



COTTAGE GROVE PARKS, RECREATION AND NATURAL RESOURCES
COMMISSION

August 14,
2023

- 1 Call to Order & Reading of Mission
- 2 Roll Call
- 3 Approval of the Agenda
- 4 Approval of Minutes
 - 4.A Minutes 06.12.23
- 5 Open Forum
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- 7 Action Items
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 - 7.B Matching Funds Program Request - Bike Park
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Minutes

City of Cottage Grove

Parks, Recreation and Natural Resources Commission Meeting

June 12th, 2023

Pursuant to due call and notice thereof, a Cottage Grove Parks, Recreation and Natural Resources Commission Meeting was held on June 12th, 2023.

I. CALL TO ORDER & READING OF MISSION

Meeting called to order at 6:20pm on the tour bus.

II. Roll Call

Members Present: Samantha Crabtree, David Olson, Adam Larson, Shane Waterman, Debra Gustafson

Members Absent: Susannah Brown, Kelly Glasford, & Breck Miller

Others Present: Zac Dockter Parks & Recreation Director, Jim Fohrman Parks Superintendent, Molly Pietruszewski Recreation Services Manager, Jordan Hirman, Recreation Facilities Manager, Audrey Wright Recreation Intern, Tony Khambata City Council Liaison, Lisa Rediske, Public Services Commissioner, Ron Kath, Public Services Commissioner, Lisa Hartfiel, Resident

III. Approval of Agenda

A Motion to approve agenda made by Commissioner Larson. Seconded by Commissioner Olson. Agenda approved.

IV. Approval of Minutes

A Motion to approve minutes from May 8th, 2023 made by Commissioner Gustafson. Seconded by Commissioner Waterman. Minutes approved.

V. Open Forum-None - None

VI. Presentations - None

VII. Action Items - None

VIII. Presentation Of Information

a. Park Tour

- i. Zac lead the Commission and guests on a tour that included visits to Glacial Valley Park, Shepards Farm, Highlands Park, Sunnyhill Park, Antler's Ridge, Peter Thompson Park, Still Ponds Park, Oltman Middle School, Oakwood Park and Hamlet Park.

IX. Action Updates – None

X. Donation and Acknowledgements – None

XI. Staff Reports & Educational Materials - None

XII. Commission Comments – None

XIII. Council Comments – None

XIV. Adjournment- Motioned by Commissioner Olson & seconded by Commissioner Larson. Meeting Adjourned at 7:45pm.

To: Parks, Recreation and Natural Resources Commission
From: Zac Dockter, Parks and Recreation Director
Cc:
Date: August 2, 2023
Subject: Funding Request – Remote-Control Track Proposal

Introduction/Background

A group of volunteers have organized with a goal of building a Remote-Control (RC) Track at Pine Coulee Park. Their proposal is included with this report. Members of the group will be present at the August meeting to further discuss their vision. With any new activity in a park, the following list are items that Commissioners may want to ponder:

1. Are there any ordinances this use may violate?
2. Are there any negative impacts to adjacent neighbors (noise, site, dust, etc.)?
3. What are the hours and seasons of the proposed use?
4. Does the proposed use negatively effect any other park usage?
5. Who is responsible for the construction? (are any City resources requested?)
6. Who is responsible for maintenance?
7. What are long-term needs for the track's viability?
8. Is there an alternate use planned for the space proposed?
9. What are the implications of the project should the volunteer group chooses to dissolve?
10. How does this benefit the group, neighborhood, community and visitors?

Staff has met with the volunteer group prior to this proposal. Upon initial review, staff believes the track would conform with ordinance and the site chosen is a practical use within the park. The group seems to have a solid vision and plan of execution to make it happen. It appears that this would would satisfy a recreation niche' in the community while also having the potential to draw visitors from surrounding areas.

If there are questions or concerns from the Commission about this project, staff is happy to respond to those at the meeting or by further studying the topic and bringing information back to a future meeting.

Action Requested

Review RC Track proposal and provide direction to staff.



CRAIG HUERTA, AGENT

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Access Anytime:
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RC Track Proposal

Board Members,

We would like to create an RC track at Pine Coulee Park to enhance the use of the park. Our hope is that this will add value to the park and draw in folks to who might frequent some of the other Cottage Grove businesses while they are here. Here is where we are at with our proposal.

1. How are we going to do it?

With the help of financial and labor volunteers we would like to use skid steers to level the land and then lay class 5 rock as our base for the track. We would then use other materials such as corrugated perforated pipe to shape the track.

2. What would be the cost?

We expect that the cost for the class 5 would be approximately \$3,500. We are still in the process of getting multiple bids for it. We are also getting bids for delivery. We are hoping that Dynamic Earth & Civil will be able to assist us in the delivery.

3. Where is the funding coming from?

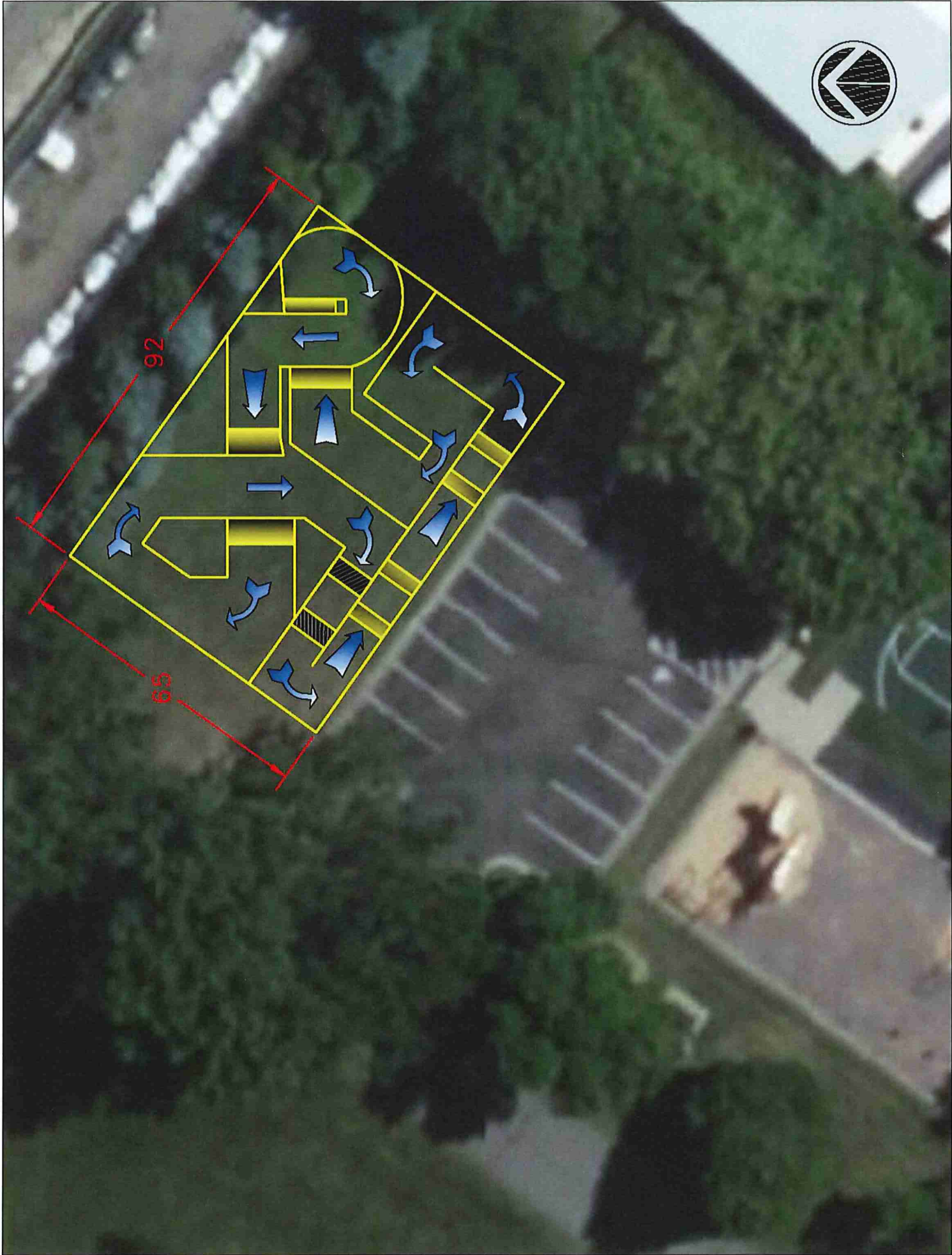
We are still trying to determine where our funding will come from. We have commitments from Craig Huerta & Associates LLC, Pederson Realty, & Dynamic Earth & Civil to assist with the cost. Would the city of Cottage Grove be able to donate any funds the creation of the track?

4. Short- & Long-term maintenance.

Craig Huerta, Josh Werner, & Nick Rolewicz will all volunteer to maintain the property for the first two years. Our intention will be to get a good understanding of the time and funding that it will cost on an annual basis to maintain the track. After two years we would like to bring our findings to the city to see if we can partner for a long-term plan.

5. Hours & Seasons

We would like the hours of use of the track to align with the normal hours of use for all Cottage Grove city parks. We would expect that the course could be used as long as there is no snow on the ground. We would ask that no bicycles, or any other motorized vehicles be allowed on the track.



To: Parks, Recreation and Natural Resources Commission
From: Zac Dockter, Parks and Recreation Director
Cc:
Date: July 27, 2023
Subject: Funding Request – Bike Park

Introduction/Background

A matching funding request has been made by the Bike Park Volunteer Group and MN Off-Road Cyclists (MORC) to provide \$2,500 support towards reshaping and realigning jump lines. The application is included with this memo for Council review and consideration. Funds are available within the Commissions allotted budget should it choose to fund the request.

Action Requested

Provide direction on funding request.

To whom it may concern,

We, the volunteers of the Cottage Grove Bike Park and representatives of MORC (Minnesota Off-Road Cyclists)) are applying for the Park Improvement Fund Grant. We are requesting a \$2,500 matching grant from the parks board to cover improvements already made to the Cottage Grove Bike Park this past summer of 2023. The matching portion of this grant will be contributed by The Minnesota Off-Road Cyclists (MORC), in the form of machine rental and volunteer labor to exceed \$2,500.

The improvements consist of reshaping and realigning straights 2, 3 and 4 as well as the second and third berm corners to create a large jump line that is conducive for use with mountain bikes. This will also improve water shed, control erosion, and decrease maintenance issues. Part of this will also involve rock removal and repurposing for the rock retaining wall around the pump track.

Thank you,

Chance Glasford

Example image of restoration intent with grant money. This effort will be replicated on other jump lines.



To: Parks, Recreation and Natural Resources Commission
From: Zac Dockter, Parks and Recreation Director
Cc:
Date: July 31, 2023
Subject: Park Naming Request – Mississippi Dunes Reserve

Introduction/Background

The City acquired a portion of the former Mississippi Dunes Golf Course and is recommending to start the process of officially naming the park. The City's Park Naming Policy is included with this report to aid Commissioners in processing the request.

The Park Naming Policy advises that the Parks, Recreation and Natural Resources Commission discuss the merit of naming applications or a list of names as prepared by staff. No formal application for this site has been made. Staff presents the following two names which have been the most common naming reference to the site:

1. Mississippi Dunes Park Reserve
2. Mississippi Landing Park Reserve

At the August meeting, Commissioners may add to or eliminate names from the list. No formal recommendation is required at this time. The naming process will sequence as follows:

August – Initial naming review
September – Secondary review of name options
November – Commission park naming recommendation to City Council
December – Council resolution approving name

Action Requested

Provide direction on park naming request.

City of Cottage Grove

Policy for Naming and Renaming of Parks, Park Facilities, and Open Space

I. Introduction

The selection of a proper name for a park, park facility, and/or open space is a thoughtful process which requires careful analysis by many people. This procedure has been adopted by the City of Cottage Grove to provide the proper guidelines for any naming or renaming of said amenities.

II. Procedure

The following procedure will be used for the naming of parks, park facilities, and open space:

1. Staff, Council, Advisory Body, or Cottage Grove resident recognizes and requests the naming of a park, park facility, or open space.
2. Staff will prepare and submit the request to the Parks, Recreation and Natural Resources Commission for review.
3. The Parks, Recreation and Natural Resources Commission will discuss the merit of the name(s). If there is a list of potential names, they may be added to or eliminated from the list at this time. No formal recommendation will be made at this meeting.
4. At the subsequent Parks, Recreation and Natural Resources Commission meeting, staff will provide any information requested by the Commission. If there is a list of names, the list should be narrowed to three at this meeting. No formal recommendation will be made at this point.
5. At their next meeting, the Parks, Recreation and Natural Resources Commission shall debate the merits of the remaining name(s) and make a final recommendation to the City Council.
6. The recommendation will then be placed on the next regular City Council meeting. If City Council does not approve the recommended name, they will return the issue to the Commission with direction and the process will begin anew.

III. Park, Park Facility, and Open Space Naming Criteria

Listed below are the criteria used to determine the naming or renaming of Parks, Park Facilities, and Open Spaces.

1. The name of the subdivision associated with the Park.
2. The name of the neighborhood in which the park is located.
3. The street name adjacent to or closely identified with the park.
4. The name of a local interest point, or local focal point near the park.
5. The name of an event or historical occurrence associated with the park or area.
6. The name of a person who dedicates a major part or all of the land for the park.

7. The name of a person of significant stature within the community. He/she must adhere to at least one of the following credentials and complete a waiting period of at least six months from the conclusion of service or time of death:
 - a. At least ten years of local service to the community
 - b. Shown outstanding assistance or support of the local park system
 - c. Major financial donor to the park system
 - d. A historical figure or family

VIII. Final Determinations

The City Council reserves all rights in the naming or renaming of all parks, park facilities, or open spaces.

To: Honorable Mayor and City Council
Jennifer Levitt, City Administrator
From: Zac Dockter, Parks and Recreation Director
CC:
Date: July 20, 2023
Subject: Mississippi Dunes Landscape Restoration Grant

Introduction

The City recently acquired the former Mississippi Dunes Golf Course. The site would benefit from habitat restoration efforts to eliminate invasive species and foster growth of native prairie, wetland and Oak Savanna habitat. Doing so improves parkland habitat and ecology while also beautifying community open space.

The Minnesota Department of Natural Resources Conservation Partners Legacy (CPL) Grant program has a mission of restoring, protecting, and enhancing wetlands, prairie, forest and habitat for fish, game and wildlife. The CPL Grant is designed by the DNR to partner with regional and local organizations to achieve said mission through Legacy Grant funding. Funding for the CPL program is from the Outdoor Heritage Fund created by the people of Minnesota. This fund receives 33% of the sales tax revenues resulting from the Clean Water, Land, and Legacy Constitutional Amendment passed by the voters in the November 2008 election. The CPL Grant program offers an excellent opportunity for the city of Cottage Grove to continue its efforts of restoring historical landscapes.

Background

The City Council approved Mississippi Dunes Stewardship Plan (March 2023) which would act as the guiding document for any restorative work at this site. This document met City, County and State approvals during the acquisition of the property. The plan is included with this report.

The Mississippi Dunes property is a fantastic opportunity that is ripe for habitat restoration. The process to restore these 20 acres would include the following:

1. Selective woody species removal – focused on invasive tree species and Ash trees
2. Invasive and native brush control
3. Herbicide applications and prescribed burns to prepare seed bed and aid grow-in process
4. Native seeding application utilizing no-till drill method and broadcast seeding

The results of this effort will improve habitat for wildlife of all sorts while also beautifying the landscape for park visitors throughout each season. The grant would provide funding to clear invasive trees/shrubs/grasses/weeds followed by planting of Minnesota native prairie, wetlands and woodlands. The project team will be creative with encouraging habitat benefit by planting tree species that provide a food source to animals, birds, reptiles and more. Further, grasslands will be populated with wildflowers that support pollinators, Monarch Butterflies and more. When mature, this restored landscape will provide year-round beauty while also supporting the everchanging ecosystem within the greenway. Additionally, these restorative efforts promote water quality by planting sustainable species that have large root masses to filter water and protect soils against drought/erosion. Once established,

these spaces require minimal maintenance which ultimately saves the City labor, fuel and equipment expenses while also reducing the carbon footprint of maintenance operations.

To support this landscape restoration effort, staff is recommending application for a MN DNR Conservation Partners Legacy grant in an amount up to \$215,000. The match requires a 10% match from the City. If awarded, the funds would be derived from the Public Landscapes Initiative fund. There is currently no money budgeted for this particular project out of that fund. However, if the grant is awarded, this project would be prioritized for 2024 and all proposed park projects in 2024 and beyond would be pushed back one year (i.e. 2024 projects moved to 2025, etc.). Most expenditures would occur during site preparation and seeding in 2024 and 2025 with significantly declining project costs in 2026 and beyond. The breakdown of cost participation is summarized below.

<u>Project Costs</u>	<u>\$215,000</u>
Grant Funding Request	\$193,500
City In-Kind Match	\$11,500
City Cash Match	\$10,000

Staff Recommendation

Authorize staff to apply for a MN DNR Conservation Partners Legacy grant for Cottage Grove Trailway Corridor native habitat restoration in an amount up to \$215,000.

To: Parks, Recreation and Natural Resources Commission
From: Zac Dockter, Parks and Recreation Director
Cc:
Date: July 31, 2023
Subject: Mississippi Dunes Signage

Introduction/Background

Park staff is working on appropriate signage to help visitors with wayfinding and rules at the park. Attached are the two signs proposed for the site.

Action Requested

Review and provide direction on park signage for Mississippi Dunes.

MISSISSIPPI DUNES RESERVE MAP



WELCOME TO MISSISSIPPI DUNES RESERVE

**PARK & TRAILS ARE OPEN
FROM DAWN TO DUSK**

PARK RULES



NO MOTORIZED EQUIPMENT ON TRAILS



PETS MUST BE LEASHED AND CLEANED UP AFTER



STAY ON TRAILS TO PRESERVE HABITAT



NO HUNTING OR FEEDING WILDLIFE



NO FIRES OF ANY SORT



NO DIGGING , METAL DETECTING, OR GEOCACHING



NO CAMPING, TENTS OR OVERNIGHT STAYS



COLLECTION OF PLANTS AND ANIMALS IS PROHIBITED

LEAVE NOTHING BEHIND

HAVE FUN & BE KIND TO NATURE!

ANY EMERGENCY OR SUSPICIOUS BEHAVIOR PLEASE CALL 911

DISCOVER
COTTAGE GROVE
MORE THAN YOU IMAGINE

To: Parks, Recreation and Natural Resources Commission
From: Zac Dockter, Parks and Recreation Director
Cc:
Date: July 27, 2023
Subject: September Commission Meeting

Introduction/Background

City staff is requesting a joint workshop meeting between the Parks, Recreation and Natural Resources Commission (PRNRC) and the Public Services Commission in September. This meeting would take place on Monday, September 25 and would replace the originally scheduled PRNRC meeting scheduled for September 11. The items for discussion would be:

1. Cannabis use in public spaces
2. Electronic recreation vehicles (E-scooter, E-Bicycle, Golf Carts) on parks and right of ways

The City Attorney and staff would guide the joint meeting process as we discuss the current ordinance and the effect of rapidly changing laws and trends.

Action Requested

No action requested at this time.

To: Parks, Recreation and Natural Resources Commission
From: Zac Dockter, Parks and Recreation Director
CC:
Date: July 31, 2023
Subject: Action Updates

Introduction/Background

Staff will present on the following topics:

1. Mississippi Dunes Reserve Progress
2. Oltman Middle School Project Grant Application
3. Ice Arena Solar Power Project

Staff Recommendation

Receive information.

NRPA PARK PULSE

Parks and Recreation Makes Communities Sustainable

88% of U.S. adults support their local park and recreation agency implementing sustainability initiatives. Top actions include:

Updating to LED lighting and other energy-efficient products

Planting trees and native vegetation

Expanding areas of green space

Setting aside dedicated land to protect natural habitats

Each month, through a poll of 1,000 U.S. residents focused on park and recreation issues, NRPA Park Pulse helps tell the park and recreation story. Questions span from the serious to the more lighthearted. The survey was conducted by Wakefield Research (www.wakefieldresearch.com).



NATIONAL RECREATION
AND PARK ASSOCIATION

Visit nrpa.org/ParkPulse for more information.

To: Honorable Mayor and City Council
Parks, Recreation and Natural Resources Commission

From: Dennis Neitz, River Oaks General Manager

CC: Zac Dockter, Parks and Recreation Director
Jennifer Levitt, City Administrator

Date: July 3, 2023

Subject: River Oaks Quarter 2 Update

Introduction

River Oaks Golf Course and Event Center is a municipally owned venture that provides the following main services to our community:

1. **Golf** – River Oaks offers a beautiful 18-hole golf course and practice venue. The golf course is one of the most highly rated municipal courses in the twin cities due to its playability and beauty. Customer service is of the highest priority for the golf course. Leagues, lessons, tournaments and casual play are all welcome at River Oaks.
2. **Event Center** – The event center can accommodate up to 250 guests for weddings, parties, banquets, meetings or any other special events. Our venue can also be subdivided to provide smaller programming and/or simultaneous events. Food and beverage options are all prepared by the in-house Chef and his staff. Coordinated rentals by outside customers are a primary user group, but our staff is also vigilant in creating and promoting programs/events for the facility.
3. **Bar and Grill** – The Eagles Bar and Grill is open weather permitting and over the past month and into July will see a makeover on landscape. A full menu, bar, restaurant style seating and entertainment are available as well as a beautiful patio which has views of the golf course and Mississippi River Valley. Although revenue from golfers is the largest percentage of sales, Eagles is open and marketed to the public.

Quarter 2 Update

Golf Reporting

Q2 showed an 18% increase in sales for 2023 over 2022.

Q2 Update	2022	2023
April	\$117,203	\$156,923
May	\$233,481	\$267,671
June	\$255,147	\$290,063

*Number not official

Golf Summary

Q2 started out rough with the weather but golf has been strong. Our goal is to stabilize changes while increasing marketing and reach to avid, core, recreational and novice golfers, we are providing opportunities for all ages and abilities. Our vision in 2023 is to increase the customer experience through technology and service and this is changing daily.

Event Center - Eagles Bar & Grill Reporting

Q2 showed a 26% increase in sales for 2023 over 2022.

Q2 Update	2022	2023
April	\$52,886	\$59,095
May	\$129,626	\$132,301
June	\$143,279	\$220,276

*Number not official

Event Center - Eagles Bar & Grill Summary

The goal moving into Q2 was to create a better experience in the grill with a new menu. It is difficult in the hospitality industry to maintain a quality staff but this year has been better.

Maintenance - Summary

Our golf course is a living, breathing facility. Creating a quality golf course does not end the day the construction crew leaves. Instead, it is a lifelong process, to which the great attention needs to be given. Our staff has done an amazing job maintaining and improving our course and has many long-term goals in order to make all customer experiences enjoyable regardless of age or ability.

Washington County Parks and Open Spaces Commission

July 20, 2023

Agenda attached - page 2

- I. APPROVAL OF MINUTES - pages 3-7
 - A. May 18, 2023 - amended to show that I did not attend that meeting
- II. NEW BUSINESS
 - A. New Commissioner - Mari Donaldson from Cottage Grove
 - B. WC Natural Resources update - pages 8-35 (two documents)
 - 1. Interesting process and now reporting
 - 2. As prairie is restored, disturbance like grazing by large hoofed animals is important to maintaining quality
 - C. PFAS Settlement Updates - pages 36-59
 - 1. Priority 2 - sets aside \$20,000,000 for enhancing natural resources
 - 2. Page 58 (slide 23 in that deck) has a good summary of this aspect
- III. Parks Update - pages 60-62
- IV. We adjourned early enough to tour a recent conservation easement and the planned land acquisition of park and open space land at Big Marine Park Reserve. This will be an amazing and truly significant, both State and County involved.
 - A. Star Tribune article here: <https://www.startribune.com/washington-county-cattle-ranch-to-become-nature-preserve/600290944/>
- V. WC County Fair dates are August 2-6, 2023. Mari and I will be at the Parks booth from 1-4 on Sunday afternoon August 6th. If you're there, be sure to stop by.
- VI. Next meeting September 21, 2023.



PUBLIC WORKS

Wayne Sandberg, P.E., Director, County Engineer
Frank D. Ticknor, P.E., Deputy Director

PARKS AND OPEN SPACE COMMISSION AGENDA

Thursday, July 20th, 2023 / 6:00 p.m.

BIG MARINE PARK RESERVE MAINTENANCE SHOP

17495 Manning Trail N, Marine on St Croix, MN 55047

- I. CALL TO ORDER
- II. ROLL CALL
- III. APPROVAL OF AGENDA
- IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES
 - a. May 18, 2023
- V. OLD BUSINESS
- VI. NEW BUSINESS
 - a. Welcome New Commission Member Jim Kelly (5 min)
 - b. Washington County Natural Resource Updates Dan MacSwain (30 min)
 - c. PFAS Updates Stephanie Souter (30 min)
- VII. INFORMATION / UPDATES
 - a. County Board Update Commissioner Clasen (5 min)
 - b. Park Updates Alex McKinney (5 min)
- VIII. NON-AGENDA ITEMS (OPEN DISCUSSION)
- IX. ADJOURN

**FOLLOWING MEETING ADJOURNMENT, PARKS AND OPEN SPACE COMMISSION MEMBERS
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**PARKS AND OPEN SPACE COMMISSION
DRAFT MEETING MINUTES
Thursday, May 18, 2023**

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Jim Kelly called to order the Parks and Open Space Commission (POSC) meeting at 6:02 p.m. The meeting was held in the Ravine Landing Multipurpose Room at the Cottage Grove Ravine Regional Park in Cottage Grove, Minnesota.

ROLL CALL

Members Present: Chair Jim Kelly, Dave Olson, Corcoran Wicker, Jyneen Thatcher, Gary Severson, Tori Dupre, Lacy Lavine, Michael Kraemer, Mike Kazmerski, Corcoran Wicker, Kevin Smith, Ben Meyer

Members Absent: Anne Siess, Tori Dupre

Staff present: Alex McKinney, Connor Schaefer, Emily Jorgensen, June Mathiowetz, Serena Rath, Dan MacSwain

Others Present: Commissioner Michelle Clasen

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Motion by Jim Kelly to approve the agenda, seconded by Michael Kraemer. All in favor. Motion carried.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion by Gary Severson to approve the April 20, 2023, POSC minutes, seconded by Kevin Smith, after various grammatical errors and mis-paraphrased sentences were discussed between members. Additionally, absent members stated as present were pointed out including duplicated names on the roll call. Other typos included run-on sentences. All in favor. Motion carried with edits.

OLD BUSINESS**Land and Water Legacy Program (LWLP) Referendum (Informational)**

Serena Rath opened old business with an informational review of the LWLP Referendum including history, eligibility for LWLP funding, and acres currently protected. Serena also touched on the difference between conservation easements versus fee title acquisitions. Michael asked her to elaborate on how Washington County park properties are classified. It was clarified that county park parcels are fee title purchases that do not require conservation easements to be placed over them.

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Serena then reviewed the typical process for a LWLP project including initiation and execution steps. Commission member Kazmerski asked for clarification as to why the Washington County Board of Commissioners reviews projects before POSC members. Emily Jorgenson answered that the County Board does approve preliminary details of the project before POSC can review as this gives the project a green light to spend future funding. Commission member Kraemer asked if the County has their own appraisals completed. June answered 'yes.' She added that sometimes landowners also have their own appraisals completed and, in those situations, the MN DNR reviews both to determine which is more accurate and that is the appraisal then required to be used.

Serena then reviewed project finalization. Commission member Kraemer asked if the appraisal value is influenced by potential future uses of the land. June clarified that the appraiser calculates the current market value. Commission member Thatcher asked if staff have noticed a change in landowner contact over the years to which June indicated 'yes', noting the calls have remained steady over time. She noted the County's work over the years has gained credibility and understanding by residents - when people see their neighbor doing it and the result of doing it, they come to understand how it works and that it's a viable, fair and reasonable alternative to selling it for development. Lastly, Commission member Kraemer asked if wetland areas ever overlap with the County's conservation easements to which June confirmed that there are wetland areas within properties occasionally and this further protects those areas.

Serena further presented on monitoring site visits noting the County is responsible for monitoring 417 acres of Land and Water Legacy Program projects; the Minnesota Land Trust handles monitoring of co-held conservation easements. She then ended old business by reviewing next steps for the LWLP and noting the county received Outdoor Heritage Fund's grant funds for monitoring that will help expand stewardship efforts.

NEW BUSINESS

Middle St. Croix Valley Regional Trail (MSCVRT) Master Plan Recommendation (Action)

Connor Schaefer began new business by providing a project overview for the MSCVRT Master Plan recommendations. Information on the project included definitions of regional trails and master plans, a map of the trail's search corridor, and the master plan timeline. Project goals focused on safety and accessibility, comfort, connectivity, natural resources, equity, and implementation feasibility. Community engagement findings showed public interest in highlighting local destinations, exploring loop opportunities, providing views of the St. Croix River, clear wayfinding, and more.

Connor then shared a map of 3 proposed trail routes and gave recommendations from the planning team for the long-range regional trail designation and interim designations. After reviewing these routes, Commission member Kazmerski asked why the recommended routes bypass the downtown Bayport area in which Connor explained that that area was too congested already and did not have a safe way to implement a trail there. He did note the recommended route gives way to future destinations along Stagecoach Trail North and has its advantages as well. Commission member Kazmerski then asked about utilizing trails nearby that are already in place, and Connor confirmed that the interim trail does use these trails. Commissioner Michelle Clasen asked about the trail going through Woodbury in which Connor noted the Central Greenway Regional Trail will eventually fill this need.

Motion of support was moved by Corcoran Wicker, but before a second motion could be specified, Commission member Kazmerski clarified that despite these recommended trails not being the exact routes that members had envisioned, he has confidence in the planning team to choose the best feasible routes to meet master plan goals. Alex shared that absent members touched base with him to show their support for this master plan. Motion of support seconded by Mike Kazmerski. All in favor. Motion carried.

Glacial Hills Master Plan Introduction (Informational)

Before beginning his overview of this project, Connor notes a need to nominate a POSC member to represent the commission in upcoming stakeholder engagement opportunities regarding this plan. He also noted a change in language regarding all master plans created moving forward to be named a “Long-Range Plan”. This is due to historically negative connotations related to the word “master”.

Connor then provided an overview of the Glacial Hills Long-Range Plan including a project timeline and background on the corridor. Process values of this plan included addressing requirements for regional trails stated in the 2040 Parks Policy Plan, engaging in a broad section of the public in historically underrepresented populations, and is consistent with County goals and local partners. Connor then shared the plan’s engagement structure with the public with one of the key stakeholders to be a representative from the POSC members. This role would serve on the Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) by acting as a liaison across boards/councils, assisting in establishing project priorities, and ensuring partner agency input. Additionally, they would be responsible for sharing community feedback and contributing technical expertise. Next steps for this summer are identifying project goals, stakeholder analysis, the first TAC meeting, and beginning data and information gathering.

Discussion ensued on who to pick for the POSC representative. Technical expertise in this context was defined as knowledge of natural resources and current park system goals and policies, and it was suggested that those living in the Glacial Hills corridor should join the TAC. Commission members Jyneen Thatcher, Ben Meyer, and Corcoran Wicker nominated themselves to serve as the POSC representatives.

During this discussion, Commissioner Clasen pondered why this project in County District 1 is being proposed before projects in County District 5, an area without county parks or conservation areas. Connor related to this concern by stating the County would love to start many projects like these across all county districts and will be bringing forward more projects in these other districts in the next year. For now, this begins the planning process for the long-range plan to be implemented—most likely years down the road.

Park Ordinance Feedback (Informational)

Connor ended old business with a project review for the Park Ordinance Update. He defined what a park ordinance is, gave a historical timeline of past updates, and explained the why behind updating—to provide better services and experiences for all park users. After a timeline of the project was given, listening sessions amongst POSC members, parks staff, and other park agencies were showcased. Major themes from this engagement included the need for adaptable, clear, equitable, and enforceable ordinances. It was also noted that these ordinances should be educational, should support park values, and provide safety.

Starting with minor changes, the ordinances will exclude the definition for “glue” and duplicate policies. It will also add an ordinance against impersonating/illegitimate park signs, update state statue, and update disabled persons language to “persons with a disability”. As for more complex ordinance edits, According to the review process timeline, the project is currently in the initiation of approval phase where staff and stakeholder updates are brought to the POSC. The focus areas exhibited started with designated trails such as adding ordinances for ski pass requirements and no hiking on ski trails. Commission Member Kazmerski asked to clarify if no hiking on ski trails was only in the winter, and Connor confirmed yes. Further trail updates included allowing mountain bikes on designated trails, and a section on trail etiquette will be added.

The second focus area touched on alcohol/substances ordinances, beginning with electing the term “controlled substances”. Ordinances will be modified to focus more on the behavior element of using alcohol or other substances to aid in the enforcement of these rules which Chair Kelly asked for more clarification on. Connor explained that this will help enforce the ordinance without needing to actively search for the substances influencing the patron’s behavior. Alex also mentioned that this will set an expectation for behavior rather than just possession of the alcohol. The last change on this focus area will be dependent on how Minnesota State sets their ordinances for cannabis/THC use.

Another focus area for e-bikes and scooters edited the ordinances to be more aligned with other park agencies. Users can expect a new ordinance that allows e-bikes under 750 watts on designated biking trails, but they must still abide by state traffic laws. Commission member Kazmerski asked for clarification on if these include bikes that are pedaled in, which Alex explained that due to the varying types of recreational vehicles like these, the staff decided to lean toward enforcing wattage over pedal ability. Commission member Kraemer also wanted to double check on the speed limit for these vehicles, and it was clarified that they will be consistent with the current bike ordinance that disallows a bicyclist to ride “at a speed faster than is reasonable and safe”. No speed limit was intentional as enforcement can be difficult without proof of the exact speed.

The fourth focus area dedicated a new permitting system for foraging in the parks. Foraging activities will be for personal use in designated areas, and any foraging impacts to the land must be easily restored by nature. This also introduced allowing registered campers to forage for deadwood under six inches in diameter from designated areas. Lastly, the ordinance edits will allow for a larger firewood collection program for users that are approved for a use permit. Discussion ensued on identifying correct fungi in which Dan MacSwain shared that there will be guidelines on identifying and gathering in a minimal impact way provided to foragers.

The next focus area shared that verbiage on where pets are allowed will be modified to state pets are not allowed on designated trails and park areas except for service animals. Other current ordinances will remain in place and were reviewed. Jyneen asked if this would apply to skijoring, and it was explained that the six-foot-leash rule would not apply on designated skijoring trails. Alex stated that he would follow up on this. Mike shared concern that the current six-foot-leash ordinance may be restrictive to some in, and Alex noted that staff have recently begun a three-pronged approach to educating users on these ordinances to combat confusion and dogs off-leash. The three prongs are engagement, enforcement, and awareness.

The last two focus areas included camping and swimming. Key edits for camping excluded many ordinances that staff would like to adopt as policies for more leeway on adapting these rules in the future. Key edits to swimming ordinances refer to beach policy, other applicable ordinance, and a focus on education and etiquette. Final discussion topics included use of lead in fishing and PFAS contamination in some parks in which Alex noted that the ordinances refer to Minnesota statutes and DNR recommendations are posted at contaminated sites.

INFORMATION/UPDATES

County Board Updates

Commissioner Clasen began the County Board updates by announcing the adoption of the National Arbor Day holiday and noted that May will be recognized in the future as Arbor Month. She updated the commission on the County's search for a permanent yard waste location in a central county location and noted that they are still searching. She ended this update by announcing that the Northern Environmental Center should open in 2024 or 2025. Community engagement has been occurring to develop a sustainable wood waste management system.

Parks/Legislative Updates

Alex began the parks and legislative updates with information on the recently passed Legacy Bill which will help county parks maintenance receive an increase in funding. McKinney noted this is still below the state statute, but a significant increase over previous years. Highlights of park updates included hiring a new parks director, an equity program in partnership with Dakota County for adults enrolled in classes learning English as a second language, and campgrounds opening.

NON-AGENDA ITEMS (OPEN DISCUSSION)

The next meeting for the POSC will be on Thursday, July 20 and will be touring the new Long Lake Conservation Area. Members should meet at the Washington County Public Works North Shop to take a bus to the conservation area, then the meeting will end back at the North Shop. Members were suggested to wear long pants for this tour, and Dan asked for suggestions for topics that the commission would like to hear about.

ADJOURNMENT

Chair Jim Kelly called for adjournment. Motion by Kevin Smith, seconded by Michael Kraemer to adjourn the meeting. All in favor. Meeting adjourned at 7:57 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Elena Schewe, Acting Secretary

Natural Resource Updates

July 20, 2023

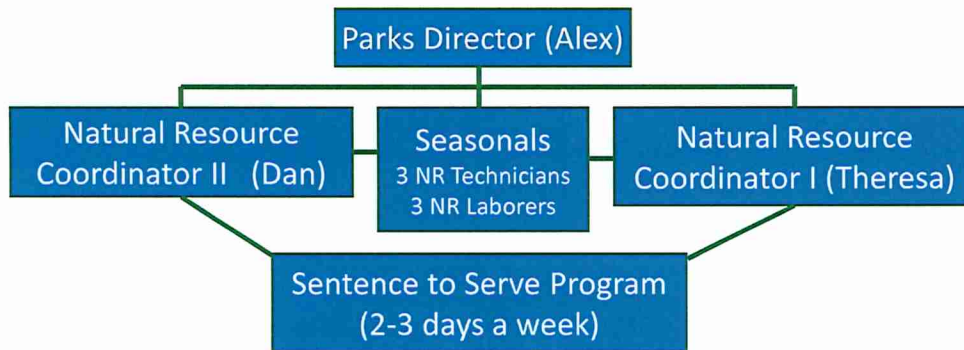
Dan MacSwain, Natural Resource Coordinator II



Outline

- Natural Resources
 - Team
 - Responsibilities & Draft Annual Stewardship Report
- Conservation grazing
 - Updated proposal for Lake Elmo Park Reserve
 - Other conservation grazing concepts
 - Potential funding sources
- Questions

Natural Resource Team



Parks Operating Budget
- \$9,000 – Professional Services, Washington Conservation District

Stewardship Operating Budget (Cropland and House rentals)
- \$21,700 – Consultant Services
- \$15,500 – Operating Supplies (Trees, Seed)

Donations when received
- Living forest program
- Milkweed for monarchs

- Local farmers
 - \$34,000 in revenue to stewardship budget after payment in Lieu of tax
- Community partners
 - Nonprofits, watershed districts
- Contractors
 - Most use with Legacy Amendment Outdoor Heritage Fund projects
- Maintenance worker assistance

Responsibilities & Draft Annual Stewardship Report



Overview of Responsibilities

- Forest/Grounds
 - Tree and shrub planting
 - Tree and shrub removal
 - Rain garden maintenance
- Grassland/Savanna
 - Restorations and enhancements funded by grants
 - Controlled burns
 - Noxious weed control
 - Undesirable tree and shrub removal
- Plant & Wildlife
 - Wildlife surveys and management
 - Plant monitoring
- Community partners, volunteers and staff

Draft Annual Stewardship Report

Goals

- Ability to communicate what stewardship work is occurring
- Ensure short- and long-term goals are being accomplished

Feedback requested from POSC

1. Do you see the value in the annual report?
2. What improvements could be made?

Why conservation grazing?

- Conservation grazing is the practice of using large herbivores on a landscape to improve and maintain habitat and ecosystem functioning
- Problem:
 - Grassland/Savanna reverts to low quality habitat without disturbance
- Strategic maintenance is needed that is:
 - Cost effective
 - Ecologically beneficial
 - Minimizes impact to park users, educational



Conversation to date

2040 Comprehensive Plan

- Strategy - “Develop and implement land management practices that include effective and innovative methods, such as conservation-based grazing.” (Ch. 7, pg. 68)

Parks and Open Space Commission

- Requested presentation on use of conservation grazing September 2020
- May 2021 - More information provided on trail impact, stewardship costs and MN Bison Conservation Herd. 10 supportive of continuing with seasonal bison; 1 supportive of cattle only
- Update requested for July of 2023

Internal Staff

Northstar

Dakota County

Cedar Creek Ecosystem Science Reserve

MN Bison Herd Partnership



Risk Management

Identify risks

Assess risks

Minimize risks

Plan for risks

Potential negative risks:

- Negative park user/staff & fence interaction
- Negative park user/staff and grazing animal interaction
- Property and injury liability
- Damage to fence and potential escape

Risk treatments:

- Fence design and placement
- Animal stocking rate
- Signage
- Training staff, informing public
- Enforcement off leash ordinance
- Emergency response plan
 - Herd owner manages and handles animals

Risk Management – Fencing

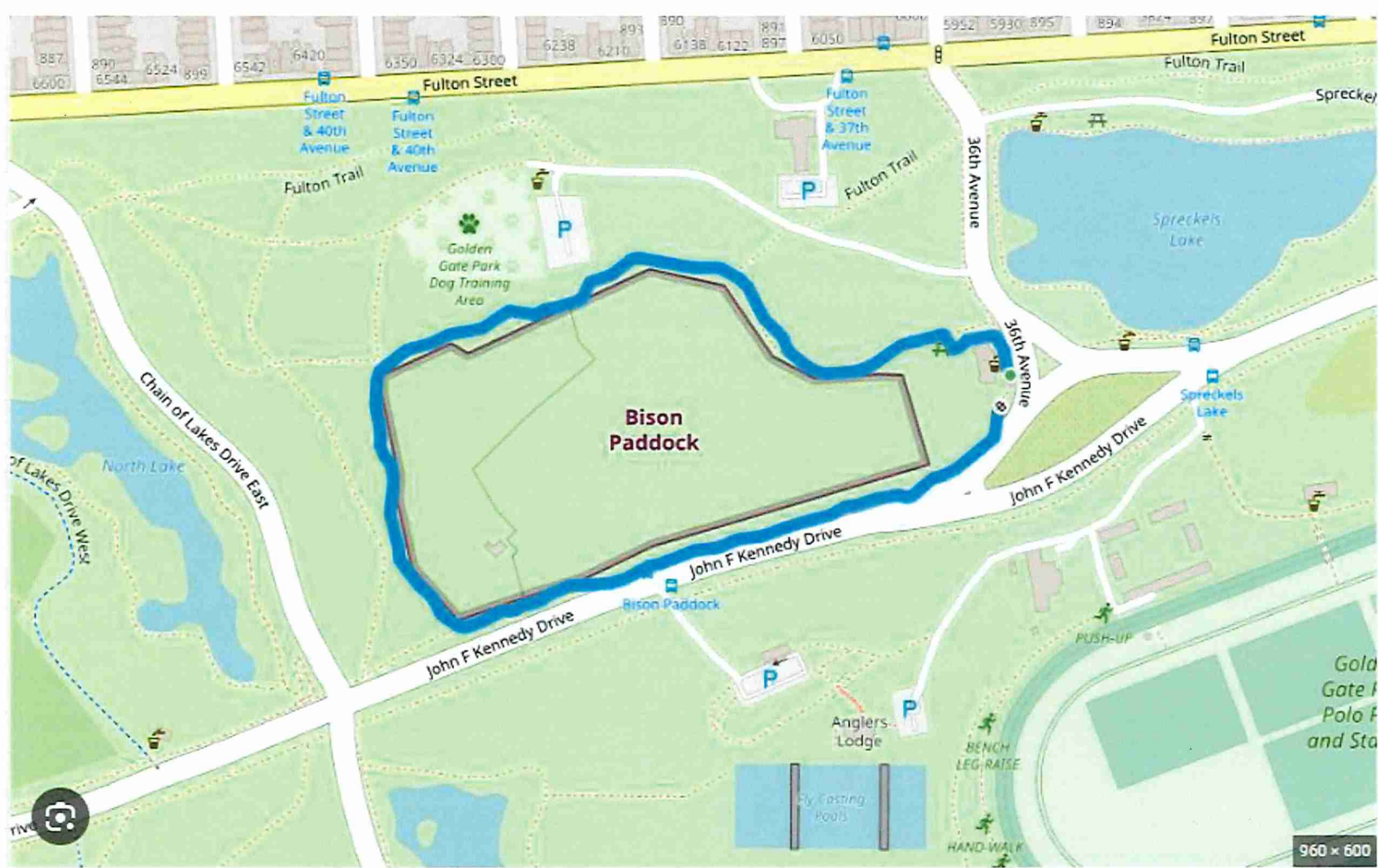
Design, placement, and fence type considerations

Fence Type Options

- 5 - 6 strand high tensile wire
- Woven wire
- Barbed wire
- Temporary high tensile wire
- Different options electrified or non-electrified

Placement

- Avoid high use areas of park
- Select location with lowest trail impact
- 20 foot setback from trail
- Minimize corners/areas where bison could be startled
- Strategic gate locations



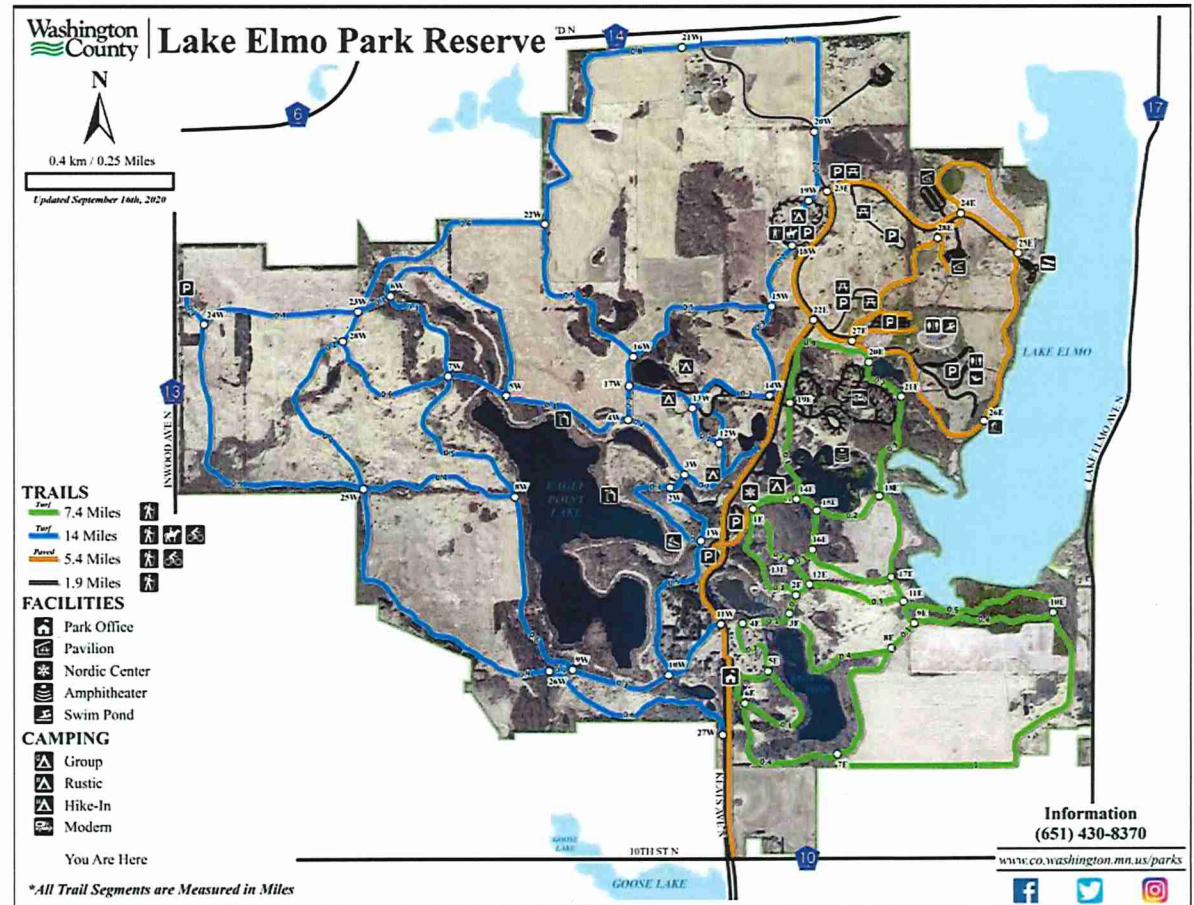
Bison Paddock Walking And Running Trail - San Francisco, California, USA | Pacer

[Visit](#)

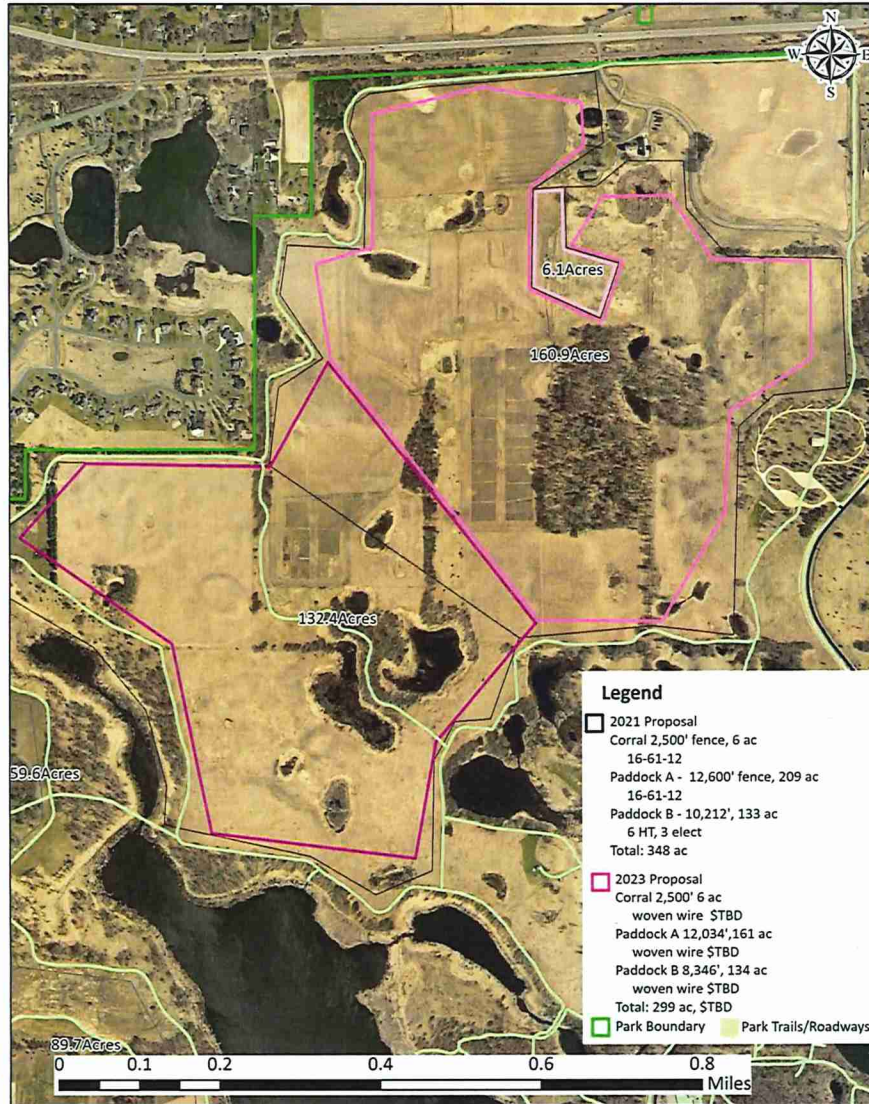


Lake Elmo Park Reserve

- Long Range Plan (2006)
 - Recommends protection and restoration of prairie and oak savanna
- Park Reserves
 - “are expected to provide a diversity of outdoor recreational opportunities... The park reserve is also intended to provide, protect, and manage representative areas of the original major landscape types in the metro area.” *2040 Regional Parks Policy Plan, Metropolitan Council*
- 400 ac of grassland restored since 2014 that needs to be maintained



Lake Elmo Park Reserve -Conservation Grazing Proposal Changes 2021 to 2023



#1 – Lake Elmo Park Reserve Phase I

- Grazing area reduced from 348 ac to 299 ac
- Large buffers placed between paddock and trail

What	Acres	Pros	Cons
Conservation grazing with cattle/bison	299	Accessibility to unit Facilities and staff nearby Existing restored grassland Wetlands/water Low use area of park 3 neighbors have cattle on border of park	One trail closure when paddock B is grazed Neighbor engagement required similar to Belwin Conservancy

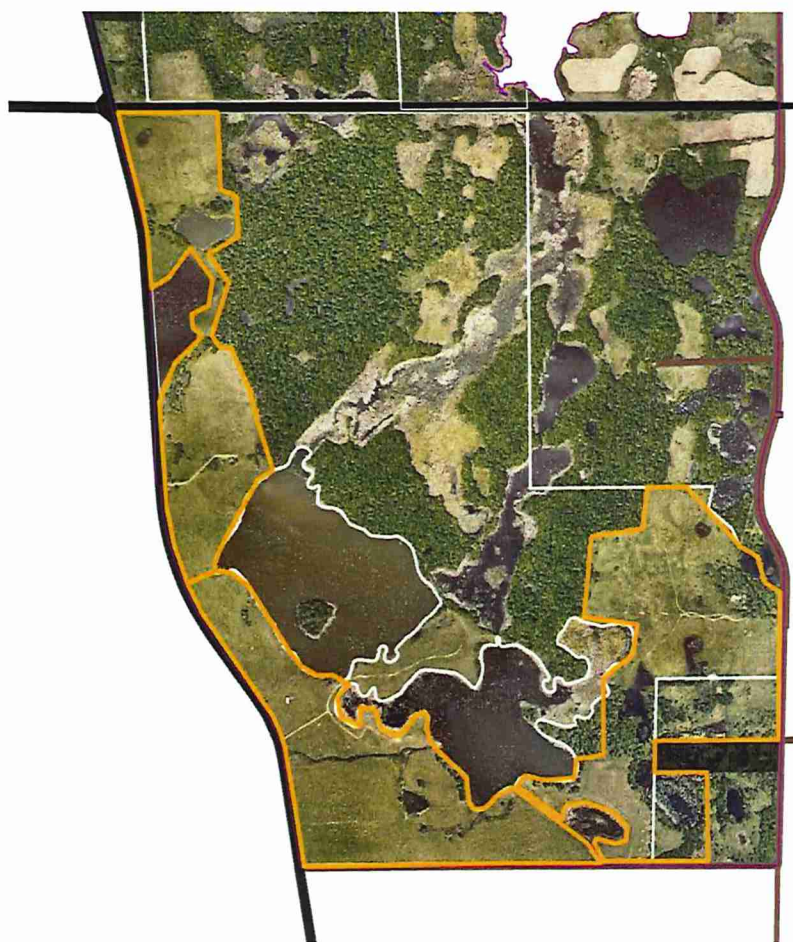


#2 Lake Elmo Park Reserve Phase II

What	Acres	Pros	Cons
Conservation grazing with cattle/bison	155	More remote than Phase I Neighbors with cattle nearby	Accessibility to unit Lack of water

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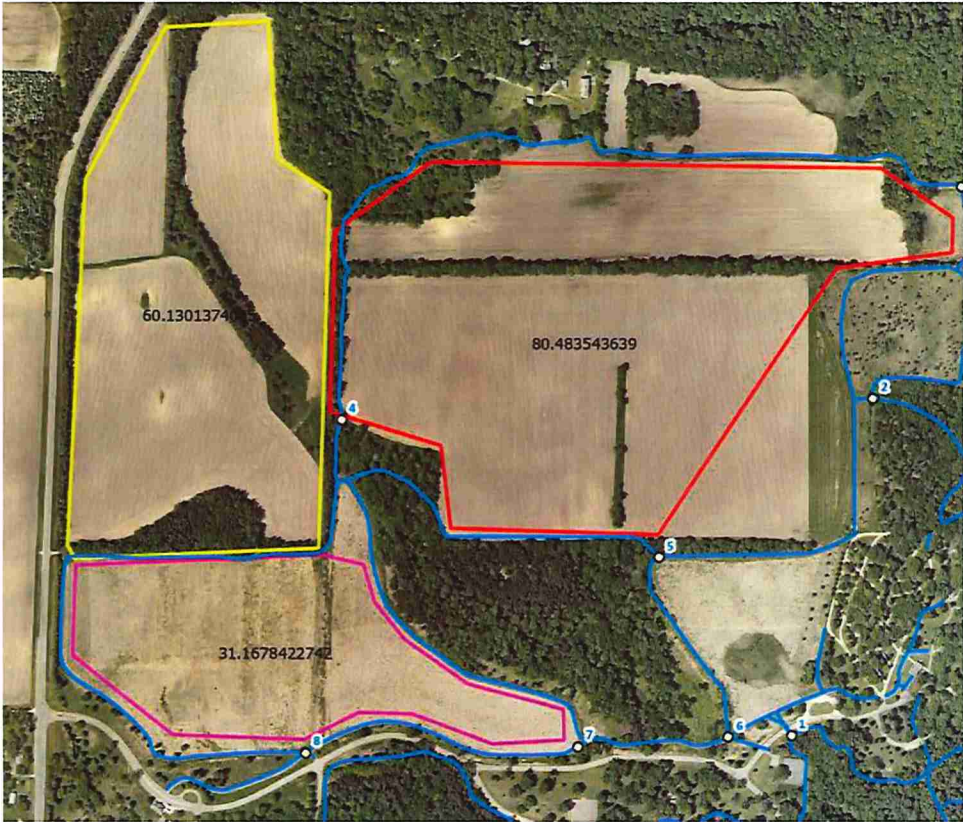
12



#3 Big Marine Park Reserve

- *This needs to be explored further when conversations with current steward held, and land is seen

What	Acres	Pros	Cons
Conservation grazing with cattle/bison	300*	Existing infrastructure and grassland	Major roadways
Use/upgrade existing infrastructure		Rural Community familiarity with grazing	Lack of staff, equipment, permanent facilities nearby



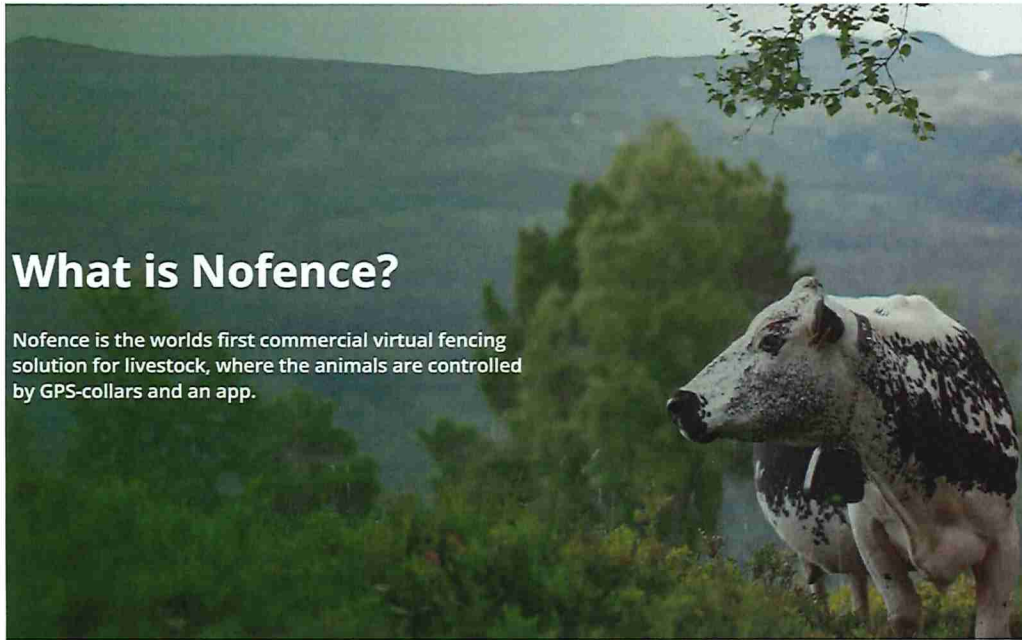
#4 St. Croix Bluffs Regional Park

What	Acres	Pros	Cons
Conservation grazing with cattle/bison Convert cropland to grassland as part of the project.	170	Less recreational users Rural Converting cropland to grassland positive for St. Croix river	Only 32 ac is an existing prairie restoration Majority of area is cropland and would need to be established after 2025. 3 years minimum rest for establishment Wells required Loss of cropland revenue (\$21k after PILT)



#5 All Parks – temporary single wire fencing with permanent corner posts

What	Acres	Pros	Cons
Conservation grazing with cattle	Varies	Less infrastructure to install, maintain Grazing paddocks can change May generate revenue via Bid Wire taken down after grazing Wildlife friendly	Community engagement required Cattle only



#6 All Parks –No fence technology

What	Acres	Pros	Cons
Conservation grazing with cattle	Varies	No infrastructure Grazing paddocks can change May generate revenue via Bid Wildlife friendly	Community engagement required

Potential Funding Sources

- Legislative –Citizen Commission on Minnesota Resources (LCCMR)
- Lessard-Sams Outdoor Heritage Council
 - Conservation Partners Legacy Grant (Metro CPL)
 - Application due date varies



Questions?



Washington
County

A horizontal bar composed of several colored segments: blue, green, olive green, yellow, and orange.

Parks Division Annual Stewardship

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Introduction

The Washington County Park System encompasses more than 4,800 acres of parkland including six regional parks, one county park, two regional trails and one historic courthouse site. These parks and trails offer an array of recreational opportunities that are guided by long range plans for each park to provide a framework for natural resource management within the park. This vision of these plans are then implemented by the Parks natural resource team.

To increase land stewardship throughout the natural areas of the parks system, by implementing sustainable land practices which increase plant diversity and structure, are economically viable, yet beneficial for plant communities, wildlife, pollinators, and people.

Long term goals include:

1. Increase the number of stewarded lands throughout the park system by focusing on processes (fire, grazing, forest and organizational development).
2. Sustain existing DNR identified native plant communities and Species of Greatest Conservation Need.
3. Create large contiguous corridors of sustainably managed habitat.

Short-term goals:

1. Define and measure stewardship across park natural areas.
2. Measure restored grasslands and develop maintenance plan for controlled burn, grazing/haying needs.
3. Implement forest management practices
4. Develop management plans to create large contiguous corridors of sustainably managed habitat with DNR NPC's and SGCN and climate change taken into account.

This report summarizes the land stewardship tasks implemented in the past year to ensure these goals are being achieved.

The annual report focuses on providing an overview of:

- Land stewardship
 - Land stewardship by park
 - Seasonal staff
 - Maintenance Workers
 - Sentence to Serve
- Community engagement
- Grants
- Results

Overview of stewardship team

The County has two Natural Resource coordinators who implement land stewardship tasks throughout the parks. The team oversees the work of X Natural Resource Seasonal staff, X days a week of the Sentence to Service program and obtains assistance from park maintenance workers on projects in natural areas. In addition, the team works with community volunteers and organization, and implements habitat restoration projects in the parks.

Accomplishments for 2023

The following were the major efforts and results for the past year:

- Hiring and training in a second full-time natural resource coordinator (2022)
- Land stewardship
 - X acres of controlled burns, forest mowing
 - Forest Management, X acres (Plan development or implementation)
 - X lbs of Native seed collected, X species, X value
- Community partnerships
 - Cottage Grove Ravine Regional Park partnership, 147 acres of habitat restoration work via SWWD and FMR.
 - Engaged with X residents via volunteering.
 - Held X Natural resource-based programs.
- Grants
 - # of active grant
 - # of grants with long-term maintenance planned in Operating or Stewardship budget
- Results
 - X acres of renewed prairie growth *[or however you'd describe the intent of the controlled burns]*
 - X acres cleared of undesirable species
 - X acres of new grassland improvement
 - Addition of X 2"+ caliper trees in maintenance grounds, X smaller trees in forest and X species

Land stewardship by Park

The land stewardship activities occurring throughout the park system can be found below in Table 1 with activities by park.

Table 1: Land Stewardship by Park

		North Parks				South Parks			
		Big Marine Park Reserve	Pine Point Regional Park	Square Lake Park	Hardwood Creek Regional Trail	Cottage Grove Ravine Regional Park	Lake Elmo Park Reserve	Point Douglas Park & Regional Trail	St. Croix Bluffs Regional Park
Maintenance									
	<i>Controlled burning</i>								
	<i>Haying/Grazing</i>								
	<i>Noxious weed control</i>								
	<i>Forest Management</i>								
Active Restoration and Enhancement									
	<i>Controlled burning</i>								
	<i>Establishment mowing</i>								
	<i>Forest Management</i>								
	<i>Prescribed grazing/haying</i>								
	<i>Acres seeded</i>								
No Management									
Monitoring									

Seasonal Staff

X Natural Resource Seasonals were hired throughout the year, seasonals provided X total hours of labor. Table 2 below breaks down the tasks they completed throughout the year; however, because this excludes miscellaneous tasks, these figures may not add up to the total listed above. This information is collected using a program called ArcSurvey 123 which staff complete each day.

Table 2: Tasks of Natural Resource Seasonal Staff throughout park system

Task	Hours	Previous year hours
Planting and maintenance		
Controlled burning		
Noxious weed control		
Winter pile burning for fuel load reductions		
Seed collection and cleaning		
Site preparation and or seeding		
Volunteers		
Tree and shrub management		
Rain and native garden maintenance		

Public Works - Maintenance Worker Assistance

Washington County Public Works Maintenance workers (Parks and Highway Division) provide assistance to the Natural Resource program throughout the year by planting prairie, mowing establishing prairie, noxious weed control and assisting with controlled burns and tree/shrub removal. This information is collected via a workorder on the timecard submitted. Table 3 shows the assistance provided by Maintenance workers throughout the year by park.

X Maintenance Workers assisted, accounting for X hours of time.

Table 3: Maintenance Worker, Natural Area Equipment Operation WO# 515205

Park		Hours
North Parks	Big Marine Park Reserve	
	Pine Point Regional Park	
	Square Lake	
	Hardwood Creek Regional Trail	
South Parks	Cottage Grove Ravine Regional Park	
	Lake Elmo Park Reserve	
	Point Douglas Park and Regional Trail	
	St. Croix Bluffs Regional Park	
Total Hours		

Sentence to Serve Program

The Sentence to Serve Program (STS) is a program with the Community Corrections Department within Washington County. In the last year, we typically had three crew days with work prioritized at Lake Elmo Park Reserve and Cottage Grove Ravine Regional Park on natural resource projects. STS will also assist with maintenance projects and guest services programs and events across the parks.

Table 4 below lists the types of tasks completed by the crew by park.

Table 4: Sentence to Serve, Natural Resource Tasks by Park

<u>Park</u>		Natural Resources								<u>Maintenance or Guest Services</u>
		Tree and shrub removal	Fuel load reductions	Controlled Burning	Prescribed grazing	splitting and bundling wood	Noxious weed control	Trail installs, maintenance or repair	Planting, seed collection and cleaning	
North Parks	Big Marine Park Reserve									
	Pine Point Regional Park									
	Square Lake									
	Hardwood Creek Regional Trail									
South Parks	Cottage Grove Ravine Regional Park									
	Lake Elmo Park Reserve									
	Point Douglas Park and Regional Trail									
	St. Croix Bluffs Regional Park									
Total Days										

Contracted Services

What	Who	When	Where	Notes	Amount
Professional Services	Washington Conservation District	Year-round	All	Grant writing Vegetation monitoring of grants Land stewardship tasks Engineering Cropland support	\$9,000
Prairie restoration	Stantec		LEPR	CPL Grant – 33 ac	
	Landbridge Ecological		LEPR	CPL Grant 45 ac	
Foliar treatments of buckthorn re-growth					
Prescribed grazing	Goat Dispatch LLC		CGRP, LEPR		
Prescribed grazing	Diversity Landworks		SCB		
Two lined chestnut borer	Savatree		SCB		
Oak wilt control	Savatree		LEPR		
Tree planting					

Community Engagement

Washington County Parks staff regularly engage with community organizations and volunteers in land stewardship efforts throughout the park system. Table 5 below illustrates where volunteer engagement is occurring, how many hours are being contributed, and the number of events held to welcome new and recurring volunteers whether the event was sponsored by Washington County or an outside organization.

Table 5: Community Volunteer Assistance by Park

Park		Volunteers		
		Volunteer hours	Number individual of volunteers	Volunteer events
North Parks	Big Marine Park Reserve			
	Pine Point Regional Park			
	Square Lake			
	Hardwood Creek Regional Trail			
South Parks	Cottage Grove Ravine Regional Park			
	Lake Elmo Park Reserve			
	Point Douglas Park and Regional Trail			
	St. Croix Bluffs Regional Park			
Totals				

Table 6 below outlines the partnerships we have with local organizations, where they are helping, and how they are improving the parks.

Table 6: Partnerships with the Community

Who	What	When	Where
Friends of the Mississippi River			
Great River Greening			
Pollinator Friendly Alliance			
Sustainable Stillwater			
South Washington Watershed District			
Washington Conservation District AIS Program	Boat launch inspections, X Hours and X inspections	Summer	BMPR, Square Lake and Lake Elmo boat launches
United States Fish and Wildlife Service			
Minnesota Department of Natural Resources			

Grants

Washington County Parks regularly applies and receives grant funding directly or through several partnering agencies and non-profits. Recently, a majority of the funding has been provided by the Clean Water Land and Legacy Amendment, Outdoor Heritage Fund through the form of Conservation Partners Legacy Grants. Table 7 below summarizes the work done to apply for the grants, complete the projects and to plan for the maintenance needed post grant to ensure the land does not revert to a degraded state.

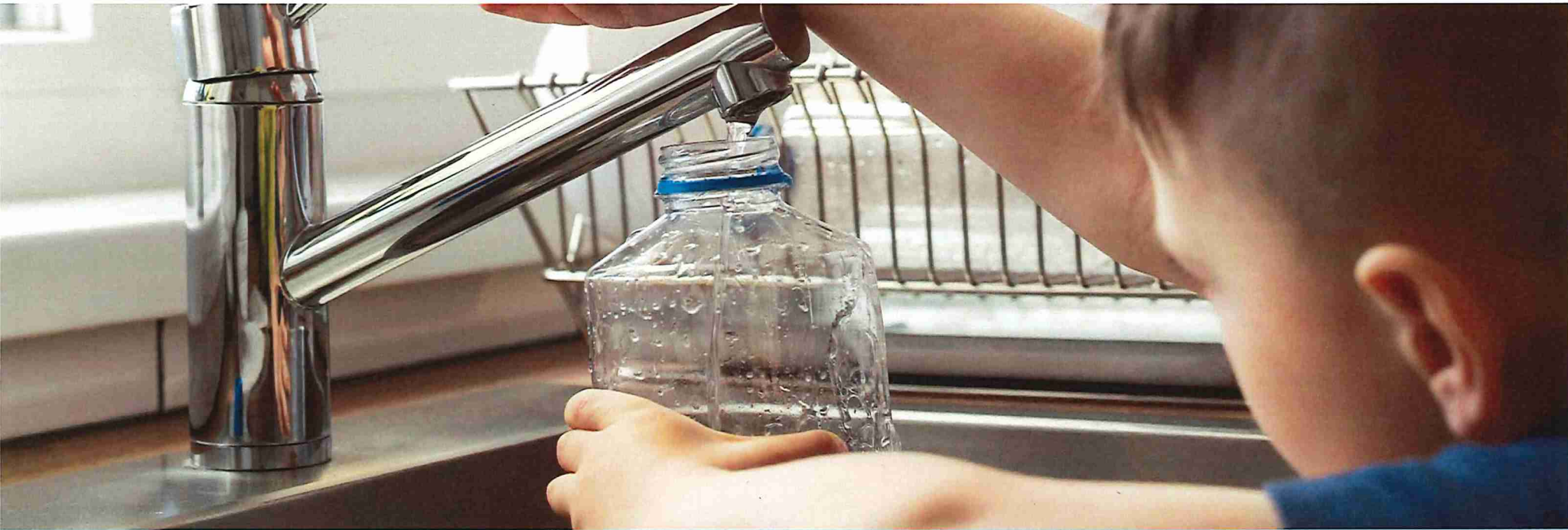
Table 7: Overview of Habitat Restoration Grants in the County Park system

Who	What	Status (Application, Active, Closed)	Park	Amount	Result	Maintenance post grant planned?	Description of Maintenance planned or needed

Most of the grants require a partner match to receive the funding. This match can be provided through \$, or through in-kind staff time Table 8, provides an overview of the in-kind staff time received.

Table 8: Grant, in-kind match by position

Table 6: Grants in kind match by position			
Grant	Work Order #	Position	Total Hours
		Natural Resource Coordinator	
		Natural Resource Seasonals	
		Maintenance Worker	
		Sentence to Serve (STS)	
Total			
		Natural Resource Coordinator	
		Natural Resource Seasonals	
		Maintenance Worker	
		Sentence to Serve (STS)	
Total			



PFAS/3M Settlement Update

May 2023



Agenda

- Overview of PFAS and 3M Settlement
- Current 3M Settlement implementation efforts
- EPA draft drinking water rules
- Potential impacts to public and private water supplies
- Related updates and Priority 2 work



PFAS

- Per and poly fluoro alkyl substances (PFAS) – formerly known as PFCs
- Large class (3000+) of surfactants with unique chemical properties
 - Fluorinated carbon chain with various functional group(s)
- Used since 1940s to make products that resist heat, stains, water, oil and grease; production increased rapidly in 1970s
- Many other specialized industrial and commercial uses (operative word: non-stick)
- Produced and disposed of in Minnesota 1950-1970s
- PFAS of concern in Washington County: PFOA, PFOS, PFBA, PFHxS



PFAS in the Environment

Do not break down

- C-F bond strongest covalent bond
- No hydrolysis, photolysis, or biodegradation

Do not adsorb readily to aquifer materials

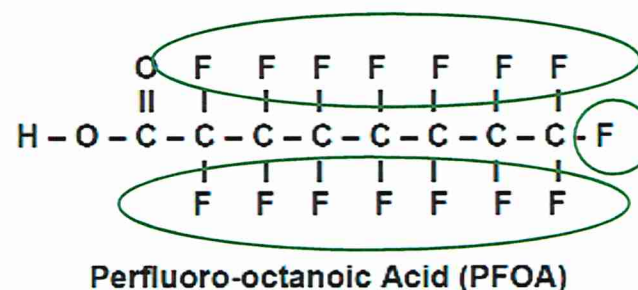
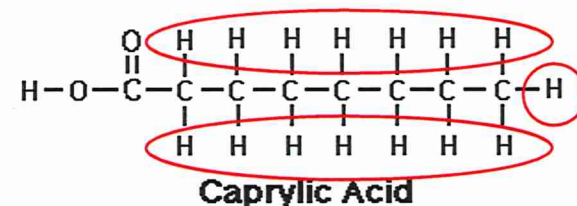
- Infiltrate rapidly to the groundwater
- Little or no retardation in aquifers
- Rates affected by PFAS chain length and functional group

Chemical structure similar to fatty acids

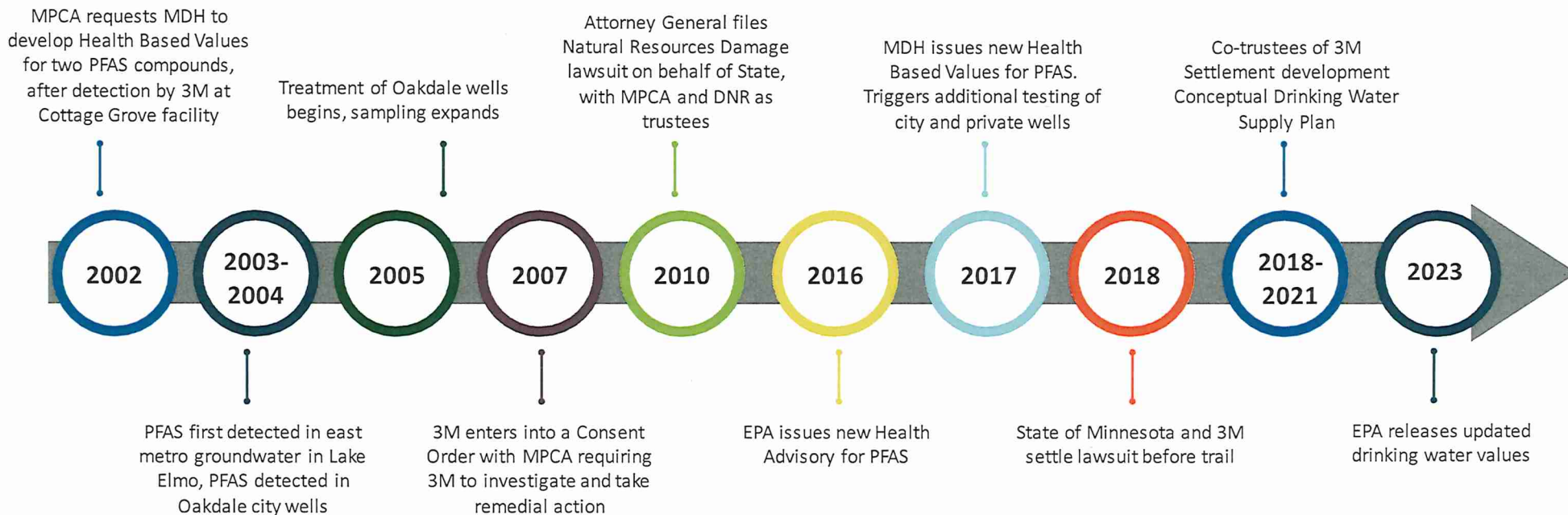
- “Proteinphiles” – adsorbed into blood serum of living organisms
- Also controlled by chain length functional group

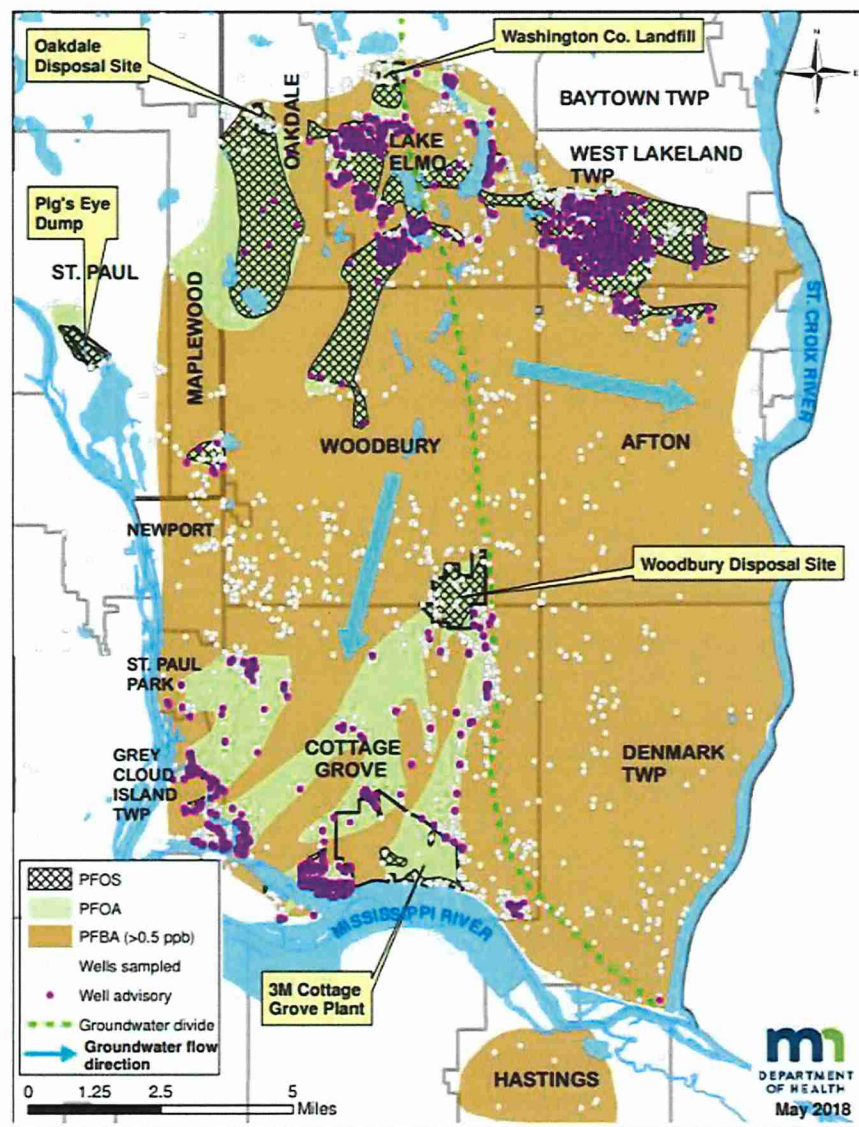
Health effects

- Strongest evidence for immune suppression, changes in liver function, and lower birth weight.



PFAS in the East Metro: A timeline





Agency Roles – Federal and State of Minnesota

US EPA

- Safe drinking water act
- Remediation

Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA)*

- Remediation: Superfund, Closed Landfill Program, Brownfields
- Permitting/regulations for air, water, land

Minnesota Department of Natural Resources (DNR)*

- Water supply and appropriation
- Ecological resources

Minnesota Department of Health

- Health risk assessment
- Drinking water regulation
- Well regulation
- Fish consumption guidelines

Metropolitan Council

- Regional Water Supply Planning
- Comprehensive Plans

*Co-trustee of Minnesota vs 3M Settlement

Agency Roles – County and Local Governments



Public Health and Environment

- County Groundwater Plan
- Connector and convenor
- Private well owner communication
- Solid waste management (avoiding landfilling)
- Hazardous waste and solid waste licensing
- Resident questions – referring to city or state appropriately

Cities

- Comprehensive Planning
- Public Water suppliers
 - Wells, piping, treatment plans (as needed)
 - Works closely with MDH for regular testing of municipal wells
 - Communication to residents



Public Works

- Support cities with drinking water system improvements
- County highway impacts
- Parks
- Capital Improvement Plan (CIP)

Townships

- Comprehensive Planning
- Land use and development
- No public water systems

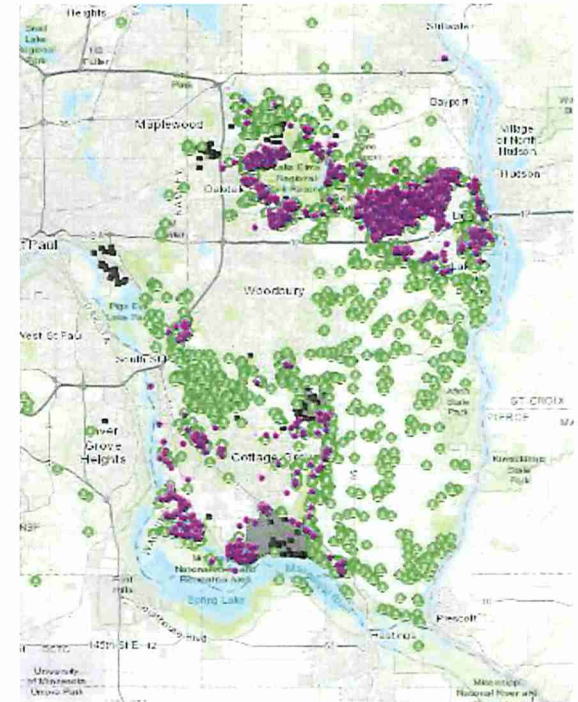
Impacts from PFAS

Public Systems

- Several communities have treatment in place on impacted wells
 - Cottage Grove
 - Oakdale
 - Lake Elmo
 - Saint Paul Park
 - Woodbury

Private Wells

- ~4,000 wells sampled
- 1,451 well advisories issued (as of 2021)



3M Settlement

- February 2018, 3M agreed to \$850 million grant to the State to be used for long-term drinking water solutions in the East Metropolitan Area.
- **First and highest priority:** *Enhance the quality, quantity and sustainability of the drinking water in the East Metropolitan Area.*
- Second priority: Enhance natural resources. Per the Settlement Agreement, \$20 million is dedicated for this priority.
- Preserves 3M's obligations under the 2007 Consent Order
- Co-trustees of the 3M settlement are the MPCA and DNR

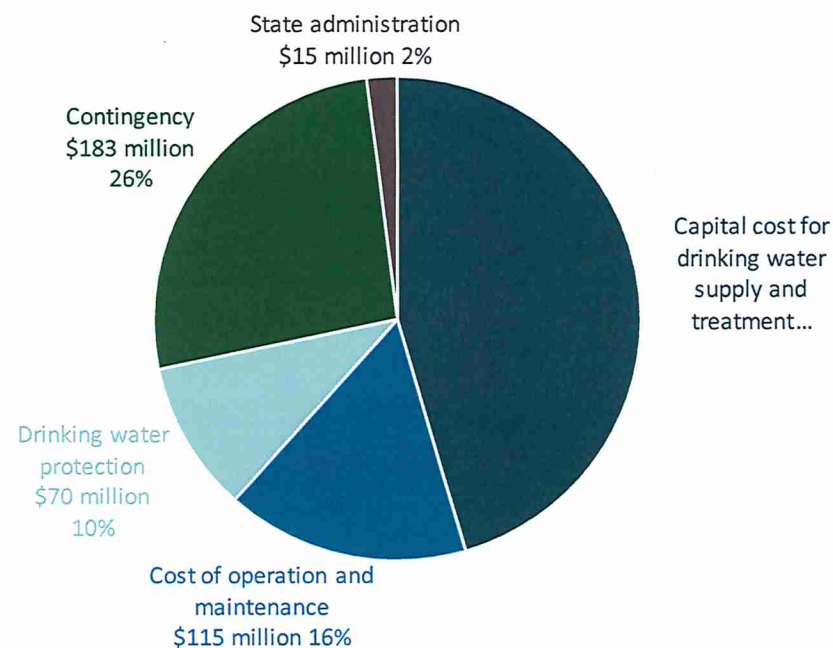
Conceptual Drinking Water Supply Plan Development

- Led by co-trustees (DNR and MPCA) and consultants
- Government/3M work group: communities, county, other agencies, 3M
- Drinking water subgroup
- One-on-one meetings with communities to identify feasible options
- Public meetings and comment periods
- Washington County involvement
 - Public Health and Environment (PHE) reps on both work groups
 - Convened cities for discussion
 - Public Works (PW) updates from cities on projects and concerns
 - Updates to County Board periodically and when new information released
 - Provided feedback throughout process, including formal comments on plan



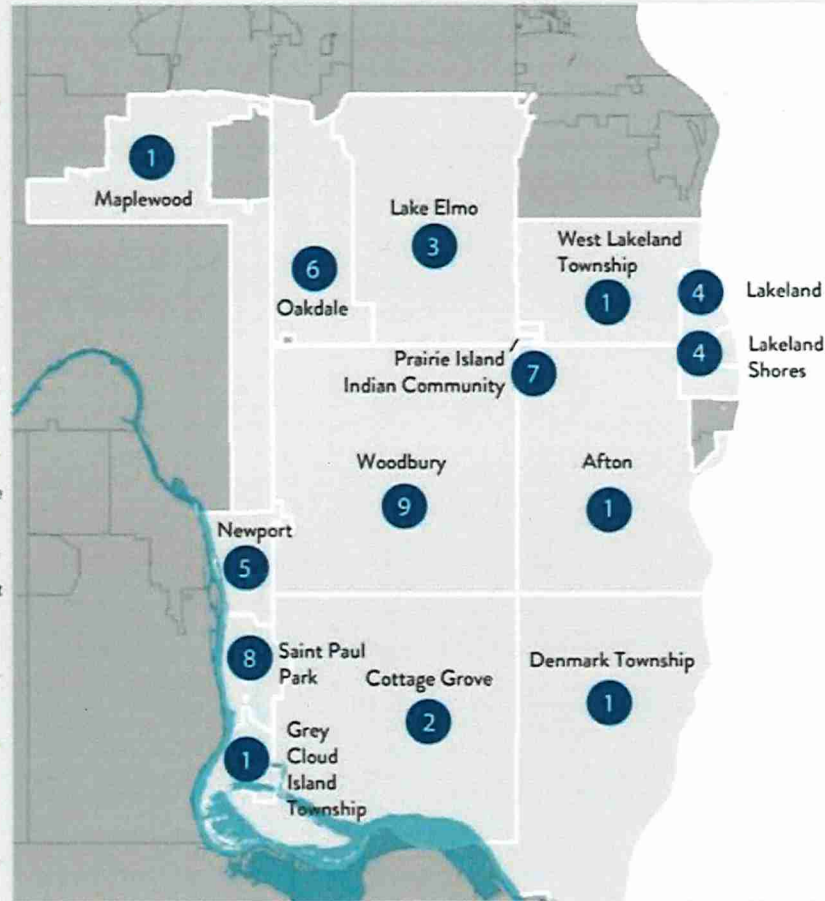
Conceptual Drinking Water Supply Plan

- Build new or expanded water treatment plant
- Install whole-home water filter systems
- Connect homes to public water suppliers
- Build or enhance connections between existing community water treatment systems



COMMUNITY PROJECTS PFAS Health Index at or above 0.5

- 1 **Maplewood, West Lakeland Township, Afton, Grey Cloud Island Township, Denmark Township**
 - Supply private wells with POETSS if over threshold
- 2 **Cottage Grove**
 - Treat 8 of 12 existing public wells
 - Replace 2 existing public wells with 1 new public well that will receive treatment
 - Add 2 new water treatment plants
 - Connect 156 homes
 - Supply other private wells with POETSS if over threshold
- 3 **Lake Elmo**
 - Supply drinking water from a combination of existing wells and new wells or an interconnect with Woodbury*
 - Connect 97 homes
 - Supply other private wells with POETSS if over threshold
- 4 **Lakeland, Lakeland Shores**
 - Connect 29 homes
 - Supply other private wells with POETSS if over threshold
- 5 **Newport**
 - One interconnect with Woodbury and one with Cottage Grove
 - Connect 3 homes
 - Supply other private wells with POETSS if over threshold
- 6 **Oakdale**
 - Treat 2 of 9 existing public wells and expand 1 treatment plant
 - Replace 3 existing public wells with 3 new public wells that will receive treatment
 - Supply other private wells with POETSS if over threshold
- 7 **Prairie Island Indian Community**
 - Treat 1 existing public well
 - Add 1 new water treatment plant
- 8 **Saint Paul Park**
 - Treat 3 of 3 public wells
 - Add 1 new water treatment plant
 - Connect 6 homes
 - Supply other private wells with POETSS if over threshold
- 9 **Woodbury**
 - Treat 15 of 19 existing wells
 - Replace 1 existing public well with 1 new public well
 - Add 1 new water treatment plant
 - Connect 5 homes
 - Supply other private wells with POETSS if over threshold



*The Co-Trustees set aside sufficient capital funding for either an autonomous option (two wells within Lake Elmo's borders that likely will need treatment) or an interconnect between Woodbury and Lake Elmo, due to some uncertainty regarding their future water source.

The final Conceptual Drinking Water Supply Plan provides safe, sustainable drinking water to the affected 14 East Metro communities now and into the future.

The State of Minnesota, along with community leaders, built a final plan that is comprehensive, safe and sustainable, resilient and flexible.

Conceptual Drinking Water Supply Plan Implementation

- Plan includes treatment options for any wells that exceed **Health Index of 0.5**, which is lower than the current **Health Index of 1.0**
- This was done to build resiliency into the plan, in anticipation of lowering of EPA and/or State guidance
- Water treatment plants in development, design costs for wells not currently in the Conceptual plan are Settlement-eligible
- Communities must submit a funding request to the state to receive funds for Settlement-eligible projects
- Each community has a different needs and timelines for projects
- Communities are coordinating with County Public Works staff on anticipated impacts to county highway projects

Drinking Water Standards and Guidance

- State and federal guidance for various contaminants
- Set by the US EPA:
 - Maximum Contaminant Levels (MCLs) – all public water systems must meet these standards, states are allowed to enforce lower standards
 - Health Advisories – technical guidance, non-regulatory
- Set by MDH
 - Health Risk Limits – set through rulemaking process
 - Health Based Values – updated when significant information is available



Drinking Water Standards and Guidance for PFAS

- Current MDH Health Based Values are lower than enforceable federal guidelines
- MDH uses a Health Index for 5 PFAS
- However, US EPA announced a new health advisory last summer which recommended little to no PFAS
- EPA released **draft** MCLs (enforceable) in late March 2023
- MDH is reviewing new information on health effects. Anticipated that new HBVs and MCLs will be more stringent than current HBVs and MCLs
- MDH has been working with communities to increase sampling and lower detection limits for state lab



U.S. EPA Draft MCLs

Chemical	Current MDH Health-based Guidance (ppt)	Maximum Contaminant Level Goals (MCLGs; ppt)	Maximum Contaminant Levels (MCLs; ppt)	Practical Quantification Level (PQL)* (ppt)
PFOA	35	0	4.0	4
PFOS	15	0	4.0	4
PFBS	100	Hazard Index = 1.0	Hazard Index = 1.0	3
PFHxS	47			3
PFNA	-			4
GenX	-			5

* Practical Quantification Level (PQL) is the lowest analyte concentration that can be reliably measured within specified limits of precision and accuracy during routine laboratory operating conditions

GenX = Hexafluoropropylene oxide dimer acid (HFPO-DA)

- EPA is proposing Maximum Contaminant Levels of 4 parts per trillion (ppt) for two PFAS: PFOA and PFOS
- Hazard Index for a group of 4 PFAS other PFAS
- These new standards would be lower than current MDH levels
- Current MDH lab detection limit is 2ppt
- Note: PFNA and GenX are not found in Minnesota

U.S. EPA Draft MCLs

- State agencies (MPCA and MDH) are preparing comments on EPA rules, due May 30th
- County (PHE) does not typically comment on these rules, relies on technical expertise and knowledge of MDH as the regulatory lead for drinking water - Minnesota is a national leader in PFAS risk assessment and science
- PHE could prepare and submit department level comments echoing state positions (pending receipt of information), with Board direction

Potential public water system impacts

Community	Information current as of April 2023			
	Existing wells covered in the Conceptual Plan	Additional wells that would need treatment*	More sampling needed**	Total number of wells in the community***
Cottage Grove ⁺	8	1	1	12
Cimarron Park	0	0	2	2
Lake Elmo ⁺	0	1	0	3
Lakeland	0	0	0	2
Newport	0	0	2	2
Oakdale ⁺	2	0	0	9
Prairie Island Indian Community	1	0	0	1
St. Paul Park	3	0	0	3
Woodbury ⁺	15	0	3	19
Total	29	2	8	53

Footnotes

⁺Table does not include treatment for wells that haven't been drilled yet

*Wells not already included in the Conceptual Plan for treatment and have 4 quarters of samples with PFOA and/or PFOS concentrations above 4 ppt

**More sampling is needed because PFOA and/or PFOS has been detected (above or below 4ppt) and there are fewer than 4 quarters of samples with newer sampling method (EPA 533)

***Not all wells in the total number of wells may be in use (some are/will be abandoned or taken out of service, etc.), and the sum of the first three columns may not add up to the total number of wells (fourth column)

6



Provided by MPCA at April work group meeting

19

Potential private well impacts

- Around half of the total number of private wells in the East Metro (7,000 –8,000) have been sampled
- Approximately 231 private wells have PFOA and/or PFOS above 4ppt and would be eligible for treatment that are not already included in the Conceptual Plan
- Approximately 1,360 private wells need additional sampling as the reporting limit was above 4ppt for PFOA/PFOS
- State is increasing capacity to collect samples and process at the MDH lab



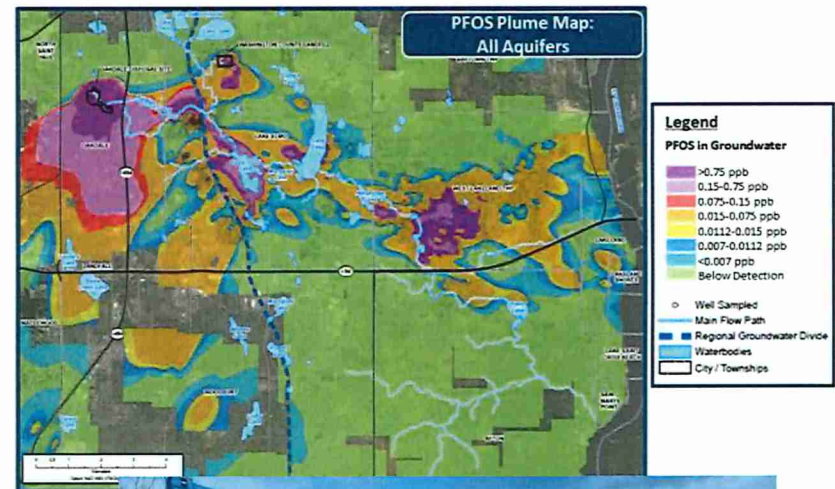
3M Settlement impacts

- State has indicated that if additional wells need treatment due to lower drinking water values, Settlement funds will deplete faster than initial estimates
- The 2007 Consent Order remains in place to address PFAS releases from the 3M PFAS disposal sites, can kick in after Settlement funds, as needed
- State is evaluating costs as projects are implemented
- Communities and the state are planning for restrictive federal and state values
- Communities are already implementing interim changes, as they continue design and planning for long term solutions

Project 1007 Update

- The state has been conducting a source assessment and feasibility study of Project 1007 – county staff from Public Works and PHE have been heavily involved with the MPCA and DNR.
 - Monitoring well installations and data gathering (surface and groundwater, testing of fish within water bodies, wildlife, and plants) in Lake Elmo Park Reserve
- State has been testing a Surface Activated Foam Fractionation (SAFF) unit in Tablyn Park, in Lake Elmo since late 2022
- Creates PFAS concentrate, and a de-fluoro unit to destroy
- Eagle Point Lake within LEPR was considered as a future SAFF pilot site, but the state has decided to keep operations at Tablyn Park through 2023

Revised Conceptual Site Model: 2021



Priority 2 Activities

- 3M Settlement included \$20 million for Priority 2 work to “projects that restore and enhance aquatic resources, wildlife, habitat, fishing, resource improvement, and outdoor recreational opportunities”
- Similar work group structure – PHE is serving on the group
- Work group will provide input on a competitive RFP process to be developed and launched in early 2024
- Coordination with Public Works/Parks to provide input on the process
- Parks is developing a list of project ideas



Board Discussion

- General comments or questions on 3M Settlement implementation and EPA draft rules
- PHE seeking direction on department-level comment letter to EPA that will echo MDH and MPCA comments



PARKS AND OPEN SPACE COMMISSION PARK UPDATES

Memorial Day Weekend

It was a top 10 Memorial Day weekend in Washington County Parks. Many park locations were at capacity and beyond with temps soaring close to 90 degrees. Some of the highlights include:

- 552 nights of camping occurred (with all campgrounds at full capacity)
- Campers went through 424 bundles of firewood
- 1,062 Annual vehicle permits were sold. In 2022, 703 annual permits were sold
- 2,326 daily permits were sold. In 2022, 1,250 daily permits were sold
- 45 annual vehicle permits were issued for free to veterans with service-connected disabilities

Parks Programming

- Square Lake Park hosts Sunset Stand Up Paddleboard classes every Tuesday evening and Saturday morning is Stand Up Paddleboard Yoga on the lake.
- Yoga in the Park happens every Thursday evening in Lake Elmo Park Reserve and allows participants to de-stress at the end of the day surrounded by natural beauty.
- Campfire Programs were held in campgrounds at Lake Elmo Park Reserve and St. Croix Bluffs Regional Park. These have included Carpenter Nature Center, Bruce the Bug Guy, MN Captain Jack Sparrow, and Dodge Nature Center.
- Summer Day Camps have begun! Outdoor Skills Camp at Cottage Grove Ravine Regional Park was full camp of 20 kids that are entering 1-3rd grade. Campers learned basic outdoor skills such as setting up a shelter and starting a fire using flint and steel. There was also a day spent fishing and looking for macroinvertebrates in the pond, and the group played lots of games. The feedback from the parents was very positive. Woodland Explorers was held at Lake Elmo Park Reserve with another full camp of 20 kids entering 3-5 grade. Campers learned Survival 101, spent a day fishing with Trout Unlimited, set fires using a flint and steel, threw Atlatls, and enjoyed presentations from Carpenter Nature Center and Remarkable Reptiles, who both brought live animals.
- National Get Outdoors Day was celebrated on June 10. All County Parks were free to enter, and programming included Forest Bathing at St. Croix Bluffs, a Bird Hike at Pine Point Regional Park, Stand Up Paddle Board (SUP) Yoga at Square Lake Park, a volunteer planting event at Pine Point Regional Park, and Family Fishing at Lake Elmo Park Reserve. It was also the kick-off to "Passport to Adventure", a Summer self-guided program.

Equity and Outreach

- Parks, in partnership with REI, ran two Learn to Ride a Bike Programs in June. REI taught a total of ten youth to learn how to ride a bike: six participants on June 9 at Brookview Elementary School and four participants at Pullman Elementary School on June 21. The feedback was very positive and there were a few kiddos that had never rode a 2-wheel bike before and were riding by the end of the program. All participants were given free bicycle helmets. This effort was funded through the Metropolitan Council Equity Grant program.
- Wild Rivers Conservancy provided a free learn to paddle lesson for 12 participants from Valley Friendship Club at Square Lake Park on Saturday, June 24, another effort funded by the Metropolitan Council Equity Grant program and overseen by the Park's Equity Program Coordinator.

- The Equity Program Coordinator tabled at three events: Woodbury for Justice and Equality Juneteenth Celebration: Celebrating Community, South Washington County Community Education Skoolie at Pullman Elementary School, and Cimarron Free Food Pick-Up.
- Washington County Parks Equity Coordinator tabled the South Washington County School District's English Learner family celebration night at Grey Cloud Elementary School on May 25. Over 800 people attended the event and learn more about the summer parks programs.

Campgrounds Update

Park usage continues to be strong in 2023 and campground reservations are at a 5 year high. The campgrounds at Lake Elmo Park Reserve and St. Croix Bluffs Regional Park opened for the season on Friday, April 28 and will operate through October 22nd. Guest Services continues to use a variety of approaches that were implemented during the pandemic that provide convenience to the customer. Campground guests can call ahead to check in early with the potential to skip the lines and simply pick up a pre-assembled check in packet designated for their campsite in the contact station lobby.

Nights of Camping Opening Day through June 30

	2023	2022	2021	*2020	2019
Lake Elmo	3,456	3,089	3,262	1,662	2,793
St. Croix Bluffs	1,912	1,758	2,076	1,010	1,513
TOTAL	5,368	4,847	5,338	2,672	4,306

Natural Resource Updates

Controlled burns: Natural Resource staff led controlled burns at St. Croix Bluffs Regional Park, Pine Point Regional Park, and Lake Elmo Park Reserve in May. With help from Highway and Parks Maintenance Workers , staff burned approximately 85 of 408 acres that were desired.

Controlled burns are an important management practice for our fire dependent prairies and woodlands. Natural Resource staff prepares burn plans, submits them to the DNR for a burn variance for approval, then reaches out to local fire departments for burn permits. Burn breaks are installed with the help of Park Maintenance Workers, burn plans are shared with staff, we host a burn training, and then we watch for suitable conditions for burning (e.g. wind direction, humidity levels, temperatures).

Controlled burns help control small woody vegetation encroaching prairies and invading woodlands (e.g. buckthorn, honeysuckle, barberry). They also set back the undesirable cool season grasses (e.g. reed canary grass, smooth brome, Kentucky blue/turf), giving an advantage to the warm season native grasses we want to increase in the prairies (e.g. little bluestem, big bluestem, Indian grass). The fire also burns up dead vegetation from past years, making more room for new flower and grass growth.

Seeding: At Pine Point Regional Park, staff started converting an 11 acre agriculture field to prairie, in partnership with Washington Conservation District, and funding from an Expedited Conservation Partners Legacy Grant. Three different seed mixes were planted to match the different soil types. The grasses were seeded with the help of Parks Maintenance Worker staff using a tractor and Truax drill seeder.

Volunteer events: In partnership with Pollinator Friendly Alliance and Washington Conservation District, staff hosted a prairie flower planting event with 35 volunteers, in a prairie at Pine Point Regional Park on Wednesday, May 31.

Seasonal natural resource staff: Natural Resources welcomed a crew of 5 seasonal staff to our team in May. They have been working hard, planting over 500 of trees and shrubs throughout the parks, assisting in controlled burns, seeding, and mowing fence lines for the goats which have arrived at St. Croix Bluffs Regional Park and Lake Elmo Park Reserve. The goats have finished their work at Cottage Grove Ravine Regional Park.



COTTAGE GROVE CITY COUNCIL

12800 RAVINE PARKWAY SOUTH
COTTAGE GROVE, MINNESOTA 55016

June 21, 2023

REGULAR MEETING - 7:00 P.M.
COUNCIL CHAMBER

- 1 CALL TO ORDER
- 2 PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE
- 3 ROLL CALL
- 4 OPEN FORUM
- 5 ADOPTION OF AGENDA
- 6 PRESENTATIONS
 - A Award Cottage Grove Public Safety Board Craig Woolery Scholarships
Staff Recommendation: Accept a presentation from the Cottage Grove Public Safety Board awarding the Craig Woolery scholarships.
 - B 2022 Annual Comprehensive Financial Report
Staff Recommendation: Accept Annual Comprehensive Financial Report for the year ended December 31, 2022
- 7 CONSENT AGENDA
 - A City Council Special Meeting Minutes - June 7, 2023
Staff Recommendation: Approve the June 7, 2023, Special Meeting Minutes.
 - B City Council Regular Meeting Minutes - June 7, 2023.
Staff Recommendation: Approve the June 7, 2023, Regular Meeting Minutes.
 - C Gambling License - St. Rita's Church
Staff Recommendation: Authorize issuance of a single-occasion gambling license to St. Rita's Church at 8694 80th Street South on September 15-17, 2023, for their Fall Festival.
 - D Temporary Liquor License - St. Rita's Church
Staff Recommendation: Authorize issuance of a Temporary Liquor License to the Church of St. Rita's (8694 80th Street So) for their Fall Festival September 15-17, 2023.
 - E Memorandum of Agreement with Century College
Staff Recommendation: Authorize the clinical site Memorandum of Agreement between the City of Cottage Grove Public Safety and Century College.
 - F Approval of Rental Licenses
Staff Recommendation: Approve the issuance of rental licenses to the properties listed in the attached table.
 - G League of MN Cities Insurance Trust Workers Compensation and Package Policy Renewals
Staff Recommendation: Approve the renewals of the Workers Compensation Policy and the Package Insurance Policy with the League of MN Cities Insurance Trust for the 2023-2024 policy period in the amount of \$1,354,369.00.

H Insurance Tort Liability Limits

Staff Recommendation: Authorize the City not to waive the statutory tort limits when an individual claimant would be able to recover no more than \$500,000 on any claim to which the statutory tort limits apply per staff and City Attorney recommendation. The total all claimants would be able to recover for a single occurrence to which statutory tort limits apply would be limited to \$1,500,000.

I Reimbursement Resolutions for 2023 Projects

Staff Recommendation: Adopt Resolution 2023-084, Declaring the Official Intent of the City of Cottage Grove to reimburse certain expenditure from the proceeds of bonds to be issued by the City with respect to the East Point Douglas and Jamaica Avenue reconstruction and signal modification project. Adopt Resolution 2023-085, Declaring the Official Intent of the City of Cottage Grove to reimburse certain expenditure from the proceeds of bonds to be issued by the City with respect to the Golf Course irrigation project.

J Hamlet Park Service Agreement

Staff Recommendation: Authorize service agreement with C&H Sport Surfaces, Inc for color coating and saw cutting at Hamlet Park in the amount of \$25,000.

K Highlands Park Service Agreement

Staff Recommendation: Authorize service agreement with C&H Sport Surfaces, Inc, for the color coating and saw cutting at Highlands Park.

L First Amendment to the Lease Agreement for the Dog Park

Staff Recommendation: Approve the First Amendment to the Lease Agreement for the Dog Park with WAG Farms.

M Adopt a new Development Agreement for Ravine Crossing

Staff Recommendation: Adopt Resolution 2023-086 rescinding and terminating the Development Agreement for Ravine Crossing approved on May 17, 2023, and approving a new Development Agreement for Ravine Crossing.

N Noxious Weeds and Plants; Height Restriction - Ordinance Amendment

Staff Recommendation: Adopt Ordinance No. 1066 amending Cottage Grove City Code Title 4, Chapter 3, Section 1A and 1B regarding Noxious Weeds and Plants; Height Restrictions, subject to minor modifications by the City Attorney and DNR approvals.

O Ravine Crossing – Encroachment Agreement on Metropolitan Council Property

Staff Recommendation: Approve the Metropolitan Council Encroachment Agreement, with minor modifications by the City Attorney, to allow City infrastructure to be built, owned, and maintained within a sanitary sewer easement.

P 80th Street Reconstruction – Highway 61 to Ideal Avenue – Authorization of Feasibility Report

Staff Recommendation: Adopt Resolution 2023-083 authorizing the preparation of a feasibility report for the 80th Street Reconstruction project from Highway 61 to Ideal Avenue.

Q Low Zone Water Treatment Plant Trunk Utilities Easement

Staff Recommendation: Approve the easement with NP BGO Cottage Grove Logistics Park, LLC, subject to minor modifications by the City Attorney.

R Julen Easement and Memorandum of Understanding

Staff Recommendation: Approve the Permanent Utility Easement and Memorandum of Understanding with Robert W. and Joan E. Julen.

S Low Zone Water Treatment Plant - Change Bid Date

Staff Recommendation: Adopt resolution 2023-087 changing the bid date for the Low Zone Water Treatment Plant Project to July 13, 2023.

8 APPROVE DISBURSEMENTS

A Approve payments for the period of 06-02-2023 through 06-15-2023 in the amount of \$6,428,546.55.

Staff Recommendation: Approve payments for the period of 06-02-2023 through 06-15-2023 in the amount of \$6,428,546.55.

9 PUBLIC HEARINGS

10 BID AWARDS

11 REGULAR AGENDA

A Tobacco Compliance Check Violation

Staff Recommendation: 1. Allow the business representative for Cottage Grove Tobacco, LLC, an opportunity to respond to the City Council regarding the tobacco compliance check violation occurring May 23, 2023. 2. Impose the scheduled penalty for the 1st violation in a 36-month period of a \$300.00 fine.

12 COUNCIL COMMENTS AND REQUESTS

13 WORKSHOPS - OPEN TO PUBLIC

A MPCA Workshop (Decommissioning Plan and Schedule for 3M Incinerator)

14 WORKSHOPS - CLOSED TO PUBLIC

15 ADJOURNMENT



COTTAGE GROVE CITY COUNCIL

July 19, 2023

12800 RAVINE PARKWAY SOUTH
COTTAGE GROVE, MINNESOTA 55016

REGULAR MEETING - 7:00 PM

COUNCIL CHAMBER

- 1 Call to Order
- 2 Pledge of Allegiance
- 3 Roll Call
- 4 Open Forum
- 5 Adoption of Agenda
- 6 Presentations
 - A Night to Unite Proclamation and Event Overview
Staff Recommendation: Receive a presentation providing an overview of the event and the scheduled activities. Proclaim Tuesday, August 1, 2023, Night to Unite in Cottage Grove.
- 7 Consent Agenda
 - A City Council Closed Meeting Minutes - May 17, 2023
Staff Recommendation: Approve the May 17, 2023, Closed Meeting Minutes.
 - B City Council Regular Meeting Minutes - May 17, 2023
Staff Recommendation: Approve the May 17, 2023, Closed Meeting Minutes.
 - C City Council Regular Meeting Minutes - June 21, 2023
Staff Recommendation: Approve the June 21, 2023, Regular Meeting Minutes.
 - D Accept Planning Commission Minutes
Staff Recommendation: Accept and place on file the minutes of the April 24, 2023, Planning Commission meeting.
 - E Temporary Liquor License - CG Lions Club
Staff Recommendation: Approve the Cottage Grove Lions Club Temporary On-sale 3.2% Malt Liquor License to be used for the Cottage Grove Food Festival at Kingston Park on September 16, 2023, from 11:00 AM to 6:00 PM.
 - F South St. Paul Lions Club Single Occasion Gambling Permit
Staff Recommendation: Authorize the issuance of a single-occasion gambling permit to Gregory Thomas Kuntz, on behalf of the South St. Paul Lions Club, to hold a raffle at River Oaks Golf Course and Event Center, 11099 Highway 61, Cottage Grove, MN 55016, on August 7, 2023 at noon.
 - G Rental License Approvals
Staff Recommendation: Approve the issuance of rental licenses to the properties listed in the attached table.

- H Economic Development Authority Member Appointment
Staff Recommendation: Appoint Thomas Tschida and Obed Jean-Baptiste to the Economic Development Authority.
- I Appoint Parks, Recreation and Natural Resources Commissioner
Staff Recommendation: Appoint Justin Waterman to the Parks, Recreation and Natural Resources Commission.
- J Accept Donations-2nd Quarter 2023
Staff Recommendation: Adopt Resolution 2023-101, Accepting Donations received in the 2nd Quarter 2023.
- K Glacial Valley Park Art Service Agreement
Staff Recommendation: Approve the Service Agreement with Kada Creative for artwork at Glacial Valley Park.
- L 6761 93rd Bay – Shed Setback Variance
Staff Recommendation: Adopt Resolution 2023-089 approving the variance to allow a portion of a constructed shed located at 6961 93rd Bay South to be located 5 feet, 6 inches from the south property line.
- M 2023 and 2024 Code Compliance/Abatement Mowing Agreement
Staff Recommendation: 1. Adopt Resolution 2023-100 approving the quote award for the Lawn Maintenance Contractor Contract with Valdes Lawn Care and Snow Removal LLC, for 2023 and 2024 lawn mowing abatement services in the amount of \$75.00 per hour. 2. Approve the agreement with Valdes Lawn Care and Snow Removal LLC for 2023-2024 lawn mowing abatement services.
- N East Point Douglas Road & Jamaica Avenue Reconstruction and Signal Project - Easement Acquisition
Staff Recommendation: Approve the Stipulation of Settlement for Parcel 15 by and between EA 394 Associates and Geller Properties, LLC and the City for the East Point Douglas Road and Jamaica Avenue Reconstruction and Signal Project and authorize payment of the balance of the settlement amount of \$122,800.00.
- O 2024 Pavement Management Project - Jetting and Televising Quote Award
Staff Recommendation: Adopt Resolution 2023-098 awarding the 2024 Pavement Management Project - Jetting and Televising project to the accepted quote supplied by Hydro-Klean, LLC in the amount of \$121,664.45.

8 Approve Disbursements

- A Approve payments for the period of 06-16-2023 to 07-20-2023 in the amount of \$6,409,019.85.

9 Public Hearings

- A Public Hearing for Rural Service District
Staff Recommendation: 1. Hold the Public Hearing for Rural Service District. 2. Adopt Resolution 2023-88, Repealing and Replacing Resolution 00-94, regarding the Parcels included in the Rural Service District to the Urban Service District. 3. Adopt Ordinance 1067, Amending City Code 1-5-2, taxing District, transferring certain parcels from the Rural Service District to the Urban Service District.
- B Graymont Village – Easement Vacation, Final Plat, Development Agreement, and Development Plans
Staff Recommendation: 1. Hold Public Hearing to vacate and discontinue public drainage and utility easements within Lot 2, Block 1 of Julien Acres. 2. Adopt Resolution 2023-093 approving the easement vacation. 3. Adopt Resolution 2023-094 approving the Final Plat for Graymont Village. 4. Approve the Graymont Village Development Agreement with U.S. Home LLC. 5. Adopt Resolution 2023-095 approving the Graymont Village Development Plans dated May 23, 2023, prepared by WSB, Inc., subject to final approval by the City Engineer in writing.

10 Bid Awards

- A Grange Trunk Water Main Project - Bid Award
Staff Recommendation: Adopt resolution 2023-099 awarding the Grange Trunk Water Main Project to Ryan Contracting Co., in the amount of \$2,036,796.00.

11 Regular Agenda

- A Trellis Senior Housing – Planned Unit Development and Site Plan Review
Staff Recommendation: Adopt Resolution 2023-090 approving the Planned Unit Development and Site Plan Review for a 52-unit, four-story affordable senior multi-family apartment building located at 7601 79th Street South.
- B Hohenstein Distribution (95th/Jamaica) – Site Plan Review
Staff Recommendation: Adopt resolution 2023-091 approving the Site Plan Review of an approximate 160,000 square foot industrial building for warehouse, distribution, and office space for Hohenstein Distribution.
- C Chase Bank – Conditional Use Permit and Site Plan Review
Staff Recommendation: Adopt Resolution 2023-092 approving a Conditional Use Permit and Site Plan Review for a 3,319 square foot Chase Bank building with a drive-through lane for an in-wall automatic teller machine (ATM) to be located in the south parking lot of Kohls, north of 80th Street, east of Culver's, and west of U.S. Bank.

12 Council Comments and Requests

13 Workshops - Open to Public

- A Franchise Fee Ordinance Amendments
Staff Recommendation: Provide feedback on the proposed franchise fee rate changes from a \$1.65 per month fee for both gas and electric to a 2.75% charge of the monthly bill.
- B Budget Workshop
Staff Recommendation: Review proposed budgets.

14 Workshops - Closed to Public

15 Adjournment



COTTAGE GROVE CITY COUNCIL

August 2, 2023

12800 RAVINE PARKWAY SOUTH
COTTAGE GROVE, MINNESOTA 55016

COUNCIL CHAMBER

IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE REQUIREMENTS OF MINN. STAT. SECTION 13D.02, COUNCILMEMBER DAVE THIEDE & TONY KHAMBATA WILL APPEAR REMOTELY VIA INTERACTIVE TECHNOLOGY FROM THE FOLLOWING PUBLIC LOCATIONS:

DAVE THIEDE
HAMPTON INN & SUITES ALBANY AT ALBANY MALL
2628 DAWSON ROAD
ALBANY, GA 31717

TONY KHAMBATA
BRAINARD PUBLIC LIBRARY
416 SOUTH 5TH STREET
BRAINARD, MN 56401

- 1 Call to Order
- 2 Pledge of Allegiance
- 3 Roll Call
- 4 Open Forum
- 5 Adoption of Agenda
- 6 Presentations
- 7 Consent Agenda
 - A City Council Special Meeting Minutes - July 12, 2023
Staff Recommendation: Approve the City Council Special Meeting Minutes from July 12, 2023.
 - B City Council Closed Meeting Minutes - July 19, 2023
Staff Recommendation: Approve the City Council Closed Meeting Minutes for July 19, 2023.
 - C Planning Commission Meeting Minutes - June 26, 2023
Staff Recommendation: Accept and place on file the minutes from the June 26, 2023, Planning Commission Meeting.
 - D Cottage Grove Chamber of Commerce - Gambling License Application
Staff Recommendation: Approve the single occasion Gambling Permit application for the Cottage Grove Area Chamber of Commerce on November 1, 2023, at 8617 West Pt Douglas Road South beginning at 1:30 pm.
 - E Approval of Rental Licenses
Staff Recommendation:
 - F 2022 Convention and Visitors Bureau Annual Report
Staff Recommendation: Receive the 2022 Cottage Grove Convention and Visitor's Bureau Annual Report.
 - G Cottage Grove Convention and Visitors Bureau Resolution Amendment

Staff Recommendation: Adopt Resolution 2023-105 amending Resolution 2021-160 establishing the City of Cottage Grove Convention and Visitors' Bureau.

H Mississippi Dunes Landscape Restoration Grant

Staff Recommendation: Authorize staff to apply for a MN DNR Conservation Partners Legacy grant for Cottage Grove Trailway Corridor native habitat restoration up to \$215,000.

I Oakwood Park Final Payment

Staff Recommendation: Adopt Resolution 2023-103 approving the final payment in the amount of \$34,962.90 to Pember Companies, Inc. for the Oakwood Park Improvements Project.

J Streetlight Service Agreement

Staff Recommendation: Approve the Service Agreement with Collins Electrical for street lighting work and emergency repair response.

K Dodge Nature Center – Permanent Sanitary Sewer Easement; and Permanent Easement and Private Sanitary Service Maintenance Agreement for Sanitary Sewer Line

Staff Recommendation: Approve the following with minor modifications by the City Attorney:

1. The Permanent Sanitary Sewer Easement by and between Dodge Nature Center, The Preserve of Cottage Grove, and the City of Cottage Grove. 2. The Permanent Easement and Private Sanitary Service Maintenance Agreement for Sanitary Sewer Line by and between Dodge Nature Center, The Preserve of Cottage Grove, and the City of Cottage Grove.

L Electric and Gas Franchise Fees

Staff Recommendation: 1. Adopt Ordinance No. 1070, enacting City Code Title 1, Chapter 5, Section 11 regarding Electric Franchise Fee. 2. Adopt Ordinance No. 1069, enacting City Code Title 1, Chapter 5, Section 10 regarding Gas Franchise Fee.

M Gas and Electric Franchise Fee Agreement Ordinances with Northern States Power Company

Staff Recommendation: 1. Adopt Ordinance No. 1071, Northern States Power Company Gas Franchise Ordinance. 2. Adopt Ordinance No. 1072, Northern States Power Company Electric Franchise Ordinance.

N Gas Franchise Fee Agreement Ordinance with CenterPoint Energy

Staff Recommendation: Adopt Ordinance No. 1073, CenterPoint Energy Gas Franchise Ordinance.

8 Approve Disbursements

A Approve payments for the period from 7-19-2023 to 7-28-2023 in the amount of \$2,680,394.12.

9 Public Hearings

10 Bid Awards

A Low Zone Water Treatment Plant Project - Bid Award

Staff Recommendation: Adopt Resolution 2023-104 awarding the Low Zone Water Treatment Plant Project Base Bid and Alternate 1 to Rice Lake Construction Group, in the total amount of \$39,078,155.00.

11 Regular Agenda

12 Council Comments and Requests

13 Workshops - Open to Public

14 Workshops - Closed to Public

15 Adjournment