

Annual Metropolitan Regional Parks and Trails Operations and Maintenance Allocation

Business Item 2026-110 SW

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metro council.org



What is ‘Operations and Maintenance?’



- Minn. Statute 473.351 requires that by July 15th of each year, the Metropolitan Parks and Open Space Commission reports to Council “the funding requests from the implementing agencies based on the actual expenditures made” in the previous year.
- The State Legislature funds a portion of the expenses necessary to run the Regional Parks and Trails System because the System draws a significant percentage of its visits from outside the Metropolitan area and the State of Minnesota.
- The law requires the Council to review the operating expenses of each agency for eligibility on an annual basis.

Operations and Maintenance Formula



State Statute provides the following distribution formula for O&M:

- 40% based on previous year's O&M expenses
- 40% based on previous year's proportionate share of total system visits
- 20% based on previous year's proportionate share of total acreage

Funding Summary



State Fiscal Year 2027 appropriation: \$11,740,000

- \$2.54M from the state General Fund
- \$9.2M in lottery-in-lieu of sales tax revenue

Final passthrough amounts will be based upon actual appropriations and revenues received

State Fiscal Year 2027 O&M Distribution

Agency	Reported Actual 2025 O&M Expenses	Estimated Distribution Amount
Anoka County	\$9,288,528	\$956,335
Bloomington Parks	\$621,661	\$107,358
Carver County	\$2,687,077	\$280,584
Dakota County	\$11,659,649	\$819,300
Minneapolis Park & Recreation Board (MPRB)	\$27,485,469	\$2,884,283
Ramsey County	\$9,785,242	\$1,087,291
Saint Paul Parks	\$27,485,469	\$1,531,349
Scott County	\$2,689,556	\$222,630
Three Rivers Park District (TRPD) - Hennepin & Scott	\$50,685,230	\$3,310,456
Washington County	\$6,336,510	\$540,414
TOTAL	\$151,944,347	\$11,740,000

Recommended Action

That the Metropolitan Parks and Open Space Commission reports to the Metropolitan Council the Regional Parks and Trails System state fiscal year (SFY) 2027 Operations and Maintenance Funding requests.

