

METROPOLITAN COUNCIL
390 North Robert Street, St. Paul, Minnesota 55101

REGULAR MEETING OF THE COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE
September 20, 2010

Committee Members Present: **Chair Tony Pistilli; Vice-Chair, Richard Aguilar; Kris Sanda; Georgeanne Hilker; Daniel Wolter; Sherry Broecker; Annette Meeks; Wendy Wulff**

CALL TO ORDER

A quorum being present, Chair Pistilli called the regular meeting of the Council's Community Development Committee to order at 4:00 p.m. on Monday, September 20, 2010.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA AND MINUTES

It was moved by Sanda, seconded by Wulff, to approve the agenda. **The motion carried.**

It was moved by Sanda, seconded by Broecker to approve the minutes of the August 16, 2010 regular meeting of the Community Development Committee. **The motion carried.**

BUSINESS

2010-329 Public Housing Agency Plan Approval

HRA manager Terri Smith presented the staff report and proposed actions to the Community Development Committee.

Meeks moved, seconded by Wolter that the Metropolitan Council approve the attached 2011 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). **The motion carried.**

2010-316 Request for reimbursement consideration in future Regional Parks CIP for Mississippi River Regional Trail, North Urban Regional Trail and signing projects, Dakota County (Arne Stefferud, 651-602-1360)

Planning Analyst Arne Stefferud presented the staff report and proposed actions to the Community Development Committee.

Dakota County has asked the Metropolitan Council to consider reimbursing the County in future regional parks capital improvement programs up to \$1,687,000 for the following capital projects: \$1,100,000 as a 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.

\$415,000 as a 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

\$172,000 for system-wide signage including primary and secondary entrance signs, directional, regulatory and interpretive signs.

This memorandum contains a review of the request for reimbursement consideration under applicable terms in Strategy 2(f) of the *2030 Regional Parks Policy Plan*.

Sanda moved, seconded by Wulff that the Metropolitan Council consider reimbursing Dakota County in future regional parks capital improvement programs up to \$1,687,000 for projects shown in Table 1. 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.

The motion carried.

2010-317 Hyland-Bush-Anderson Lakes Park Reserve Joint Master Plan, Three Rivers Park District and City of Bloomington, Referral No. 50002-2 (Arne Stefferud 651 602-1360)
Planning Analyst Arne Stefferud presented the staff report and proposed actions to the Community Development Committee.

The City of Bloomington and Three Rivers Park District have submitted a joint master plan for Hyland-Bush-Anderson Lakes Park Reserve. This plan updates the 1983 joint master plan. It focuses on changes in land use adjacent to the park reserve, adapting facilities for an aging population, redesign of general recreation areas to better accommodate a more diverse population, adapting facilities to better serve young people, renovation of deteriorating and aging facilities and more actively managing the natural resources in the park.

This memorandum analyzes the master plan against the criteria for reviewing regional park master plans. It recommends approving the master plan because it is consistent with applicable portions of the *2030 Regional Parks Policy Plan*.

Sanda moved, seconded by Wulff that the Metropolitan Council approve the Hyland-Bush-Anderson Lakes Park Reserve Master Plan (Referral No. 50002-2). The Community Development Committee asked how large the park reserve was. Staff replied that it included 2,581 acres of land and water. The Committee asked if water area was proposed for acquisition in the master plan. Staff replied that only land was proposed to be acquired in the plan. **The motion carried.**

2010-318 Gale Woods Farm Boundary Amendment, Three Rivers Park District (Arne Stefferud 651 602-1360)
Planning Analyst Arne Stefferud presented the staff report and proposed actions to the Community Development Committee.

Three Rivers Park District acquired a .87 acre parcel adjacent to Gale Woods Farm in June 2009 and has requested that the Metropolitan Council approve an amendment to the special recreation feature boundary to include this parcel in the regional parks system.

Broecker moved, seconded by Wulff that the Metropolitan Council approve an amendment to the master plan boundary of Gale Woods Farm Special Recreation Feature to include the

parcel located at 7280 County Road 110 West. **The motion carried.**

2010-330 Vermillion Township 2030 Comprehensive Plan Update, Review No. 20477-1 (Patrick Boylan 651 602-1438)

Senior Planner Patrick Boylan presented the staff report and proposed actions to the Community Development Committee.

Wulff moved, seconded by Broecker that the Metropolitan Council adopt the attached Advisory Comments and Review Record, and the following:

Recommendation of the Community Development Committee:

Authorize the Vermillion Township to put its 2030 Comprehensive Plan Update into effect.

Councilmember Broecker referenced the lack of expansion plans for Highway 52 and wanted to know if any expansion was planned in the area. Boylan replied that he did not know and said he would look into it and get back to her. **The motion carried.**

2010-322 City of Mendota Heights 2030 Comprehensive Plan Update, Review No. 20720-1 Tier II Comprehensive Sewer Plan (Denise Engen 651 602-1513)

Senior Planner Denise Engen presented the staff report and proposed actions to the Community Development Committee.

Aguilar moved, seconded by Wolter that the Metropolitan Council adopts the attached Advisory Comments and Review Record, and the following:

Recommendation of the Community Development Committee:

1. Authorize the City of Mendota Heights to put its 2030 Comprehensive Plan Update into effect;
2. Forward the Council's Critical Area plan review and recommendations to the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources and National Park Service for their records;
3. Advise the City to:
 - a. Participate in Council activities to monitor redevelopment in developed communities.
 - b. Draft and adopt a new local septic system ordinance incorporating recent MPCA 7080-7081 Rule revisions by November 2010, for consistency with MN Stat. 115.55, as noted in the comments for ISTS in the Review Record.
 - c. Provide the Council with the dates the Lower Minnesota River and Gun Club Lake watershed organizations approved the City's Local Surface Water Management Plan and the date the City adopted the final plan.
 - d. Implement the advisory comments noted in the Review Record for *Transportation and Surface Water Management*.

Recommendation of the Environment Committee:

Approve the City of Mendota Heights's Tier II Comprehensive Sewer Plan.

Committee member Sanda asked for an explanation of why the acreage for the "Cemetery" category in Figure 5 is planned to decline from 2000 to 2030, and inquired if the acreage was coming out of Acacia Cemetery. Jake Sedlacek, Assistant City Manager for Mendota Heights explained that decline in acreage was due in part to Resurrection Cemetery plans to sell some of its land for housing development, and also because land had been purchased to preserve Pilot Knob as open space. Committee member Wulff commented on the number of new households as compared to increased population, pointing out that household size is as important to population in regional forecasting. **The motion carried.**

INFORMATION:

Plat Monitoring Program: Residential Platting in Developing Communities in the Twin Cities Region, 2009

Senior Planner Lisa Barajas presented information to the Committee regarding residential platting. The total number of units platted in 2009 was considerably smaller than in previous years, and lower than the average annual number of units platted of 6,160 units since the inception of the program. Coupled with the significant decline in the total number of units platted, the overall density in 2009 also fell to the lowest overall recorded net density since the inception of the Program. The committee asked Ms. Barajas for more information on overall densities and levels of building permits. She responded with detailed explanation of sewer densities and vacant land issues.

Patterns of Residential Construction permitted through 2009 (Libby Starling 651 602-1135)
Research manager Libby Starling presented information to the Committee regarding residential construction patterns.

Letter from St. Paul Parks and Recreation regarding Highland Park (Ann Beckman 651 602-1669)
RGS manager Ann Beckman explained to the Committee a letter from the City of Saint Paul regarding the removal of Highland Park from the proposed Regional Park Study Area from the Regional Parks Policy Plan.

ADJOURNMENT

The next regularly scheduled CDC meeting will be held on October 18, 2010 at 4:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers.

Business completed Chair Pistilli adjourned the meeting at 5:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Michele Wenner
Recording Secretary