



Regional Development Guide, Regional Parks System and Scenario Planning

Metropolitan Parks and Open Space Commission



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Agenda and Item Goals



Agenda

- Discuss the scenario planning project
- Group discussion

Information Item Goals

- Build awareness of the project
- Discuss the affects of these scenarios on the Regional Parks System

*An image of a snow-covered trees
in Lebanon Hills Regional Park.*

Scenario Planning Project - Purpose

Project Purpose

- Contribute to the 2050 Regional Development Guide, including the Regional Parks Policy Plan, and other Council systems.
- Explore different futures to be better prepared for the future that we encounter.

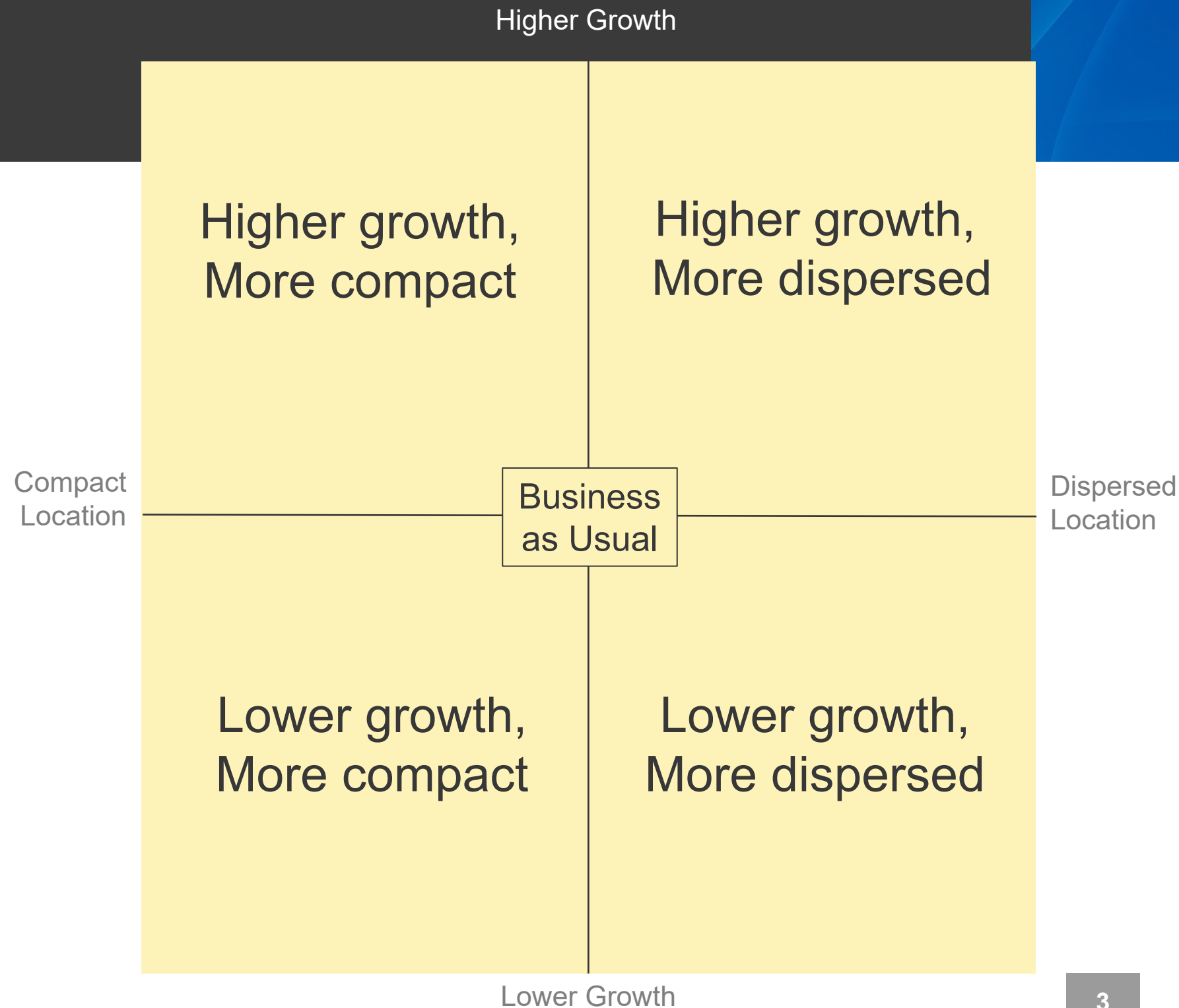
An image of a snow-covered lake in Lake Elmo Park Reserve in winter.



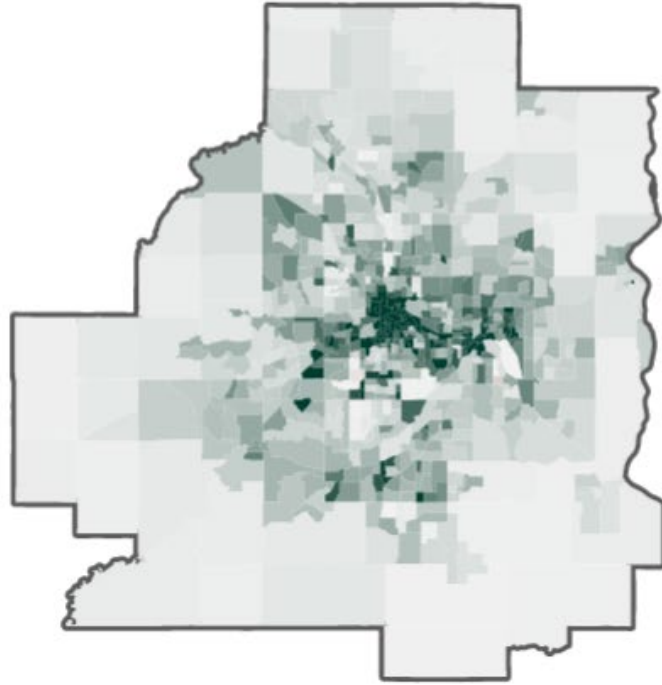
Regional Growth Scenarios

How much? Where?

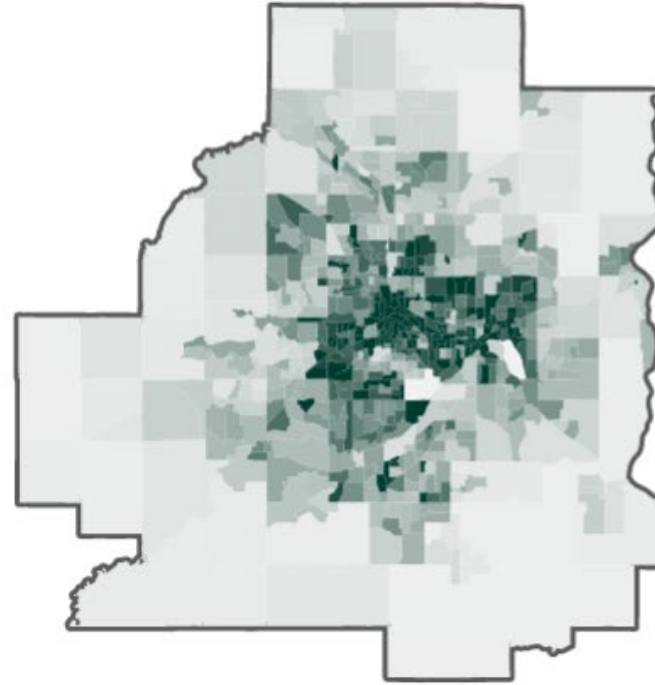
- Business-as-Usual: recent growth and development patterns continue
- High growth/compact development
- High growth/dispersed development
- Low growth/compact development
- Low growth/dispersed development



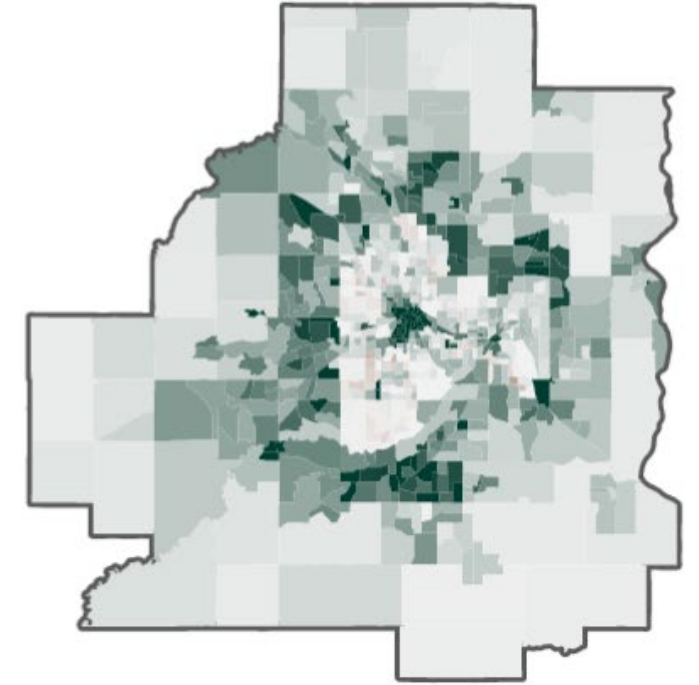
Business as usual



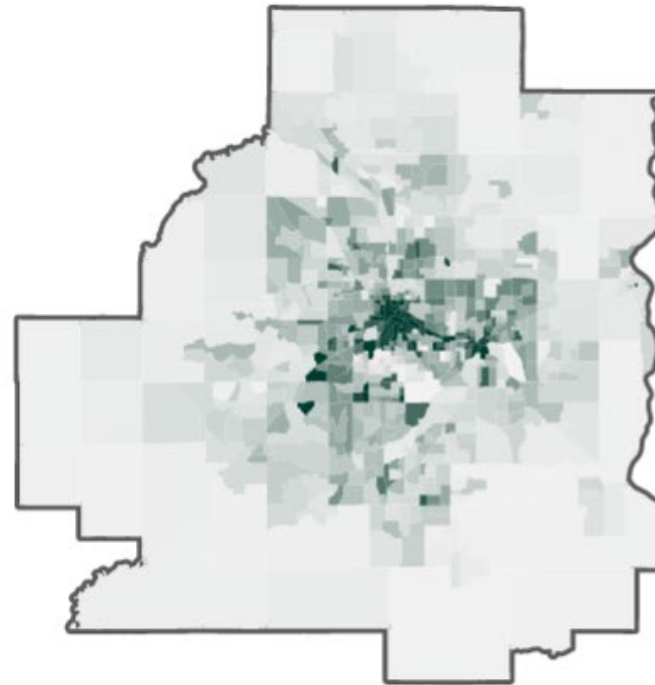
Higher growth, more compact



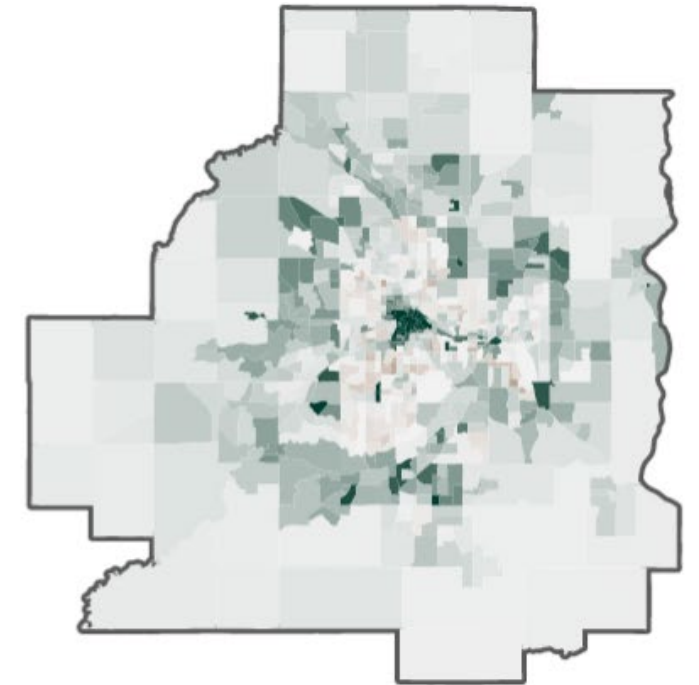
Higher growth, more dispersed



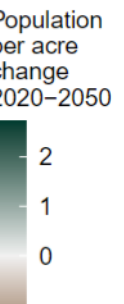
Lower growth, more compact



Lower growth, more dispersed



Population Change per Acre, 2020-2050



Main Takeaways



- Region-wide we expect growth through 2050.
- Each park agency will need to be ready for a little growth or a lot more growth.
- Under different futures, agencies will face different challenges and opportunities.
- Council policy needs to be ready to support the agencies under each future.

An image of people in a sled being pulled by Siberian huskies at Lake Minnewashta Regional Park.

Regional Parks System Connections

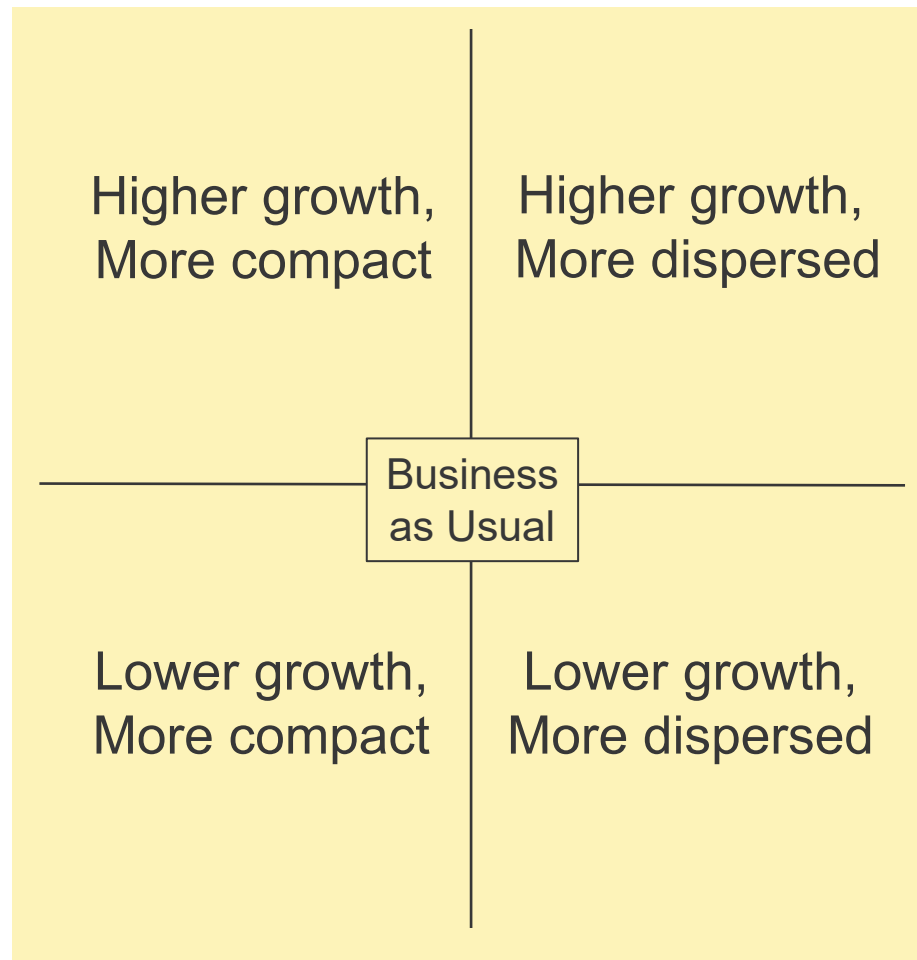


What could a scenario framework do for Regional Parks System policy?

- It helps us think about and develop policies to achieve our regional vision, mission, and values.
- It helps us explore how we can advance priorities in the Regional Parks System under different futures. (e.g. natural resource protection, equity, geographic balance)
- It helps us explore equity implications by asking how a specific type of change would impact different communities.
- It informs our understanding of policy trade-offs and synergies. (e.g. adequate funding, system additions, acquisitions)

An image of people snowshoeing in a snowy forest in Lebanon Hills Regional Park.

Discussion Questions



- How would these futures affect the Regional Parks System?
- What are some opportunities and concerns related to different futures?
- How could the Regional Parks System be better prepared for these futures?

Thank you!

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