

Information Item

Metropolitan Parks and Open Space Commission



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Meeting Date: December 7, 2023
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Topic

Regional Development Guide, Regional Parks System and Scenario Planning Analysis

District(s), Member(s): All
Policy/Legal Reference: Statute or policy
Staff Prepared/Presented: Emmett Mullin, Manager (651-602-1360), Colin Kelly, Planning Analyst (651-602-1360), and Tracey Kinney, Senior Planner (651-602-1029)
Division/Department: Community Development

Background

Scenario planning is an important tool that the Metropolitan Council is using to prepare the 2050 Regional Development Guide including the Regional Parks Policy Plan, and other Council system and policy plans. The tool allows agencies and the Council to plan for the future by exploring multiple possibilities of what might happen.

The scenario planning tool models hypothetical futures and explores the effects of these futures on the Regional Parks System. The goal of this exploration is to be better prepared for the futures that we might encounter and make the region more resilient in the face of future contingencies.

The Metropolitan Parks and Open Space Commission (MPOSC) and Regional Park Implementing Agencies (Agencies) considered the effects of these futures on the Regional Parks System at their March 2023 meetings. Since then, Council Staff met with the Agencies in September 2023, the Metropolitan Council's Land Use Advisory Committee in September 2023, and the Metropolitan Council's Committee of the Whole in November 2023.

Council Parks staff will share the findings of these 2023 meetings and ask for the Commission's advice around the question:

“How should these findings help shape the future of the Regional Parks and Trails System?”