POSP Update Progress Memo

Date: February 14, 2025

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 the third 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

- Staff have extended the timeframe for completing the POSP update with WiDNR staff; the Grant Eligibility Extension based on the "in progress" POSP documents will be sufficient for use with any upcoming/2025 DNR grant applications
- Parks staff have been updating the information found in the previous POSP's Supplemental Tables as well as the maps associated with the prior POSP's Exhibits section; these will be included for LRP review of the full DRAFT document
- Parks staff have been developing info graphics/visuals to accompany data related to the recreational snapshot section
- MSA have been updating the Engagement Summary to include information from the BIPOC surveys that All Together coordinated during their work in summer 2024.
- MSA are working on a mock-up of a final design of the document (InDesign format) to address concerns regarding accessibility and use of color in an earlier draft

February 2025 LRP Meeting Focus

- A set of DRAFT strategies developed as a result of the December (2024) and January meetings will be the primary focus of the meeting today (Parks staff – Lisa)
- Review of the "Capital Resources" section (Parks staff- Kate)

Next Steps
The next LRP meeting has been scheduled for March (3/19). Parks staff plans to share a full draft document with fellow agency staff (particularly Engineering Stormwater and Planning) and LRP members around this timeframe. Once the full draft is satisfactory, the document will be published and formatted, for LRP to review final text along with pictures / graphics.