

RESOLUTION NUMBER 8875

A Resolution of the Missoula City Council adopting the Parks, Recreation, Open Space, and Trails 2040 Master Plan (PROST) in full as the guiding document for City of Missoula Parks and Recreation and related services for the next 15 years, replacing the 2004 Master Parks and Recreation Plan for the Greater Missoula Area.

WHEREAS, parks, recreation, open space, trails and trees positively impact the quality of life and health of local residents in and around Missoula; and

WHEREAS, in May of 2004, the City of Missoula adopted the Master Parks and Recreation Plan for the Greater Missoula Area as the City's guiding document for future parks, trails, and recreation; and

WHEREAS, an extensive public engagement process reaching over 5,000 people was utilized to determine current values and needs of the greater Missoula community regarding the future of parks, recreation, open space, trails and trees, including a statistically representative community survey, online surveys, numerous listening sessions, public open houses, artist-led engagement workshops, focus group meetings, and many other types of presentations, events and forums. Major themes that emerged from the process include: parks and recreation lands and services are key to residents' quality of life and lead to inclusive community building; residents desire a connected system of trails and greenways; there is a need for a year-round facility in the community; residents desire a greater focus on maintaining existing parks, trails and facilities; residents support climate and resiliency projects and strategies; people of all abilities should be able to enjoy parks, trails, open space and programs safely; and there is a need for a greater variety of recreation programming for people of all ages and demographics; and

WHEREAS, as part of the public engagement process, extensive efforts were made to engage with historically underserved members of the Missoula community through a variety of forums and activities, including people with disabilities, Indigenous residents, LGBTQ+ residents, Adults 55+, the Hmong community, low income and many others; and

WHEREAS, per the City's 2024 National Community (Polco) Survey, Missoulians feel that the natural environment (83%) and Parks and Recreation (69%) is essential or very important; and

WHEREAS, per the 2024 PROST Statistically Representative Survey, the majority of Missoula area residents support ensuring neighborhood parks (77%) and recreational trails (74%) are located near their homes, ensuring parks are safe (91%), neighborhoods are walkable (90%), air and water quality are protected (87%), parks, trails and natural areas are accessible to people with disabilities (85%), and families with children have access to out-of-school, after school, and summer programming (80%); and

WHEREAS, per the 2024 PROST Statistically Representative Survey, Missoula area residents also support protecting river corridors (92%), allowing public access to natural areas (92%), protecting land for wildlife habitat and other environmental reasons (90%), protecting working lands (87%), and preserving local views and vistas (87%); and

WHEREAS, a citizen-based Community Working Group was formed to guide the nearly two-year long Parks, Recreation, Open Space, and Trails (PROST) planning process, and, on June 4, 2025, recommended the plan be adopted by the City Council as the guiding document for the Parks and Recreation Department for the next fifteen years, incorporating updates per public feedback to the Future PROST System map and administrative edits for clarity, readability and accessibility; and

WHEREAS, on May 8, 2025, the Open Space Advisory Committee unanimously voted to recognize the PROST plan's inclusion and integration of community open space values and priorities as documented in

the 2019 Missoula Urban Area Open Space Plan; and

WHEREAS, on June 10, 2025, the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board also voted unanimously to recommend that the City Council adopt the PROST plan in full incorporating updates to the Future PROST System map and administrative edits for clarity, readability and accessibility; and

WHEREAS, the draft PROST plan was presented to, and comments were received from, the Consolidated Planning Board on May 20, 2025 and June 17, 2025; and

WHEREAS, throughout the entire planning process, Parks and Recreation staff have diligently worked to align the plan and planning process with the City's updated Our Missoula 2045 Land Use Plan, the Long-Range Transportation Plan, the Transit Services Plan, the county-wide Community Health Improvement Plan, and other local and regional plans and planning processes throughout the Missoula Valley, including the Missoula Downtown Master Plan, Midtown Master Plan, Destination Missoula Stewardship Plan, Lolo National Forest-Forest Management Plan, and other related plans and planning processes; and

WHEREAS, the PROST plan acknowledges and strongly aligns with the City's adopted Land Use Plan and incorporates findings from the plan including demographic and equity analyses, new trail typologies aligning with updated street typologies and place types, protection of the natural environment, place-types, and more flexible park design criteria to accommodate urban growth and infill; and

WHEREAS, the PROST plan provides additional analysis specific to level of service for parklands, trail typologies, guidelines for street trees, and sensitive lands protections, and will help inform the future unified development code updates for PROST and related land use elements; and

WHEREAS, the PROST plan strongly supports the City of Missoula's vision, strategic goals, and strategic decision-making lenses of climate sustainability, mitigation, and resiliency; equity in opportunity and access to local government resources and lands; and housing attainability at all levels with a focus on workforce and affordability; and

WHEREAS, the *Our Missoula 2045 Land Use Plan* serves as the official public document to guide current and future growth and development as it relates to land uses, population, housing needs, economic conditions, local services and facilities, natural resources and natural hazards, and the PROST plan supports and provides additional analysis related to parks, open space, trails, trees, sensitive lands, and other related elements; and

WHEREAS, the Land Use Plan emphasizes six overarching policy themes, each with clear goals, objectives, and action steps to relate to the Planning Act elements and shape Missoula's future: (1) *Focus Inward*; (2) *Housing Choice & Access*; (3) *Community & Quality of Life*; (4) *Environmental Quality & Climate Resilience*; (5) *Health & Safety*; and (6) *Economic Health*, and the PROST plan helps to accomplish relevant goals and objectives in the plan; and

WHEREAS, the Land Use Plan integrates Place Types to guide growth based on geographic characteristics and Street Types to tailor street designs that reflect surrounding land uses, fostering cohesive, livable communities and aligning infrastructure with sustainable urban development. The Place Types Map, acting as the Future Land Use Map, describes 12 distinct geographic areas defined by unique combinations of land use elements. These areas include locations near the City's jurisdictional boundaries, which may face increased growth pressures, and collectively, they provide the necessary land and housing density to accommodate the projected population increase. The PROST plan provides relevant and additional analyses and recommendations to the Land Use Plan which will help to maintain

and improve health and quality of life of local residents as the community continues to grow and develop; and

WHEREAS, per the Land Use Plan, the City of Missoula believes that in order to achieve a healthy community and environment we must increase housing availability and access at all levels in all neighborhoods, enhance resiliency and adaptability, emphasize connectivity, and support protection and improvement of natural resources including air quality, water quality, and wildlife habitat; and

WHEREAS, the adoption process for, and public draft of, the Parks, Recreation, Open Space and Trails 2040 Master Plan was extensively publicized through multiple channels including legal ads in the Missoulian; e-mails to over 44,000 contacts, including users of parks and recreation programs and facilities and local neighborhood councils and residents; e-mails to over 200 stakeholders and partners; and presentations and materials provided to various other agencies and organizations requesting feedback. Additionally, public hearing details and draft documents were shared via the Engage Missoula website and a press release; and


WHEREAS, on June 23, 2025, the City Council held a public hearing to consider adopting the PROST plan as the guiding plan for the Parks and Recreation Department and City for the next fifteen years; and

WHEREAS, after Final Consideration of the Parks, Recreation, Open Space, and Trails 2040 Master Plan on June 23, 2025, the City Council adopted a resolution to adopt the plan.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Missoula City Council adopts the Parks, Recreation, Open Space, and Trails 2040 Master Plan (PROST) in full as the guiding document for parks and recreation and related services for the next 15 years, replacing the 2004 Master Parks and Recreation Plan for the Greater Missoula Area, as advanced by the Community Working Group and Parks and Recreation Advisory Board, including recommended changes to the updated Future PROST System Map and edits for clarity, readability and accessibility of the plan. The plan is also being adopted in alignment with the Our Missoula 2045 Land Use Plan and to provide additional guidance and analysis related to land use and level of service for parklands and will help inform future unified development code updates on street trees, trail typologies, parkland dedication and improvements, sensitive lands protection, and other related plan elements.

PASSED AND ADOPTED June 23, 2025.


ATTEST:



Claire Trimble (Jun 24, 2025 14:13 MDT)

Claire Trimble
City Clerk

APPROVE:



Andrea Davis
Mayor

(SEAL)











RES 8875

Final Audit Report

2025-06-24

Created:	2025-06-24
By:	Anneliese Brown (BrownA@ci.missoula.mt.us)
Status:	Signed
Transaction ID:	CBJCHBCAABAAWqNYzDcLAWiBu_AgWLgQbMNd9zZj02eO

"RES 8875" History

-  Document created by Anneliese Brown (BrownA@ci.missoula.mt.us)
2025-06-24 - 5:37:05 PM GMT- IP address: 209.137.251.46
-  Document emailed to Andrea Davis (DavisA@ci.missoula.mt.us) for signature
2025-06-24 - 5:39:07 PM GMT
-  Email viewed by Andrea Davis (DavisA@ci.missoula.mt.us)
2025-06-24 - 5:39:15 PM GMT- IP address: 54.90.40.71
-  Document e-signed by Andrea Davis (DavisA@ci.missoula.mt.us)
Signature Date: 2025-06-24 - 7:21:02 PM GMT - Time Source: server- IP address: 216.14.230.182
-  Document emailed to Claire Trimble (trimblec@ci.missoula.mt.us) for signature
2025-06-24 - 7:21:03 PM GMT
-  Email viewed by Claire Trimble (trimblec@ci.missoula.mt.us)
2025-06-24 - 7:21:08 PM GMT- IP address: 52.73.0.198
-  Document e-signed by Claire Trimble (trimblec@ci.missoula.mt.us)
Signature Date: 2025-06-24 - 8:13:18 PM GMT - Time Source: server- IP address: 209.137.251.46
-  Agreement completed.
2025-06-24 - 8:13:18 PM GMT



Powered by
Adobe
Acrobat Sign