



Addendum
Minnetonka Park Board
Meeting of March 1, 2023

ITEM 7C – Consideration of the 2023 Park Board Strategic Plan

- **Feedback received after the distribution of the Park Board packet**

Minnetonka Park Board, City Manager and Staff,

The Friends of Minnetonka Parks (FoMP) Board of Directors has read and discussed the Park Board's draft strategy document included in the agenda for the upcoming March 2023 Park Board meeting. We offer these questions and edits (in accordance with our non-profit bylaws) as a way to promote discussion regarding the scope and intention of the plan.

Questions:

1. Is this vision intended for *park and recreation facilities* only? Should it be broadened to include all of the focus areas and mission of the Park Board?
2. Does the draft vision statement adequately reflect the need for funding the priorities and recommendations in the Park, Open Space, and Trail Plan (POST) and Natural Resources Master Plan (NRMP)?
3. Does the draft plan draw directly from the concepts and language of the POST and NRMP plans?
4. Have staff from both Recreation and Natural Resources worked together closely to create an agreed upon strategy that fully embraces the goals and recommendations of the POST and NRMP plans?

Here are some possible edits to consider (in green) that are offered for your discussion as a way to broaden the scope of the document and articulate the importance of including the goals of the new policy plans, thus possibly making it more relevant and inclusive to a broader spectrum of park visitors.

[Staff updates, blue font]

Minnetonka Park & Recreation Board 2023² Strategic Plan - DRAFT

Vision for Minnetonka Parks, Recreational Opportunities, Open Space, Trails, and Natural Resources ~~and Recreational Facilities~~

An inclusive city with outstanding parks and recreational opportunities within a ~~healthy~~ **biodiverse** natural environment.

The Mission of the Minnetonka Park & Recreation Board is to proactively advise the City Council, in ways that will:

~~Protect~~ **Conserve** and ~~enhance~~ **restore** Minnetonka's natural resources, especially the most important ecological areas (natural amenities)

Promote quality inclusive recreation opportunities, **as well as opportunities to observe and enjoy our natural amenities by judiciously curating the facilities necessary** to meet the needs of all

Provide a forum for public engagement regarding our parks, trails, athletic facilities and **natural resources preservation** ~~open space and restoration~~

Goals and Objectives (order does not reflect priority)

Goal: To ~~protect~~ **conserve and restore natural resources and open space**

Objective 1: Provide feedback to assist staff in ~~decision-making~~ **decision making** regarding open space **acquisition and conservation**

Objective 2: Continue to review and comment on the implementation of the natural resources **master plan (NRMP)** ~~stewardship program~~

Objective 3: Review and provide feedback on strategies, **park-specific master plans** and funding to ~~enhance~~ **restore** natural resources & open space

Objective 4: Promote the city's efforts of ~~protecting~~ **conserving** and ~~enhancing~~ **restoring** the community's natural resources by creating awareness and supporting **volunteer and** educational opportunities

Objective 5: Provide guidance ~~in~~ **that aligns with the goals and recommendations of both the NRMP and POST plans.** ~~balancing the protection of natural resources with providing quality recreational opportunities and facilities~~

Goal: To renew and maintain parks and trails

Objective 1: Participate in the park & trail projects process and make recommendations to the city council

Objective 2: Conduct an annual review of park dedication fees

Objective 3: Identify areas of the city that are deficient of adequate park or trail amenities

Objective 4: Review the city's Trail Improvement Plan and consider trail projects that will encourage outdoor recreation and improve mobility in the community

Objective 5: Review conditions of park facilities, fields, ~~and~~ amenities **and natural resources** to inform park investment plan projects and priorities

Objective 6: Review and provide feedback on updated wayfinding and park signage ensuring that the goals and messaging align with the recommendations of the POST and NRMP plans.

Objective 7: Review ~~conditions of city trails to inform trail rehabilitation and priorities~~ park rules and ordinances as needed

Objective 8: Review and provide feedback on the Purgatory Park Master Plan

Goal: To provide quality athletic and recreational facilities and programs

Objective 1: Perform an annual review of the Gray's Bay Marina operations plan

Objective 2: Anticipate, review and respond to community needs not previously identified

Objective 3: Review policies related to the operation and management of park facilities to determine if changes are needed. ~~Continue to provide safe accommodations following Covid guidelines~~

Objective 4: Ensure that park amenities both man-made and natural, recreational facilities and programs address future community needs and changing demographics

Objective 5: Conduct a review of the athletic field fee schedule developed for 2023~~2~~ and make recommended adjustments for 2024~~3~~

Objective 6: Offer a full range of programs for people of all ages, ability levels, and economic and cultural backgrounds ensuring all have the opportunity to participate in both athletic activities as well as cultivating appreciation and interest in the natural world within our parks.

Objective 7: Responsibly maintain our parks, trails and recreational facilities, while fairly balancing user fees with general community support

Objective 8: Receive and provide input and guidance on the skate park ~~feasibility study design~~

Goal: Enhance long-term Park Board development

Objective 1: Review and recommend Capital Improvements Program for 2024~~3~~-2028~~7~~ related to parks, trails & open space and natural resources restoration as recommended in the POST and NRMP plans.

Objective 2: Increase community and city council awareness of park board projects through the online project page and community outreach

Objective 3: Encourage board member involvement in annual park board, ~~and~~ city-related activities and volunteer opportunities such as the farmers market or natural resources restoration

~~Objective 4: Approve the updated Parks, Open Space and Trails (POST) plan and provide guidance on implementation~~

Objective 4: Continue to explore new ideas and strive to build community for those who work, live, volunteer and recreate play in Minnetonka

Objective 5: Actively explore and enhance partnerships/engagement opportunities with other agencies including such as the City of Hopkins and community non-profits

Objective 6: Annually assess the park board strategic plan

~~Objective 7: Review and update the 'Guidelines for Funding Special Projects' document~~