

**Community Development Committee**

For the Metropolitan Council meeting of June 12, 2019

**Subject:** Future Reimbursement Consideration for Anoka and Dakota Counties

**Proposed Action**

That the Metropolitan Council:

1. Consider reimbursing Anoka County up to \$50,000 from its share of a future Regional Parks Bonding Program for costs it incurs to build a segment of the Coon Creek Regional Trail.

<b>Project Title</b>	<b>Amount</b>
Design and Construct the Coon Creek Regional Trail along Coon Rapids Boulevard to fill a gap of approximately 2000 linear feet between Avocet Street and Egret Boulevard in the City of Coon Rapids.	\$50,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$50,000</b>

2. Consider reimbursing Dakota County up to \$7,407,134 from its share of a future Regional Parks Bonding Program for costs it incurs to design and construct the following five projects in Dakota County, as per Exhibit 2.

<b>Project Title</b>	<b>Amount</b>
1. Design and Construct the Rosemount East Segment of the Mississippi River Regional Trail	\$2,000,000
2. Design and Construct the Cedar Nicols Trailhead for the Minnesota River Greenway Regional Trail	\$440,000
3. Design and Construct the Burnsville Segment of the Lake Marion Greenway Regional Trail	\$2,390,000
4. Design and Construct Grade-Separated Crossing of Robert Street for the River to River Greenway Regional Trail	\$1,844,500
5. Design and Construct Master Plan Improvements at Lake Byllesby Regional Park	\$732,634
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$7,407,134</b>

3. Inform Anoka County and Dakota County that the Council does not under any circumstances represent or guarantee that it will reimburse the Counties and that expenditure of local funds never entitles a park agency to reimbursement.

**Summary of Committee Discussion/Questions**

Staff members Deb Streets Jensen and Abdiwahab Ali presented the business item and provided background on the use of future reimbursement consideration. Committee members asked if the Council has ever declined to reimburse an Agency; Jensen responded that to the best of her knowledge, it had not ever declined.

## Metropolitan Parks and Open Space Commission Report

For the Community Development Committee meeting of May 20, 2019

**Subject:** Future Reimbursement Consideration for Anoka and Dakota Counties

### Proposed Action

That the Metropolitan Council:

1. Consider reimbursing Anoka County up to \$50,000 from its share of a future Regional Parks Bonding Program for costs it incurs to build a segment of the Coon Creek Regional Trail.

<b>Project Title</b>	<b>Amount</b>
Design and Construct the Coon Creek Regional Trail along Coon Rapids Boulevard to fill a gap of approximately 2000 linear feet between Avocet Street and Egret Boulevard in the City of Coon Rapids.	\$50,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$50,000</b>

2. Consider reimbursing Dakota County up to \$7,407,134 from its share of a future Regional Parks Bonding Program for costs it incurs to design and construct the following five projects in Dakota County, as per Exhibit 2.

<b>Project Title</b>	<b>Amount</b>
1. Design and Construct the Rosemount East Segment of the Mississippi River Regional Trail	\$2,000,000
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4. Design and Construct Grade-Separated Crossing of Robert Street for the River to River Greenway Regional Trail	\$1,844,500
5. Design and Construct Master Plan Improvements at Lake Byllesby Regional Park	\$732,634
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$7,407,134</b>

3. Inform Anoka County and Dakota County that the Council does not under any circumstances represent or guarantee that it will reimburse the Counties and that expenditure of local funds never entitles a park agency to reimbursement.

### Summary of Commission Discussion/Questions

Senior Finance Planner Deb Streets Jensen presented the item to the Metropolitan Parks and Open Space Commission. At its meeting on May 2, 2019, the Metropolitan Parks and Open Space Commission voted unanimously to recommend the proposed action.

# Metropolitan Parks and Open Space Commission

Meeting date: May 2, 2019

For the Community Development Committee meeting of May 20, 2019

For the Metropolitan Council meeting of June 12, 2019

**Subject:** Future Reimbursement Consideration for Anoka and Dakota Counties

**MPOSC Districts, Members:** District E – Jeremy Peichel, District G – Anthony Taylor, and District H – Todd Kemery

**Council Districts, Members:** District 9 – Raymond Zeran, District 13 – Chai Lee, District 15 – Phillip Sterner, and District 16 – Wendy Wulff

**Policy/Legal Reference:** Minn. Stat. § 473.315; *2040 Regional Parks Policy Plan* Finance Strategy 6

**Staff Prepared/Presented:** Deb Streets Jensen, Senior Finance Planner (651-602-1554); Abdiwahab Ali, Financial Analyst (651-602-1823)

**Division/Department:** Community Development / Regional Planning

## Proposed Action

That the Metropolitan Council:

1. Consider reimbursing Anoka County up to \$50,000 from its share of a future Regional Parks Bonding Program for costs it incurs to build a segment of the Coon Creek Regional Trail.

<b>Project Title</b>	<b>Amount</b>
Design and Construct the Coon Creek Regional Trail along Coon Rapids Boulevard to fill a gap of approximately 2000 linear feet between Avocet Street and Egret Boulevard in the City of Coon Rapids.	\$50,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$50,000</b>

2. Consider reimbursing Dakota County up to \$7,407,134 from its share of a future Regional Parks Bonding Program for costs it incurs to design and construct the following five projects in Dakota County, as per Exhibit 2.

<b>Project Title</b>	<b>Amount</b>
1. Design and Construct the Rosemount East Segment of the Mississippi River Regional Trail	\$2,000,000
2. Design and Construct the Cedar Nicols Trailhead for the Minnesota River Greenway Regional Trail	\$440,000
3. Design and Construct the Burnsville Segment of the Lake Marion Greenway Regional Trail	\$2,390,000
4. Design and Construct Grade-Separated Crossing of Robert Street for the River to River Greenway Regional Trail	\$1,844,500



Project Title	Amount
5. Design and Construct Master Plan Improvements at Lake Byllesby Regional Park	\$732,634
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$7,407,134</b>

3. Inform Anoka County and Dakota County that the Council does not under any circumstances represent or guarantee that it will reimburse the Counties and that expenditure of local funds never entitles a park agency to reimbursement.

## Background

### Anoka County

The County's request is attached to this item as Exhibit 1.

- *Build Trail Segment for the Coon Creek Regional Trail:* When complete, the Coon Creek Regional Trail will run seven miles along Sand and Coon Creeks, connecting Bunker Hills Regional Park with Coon Rapids Dam Regional Park and the Mississippi River through the City of Coon Rapids. During the summer of 2019, Anoka County will partner with the City of Coon Rapids to complete a short segment of the trail along Coon Rapids Boulevard to fill a gap of approximately 2000 linear feet between Avocet Street and Egret Boulevard in the City of Coon Rapids. The County requests consideration for future reimbursement of approximately half of the construction costs, or up to \$50,000, from its share of a future appropriation for the Capital Improvement Program.

### Dakota County

The County's request is attached to this item as Exhibit 2.

- *Build Trail Segment for the Mississippi River Regional Trail:* Development of the Mississippi River Regional Trail (MRRT) in Rosemount closes a gap in the planned trail to provide a full 25-mile connection between south St. Paul and Hastings.
- *Build Trail Segment for the Minnesota River Greenway Regional Trail:* This project includes design, engineering, and construction of a trailhead along the Minnesota River Regional Greenway at the Hwy 77 / Cedar Ave bridge. The Trailhead will provide trail support services at a critical juncture of existing and planned trails that connect multiple suburbs to Minneapolis and Saint Paul with a key connection across the Minnesota River to the Minnesota Valley National Wildlife Refuge – Long Meadow Lake Unit and over the new renovated Old Cedar trail bridge.
- *Build Trail Segment for the Lake Marion Greenway Regional Trail:* The City of Burnsville received a \$1,600,000 federal transportation grant and the County is providing a local cost-share for construction and project delivery. County funds are subject to a joint powers agreement with the City. The project is currently undergoing a feasibility study with results expected in late 2018. Final design is planned to be completed in 2019.
- *Build Trail Segment for the River to River Greenway Regional Trail:* The City of West St. Paul received 2014 state bonding funds for the construction of a grade-separated crossing of the River to River Regional Trail at Robert Street. The City and County are collaborating to explore the feasibility of alignments to safety for regional trail users. This project is conditional upon the City proceedings with the crossing, the successful acquisition of land control for the preferred

alignment, and the County Board approval of a Joint Powers Agreement with the City regarding roles including final cost share.

- *Build Trail Segment for the Lake Byllesby Regional Park:* The project scope is based upon the Lake Byllesby Master Plan approved by the County Board in 2018 and includes: campground improvements, Cannon River access, beach and water play enhancements, picnic area improvements, Echo Point use area development, and access to the west unit of the park. Park-wide natural resource improvements will also be completed.

### **Rationale**

Minnesota Statute § 473.315 authorizes the Metropolitan Council (Council) with the advice of the Metropolitan Parks and Open Space Commission to make grants from any funds available for recreation open space purposes to cover any portion of the cost of developing regional recreation open space in accordance with the *2040 Regional Parks Policy Plan* (Policy Plan).

The Policy Plan authorizes the Council to consider reimbursing an implementing agency for costs incurred in an eligible project if:

- *The project is consistent in timing, scale, type and cost with a Council approved master plan.* The master plan for the Coon Creek Regional Trail was approved by the Council on August 12, 2015. The current project described in this item comprises one segment of the unfinished area, along Egret Boulevard in the City of Coon Rapids.
- *All information required for the development grant is submitted to the Council prior to the implementing agency undertaking the project.* The project will not commence until the summer of 2019.
- *The Council approves the project.*

### **Thrive Lens Analysis**

This action supports the livability outcome in Thrive MSP 2040 by assisting in the completion of several regional trails.

### **Funding**

There is no funding impact until and unless Anoka County or Dakota County requests reimbursement in a future Regional Parks Bonding appropriation. If a bonding bill is passed in that legislative cycle, the County would be reimbursed for documented, eligible costs from Council bond proceeds.

### **Known Support / Opposition**

There is no known opposition.