

POSP Update Progress Memo

Date: March 13, 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

- Parks staff have continued to develop info graphics/visuals to accompany the various sections of the POSP
- Parks staff have been updating the overall organization of the document and combining some sections for greater clarity – an example is the newly created “Funding Mechanisms” chapter which combines the financial components of the capital

March 2025 LRP Meeting Focus

- Continued discussion of the Recommended Strategies developed as a result of the late 2024 and early 2025 LRP meetings. This will be the primary focus of the meeting today (Parks staff)
- Review of the “Funding Mechanisms” section – previously referred to as “Capital Resources” (Parks staff)
- Review and discussion of mock-ups of the InDesign format for the report (MSA)

Next Steps

The next LRP meeting has been scheduled for April (4/16). Parks staff plans to share a full draft document with fellow agency staff (particularly Engineering Stormwater and Planning) during the month of March 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.