

RESOLUTION # 23-01
Summit Avenue Regional Trail Plan

WHEREAS, the Saint Paul Parks and Recreation Commission is an appointed body established to advise the Saint Paul Mayor and the Saint Paul City Council on long-range and city-wide matters related to the Saint Paul Department of Parks and Recreation ; and

WHEREAS, Section 105.06 of the Saint Paul Administrative Code outlines the Parks and Recreation Commission's duty to review and comment on regional park master plans and the process that it must follow; and

WHEREAS, the Parks and Recreation Commission held a public hearing on April 13, 2023 where it sought recommendations from all concerned citizens concerning the Summit Avenue Regional Trail Plan; and

WHEREAS, the Summit Avenue Regional Trail Plan ("Plan") is a visionary document to develop an approximately 5.4 mile regional trail linking Mississippi Gorge Regional Park and the Samuel Morgan Regional Trail along this scenic parkway in the city of Saint Paul; and

WHEREAS, the City's 2040 Comprehensive Plan, the 2015 Bicycle Plan, and the Metropolitan Council's 2040 Regional Parks Policy Plan ("RPPP") identifies a regional trail search corridor along Summit Avenue; and

WHEREAS, the 2040 Comprehensive Plan was adopted in 2018 following review by the Parks and Recreation Commission and approval by the City Council; and

WHEREAS, the 2019 Saint Paul Climate Action Resilience plan recognizes the importance of residents having safe access to protected active transportation facilities; and

WHEREAS, the 2019 Pedestrian Plan identifies actions to plan, design, build and maintain the City's transportation system in a way that prioritizes walking first, followed by bicycling and transit use over other vehicles; and

WHEREAS, the Department of Parks and Recreation assembled and facilitated a series of community and key stakeholder meetings, hired an engineering consultant, and worked across City departments and partner agencies to develop a preferred alignment for the Summit Avenue Regional Trail Plan; and

WHEREAS, many parts of Summit Avenue are more than 100 years old necessitating future street reconstruction, therefore, now is the time to identify a vision for pedestrian and bicycle facilities in the corridor when reconstruction occurs; and

WHEREAS, the Plan contains information required by the RPPP and includes a visionary framework for development of a regional trail, recognizing that future design and engineering processes will be necessary to achieve site-specific facility designs; and

WHEREAS, the Metropolitan Council requires an approved regional plan conforming to the requirements of the RPPP to designate a regional trail alignment and plan for development; and

WHEREAS, plan approval will make the Summit Avenue Regional Trail eligible for regional capital funding to construct the trail and for regional operations and maintenance funding to operate all segments open to the public; and

WHEREAS, the completed trail is expected to become an important part of the City's and the Metropolitan Council's Regional Trail System; and

WHEREAS, the Parks and Recreation Commission received a recommendation from the City of Saint Paul Transportation Committee on April 17, 2023 finding consistency with the 2040 Saint Paul Comprehensive Plan and other adopted plans; and

WHEREAS, the Parks and Recreation Commission received a recommendation from the City of Saint Paul Planning Commission on April 28th, 2023 recommending the Summit Avenue Regional Trail Plan for approval and conveying it to the Parks and Recreation Commission and the City Council;

WHEREAS, in accordance with the Saint Paul Administrative Code the recommendation of the Transportation Committee and the Planning Commission have become part of the official record of the proposed plan; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the Saint Paul Parks and Recreation Commission recommends the Summit Avenue Regional Trail Plan be approved; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Saint Paul Parks and Recreation Commission submits this recommendation to the City Council along with the entire official record including minutes of the public hearing and the recommendations of the Saint Paul Transportation Committee and the Saint Paul Planning Commission.



SAINT PAUL
MINNESOTA

PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION
JAZMIN GLASER-KELLY, CHAIR

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Adopted by the Saint Paul Parks and Recreation Commission on May 11, 2023:

Approved:	Yeas	<u>4</u>
	Nays	<u>3</u>
	Absent:	<u>4</u>

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Attested to by:

Elizabeth Lee McDonald

Staff to the Parks and Recreation Commission