

## Community Development Committee

Meeting date: January 17, 2017

For the Metropolitan Council meeting of January 25, 2017

**Subject:** Amend Parks Grant SG2014-052, Point Douglas Regional Trail, Washington County

**District(s), Member(s):** 12 - Harry Melander

**Policy/Legal Reference:** MN Statute 473.315

**Staff Prepared/Presented:** Tori Dupre, Senior Planner (651-602-1621)

**Division/Department:** Community Development, Regional Parks and Natural Resources

### Proposed Action

That the Metropolitan Council:

1. Approve an amendment to parks grant agreement SG2014-052 to change the grant amount to \$1,277,307.54 and,
2. Extend the grant term to June 30, 2018.

### Background

Washington County has an active trail construction project at Point Douglas Regional Trail that is funded by Metropolitan Council parks grant SG2014-052.

On December 16, 2016, Washington County requested an amendment to the grant SG2014-052 (Attachment 1) that provides \$780,000 to the County, funded by state fiscal year 2015 Parks and Trails Legacy, to design and construct the Point Douglas Regional Trail from Point Douglas Park to US Highway 61.

The County has a Federal grant contributing to this current trail construction project, and requests that the grant agreement term end date be extended to June 30, 2018 to match the federal grant. Minnesota session law states that if a grant project receives federal funds, the time period of the appropriation is extended to equal the availability of federal funding.

Washington County has a separate grant project at Lake Elmo Park Reserve that is funded by Metropolitan Council parks grant SG-03667. SG-03667 provides \$838,000 to the County, funded by state fiscal year 2016 Parks and Trails Legacy, to improve parking, buildings and other features at the Lake Elmo Swim Pond to meet Americans With Disabilities Act (ADA) standards and improve other park visitor needs.

The County has completed the Swim Pond project underbudget and has met their project goal to make the swim pond more accessible to all users. From the grant total of \$838,000 the County spent \$340,592.46, leaving a grant balance of \$497,307.54. Minnesota session law (2013 and 2015) specifies that any "funds remaining after completion of a project may be spent on projects to support parks and trails by the [park] implementing agency".

Therefore, the County requests that the remaining balance of \$497,307.54 be added to the grant SG2014-052 amount of \$780,000 for an amended grant total of \$1,277,307.54 to complete the Point Douglas Regional Trail. The County also requests that the agreement term be extended to June 30, 2018 to match a Federal grant for the

project. All grant eligible expenses will be reimbursable from the grant agreement execution date to a requested amended end date of June 30, 2018.

### **Rationale**

The County's request to amend SG2014-052 is consistent with the state appropriation law and the *2040 Regional Parks Policy Plan*. The Metropolitan Council approved the existing grant project in 2014. The proposed amendment is consistent with 2013 Minnesota Session Law that authorized the Legacy funding appropriation to the Council.

### **Thrive Lens Analysis**

The proposed grant amendment for the regional trail construction enhances quality of life in the region (Livability) through promoting bicycling and walking for transportation and recreation.

### **Funding**

Minnesota Session law appropriated the Parks and Trails Legacy funding to the Council for the approved Legacy projects, and the Metropolitan Council approved the grants.

### **Known Support / Opposition**

There is no known opposition to the County's proposed grant amendment. The Washington County Board supports the existing regional trail grant project.



**Public Works Department**

Donald J. Theisen, P.E.  
Director

Wayne H. Sandberg, P.E.  
Deputy Director/County Engineer

December 16, 2016

Victoria Dupre  
Metropolitan Council  
390 Robert Street North  
St. Paul, MN 55101

**RE: Grant Amendment Request for SG2014-052  
Close-Out for SG03667**

Dear Ms. Dupre:

This letter is a request to amend grant SG2014-052 to add \$497,307.54, which will be reallocated from grant SG03667. The request also includes extending the expiration date of grant SG2014-052 to June 30, 2018.

Grant SG2014-052 is funding a portion of the Point Douglas Regional Trail project. Work will be complete by June 30, 2018. It is noteworthy, that this project is also the recipient of federal funding, and the Metropolitan Council approved the Point Douglas Regional Trail master plan on July 25, 2012.

Grant SG03667 funded a portion of the Lake Elmo Regional Park Reserve swim pond reconstruction project which has been successfully completed. The final grant payment request and the final close-out report have been submitted. The initial grant and amendment number one total was \$838,000. The final report indicates \$340,692.46 was received on this grant with \$497,307.54 remaining.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "W. Sandberg".

Wayne Sandberg, P.E.  
Public Works Deputy Director / County Engineer

