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MEMORANDUM

Agenda Item # 12

To: Planning Commission
From: Mark Donaldson, Executive Director
Date: December 9, 2009
Subject: The Knoxville Knox County Park, Recreation and Greenway Plan and Amendments to the General Plan and Sector Plans - 10-A-09-SAP

On December 7, MPC staff presented the Knoxville Knox County Park, Recreation and Greenway Plan to the Knox County's Advisory Park Board, which unanimously endorsed the plan, recommending it for adoption by the Metropolitan Planning Commission and County Commission. At the request of that the County Parks and Recreation Department, a greenway will be added to the plan maps along Northshore Drive through Concord Park (allowing two greenway systems in the park, one for conventional use another closer to the edge of the park for potential mountain bike use).

Attached are memorandums from the City and County Park Directors, expressing their support of the plan. The additions requested by Joe Walsh were made to the draft plan before you.



OFFICE OF COUNTY MAYOR

Department of Parks & Recreation • 2447 Sutherland Avenue, Knoxville, TN 37919

MEMORANDUM

Date: December 8, 2009
To: The Metropolitan Planning Commission
From: Doug Bataille, Senior Director *DB*
Copy: Mark Donaldson, Executive Director

Subject: The Knoxville and Knox County Park, Recreation and Greenway Plan

I would like to thank the staff of the Metropolitan Planning Commission for their many hours of dedicated work in developing our first combined City of Knoxville and Knox County Park, Recreation and Greenway Plan. While the combined approach certainly involved more work and collaboration, I think the final product was well worth it. Having the staffs of MPC, the city and the county work together was beneficial in many ways and will pay dividends well into the future.


On December 7, MPC staff presented the Knoxville Knox County Park, Recreation and Greenway Plan to the Knox County Park and Recreation Citizen Advisory Board at our monthly meeting. The plan was unanimously endorsed, recommending it for adoption by the Metropolitan Planning Commission and County Commission. Our staff and board are very excited about this plan. In addition, both would like to stay involved with the MPC staff and provide annual updates to the plan as needed. I think this is an important step in keeping our planning process an active one and not create plans that just "sit on the shelf" but, instead have meaningful impact in the community.

Again, I give many thanks to the MPC staff and commission for your support of this plan.



Date: November 25, 2009

To: Mark Donaldson, Executive Director, Metropolitan Planning Commission

From: Joe Walsh, Director, Knoxville Parks and Recreation Department 

Subj: The Knoxville/Knox County Park, Recreation and Greenway Plan

I have reviewed the latest draft of the Park, Recreation and Greenway Plan, and am sending you my suggested changes (they are noted with yellow high lighter). There are very few though, since at this point I have had the opportunity to go over this plan several times. Each time I get a chance to read this document I am reminded about how many people and organizations it takes to make this public recreation system function. I am proud of the facilities and programs our city has and this plan can only help us make them better in the future.

We are very appreciative of all the time your staff has put into this planning document. Anne Wallace, when she worked for MPC, and Mike Carberry have especially done an exceptional job. With their tenacious effort and professional skills, your staff has created a comprehensive plan that will be a guide for our department for the next few years.

Please let me know when the planning commission will be approving the plan, so I can make arrangements to have the Knoxville City Council officially approve it as well. Once again, thanks for everything MPC does to help me do my job.