



# Spring Lake Park Master Plan and Natural Resources Management Plan

Dakota County Planning Commission  
January 28, 2021  
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Physical Development Division

1


## Land Acknowledgement



2

## Overview

- Project Purpose and Process
- What's Updated
- What's New
- Next Steps
- Questions and Discussion
- Planning Commission Action



3

## Project Purpose & Process

<p>Update 2003 Master Plan</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Long Term and 10 Year Plans</li><li>• Interpretive Framework</li></ul> <p>Natural Resources Management Plan</p>	<p><b>Process</b></p> <p>Summer – Fall 2019: <i>Research, Findings, and Vision</i></p> <p>Winter - Spring 2020: Concept Alternatives</p> <p><b>Summer – Winter 2020:</b> <b><i>Plan Development</i></b></p> <p>Winter – Summer 2021: <i>Approvals</i></p>
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4

## What's Updated and New



### Updated

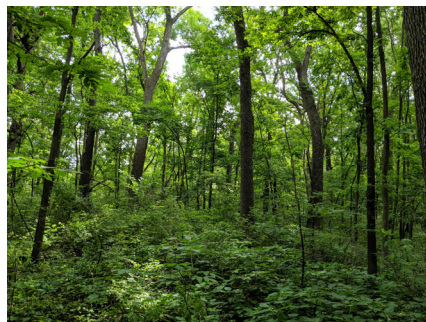
- NRMP to Reflect November Planning Commission Comments
- MP Chapters 1-4 to Acknowledge the Traditional Cultural Properties Survey

### New

- Chapter 5 – Master Plan
- Chapter 6 - Implementation

5

## Natural Resources Management Plan



### Public Review Plan

Met in November 2020,  
and before that in July,  
2020

6

## Natural Resources Management Plan



### Reintroduction of Bison and Other Wildlife Species

Page 2. **Bison** reference

Page 9. Herps such as bull snake and rat snake, **and insects such as regal fritillary**, but many other species may be considered.

Page 59. Reference describing why **bison** are important, ecologically, and a description of the status of the **bison project** and some of the details of the **design**.

Page 85. **Bison** reference in *Vision and Goals*.

Page 101. **Bison** reference in the *Implementation* section describing the project

7

## Natural Resources Management Plan



### Controlling Deer Populations

Page 57. Changed column heading titles.

Page 58. Other methods of deer control should also be considered...to deter deer.

### Deer Abundance

Page 75. Reference describing alternative deer management strategies.

Page 102. Reference about deer management in the *Implementation* section.

8

## Natural Resources Management Plan



### **Ravines and Trails**

#### *Ravines*

#### Page 83.

- Site and design new trails with standards such that they do not cause soil erosion, such as aligning trails with the contours of slopes and not against them. Follow International Mountain Bike Association trail design standards and MN DNR Trail Planning, Design, and Development Guidelines (2007). Apply the same standards to already built/existing hard and soft surface trails in the Park Reserve.

#### *Regional Trail Corridor*

#### Page 85.

- Site and design trails such that they do not cause soil erosion, such as aligning trails with the contours of slopes and not against them. Follow International Mountain Bike Association trail design standards and MN DNR Trail Planning, Design, and Development Guidelines.

9

## Natural Resources Management Plan



### **Appendix A. Historical Aerial Photographs from 1927**

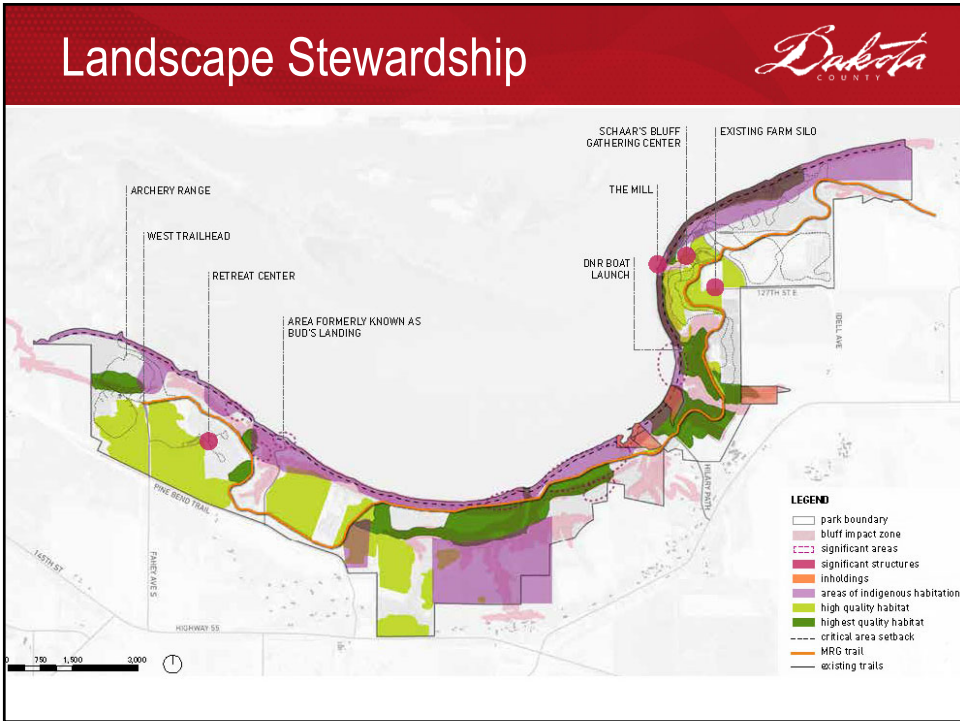
- In 1927, as part of the Mississippi River lock and dam project, the river was flown for aerial photography.
- This is the oldest date we have for aerial photos in the state.

10

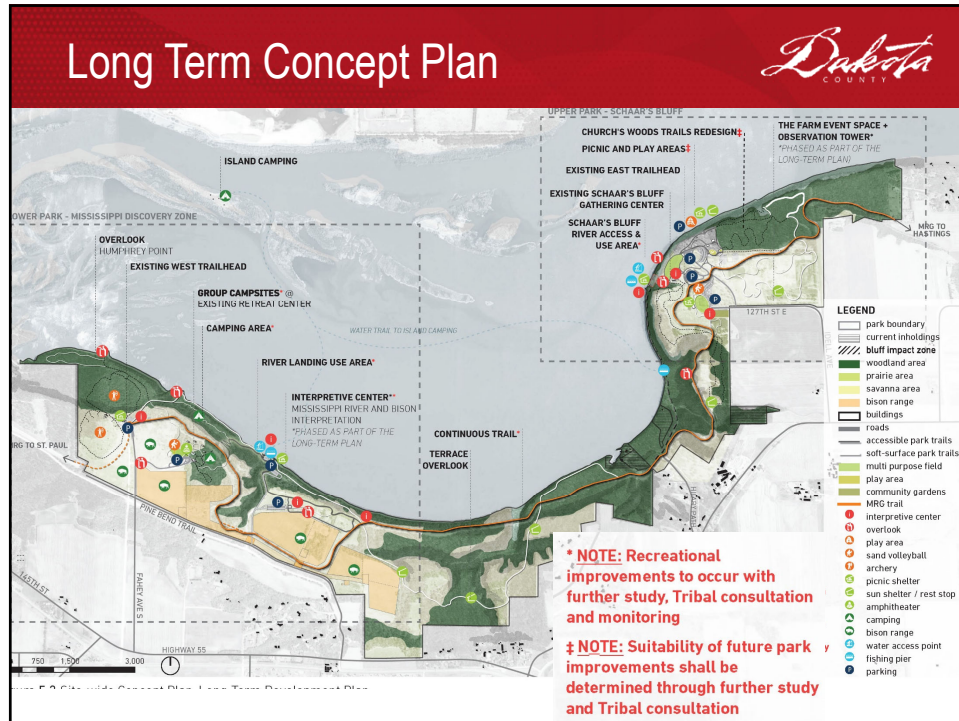




11



12



13

**Cultural Stewardship Recommendations**

**Dakota COUNTY**

Establish a formal partnership with Indigenous communities associated with the park

Work with the Indigenous communities to convey the significance of the site, and to encourage appropriate respect, without sharing sensitive information

Acquire additional understanding for priority cultural areas:

- Delineate cemeteries and develop cemetery, burial, and mound management plans
- Develop maintenance and monitoring practices
- Consider conducting a cultural landscape planning study

14

## Interpretive Themes & Guidelines *Dakota* COUNTY

### THE CHANGING RIVER

- *Importance of place*
- *Gifts of the land*
- *Kinship and connections*



1. This is a Dakota place
2. Ecological and human history are tied
3. The site and its stories are continually evolving
4. Connected sites and stories
5. This is a place for gathering

15

## Phasing – Five Year Plan *Dakota* COUNTY

**Natural Resource Restoration Phase 1**  
**Cultural Stewardship Studies and Planning**

**Bison Reintroduction & Visitor Services\***

**Lower Park trails\***

**The Landing\***

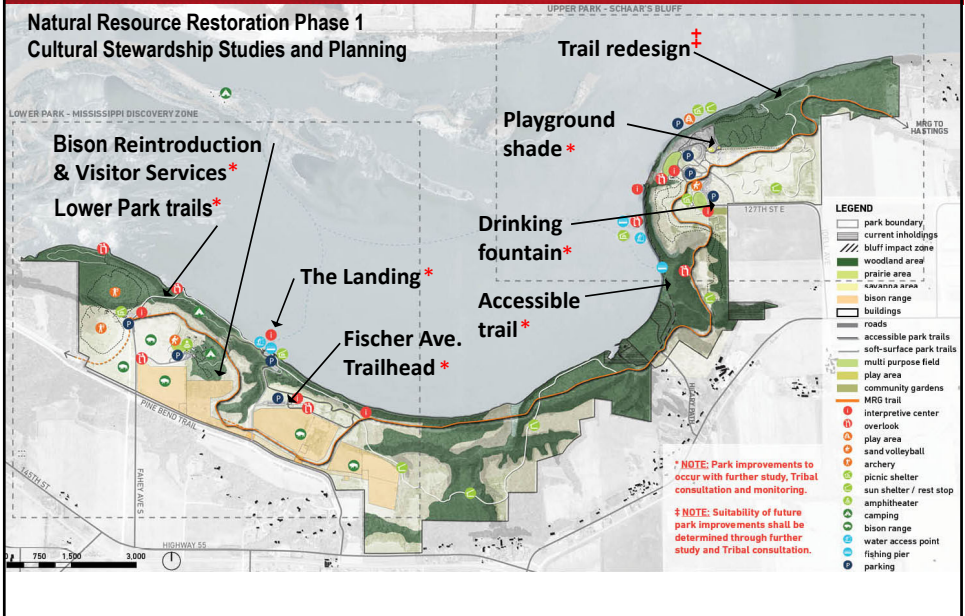
**Fischer Ave. Trailhead\***

**Trail redesign†**

**Playground shade\***

**Drinking fountain\***

**Accessible trail\***

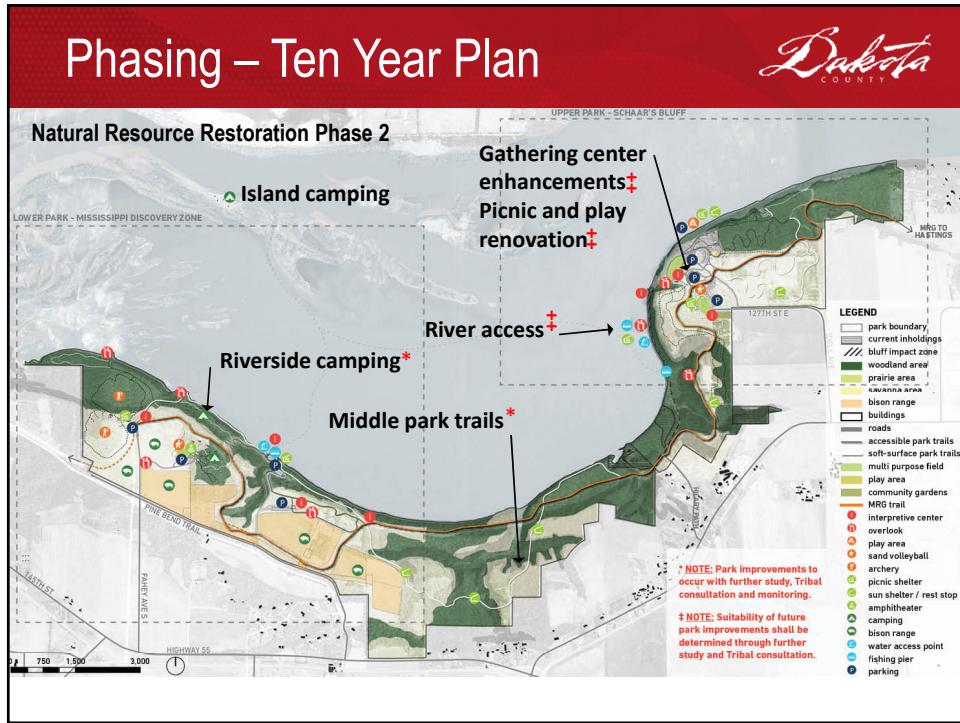


\* NOTE: Park Improvements to occur with further study. Tribal consultation and monitoring.

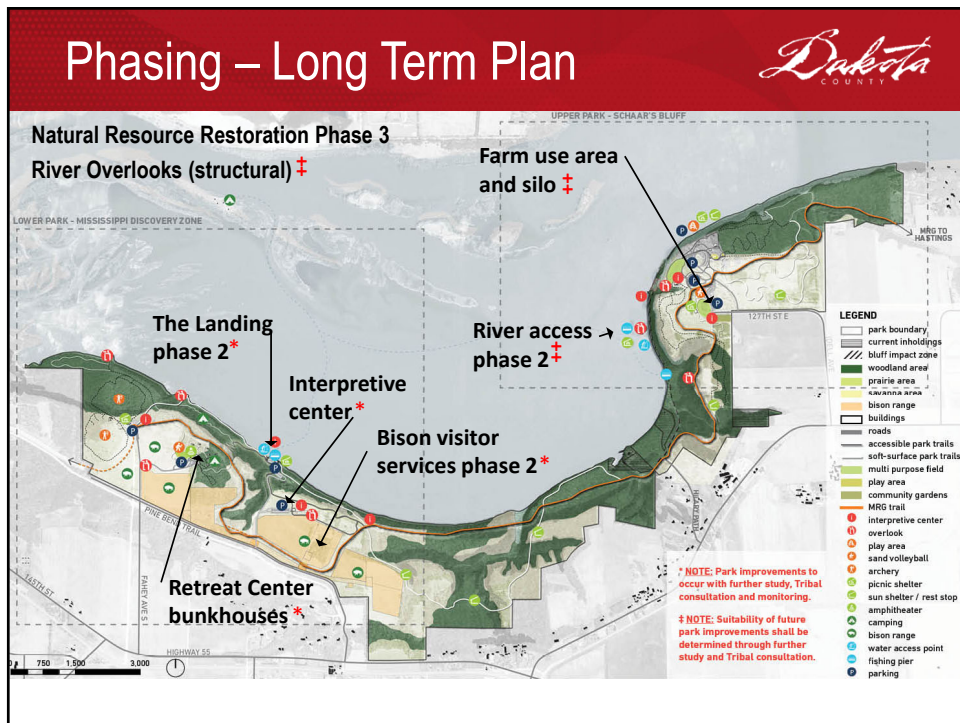
† NOTE: Suitability of future park improvements shall be determined through further study and Tribal consultation.

16





17



18

## Cost Estimate



<u>Phase</u>	<u>Total Cost</u>
5 year	\$ 4,945,000
10 year	\$ 6,278,000
<u>Long Term</u>	<u>\$14,873,000</u>
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$26,096,000</b>

19

## Business and Operations Analysis



- Estimates staffing requirements and operational costs
- Purpose is to understand annual cost implications of future improvements
- Provides a snapshot based on assumptions regarding maintenance standards, level of visitor services, and visitor services revenue
- Adaptive tool, the assumptions can be changed

20

## Operations Cost Estimates *Dakota* COUNTY

	2019	5 Year Plan	Net Increase Over Current	10 Year Plan	Net Increase Over 5 Year
Dollars	\$689,000	\$801,000	16%	\$1,039,000	30%
Staffing		.86-1.61 FTE		1.9-3.57 FTE	

- Dollars includes staffing and non operational staffing expenses
- Considers visitor services, natural resources management, grounds maintenance, buildings maintenance and law enforcement

21

## Public Review *Dakota* COUNTY

- Mid February - March
- Community open house – Early March.
- Stakeholder outreach
- Story map with ability to comment on the project website
- Social media

**Marketing Communications and Social Media Specialist Dakota County...**

**Spring Lake Park Reserve**  
Help us plan for the future of Spring Lake Park Reserve! We're currently working on a Master Plan and Natural Resources Management Plan for the park. Please check them out and let us know what you think:  
[https://tenktenmysocialpinpoint.com/slpr\\_concepts/#/sidebar/tabs/about](https://tenktenmysocialpinpoint.com/slpr_concepts/#/sidebar/tabs/about) More  
See more...

**Social Pinpoint - Spring Lake Park Reserve Master Plan Update**  
A Place to engage your Community  
[TENKTENMYSOCIALPINPOINT.COM](https://tenktenmysocialpinpoint.com)

6 days ago · Subscribers of Dakota County Government in 3 areas

Thank Comment 2 1-1124 Impressions

**Troy S. Central Rosemount**  
spectacular..both are great. Learning towards #1  
6 days ago Thank Reply

22

## Next Steps



- **Mid February – March** – Public review
- **April** – Planning Commission, seek recommendation for adoption
- **May** - PDC considers adoption
- **Summer** – Metropolitan Council considers adoption

23

## Questions and Discussion



24



## Requested Action



Recommendation to the Physical Development Committee of the Whole to release the Spring Lake Park Reserve Master Plan and the Spring Lake Park Natural Resources Management Plan for public review.