

PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT SERVICES STAFF REPORT

For Planning Commission Meeting of November 3, 2010

SUBJECT: Draft Parks and Recreation Open Space (PROS) Plan

PROPOSED CITY PLANNING COMMISSION MOTION

The Ann Arbor City Planning Commission hereby recommends that the Mayor and City Council authorize distribution of the draft Parks and Recreation Open Space Plan for review and comment to adjoining jurisdictions and stakeholders in accordance with MCL 125.37b of the State of Michigan Municipal Planning Act (PA-285 of 1931 as amended).

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends that the Planning Commission **approve** the motion to request that the Mayor and City Council authorize distribution of the draft Parks & Recreation Open Space (PROS) Plan for review and comment to adjoining jurisdictions and stakeholders as required by state law.

STAFF REPORT

The Municipal Planning Act requires communities to provide adjoining jurisdictions and other stakeholders opportunity to comment on draft master plans prior to their adoption. Once these plans are distributed, adjoining municipalities and stakeholders have up to 42 days to respond with their comments. All comments are advisory only, but modifications to the plan can be made. After comments have been received, the City is required to hold a public hearing with the Planning Commission prior adopting the plan as an element of the City's master plan. The plan is then reviewed by City Council for adoption as part of the City's master plan.

For the past year, City Parks & Recreation staff planner Amy Kuras has been working with an advisory committee to update the 2006 PROS Plan. Commissioner Erica Briggs and staff planner Jeff Kahan are currently serving on this committee. The draft plan will be posted on the Parks web page prior to City Council taking action on November 15 to distribute the plan. It includes sections on goals, funding, trails, greenways, land use planning, acquisition, and infrastructure needs.

The request to distribute the plan will be considered by City Council on November 15, 2010. The Planning Commission and Park Advisory Commission will have an opportunity to discuss the content of the plan at greater length in early 2011, after comments have been received from adjoining jurisdictions and stakeholders.

The following organizations will be asked to comment on the draft plan:

Planning Agencies

- Ann Arbor Township Planning Commission
- Barton Hills Village Long-Range Planning Committee
- Pittsfield Township Planning Commission
- Scio Township Planning Commission
- Lodi Township Planning Commission
- Washtenaw County (Clerk/Registrar, Parks & Recreation Commission; Water Resources Commissioner; Public Health)
- Southeast Michigan Council of Governments

Public Utilities

- DTE Energy Services (electricity and gas)
- Norfolk-Southern Railroad

Other Government Entities

- Ann Arbor Transportation Authority (non-mandated)
- Washtenaw Area Transportation Study (non-mandated)
- University of Michigan (non-mandated)
- Ann Arbor Public Schools/Board of Education (non-mandated)

Prepared by Jeff Kahan
Reviewed Wendy Rampson
11/1/10 - Revised

c: Amy Kuras, Parks and Recreation
City Attorney's Office