

Community Development Committee

For the Metropolitan Council meeting of April 27, 2016

Subject: Park Acquisition Opportunity Fund Supplementary Grant Agreement for Lake Rebecca Park Reserve (Mannor), Three Rivers Park District

Proposed Action

That the Metropolitan Council:

1. Approve a supplementary grant agreement to grant number SG2012-009, a 2012 Park Acquisition Opportunity Fund Grant, to Three Rivers Park District (TRPD), to acquire the Mannor property at Lake Rebecca Park Reserve, reducing SG2012-009 by \$82,500.43 and changing funding sources; and
2. Authorize the Community Development Director to execute the supplementary grant agreement; and
3. In coordination with Three Rivers Park District, return \$382,744.16 to the Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund at the Legislative Citizen Commission on Minnesota Resources.

Summary of Committee Discussion/Questions

The Community Development Committee recommended approval of the proposed action as part of its consent agenda on April 18, 2016.

Community Development Committee

Meeting date: April 18, 2016

For the Metropolitan Council meeting of April 27, 2016

Subject: Park Acquisition Opportunity Fund Supplementary Grant Agreement for Lake Rebecca Park Reserve (Mannor), Three Rivers Park District

District(s), Member(s): District 1 – Katie Rodriguez

Policy/Legal Reference: M.S. § 473.315 and M.L. Session Laws 2011 Subd. 4, Sec. c

Staff Prepared/Presented: Emmett Mullin (651.602.1360)

Division/Department: Community Development – Regional Parks and Natural Resources

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2. Authorize the Community Development Director to execute the supplementary grant agreement; and
3. In coordination with Three Rivers Park District, return \$382,744.16 to the Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund at the Legislative Citizen Commission on Minnesota Resources.

Background

In April 2012, Three Rivers Park District (TRPD) was awarded a \$646,500 Park Acquisition Opportunity Fund grant funded by the Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund (ENRTF) and matched by Council bonds and park agency funds to purchase the Mannor parcel for Lake Rebecca Park Reserve.

In 2015, the Office of the Legislative Auditor conducted an audit of the Council's usage of ENRTF and Park and Trail Legacy funds (<http://www.auditor.leg.state.mn.us/fad/pdf/fad1603.pdf>). An audit finding identified ineligible expenditures made under the grant. This finding in the ENRTF audit required the Council to work with TRPD to return \$382,744.16 to the ENRTF. Council and TRPD staff have since worked out a mutually agreed upon solution where TRPD would repay \$82,500.43 to the Council, and the Council will remit \$382,744 to the ENRTF. This agreement is based upon a recalculation of the eligible grant amount and the use of Council debt service funds versus ENRTF funds.

Rationale

This action will approve a supplementary grant agreement that reduces the amount of the original grant and creates a path for the funds to be repaid to the ENRTF.

Funding

The \$382,744.16 will be composed of \$82,500.43 from TRPD and \$300,243.73 from Council debt service.

Known Support / Opposition

There is no known opposition.