

**METROPOLITAN COUNCIL**  
**390 North Robert Street, St. Paul, MN 55101**  
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**DATE:** April 25, 2011

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

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

**SUBJECT:** (2011-xx) Change in scope of Grant SG-2010-084, picnic shelter project at Keller Regional Park, Ramsey County

**INTRODUCTION**

Ramsey County has requested an amendment to the scope of grant SG-2010-084 financed with a Fiscal Year (FY) 2011 Parks and Trails Fund appropriation to complete redevelopment of the Golf View and Round Lake picnic shelters and associated site work at Keller Regional Park. That project was initially financed with grant SG-2010-043. The premise for the scope amendment is to provide sufficient funds to complete the initial project. (See **Attachment 1: Letter from Scott Yonke, Ramsey County**)

The Metropolitan Council must consider and approve the proposed change in scope of the grant. This memorandum contains a review of this request under applicable terms of the appropriation legislation and grant agreement and recommends changing the scope of the grant as requested.

**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**

The Minnesota Legislature under Laws of Minnesota 2009, chapter 172, article 3, section 3, appropriated money to the Metropolitan Council from the Parks and Trails Fund to be disbursed to regional park implementing agencies under a formula found in new Minnesota Statute 85.53. The Parks and Trails Fund appropriations are financed with a portion of 3/8ths cent sales and use tax that is in effect from 2009 to 2034 under Article XI, section 15 of the Minnesota Constitution. Under that section of the Constitution, appropriations from the Parks and Trails Fund, “may only be spent to support parks and trails of regional and statewide significance”.

Grant SG-2010-084 (\$107,000) was funded with a portion of the FY 2011 Parks and Trails Fund appropriation. The Metropolitan Council approved the grant on June 23, 2010. The appropriation that finances this grant expires on June 30, 2012.

The current scope for Grant SG-2010-084 is: “At Keller Regional Park, improve and redevelop parking areas at Keller Island.”

As noted in the introduction, Ramsey County has a grant SG-2010-043 financed with 2010 State bonds and Metro Council bonds (\$1,040,000) which has a scope of, “At Keller Regional Park, partial funding for continued phased redevelopment to include construction of picnic shelters and associated site work including pathways and landscaping.” The specific picnic shelters are at Golf View and Round Lake picnic areas.

There are not sufficient funds to complete this project. Consequently, Ramsey County wants to replace the scope of grant SG-2010-084 with the following:

“At Keller Regional Park, design services, construction plan preparation, project permitting and construction of additional site improvements for Golf View and Round Lake picnic shelter development and throughout the park including:

- Trail--Redevelop trails for improved conditions and Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) access.
- Sidewalk Improvements—Redevelop sidewalks for improved condition and connections.
- Retaining Walls—Extensive grading for improved ADA access and shelter development required the use of retaining walls.
- Utility Connections—Modification to the water and electric utility connections are required due to extensive site grading for the shelter development.
- Landscaping/Site Restoration—Additional landscape enhancements and site restoration is required for improved trail and sidewalk connections, utility improvements and extensive grading for the shelter development.”

The proposed change in scope of grant SG-2010-084 is consistent with the Constitutional requirement that the grant support parks and trails of regional or statewide significance.

Section 9.2 of the grant agreement states:

**9.2 Amendments.** Any amendments to this grant contract must be in writing and will not be effective until it has been executed and approved by the same parties who executed and approved the original grant contract, or their successors in office.

## CONCLUSION

The proposed change in scope of grant SG-2010-084 is consistent with applicable sections of the appropriation law that financed the grant (Laws of MN 2009, Chap. 172), and the Constitutional amendment that finances the grant which states that the appropriation from the Parks and Trails Fund, “may only be spent to support parks and trails of regional significance”.

## RECOMMENDATION

That the Metropolitan Council authorize an amendment to grant SG-2010-084 which changes the scope of the grant as described in this memorandum.

## Attachment 1: Letter from Scott Yonke, Ramsey County



### Parks and Recreation Department

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April 15, 2011

Metropolitan Council  
Attn: Arne Stefferud  
390 North Robert Street  
St. Paul, MN 55101

RE: Grant SG-2010-084 – Scope Modification

Dear Mr. Stefferud:

Ramsey County Parks and Recreation (RCPRD) is requesting to modify the grant project scope for SG-2010-084 to allow funds to be used for broader site improvements throughout Keller Regional Park rather than at Keller Island Parking Lot.

RCPRD is currently utilizing Grant SG-2010-043 for extensive redevelopment throughout Keller Regional Park and is completing the Picnic Shelter redevelopment. Project Grant funds for SG-2010-043 will not be sufficient to complete both the picnic shelter construction and required site improvements for this project. Modification of Grant SG-2010-084 will allow RCPRD to complete the required site improvements for Keller Regional Park Picnic Shelter Projects at Golf View and Round Lake and throughout the park. Additional design services for site improvements are also required for design and development, construction plan preparation and project permitting.

#### Additional Site Improvements for the shelter development and throughout the park:

- Trail – Redevelop trails for improved conditions and ADA access.
- Sidewalk Improvements – Redevelop sidewalks for improved condition and connections.
- Retaining Walls – Extensive grading for improved ADA access and shelter development required the use of retaining walls.
- Utility Connections – Modification to the water and electric utility connections are required due to extensive site grading for the shelter development.
- Landscaping/Site Restoration – Additional landscape enhancements and site restoration is required for improved trail and sidewalk connections, utility improvements and extensive grading for the shelter development.

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If you have any questions or require additional information please do not hesitate to call me at 651-748-2500, extension 330.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Scott A. Yonke". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, looping initial 'S'.

Scott Yonke, RLA  
Director of Planning and Development