



Spring Lake Park Master Plan and Natural Resources Management Plan Update

Dakota County Planning Commission
December 17, 2020
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Physical Development Division

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Land Acknowledgement



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Overview



1. Dakota Tribal Historic Preservation Officer Involvement
2. Preliminary Approach to Master Plan Changes based on THPO feedback
3. Prioritization and Phasing



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Tribes in Minnesota



- 11 Tribes, 7 Ojibwe and 4 Dakota
- The tribes of southern Minnesota are Dakota or Sioux
- Tribes are federally recognized, governing bodies.
- Tribes have THPOs – Tribal Historic Preservation Officers (note the State of Minnesota has a SHPO).
- There are also Indian Communities in Minnesota, and Dakota County (Mendota Mdewakanton Dakota Tribal Community)



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Working with THPOs



THPOs represent tribal government and are focused on preservation of cultural resources.

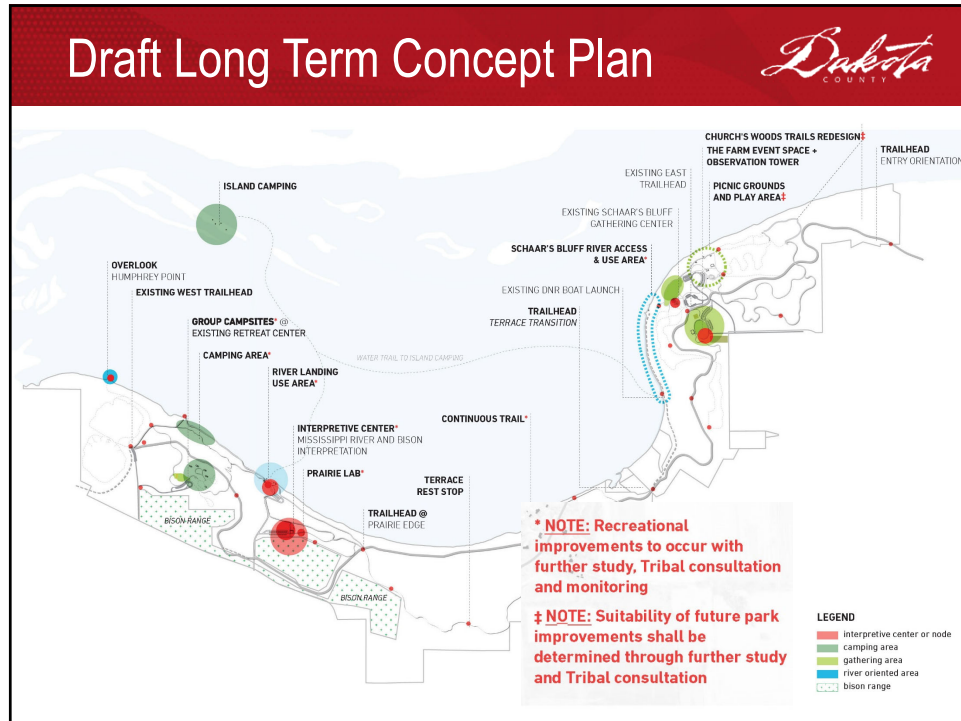
- Shakopee Mdewakanton Sioux Community
- Upper Sioux Community
- Lower Sioux Indian Community
- Prairie Island Indian Community

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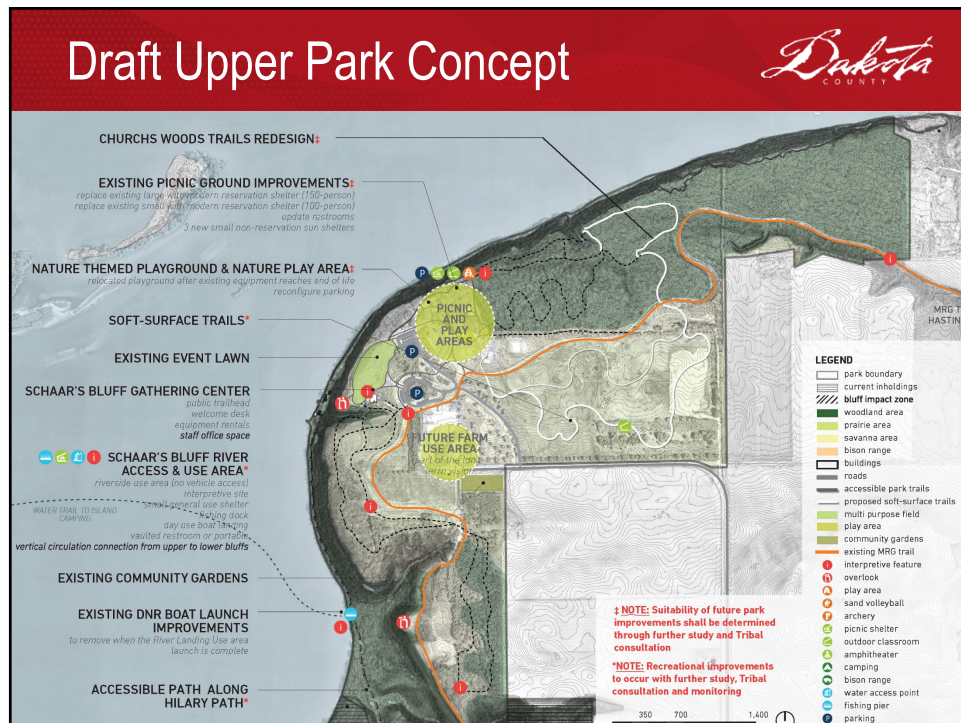
Working with THPOs



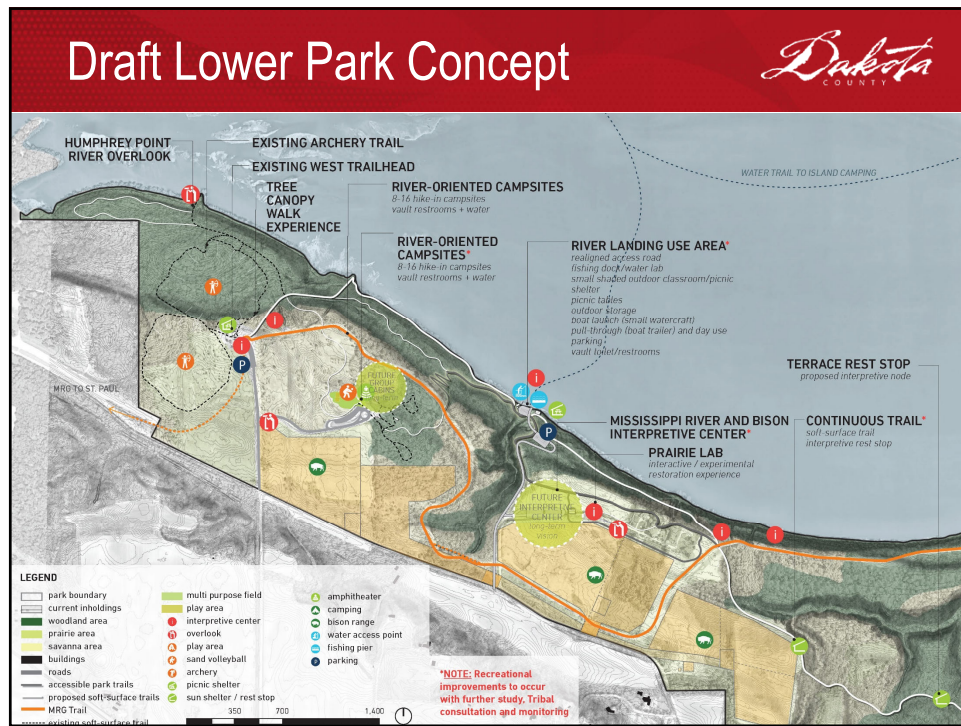
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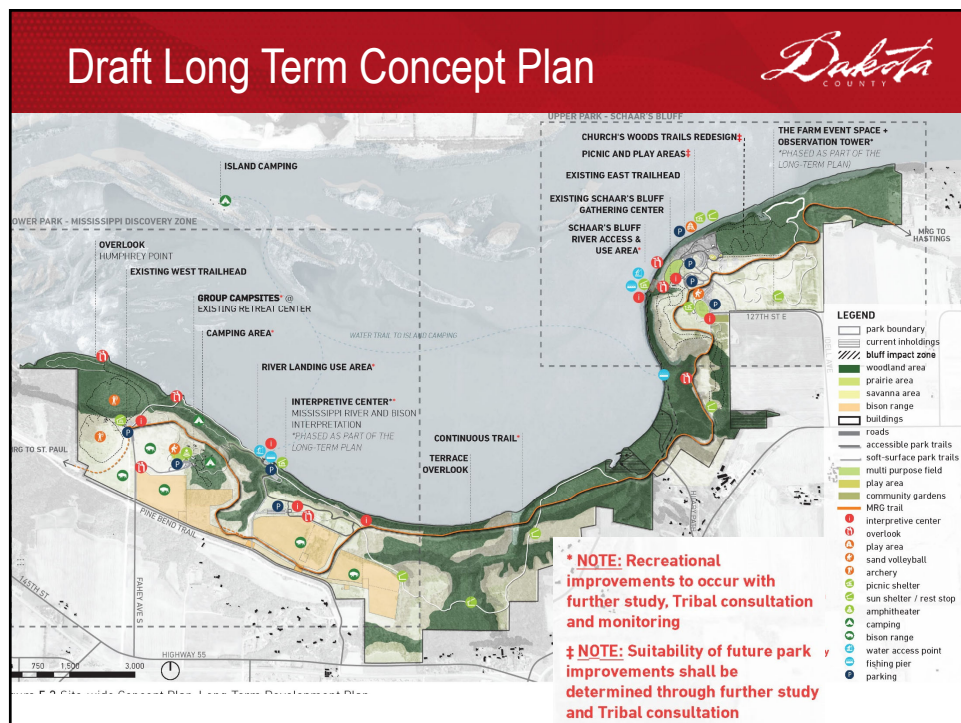
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Draft Cultural Stewardship Recommendations



- Establish a formal partnership with Indigenous communities associated with the park
- Address significant properties throughout the County through a more holistic approach
- Work with the Indigenous communities to develop appropriate interpretive materials
- Develop protocols for special use permits for harvesting and foraging
- Conduct additional study to determine appropriate long-term plan for Upper Park

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Draft Cultural Stewardship Recommendations




Develop:

- Standards to protect Traditional Cultural Properties and culturally sensitive sites
- Mound Management Plan
- Protocols for monitoring ground disturbing activities and potential inadvertent discoveries of cultural materials
- Policies that address ownership of cultural materials in the future

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Draft Phasing – Years 1-4



ID	Description	External Funding Assumption	Estimated County Project Cost
1	Natural Resource Enhancement / Restoration Phase 1	\$ 1,309,000	\$ 535,000
2	Bison Reintroduction*	\$ 1,107,000	\$ 164,000
3	Planning Studies (Mound Management Plan, Gathering Center/Public Trailhead Architectural Design Study, Schaar's Bluff Cultural Landscape Study, Schaar's Bluff Concept Plan (to include maintenance site reuse)	\$ 60,000	\$ 370,000
4	West Park Natural Surface Trails, Rest Areas, Overlooks, and Interpretation*		\$ 170,000
5	Schaar's Bluff Improvements (Sun shelter at Existing Playground, Water Fountain at Community Gardens)*		\$ 98,000
6	Schaar's Bluff Natural Surface Trails Redesign+		\$ 181,000
7	MnDNR Boat Launch Access Accessible Trail via MRG / Hilary Path*		\$ 280,000
8	Bison Range Visitor Service Enhancements (Accessible Bison Viewing Trail, 1 Bison Viewing Platform, 1 Vehicle Pull-Off, Interpretation)*	\$ 137,000	\$ 238,000
9	Fischer Ave. Trailhead (Shared Parking for MRG, River Landing Use Area, Field-Trip Drop Off, Shaded Outdoor Classroom/Shelter, Vault Toilet)*		\$ 884,000
10	River Landing Use Area - Phase 1 (Boat Launch, Access Road, Sun Shelter/Outdoor Classroom, Storage, Watercraft Rental Kiosk, Vault Toilet, Fishing Dock/Water Lab, Parking)*	\$ 660,000	\$ 1,280,000
11	Bison and River Discovery Accessible Trail Loop (Fischer Trailhead to the River Landing Use Area to the Retreat Center)*		\$ 745,000

5 YEAR TARGET IS \$3.5 to \$5 MILLION

*Estimated costs will be refined after studies are complete


* Park improvements to occur with further study, Tribal consultation, and monitoring

+ Suitability of future park improvements shall be determined through further study and Tribal consultation

FIVE-YEAR SUBTOTAL: \$4,945,000

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Draft Phasing – Years 5-9

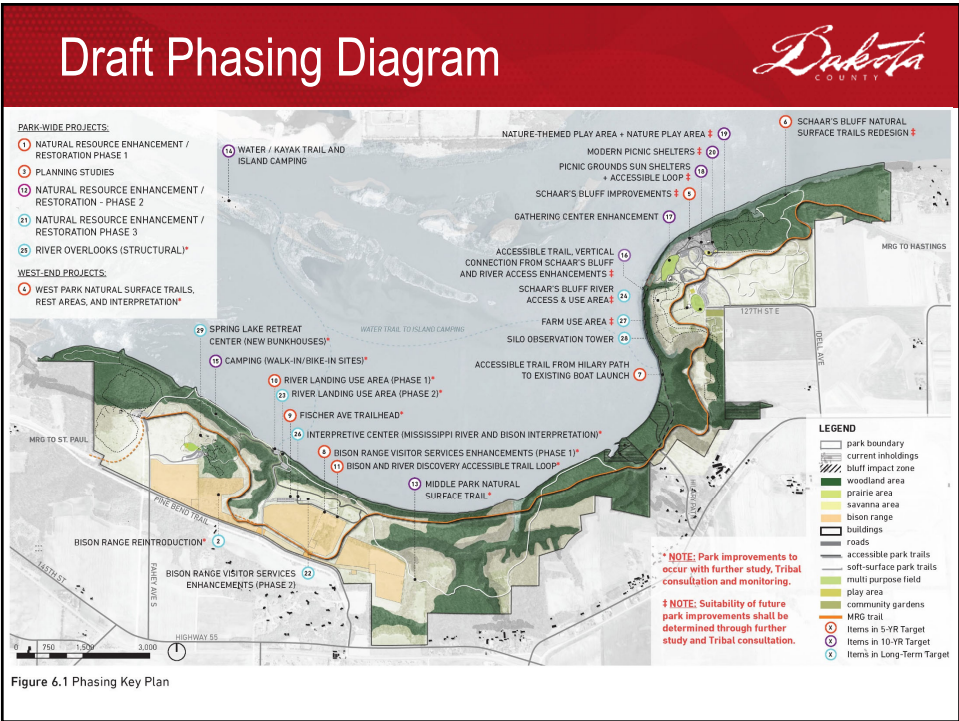


ID	Description	External Funding Assumption	Estimated County Project Cost
12	Natural Resource Enhancement / Restoration - Phase 2	\$ 1,111,000	\$ 278,000
13	Middle Park Natural Surface Trail (Fischer Ave to Hilary Path, Rest Stops, Interpretation)*		\$ 299,000
14	Water / Kayak Trail and Island Camping*	\$ 67,000	\$ 70,000
15	Camping (Walk-in/Bike-in Sites, Vault Toilet, Water)*	\$ 84,000	\$ 88,000
16	Schaar's Bluff River Access (River Access, River Access Enhancements)^A+	\$ 240,000	\$ 366,000
17	Gathering Center Enhancement (Office Space, Rental Equipment Facilities)^A+		\$ 560,000
18	Picnic Grounds - (2 Small Non-Reservation Sun Shelters, Accessible Schaar's Bluff Loop)^+ *		\$ 229,000
19	Play (Nature-Themed Play Area + Nature Play Area+ Parking Reconfiguration)^A+		\$ 1,838,000
20	Picnic Grounds (Replace 2 Existing Reservation Shelters with Modern Shelters and Restrooms)^A+		\$ 2,550,000
<div> <div> ^Estimated costs will be refined after studies are complete * Park improvements to occur with further study, Tribal consultation, and monitoring + Suitability of future park improvements shall be determined through further study and Tribal consultation </div> <div> 10-YEAR SUBTOTAL: \$6,278,000 </div> </div>			

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Draft Phasing – Long Term				LONG-TERM ITEMS
ID	Description	External Funding Assumption	Estimated County Project Cost	
21	Natural Resource Enhancement / Restoration - Phase 3	\$ 573,000	\$ 143,000	
22	Bison Visitor Service Enhancements Phase 2 (Observation Platform, Prairie Lab)		\$ 294,000	
23	River Landing Use Area Phase 2 (Picnic Shelter & Restroom)		\$ 959,000	
24	Schaar's Bluff River Use Area (Custom Picnic Shelter, Restrooms, Interpretive Site, Fishing Dock, Day Use Boat Landing, Bluff to River Access)*+	\$ 240,000	\$ 916,000	
25	River Overlooks (Structural) and Interpretive Canopy Walk*		\$ 1,602,000	
26	Interpretive Center (Mississippi River and Bison Interpretation)		\$ 4,655,000	
27	Silo Observation Tower		\$ 980,000	
28	Farm Use Area (Farm Use Area Business Plan: based on refined Farm Area Concept to be completed in Phase 1)*+		\$ 4,148,000	
29	Spring Lake Retreat Center (New Bunkhouses)*		\$ 1,176,000	
*Estimated costs will be refined after studies are complete		LONG-TERM SUBTOTAL: \$14,873,000		
* Park improvements to occur with further study, Tribal consultation, and monitoring				
+ Suitability of future park improvements shall be determined through further study and Tribal consultation				

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Next Steps



- **December - January** – THPO review of draft changes
- **January** – Finalize Public Review Master Plan Document
- **January** – Planning Commission, seek recommendation to release for public review
- **February** - PDC release for public review
- **February – April** – Public Review
- **April** – Planning Commission, seek recommendation for adoption
- **May** – PDC, seek adoption

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Questions and Discussion



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