

Community Development Committee

Meeting date: September 8, 2020

For the Metropolitan Council meeting of September 23, 2020

Subject: Parks and Trails Legacy 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 2020 Unified Budget Amendment Business Item No. 2020-182 JT

Staff Prepared/Presented: Nicole Clapp, Senior Grant Administrator, 651-602-1723

Division/Department: Community Development / Finance and Administration

Proposed Action

That the Metropolitan Council authorize the Community Development Director to execute grant agreements for FY21 Parks and Trails Legacy Fund projects and execute amendments to add FY21 funds to FY20 Parks and Trails Legacy Fund grant agreements.

Background

Parks and Trails Legacy Funds were appropriated to the Council for State Fiscal Year (SYF) 2020 and 2021 during the 2019 legislative session. SFY21 funds were authorized by the Council through the July 2020 budget amendment.

Grant agreements are required for the Council to pass through dollars to Regional Parks Implementing Agencies and Council action is required for the Community Development Director to execute agreements over \$500,000.

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 SFY21 Legacy dollars.

A master list of projects to be funded with SFY2020 and 2021 Legacy dollars was developed according to State statute and Council policy. Attachment 1 lists projects currently eligible to be fully or partially funded with SFY21 Legacy dollars. These projects have been reviewed and recommended by the Metropolitan Parks and Open Space Commission and were approved by the Council on October 24, 2018 via [Business Item 2018-261](#).

Rationale

This action will allow the Community Development Director to execute agreements for eligible projects after Parks Agencies make a final determination of projects to fund with SFY21 Legacy funds.

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 2020 July Unified Budget Amendment, Business Item 2020-182 JT.

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	-
	Central Mississippi Water Works	\$306,000	\$218,569
RAMSEY COUNTY	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.