

Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board Parks for All 2021 Comprehensive Plan

Virtual Park Summit—Hmong and English Office Hours

6/16/2020

4:00-5:00pm

MPRB Staff Present: Ying Lee, Carrie Christensen, Adam Arvidson, Alyssa Gilmore

The purpose of the Virtual Park Summit Office Hours was to create space for the public to be able to share feedback and ask questions about the Comprehensive Plan and the policy ideas presented at the Virtual Park Summit. Project Staff also worked to create culturally inclusive spaces by providing Office Hours with Somali, Hmong, and Spanish translation available. At this particular office hour session, no members of the public came to share. MPRB staff present then had a conversation around strategy moving forward for virtual engagement, talked about partnering with community members/groups to stream/utilize their established platforms. How to create a more accessible space by supporting community efforts rather than providing a customized space.

Conversation between the staff also started to center around the current realities the park system is dealing with (ie. Public Health crises in various forms- pandemic, homelessness, opioid crisis, etc.) Carrie Christensen walked through the Public Health policies with the staff present.

- Gap identified: **addressing the hours of operation at recreation centers** (thinking about the future of recreation centers, know they close too early)
 - o Night Owl programs (inconsistently do these programs, have reduced crime, reform would need to follow the Comprehensive Plan; have to think about funding models).
 - o Hear often about seniors not going to the parks; most recreation centers aren't programmed before 3pm (related to youth, after school programs, etc.) How can we address these limited hours of operation?

This gap was added to the Miro board, Project Staff also said that when looking at this feedback they would look for policies within the Multigenerational workgroup to strengthen related to hours of operation, wayfinding, relevant design of recreation centers, etc. (Ex. E14: Focus on recreation programming and facilities that provide multigenerational and intergenerational access at the heart of MPRB's work). Would also look at policies to strengthen related to homelessness in the CAC policy ideas, Gentrification and Displacement Workgroup, and Public Safety Workgroup.