Park Agency Priority	Park, Trail or Project Name	Project Description and Outcomes	FY 2016 (\$000's)	FY 2017 (\$000's)	Federal Trail Grant Leveraged (\$000's)	Other Non-State Funds (\$000's)
FY 2016, Priority 1	Minneapolis Chain of Lakes Regional Park	Design and construct trail, shoreline, water access, picnic, shoreline and concessions improvements throughout park. Park had 5,094,400 visits in 2013.	\$ 3,054			
FY 2016 Priority 2, FY 2017 Priority 1	Mississippi River Gorge Regional Park	At Bohemian Flats, design and implement park improvements that include boat access, restroom accommodations, picnic areas, trails, shoreline restoration, and way finding. Park had 1,250,600 visits in 2013.	\$ 250	\$ 3,456		
Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board Totals			\$ 3,304	\$ 3,456	\$ -	\$ -

Metropolitan Regional Parks System Prioritized Project List for Parks and Trails Legacy Fund--Fiscal Years 2016-17

Agency Name		Ramsey County Parks and Recreation				
Staff Contact		Scott Yonke				
email:		Scott.Yonke@Co.Ramsey.MN.US				
Park Agency Priority	Park, Trail or Project Name	Project Description and Outcomes	FY 2016 (\$000's)	FY 2017 (\$000's)	Federal Trail Grant Leveraged (\$000's)	Other Non-State Funds (\$000's)
FY 2016 and 2017, Priority 1	Bald Eagle Otter Lake Regional Park	Continue to support a volunteer corps for the Tamarack Nature Center and Discovery Hollow (aka. Destination for Discovery). *(In 2013, Tamarack had a total of 286 volunteers who contributed 5,458 hours).	\$ 60	\$ 60		
FY 2016 and 2017, Priority 2	Ramsey County Regional Parks and Trails System	Continue contracts with Conservation Corps of Minnesota (CCM) to engage youth of the community in natural resource management projects throughout Ramsey County Regional Parks and Trails. *(In 2013 the Conservation Corp of Minnesota (CCM) worked on over 20 different natural resource projects within the Regional Park and Trails System, totaling over 5,900 hours. Of those total hours, approximately, 1,300 hours were assisting high school youth on natural resource projects and environmental education).	\$ 110	\$ 110		
FY 2016 and 2017, Priority 3	Ramsey County Regional Parks and Trails System	Develop and implement out-reach for nature and outdoor recreation based programming for people of low income and color throughout Ramsey County Regional Parks and Trails. *(Measure increase in nature and outdoor based programming and participants of low income and color) .	\$ 130	\$ 130		
FY 2016 and 2017, Priority 4	Bald Eagle Otter Lake Regional Park	Design and construction of Tamarack Nature Center Campus Site and Infrastructure consisting of parking lot and roadway redevelopment, storm water management, pedestrian connections, landscape restoration, signage, and other site amenities at Bald Eagle-Otter Lakes Regional Park; supplement construction cost for Early Childhood Learning Center Project; supplement construction cost for the Tamarack Nature Center Interior Remodel project. *(There were 99,352 visits to the Tamarack Nature Center in Bald Eagle Otter Lake Regional Park in 2013).	\$ 940	\$ 194		
FY 2016, Priority 5	Vadnais - Snail Lakes Regional Park	Design and construct fishing nodes along Sucker Lake Channel, improve pedestrian connections, landscape restoration, and signage. Legacy funds will leverage non-state funds provided by the Vadnais Lake Area Water Management Organization (VLAWMO) for fishing node development and landscape restoration. *(There were 746,300 visits to the Vadnais-Snail Lakes Regional Park in 2013).	\$ 30			\$ 60

Metropolitan Regional Parks System Prioritized Project List for Parks and Trails Legacy Fund--Fiscal Years 2016-17

Ramsey County Parks and Recreation, page 2						
Park Agency Priority	Park, Trail or Project Name	Project Description and Outcomes	FY 2016 (\$000's)	FY 2017 (\$000's)	Federal Trail Grant Leveraged (\$000's)	Other Non-State Funds (\$000's)
FY 2016, Priority 6	Ramsey County Regional Parks and Trails System	Preparation of a System-wide Off Leash Dog Area (O.L.D.A.) Master Plan that will identify and prioritize future capital projects at the Battle Creek O.L.D.A, Battle Creek Regional Park; Otter Lake O.L.D.A., Bald Eagle Otter Lake Regional Park; Rice Creek O.L.D.A., Rice Creek North Corridor. *(2013 Park Visits; Bald Eagle Otter Lake, 333,600 visits; Battle Creek Regional Park, 761,900 visits; and Grass Vadnais Snail Lakes Regional Park, 746,300 visits).	\$ 50			
FY 2016, Priority 7	Ramsey County Regional Parks and Trails System	Way finding - Supplement Way finding implementation costs for cross-country ski trails at Battle Creek Regional Park, Tamarack Nature Center, and Grass-Vadnais-Snail Lakes Regional Park. *(2013 winter visits; Bald Eagle Otter Lake, 21,800 visits; Battle Creek Regional Park, 62,600 visits; and Grass Vadnais Snail Lakes Regional Park, 62,100 visits).	\$ 25			
FY 2016, Priority 8	Battle Creek Regional Park	Develop a mountain bike trail master plan and initiate implementation of mountain bike trail improvements consistent with the master plan. *(There were 761,900 visits to Battle Creek Regional Park in 2013).	\$ 35			
FY 2017, Priority 5	Battle Creek Regional Park	Redevelop the existing playground in the Upper Afton section of Battle Creek Regional Park consisting of playground equipment replacement, playground container improvements, replace safety surface material, improved pedestrian connection from the picnic pavilion, landscape enhancement at the playground and picnic pavilion, and signage. *(There were 761,300 visits to Battle Creek Regional Park in 2013).		\$ 150		
FY 2017, Priority 6	Rice Creek North Regional Trail	Phase 1 design and development improvements for a new trailhead facility south of Co. Rd. I consisting of bituminous and natural surface trails, trailhead building with restrooms, entrance road and parking lot development, cross country ski staging area and trails, signage, storm water management, habitat restoration, landscape enhancements and improved canoe/kayak access to Rice Creek. *(There were 196,200 visits to the Rice Creek North Regional in 2013).		\$ 800		
Ramsey County Parks and Recreation Totals			\$ 1,380	\$ 1,444	\$ -	\$ 60

Metropolitan Regional Parks System Prioritized Project List for Parks and Trails Legacy Fund--Fiscal Years 2016-17

		Agency Name	Scott County Parks and Recreation			
		Staff Contact	Mark Themig			
		email:	mthemig@co.scott.mn.us			
Park Agency Priority	Park, Trail or Project Name	Project Description and Outcomes	FY 2016 (\$000's)	FY 2017 (\$000's)	Federal Trail Grant Leveraged (\$000's)	Other Non-State Funds (\$000's)
FY 2016 and 2017, Priority 1	Cedar Lake Farm Regional Park	Implement Phase 1 development of Cedar Lake Farm Regional Park, including trail construction, installation of park amenities, improvements to buildings, natural resource restoration and enhancement, and infrastructure. Cedar Lake Farm has been opened seasonally since 2009 and serves approximately 27,000 visitors.	\$ 278	\$ 604		
FY 2016, Priority 2	Spring Lake Regional Park	Construct segment of planned trail system and implement natural resource wetland restoration and enhancement work in collaboration with the Shakopee Mdewakanton Sioux Community, City of Prior Lake, and the Prior Lake-Spring Lake Watershed District. Spring Lake Regional Park opened for use in October 2012 and provides 59,000 visitations. This project will leverage funds from our partner agencies.	\$ 300			\$ 270
Scott County Parks and Recreation Totals			\$ 578	\$ 604	\$ -	\$ 270

Metropolitan Regional Parks System Prioritized Project List for Parks and Trails Legacy Fund--Fiscal Years 2016-17

Agency Name		City of St. Paul Parks and Recreation				
Staff Contact		Jody Martinez				
email:		Jody.Martinez@ci.stpaul.mn.us				
Park Agency Priority	Park, Trail or Project Name	Project Description and Outcomes	FY 2016 (\$000's)	FY 2017 (\$000's)	Federal Trail Grant Leveraged (\$000's)	Other Non-State Funds (\$000's)
FY 2016 and 2017, Priority 1	Education Coordinator	Education Coordinator position: To continue the program initiated in 2010 with Legacy funds to develop and implement activities such as classes, citizen science surveys, field labs, hands-on nature study programs, and interpretive tours. Environmental Education program to engage 1,000 community members in Regional Parks annually.	\$ 70	\$ 70		
FY 2016 and 2017, Priority 2	Volunteer Coordinator	Natural Resources Volunteer Program: To continue the program initiated in 2010 with Legacy funds for 1 FTE to recruit, coordinate, and lead Natural Resource Volunteers in habitat restoration, environmental education and garden maintenance and for up to 3% to be used for program supplies. The Natural Resources Volunteer program will engage 5,000 community volunteers annually.	\$ 67	\$ 67		
FY 2016 and 2017, Priority 3	Como Regional Park -Shuttle	Provide access and more convenient parking at an off-site parking lot with front door service to over 40,000 park users each year. Increase average weekday users by 25% and weekend users by 10%. Helps alleviate congestion, parking, and pollution problems associated with excessive auto traffic. Como hosts approximately 4,476,000 visits annually.	\$ 100	\$ 100		
FY 2016 and 2017, Priority 4	Great River Passage Division	Operating budget for new division, focus on implementing the Great River Passage (GRP) Master Plan thru an equity lens. Includes implementation and management of the GRP Master Plan, which covers 17 miles and over 3,500 acres of Mississippi River lands in St. Paul. Goals include achieving annual visit increases by underserved demographic groups to GRP regional parks. Equity initiatives include innovative public engagement, areas for cultural activities, training for participation in natural resource based activities, programs, and multi-modal access. Management will include protection and restoration of natural areas, bluffs and slopes.	\$ 165	\$ 165		Funding from private foundations (McKnight and McNeely foundations) to be sought as match
FY 2016 and 2017, Priority 5	Indian Mounds Regional Park	Continue Implementation of adopted Master Plan to include a splash pad (small artistic interactive water feature with year-round interest.) Indian Mounds hosts approximately 344,000 visits annually, including 13% of both African Americans and Asians, and 3% Native Americans.	\$ 135	\$ 539		

Metropolitan Regional Parks System Prioritized Project List for Parks and Trails Legacy Fund--Fiscal Years 2016-17

City of St. Paul Parks and Recreation, page 2						
Park Agency Priority	Park, Trail or Project Name	Project Description and Outcomes	FY 2016 (\$000's)	FY 2017 (\$000's)	Federal Trail Grant Leveraged (\$000's)	Other Non-State Funds (\$000's)
FY 2016, Priority 6	Lilydale Regional Park-Phase III	Continue Implementation of adopted park master plan: Complete road & utility construction from the end of Phase II to the Harriet Island area (2,800 lineal feet). Lilydale hosts approximately 786,000 visits annually, of which approximately 10% are of Asian descent.	\$ 1,200			
FY 2016, Priority 7	Phalen Regional Park	Continue implementation of the adopted RP Master Plan: Perform a traffic study of four intersections, traffic counts, circulation patterns, and parking access /layout at 9 parking lots to provide a framework for improving access and circulation for the roughly 1 million annual visitors, with approximately 64% of users being of Asian background.	\$ 82			
FY 2016, Priority 8	Phalen Regional Park	Continue implementation of the adopted RP Master Plan: Perform necessary aesthetic upgrades to the Beach House focused on improved bathroom/ changing rooms, concessions, staff space, storage, and seating areas. These improvements will update the facility appearance and serve the beach and splash pad users.	\$ 619			
FY 2017, Priority 6	Como Regional Park	Completion of an important Como RP access road, Estabrook Drive, and related infrastructure, lighting, landscape restoration. Park hosts approximately 4,476,000 visits annually, representing people from many backgrounds.		\$ 310		
FY 2017, Priority 7	Hidden Falls/Crosby Farm Regional Park	Master Plan Amendment required to update the 1970's master plan: Implement a master plan amendment as outlined in the Met Council 2030 Plan under master plan process. Use the adopted Great River Passage Master Plan as a base plan to start with.		\$ 150		
FY 2017, Priority 8	Lilydale Regional Park - Phase IV	Continue Implementation of adopted master plan: Pickerel Clearing area including restroom, shelter, and associated site improvements		\$ 800		
FY 2017, Priority 9	Cherokee Regional Park	Reconstruction of the 3,800 SF Cherokee Regional Park Play Area to provide active play opportunities for children between the ages of 2-12. Cherokee Regional Park receives approximately 340,000 visits per year, approximately 10% of which are of Hispanic background.		\$ 350		
City of St. Paul Parks and Recreation Totals			\$ 2,438	\$ 2,551	\$ -	\$ -

Metropolitan Regional Parks System Prioritized Project List for Parks and Trails Legacy Fund--Fiscal Years 2016-17

	Agency Name	Three Rivers Park District				
	Staff Contact	Jonathan Vlaming				
	email:	JVlaming@threeriversparkdistrict.org				
Park Agency Priority	Park, Trail or Project Name	Project Description and Outcomes	FY 2016 (\$000's)	FY 2017 (\$000's)	Federal Trail Grant Leveraged (\$000's)	Other Non-State Funds (\$000's)
FY 2016, Priority 1	Nine Mile Creek Regional Trail - East Edina Segment	Complete eastern Edina portion of the 17-mile Nine Mile Creek Regional Trail that travels through Hopkins, Minnetonka, Edina, Richfield and Bloomington. The specific project is for the segment of trail from Tracy Avenue near Edina High School in Edina over to the intersection of Xerxes and 75th on the Edina/Richfield border. The project involves construction of approximately 4 miles of trail and boardwalks on public land, and a major bridge crossing of Highway 100. With the completion of this segment, there will be one remaining gap - from Tracy Avenue west to Hwy 169. When the trail is fully open, the projected annual use is 400,000 visits. With regard to equity, the completed trail will provide direct access to a Racially Concentrated Area of Poverty (RCAP) in eastern Richfield, direct access to affordable housing in the Southdale area, and will provide access to two LRT lines as well as several major employment nodes in Bloomington, Richfield, Edina and Minnetonka. The projected total cost for this trail segment is \$13.58 million in 2015 dollars. Three Rivers has obtained a federal grant for \$6.16 million to help pay for this project. The remainder will be funded through 2014 and 2015 Legacy grants and local funds.	\$ 3,785		\$ 6,160	\$ 694
FY 2017, Priority 1	French Regional Park	Fund stewardship projects at Clifton French Regional Park in Plymouth. The stewardship projects focus on upgrading facilities that have reached their normal end-of-life. Project improvements include a new Creative Play Area, complete rebuild of parking lots and roads, and complete rebuild of all paved trails. Total project costs are estimated at \$5,950,000 in 2017 dollars. The existing Creative Play Area is very popular, with over 100,000 visits each year. Design of the new play area will include significant community outreach, including targeted equity markets. French Park had 537,500 visits in 2013, and that use reflects the diverse population within the park's service area.		\$ 3,960	\$ -	\$ 1,990
Three Rivers Park District Totals			\$ 3,785	\$ 3,960	\$ 6,160	\$ 2,684

Metropolitan Regional Parks System Prioritized Project List for Parks and Trails Legacy Fund--Fiscal Years 2016-17

	Agency Name	Washington County Parks				
	Staff Contact	John Elholm				
	email:	John.Elholm@co.washington.mn.us				
Park Agency Priority	Park, Trail or Project Name	Project Description and Outcomes	FY 2016 (\$000's)	FY 2017 (\$000's)	Federal Trail Grant Leveraged (\$000's)	Other Non-State Funds (\$000's)
FY 2016 and 2017, Priority 1	Lake Elmo Park Reserve	Improve parking, buildings and other features at the Lake Elmo Swim Pond to better meet ADA standards and improve other park visitor needs. The swim pond area was originally developed in 1986. The park had 464,200 visits in 2013.	\$ 426	\$ 416		
FY 2016 and 2017, Priority 2	Cottage Grove Ravine Regional Park	Renovation and partial relocation of the roads and parking areas at the park; including improvements to buildings and other related facilities. The current park building was constructed in 1985. The park had 75,300 visits in 2013.	\$ 425	\$ 475		
Washington County Parks Totals			\$ 851	\$ 891	\$ -	\$ -

Metropolitan Regional Parks System Prioritized Project List for Parks and Trails Legacy Fund--Fiscal Years 2016-17

	Agency Name	Metropolitan Council				
	Staff Contact	Arne Stefferud				
	email:	Arne.Stefferud@metc.state.mn.us				
Metro Council Priority	Park, Trail or Project Name	Project Description and Outcomes	FY 2016 (\$000's)	FY 2017 (\$000's)	Federal Trail Grant Leveraged (\$000's)	Other Non-State Funds (\$000's)
FY 2016, Priority 1	10% of Parks and Trails Legacy Fund appropriation to Metro Council must be used for Park Acquisition Opportunity Fund grants (MS 85.53, Subd. 3)	Park Acquisition Opportunity Fund grants comprised of Parks and Trails Legacy Fund appropriation and Metro Council bonds finance up to 75% of costs to acquire parcels within Metro Council-approved regional park and trail master plans. The Park and Trail Legacy Fund appropriation finance 45% of the acquisition cost; Metro Council bonds finance 30%, and funds provided by the acquiring park agency finance 25% of acquisition cost.	\$ 1,731			\$ 2,116
FY 2017, Priority 1	10% of Parks and Trails Legacy Fund appropriation to Metro Council must be used for Park Acquisition Opportunity Fund grants (MS 85.53, Subd. 3)	Park Acquisition Opportunity Fund grants comprised of Parks and Trails Legacy Fund appropriation and Metro Council bonds finance up to 75% of costs to acquire parcels within Metro Council-approved regional park and trail master plans. The Park and Trail Legacy Fund appropriation finance 45% of the acquisition cost; Metro Council bonds finance 30%, and funds provided by the acquiring park agency finance 25% of acquisition cost.		\$ 1,811		\$ 2,213
Metropolitan Council Totals			\$ 1,731	\$ 1,811	\$ -	\$ 4,329
Grand Totals			\$17,310	\$18,109	\$ 11,758	\$ 8,054
Biennium Totals Legacy and Leveraged Funds				\$35,419		\$ 19,812
Biennium Total All Funds						\$ 55,231