**POSP Update Progress Memo**
**Date: October 11, 2024**

**Project Introduction:**
The Park and Open Space Plan (POSP) assists City Boards, Commissioners, City agencies, and other governmental agencies, residents, and volunteers in decision-making related to park development and operations policies. The plan includes an assessment of existing park amenities, service standards, areas of service deficiencies, and recommended approaches for future park development utilizing a system-wide perspective.

The POSP planning and public engagement process began in the summer of 2023, with the intention for the plan to be adopted by the City of Madison Common Council by first quarter of 2025.

**Project Objectives:**

- The City of Madison Park and Open Space Plan will describe the desired vision for the future of the Madison park system and provide recommendations to guide land use, policy and investment decisions over time to ensure that the vision for the park system is achieved.

- The adopted Park and Open Space Plan update will meet the requirements of grant programs at the Local, State, and Federal levels.

- The process to prepare the new plan will include an extensive public engagement process using tools such as public meetings and workshops, park user survey instruments and focus group discussions.

**Recent Activities Review**

- Parks Athletics received 40 responses to the 2023 Athletics Survey and 7 responses to a newer Athletic Facility Assessment which sought to obtain information from and was sent directly to organizations and individuals that reserve fields & courts for group athletics - this information will help to inform the Park Facilities Recommendations section of the POSP
- Parks staff met with Destination Madison/Madison Sports Commission on August 12th and the Disability Rights Commission on August 22nd to provide an overview of the plan and discuss ways to include recommendations from the Madison Sports Commission and Disabled community, respectively
- Parks staff discussed hand-off of the POSP with MSA following Ann's retirement and Lisa's moving into assuming Ann's role within the coordination of the completion of the document.

**October 2024 LRP Meeting Focus**

- Primary focus at today's meeting will be a report-out of the BIPOC engagement outcomes led by All Together and review of the Ch. 4 Engagement Summary DRAFT text (Emily/MSA)

- A review of Accomplishments by Strategy since 2018 (Lisa)

- Review of Sustainability and Adaptability Section (Lisa)

- Also at today's meeting we will confirm meeting dates through the end of 2024 and discussion draft dates/time and format for 2025 meetings

**Next Steps**

The next LRP meeting will be in November – at this meeting the primary focus will be a final review of the Issue Paper text and Issue Paper Chapter Introduction; the November meeting will also include a review of the Recommendations Section and Executive Summary. Future meetings will include and a review of the Recreation Use Summary and Ch. 7 Funding Mechanisms, Sustainability section and Plan Adoption/Approvals Process. Early 2025 will be a first look and review the formatted (pictures / graphics included) full document. There will be a follow-up opportunity to review the fully formatted document at the February 2025 meeting as well. Please note schedule may be adjusted as we work through the transition following departure of Ann Freiwald as Planning & Development manager.

**Recognition:**

We recognize Ann Freiwald for her hard work and leadership in developing the 2025-2030 Park & Open Space Plan. We wish her well in retirement!