

Park and Recreation Board

The mission of the Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board (MPRB) is to permanently preserve, protect, maintain, improve and enhance the City's natural resources, parkland and recreational opportunities for current and future generations.

The MPRB is an independently elected, semi-autonomous body responsible for governing, maintaining and developing the Minneapolis park system. The 6,400-acre system consists of local and regional parks, playgrounds, golf courses, gardens, biking and walking paths, nature sanctuaries, lakes and a 55-mile parkway system. The nine-member Board of Commissioners is responsible for developing and setting the budget and levies for the organization.

Financial Arrangements and City Funding Relationships

Funding Sources

The majority of the MPRB's available resources come from its property tax levy. The Park Board general levy is increasing 4% from \$50.6 million in 2015 to \$52.6 million in 2016. The second largest funding sources for the MPRB are Local Government Aid (LGA) and Fees, Fines and Other Revenue. For 2015, the board was allocated \$9.1 million in Local Government Aid, an increase of \$0.2 million from 2014.

2016 City Funding

The MPRB, consisting of an independently elected Board of Commissioners sets its own budget and levy independently of the City, subject to the maximum levies certified by the Board of Estimate and Taxation. The MPRB has historically been the recipient of about 11.8% of the City of Minneapolis's LGA funding from the State of Minnesota, which can fluctuate year to year depending on the total LGA allocation to the City under State law. While the MPRB budget is set independently of the City, the City has, at times, directly funded joint ventures in collaboration with the MPRB and dedicated specific allocations to functions carried out by the MPRB. In the City's 2016 budget, the Mayor is not proposing a specific allocation to supplement Park Board programming.