

# Parks and Trails Legacy Advisory Committee Member Job Description

## Purpose of the Committee

The mission of the Parks and Trails Legacy Advisory Committee is *“to champion the 25-year Parks and Trails Legacy Plan by providing recommendations to enhance promotion, coordination, and accountability throughout implementation of the plan.”*



The Parks and Trails Legacy Advisory Committee was created as a part of the implementation of the 25-year Parks and Trails Legacy Plan. The role of a committee member is to **advise the convening sponsors (the Greater Minnesota Regional Parks and Trails Commission, the Metropolitan Council, and the Department of Natural Resources) on the implementation of the Legacy Plan. The committee does not recommend the allocation of funding for specific projects.**

The Legacy Advisory Committee is comprised of citizens and professionals who bring perspectives on outdoor recreation through age, cultural, ability and economic impact lenses. The committee member should provide advice from their perspective in collaboration with the convening sponsors to meet the vision of connecting everyone to the outdoors.

## Eligibility

Committee members must be 18 years or older and a resident of the State of Minnesota.

## Requirements

Committee members are expected to attend six meetings a year. The committee meets every other month during the year. Meetings are generally five hours long. Meetings are located throughout the state so that members have the opportunity to see and experience projects and programs funded by the Parks and Trails Legacy Fund. Committee members should be willing to travel, however if travel is not possible all meetings can be attended remotely. Carpools are provided. Expenses for lodging, meals, and mileage are reimbursed (if reimbursement is an issue other arrangements can be made).



Technology that enables remote participants to see and hear the committee members on site and for committee members to see and hear the remote participant is available at each meeting.

Members must be willing to participate in a consensus based governance model, the decision making process used by the committee.

Members will receive an orientation by the appointing agency or members of the governance subcommittee at the beginning of their term.

## Principles

The work of committee members is guided by the following principles established by the Legacy Advisory Committee.

### Stewardship

Build responsibility for Minnesota's Natural resources with a particular emphasis on engaging the next generation of Minnesotans.



### Focus on Children & Families

Recognize that Children are the pathway to increasing participation and environmental stewardship and the caring adults in their lives are vital to sustaining their connection to the environment.

### Inclusiveness

Support opportunities that welcome all Minnesota's diverse population. Support will include modifications of programs, facilities, and funding initiatives to meet changing diverse needs.



### Accessibility

Support opportunities for people of all abilities. This includes removal of constraints between people and the outdoors in order to enable active lifestyles.

### Orientation to the future

Be strategic, and research-and data-driven, and have a sense of priority.

### Connectedness

Build an interconnected system with parks, trails, lakes, rivers and natural areas that are accessible to all Minnesotans.



### Significance and Endurance

Create opportunities, perhaps intangible, that do not exist today. Build on the current successful network of parks and trails.

### Supplement, Don't Replace

Enhance current parks and trails revenue streams; don't replace them.

### Partnerships

Optimize use of Legacy Funds by encouraging coordinated and collaborative approaches.

## Accountability

Be transparent and easily understandable to the public.

## Dynamic

The needs of the state and its population will shift and change over 25 years this document and work of this body will need to be flexible to meet changing needs while upholding the spirit of the 25-year plan and the public's intention of the funds.

## Responsibilities

**Responsibility 1:** A committee member commits to developing a working knowledge of the Parks and Trails Legacy Plan and its recommendations with the support of the convening sponsors and committee orientation.

The Minnesota State Legislature required that the Department of Natural Resources develop a 25-year long-range Parks and Trail Legacy Plan to guide how the Legacy Funds, should be spent for parks and trails of state and regional significance (Minnesota Laws 2009, Ch. 172, Art. 3, Sec. 6). The goals and strategies in the plan are based on extensive public involvement. Five year priorities were also identified in the plan.

**Responsibility 2:** Participate in a subcommittee(s) or workgroup as appropriate.

Workgroups (temporary) and subcommittees (standing) are used by the committee to advise the full committee on implementation of the specific projects or tasks identified in the work plan of the Parks and Trails Legacy Advisory Committee.

**Responsibility 3:** Build awareness of the 25-year Parks and Trails Legacy Plan and the work of Legacy Advisory Committee by connecting with two stakeholder groups a year.

Two way communication between the Legacy Advisory Committee and park and trail stakeholders is essential to the ongoing implementation work of the plan recommendations.



Parks and Trails stakeholder groups include:

- Implementing agencies, departments, and programs (those who receive Parks and Trails Legacy Funds)
- Community and special interest groups
- Advocacy organizations in the state working on local parks and trails issues.

Providing information about the work of the committee and receiving feedback from stakeholders will assist the committee in accomplishing its goals and tasks. The convening sponsors will assist in coordinating and scheduling meetings with funded agencies, departments, and programs. Reports are to be made to committee about outcomes & learnings these meetings.



#### Responsibility 4: Collaborate with and advise the convening sponsors

Collaborate with and advise convening sponsors on ways they can enhance and coordinate planning, development, management/programming, and marketing of regional and state parks and trails to accomplish the vision of the 25 Year Parks and Trails Legacy Plan—“in 2035, our world-class parks and trails connect everyone to the outdoors.”

#### Benefits

Legacy Advisory Committee members should find the experience of serving on the committee personally rewarding. Benefits of serving on the Parks and Trails Legacy Advisory Committee include:



- Serving as stewards of and fulfilling Minnesotans’ vision for the Parks and Trails Legacy Fund by contributing your skills, knowledge, and passion.
- Networking with cross-sector park and trail providers and supporters on the committee and from the community. Observing first-hand projects and programs around the state funded by Legacy Funds.
- Learning about the natural and cultural resources of Minnesota’s parks and trails, the systems that make them what they are, and how these systems work.