

REPORT / RECOMMENDATION



To: Mayor and City Council

Agenda Item #: WS Item V.

From: Ann Kattreh

Action

Date: December 16, 2014

Discussion

Subject: Park Strategic Plan Input

Information

Action Requested:

Discussion and Update Only

Information / Background:

The City of Edina is developing a comprehensive Park, Recreation and Trails Systems Strategic Master Plan to provide a clear vision for Edina's park system and guide decision making regarding the development and redevelopment of parks, trails and recreational opportunities as well as the associated funding. The updated plan will encompass a 20-year period (2015-2035) and will include both short-term and long-term recommendations. The purpose of the plan is to:

- Establish clear and realistic goals, objectives, and implementation strategies that can guide Edina's decision making for the next 10-15 years
- Provide system-wide recommendations which incorporate any detailed studies completed to date as well as ongoing planning and design initiatives
- Provide a strategy to preserve and maintain open space and significant natural resources in Edina
- Evaluate current facilities and programs to determine if the recreation and leisure needs of Edina's citizens are being adequately met
- Identify and evaluate potential cooperative local community, non-profit, and private sector ventures that can aid in meeting recreation needs
- Assist the community in establishing a vision for the future of their park and recreation system
- Provide a user-friendly roadmap to guide the implementation of the community's vision for a sustainable 21st century Parks and Recreation system.

Confluence and Pros Consulting held 13 – one hour focus group meetings on Dec. 9 and Dec. 10, including the Park Board at their meeting on Dec. 9. Confluence will provide an update to the City Council and also receive council feedback in a similar format to the focus group meetings held on Dec. 9 and Dec. 10. Some questions asked of focus group participants were:

- What are the strengths of the parks and recreation system that we should build upon?
- What is missing from the system in terms of facilities, parks, or programs?

- How would you assess the department's ability to connect with the community?
- If there was just one thing you would like the plan to cover, what would it be?