

DAKOTA COUNTY PLANNING COMMISSION

Dakota County Western Service Center – Room L139

14955 Galaxie Avenue

Apple Valley, MN 55124

Thursday, October 28, 2021

7:00 PM – 9:00 PM

This is an in-person meeting. In accordance with a resolution passed by the County Board of Commissioners, all visitors in Dakota County buildings must wear a mask regardless of their vaccination status. The decision is due to Dakota County being at a substantial level of community transmission of COVID-19. According to the CDC, COVID-19 infections happen in only a small proportion of people who are fully vaccinated, even with the more contagious Delta variant. However, preliminary evidence suggests that fully vaccinated people infected with the Delta variant can spread the virus to others.

Agenda

I. Call to Order and Roll Call

II. Pledge of Allegiance

III. Public Comments:

Anyone wishing to address the Planning Commission on an item not on the agenda may address the Planning Commission at this time (comments are limited to 5 minutes).

IV. Approval of the Agenda

V. Miesville Park Reserve Natural Resources Management Plan - Information

(Joe Walton – Parks)

VI. Miesville Park Reserve Master Plan Update - Information

(Lil Leatham – Planning Office)

VII. Planning Manager Update and County Board Actions

- Authorized acceleration of Dakota County Greenway System in 2022-2026 Capital Improvement Program

VIII. Upcoming Public Meetings – Community Outreach

St. Paul Library Open House	Wednesday, November 10, 5:00pm-7:00pm Central Square Community Center, Centennial Room, South St. Paul https://www.co.dakota.mn.us/libraries/HoursLocations/SSP/
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IX. Topics for Next Meeting (Thursday, November 18, 2021):

- County 42 Visioning Study – Draft Report

X. Planning Commissioner Announcements/Updates

XI. Adjourn

DAKOTA COUNTY PLANNING COMMISSION

Date AGENDA ITEM: Research and Findings of the Natural Resource Management Plan for Miesville Ravine Park Reserve (*Information*)

PURPOSE

Provide Planning Commission:

1. *We will be providing an overview of the Research & Findings Phase of the Miesville Ravine Park Reserve Natural Resources Management Plan.*
2. *We will be showing photos from the field from Miesville Ravine PR of areas that we visited the past couple of months.*

BACKGROUND

Topics we will be presenting and discussing will be:

- *Geology, soils, topography*
- *Site map and landscape context*
- *Historical and Existing Vegetation*
- *Wildlife species observed*
- *Watersheds and streams*
- *Erosion prone areas*
- *Invasive species*
- *Trails and access points*
- *Unique attributes and features of the site*
- *Restoration projects accomplished and underway*

ATTACHMENTS

None

QUESTIONS

The following questions are intended to help assist in review of the packet materials.

1. *What are some of your favorite features of this park reserve? How does this site differ from other park sites in the County?*
2. *What aspects, areas, habitats, or species deserve special emphasis, conservation, and protection?*
3. *How can we best provide visitor services elements and at the same time protect and conserve the natural communities of this park reserve?*
4. *How much development should take place in this park reserve?*
5. *Should reintroduction of key wildlife species, such as bison, be considered for this park at some point in the future?*

DAKOTA COUNTY PLANNING COMMISSION

Date: 10/21/2021

AGENDA ITEM: Miesville Master Plan Update

PURPOSE

Project Update

BACKGROUND

Miesville Ravine Park Reserve is 1,707-acres and is in Douglas Township at the confluence of Trout Brook and the Cannon River. The park is one of two Park Reserves within the Dakota County Park system and contains some of the largest and highest-quality plant communities owned and managed by Dakota County.

The 2005 Miesville Ravine Park Reserve Master Plan currently guides park improvements:

<https://www.co.dakota.mn.us/parks/About/ParkMasterPlans/Documents/MiesvilleMasterPlan.pdf>

The Miesville Ravine Park Reserve Master Plan was last updated in 2005. An update is needed to reflect system-wide planning efforts, including the 2008 Park System Plan, the 2017 Visitor Services Plan, and the 2017 Natural Resources Management System Plan.

The Master Plan update will occur in 2022-2023 over three phases. Each phase will include community engagement and updates to or requested action by the Planning Commission and the Physical Development Committee of the Whole. A Traditional Cultural Properties Survey will be conducted in Spring 2022.

Schedule *(subject to change)*

Project Scope and Consultant Selection	November 2021-January 2022
Phase #1 Research, Findings and Vision	February-June 2022
Phase #2 Review Park Concepts & Prepare Draft Plan	June-September 2022
Phase #3 Approvals	October 2022- April 2023
Anticipated Metropolitan Council Approval	June 2023

ATTACHMENTS

None.

QUESTIONS

1. Thinking about the park tour in June, what is the most intriguing aspect of the park for you?
2. What unique challenges and opportunities should be explored during the master planning process?
3. What do you think is the most important improvement that could be done in the next 10 years?