Park Summit

Office Hours

May, 2020

PARKS FOR ALL
Minneapolis Park & Recreation Board
Flow of Conversation Today

- Introduction
- Q&A / Discussion
- Wrap-up / Next Steps
Conversation Ground Rules

1. Assume good intent
2. One conversation: respect the speaker, actively listen
3. Stay on task
4. Value different perspectives
5. Speak from your experience
6. Be respectful even if you don’t agree
Online Platform Ground Rules

7. Stay on “mute” until you are called on the speak
8. Moderators reserve the right to turn off videos or mute people
9. We are not recording this meeting
10. Any “zoom-bombing” will result in removal from the meeting
Meet your Moderators!

Host: Adam Arvidson, Director of Strategic Planning
Co-Host: Carrie Christensen, Senior Planner
Documentarian: Alyssa Gilmore and Madeline Hudek
Goal of Park Summit

Share out the policy ideas and examine the ideas for Connections, Differences, Significance, and Questions
Visit the Virtual Park Summit: bit.ly/MPRBparksummit
May 26-June 2, 2020
How to Ask Questions/Give Feedback

1. Type “Name” and “Question” or “Comment” in the chatbox to speak verbally

2. Type your actual question or comment in the chatbox.
2007-2020 Comprehensive Plan Values

The values statements outlined in the 2007 Comprehensive Plan identify how the Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board performs its work. The current guiding values outlined in the 2007-2020 Comprehensive Plan are:

**Sustainability:** Meet current park and recreation needs without sacrificing the ability of future generations to meet their own needs by balancing environmental, economic, and equity concerns
- **Environment:** Sustain and enhance parklands, waters and urban forests
- **Economic:** Develop short-term and long-term financial stability of the park system
- **Equity:** Provide residents with the opportunity to improve their quality of life and well-being through outstanding parks and recreation services that are suited their respective needs.

**Visionary Leadership:** Respect the vision and leadership that built the park and recreation system and recognize the need for ongoing leadership in achieving excellence

**Safety:** Work safely to support a thriving work environment and an outstanding park experience for visitors

**Responsiveness and Innovation:** Anticipate and thoughtfully respond to the diverse needs of the city’s communities, continually seeking ways to better deliver park and recreation services.

**Independence and Focus:** Independence allows the Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board to focus on providing and obtaining the resources necessary to accomplish its mission and form effective, responsible partnerships.
What We’ve Heard

We’ve received input from more than 400 online and in person surveys distributed at park events, staff workshops, neighborhood meetings, and standing committees. These surveys asked participants to rate the importance of MPRB’s current values, and rank the values that should be upheld and prioritized. We also received input on the organization’s guiding values from the 100+ people who participated in a policy machine exercise over the course of the past couple of months in workgroups, forums, the project advisory committee, and community advisory committee. Based on this feedback, the values are ranked as follows:

1. Environmental Sustainability
2. Safety
3. Equity
4. Economic Sustainability
5. Responsiveness and Innovation
6. Visionary Leadership
7. Independence and Focus
Why are these values important for MPRB to uphold?

**Environmental Sustainability**

“We should be the change we want to see in the world, we should set an example for others”

“MPRB should lead the way to making Minneapolis famously green. Renewable energy, urban agriculture, efficiency, etc.”

“Parks need to have nature. If it is ecologically stable it will sustain itself”

“We have a lot of greenspace in the city and it should be managed in a way that continues its longevity for both enjoyment as well as the benefit of the city and beyond…”

“Sustain and enhance parklands, waters, and urban forests. Without a sustainable park system we don't have the ability to meet our other goals.”

“Our parks make this city a great place to live, attending to environmental sustainability will ensure these resources can be accessed by future generations”

**Equity**

“Public parks should be open and accessible to all for use. Different areas have different needs”

“Access to power and resources. Invest more in racially concentrated areas of poverty (RCAPs). Community led planning. Excellent condition services/equipment everywhere. Gender and ADA inclusion. Increased transit connectivity.”

“It’s important to be thinking about how to make parks, open space, and programs attractive to a large audience”

“It’s important for all social goals related to community spheres”

“Parks are meant to serve the whole community and bring us together”

**Economic Sustainability**

“Less reliance on city or local government aid”

“We are an organization that should be looking to the future rather than short term”

“Need people to be able to come and enjoy the parks (revenue generation through park users)”

“Staff need to be paid a living wage and feel appreciated in order to stay and grow. Need stable income to do this.”

“A one off effort is a waste of both time and money. This is connected to environmental sustainability and equity. We can't accomplish long term goals without reliable funding”

**Safety**

“No one goes to unsafe parks”

“I personally feel like if there are other people around in the parks, I’ll be able to feel safe. It is important to have people around the parks in case something happens. Activate spaces”

“Create and maintain safe spaces. Everyone deserves to feel safe at all times”

“We have many ways to improve safety that we need to do now- building it into future facilities”
Why are these values important for MPRB to uphold?

**Responsiveness and Innovation**

“This is crucial for an urban area that is attracting more and more people. We need to not be reactive, rather we need to be thoughtful in how decisions impact the future of our parks and city.”

“Anticipate and thoughtfully respond to the diverse needs of the city's communities, continually seeking ways to better deliver park and recreation services”

“It is often challenging for government agencies to be flexible and try new things, but I think that is what makes MPRB unique and one of the best park systems in our country. Without that eye towards innovation, we would really lose a lot of value.”

“To trouble shoot and find ways to address issues and remain creative, embrace culture of learning. Intersectionality. Finding ways to accomplish/address multiple issues through solutions”

**Independence and Focus**

“Independence allows us to focus on what's important and accomplish our mission”

“Keeps our parks from the ying and yang of changing political situations that have nothing to do with the parks”

“Independence allows the Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board to focus on providing and obtaining the resources necessary to accomplish its mission and form effective, responsible partnerships.”

“Will allow tailored and specific solutions for our particular park system”

**Visionary Leadership**

“To maintain financial viability and continue the outstanding traditions of Minneapolis parks, elected leaders need to put aside petty disagreements and focus on the vision; staff is WONDERFUL, needs better support from the board.”

“Continue to pioneer new programming and options for city parks”

“Good leadership is necessary to make change”

“We need trajectory and a way to see the vision come to fruition”

“To stay current and serve diverse community needs”
What additional values should MPRB uphold over the next decade? What should MPRB continue to aspire to?
Q&A / Discussion

Share out the policy ideas and examine the ideas for Connections, Differences, Significance, and Questions.
What’s Next?

Jun-Jul 2020: The draft plan will be developed, written, and designed.

Aug-Sep 2020: Draft plan goes out for 45-day public comment period for the public to provide feedback.

Fall 2020: Plan is revised based on public comment period feedback.

Winter 2020: Revised plan goes to MPRB Board of Commissioners for review and adoption.
Park Summit Office Hours

• Wednesday, May 27th 12-1 pm
• Wednesday, May 27th 4-6 pm
  Youth Space with Youth Design Team
• Thursday, May 28th 4-5 pm
  English and Somali
• Friday, May 29th 12-1 pm
• Saturday, May 30th 4-5 pm
  English and Spanish
• Monday, June 1st 4-5 pm
  English and Hmong
Thank You for Joining!

Notes from today’s conversation will be located as part of the Park Summit recap at www.minneapolisparks.org/parksforall.

PFA Project page: www.minneapolisparks.org/parksforall

Park Summit Event Page: bit.ly/MPRBparksummit