

Metropolitan Parks and Open Space Commission

Meeting date: May 5, 2015

Subject: 2016-21 Regional Parks Capital Improvement Program (CIP) Structure and Timeline

District(s), Member(s): All

Policy/Legal Reference: MN Statute 473.147, Subdivision 1

Staff Prepared/Presented: Arne Stefferud, Planning Analyst-Parks (651-602-1360)

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

Proposed Action

None. This is an information item.

Background

MN Statute 473.147, Subdivision 1 requires the Metropolitan Council, after consultation with the Metropolitan Parks and Open Space Commission (MPOSC), municipalities, park districts and counties in the metropolitan area to prepare and adopt a system policy plan for regional recreation open space as part of the Council's development guide. The law also requires the Council to include a five year capital improvement program (CIP) as part of the regional parks policy plan, which should be revised periodically, and to establish criteria and priorities for the allocation of funds from the capital improvement program.

This memorandum outlines the size, structure and timeline for preparing a six year Parks CIP for years 2016 to 2021.

Parks CIP Size (\$11 million State bonds matched with \$7.33 million Metro Council bonds)

Under MN Statute 473.325, the Metropolitan Council may issue general obligation park bonds such that the amount discharged at any point in time is no more than \$40 million. To stay within that limit, the Metropolitan Council issues on average \$7 million of park bonds per year. The actual amount issued is based on matching the amount of State bond appropriations for the Parks CIP.

Since 1994, the Council has followed the practice of requesting \$3 of State bonds to match \$2 of Council park bonds. Consequently 60% of the CIP is proposed to be funded with State bonds and 40% is proposed to be funded with Council bonds. With \$11 million of State bonds proposed for a two- year period, the Metro Council bond match is \$7.33 million. Table 1 illustrates the State and Metro Council amounts proposed for each two year period of the Parks CIP.

Table 1: Two Year Parks CIP

Fund Source	Amount \$ in thousands	Percent of Total	Ratio
State bonds	\$11,000	60%	\$ 3
Metro Council bonds	\$7,333	40%	\$ 2
Total	\$18,333	100%	\$ 5

Parks CIP Allocation Formula

Allocating the \$18.33 million among the ten regional park implementing agencies is based on a formula in the *2040 Regional Parks Policy Plan*.

- 70% of the money (\$12,833,000) is allocated based on each park agency's percent of the region's population.
- 30% of the money (\$5,500,000) is allocated based on each park agency's percent of all non-local visits to the regional parks system

The population factor recognizes the need to provide funds for park capital improvements to serve every person in the region relatively equally. The non-local visits factor recognizes that regional parks and trails serve residents outside a park agency's taxing district. Therefore a combination of both factors is accounted for in the CIP formula.

The following tables depict how the allocation to each park agency is calculated. Table 2 depicts the percent of the 2013 population and non-local visits for each Park Agency.

Park Agency	2013 Estimated Population of Park Agency (1)	Percent of Population	Percent of Non-local Visits to Park Agency (2)	2013 visits (thousands) (3)	2013 Non-local Visits to Park Agency (thousands)	Percent of Non-local Visits
Anoka County	341,465	11.57%	43%	3,178.2	1,366.6	6.41%
Bloomington	85,935	2.91%	45%	742.2	334.0	1.57%
Carver County	95,463	3.24%	52%	614.7	319.6	1.50%
Dakota County	408,732	13.85%	36%	1,038.0	373.7	1.75%
Mpls. Park Board	400,938	13.59%	48%	15,976.6	7,668.8	35.99%
Ramsey County (4)	228,694	7.75%	47%	4,657.2	2,188.9	10.27%
Saint Paul	296,452	10.05%	50%	9,455.6	4,727.8	22.19%
Scott County (5)	136,926	4.64%	31%	684.5	212.2	1.00%
Three Rivers Park District (6)	708,185	24.00%	37%	9,213.8	3,409.1	16.00%
Washington County	248,095	8.41%	45%	1,567.6	705.4	3.31%
Totals	2,950,885	100.00%	NA	47,128.2	21,306.0	100.00%

(1) Metropolitan Council 2013 Population Estimates

(2) Metropolitan Council 2008 Regional Parks and Trails Survey

(3) Metropolitan Council Annual Use Estimate of the Metropolitan Regional Parks System for 2013

(4) Population of Ramsey County excludes City of St. Paul to align with non-local visits data for each agency.

(5) Scott County non-local visits data includes visits to parks managed by Three Rivers Park District located in Scott County in order to align with population of Scott County's jurisdiction

(6) Population of Three Rivers Park District excludes City of Bloomington to align with non-local visits for each agency.

Table 3 depicts the amount each Park Agency would receive under the formula. The 70% of \$18.33 million is allocated based on the park agency's percent of the region's population. The 30% of \$18.33 million is allocated based on the park agency's percent of all non-local visits. The combined allocation from both factors in the formula is highlighted in yellow.

Table 3: Park Agency Allocation of \$18.333 million using Percent of Population and Non-local Visits Formula						
Park Agency	Park Agency's Percent of Population (Table 2 above)	Allocating 70% based on Percent of Population (in \$000s)	Park Agency's Percent of Nonlocal Visits (Table 2 above)	Allocating 30% based on Percent of Non-local Visits \$000s	Agency Allocation Combining Population and Non-Local Visits amounts (in \$000s)	Percent of Total
Anoka County	11.57%	\$ 1,485	6.41%	\$ 353	\$ 1,838	10.02%
Bloomington	2.91%	\$ 374	1.57%	\$ 86	\$ 460	2.51%
Carver County	3.24%	\$ 415	1.50%	\$ 83	\$ 498	2.71%
Dakota County	13.85%	\$ 1,778	1.75%	\$ 96	\$ 1,874	10.22%
Mpls. Park Board	13.59%	\$ 1,744	35.99%	\$ 1,980	\$ 3,723	20.31%
Ramsey County	7.75%	\$ 995	10.27%	\$ 565	\$ 1,560	8.51%
Saint Paul	10.05%	\$ 1,289	22.19%	\$ 1,220	\$ 2,510	13.69%
Scott County	4.64%	\$ 595	1.00%	\$ 55	\$ 650	3.55%
Three Rivers Park District	24.00%	\$ 3,080	16.00%	\$ 880	\$ 3,960	21.60%
Washington County	8.41%	\$ 1,079	3.31%	\$ 182	\$ 1,261	6.88%
Totals	100.00%	\$ 12,833	100.00%	\$ 5,500	\$ 18,333	100.00%

Parks CIP Timeline

The Parks 2016-17 portion of the 2016-21 Parks CIP is the basis for requesting \$11 million of State bonds for consideration by the Legislature in 2016. A preliminary request for the State bonds must be submitted in late June 2015 to Minnesota Management and Budget. A final request for the bonds must be submitted in late September 2015 to Minnesota Management and Budget.

The 2016-21 Parks CIP is a part of the Metropolitan Council’s Unified 2016-21 CIP along with CIPs for Environmental Services and Transit. The Unified 2016-21 CIP and the 2016 Unified Capital Budget is prepared in the late summer of 2015 and adopted in early December 2015.

Table 4 depicts the 2016-21 Regional Parks CIP Preparation Timeline, which meets the deadlines for submitting a preliminary and final 2016 State bond request, and aligns with the schedule for preparing the Council’s Unified 2016-21 CIP.

Table 4: 2016-21 Regional Parks CIP Preparation Timeline	
Activity	Date
Regional Park Agencies submit preliminary prioritized 2016-17 CIP project list and proposed projects for 2018-19 and 2020-21 to Metropolitan Council based on amounts shown in Table 3.	May 2015
Review of: 1) Preliminary 2016-17 Parks CIP as the basis for a Preliminary 2016 State bond request of \$11 million. 2) 2016-21 Parks CIP proposed for public hearing on August 17 by the Community Development Committee.	MPOSC: June 2, 2015 Community Development Committee (CDC): June 15, 2015 Council: June 24, 2015
Preliminary 2016 State bond request of \$11 million submitted to Minnesota Management and Budget.	June 25, 2015
Public hearing on 2016-2021 Parks CIP.	CDC: August 17, 2015
Consideration of public hearing report and recommendation to approve 2016-2021 Parks CIP as part of the Council’s 2016-2021 Unified CIP and Parks portion of 2016 Unified Capital Budget.	MPOSC: September 8, 2015 CDC: September 21, 2015 Council: September 23, 2015
Final 2016 State bond request of \$11 million submitted to Minnesota Management and Budget.	Sept. 24 or 25, 2015
Adoption of 2016-21 Unified CIP and the 2016 Unified Budget that includes the adopted 2016-21 Parks CIP and Parks portion of 2016 Unified Capital Budget plus other capital spending for Environmental Services and Transit.	Council: Dec. 9, 2015

Rationale

Preparation and funding of the 2016-21 Regional Parks CIP is authorized by State laws (MN Statute 473.147 and MN Statute 473.325). The 2016-17 portion of the Parks CIP is the basis for requesting State bonds to finance 60% of the CIP. The State bonds are matched with Metropolitan Council bonds to finance 40% of the CIP.

Grants are awarded for projects in the 2016-17 Parks CIP when the funds are appropriated for those projects. The Council would award those grants funded from 2016 State bond appropriations and matching Metropolitan Council bonds in June 2016.

Funding

The funding proposed for the 2016-21 Parks CIP is \$11 million of State bonds matched with \$7.33 million of Metropolitan Council bonds for each 2 year period of the CIP.

Known Support / Opposition

N/A. This is an information item.