POSP Update Progress Memo

Date: April 10, 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 fourth 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 compiled a draft Full Content Version of the POSP, which includes all chapters. This was shared with LRP members on April 8, 2025. This Full Content version does not include information that will be in the Appendix.
- Staff are continuing to review the POSP to ensure accuracy and proper language is used.
- Staff are also conducting review of the information that will be in the Appendix.

April 2025 LRP Meeting Focus

- LRP will discuss organization of the document.
- Staff will provide an overview of each chapter of the Draft Full Content POSP. Staff will highlight major points and any information that was added to that chapter since LRP initially reviewed individual chapters. This review and discussion are expected to take place over two meetings, with a goal of reviewing Chapters 1-4 in the April meeting.
- Discuss schedule for adoption, and additional meeting dates that are required to meet that schedule.

Next Steps
All upcoming LRP meetings will be used to finalize content of the POSP in the current format. Once the full draft is satisfactory, the document will be published and formatted by MSA with Park staff guidance, for LRP to review final text along with pictures / graphics. Our goal is to have a final formatted version of the POSP approved by LRP in July 2025 to begin the process to have the plan adopted as part of the Comprehensive Plan