

Metropolitan Parks and Open Space Commission

Meeting date: August 5, 2021

Subject: Shared Equity Learning: Bdote Tour and *Stories I Didn't Know* Opportunities

District(s), Member(s): All

Policy/Legal Reference: Minnesota Statute 473.147

Staff Prepared/Presented: Amanda Lovelee and Emmett Mullin

Division/Department: Parks/ Community Development

Background

As we continue to grow in our learnings around equity and the outdoors, the Council's Parks team has been listening to the advice of the Commission. We have a series of upcoming equity learning opportunities that will help us grow together. They are as follows:

- [Learning from Place: Bdote, Minnesota Humanities Center](#): September 17, 2021, 8:30 AM – 2:30 PM. The tour/workshop will begin at Fort Snelling State Park near the airport. Participants will drive themselves to the tour. The tour will end at Indian Mounds Regional Park in Saint Paul. For more information about this tour and workshop, please visit the above link.
- [Stories I Didn't Know](#): The Council purchased rights to view this video and make it available to Commissioners, regional park implementing agency staff, and Council staff. It is just under 60 minutes long. The idea to view this video emerged from a Commission discussion. This video connects and enriches our learnings around equity and the Bdote Workshop (above). The link to the video and passcode will be emailed out to Commissioners and staff separately.
- Facilitated workshop of *Stories I Didn't Know*: Council staff will host a facilitated discussion of the video on Thursday, September 30, 2021, from 3:00 – 4:00 PM. This will be an on-line learning opportunity. You will receive a meeting invitation in the near future. This one-hour facilitated discussion will be led by the creators of the video: Rita Davern, Ramona Kitto-Stately, and Reuben Kitto-Stately.

Rationale

Helping deepen our understanding of equity and the Regional Parks System is an important goal for the Council and our partners. MPOSC regularly discusses equity and the Regional Parks System. These three opportunities will help continue this conversation.

Thrive Lens Analysis

Equity is one of the five outcomes identified in Thrive MSP 2040. The Equity Nudge is a regular part of our MPOSC Commission meetings. The purpose is to help Commissioners, Agencies and staff to continue to learn and grow.

Known Support / Opposition

There is no known opposition to this learning opportunity.