

Metropolitan Parks and Open Space Commission

Meeting date: July 1, 2014

Subject: Draft 2040 Regional Parks Policy Plan

District(s), Member(s): All

Policy/Legal Reference: MN Statute 473.147

Staff Prepared/Presented: Jan Youngquist AICP, Planning Analyst (651 602-1029)
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Division/Department: Community Development/Regional Parks and Natural Resources

Proposed Action

Information item. No action required.

Background

Minnesota Statute 473.147 requires the Metropolitan Council to prepare and adopt a long-range system policy plan for the regional recreation open space as part of the Council's Metropolitan Development Guide. As per Statute, the 2040 Regional Parks Policy Plan will:

- Identify generally the areas which should be acquired for the Regional Parks System
- Estimate the costs of the recommended acquisition and development

The 2040 Regional Parks Policy Plan includes policies and strategies for siting and acquisition, finance, recreation activities and facilities, planning, and protection of the Regional Parks System.

Metropolitan Parks and Open Space Commission (MPOSC) members have spent the last six months providing guidance to the Council to assist with the development of the 2040 Regional Parks Policy Plan. Those recommendations, coupled with Council actions, have been integrated into the current draft of the plan.

A draft of the 2040 Regional Parks Policy Plan will be presented to MPOSC members for their review. This review will provide an opportunity to refine the document prior to requesting to schedule a public hearing and release the final version in August for public comment.

Rationale

Minnesota Statute 473.147 states that the Metropolitan Council shall consult with and make maximum use of the expertise of the Metropolitan Parks and Open Space Commission in preparing the policy plan.

Funding

N/A

Known Support / Opposition

N/A