

Information Item

Metropolitan Parks and Open Space Commission



Meeting Date: March 2, 2023

Topic

2050 Regional Development Guide including the Regional Parks Policy Plan

District(s), Member(s):	All
Policy/Legal Reference:	Minn. Stat. § 473.145
Staff Prepared/Presented:	Emmett Mullin, Senior Manager, Regional Parks (651-602-1360) Colin Kelly, Planning Analyst (651-602-1361) Chee Yang, Planner (651-602-1449)
Division/Department:	Community Development / Regional Parks

Proposed Action

Information item; no action is proposed at this time.

Background

The Metropolitan Council has begun development of the 2050 Regional Development Guide. The current Regional Development Guide, *Thrive MSP 2040*, along with the Council's metropolitan system and policy plans, are the governing documents that help guide the orderly growth and development of the region. System and policy plans include the *2040 Regional Parks Policy Plan*, the *2040 Transportation Policy Plan*, the *2040 Water Resources Policy Plan*, and the *2040 Housing Policy Plan*.

At the October meeting, Council staff provided an update to the Metropolitan Parks and Open Space Commission on the 2050 Regional Development Guide effort, including the status of developing regional values and vision. At the same time, staff kicked-off the Regional Parks Policy Plan update process with the Commission and invited input on leading issues, and Regional Parks System values and vision.

At the February 1, 2023, Committee of the Whole meeting the Council endorsed a revised set of values and vision statements to be used in the 2050 Regional Development Guide. Council staff shared the revised set of values and vision statements with Regional Park Implementing Agencies and on February 16. Parks staff will share the revised set of values and vision statements with the Commission at this meeting.

Staff used the input provided by Regional Park Implementing Agencies and the Commission in October to guide priority focus areas, which will be taken up by a series of Council-Agency work groups over the next several months. Staff will share a summary of the policy plan work to-date, a project timeline, and a proposed approach to working with Regional Parks Implementing Agencies at this meeting, highlighting two Council-Agency work groups that will be starting work soon. Staff will return to the Commission on multiple occasions before the end of 2024 to provide updates on the planning process and seek the Commission's guidance.

Minnesota law requires the Council to conduct a comprehensive review of the Regional Parks Policy Plan at least every four years (Minnesota Statutes, section 473.147). The policy plan was

last updated in December 2020. Completion of the policy plan update is expected in December 2024.

