

# Information Item

Metropolitan Parks and Open Space Commission



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**Meeting Dates:** February 2, 2023  
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## Topic

Anoka County Equity Grant Update

**District(s), Member(s):** All

**Policy/Legal Reference:** Minn. Stats. §§ 473.325 and 473.315; *Regional Parks Policy Plan*, Chapter 8, Finance Strategy 4

**Staff Prepared/Presented:** Amanda Lovelee (651-602-1637)

**Division/Department:** Community Development

### Proposed Action

Information item; no action is proposed at this time.

### Background

The purpose of this information item is to share the progress and outcomes of an equity grant that Anoka County received through the 2021 Equity Grant Program for a project titled “Inspiring Youth through an Augmented Reality Trail Program.” This \$52,500 grant was for the use of immersive augmented reality technology to provide innovative, equitable, and educational experiences to supplement the existing nature walk experience for youth engagement. Specifically, the grant paid for the development of the augmented reality images and information; the cost of tablets, technological support, and signage; and outreach, engagement, and events.

The 2021 Equity Grant Program provided 23 equity grants to the ten Regional Park Implementing Agencies. Funding totaled \$2,054,000 and was provided through a mix of Council bonds for capital projects and Park