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## MISSOULA PARKS AND RECREATION PRESS RELEASE

For immediate release through June 2, 2025

### **Draft parks and recreation master plan ready for public comment**

#### **Help shape Missoula's parks and recreation future.**

After nearly two years of community collaboration, Parks and Recreation will release the draft of the Parks, Recreation, Open Space, and Trails (PROST) 2040 Master Plan for public comment on Friday, May 16. This plan outlines the community's priorities for parks and recreation over the next 15 years.

Residents are invited to review the draft and provide feedback [online](#) or at a variety of public engagement events. The Department is hosting a PROST Master Plan Open House on Monday, May 19.

The PROST 2040 plan emphasizes the development of year-round, multi-use parks; hybrid parklands that blend recreation with native habitats; expanded partnerships to improve access; all-season recreation facilities; care for urban forests; increased park maintenance; balanced management of river corridors; and a wider variety of recreation programs.

Parks and Recreation Director Donna Gaukler encourages residents to review the draft plan and share their feedback.

"This plan reflects Missoula's shared vision for our parks, facilities, and recreation services," Gaukler said. "It supports key community priorities—affordable housing, healthy environments, and overall well-being—as outlined in the City's [Our Missoula 2045 Land Use Plan](#) and Missoula Public Health's [Community Health Improvement Plan](#). I hope everyone will take a few minutes to explore the plan and contribute their ideas for the future."

## Public Engagement Opportunities

- **Online review** and brief public comment survey: [www.missoulaparks.org/prost](http://www.missoulaparks.org/prost), from May 16-June 3 at 12 p.m.
- **PROST Master Plan Open House:** Monday, May 19, 4:00-7:00 p.m. at Goodworks Place, 129 W. Alder St. Family-friendly activities and refreshments provided.
- **Drop-in listening sessions** at Currents Aquatics Center, Headwaters Conference Room:
  - Saturday, May 17, 1-2:30 p.m.
  - Thursday, May 22, 11 a.m.-12:30 p.m.
  - Monday, June 2, 4:30-6 p.m.
- **Neighborhood Meetings**
  - Rose Park Neighborhood meeting, Sunday, May 18, 3-5 p.m., Memorial Rose Garden Park
  - Captain John Mullan Neighborhood meeting, Thursday, May 29, 5:30–7:30 p.m., 44 Ranch Park
- **City Chats in the Parks**
  - City Chats, Kiwanis Park, Thursday, May 22, 4:30-6:30 p.m.
  - City Chats, McLeod Park, Tuesday, June 3, 4:30-6:30 p.m.

Parks and Recreation will present the draft plan at upcoming public board and City Council meetings, where public comments are welcome. Learn more at [www.missoulaparks.org/prost](http://www.missoulaparks.org/prost).

To review the draft PROST Plan, visit [www.missoulaparks.org/prost](http://www.missoulaparks.org/prost). For more information, contact Open Space Program Manager Zac Covington at [covingtonz@ci.missoula.mt.us](mailto:covingtonz@ci.missoula.mt.us) or 406-552-6267.