

Metropolitan Parks and Open Space Commission

Meeting date: September 3, 2013

For the Community Development Committee meeting of September 16, 2013

For the Metropolitan Council meeting of September 25, 2013

Subject: Amend Scope of Park Grants SG2012-096, SG2012-097, SG2012-098, Three Rivers Park District

District(s), Member(s): Metropolitan Parks & Open Space Commission District A, Seyon Nyanwleh and Metropolitan Parks & Open Space Commission District B, Robert Moeller

Policy/Legal Reference: Minnesota Statute Section 473.315

Staff Prepared/Presented: Tori Dupre, Senior Planner-Regional Parks and Natural Resources (651-602-1621)

Division/Department: Community Development Division

Proposed Action

That the Metropolitan Council amend the following grant agreements:

1. Amend SG2012-096, Section 2, Grant Project Scope to include, "at Hyland-Bush-Anderson Lakes Park Reserve, use \$150,000 to fund the Hyland cross-country ski trail with snowmaking and lights."
2. Amend SG2012-097, Section 2, Grant Project Scope to include, "at Hyland-Bush-Anderson Lakes Park Reserve, use \$194,000 to fund construction of the Hyland cross-country ski trail with snowmaking and lights."
3. Amend SG2012-098, Section 2, Grant Project Scope to include, "at Hyland-Bush-Anderson Lakes Park Reserve, use \$1,093,000 to fund construction of the Hyland cross-country ski trail with snowmaking and lights."

Background

On August 15, 2013 (Attachment 1) Three Rivers Park District requested amendments to three 2012 grant agreements between the Metropolitan Council and Three Rivers Park District. The Park District requests redirection of \$1,344,000 to partially finance construction of 5.0-kilometer cross-country ski trail with snowmaking and lights at the Hyland-Bush-Anderson Lakes Park Reserve. The Park District requests amending the scope of these grants to redirect the funds toward the ski trail project.

Grant agreement SG2012-096 initially funded the reconstruction of paved roads, parking lots and trails at Fish Lake Regional Park. On March 27, 2013 the Council approved a grant amendment to change the project scope to use the estimated grant balance of \$363,670 to reconstruct paved roads, parking lots and trails at Cleary Lake Regional Park. The request proposes a second amendment to redirect remaining grant funds (\$150,000) for the Hyland cross country ski trail with snowmaking and lights.

Grant agreement SG2012-097 initially funded the planning and design for construction of a new campground at Elm Creek Park Reserve. The request proposes to amend the agreement to redirect the grant funds (\$194,000) for the Hyland cross country ski trail with snowmaking and lights.

Grant agreement SG2012-098 initially matched a Federal grant to design and construct a pedestrian bridge on the Lake Minnetonka LRT Regional Trail in the Cities of Shorewood and Excelsior. The request proposes to amend the agreement to redirect the grant funds (\$1,093,000) for the Hyland cross country ski trail with snowmaking and lights.

Rationale

The Metropolitan Council must consider and approve the three proposed grant scope changes since each represents a substantial revision to the existing grant agreements.

To consider the Park Districts requested scope changes, Section 9.2 of these grant agreements state, *"any amendment to this grant agreement must be in writing and will not be effective until it has been executed and approved by the same parties who executed and approved the original grant contract, or their successors in office."*

The proposed grant amendments changing the project scope for grants, SG2012-096, SG2012-097 and SG2012-098 are consistent with the conditions of the grant agreement section 9.2 of because Three Rivers Park District submitted a written request to the Council describing the need and rationale for the proposed project scope changes. The projects proposed in the amendment request are consistent with the Metropolitan Council approved master plan for Hyland-Bush-Anderson Lakes Park Reserve.

Funding

Grants SG2012-096, SG2012-097 and SG2012-098 are financed with Three Rivers Park District's share of the FY 2013 Parks and Trails Legacy Fund appropriation to the Metropolitan Council.

Known Support / Opposition

There is no known opposition to Three Rivers Park District's grant amendment requests.

Attachment 1, Letter from Jonathan Vlaming, Three Rivers Park District



August 15, 2013

Arne Stefferud, Manager
Regional Parks and Natural Resources Unit
Community Development Division
Metropolitan Council
390 North Robert Street
St. Paul, MN 55101

RE: Request to Amend the Scope of Work for Grants SG-2012-096, SG-2012-097, and SG-2012-098

Dear Arne:

Three Rivers respectfully requests redirection of the funds from the grants listed below to a new project – the Hyland cross-country ski trail with snowmaking and lights. The ski trail project involves development of a 5.0-kilometer ski trail with snowmaking and lights. When completed, the trail will provide an average of 100 days of skiable conditions each winter. The ski trail project is identified in the Hyland –Bush-Anderson Lakes Park Reserve Master Plan, which was approved by the Metropolitan Council in 2010. Work on the project is now beginning and it is expected to be completed in time for the winter break this December. The total budget for this project is \$6.375 million, the majority of which is being funded directly by Three Rivers. As proposed, the redirected grant funds will provide a total of \$1.344 million for this project, or about 21 percent of the total project cost. All requested grant funds would be expended on project work completed after approval of this request.

The Proposed amendments are as follows:

SG_2012-096

Three Rivers requests to amend to the scope of work for SG-2012-096 to include use of \$150,000 of grant funds for the Hyland cross-country ski trail with snowmaking and lights project.

The original grant amount was for \$2,150,000 for reconstruction of paved roads, parking lots, and trails at Fish Lake Regional Park. The grant was later amended to include reconstruction of paved roads, parking lots, and trails at Cleary Lake Regional Park. Work on the Fish Lake portion of the project is wrapping up and there will be a cost savings in excess of \$150,000. Any savings over \$150,000 for the Fish Lake portion will be used to help fund the Cleary portion of the project.

SG-2012-097

Three Rivers requests to redirect/redefine the scope of work under Section 2 from "At Elm Creek, finance planning and design for constructing a campground" to "At Hyland-Bush-Anderson Lakes Park Reserve, to fund construction of the Hyland cross-country ski trail with snowmaking and lights". No work has been done of the campground project and all funds are available. The total grant amount is \$194,000.

SG-2012-098

Three Rivers requests to redirect/redefine the scope of work under Section 2 from "At Lake Minnetonka LRT Regional Trail, a grant to match \$1 million of Federal funds to design and construct a pedestrian bridge for the trail in the Cities of Shorewood and Excelsior" to "At Hyland-Bush-Anderson Lakes Park Reserve, to fund construction of the Hyland cross-country ski trail with snowmaking and lights".

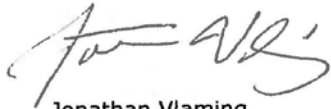
SG-2012-098 has a total grant amount of \$1.093 million. No funds have been used from this grant. The bridge project is still on track and will be completed in 2014. Additional funding sources specific to the bridge project have now been secured as a match to the federal grant, which makes \$1.093 million available for funding the Hyland ski trail project.

Due to the construction timetable for the Hyland project, Three Rivers respectfully requests that the proposed changes to these grants be brought forward to the appropriate committees and the Metropolitan Council for consideration in September of 2013.

It is likely more efficient to consolidate SG-2012-097 and 098 under the redirected/redefined scope, along with the transfer of \$150,000 for SG-2012-096. I defer to your judgment on that matter.

Thank you for your consideration.

Respectfully,



Jonathan Vlaming
Associate Superintendent
Planning, Design and Technology