

**CITY COUNCIL
COMMUNICATIO
N:**

03-462

AGENDA:

SEPTEMBER 22,
2003

SUBJECT:

BILL RILEY TRAIL
FEDERAL
RECREATIONAL
TRAILS GRANT
APPLICATION

TYPE:

RESOLUTION
ORDINANCE
RECEIVE/FILE

SUBMITTED BY:

DONALD M.
TRIPP
PARK AND
RECREATION
DIRECTOR

ITEM 42

**OFFICE OF THE CITY MANAGER
CITY OF DES MOINES, IOWA**

SYNOPSIS —

Approve an Iowa Federal Recreational Trails grant application to the Iowa Department of Transportation (IDOT) for the renovation and widening of an existing 1.7-mile length multi-use recreational trail known as the Bill Riley Trail. This trail starts in Ashworth Park and ends in Waterworks Park where it merges into the Great Western Trail (See map attached to Roll Call).

FISCAL IMPACT —

The total cost of the renovation of the trail is estimated at \$250,000, but this grant provides up to 80% of total project costs. The grant amount request by the City for this project would be \$200,000 with the remaining \$50,000 the responsibility of the City. The amount of \$50,000 had been previously budgeted in the Bike Trails Capital Improvement Program (CIP) for the Bill Riley Trail.

RECOMMENDATION —

Approval.

BACKGROUND —

Annually, the State of Iowa appropriates funds to IDOT to assist cities, counties, and other qualified organizations in the construction of multi-use recreational trails among other public park and recreation facilities and sites.

Staff has evaluated potential projects that qualify for funding in the Statewide Transportation Enhancement Grant Program and have selected the renovation and widening of the existing 1.7-mile Bill Riley Trail as the proposed grant for the following reasons:

- 1) The Iowa Federal Recreational Trails Program guidelines allow for the renovation and maintenance of existing recreational trails;
- 2) It would upgrade and expand the oldest and one of the most heavily used trails in the Des Moines Trail System;

3) Portions of the Bill Riley Trail are part of the American Discovery Trail (ADT), a national trail project running from coast to coast across America. Widening the trail to ten feet would be consistent with other planned/existing sections of the ADT within Des Moines.

The action in the attached Roll Call is to approve the grant application. Should a grant be awarded, acceptance approval of the City Council will be required.