

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE City of Duluth - Parks and Recreation Division

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DATE: 10/17/2016

SUBJECT: Draft St. Louis River Estuary National Water Trail Master Plan Available for Public Comment

BY: Pakou Ly, Communications Office

Draft St. Louis River Estuary National Water Trail Master Plan Available for Public Comment (a St. Louis River Corridor Initiative)

[Duluth, MN] - The City of Duluth Parks and Recreation division is inviting the public to comment on a revised draft of the St. Louis River Estuary National Water Trail Master Plan that has undergone a 9 month long planning process. The Plan is a unique opportunity to recognize one of the world's largest freshwater estuaries as a premier paddle destination that targets a wide range of skill and interest levels. The rich history of this river as a significant waterway for Native Americans and Voyageurs and as a working river serving the twin ports of Duluth and Superior, combined with the expansive natural resources surrounding the estuary, provide a tremendous opportunity to showcase this amazing resource to the community. The draft plan will be open for comment until October 28, 2016.

Comments will help inform the Duluth Parks staff and the Parks and Recreation Commission on revisions to the Master Plan. The revised plan will be presented to the Commission on November 9, 2016. Attaining a national designation enables Duluth access to technical or financial assistance, national promotional opportunities, technical advice, and assistance with stewardship projects among other benefits.

The draft plan and online comment form are available at,

 $\underline{\text{http://www.duluthmn.gov/st-louis-river-corridor/st-louis-river-water-trail/st-louis-river-estuary-water-trail-plan/}$

