Business Item 2018-301

Minnesota River Bluffs Regional Trail Acquisition Master Plan Amendment and Boundary Adjustments
Carver County

November 8, 2018

Metropolitan Parks and Open Space Commission
Minnesota River Bluffs Regional Trail Acquisition

Demographics:
- Between 2020 and 2040 Carver County is forecasted to rise in population by 50%
- From 2000-2010 the percent of people of diverse backgrounds grew
- 85,300 residents live within 0.75 mile of the regional trail segment
Goal - Connecting to Nature and the Region
The Reality....
Three Regional Trails
Regional Trail Detour

Minnesota River Bluffs Regional Trail Segment

• Closed since 2014 due to a slope failure
• Six-mile detour over other less desirable routes
Boundaries and Acquisition

Two Regional Trails will transfer boundaries to the Minnesota Bluffs Regional Trail:

- .75-mile portion of the Southwest Regional Trail
- 2.25 miles of Minnesota River Bluffs LRT Regional Trail

Proposed Minnesota Bluffs Regional Trail

Carver County managed - Southwest Regional Trail

Three Rivers Park District managed - Minnesota River Bluffs LRT Trail

Existing Trailhead Facility

County Road 61
Public Engagement

Carver County hosted two engagement events with language interpreters and coordinated with adjacent jurisdictions including:

• An event at Lake Susan Park in Chanhassen that included the Liga Latina Baseball League during a regularly scheduled game and weekend park users over two hours on Sunday, August 19th.

• A pop-up event at Fireman’s Park in Chaska engaging a diverse array of weekend park users over two hours on Sunday, August 19th.

• Three Rivers Park District, Hennepin County Regional Rail Authority, the City of Chanhassen and City of Chaska support Carver County’s efforts to complete this master plan to enable the ultimate acquisition of the Hennepin County Regional Rail Authority property.
Trail Loop and Future Development Concept

There is an existing trailhead facility with wayfinding information located at Bluff Creek Drive.

Trail Section

Wayfinding: There is an existing trailhead facility with wayfinding information located at Bluff Creek Drive.
### Appraisal

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Agency</th>
<th>Land</th>
<th>Estimated Cost</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Carver County</td>
<td>Approximates 90 acres that include three miles of regional trail</td>
<td>$5,480,000</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>$5,480,000</strong></td>
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Proposed Findings

The proposed master plan is consistent with the requirements of the 2040 Regional Parks Policy Plan:

– Planning Strategy 1, Planning
– Planning Strategy 3, Joint-Powers Agreements and
– other Council policies
Proposed Action

• Approve Carver County’s Minnesota River Bluffs Regional Trail Acquisition Master Plan Amendment.

• Approve the boundary adjustments transferring the following two regional trail segments to the Carver County’s Minnesota River Bluffs Regional Trail Master Plan including:
  – 0.75-mile portion of the Carver County’s Southwest Regional Trail from County Road 61 in the City of Chaska to Bluff Creek Drive in the City of Chanhassen.
  – 2.25 miles of Three River Park District’s Minnesota River Bluffs LRT Regional Trail from Bluff Creek Drive in the City of Chanhassen and extending to the eastern county line near Pioneer Trail in Eden Prairie.
Proposed Action

• Direct Carver County to work with Three Rivers Park District to develop a timeline and use agreement outlining the transfer of management responsibilities to Carver County of the 2.25 miles of Minnesota River Bluffs LRT Regional Trail.

• Inform Carver County that it must submit the Minnesota River Bluffs Regional Trail Development Master Plan Amendment for Metropolitan Council approval prior to requesting funding for development.