

## Community Development Committee

Meeting date: May 20, 2019

For the Metropolitan Council meeting of May 22, 2019

**Subject:** 2019 Regional Parks Capital Grant Agreement Authorization  
**District(s), Member(s):** All  
**Policy/Legal Reference:** Minn. Stat. §§ 473.325 and 85.53; Minn. Const. Article XI, Section 15; 2019 Unified Budget Business Item No. 2019-55  
**Staff Prepared/Presented:** Sam Johnson, Grant Administrator, 651-602-1757  
**Division/Department:** Community Development / Finance and Administration

### Proposed Action

That the Metropolitan Council authorize the Regional Administrator or their designee to execute 21 grant agreements totaling \$16,666,668 with the Regional Park Implementing Agencies as indicated in and in accordance with Attachment 1.

### Background

The Community Development Division passes through state and regional funds to 10 Regional Parks Implementing Agencies. Funds are managed through grant agreements once the Council brings funds into the Authorized Capital Program. Council authorization is required for the Regional Administrator to execute all agreements over \$500,000.

The Legislature approved an appropriation of State General Obligation (G.O.) bond funding to the Council in March 2019 in Minnesota Session Laws 2019, Chapter 2, Article 1, Section 5. The funding was included in the Council’s Authorized Capital Program in the 2019 first quarter budget amendment ([Business Item 2019-55 JT](#)).

The Council awards State and Council bond-financed grants to the Implementing Agencies for recommended projects. All project proposals were evaluated by Council staff to ensure consistency with the *2040 Regional Parks Policy Plan*. The projects were approved by MPOSC and then the Council on September 27, 2017 ([Business Item 2017-198](#)).

Council staff presented the list of recommended projects for the Regional Parks System Capital Improvement Program (CIP) to Minnesota Management and Budget (MMB) in October of 2017, and they were included as a part of the Governor’s budget in 2018. The State funded these projects using Environmental and Natural Resources Trust Funds in 2018 and then replaced that funding using State G.O. bonds in 2019.

### Rationale

The requested action will authorize the Regional Administrator or their designee to execute grant agreements for the agencies, projects, and amounts listed in Attachment 1 on behalf of the Metropolitan Council.

### Thrive Lens Analysis

Regional Parks funding from state appropriations and Council bonds advance Thrive outcomes of Livability by enhancing the quality of life in the region through increasing access to nature and outdoor recreation. The Council’s action improves regional funding



efficiency and increases accountability to support the Regional Park agency partners. All projects were evaluated using the Regional Parks System Equity Toolkit.

### **Funding**

Projects are funded with State and Council bonds. The State awarded \$10 million in State General Obligation (G.O.) bonds to replace previously awarded \$10 million in Environmental and Natural Resources Trust Funds. The Council matches every \$3 it receives in State G.O. bonds with \$2 in Council bonds to be awarded to Implementing Agencies. These State G.O. bonds and Council bonds are allocated to each Implementing Agency based upon a formula that is set in statute. Background on this policy can be found in the *2040 Regional Parks Policy Plan* and the *Regional Parks System Fund Distribution Policy*.

### **Known Support / Opposition**

Regional Parks support these projects. There is no known opposition.

*Attachment 1*

**Regional Parks 2019 State and Council Bond Financed Grants**

<b>Agency</b>	<b>Grant Title</b>	<b>Grant Amount</b>
Anoka County	Coon Rapids Dam Regional Park Visitor Center Building Improvements	\$320,295
Anoka County	Improvements to Wargo Nature Center Entrance Roadway in Rice Creek Chain of Lakes park reserve	\$931,569
Anoka County	Manomin Restroom Rehabilitation for the Rice Creek West Regional Trail	\$260,000
Anoka County	Rum River Central Regional Park Playground Replacement	\$175,000
Carver County	Reimbursement for Acquisition of Property at Lake Waconia Regional Park	\$470,180
City of Bloomington	Tierney's Woods Park Trail Reconstruction at Hyland-Bush-Anderson Lakes Park Reserve	\$409,309
Dakota County	Implementation of Master Plan Improvements at Whitetail Woods Regional Park and Lake Byllesby Regional Park	\$1,700,034
Minneapolis Park & Recreation Board	Central Mississippi Riverfront Regional Park Water Works	\$1,978,496
Minneapolis Park & Recreation Board	Hall's Island and the Park on the Scherer Site in Above the Falls Regional Park	\$1,471,200
Ramsey County	Long Lake Regional Park Phased Site and Infrastructure Improvements	\$1,322,153
Saint Paul	Phalen Regional Park Transportation Improvements	\$1,590,331
Saint Paul	Como Regional Park Transportation Improvements	\$669,890
Scott County	Lakefront Development at Spring Lake Regional Park	\$237,258
Scott County	Reimbursement for Acquisition of Property for Doyle-Kennefick Regional Park	\$355,000
Three Rivers Park District	Lake Minnetonka Regional Park Pavement Rehabilitation-Park Trails	\$1,500,000
Three Rivers Park District	Morris t. Baker Park Reserve Creative Play Area	\$696,834

Three Rivers Park District	Reimbursement for Acquisition of Property for Silverwood Special Recreation Feature	\$1,464,556
Washington County	Lake Elmo Park Reserve Eagle Point Trail and Access Improvements	\$445,825
Washington County	St. Croix Bluffs Regional Park Maintenance Building Improvements	\$111,456
Washington County	Lake Elmo Park Reserve Swim Pond Recreation Area Improvements	\$390,097
Washington County	Lake Elmo Park Reserve Campground Play Area Improvements	\$167,185
<b>Total</b>		<b>\$16,666,668</b>