

Community Development Committee

Meeting date: November 18, 2013

For the Metropolitan Council meeting of December 11, 2013

Subject: City of Chaska Request to Extend the Term for "The Landing" Livable Communities Act Grant

District(s), Member(s): District 4 – Gary Van Eyll

Policy/Legal Reference: Minnesota Statutes Section 473.25

Staff Prepared/Presented: Deb Streets Jensen, Livable Communities Grant Administrator (651-602-1154)

Division/Department: Community Development / Livable Communities

Proposed Action

That the Metropolitan Council approve an extension to the grant term for the City of Chaska's project known as "The Landing," to July 31, 2014.

Background

The City of Chaska was awarded \$240,636 in Livable Communities Demonstration Account funds to assist with the City's project known as "The Landing," which replaced blighted single-family homes with 51 units of affordable senior housing and provides trail connections from the downtown to the river. The grant-funded activities included construction of a trail system and sidewalk, stormwater management, soil correction, extension of sewer and water lines, and design and engineering.

In April of 2011, the Council approved a revision to the Livable Communities Act Grant amendment procedures allowing a five-year maximum grant term length for Livable Communities grants. The five-year grant term for "The Landing" expires December 31, 2013. The City of Chaska is requesting an extension of seven additional months to complete the grant funded activities for the project.

Rationale

Work on the senior housing structure is nearing completion. However, some of the grant-funded activities yet to be completed are located adjacent to Highway 14 on right-of-way owned by MNDOT, and difficulties arose in aligning the needs of the city and the state. Approvals for work in the right-of-way are still pending, and although they are expected soon, they will not be received in time to complete the final grant-funded activities before work halts for the winter. A brief extension will mitigate timing pressure.

Funding

There are no funding implications.

Known Support / Opposition

There is no known opposition.