



REQUEST FOR CITY COUNCIL ACTION

Meeting Date:	January 17, 2012						
Item Name:	Comprehensive Plan Amendment to the Parks and Opens Space Chapter of the 2030 City of Waconia Comprehensive Plan						
Originating Department:	Planning and Zoning						
Presented by:	John Hilgers, Planning Director						
Previous Council Action (if any):							
Item Type (X only one):	<table border="1"> <tr> <td>Consent</td> <td>X</td> <td>Regular Session</td> <td></td> <td>Discussion Session</td> <td></td> </tr> </table>	Consent	X	Regular Session		Discussion Session	
Consent	X	Regular Session		Discussion Session			

RECOMMENDATIONS/COUNCIL ACTION/MOTION REQUESTED (Include motion in proper format.)

Adopt Resolution 2012 – 31, Approving Comprehensive Plan Amendment to the Parks and Open Space Chapter

EXPLANATION OF AGENDA ITEM (Include a description of background, benefits, and recommendations.)

BACKGROUND:

The Metropolitan Council is a regional governmental agency and metropolitan planning organization for the seven county Twin City area (which includes Carver County). The Metropolitan Council is granted regional authority powers by the State Legislature to oversee and plan for the metro areas public transportation, airports, wastewater treatment, affordable housing, regional parks and recreational trails.

Whenever changes are made by the Metropolitan Council to long range system plans, municipalities must bring their local comprehensive plans into compliance with the metro area plan.

The City of Waconia was notified of a system plan change to the Regional Parks Policy plan that affects the Waconia planning area. Specifically, the change that impacts Waconia is labeled as **the North-South Trail along County Road 10 in Carver County** in the attached material. We highlighted the relevant portions of the material for your reference.

This County Road 10 Trail Search Corridor has been identified by the Metropolitan Council as “regionally significant” since it will ultimately link the planned Southwest Connection Regional Trail (Chaska), the proposed Twin Cities & Western Regional Trail (Victoria), the Carver County North/South Regional Trail, the Dakota Regional Trail (north side of Lake Waconia) and the Luce Line State Trail (Watertown).

The City’s current plan identifies local trail alignments along County Road 10 throughout our planning area. In fact, local trail segments exist along many places of the County 10 corridor within the City limits. However, the amendment would categorize this corridor as a metropolitan regional trail that would ultimately be expected to be used by a wider segment of the region’s population. In the future, this would likely require upgrades to the trail design and alignment needs as a metropolitan regional trail. Future upgrades or new trail construction along the County 10 corridor would be the responsibility of Carver County and the Metropolitan Council, in cooperation with the City of Waconia and other impacted jurisdictions.

The City was required to post and publish a notice of hearing for this amendment. The notice was published in the Waconia Patriot on November 17, 2011 and posted at City Hall. Packet material and notice information was also provided to Carver County Parks and the City Parks and Recreation Department. The Planning Commission conducted a public hearing on this amendment on December 8, 2011. No public comments were received as a result of posted and published notice.

RECOMMENDATION:

The Planning Commission recommended approval of the amendment on December 8, 2011 on a vote of 4 to 0 in order to bring the City Comprehensive Plan into compliance with the Metropolitan Council System Plan for the Regional Park system.

Please contact me if you have any questions.

ADVISORY BOARD RECOMMENDATIONS:

Funding Sources & Uses:

Budget Information:

Budgeted

Non Budgeted

Amendment Required

Planning Commission:
Parks and Recreation
Board:
Safari Island Advisory
Board:

Approved
Resolution
No.

2012-31

Denied

Tabled
Ordinance
No.

Other

**CITY OF WACONIA
RESOLUTION 2012- 31
RESOLUTION APPROVING A COMPREHENSIVE PLAN AMENDMENT
TO BE IN COMPLIANCE WITH AMENDED 2030 REGIONAL PARKS POLICY
PLAN OF THE METROPOLITAN COUNCIL**

WHEREAS, the Planning Commission conducted a public hearing in the Council Chambers of City Hall, 201 South Vine Street, Waconia, Minnesota on Thursday, December 8, 2011 to consider a Comprehensive Plan Amendment in response to changes by the Metropolitan Council in the 2030 Regional Parks Policy Plan; and

WHEREAS, the City of Waconia was notified of a system plan change to the Regional Parks Policy plan that affects the Waconia planning area. Specifically, the change that impacts Waconia is labeled as the North-South Trail along County Road #10 in Carver County; and

WHEREAS, the North-South Trail along County Road #10 Search Corridor has been identified by the Metropolitan Council as "regionally significant" since it will ultimately link the planned Southwest Connection Regional Trail, the proposed Twin Cities and Western Regional Trail, the Carver County North-South Regional Trail, the Dakota Regional Trail and the Luce line State Trail; and

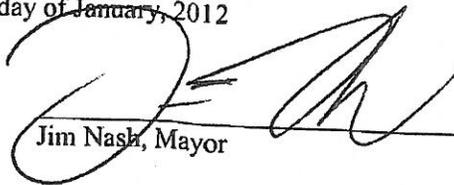
WHEREAS, the City of Waconia desires to participate with Carver County and the Metropolitan Council in the Master Plan process to establish the ultimate trail alignment and design; and

WHEREAS, the Planning Commission recommended approval of the amendment on December 8, 2011.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the City Council of the City of Waconia hereby approves the Comprehensive Plan Amendment and authorizes submittal of the amendment to the Metropolitan Council for final action.

Adopted by the City Council of the City of Waconia this 17th day of January, 2012

ATTEST: 
Susan Arntz, City Administrator


Jim Nash, Mayor

M/ Carrier

S/ Bloudek

Carrier	<u>Aye</u>
Millender	<u>Aye</u>
Bloudek	<u>Aye</u>
Sanborn	<u>Aye</u>
Nash	<u>Aye</u>

2010 Regional Parks System Statement

City of Waconia

The updated *2030 Regional Parks Policy Plan* adopted by the Metropolitan Council in December 2010 is the metropolitan system plan for regional recreation open space with which local comprehensive plans must conform. This system statement highlights elements of the updated system plan which apply specifically to your community. The complete text of the updated *2030 Regional Parks Policy Plan* can be found at the Metropolitan Council's website:
<http://www.metrocouncil.org/planning/parks/2010/index.htm>

To meet the needs of the region in 2030, the updated *2030 Regional Parks Policy Plan* includes the following changes to the current regional parks system:

- ✓ **Extend four regional trail corridors.**
 - Trout Brook Regional Trail in Ramsey County
 - Big Rivers Regional Trail in Scott County
 - Minnesota River Bluffs Regional Trail in Carver County
 - Add Manomin County Park to the Rice Creek West Regional Trail corridor in Anoka County
- ✓ **Acquire and develop twelve new regional trails. Search corridors include:**
 - The Union Pacific rail corridor and river crossing in Carver and Scott counties
 - A north-south trail along County Road 10 in Carver County
 - Three north-south trails in Scott County
 - An east-west trail in Scott and Dakota Counties
 - A north-south trail and an east-west trail in Dakota County
 - A north-south trail in Ramsey County
 - A north-south trail along Johnson Parkway in St. Paul
 - A north-south trail along the St. Croix River and an east-west trail along the Mississippi River in Washington County
- ✓ **Designate The Landing in Shakopee as a regional special recreation feature**
- ✓ **Acknowledge a Regional Park Study Area in West St. Paul and South St. Paul**
- ✓ **Delete the Regional Park Search Area in southwestern Dakota County**

Regional Park System Plan Changes Affecting Your Community

The following parks system changes as contained in the updated *2030 Regional Parks Policy Plan* affect your community.

County Road 10 Regional Trail Search Corridor

This is a proposed regional trail search corridor along County Road 10 that will connect the planned Southwest LRT Connection Regional Trail, the proposed Twin Cities & Western Regional Trail, the Carver County North/South Regional Trail Search Corridor, the Dakota Rail Regional Trail and the Luce Line State Trail.

Carver County will develop a master plan to establish the trail alignment and will include Waconia and others in the process. Marty Walsh, Carver County Parks Director, can be contacted at 952-466-5250 for further information regarding the regional trail search corridor.

In order to conform to the updated *2030 Regional Parks Policy Plan*, the community's comprehensive plan needs to:

- Depict the general alignment of the regional trail search corridor on a map, as shown in Figure 2.
- Acknowledge in the text that this regional trail search corridor is a component of the regional parks system.

Figure 1: All changes to Regional Parks System

2030 Metropolitan Regional Parks System Plan Update

Regional Parks System Additions 2010

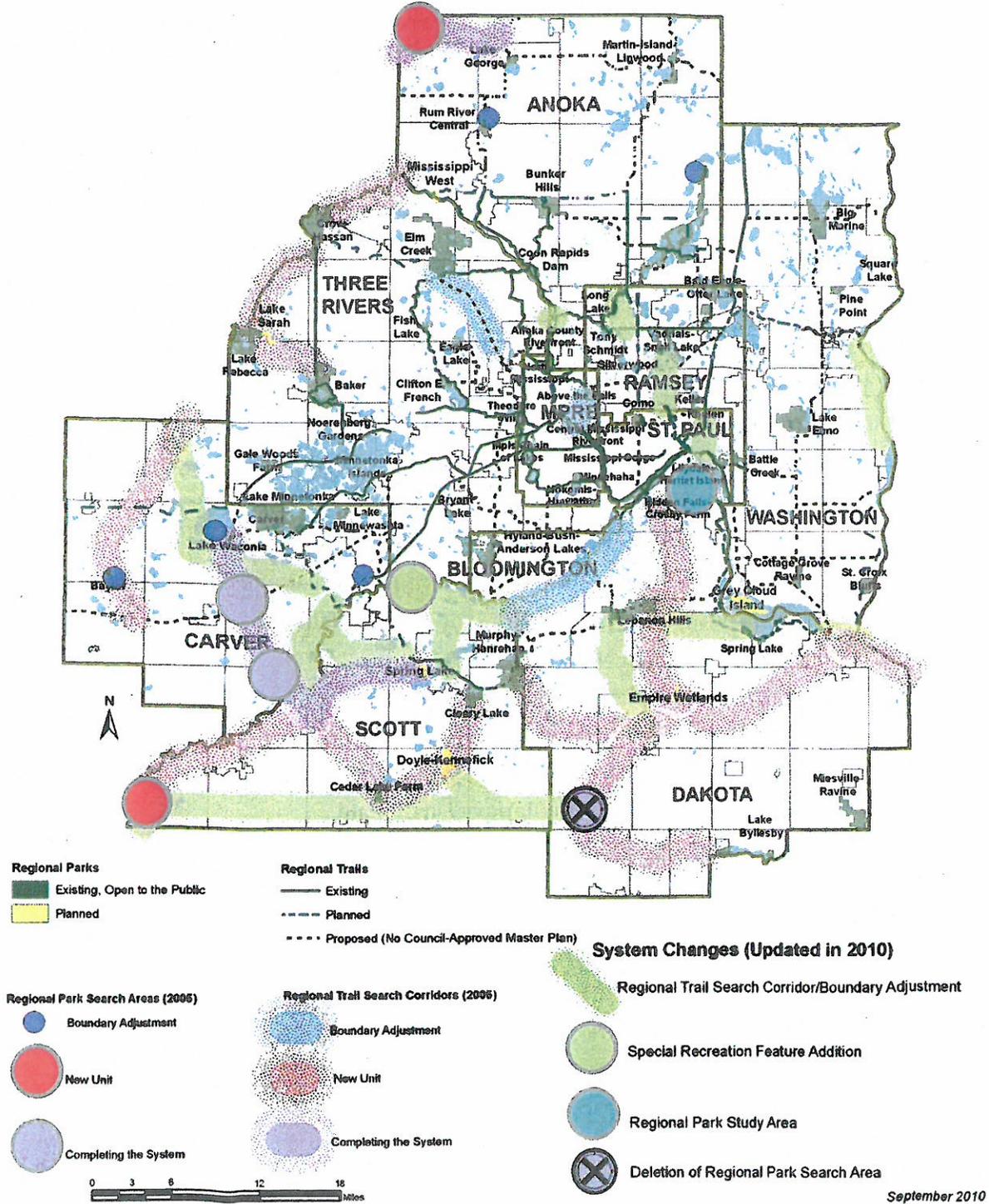


Figure 2: Map of Waconia with updated 2030 Regional Parks System Plan changes

2030 Metropolitan Regional Parks System Plan Update

City of Waconia



Regional Parks & State Lands

- Existing
- Planned
- Private Non-Profit

Regional Park Search Areas (2006)

- Boundary Adjustment
- New Unit
- Completing the System

Regional Trails

- Existing
- Planned
- Proposed (No Council-Approved Master Plan)
- State Trail

Regional Trail Search Corridors (2006)

- Boundary Adjustment
- New Unit
- Completing the System



System Changes (Updated in 2010)

- Regional Trail Search Corridor/Boundary Adjustment
- Special Recreation Feature Addition
- Regional Park Study Area
- X Deletion of Regional Park Search Area



April 2011

February 17, 2012

John Hilgers, Planning Director
City of Waconia
201 South Vine Street
Waconia, MN 55387-1337

RE: City of Waconia - Comprehensive Plan Amendment – Regional Trail Search Corridor
Metropolitan Council Review File No. 20423-3
Metropolitan Council District 4 (Gary Van Eyll, 651-602-1474)

Dear Mr. Hilgers:

On January 27, 2012, the Metropolitan Council staff received a Comprehensive Plan Amendment (CPA) to incorporate the Regional Trail search corridor along County Road 10 in Waconia. Council staff finds the CPA complete for review.

In accordance with state law, the Council has 60 days to complete its formal review of the plan amendment, with the option to extend the review an additional 60 days. The first 60-day period ends March 28, 2012. The review report has been tentatively scheduled for presentation to the Council's Community Development Committee on March 5 and the Metropolitan Council March 14, 2012.

If you have any questions about this review, please contact Tom Caswell, Principal Reviewer, at 651-602-1319.

Sincerely,

 FOR

Phyllis Hanson, Manager
Local Planning Assistance

cc: Susan Arntz, Waconia City Administrator
Gary Van Eyll, Council Member, District 4
Tom Caswell, Sector Representative & Principal Reviewer
Cheryl Olsen, Reviews Coordinator

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April 20, 2011

Ms. Susan Arntz
Administrator
City Of Waconia
201 South Vine St.
Waconia, MN 55387

Dear Ms. Arntz:

The Metropolitan Council recently adopted revisions to the *2030 Transportation Policy Plan* and the *2030 Regional Parks Policy Plan*, which may require amendments to local comprehensive plans. The Council also recently adopted revisions to the *2030 Water Resources Management Policy Plan*, but those changes will not require local plan amendments.

As required by state statute, the Council is issuing "system statements" to all communities. These statements, enclosed, show how the changes to the Council's regional system plans affect your community specifically. These documents will help your community determine if your community's local comprehensive plan must be amended to ensure its continued conformity with these regional system plans.

The system statements for your community also can be found online after May 1, 2011. The updated regional system plans are available online as well at <http://www.metrocouncil.org/planning/index.htm>.

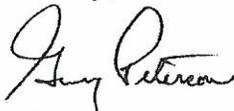
We recognize that communities recently completed the 2008 comprehensive plan update process, and we anticipate that information transmitted in these system statements should require minor, if any, amendments for most communities.

The deadline for submitting any required plan amendments to the Council is nine months from the date of this letter.

If you have questions about these system statements or the regional system plans, please contact Tom Caswell, the Council sector representative from our Local Planning Assistance staff assigned to work with your community, at 651-602-1319.

We look forward to working with you.

Sincerely,



Guy Peterson,
Director, Community Development Division

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www.metrocouncil.org