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STRIVING TO BE A WORLD-CLASS PARK SYSTEM FOR THE COMMUNITY

Five Rivers MetroParks adopts comprehensive 10-year master plan.

On behalf of Five Rivers MetroParks and the Board of Park Commissioners, I would like to thank the Montgomery County residents, leaders and community partners who provided their thoughts and ideas during the past year as MetroParks developed its community-driven 10-year comprehensive master plan. The community provided valuable input for the plan through a statistically valid survey, public meetings, interviews, focus groups, intercept surveys and online comments.

Throughout this community input process, residents and leaders consistently stated they value MetroParks and the benefits it provides. This support mirrors a recent study conducted by the National Recreation and Park Association, which found that 83 percent of Americans personally benefit from local parks.

World-class communities include world-class parks, trails, natural areas and park-related attractions. People who live in world-class communities have a high quality of life, along with diverse opportunities to connect with nature and enjoy active, healthy outdoor lifestyles. In addition, world-class communities understand these outdoor amenities are key to creating the type of vibrant place where people want to live, work and play.

On April 15, 2016, the Board of Park Commissioners adopted the plan. The 10-year plan includes an extensive action plan that will focus on the priorities identified by the community (please see a summary of the plan's top ten recommendations below). Indeed, the plan will guide MetroParks for the next decade and beyond. It's a long-term vision created by the community, for the community. It ensures your park system is addressing community priorities and operating as efficiently as possible. The plan continues MetroParks' focus on protecting the region's natural heritage and providing outdoor experiences that inspire a personal connection to nature.

All of this is part of providing the world-class park district this community deserves. Thanks to our community's support, Five Rivers MetroParks has provided the Dayton region with high-quality parks, programs, outdoor experiences and facilities for more than 50 years. MetroParks is proud to continue this long tradition and looks forward to implementing the master plan to make our community even better — and ensure it remains a world-class home for generations to come.

Rebecca A. Benná
Executive Director

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