



## FACT SHEET

### What is Community for The Commons?

Community for The Commons is a 501(c)(3) Minnesota non-profit organization, formed in 2015 as a park conservancy by a group of Excelsior area residents [1]. The organization is devoted to the long-term enhancement and improvement of Excelsior’s Commons for the benefit of residents, guests and the broader community.

### What is a park conservancy?

A park conservancy is a private, non-profit, non-political organization that works in partnership with a local government entity to help improve and/or manage one or more parks in the community, usually under a formal agreement or “memo of understanding” (MOU) such as the one currently in effect between the City of Excelsior and Community for The Commons. The MOU defines the conservancy’s scope and limitations of responsibilities pertaining to the park properties. Park conservancies currently operate in more than 50% of major U.S. cities, including both Minneapolis and St. Paul.

### What are the goals of Community for the Commons?

The short-term goal is to assist the City of Excelsior in the development and funding of a detailed, prioritized Commons Master Plan. The master plan will be developed in collaboration with the City of Excelsior’s council, staff and commissions with input from Excelsior residents, area residents and major stakeholders with assistance from professionals in landscape design and architecture. The long-term goal is to generate funds to execute and support the master plan.

### Who is the leadership?

Board of Directors			
Deb Rodgers	Chair	Dan Johnson*	Vice Chair
Paul Johnson*	Treasurer	Rick Rodgers	Board member
Eric Snyder	Secretary	Caitlyn Pulitzer	Board member
City of Excelsior Representatives			
Jennifer Caron, City Council member		City Council Liaison**	
Tom Wolfe, Planning Commission Chair		Ex-Officio Member**	

\*no relation

\*\*non-voting position