

**C** Community Development Committee  
Meeting date: November 7, 2011

**ADVISORY INFORMATION**

<b>Date:</b>	October 27, 2011
<b>Subject:</b>	Reimbursement Consideration Request for Phase 2 Restoration of Como Regional Park Lily Pond, City of St. Paul
<b>District(s), Member(s):</b>	Metropolitan Council District 14, Jon Commers
<b>Policy/Legal Reference:</b>	MN Statute 473.315
<b>Staff Prepared/Presented:</b>	Arne Stefferud, Planning Analyst-Parks (651-602-1360)
<b>Division/Department:</b>	Community Development Division, Parks

**Proposed Action**

That the Metropolitan Council consider reimbursing the City of St. Paul in future regional parks capital improvement programs up to \$50,000 for City funding to finance Phase 2 of the lily pond restoration at Como Regional Park. However, 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.

**Background**

The City of St. Paul has just received bids for the design, engineering and phase 1 restoration of the lily pond at Como Regional Park. The \$590,000 project is financed from a Fiscal Year 2011 Parks and Trails Legacy Fund grant SG-2010-086. The City has also requested \$50,000 for phase 2 to complete the restoration as part of its share of the 2012-13 Regional Parks Capital Improvement Program, which is proposed to be financed with 2012 State bonds and Metro Council bonds. The City has the opportunity to concurrently do phase 2 work with phase 1 at a discounted cost with the same contractor. Consequently, the City requests that the Metropolitan Council consider reimbursing \$50,000 for phase 2 work with a grant from future regional park capital improvement programs under the terms of Finance Strategy 6 of the updated *2030 Regional Parks Policy Plan*.

**Rationale**

This request is consistent with the terms of Finance Strategy 6 for the following reasons:

1. The timing, scale and cost of the restoration of the lily pond at Como Regional Park are consistent with the Council-approved development master plan for the park.

2. Enough information has been submitted in this request regarding what would be financed with a Council grant to meet the requirements of Finance Strategy 6. In this case, that information is contained in the City's request letter **Attachment 1**.
3. The City of St. Paul is requesting Metropolitan Council approval for City financed expenditures spending on this project prior to undertaking them.

### **Funding**

Funding to reimburse the City for its initial expenditure of \$50,000 for phase 2 of the Como Lily Pond Renovation project is proposed to come from the City's share of the 2012-13 Regional Parks Capital Improvement Program (CIP). Since the State funding has not been appropriated for that CIP at this time, the Metropolitan Council cannot guarantee when the reimbursement could be granted to the City.

### **Known Support / Opposition**

The Metropolitan Parks and Open Space Commission considered this matter at its October 4<sup>th</sup> meeting and unanimously approved the recommendation.

**METROPOLITAN COUNCIL**  
**390 North Robert Street, St. Paul, MN 55101**  
**Phone (651) 602-1000 TDD (651) 291-0904**

**DATE:** September 27, 2011

**TO:** Metropolitan Parks and Open Space Commission

**FROM:** Arne Stefferud, Planning Analyst-Parks (651) 602-1360

**SUBJECT:** (2011-299) Reimbursement Consideration Request for Phase 2 Restoration of Como Regional Park Lily Pond, City of St. Paul

**INTRODUCTION**

The City of St. Paul has just received bids for the design, engineering and phase 1 restoration of the lily pond at Como Regional Park. The \$590,000 project is financed from a Fiscal Year 2011 Parks and Trails Legacy Fund grant SG-2010-086. The City has also requested \$50,000 for phase 2 to complete the restoration as part of its share of the 2012-13 Regional Parks CIP proposed to be financed with 2012 State bonds and Metro Council bonds. The City has the opportunity to concurrently do phase 2 work with phase 1 at a discounted cost with the same contractor. Consequently, the City requests that the Metropolitan Council consider reimbursing \$50,000 for phase 2 work with a grant from future regional park capital improvement programs under the terms of Finance Strategy 6 of the updated *2030 Regional Parks Policy Plan*. (See **Attachment 1**, letter from Jody Martinez, City of St. Paul).

This memorandum contains a review of this request under applicable terms of Finance Strategy 6 of the updated *2030 Regional Parks Policy Plan*. Staff found that the City's request complies with terms and conditions of Finance Strategy 6 and recommends that it be approved.

**AUTHORITY TO REVIEW**

Minnesota Statute Section 473.315 authorizes the "Metropolitan Council with the advice of the Metropolitan Parks and Open Space Commission to make grants from any funds available to it for recreation open space purposes to any municipality, park district or county located wholly or partially within the metropolitan area to cover the cost, or any portion of the cost, of acquiring or developing regional recreation open space in accordance with the [*Regional Recreation Open Space*] Policy Plan".

**ANALYSIS**

Finance Strategy 6 of the *Updated 2030 Regional Parks Policy Plan* states:

**Finance Strategy 6: Reimbursement**

"...Reimbursement will be considered for development provided the project in question is consistent in timing, scale, type and cost with an approved master plan, that all information required for a development grant is submitted to the Council prior to the regional park implementing agency undertaking the project and that the Council approves the project..."

This request is consistent with the terms of Finance Strategy 6 for the following reasons:

1. The timing, scale and cost of the restoration of the lily pond at Como Regional Park are consistent with the Council-approved development master plan for the park. As noted in the

introduction, the Metropolitan Council has financed phase 1 of the restoration under grant SG-2010-086 for \$590,000.

2. Enough information has been submitted in this request regarding what would be financed with a Council grant to meet the requirements of Finance Strategy 6. In this case, that information is contained in the City's letter **Attachment 1**.
3. The City of St. Paul is requesting Metropolitan Council approval for City financed expenditures spending on this project prior to undertaking them.

### **Status of reimbursement consideration requests**

At this time there are about \$48.9 million of projects that the Metropolitan Council has approved for regional parks CIP reimbursement consideration. Such approval only allows the applicable regional park agency to seek reimbursement funding for such projects as part of that agency's share of future regional parks capital improvement programs. Table 2 at the end of this memorandum lists all projects that may be considered for reimbursement in future regional parks capital improvement programs as of September 27, 2011. As noted in the City's letter, the City has requested that this \$50,000 be reimbursed in the Council's 2012-13 Regional Parks CIP that is proposed to be financed with 2012 State bonds and Metro Council bonds. Assuming sufficient funds are appropriated in the Spring of 2012 to finance this grant at that time, this reimbursement would be paid back to the City in the Summer of 2012

### **CONCLUSION**

The *Updated 2030 Regional Parks Policy Plan* requires that requests for CIP reimbursement consideration are consistent with the terms of Finance Strategy 6. This review concludes that the City of St. Paul's request for reimbursement consideration of \$50,000 for city financing of Phase 2 restoration work for the lily pond at Como Regional Park is consistent with the terms of Finance Strategy 6. The timing of when the City of St. Paul is reimbursed for the \$50,000 is dependent on when funds are provided in the 2012-13 Regional Parks CIP that is proposed to be financed with 2012 State bonds and Metro Council bonds. However, the Council does not under any circumstances represent or guarantee that a reimbursement will be granted, and expenditure of local funds never entitles a park agency to reimbursement.

### **RECOMMENDATIONS**

That the Metropolitan Council consider reimbursing the City of St. Paul in future regional parks capital improvement programs up to \$50,000 for City funding to finance Phase 2 of the lily pond restoration at Como Regional Park. However, 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.

Attachment 1: Letter from Jody Martinez, City of St. Paul

DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION



CITY OF SAINT PAUL  
Mayor Christopher B. Coleman

400 City Hall Annex  
25 West 4<sup>th</sup> Street  
Saint Paul, Minnesota 55102  
www.stpaul.gov/parks

Telephone: 651-266-6400  
Facsimile: 651-292-7311

September 19, 2011

Arne Stefferud  
Planning Analyst-Parks  
Metropolitan Council  
390 North Robert Street  
St. Paul, MN 55101

Re: Reimbursement Request

Dear Arne:

We have just received bids on the Como Lilypond project funded through the 2011 Legacy Grant and we are fast tracking construction to be completed by next June as required. We have also requested \$50,000 2012 CIP funds for phase two of this same project and now have the opportunity to add this work at a discounted price to our current contract.

Therefore, we are requesting that the Metropolitan Council consider reimbursing \$50,000 currently financed by the City for consideration in future regional park capital improvement programs under the terms of Finance Strategy 6 of the updated 2030 Regional Parks Policy Plan.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Jody Martinez  
Design and Construction Manager

cc: Tom Russell  
Calvin Wheeler  
Bryan Murphy  
Don Ganje



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National Gold Medal Award

**Table 2: List of Outstanding Regional Park CIP Reimbursement Consideration Requests as of September 27, 2011**

<b>Park Agency Name</b>	<b>Outstanding amount per project for Metro Parks CIP reimbursement consideration</b>	<b>Project Description</b> (Includes park or trail name, amount of land acquired or a description of development/rehabilitation project)	<b>Year Met Council authorized reimbursement consideration prior to project start</b>
Anoka County	\$ -		
City of Bloomington	\$ -	Hyland-Bush-Anderson Lakes Park Reserve: Reimbursement for site restoration of 6101-84th Street parcel paid off with \$37,000 in 2010-11 Parks CIP grant	2005
Carver County	\$ 100,000	Lake Waconia Regional Park-Demolition of Buildings	2007
Caver County	\$ 2,288,361	Lake Waconia Regional Park - Acquisition of land for park including Lake Waconia ballroom after \$423,000 deduction from 2010-11 Parks CIP reimbursement grant	2004 and 2008
Caver County	\$ 1,072,000	Financing local match for a \$1,976,000 federal grant to develop the Dakota Rail Regional Trail	2008
	<b>\$ 3,460,361</b>	<b>Carver County Total</b>	
Dakota County	\$ 198,634	Lake Byllesby Regional Park road project after \$225,000 deduction from 2008-09 CIP reimbursement grant	1997
Dakota County	\$ 62,195	Lebanon Hills Regional Park campground expansion	2000
Dakota County	\$ 70,222	Lebanon Hills Regional Park acquisition (Schultz property)	2000
Dakota County	\$ 20,282	Miesville Ravine Park Reserve picnic shelter construction	2000
Dakota County	\$ 280,530	Miesville Ravine Park Reserve acquisition (Banks property)	2001
Dakota County	\$ 180,882	Spring Lake Park Reserve acquisition (Klink property)	2001
Dakota County	\$ 200,000	Lebanon Hills Regional Park visitor center construction after \$445,000 deduction from 2010-11 Parks CIP reimbursement grant	2002
Dakota County	\$ 220,793	Lebanon Hills Regional Park acquisition (Morotzke/Damann property)	2002
Dakota County	\$ 201,060	Lebanon Hills Regional Park acquisition (Medin property)	2003
Dakota County	\$ 362,400	North Urban Regional Trail Phase 1 construction	2003
Dakota County	\$ 226,639	Lebanon Hills Regional Park acquisition (Skogland property)	2005
Dakota County	\$ 419,146	Lebanon Hills Regional Park acquisition (Pryor property)	2005
Dakota County	\$ 158,269	Lake Byllesby Regional Park acquisition (Wackendorf property)	2005
Dakota County	\$ 741,000	Miesville Ravine Park Reserve acquisition (Nelson property)	2006

<b>Park Agency Name</b>	<b>Outstanding amount per project for Metro Parks CIP reimbursement consideration</b>	<b>Project Description</b> (Includes park or trail name, amount of land acquired or a description of development/rehabilitation project)	<b>Year Met Council authorized reimbursement consideration prior to project start</b>
Dakota County	\$ 1,443,500	Spring Lake Park Reserve acquisition (Wicker property)	2008
Dakota County	\$ 2,155,000	Vermillion Highlands Regional Park acquisition (Butler property)	2008
Dakota County	\$ 550,000	Miss. River Regional Trail (North) acquisition and construction match to \$837,264 Federal Trans. Enhancement grant	2009
Dakota County	\$ 150,000	Miss. River Regional Trail (Central) acquisition and construction match to \$772,800 Federal Trans. Enhancement grant.	2009
Dakota County	\$ 50,665	Miss. River Regional Trail (Pine Bend) final engineering and construction match to \$943,312 Federal Trans. Enhancement grant.	2009
Dakota County	\$ 325,000	Miss. River Regional Trail (East) acquisition and construction match to \$842,533 Federal Trans. Enhancement grant.	2009
Dakota County	\$ 400,000	Miss. River Regional Trail general project budget assistance to projects listed above if needed	2009
Dakota County	\$ 125,000	System-wide signage	2009
Dakota County	\$ 100,000	Schaars Bluff Gathering Center in Spring Lake Park Reserve for site landscaping, ecological improvements, signage and other site amenities	2009
Dakota County	\$ 1,100,000	Match to a \$1,000,000 federal Transportation Enhancement grant to develop 3.7 miles of the Mississippi River Regional Trail in the City of Rosemount from the City of Inver Grove Heights/Rosemount border to Spring Lake Park Reserve.	2010
Dakota County	\$ 415,000	Match to a \$709,000 federal Transportation Enhancement grant for acquisition and construction of 1.1 miles of the North Urban Regional Trail through Dodge Nature Center in the City of West St. Paul	2010
Dakota County	\$ 172,000	System-wide signage including primary and secondary entrance signs, directional, regulatory and interpretive signs.	2010
	<b>\$ 10,328,217</b>	<b>Dakota County Total</b>	

<b>Park Agency Name</b>	<b>Outstanding amount per project for Metro Parks CIP reimbursement consideration</b>	<b>Project Description (Includes park or trail name, amount of land acquired or a description of development/rehabilitation project)</b>	<b>Year Met Council authorized reimbursement consideration prior to project start</b>
Mpls. Park & Rec. Bd.	\$ 300,000	North Mississippi RP development at boat launch area when sufficient interest earnings are provided	2009
Ramsey County	\$ -	Battle Creek Regional Park - Acquisition parcel No. 6 reimbursement paid off with \$35,000 in 2010-11 Parks CIP reimbursement grant	2007
City of St. Paul	\$ 195,000	Phalen Regional Park: construction of a new children's play area in the picnic grounds. Replaced play area built in 1978 adjacent to the picnic pavilion, which did not meet ADA requirements or CPSC safety guidelines. Constructed on 2005.	2005
City of St. Paul	\$ 611,000	Como Regional Park: Complete construction of Hamm's Waterfall, including pools, walkways, and landscaping, mechanical and electrical systems. Completed 2005 / 06	2005
City of St. Paul	\$ 283,000	Lilydale-Harriet Island Regional Park: Connection of existing bike/ ped trail in Lilydale Park to Dakota county's Big Rivers Trail. Completed in 2007	2005
City of St. Paul	\$ 5,280,000	Como Regional Park. City financing for Aquatics Center at the park. Project to be completed in late 2011.	2011 (agenda item 2011-72)
	\$ 6,369,000	<b>City of St. Paul Total</b>	
Scott County	\$ 2,963,667	Doyle-Kennefick Regional Park, ~400-acre Doyle Acquisition after deduction from 2010-11 Parks CIP reimbursement grant	2004
Scott County	\$ 3,526,192	Cedar Lake Farm Regional Park, ~60 acre Fun on the Farm Site acquisition	2007
	\$ 6,489,859	<b>Scott County Total</b>	
Three Rivers Park Dist.	\$ 12,056,000	Silverwood Special Recreation Feature - Phase I Development	2008
Three Rivers Park Dist.	\$ (1,531,000)	Change in scope of grants SG-2006-134 and SG-2006-172 to use them for Phase 1 development at Silverwood Special Recreation Feature	2008
Three Rivers Park Dist.	\$ 2,415,000	Dakota Rail Regional Trail Development	2008
Three Rivers Park Dist.	\$ 532,199	Lake Rebecca Park Reserve - Acquisition of Weinkauff parcel	2007
Three Rivers Park Dist.	\$ 648,644	Dakota Rail Regional Trail Design	2006



Three Rivers Park Dist.	\$ 235,000	Lake Rebecca Park Reserve - Acquisition of Rask parcel	2004
<b>Park Agency Name</b>	<b>Outstanding amount per project for Metro Parks CIP reimbursement consideration</b>	<b>Project Description</b> (Includes park or trail name, amount of land acquired or a description of development/rehabilitation project)	<b>Year Met Council authorized reimbursement consideration prior to project start</b>
Three Rivers Park Dist.	\$ 1,327,000	Elm Creek Winter Recreation Area Development	2004
Three Rivers Park Dist.	\$ 1,547,470	Silverwood Special Recreation Feature - Acquisition after \$3,618,000 deduction from 2010-11 Parks CIP reimbursement grant	2001
	<b>\$ 17,230,313</b>	<b>Three Rivers Park District Total</b>	
Washington County	\$ 540,000	Lake Elmo Park Reserve - Maintenance Facility	1993
Washington County	\$ -	St. Croix Bluffs Regional Park - acquisition of 'Parcel 'A' reimbursement paid off with \$560,000 in 2010-11 Parks CIP reimbursement grant	1996
Washington County	\$ 19,000	Big Marine Park Reserve - Carlson Property (remainder of SG-00-31 & 06-121)	2000
Washington County	\$ 368,299	Big Marine Park Reserve - Richardson Property (remainder of SG-02-184)	2003
Washington County	\$ 381,701	Big Marine Park Reserve - Albrecht (resort) Property (remainder of SG-03-82)	2003
Washington County	\$ 74,152	Big Marine Park Reserve - Larson Property (remainder of SG-04-110)	2004
Washington County	\$ 25,275	Big Marine Park Reserve - Melbostad Property (remainder of SG-05-98 & 05-80)	2005
Washington County	\$ 31,430	Big Marine Park Reserve - Taylor Property (remainder of SG-06-143)	2006
Washington County	\$ 3,000,000	Big Marine Park Reserve - Phase I Development	2006
Washington County	\$ 13,534	Big Marine Park Reserve - Hohlt Property (remainder of SG-07-032)	2007
Washington County	\$ 273,141	Grey Cloud Island Regional Park - Kartarik Property (remainder of SG-07-114)	2007
	<b>\$ 4,726,532</b>	<b>Washington County Total</b>	
	<b>\$ 48,904,282</b>	<b>Grand Total as of September 27, 2011</b>	