

Metropolitan Parks and Open Space Commission

Meeting date: July 1, 2014

Subject: Scheduling September and October MPOSC tours and off-site meetings

District(s), Member(s): All

Policy/Legal Reference: MN Statute 473.303

Staff Prepared/Presented: Arne Stefferud, Manager—Regional Parks and Natural Resources (Ph. 651-6502-1360)

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

Proposed Action

That the Metropolitan Parks and Open Space Commission schedule tours and off-site meetings for:

September 2 or Special Meeting on September 9 (MPOSC needs to decide which date):

3 p.m.-4:30 p.m. tour of Keller-Gervais Regional Park, Ramsey County. Includes recently completed projects financed with Parks and Trails Legacy grants and Regional Park CIP grants.

4:30-6:00 p.m. business meeting at Keller Golf Course Clubhouse next to Keller Regional Park

October 7:

3 p.m. -4:30 p.m. tour of Elm Creek Park Reserve, Three Rivers Park District. Includes recently completed projects financed with Parks and Trails Legacy grants and Regional Parks CIP grants.

4:30-6:00 p.m. business meeting at Eastman Nature Center in Elm Creek Park Reserve.

Background

In February, the Metropolitan Parks and Open Space Commission considered its meeting schedule for 2014 based on developing the *2040 Regional Parks Policy Plan*. The Commission has conducted tours of regional parks and trails in the summer months as it allows the Commission to tour regional parks and trails that they have reviewed master plans for as well as recently completed projects financed with Parks and Trails Legacy Fund or Regional Parks CIP grants. A business meeting is held before or held after the tour at or near the park and trails that are toured. The 2014 tours and offsite meetings were scheduled for September and October.

Rationale

Regional Park Implementing Agencies were asked to offer to host a tour and meeting location. They considered what the Commission had toured in the past four years to avoid duplicating a tour. Attachment A lists what has been toured the past four years. The recommendation was based on agency offers to host a tour and meeting for September and October.

Funding

N/A

Known Support / Opposition

N/A

Attachment A

Metropolitan Parks and Open Space Commission Tours and Offsite Meetings 2010-2013:

2010

June 8: Lilydale-Harriet Island Regional Park—St. Paul. Met at the Clarence Wigington pavilion for a business meeting, and then toured the park.

July 6: Cedar Lake Farm Regional Park—Scott County. Met at Scott County Government Center for a business meeting, and then toured the park.

August 9: Theodore Wirth Regional Park—Mpls. Park & Rec. Board. Met at the Wirth Chalet for a business meeting, and then toured the park focusing on the Wirth Beach area.

2011

June 7: Spring Lake Park Reserve —Dakota County. MPOSC business meeting at Schaar's Bluff Gathering Center. Toured picnic area and visitor center.

July 19 Special meeting in lieu of July 5: Gale Woods Farm Special Recreation Feature --Three Rivers Park District. Toured Dakota Rail Regional Trail portion in Three Rivers Park District and portion in Carver County. Toured Gale Woods Farm Special Recreation Feature and then held a business meeting there.

Special meeting Sept. 13 in lieu of September 6: Bald Eagle-Otter Lakes Regional Park—Ramsey County. MPOSC business meeting at nature center. Toured Nature Play Area and 1 acre Children's Garden which were recently financed from Parks and Trails Legacy Fund grants.

2012

June 5: Hyland-Bush-Anderson Lakes Park Reserve--Three Rivers Park District and City of Bloomington. Toured Hyland play area expansion financed with Parks and Trails Legacy Fund grant, reconstructed trails at West Bush Lake Park as well as the parking lots proposed for reconstruction in 2013, plus trails under reconstruction at Normandale Lake Park, and Bush Lake Beach. MPOSC business meeting at Hyland Lake Visitor Center.

August 7: Anoka County regional parks and trails along the Mississippi River. Toured Anoka County Riverfront Regional Park, the Mississippi River Regional Trail section from Anoka County Riverfront upstream to Coon Rapids Dam Regional Park, and Coon Rapids Dam Regional Park. MPOSC business meeting at Coon Rapids Dam Regional Park.

Special meeting September 11 in lieu of September 4: Lake Elmo Park Reserve, Washington County. Toured lighted cross-country ski trails and Nordic Center financed with Parks and Trails Legacy Fund and Regional Park CIP grants. MPOSC business meeting at Nordic Center.

2013

June 4: Scott County--Spring Lake Regional Park. Toured recently completed projects financed with Parks and Trails Legacy Fund grants. MPOSC business meeting at the Prior Lake City Hall.

July 9: Anoka County—tour Rice Creek Chain of Lakes Park Reserve including recent improvements at Wargo Nature Center and other projects financed with Parks and Trails Legacy and Regional Park CIP grants. MPOSC business meeting at Wargo Nature Center.

August 6: City of St. Paul—Como Regional Park. Tour recently completed swimming facility financed with Regional Park CIP and Parks and Trails Legacy grants, plus reconstructed Lily pond and other improvements financed with Parks and Trails Legacy Fund grants. MPOSC business meeting at a room in the Education Resource Center.

September 3: Dakota County—tour portion of Mississippi River Regional Trail through recently completed section at Pine Bend Scientific and Natural Area and adjacent section under construction in City of Rosemount. MPOSC business meeting location at Shaar's Bluff Visitor Center.