

Tuesday, April 30, 2024

Chair Sandra Pappas
2113 MN Senate Office Building
Saint Paul, MN 55155

Dear Chair Pappas,

On behalf of the ten implementing agencies that make up the Metropolitan Regional Parks & Trails System, we thank you for including \$8 million for metropolitan parks & trails. If approved, this will be matched by an additional \$5.3 million of funding from the Metropolitan Council. Additionally, we are thankful for the tree planting funds in your bill and others. This is helpful in reinstating the tree canopy that's been devastated in many areas of the metro.

The Metropolitan Regional Parks System has hit an all-time high usage with over 69 million visitors annually. This funding is essential to be able to continue to offer and maintain a high-quality parks and trails system. We thank you for your thoughtful consideration in support of these important regional assets.

Sincerely,



Mark McCabe

Director - Parks & Recreation

