

C Community Development Committee
For the Metropolitan Council meeting of September 24, 2008

Item: 2008-171

ADVISORY INFORMATION

Date Prepared: September 16, 2008

Subject: Request to broaden scope of Three River Park District's 2008-09 CIP allocation for additional capital improvements at Lake Rebecca Park Reserve, Three Rivers Park District

Proposed Action:

That the Metropolitan Council authorizes a change in the scope of the 2008-09 CIP allocation to Three Rivers Park District to allow the \$3,634,000 allocation to be used for rehabilitation of roads, parking lots, trails and the play area at Lake Rebecca Park Reserve.

Summary of Committee Discussion / Questions:

The Committee asked if the Metropolitan Council considers reallocating grants or portion of grants previously approved for one park agency and giving it to another park agency when the original grant project can be funded for less money. Staff replied that the Council does not reallocate awarded regional park capital improvement grants to another park agency because the Council allocates a specific portion of the regional park capital improvement program to each park agency.

The Committee unanimously approved the recommendation.

C Community Development Committee

Business Item
Item: 2008-171

Meeting date: September 15, 2008

ADVISORY INFORMATION

Date:	September 8, 2008
Subject:	Request to broaden scope of Three River Park District's 2008-09 CIP allocation for additional capital improvements at Lake Rebecca Park Reserve, Three Rivers Park District
District(s), Member(s):	District 1, Roger Scherer
Policy/Legal Reference:	MN Statute 473.315
Staff Prepared/Presented:	Arne Stefferud, Planning Analyst—Parks (651-602-1360)
Division/Department:	Community Development/Regional Systems Planning and Growth Strategy, Parks

Proposed Action

That the Metropolitan Council authorizes a change in the scope of the 2008-09 CIP allocation to Three Rivers Park District to allow the \$3,634,000 allocation to be used for rehabilitation of roads, parking lots, trails and the play area at Lake Rebecca Park Reserve.

Background

The 2008-09 Regional Parks Capital Improvement Program (CIP) allocation for Three Rivers Park District is \$3,634,000. On May 28, 2008 the Metropolitan Council approved an amendment to its 2008 Unified Capital Improvement Program and authorized a grant for this amount to the Park District. The scope of the grant was the construction phase for rehabilitating roads, parking lots and trails at Lake Rebecca Park Reserve as part of the Park District's pavement management program. Due to a very competitive bidding climate, the cost of this project is \$3,240,000, which leaves a balance of \$394,000 in the grant. The Park District has requested that the scope of the grant be broadened to allow these remaining funds to finance the construction phase for rehabilitating the play area at Lake Rebecca Park Reserve.

Rationale

Expanding the scope of the grant to Three Rivers Park District maximizes the use of available grant funds for Council approved park capital improvements. The design costs of the play area were funded from Metropolitan Council grant SG-2006-128.

Funding

The \$3,634,000 grant is financed with \$3,110,000 of State bonds appropriated in 2008 and \$524,000 of Metropolitan Council bonds.

Known Support / Opposition

The Metropolitan Parks and Open Space Commission reviewed this proposal at its September 8th meeting and unanimously approved the recommendation. There is no known opposition to this proposal.

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

DATE: August 28, 2008

TO: Metropolitan Parks and Open Space Commission

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

SUBJECT: (2008-171) Request to broaden scope of Three River Park District's 2008-09 CIP allocation for additional capital improvements at Lake Rebecca Park Reserve, Three Rivers Park District

INTRODUCTION

The 2008-09 Regional Parks Capital Improvement Program (CIP) allocation for Three Rivers Park District is \$3,634,000. On May 28, 2008 the Metropolitan Council approved an amendment to its 2008 Unified Capital Improvement Program and authorized a grant for this amount to the Park District. The scope of the grant was the construction phase for rehabilitating roads, parking lots and trails at Lake Rebecca Park Reserve as part of the Park District's pavement management program. Due to a very competitive bidding climate, the cost of this project is \$3,240,000, which leaves a balance of \$394,000 in the grant. The Park District has requested that the scope of the grant be broadened to allow these remaining funds to finance the construction phase for rehabilitating the play area at Lake Rebecca Park Reserve. See **Attachment 1**, letter from Boe Carlson, Three Rivers Park District.

This memorandum contains a review of this request under applicable terms in the *2030 Regional Parks Policy Plan* and recommends their approval.

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

This grant is financed with Metropolitan Council bonds and State bonds. In order to consider this request for a change in scope of the grant, Section 6.06 of the grant agreement states:

6.06 Changes in the Development Project. If the Grantee [Three Rivers Park District], for any reason, determines that the Development Project or any portion of it should not be undertaken, or that there should be a change in the scope or costs of the Development Project or any portion of it, the Grantee shall submit to the Council's Regional Administrator a statement describing the situation and giving the reasons for the Grantee's determination. The Grantee may, simultaneously with the submission of the statement or within a reasonable time thereafter, recommend alternative projects, activities, uses, expenditures, or allocations of grant funds. ...

If the Regional Administrator determines that the Grantee's recommendations may not be immediately approved according to criteria established by the Council, the Grantee and the

Council may execute a written amendment to this agreement only as provided in paragraph 6.07 of this article, following appropriate authorization by the Council and the Grantee.

... In determining whether to approve the Grantee's recommendations, the Council shall give full regard to legislative determinations concerning development funding and to the general position that the total grant award herein should ultimately be made available to the Grantee for development.

CONCLUSION

The proposed change in scope of this grant, which has not yet been executed to fund rehabilitation of the play area at Lake Rebecca Park Reserve as well as rehabilitation of roads, parking lots and trails at Lake Rebecca is consistent with the conditions of section 6.06 because;

1. The Park District has notified the Council why a change should be made in Attachment 1.
2. The use of this grant for additional rehabilitation work at Lake Rebecca Park Reserve is consistent with the Council's action of May 28, 2008 to fund rehabilitation projects at Lake Rebecca Park Reserve.

RECOMMENDATION

That the Metropolitan Council authorizes a change in the scope of the 2008-09 CIP allocation to Three Rivers Park District to allow the \$3,634,000 allocation to be used for rehabilitation of roads, parking lots, trails and the play area at Lake Rebecca Park Reserve.

Attachment 1: Letter from Boe Carlson, Three Rivers Park District



August 22, 2008

Three Rivers
Park District
Board of
Commissioners

Mr. Arne Stefferud
Metropolitan Council
390 North Robert Street
Saint Paul, MN 55101

Re: 2008-09 Regional Park Capital Improvement Program

Sara Wyatt
District 1

Dear Arne:

Marilynn Corcoran,
Vice Chair
District 2

In the 2008-09 Regional Park Capital Improvement Program (CIP), the Park District submitted a request for \$3,634,000. This request was to complete the construction phase of rehabilitation of the roads, parking lots and trails at Lake Rebecca Park Reserve, as part of the Park District's Pavement Management Program (PMP). At the time when this project was submitted to the Metropolitan Council in late 2007, it was estimated that the entire \$3,634,000 would be needed.

Mark Haggerty
District 3

The 2008 Legislature approved full funding from the Metropolitan Council CIP, which will provide \$3,634,000 to Three Rivers Park District for the Lake Rebecca PMP project.

Dale Woodbeck
District 4

Due to a very competitive bidding climate, the Park District was able to secure a contractor who will complete the project for \$3,240,000. This will leave a balance of \$394,000 in the grant approved by the Legislature and the Metropolitan Council.

Rosemary Franzese
District 5

The Park District is requesting these remaining grant funds be applied to the reconstruction of the Lake Rebecca Play area. The Metropolitan Council has funded a portion of the design work for this project from grant number SG-2006-128. The Park District is completing that work and hopes to have the project out to bid for construction in the fall of 2008.

Larry Blackstad, Chair
Appointed

By moving forward with construction in 2008 while the park is already closed due to the Pavement Management Project, there will be less disruption to the general public and allow for the re-opening of the park with new roads and trails, as well as a new play area.

Joan Peters,
Appointed

I appreciate your consideration of this request and I am available to answer any questions you may have.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Boe R. Carlson".

Boe Carlson, Associate Superintendent
Division of Administration

Cris Gears
Superintendent

C: Cris Gears, Superintendent
Howard Koolick, Director of Finance/CFO
Don DeVeau, Director of Planning & Development

BRC/nng

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