



Takoma Park City Council Meeting – January 22, 2020 Agenda Item #

Work Session

Review of Scope of Work, Draft Goals, and Timeline for Public Space Management Plan

Recommended Council Action

None, discussion only

Context with Key Issues

Public space in Takoma Park includes publicly owned parks, plazas, and open greenspace as well as public right of way. As Takoma Park is a dense, largely built-out municipality, there are limited opportunities to acquire additional land, thus highlighting the need for a plan to guide future decision-making and effectively manage existing public land. In the past two decades the City has endorsed or adapted multiple transportation, land-use, and environmental sustainability plans. These plans generally include recommendations for public parks, public right of way, and other facilities which may conflict with one another. These conditions necessitate a broader, coordinated planning effort which addresses public space in the City holistically and provides coordinated goals and priorities.

A Public Space Management Plan would be adopted by Council and used in future decision-making processes surrounding current and future public space in the City. Staff previously presented a scope of work to Council which outlined the background, context, purpose, issues for evaluation, and goals of a Public Space Management Plan. This session will provide Council with additional materials for consideration along with a draft of goals for the plan and updated timeline to move the plan forward.

Council Priority

A Livable Community for All; Environmentally Sustainable Community; Community Development for an Improved, Equitable Quality of Life

Environmental Considerations

Effective maintenance of public and open space provides tree cover, stormwater management, groundwater recharge, benefits to ecosystems and habitats, reduced greenhouse gas emissions, and improved air quality.

Fiscal Considerations

The development of a Public Land Management Plan will involve City Staff time. Consultant services for design and public engagement may be necessary and will be addressed as the plan moves forward.

Racial Equity Considerations

The Public Land Management Plan will evaluate the way that public land and space is distributed in the City of Takoma Park, including the demographic and racial make-up of locations around the City. The plan will aim to address these concerns and ensure that access to usable public space is equitably distributed throughout the City moving forward.

Attachments and Links

- Scope of Work
- Draft Goals and Timeline
- Draft Table of Contents
- [Public Land Management Plan: Project Page](#)
- [Map of Public Space](#)
- [Map of Public Space with Demographic Distribution](#)