



**Open Space Focus Group – First Meeting**

**Tuesday, March 9, 2017, 5 PM**

**Bagley Nature Area Classroom (UMD Campus)**

**( Parking Directions: <http://www.d.umn.edu/maps/BagC/> )**

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1. Welcome & Introductions
2. Brief overview - Timeline & Process
3. Activity: *What are your top policy priorities related to Open Space?*
4. Research Review: Maps and information
5. Open Space Priorities and Draft Policy Development
6. Wrap-Up & Next Steps

## Open Space Focus Group – Research Questions

Open space is perhaps Duluth's most distinguishing feature to those who choose to live and visit the City. We will work to understand the nature and value of our existing resources in order to achieve a balance between development and open space preservation. Through the planning process we hope to explore the following questions:

- How do we preserve sensitive land permanently?
- Are our open space areas well connected to our neighborhoods?
- Is the preservation of resources fair between neighborhoods?
- Do we all have equal access to enjoying resource areas?
- What are the direct and indirect costs to our region of holding land as undeveloped for preservation and open space?
- Can we sustain the amount of open and undeveloped space on our tax base?
- Can we sustain the current infrastructure network?
- Are there areas that put too much demand on infrastructure and services?
- What tools could be utilized to make us a more resilient community with ever changing climate factors?