

METROPOLITAN REGIONAL PARK SYSTEM OPERATIONS AND MAINTENANCE FUNDING

**House Environment and Natural Resources
Finance and Policy Committee**

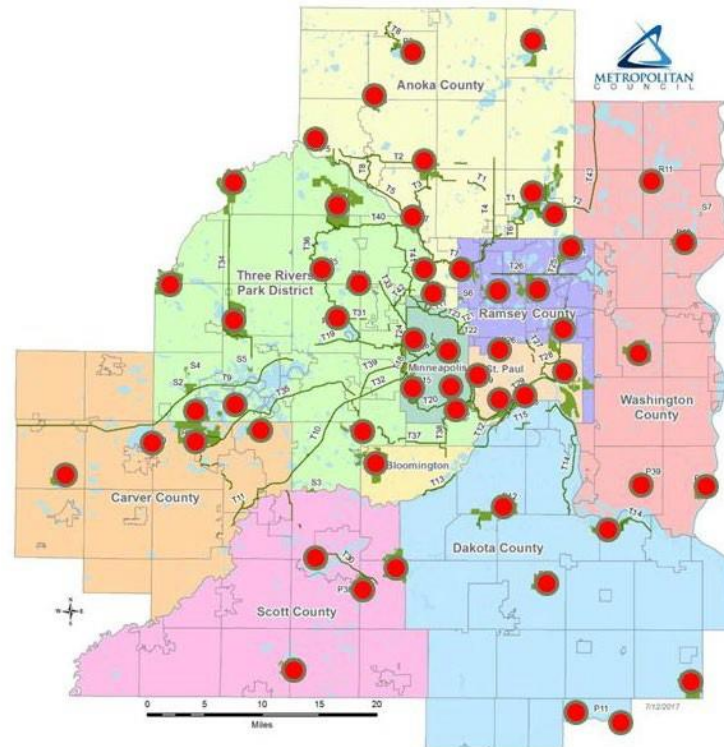
March 12, 2021





REGIONAL & STATE PARKS SYSTEM

CONSISTS OF LAND, WHICH TOGETHER WITH STATE PARKS AND TRAILS, WILL MEET THE RECREATIONAL NEEDS OF THE PEOPLE OF THE METROPOLITAN AREA, AND GRANT CAPITAL FUNDS TO THE REGIONAL PARK AGENCIES TO IMPLEMENT THE REGIONAL PARKS POLICY PLAN. (MS 473.147, 1974 METROPOLITAN REGIONAL PARKS ACT)





METRO REGIONAL PARK SYSTEM

- 56 REGIONAL PARKS AND PARK RESERVES
- 63.3 MILLION VISITS IN 2019
- 54,465 ACRES
 - 85 SQUARE MILES OF NATURE BASED RECREATION
- 415 MILES OF INTERCONNECTING REGIONAL TRAIL
 - ENOUGH TRAIL MILES TO REACH CHICAGO



REGIONAL PARK AGENCIES

- ANOKA COUNTY
- BLOOMINGTON
- CARVER COUNTY
- DAKOTA COUNTY
- MINNEAPOLIS PARKS
- RAMSEY COUNTY
- SAINT PAUL
- SCOTT COUNTY
- THREE RIVERS PARK DISTRICT
- WASHINGTON COUNTY

Provide nature based recreation



THE MINNESOTA STATE DEMOGRAPHIC CENTER ESTIMATES A 2018 POPULATION OF 3,113,338 (55.3%) FOR THE SEVEN COUNTY METRO AREA, AND 2,516,078 (44.6%) FOR GREATER MINNESOTA.



STATE FUNDING FOR METRO REGIONAL PARKS OPERATIONS & MAINTENANCE

- MN Law 473.351 enacted in 1985 authorizes Metropolitan Council to disburse State appropriations to regional park implementing agencies
- Purpose is to supplement local property tax and user fee revenues to operate and maintain Metropolitan Regional Park System
- The law directs the state to finance no less than **40%** of the cost of operating and maintaining the regional park system



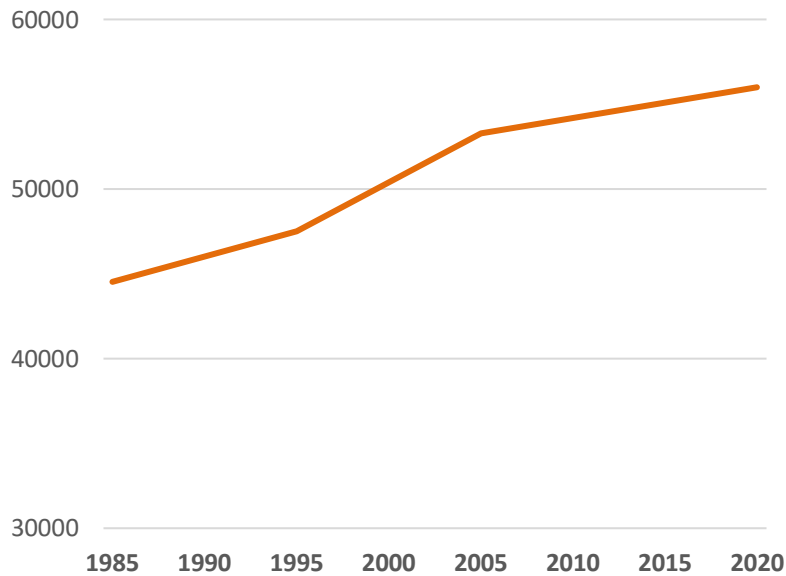
O&M AND LOTTERY IN LIEU FUNDING

HF 1874

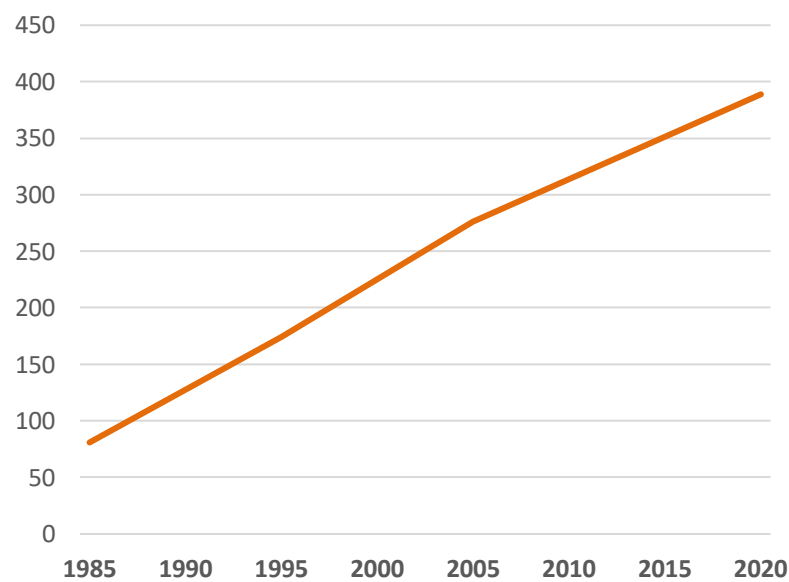
- Increases Operations and Maintenance (O&M) Grant funding for the Metropolitan Regional Park System
- Current funding is \$2.54 million per year (General Fund) & \$6.6 million per year (Lottery)
- Proposed funding is \$44.6 million per year

GROWTH IN THE SYSTEM

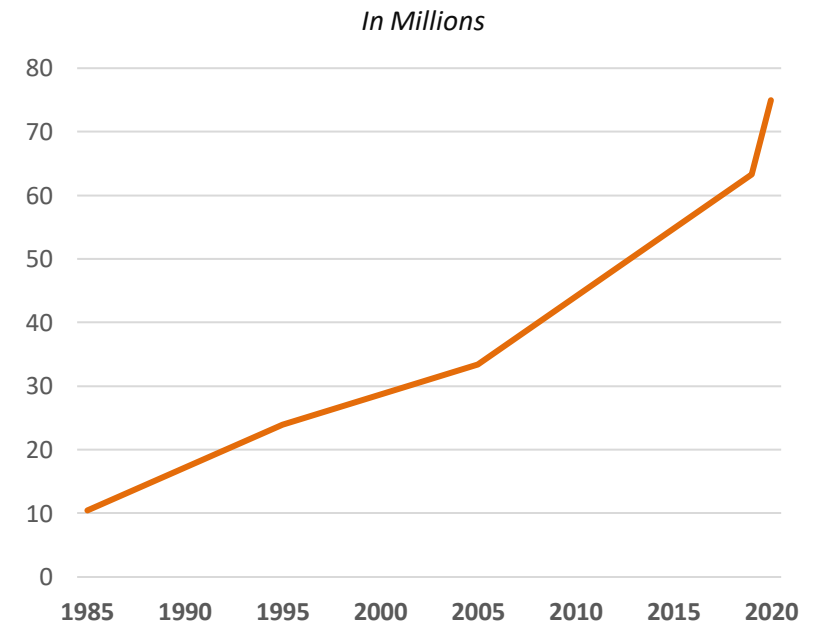
ACRES OF PARK LAND



MILES OF TRAIL

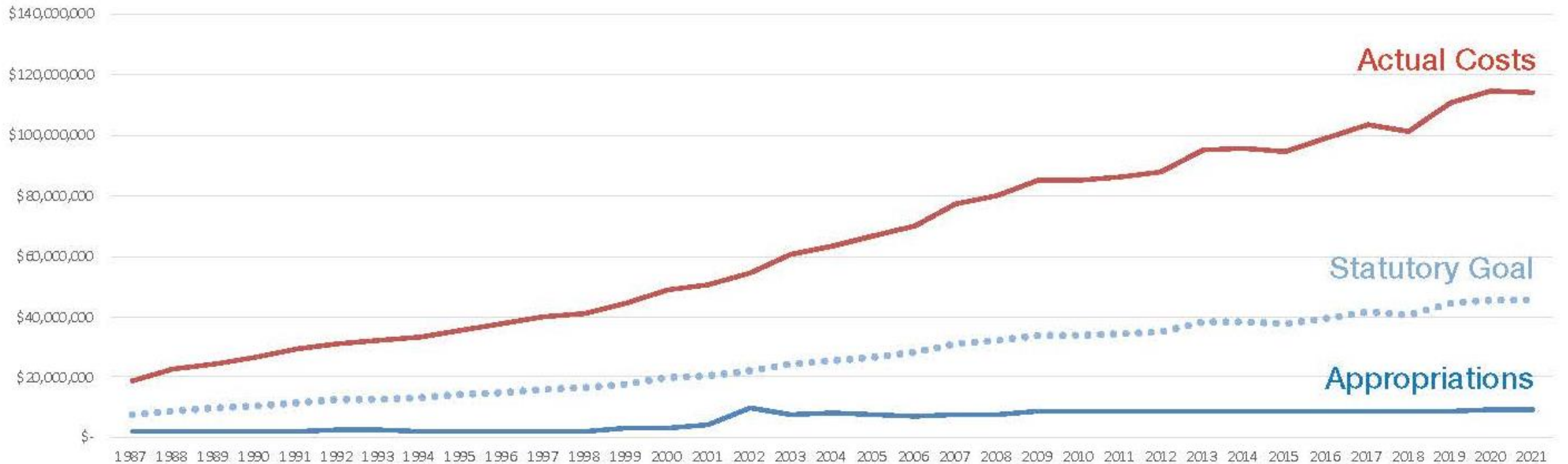


ANNUAL VISITS



STATE FUNDING FOR METRO REGIONAL PARKS OPERATIONS & MAINTENANCE

Historical Operation and Maintenance Appropriations, 1987 – 2021





THANK YOU!

Questions?