

Business Item 2020-326

Accept the Public Comment Report and Adopt the *2040 Regional Parks Policy Plan Amendment*

December 3, 2020

Metropolitan Parks and Open Space Commission



Today's Agenda

- Public Comment Process: Lessons Learned
- Policy Plan: What Changed
- Recommendation



Boat approaches dock and boat landing at St. Croix Bluffs Regional Park.

Draft Amendment Public Comment Timeline

Invite

August - September

Engage

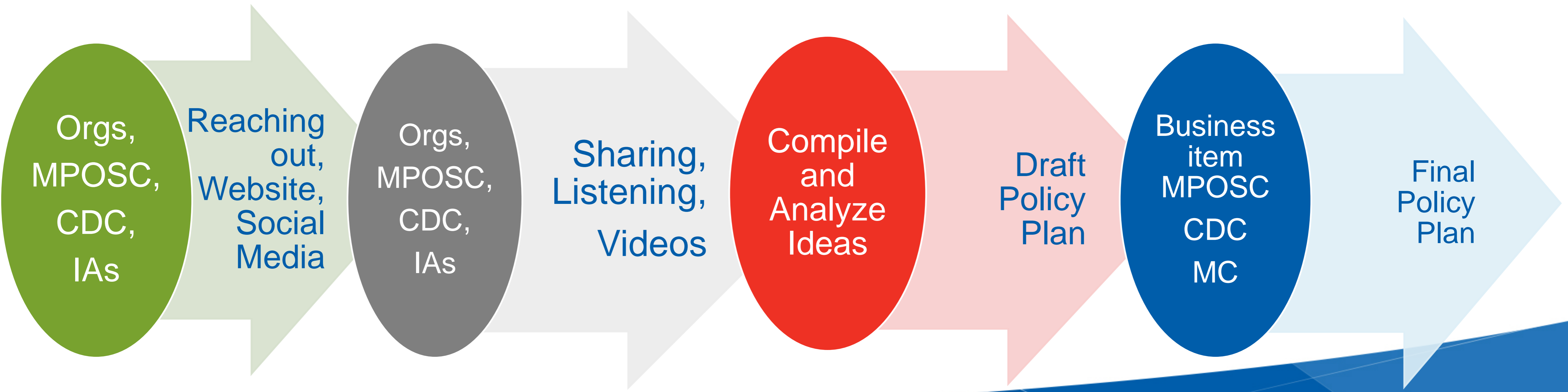
September - October

Refine

November

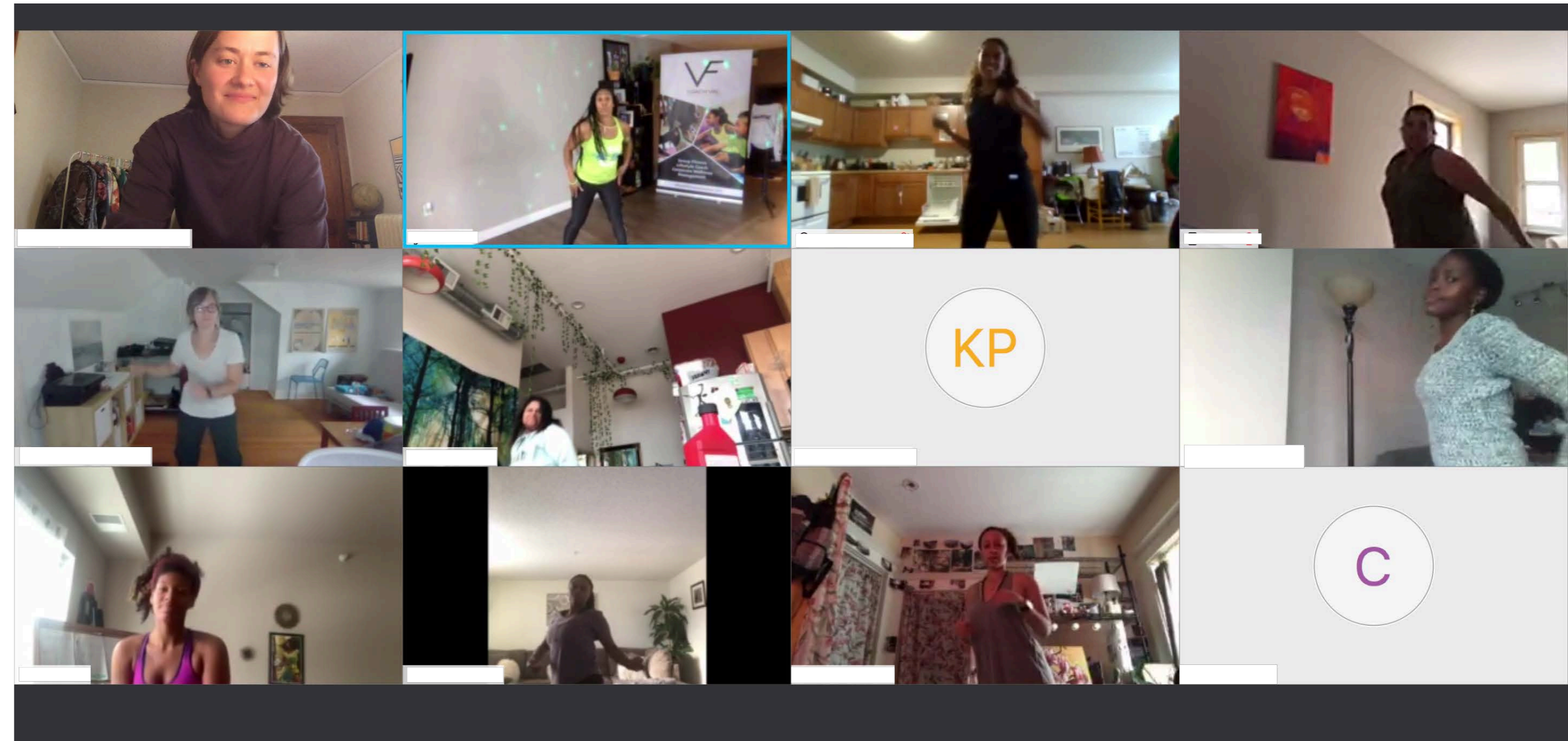
Approvals

December



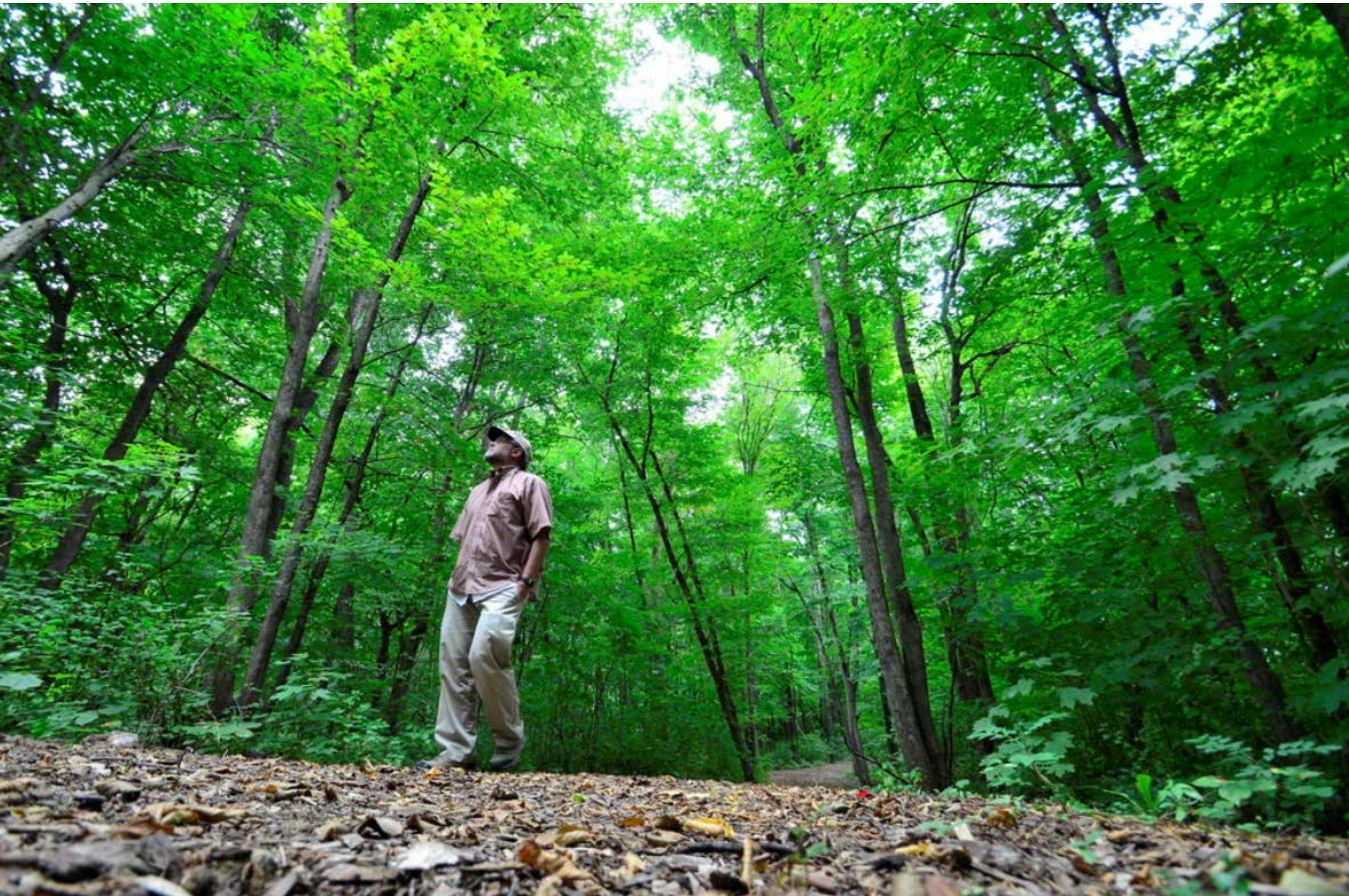
Public Comment Process: Lesson Learned

- “Traditional” engagement approaches reach dominant culture audiences well!
- Reaching new audiences takes time, especially working with historically underserved audiences.
- If a relationship with an audience is cultivated only when the Council needs something, it will not be successful.



Zumba Class with Amanda, Ellie, and the Cycle Sisters

Policy Plan Amendment: Significant Changes



Man on trail at Elm Creek Regional Park Reserve.

26 System Additions or Expansions

- Four boundary adjustments
- Five search areas
 - Three regional parks,
 - One park reserve
 - One special recreation feature search areas, bridging facility
- 17 regional trail search corridors

Significant Changes - Systems Additions

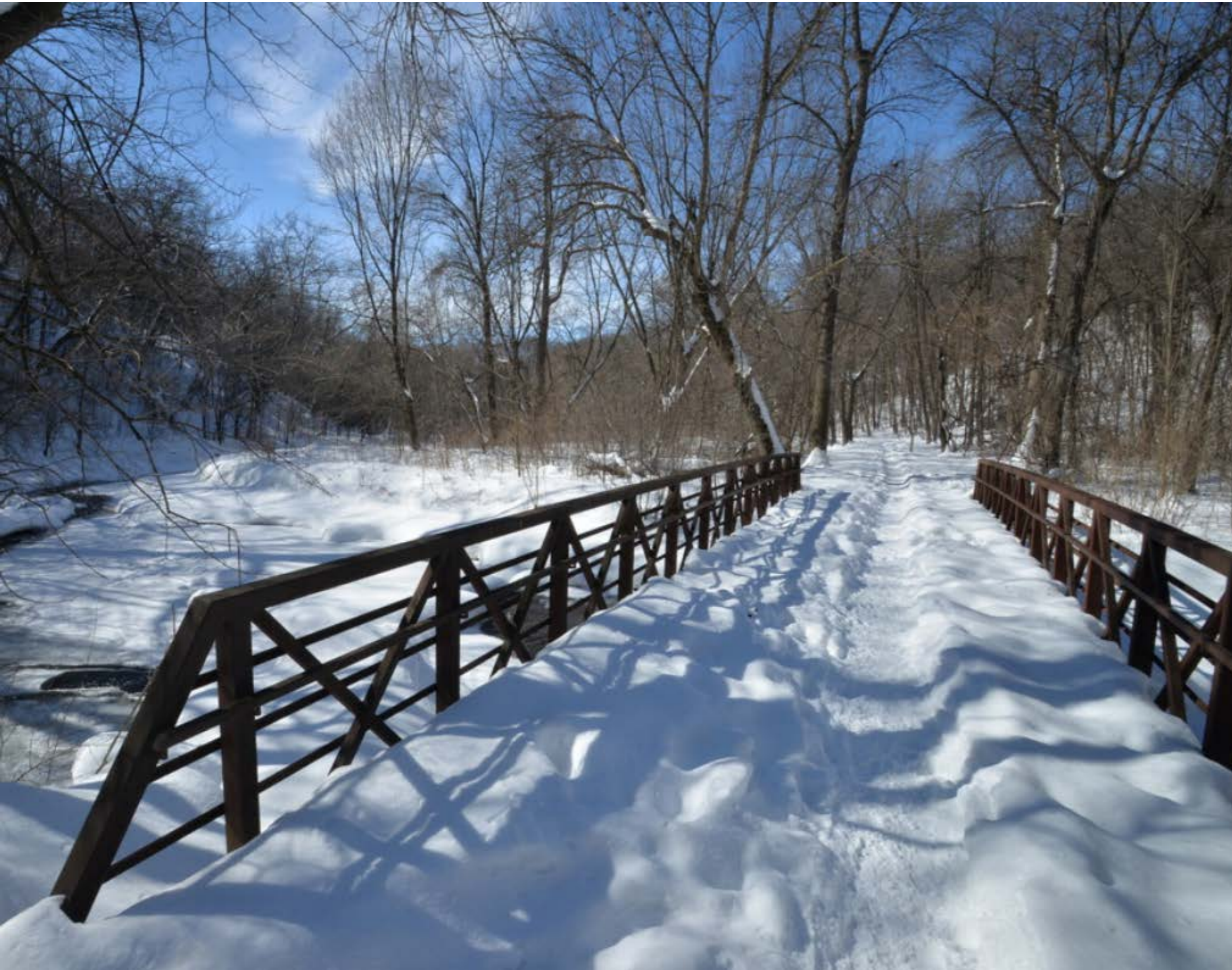
Boundary Adjustments (four):

- Ramsey County's Battle Creek Regional Park Boundary Adjustment
- Three Rivers Park District's:
 - Crow-Hassan Park Reserve Boundary Adjustment
 - Gale Woods Farm Special Recreation Feature Boundary Adjustment
- Washington County's Pine Point Regional Park Boundary Adjustment



Three boys inspect Bassett Creek, running through Theodore Wirth Regional Park, for water creatures.

Significant Changes - Systems Additions



Nine Mile Creek in Bloomington in February snow.

Regional Park and Special Recreation Feature Search Areas (five):

- Anoka County's
 - Coon Lake Regional Park Search Area
 - Rum River Regional Park Search Area
- Three Rivers Park District's
 - Rogers-Corcoran Regional Park Search Area
 - Minnetonka & Minnehaha Creek Corridor Regional Park Search Area
 - First-Ring Special Recreation Feature, Bridging Facility Search Area

Significant Changes - Systems Additions

Regional Trail Search Corridors (17):

- Carver County's County Road 11 Regional Trail Search Corridor
- Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board's Midtown Greenway Regional Trail Search Corridor



A bicyclist on Lake Minnetonka LRT Regional Trail.

Significant Changes - Systems Additions



Creek near trail in Battle Creek Regional Park, St. Paul.

Regional Trail Search Corridors (17):

- Saint Paul's
 - Midtown Greenway Extension Regional Trail Search Corridor
 - CP Rail Spur Regional Trail Search Corridor
 - Union Pacific Railroad's Altoona Subdivision Regional Trail Search Corridor
- Scott County's
 - Cedar Lake Farm to New Prague Destination Regional Trail Search Corridor
 - Lake Marion to Scott West Regional Trail Search Corridor

Significant Changes - Systems Additions

Regional Trail Search Corridors (17):

- Three Rivers Park District's
 - Weaver Lake Regional Trail Search Corridor Eagle Lake to Bryant Lake Regional Trail Extension Search Corridor
 - Gray's Bay Regional Trail Extension Search Corridor
 - Silverwood Regional Trail Connector Search Corridor
 - Purgatory Creek Regional Trail Extension Search Corridor
 - Lake Sarah Regional Trail Extension Search Corridor

Children fishing at the lakeshore at Cedar Lake Farm Regional Park grand opening.



Significant Changes - Systems Additions



Girls playing in the Fawn Crossing Nature Play Area at Whitetail Woods Regional Park, Dakota County.

Regional Trail Search Corridors (17):

- Washington County's
 - Middle St. Croix Valley Regional Trail Search Corridor Extension,
 - Central Greenway Regional Trail Search Corridor Extension,
 - Lake Elmo Park Reserve to Phalen-Keller Regional Park Regional Trail Search Corridor,
 - Pine Point Regional Park to Square Lake Special Recreation Feature Regional Trail Search Corridor

Policy Refinements

Boundary Adjustments:

- Description of minor boundary adjustment criteria and process

Bridging Facilities:

- Description of minor boundary adjustment criteria and process



Man on park bench with cell phone near Cedar Lake.

Policy Refinements



Swallowtail butterfly on joe pye weed.

Park and Trail Master Plan Requirements:

- Master plan boundaries must include an administrative and management boundary for known and potential inholdings.

Equity Analysis Requirement:

- Council approved requirement centering equity in master plan processes.

Policy Refinements

- **Cost to Complete System:** Refined methodology that led to no change in estimated \$2.1 billion total cost.
- **Chapter 9 Work Plan:** Proposes the Cultural Historical Study to incorporate land acknowledgement.



Teens play soccer at Battle Creek - Indian Mounds Regional Park in St. Paul and Maplewood.

Next Steps

Parks Policy Plan Amendment

Final Recommendation

- December 3: MPOSC
- December 7: CDC
- December 23: MC



November Morning, Chain of Lakes Regional Park

Recommended Action

That the Metropolitan Council:

1. Accept the Public Comment Summary Report on the draft amendment to the *2040 Regional Parks Policy Plan*; and
2. Adopt the revised final *2040 Regional Parks Policy Plan Amendment*.

Thank you

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