

Councilmember _____ introduced the following resolution and moved for its adoption:

RESOLUTION #20-097

**RESOLUTION SUPPORTING ANOKA COUNTY’S PROPOSAL TO
CONSOLIDATE RUM RIVER NORTH AND SOUTH COUNTY PARKS,
WITH RUM RIVER CENTRAL REGIONAL PARK AS ONE REGIONAL PARK**

WHEREAS, the Pandemic of 2020 has demonstrated that safe and improved accessibility to parks, trails, and recreation areas, are evermore essential to the quality of life, health and welfare of the City of Ramsey and the regions’s residents; and

WHEREAS, the City of Ramsey and County of Anoka continue to work closely to develop recreational opportunities and conserve open space and natural resources along the Wild and Scenic Rum River; and

WHEREAS, these cooperative efforts are advanced by combining Anoka County’s 73 acre Rum River North, and 13 acre Rum River South with the 343 acre Rum River Central Regional Park to wholly become a 425 acre park within the Regional Park System; and

WHEREAS, the Rum River Central Regional Park, is already a cherished park space, and adding to its geographic span and scope will further its long-term value in terms of natural resource *and* cultural history conservation and;

WHEREAS, the inclusion of the larger Rum River Regional Park into the Regional Parks System will advance the following Thrive MSP 2040 Outcomes; allowing the county to responsibly conserve and manage the park’s natural and recreation resources in a balanced manner, allowing for the protection of an additional 1.5 miles of riparian habitat (*Stewardship*). Inclusion of the park in the regional system will also advance the *Prosperity* Outcome by allowing investment into the park, ensuring the region is attractive to businesses, and its workforce by promoting an improved quality of life. Adding the larger park to the system will also enhance *Livability* Outcomes through increased access to nature and outdoor recreation in communities from St. Francis to Anoka, the region, and in particular Ramsey.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF RAMSEY, ANOKA COUNTY, STATE OF MINNESOTA, as follows:

- 1) That, the City of Ramsey hereby offers support to Anoka County’s application for Rum River North and Rum River South County Parks, along with Rum River Central Regional Park to wholly become a Regional Park within the Metropolitan Council Regional Parks System.

The motion for the adoption of the foregoing resolution was duly seconded by Councilmember and upon vote being taken thereon, the following voted in favor thereof:

and the following voted against the same:

and the following abstained:

and the following were absent:

whereupon said resolution was declared duly passed and adopted by the Ramsey City Council this the 12th day of May 2020.

Mayor

ATTEST:

City Clerk