

Community Development Committee

Meeting date: July 15, 2019

For the Metropolitan Council meeting of July 24, 2019

Subject: Parks and Trails Legacy Fund Grant Agreement Signature Authorization

District(s), Member(s): All

Policy/Legal Reference: Minn. Stat. §§ 473.325 and 85.53; Minn. Const. Article XI, Section 15; Minn. Laws 2019, 1st Special Session, chapter 2, article 3, section 4; *2040 Regional Parks Policy Plan* Finance Policy, Strategies 2 and 3; Council Business Item 2018-261 and 2019 Unified Budget Business Item No. 2019-166 JT

Staff Prepared/Presented: Sam Johnson, Grant Administrator, 651-602-1757

Division/Department: Community Development / Finance and Administration

Proposed Action

That the Metropolitan Council authorizes the Community Development Director to execute grant agreements for Parks and Trails Legacy Fund projects (attachment 1) totaling up to \$17,837,100 on behalf of the Council. This item is contingent on Council approval of the 2019 Quarter 2 Unified Budget Amendment, Business Item 2019-166.

Background

Parks and Trails Legacy Funds were appropriated to the Council for State Fiscal Year (SYF) 2020 and 2021 during the most recent legislative session and SFY20 funds are included in the second quarter budget amendment.

Grant agreements are required for the Council to pass through dollars to Regional Parks Implementing Agencies. Agreements will be executed in two primary groups. The first group will be for projects funded by the SFY20 Legacy appropriation and the second group will be for projects funded by the SFY21 Legacy appropriation. This business item requests authorization to execute SFY20 Legacy funds. Agreements funded with SFY21 Legacy dollars will be executed after funding becomes available on July 1, 2020, amended into the Council's Authorized Capital Budget, and signature authority is approved.

Legacy funds are distributed to Parks Implementing Agencies based upon a formula set in [Minn. Stat. § 85.53, subd. 3](#). Data elements to complete the Legacy allocation formula were finalized on July 9, 2019 and Council staff are actively working with Parks Agencies to finalize which projects will be funded with SFY20 Legacy dollars.

A master list of projects to be funded with SFY2020 and 2021 Legacy dollars was developed following State statute and Council policy. Attachment 1 lists projects currently eligible to be fully or partially funded with SFY20 Legacy dollars. These projects have been reviewed and recommended by the Metropolitan Parks and Open Space Commission and approved by the Council on October 24, 2018 through [Business Item 2018-261](#).

This action will allow the Community Development Director to sign agreements for eligible projects once Parks Agencies make a final determination of projects to fund with SFY20 Legacy funds.

Rationale

The requested action will authorize the Community Development Director to execute grant agreements on behalf of the Metropolitan Council, contingent upon Council approval of the Council's 2019 Quarter 2 Unified Budget Amendment, Business Item 2019-166.

Thrive Lens Analysis

Regional Parks funding from State appropriations advance Thrive outcomes of Livability by enhancing the quality of life in the region through increasing access to nature and outdoor recreation.

Funding

Projects are funded with State Parks and Trails Legacy funds and are included in the 2019 Quarter 2 Unified Budget Amendment, Business Item 2019-166.

Known Support / Opposition

Regional Parks Implementing Agencies and the Metropolitan Parks and Open Space Commission support these projects. There is no known opposition.

Attachment 1

Eligible SFY20/21 Parks and Trails Legacy Council Approved Projects

Agency	Project Title	FY2020*	FY2021*
ANOKA COUNTY	Bunker Hills Regional Park - Bunker Beach Infrastructure Improvements	\$1,000,000	\$1,514,557
	Conservation Corps of Minnesota	-	\$160,000
	Wargo Nature Center Improvements - Displays	\$350,000	-
	Rum River Central Regional Park Parcel Acquisition	\$315,000	-
BLOOMINGTON, CITY OF	Bloomington Park Ambassador Program	\$33,712	\$33,990
	East Bush Lake Trails	-	\$305,912
	Normandale Lake Restrooms and Maintenance Garage Replacement	\$303,414	-
CARVER COUNTY	Lake Waconia Regional Park Development	-	\$286,715
	Outreach	\$28,000	\$28,000
	Parks Operations and Natural Resource Manager	\$45,000	\$46,000.00
	Recreation and Volunteer Specialist	\$38,000	\$39,000.00
	TH5 Regional Trail, MN Arboretum Connection	\$285,451	-
DAKOTA COUNTY	Big Rivers RT - Trailhead Improvements	\$1,241,008	-
	Park System Marketing	\$100,000	\$100,000
	Parks Outreach and Engagement Coordinator	\$81,120	\$84,365
	Spring Lake Park Reserve - Master Plan Capital Improvements	-	\$1,249,474
MINNEAPOLIS PARK & RECREATION BOARD	Above the Falls - Hall's Island and the Park on the Scherer Site	\$228,000	\$1,570,900
	Above the Falls Regional Park Implementation	\$1,260,286	\$842,122
	Minnehaha Parkway Implementation Phase 2	\$461,270	-
	Minnehaha Park Pavilion Improvements, Phase 2	\$628,730	-
	Mississippi Gorge Implementation Phase 2	\$420,843	\$1,710,000
	Theodore Wirth Implementation	\$1,000,000	-
RAMSEY COUNTY	Central Mississippi Water Works	\$306,000	\$218,569
	Americans with Disabilities Act Improvements Phase 2	\$100,000	\$100,000
	Battle Creek Upper Afton Playground Redevelopment, Phase 2	\$413,000	-
	Battle Creek Winter Recreation Area Phase 1	-	\$500,557
	Bruce Vento Master Plan and Design	\$300,000	-
	Conservation Corps of Minnesota	\$110,000	\$110,000
	Volunteer Coordinator	\$75,000	\$75,000
	Master Plan Updates	\$75,000	\$75,000
	Outreach Program Specialist	\$125,000	\$125,000
System-Wide Off-Leash Area Improvements	-	\$225,000	
Vadnais-Snail Lakes Flood Redesign and Reconstruction	\$300,220	\$300,000	

Agency	Project Title	FY2020*	FY2021*
SCOTT COUNTY	Spring Lake Regional Park Lakefront Design and Development - Phase 1	-	\$674,112
	Clear Lake Regional Park Maintenance Shop Development Phase 2	\$449,956	-
	Regional Trail Master Planning	\$218,651	-
ST PAUL, CITY OF	Bruce Vento - Sam Morgan RT - Design, engineer & construct pedestrian connection bridge	\$450,000	\$1,100,000
	Como Park Zoo and Conservatory - Shuttle	\$105,000	\$105,000
	Como Regional Park -Reconstruct Parking Lots along Lexington Parkway	\$88,542	\$660,475
	Great River Passage Division	\$170,000	\$170,000
	Hidden Falls - Crosby Farm RP Master Plan Implementation	\$100,000	\$400,000
	Indian Mounds Interpretive Plan Implementation	\$500,000	-
	Point Douglas Regional Trail Master Planning	\$100,000	-
	Robert Piram Trail Construction	\$300,000	-
	Robert Piram Design & Engineering of Bridge at Barge Channel	\$700,000	\$100,000
	Volunteer and Education Coordinators	\$150,000	\$150,000
THREE RIVERS PARK DISTRICT	Dakota Rail Regional Trail Microsurfacing	-	\$475,000
	Mississippi Gateway Regional Park Design and Construction	\$4,354,204	\$2,915,060
	Lake Independence Regional Trail Reconstruction	-	\$1,000,000
WASHINGTON CTY	Cottage Grove Ravine Multiuse Building	\$844,713	-
	Lake Elmo Park Reserve Maintenance Facility Improvements	\$100,000	-
	Lake Elmo Park Reserve Pavilion Play Areas	-	\$450,000
	St. Croix Bluffs Play Areas	-	\$502,492

*The funding amount and year for each project are subject to change within the parameters set out in Business Item 2018-261.