



Diamond Lake Regional Trail & Dakota Rail – Luce Line Connector Master Plan

Business Item 2022-239

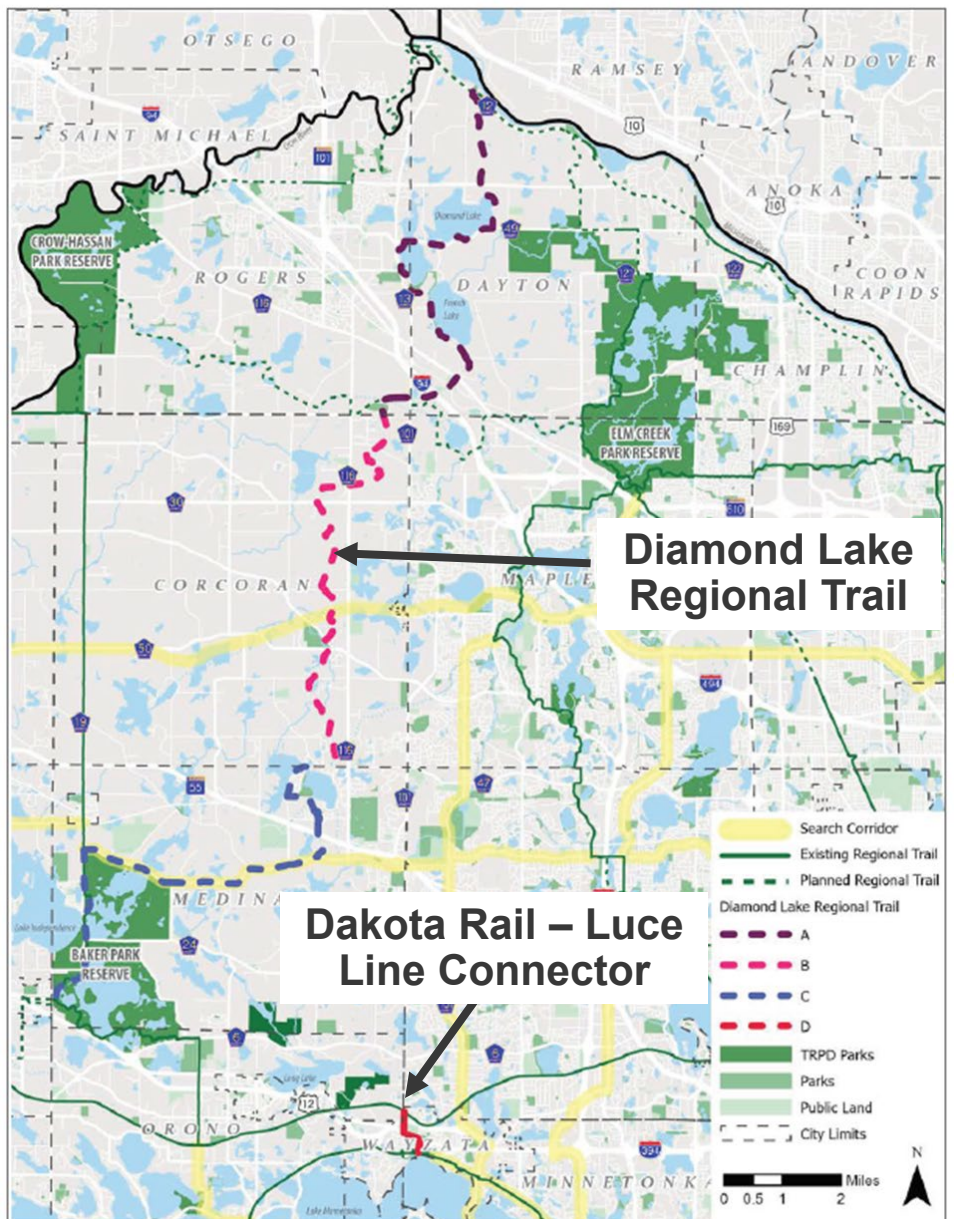
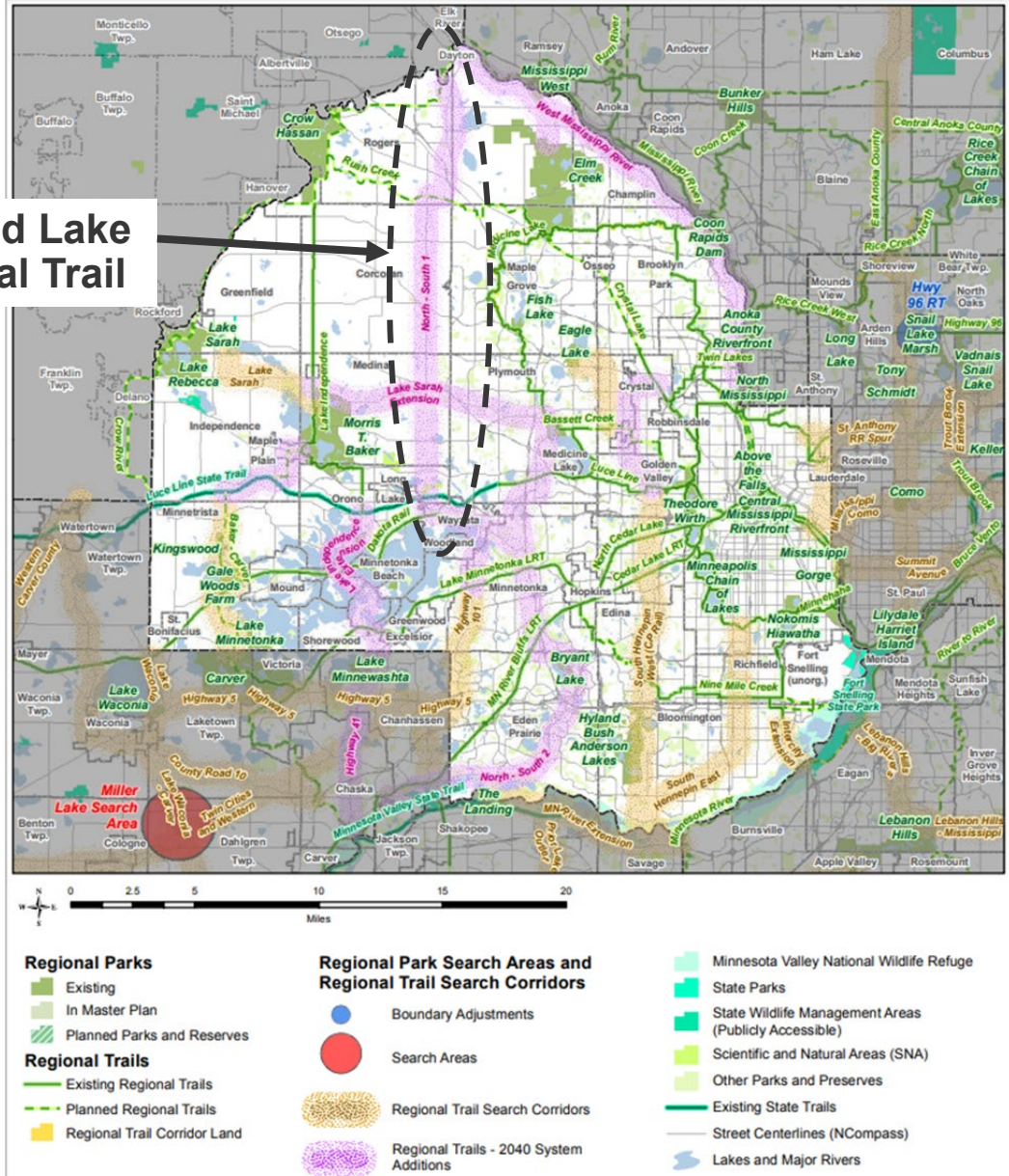
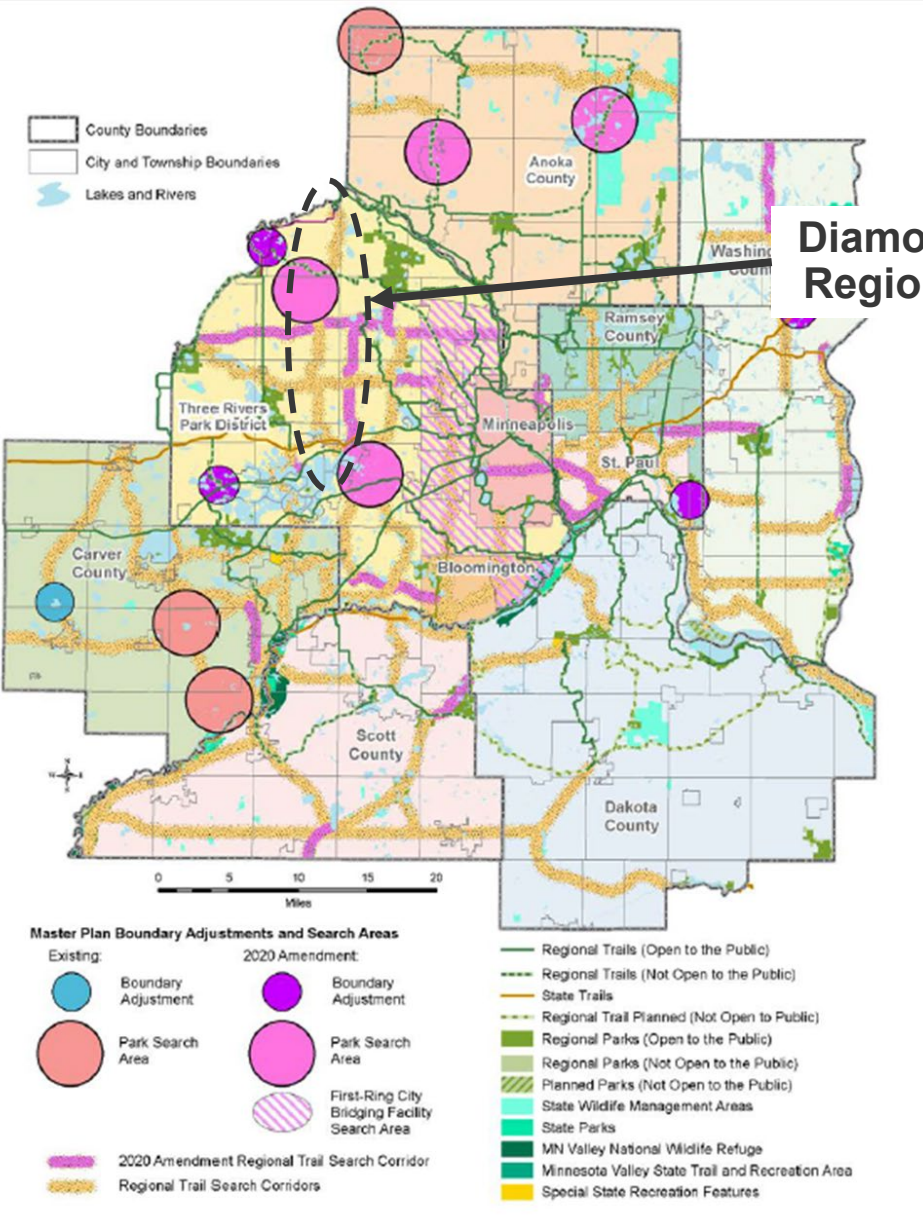
Metropolitan Parks and Open Space Commission

Chee Yang

September 1, 2022



Diamond Lake Regional Trail & Dakota Rail – Luce Line Connector



Regional Parks System Map

Hennepin County Map

Diamond Lake Regional Trail & Dakota Rail-Luce Line Connector Map

Partner Engagement

Engagement Efforts

- Flexible 7-phase engagement plan tailored to each community and engagement group.
- Engagement plan was adjusted several times in response to community feedback
- The Park District engaged:
 - Cities of Rogers, Dayton, Corcoran, Medina, Long Lake, Orono, and Wayzata.
 - Minnesota Department of Transportation, Minnesota Department of Natural Resources, Hennepin County, Minnehaha Creek Watershed District, Wayzata Public Schools, and Orono Public Schools
 - Friends of the Wolsfeld Woods Scientific and Natural Area and the Northwest Trails Association
- General themes of partner review included connections to local parks and trails, locating the trail near water, natural resources, new residential development, and safe road crossings.



Public Engagement

Goals

- Engage all interested and affected parties
- Make engagement easy
- Purposefully engage with underrepresented community members and groups and proactively work to remove common barriers to their participation
- Develop, expand relationships
- Focus engagement efforts
- Address concerns, remedy misinformation and listen with an open mind and desire to learn

General Themes

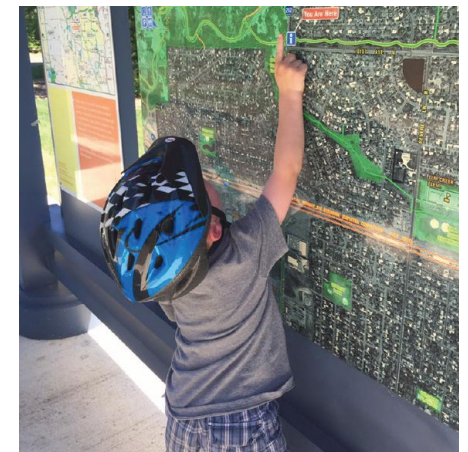
- General feedback on trail location
- A desire for scenic and separated off-road trail route, loop trails, trailheads, separated bike/ped trails
- Concern for safe crossings at busy intersections
- Potential impact to private properties, wetlands, natural resources, congestion, loss of privacy and city character
- Connections to local parks, trails, and neighborhoods
- Better signage and wayfinding
- Recommendation to partner with developers to incorporate trails into housing developments
- Support and excitement for the trail



Equity Analysis

Overall Findings

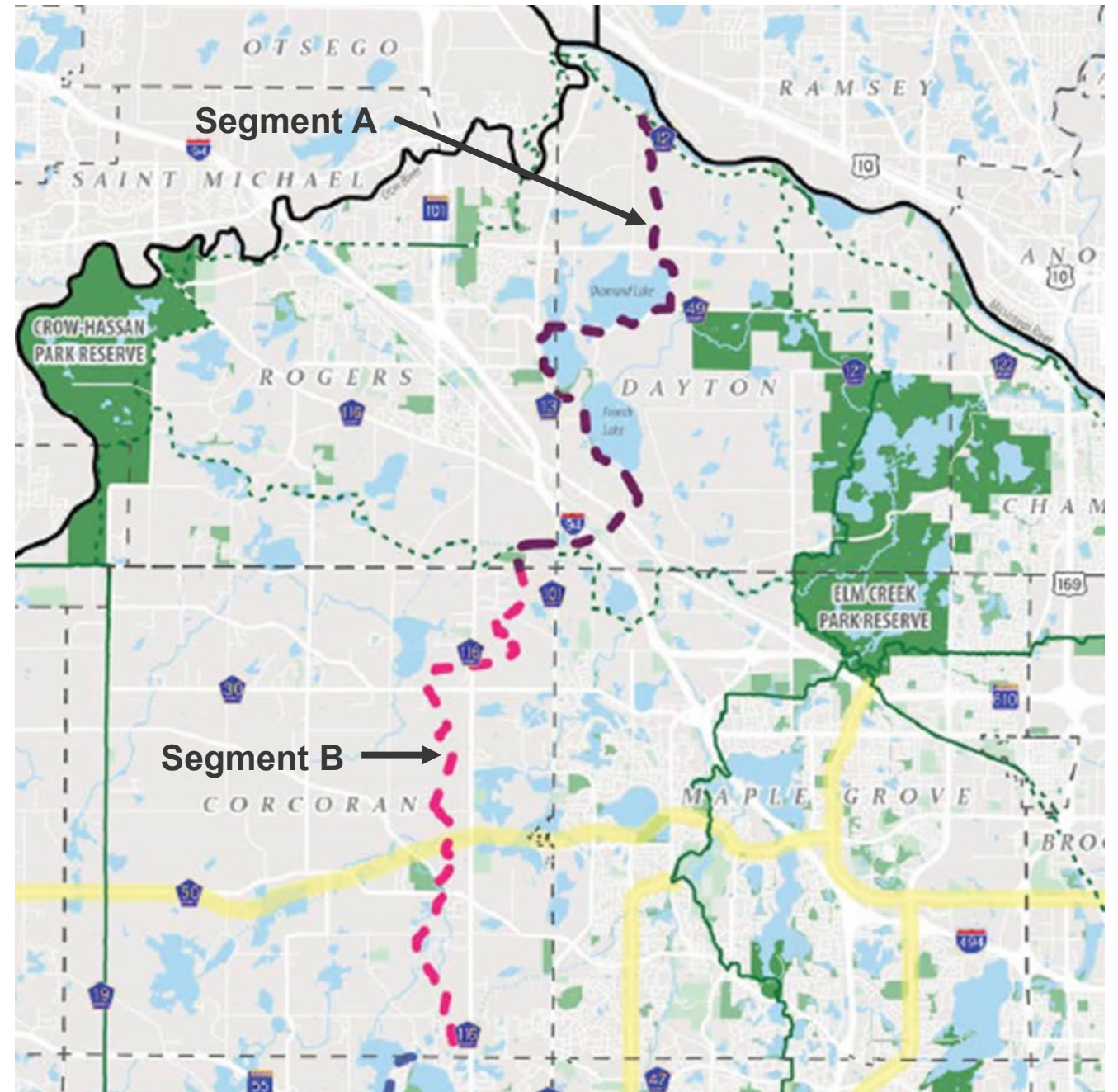
- The Park District identified the following groups as underrepresented in the Diamond Lake Regional Trail and Dakota Rail – Luce Line Connector service area:
 - Black, American Indian, Hispanic
 - 25–34-year-old and 65-year-old and older
 - Low-income families and families on assistance
- The engagement efforts for this group focused primarily on building awareness, understanding barriers, and identifying route preferences which provide an inviting and comfortable user experience and best meet the preferences and needs of these community groups.
- General themes
 - Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) design standard
 - Safe & easy access to the regional trail
 - Local connections to neighborhoods and natural resources
 - Appreciate park-like trails
 - Signage and wayfinding
 - Trail amenities such as benches, bathrooms, and water fountains.
- The Park District will continue to be inclusive and responsive to changing needs and priorities.



Development Concept

Diamond Lake Regional Trail – 28.1 miles

- Segment A – 9.04 miles
 - Extends through Dayton and Rogers
 - Trail Development:
 - Trailhead
 - Boardwalk System
 - Signage and wayfinding
- Segment B – 8.89 miles
 - Extends through Corcoran
 - Trail Development:
 - Boardwalk System
 - Signage and wayfinding



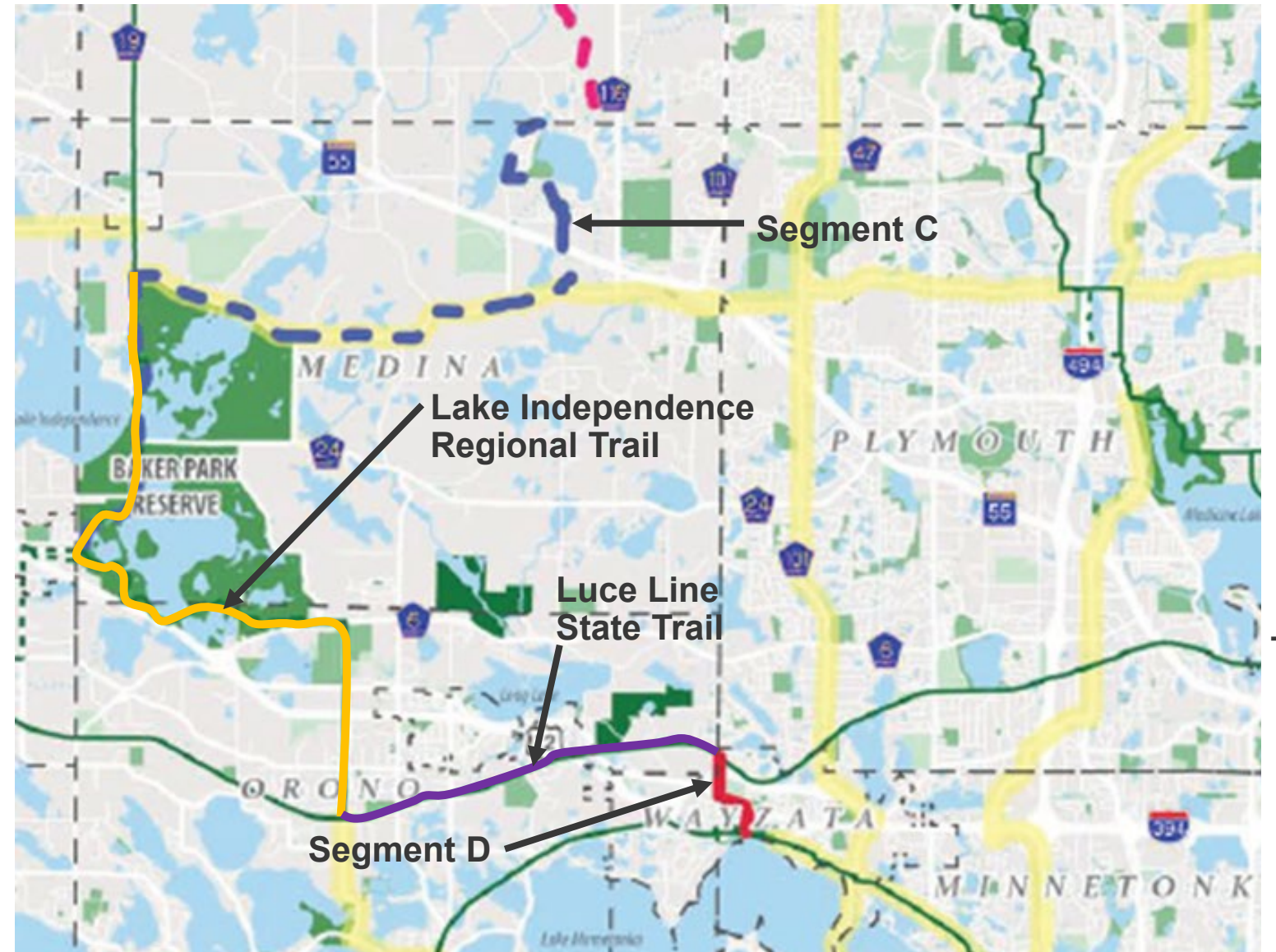
Development Concept

Diamond Lake Regional Trail, cont.

- Segment C – 9.97 miles
 - Extends through Medina and Corcoran
 - Utilizes existing Lake Independence Regional Trail & Luce Line State Trail
 - Trail Development:
 - Boardwalk System
 - Overpass
 - Signage & Wayfinding

Dakota Rail – Luce Line Connector

- Segment D – 0.9 miles
 - Extends through Orono & Wayzata
 - Trail Development:
 - Bridge modification, retaining walls, site grading, & upgrade existing sidewalk
 - Relocation of existing utility poles
 - Trailhead
 - Rapid Flashing Beacon



Overall Estimated Cost



Estimated Cost

- The total estimated acquisition and development costs for the Diamond Lake Regional Trail and Dakota Rail – Luce Line Connector is \$45,066,000.
- The total estimated operations and maintenance costs for the Diamond Lake Regional Trail and Dakota Rail – Luce Line Connector is \$156,000.
- The combined total estimated cost for the Diamond Lake Regional Trail and Dakota Rail – Luce Line Connector is \$45,222,200.

Rationale for Proposed Actions

The Diamond Lake Regional Trail and Dakota Rail-Luce Line Connector Master Plan is consistent with the requirements of the:

- *2040 Regional Parks Policy Plan*
 - Planning Strategy 1
- Other Council policies

Proposed Actions

- Approve Three Rivers Park District's Diamond Lake Regional Trail and Dakota Rail-Luce Line Connector Master Plan.
- Require Three Rivers Park District, prior to initiating any construction of new or updating of existing paths, trails, bridges, or any other construction project, to send preliminary plans to the Metropolitan Council Environmental Services Interceptor Engineering Assistant Manager.
- Recommend that Three Rivers Park District coordinate with Steve Mahowald, 612-349-7775, at Metro Transit, regarding potential impacts to bus stop(s) along Wayzata Boulevard between Ferndale Road and Barry Avenue.

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Gracias

Thank you

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