

MINUTES

SOUTHEASTERN WISCONSIN REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION

PLANNING AND RESEARCH COMMITTEE MEETING

Tuesday, August 9, 2022

1:30 p.m.

SEWRPC Office Building
Commissioners' Conference Room
W239 N1812 Rockwood Drive
Waukesha, WI 53187

Meeting Occurred in Person and Virtually via Video and Telephone Conference

Present:

Excused:

Commissioners:

Daniel S. Schmidt, Chairman
Donna Brown-Martin
Charles L. Colman
Michael A. Crowley
Brian Holt
Mary Knipper
Natalia Minkel-Dumit
Aloysius Nelson
Robert W. Pitts
Jeffrey D. Schleif
Peggy L. Shumway
David L. Stroik

Jonathan Delagrave
Dewayne Johnson
James Ladwig
Marcelia Nicholson
John O'Day
Adam Tindall-Schlicht

Staff:

Kevin J. Muhs
Benjamin R. McKay
Catherine Pozum

Executive Director
Deputy Director
Accounting/Human Resources Specialist

ROLL CALL

Chairman Schmidt called the Planning and Research Committee meeting to order at 1:33 p.m. Roll call was taken, and a quorum was declared present. Chairman Schmidt indicated for the record that Commissioners Delagrave, Johnson, Ladwig, Nicholson, O'Day, and Tindall-Schlicht had asked to be excused.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF THE MAY 10, 2022, MEETING

Chairman Schmidt asked if there were any changes or additions to the May 10, 2022, meeting minutes. There were none.

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On a motion by Mr. Stroik, seconded by Mr. Pitts, and carried unanimously, the minutes of the May 10, 2022, Planning and Research Committee Meeting were approved.

REVIEW AND CONSIDERATION OF SEWRPC COMMUNITY ASSISTANCE PLANNING REPORT NO. 132 (2ND EDITION), A LONG-RANGE PARK AND OPEN SPACE PLAN FOR MILWAUKEE COUNTY

Chairman Schmidt asked Mr. McKay to review the plan. Mr. McKay provided an overview of the plan and noted that the report was provided to the Committee members prior to the meeting.

During Mr. McKay's presentation, the following questions and comments were made.

In response to an inquiry by Mr. Stroik, Mr. McKay stated that the purposes for updating the plan, including identifying park and open space needs and developing a plan to meet those needs, are discussed in the Plan Purpose section of the Introduction chapter.

In response to an inquiry by Mr. Colman, Mr. Muhs stated that parks are not a State mandated service, therefore, the park system has a significant amount of deferred maintenance due to County budgetary constraints.

In response to an inquiry by Mr. Nelson, Mr. McKay stated that VISION 2050 identifies major outdoor recreation centers throughout the Region.

In response to an inquiry by Ms. Brown-Martin, Mr. Muhs stated that the recreational trail recommendations set forth in the plan focus on making connections where there are gaps in the existing trail network and prioritizes projects in areas that have a high equity need based on the County's Parks Equity Index.

In response to an inquiry by Mr. Stroik, Mr. McKay stated that equity need is based on a formula that includes several factors such as race and ethnicity, income, disability status, age, English proficiency, vehicle access, health, crime, and tree canopy. Mr. McKay then stated that if an area has a higher score in the index there is a greater equity need.

In response to an inquiry by Ms. Brown-Martin, Mr. McKay stated that staff would review the event rosters to determine if BID representatives attended any of the focus groups that were conducted as part of public outreach for the plan.

[Secretary's Note: After the meeting, Commission staff reviewed attendance and invitation rosters for public outreach events associated with the effort. BID representatives were not in attendance, and this information was communicated to Ms. Brown-Martin.]

In response to an inquiry by Mr. Pitts, Mr. McKay stated that park site and facility conditions were assessed by County staff in 2017, and the system-wide deferred maintenance cost was estimated from this assessment.

In response to an inquiry by Mr. Holt, Mr. McKay stated that the plan recommends conducting condition assessments and maintenance cost estimates periodically.

In response to an inquiry by Mr. Schleif, Mr. McKay stated that water trails are recognized paths for boating, canoeing, or kayaking on navigable waterways, such as Lake Michigan and rivers, that are served by a series of access points.

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Mr. Nelson commented on the notable efforts by SEWRPC's staff in their involvement in assisting with this plan.

In response to an inquiry by Mr. Crowley, Mr. McKay stated that areas for future study on Map 2.11 show two areas in the City of Cudahy. He stated that the two areas have experienced environmental degradation and City officials intend to study the sites further before designating them with a planned land use in the City comprehensive plan.

In response to an inquiry by Ms. Knipper, Mr. McKay stated that staff would confirm that the household survey conducted for the plan included demographic-related questions (the survey included questions related to age, gender, race and ethnicity, and household income).

There being no further questions or comments, on a motion by Mr. Stroik, seconded by Ms. Brown-Martin, the SEWRPC Community Assistance Planning Report No. 132 (2nd Edition) was unanimously recommended by the Committee for adoption by the Commission.

NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Planning and Research Committee will be held on September 14, 2022. The meeting will be held immediately before the 3 p.m. Quarterly Commission meeting.

CORRESPONDENCE/ANNOUNCEMENTS

Chairman Schmidt asked Mr. Muhs if there were any correspondence or announcements. There were none.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Committee, on a motion by Mr. Stroik, seconded by Mr. Pitts, and carried unanimously, the meeting was adjourned at 2:42 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Kevin J. Muhs
Executive Director

KJM/BRM/cp
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