

Information Item

Metropolitan Parks and Open Space Commission



Meeting Date: September 1, 2022

Topic

Metropolitan Parks and Open Space Commission: Roles of the Commission

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

Background

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.

At the September 1, 2022, MPOSC meeting, staff will provide an overview of the Commission, its roles, and some of the relevant state statutes. Commission members will have the opportunity to discuss their roles and ask questions throughout this interactive presentation.

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.