

PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT SERVICES STAFF REPORT

For Planning Commission Meeting of December 6, 2016

SUBJECT: 2016-2020 Parks and Recreation Open Space Plan

PROPOSED CITY PLANNING COMMISSION MOTION

The Ann Arbor City Planning Commission hereby supports the draft 2016-2020 Parks and Recreation Open Space Plan and recommends that the Mayor and City Council approve the plan for submission to the Michigan Department of Natural Resources.

PROPOSED CITY PLANNING COMMISSION MOTION

The Ann Arbor City Planning Commission hereby adopts the 2016-2020 Parks and Recreation Open Space Plan as a citywide element of the Ann Arbor City Master Plan.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends that the Master Plan: Land Use Element be **adopted** as an element of the City of Ann Arbor's Master Plan. Staff also recommends that the draft 2016-2020 Parks and Recreation Open Space Plan be forwarded to City Council for its **approval**. City Council action on the plan is necessary for the City to be eligible for upcoming State grant deadlines.

STAFF REPORT

The Parks and Recreation Services Unit updates the Parks and Recreation Open Space (PROS) Plan every five years to retain funding eligibility with the Michigan Department of Natural Resources (MDNR). This plan will replace the 2011-2015 PROS Plans.

The process used by Parks and Recreation Services and the Parks Advisory Commission was initiated approximately 18 months ago. A steering committee was formed comprised of staff from Parks and Recreation Services as well as Planning and Development Services, representatives from the Parks Advisory Commission and the Recreation Advisory Commission, the Downtown Development Authority, and a member of City Council. Planning Commission was not represented during this process, there was no volunteer available to represent the Planning Commission on this committee.

In the summer of 2015, Parks and Recreation Services staff along with the steering committee designed an on-line survey in which 1034 individuals participated and answered questions concerning their satisfaction levels with parks and recreation services. The survey provided substantial information about condition of park and recreation facilities and services and provided staff with a better understanding of issues facing the system. Additional input was solicited from parks personnel and Recreation

Facility boards as well as public meetings with the Park Advisory Commission, Recreation Advisory Commission and the Planning Commission. In addition, the draft plan was distributed to adjoining jurisdictions and has been available for public review on the City's website.

Planning staff participated in the process of developing the plan from the early stages of the planning process. The plan provides comprehensive information on the condition of the park, recreation and opens space systems and provides guidance to future decision makers.

Any proposed Planning Commission modifications to the draft plan will be forwarded to City Council in a separate memorandum.

Prepared by Matt Kowalski
Reviewed by Brett Lenart
11/29/16