

#### **Ramsey County Board Discussion:**

#### **Community Use of Ramsey County-Owned or -Managed Lands**

Economic Growth and Community Investment, Policy & Planning February 26, 2019

Start: 1:30 p.m.

220 Courthouse, Large Conference Room

### **Agenda**

- 1. Introduction Johanna Berg, Deputy County Manager, EGCI Service Team
- 2. Presentation Mee Cheng, Policy Analyst, Policy & Planning
- 3. Discussion and next steps



# Community Use of Ramsey County Owned and Managed Lands

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## **Overview**

- Currently, requests from community to use county owned or managed land
  - Case by case basis
  - Responses to community requests varied by departments
- No clear county policy or procedure



## **Overview**

- Types of county land
  - Ramsey County-owned land
  - Ramsey County Regional Rail Authority-owned land
  - State-owned, county-managed land

 Goal: Establish a clear and easy guide on how community can use county owned or managed land



#### **Process**

- Met with all Ramsey County departments that manage land
- Met and researched similar land use policies
  - City of Maplewood
  - City of St. Paul
  - City of Minneapolis
  - NeighborSpace (Chicago, IL)
- Met with residents and community groups



## What we heard from community

- Community is interested and has many ideas
- Reduce as many barriers as possible
- Necessary tools for use
- Unclear on which government agencies manage land

#### **Shorter term**

## Potential types of uses:

- Container gardening
- Community gatherings/events
- Passive/recreation space
- Arts space







## Longer term

## Potential types of uses:

- Gardening
- Arts space







## Action plan and timeline

- Create annual application process with list of eligible, available land
- Create cross-county review team
- Pilot shorter-term use (June 2019 October 2019)
- Develop communications plan (March)
- List of available land for use (March)
- Advertise available land and application process (March-April)
- Review applications and select users (May)
- Selected users complete required paperwork (End of May)