

## Metropolitan Parks and Open Space Commission

Meeting date: April 4, 2017

For the Community Development Committee meeting of April 17, 2017

For the Metropolitan Council meeting of April 26, 2017

**Subject:** Future Reimbursement Consideration for Coon Creek Regional Trail, Anoka County

**District(s), Member(s):** District E – Michael Kopp

**Policy/Legal Reference:** MN Statute 473.315; 2040 Regional Parks Policy Plan Finance Strategy 6

**Staff Prepared/Presented:** Deb Streets Jensen, Sr. Finance Planner - Parks

**Division/Department:** Community Development Division, Regional Parks & Natural Resources

### Proposed Action

That the Metropolitan Council:

1. Consider reimbursing Anoka County up to \$175,000 from its share of a future Regional Parks Capital Improvement Program for costs it incurs to build a segment of the Coon Creek Regional Trail along Egret Boulevard in the City of Coon Rapids; and
2. Inform Anoka County that the Council does not under any circumstances represent or guarantee that it will reimburse Anoka County and that expenditure of local funds never entitles a park agency to reimbursement.

### Background

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. Six of the seven miles of paved trail are complete. During the summer of 2017, Anoka County will partner with the City of Coon Rapids to complete a short segment of the trail along Egret Boulevard. The County requests consideration for future reimbursement of approximately half of the construction costs, or up to \$175,000, from its share of a future appropriation for the Capital Improvement Program. The County's request is attached to this item.

### 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 2017.

- *The Council approves the project.*

### **Thrive Lens Analysis**

This action supports the *Livability* outcome in Thrive MSP 2040 by assisting in the completion of a regional trail.

### **Funding**

There is no funding impact until and unless Anoka County requests reimbursement in a future Capital Improvement Program 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.



# Anoka County

PARKS & COMMUNITY SERVICES DIVISION

Parks and Recreation

Parks and  
Recreation Office  
763-757-3920

Park  
Maintenance  
763-755-0067

Park Rangers  
612-719-4875

Natural Resources  
763-767-2896

Bunker Beach  
Water Park  
763-767-2895

Chomonix  
Golf Course  
651-482-8484

Wargo  
Nature Center  
651-429-8007

March 3, 2017

Jan Youngquist, Planning Analyst  
Metropolitan Council  
390 Robert St. N.  
St. Paul, MN 55101

RE: Future Trail Reimbursement Request – Coon Creek Regional Trail

Dear Jan:

If you will recall, the Metropolitan Council approved the master plan for the Coon Creek Regional Trail in August 2015. This trail connects Bunker Hills and Coon Rapids Dam Regional Parks and also connects to the Mississippi River Regional Trail in the City of Coon Rapids.

The County is proposing to partner with the City of Coon Rapids on a project to complete a short segment of the regional trail along Egret Boulevard. Completion of this trail segment will provide a direct connection into the Coon Rapids Dam Regional Park. The project is proposed to be built in the summer of 2017 and be complete by the end of year. Estimated costs to construct this section is anticipated to be around \$350,000.

The County is requesting to be reimbursed for approximately one-half of the trail construction costs (\$175,000) from a future share of Anoka County's Metropolitan Council Regional Park Capital Improvement appropriation. The remaining funds will be provided by the City of Coon Rapids.

I have included a few maps outlining the project area for your reference.

I look forward to working with you on this project and the implementation of this trail. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at 763-767-2865 or via e-mail at [karen.blaska@co.anoka.mn.us](mailto:karen.blaska@co.anoka.mn.us).

Thank you and regards,

Karen Blaska  
Park Planner

cc: Jeff Perry, Planning & Resources Manager

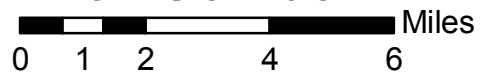


**Proposed  
Coon Creek  
Regional Trail**

**Legend**

- PROPOSED COON CREEK REGIONAL TRAIL
- EXISTING REGIONAL TRAIL
- - - PROPOSED REGIONAL TRAIL;
- COUNTY ROAD
- REGIONAL AND COUNTY PARKS
- WATER

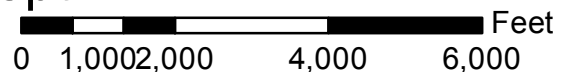
**Anoka County  
Proposed Coon Creek Regional Trail Corridor**







# Proposed Coon Creek Regional Trail Corridor Development Concept







**Trail Segment to be Built**

**Robinson Park**

**Al Flynn Park**

**Coon Rapids Boulevard**

**Egret Boulevard**

**Coon Rapids Dam Regional Park**

**Legend**

- EXISTING COON CREEK REGIONAL TRAIL
- - - PROPOSED COON CREEK REGIONAL TRAIL
- REGIONAL TRAIL, EXISTING
- PARK TRAIL, EXISTING
- EXISTING CITY TRAIL/SIDEWALK
- - - PROPOSED CITY TRAIL/SIDEWALK
- CREEK
- + + + RAIL ROAD
- REGIONAL PARK
- POTENTIALLY IMPACTED PARCELS
- WATER
- CITY PARKS

**Coon Creek Regional Trail Corridor  
Egret Boulevard Segment**

