

OFFICE OF THE CITY MANAGER
DES MOINES, IOWA

CITY COUNCIL COMMUNICATION 96-306
JULY 22, 1996 AGENDA

SUBJECT:	TYPE:	SUBMITTED BY:
FOUR MILE CREEK GREENWAY TRAIL PHASE III SUBMISSION OF REAP GRANT APPLICATION	◆ RESOLUTION ORDINANCE RECEIVE/FILE	DONALD M. TRIPP PARK & RECREATION DIRECTOR

SYNOPSIS —

Requesting approval to submit grant application to the Iowa Department of Natural Resources (IDNR) for \$250,000 from Resource Enhancement and Protection (REAP) Program to assist design and construction of Four Mile Creek Greenway Trail - Phase III. The City is working on this project in conjunction with the Polk County Conservation Board. The 4.2-mile trail will run from Easton Blvd. to the north City limits. The County portion—approximately 2.0 miles inside the City limits—will run from the City limits to Mally's County Park in Berwick.

FISCAL IMPACT —

No City funding required at this time. Request is for approval to submit grant application to IDNR for possible state assistance.

The City's total cost of the project is approximately \$600,000. The \$250,000 grant will lower the City's costs to \$350,000. However, the City can apply for an additional grant next year. Funds in the amount of \$100,000 will come from the Park and Recreation Department Capital Improvements Fund.

RECOMMENDATION —

Approval.

BACKGROUND —

Phase I of the Four Mile Creek Greenway Trail is now under construction from University Avenue in Pleasant Hill to Easton Blvd. (Robert L. Scott Community Center) in Des Moines. This portion is funded by a combination of local and state transportation funds. To further the recreational benefits of this trail system and connect it to the northeast residential areas of the City, the Park and Recreation Department and the Polk County Conservation Board are jointly planning a northeast extension of the trail. This extension will connect to the trail now being constructed at Easton Blvd., and proceed north along Four Mile Creek to Sargent Park at E. 33rd and Douglas Ave. This trail will eventually connect to Grand View Park. Total estimated cost of the Des Moines portion of this trail is \$600,000.

At Sargent Park, the trail will connect to a second extension proposed to be built by the Polk County Conservation Board from Sargent Park to Mally's County Park at Berwick in unincorporated Polk County. The Conservation Board is also requesting REAP funding at this time to assist in constructing their portion of the trail.

Staff has enlisted the special grant writing services of the Iowa Natural Heritage Foundation in Des Moines to help prepare the necessary documentation and background information to complete the application.

This action would authorize staff to prepare the necessary REAP funding application on behalf of the City, and to submit that application for IDNR approval. State action on the request is expected in late August.