
Sponsor: Parks & Recreation

Meeting Date: 5/9/2023

Title: Battle Creek Regional Park Master Plan Amendment

File Number: 2023-172

Background and Rationale:

Parks & Recreation department has prepared a master plan amendment for Battle Creek Regional Park to accurately reflect long-term infrastructure and recreational improvements, boundary adjustments, long-term acquisitions, natural resource improvements, programming, public participation, and equity analysis.

Battle Creek Regional Park is 1,927 acres and is comprised of the Battle Creek and Pigs Eye Lake sections. The Battle Creek Regional Park Amendment has been developed to act as a separate guiding document from the Pigs Eye Lake Master Plan Amendment since the Pigs Eye Lake section is at a different level of development than the Battle Creek section. The main Battle Creek section is moderately developed with maintained trail systems, signage and other recreation facilities. Only the western portion of the Battle Creek section is within the Mississippi River Corridor Critical Area (MRCCA). This section of park is subject to MRCCA regulations (state statute under Minnesota Rule 6106) which is in place to protect the unique natural and cultural resources and values within this corridor.

This master plan amendment replaces the 1981 Battle Creek Master Plan for the Battle Creek section of the regional park. The Battle Creek Master Plan amendment is written to fulfill the Metropolitan Council requirements for regional park as outlined in the 2040 Regional Parks Policy Plan and to meet the expectations set forth in the 2018 Ramsey County Parks and Recreation System Plan.

Parks & Recreation department worked in coordination with Metropolitan Council staff and the public throughout the master plan amendment development process. If approved by the Ramsey County Board of Commissioners, the master plan amendment will be forwarded to the Metropolitan Council for review and approval. Once the master plan amendment is approved by the Metropolitan Council, costs associated with all improvements identified in the master plan amendment will be eligible for reimbursement through grants administered by the Metropolitan Council for Regional Parks and Trails.

For more information on the Battle Creek Master Plan Amendment, please visit:

<https://www.ramseycounty.us/residents/parks-recreation/planning-construction-restoration/battle-creek-regional-park-master-plan>

Recommendation:

The Ramsey County Board of Commissioners resolved to:

1. Approve the Battle Creek Regional Park Master Plan Amendment dated March 31, 2023.
2. Authorize submission of the Battle Creek Regional Park Master Plan Amendment to the Metropolitan Council.
3. Direct the County Manager to evaluate the following county-owned properties for potential alignment with the Battle Creek Regional Park Master Plan as a part of each property's land use and redevelopment planning process:
 - a. The former site of Boys Totem Town;
 - b. Maplewood Properties South (formerly The Ponds at Battle Creek); and
 - c. Maplewood Properties North (formerly part of the Ramsey County Correctional Facility).

A motion to approve was made by Commissioner Frethem, seconded by Commissioner Reinhardt.

Motion passed.

Aye: - 7: Frethem, MatasCastillo, McGuire, Moran, Ortega, Reinhardt, and Xiong

By: 

Mee Cheng, Chief Clerk - County Board