Environment Committee Item: 2008 – 104

Meeting date: April 8, 2008

For the Metropolitan Council Meeting of April 23, 2008

ADVISORY INFORMATION

Date: March 21, 2008

Subject: Authorization to Negotiate and Execute an Agreement with the

Three Rivers Park District

District(s), Member(s): District #3, Mary Hill Smith

Policy/Legal Reference: Minnesota Statutes § 473.504, Subd. 6 and § 471.59

Staff Prepared/Presented: Bill Moeller 602-4504; Jeanne Matross 602-1108

Division/Department: MCES c/o William G. Moore, 651-602-1162

Proposed Action

That the Metropolitan Council authorizes its Regional Administrator to negotiate and execute an agreement with the Three Rivers Park District for the replacement of portions of the Dakota Rail Regional Trail during reconstruction of interceptor 6-MO-650.

Background

- Replacement of interceptor 6-MO-650 is scheduled to begin construction in 2011 to provide required service capacity to Mound and parts of Minnetrista, Spring Park and Shorewood. The existing 6-MO-650 interceptor is in the former Dakota Rail corridor by license to Hennepin County Regional Rail Authority.
- The Three Rivers Park District is constructing a regional trail along the former Dakota Rail corridor. Construction of the Dakota Rail Regional Trail is expected to start this construction season.
- In order to cost effectively construct the 6-MO-650 replacement interceptor, a portion of the Dakota Rail Regional Trail that lies to the north of Langdon Lake in Mound will need to be reconstructed. At that time, the paved trail could be constructed to support the additional load of Council's interceptor service vehicles to permit access to the new sewer facilities.

Rationale

Construction for the 6-MO-650 interceptor will involve replacement of the existing interceptor sewer with a sewer of increased capacity at depths of 16 to 29 feet. The proposed sewer is most economically installed using open trench construction where possible. Other areas may require pipe jacking rather than open trenches. In either case, constructing open trenches or jacking pits may cause damage to the regional trail. An agreement has been requested by Three Rivers Park District to clarify responsibility for repair of trail damaged while conducting geotechnical investigation for the new sewer, implementing any required bicycle and pedestrian traffic detours, and repair or replacement of the trail facilities during sewer construction.

Funding

Funding for 6-MO-650 Improvements is included in the Capital Budget. No additional funding is required for this agreement.

Known Support / Opposition

The Three Rivers Park District is supportive of the proposed interceptor improvements, but wishes confirmation of the Council's intent to perform restoration of their trail.