

**Minutes of the
REGULAR MEETING OF THE COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE**

Monday, September 16, 2013

Committee Members Present: Cunningham, Chávez, Elkins, Kramer, Munt, Rummel, Wulff

Committee Members Absent: Commers

Committee Members Excused:

CALL TO ORDER

A quorum being present, Committee Chair Cunningham called the regular meeting of the Council's Community Development Committee to order at 4:30 p.m. on Monday, September 16, 2013.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA AND MINUTES

It was moved by Wulff, seconded by Elkins to postpone the LUAC report to a future Community Development meeting and approved the agenda. **Motion carried.**

It was moved by Elkins, seconded by Wulff to approve the minutes of the August 19, 2013 regular meeting of the Community Development Committee. **Motion carried.**

BUSINESS

2013-164 Approval of 2014 Public Housing Agency (PHA) Plan (Terri Smith 651 602-1187)

It was moved by Wulff, seconded by Chávez, that the Metropolitan Council approve the 2014 Public Housing Agency Plan (PHA Plan), authorize the Metropolitan Council Chair to execute the required certifications and direct staff to submit the final Plan to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). **Motion carried.**

HRA Manager Terri Smith reviewed a change in policy proposed as a cost containment strategy to maximize the number of families supportable with the reduced funding the Housing Choice Voucher program is now allotted as a result of the Federal Sequestration experienced in 2013 and anticipated in subsequent federal budgets. Staff recommended a change in how the voucher bedroom size is determined for each family resulting in approximately 650 families receiving a small bedroom size voucher. The reduced rent subsidy paid for those 650 families would result in a savings of approximately \$1.1 Million. This savings would enable 150 families to retain their rent assistance benefits and not be removed from the program.

Some Council Members expressed concern about the impact on families when less bedroom space is provided. Other Council members expressed the desire to help more families with less space rather than fewer families with more space.

After a lengthy discussion, the PHA and Administrative Plans with reduced occupancy standards were approved on a split vote of 6 to 2.

2013-261 Board Resolution 2013-020, Minnesota Housing, Rental Assistance for Anoka County (RAAC) (Terri Smith 651 602-1187)

It was moved by Elkins, seconded by Chávez, that the Metropolitan Council adopt a resolution, required by Minnesota Housing to authorize the Regional Administrator to execute a continuation grant agreement for the Rental Assistance for Anoka County (RAAC) Program.

Motion carried.

No questions from the Community Development Committee.

2013-262 Park Acquisition Opportunity Fund Grant for Phalen-Keller Regional Park (MNDOT parcel), Ramsey County

It was moved by Elkins, seconded by Kramer, that the Metropolitan Council authorize a grant of up to \$51,548 from the Parks and Trails Legacy Fund Acquisition Account to Ramsey County to finance the costs to acquire 44,443 square feet for the Keller Park portion of Phalen-Keller Regional Park. The grant should be financed with:

- \$30,929 from the FY2014 Parks and Trails Legacy Fund appropriation, and
- \$20,619 from Metropolitan Council bonds

2. Authorize the Community Development Director to sign the grant agreement and accompanying documents including the restrictive covenant. **Motion carried.**

No questions from the Community Development Committee.

2013-263 Park Acquisition Opportunity Fund Grant for Vermillion Highlands Greenway and Rosemount Greenway Regional Trails (Klein parcel), Dakota County

It was moved by Wulff, seconded by Chávez, that the Metropolitan Council:

1. Authorize a grant of up to \$270,000 from the Parks and Trails Legacy Fund Acquisition Account to Dakota County to finance up to 75% of the costs to acquire approximately 8.5 acres in a 100-foot wide, 3,200-foot long greenway corridor easement for the Vermillion Highlands Greenway and Rosemount Regional Greenway Regional Trails. The grant should be financed with:

\$162,000 from the FY2014 Parks and Trails Legacy Fund appropriation, and
\$108,000 from Metropolitan Council bonds

2. Authorize the Community Development Director to sign the grant agreement and accompanying documents.

3. Consider reimbursing Dakota County up to \$90,000 from its share of a future Regional Park Capital Improvement Program for its 25% share of the total acquisition costs. The Council does not under any circumstances represent or guarantee that reimbursement will be granted, and expenditure of local funds never entitles a park agency to reimbursement.

Motion carried.

No questions from the Community Development Committee.

2013-264 Park Acquisition Opportunity Fund Grant for Blakeley Bluffs Park Reserve (JMJM Parcel), Scott

It was moved by Elkins, seconded by Chávez, that the Metropolitan Council:

1. Authorize a grant of up to \$744,927 from the Parks and Trails Legacy Fund Acquisition Account to Scott County to finance up to 75% of the costs to acquire approximately 114 acres for the Blakeley Bluffs Park Reserve. The grant should be financed with:

\$446,956 from the FY2014 Parks and Trails Legacy Fund appropriation, and
\$297,971 from Metropolitan Council bonds

2. Authorize the Community Development Director to sign the grant agreement and accompanying documents including the restrictive covenant.

3. Consider reimbursing Scott County up to \$248,309, its 25% share of the total acquisition costs, from a future Regional Park Capital Improvement Program. The Council does not under any circumstances represent or guarantee that reimbursement will be granted, and expenditure of local funds never entitles a park agency to reimbursement. **Motion carried.**

No questions from the Community Development Committee.

2013-265 Amend Scope of Grants SG-2012-096, SG-2012-097 and SG-2012-098, Three Rivers Park District
It was moved by Munt, seconded by Elkins, 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."

Motion carried.

No questions from the Community Development Committee.

2013-266 Additional Metro Council Park Bonds for Acquisition Opportunity Fund Grant Account
Senior Researcher Rainry Salk presented the report to the Community Development Committee.

It was moved by Rummel, seconded by Munt, that the Metropolitan Council:

1. Direct Council staff to include an additional \$1.5 million of regional bonds to the Parks and Trails Legacy Fund Acquisition Account as part of the upcoming 4th Quarter 2013 Unified Parks Capital Program Amendment to be considered by the Metropolitan Council on October 23.
2. Direct Council Regional Parks and Natural Resources staff to continue analysis with the Metro Council's Finance Division and in consultation with the regional park implementing agencies regarding whether the Metro Council should raise the current Park Bonding limit beyond that of \$7.0 Million annually of five-year bonds. The analysis must address:
 - A. The fiscal impact on property taxes for homeowners and businesses relative to projected tax base growth;
 - B. The forecasted capital project and land acquisition needs among the park implementing agencies and cash flow timing for those projects;
 - C. The ability of the regional park agencies to finance the additional operations and maintenance costs for the additional projects financed from the incremental increase in Metro Council park bonding and any matching State funds.

The results of the analysis and any recommendations should be submitted to the Metropolitan Parks and Open Space Commission and Metropolitan Council for its consideration when it is completed. **Motion carried.**

INFORMATION

Plat Monitoring Program; Residential Platting in Developing Communities in the Twin Cities Metro Area, 2012
Planning Technician Raya Esmaili presented the report to the Community Development Committee.

ADJOURNMENT

Business completed, the meeting adjourned at 6:40 p.m.

Michele Wenner
Recording Secretary