

# Information Item

Metropolitan Parks and Open Space Commission



Meeting Date: October 6, 2022

## Topic

Metropolitan Parks and Open Space Commission: Roles of the Commission

<b>District(s), Member(s):</b>	All
<b>Policy/Legal Reference:</b>	Minnesota Statutes 473.302, 473.303, 473.313, and 473.315
<b>Staff Prepared/Presented:</b>	Emmett Mullin, Regional Parks Manager (651-602-1360); LisaBeth Barajas, Executive Director, Community Development (651-602-1895)
<b>Division/Department:</b>	Community Development / Regional Parks

## Background

At its September 1, 2022 meeting, the Metropolitan Parks and Open Space Commission initiated their discussion on the Commission's role. Time ran short, and it was recommended that they carry over the discussion to the October 6 meeting.

At the October 6 meeting, staff will briefly recap the September 1 presentation and then invite Commissioners to share their perspectives and questions on the Roles of the Commission.

The Metropolitan Parks and Open Space Commission (MPOSC) is the primary advisory committee for the Regional Parks System work at the Metropolitan Council. It was established in the early 1970s by the State Legislature. The legislature found that the pressure of urbanization and development was threatening valuable recreational and natural lands, at the same time there was a growing demand for nature-based outdoor recreational opportunities. The Metropolitan Council, with the advice and input of MPOSC, is charged with providing for a balanced system of outdoor recreation for the metropolitan area.

## Thrive Lens Analysis

The Metropolitan Parks and Open Space Commission advances all five of the *Thrive MSP 2040* outcomes of stewardship, prosperity, equity, livability, and sustainability. In partnership with the ten regional park implementing agencies, MPOSC seeks to create a Regional Parks and Trails system that fosters welcoming, inviting, and accessible outdoor recreation opportunities for all residents.