

 <p style="text-align: center;">Council Communication Office of the City Manager</p>	Date	April 12, 2010
	Agenda Item No. 40 Roll Call No. <u>10-</u> Communication No. <u>10-179</u> Submitted by: Donald M. Tripp, Director of Park and Recreation	

AGENDA HEADING:

Authorization to apply for a Vision Iowa-River Enhancement Community Attraction and Tourism (RECAT) grant to fund a portion of the expenses relating to development of the Des Moines River Trail, Phase 1.

SYNOPSIS:

This action authorizes the City Manger to submit a Vision Iowa RECAT grant application to provide for a portion of the funding for expenses relating to development of the Des Moines River Trail, Phase 1, which will run 2.5 miles from the Meredith Trail at Scott Street to Cownie Soccer and Baseball Parks.

FISCAL IMPACT:

Amount: \$2,375,000 total estimated project cost
 \$750,750 RECAT grant requested
 \$426,526 ICAAP grant awarded
 \$300,000 REAP Grant awarded
 \$ 73,474 State Recreational Trails Grant awarded
 \$202,000 G.O. Bonds previously contracted with AECOM for design
 \$622,250 G.O. Bonds

Funding Source: \$622,250 anticipated, 2010-2011 CIP, G.O. Bonds from Recreational Trails, CP040PKS990000, PKS 140, page 20.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

The RECAT program is designed to assist communities in the development and creation of multiple purpose attraction or tourism facilities. Eligible projects create recreational and entertainment attractions that are open to the general public, and relate to, connect with, and enhance a river, lake, or river corridor. The Des Moines River Trail qualifies as an eligible project for RECAT funding.

This is the first phase of a major regional trail that will ultimately connect downtown Des Moines to Carlisle and the Summerset Trail south of Carlisle. This phase is 2.5 miles stretching from the Meredith Trail at the Scott Street Bridge and following the south side of the Des Moines River to the James W. Cownie Soccer and Baseball Parks. Street connections into adjacent neighborhoods at SE 1st, SE 6th, SE 8th, SE 14th, and SE 22nd Streets facilitate use of the trail by bicycle commuters from Des Moines south side, as well as recreational riders.

This will be a 10-foot wide asphalt recreational trail. Amenities on this trail will include lighting under bridges, mile markers, way-finding elements, trail signage, and river overlooks.

On May 18, 2009, by Roll Call No. 09-822, a contract to design this trail was awarded to AECOM for \$202,000. Design is expected to be completed by the summer of 2010. Bidding will follow, with construction likely to begin in spring of 2011.

This project has already been awarded three other state and federal grants totaling \$800,000.

This project advances the following City goals:

- *Pride in Community Assets:* The City will set the standard for constructing and maintaining attractive buildings, parks, and infrastructure that represent our world-class city and generate civic pride.
- *Sustainable Green Community:* Des Moines will be a leader in setting policies and practicing service delivery innovations that promote environmental sustainability. Des Moines will offer safe, reliable, and convenient transportation alternatives that reduce reliance on automobiles and parking facilities.

PREVIOUS COUNCIL ACTION(S):

Date: January 11, 2010

Roll Call No.: 10-043

Action: Acceptance of \$300,000 Iowa Department of Natural Resources (DNR) Resource Enhancement and Protection (REAP) Grant for The Des Moines River Trail, Phase 1. (Council Communication No. 10-014) Moved by Hensley to adopt. Motion Carried 7-0.

Date: January 11, 2010

Roll Call No.: 10-044

Action: Acceptance of \$73,474 Iowa Department of Transportation State Recreational Trail Grant (DOT SRT) for The Des Moines River Trail, Phase 1. (Council Communication No. 10-015) Moved by Hensley to adopt. Motion Carried 7-0.

Date: May 18, 2009

Roll Call No.: 09-822

Action: Approving professional services agreement with AECOM, INC in connection with the Des Moines River Regional Trail – Phase 1 Not to Exceed \$202,000. (Council Communication No. 09-330). Moved by Kiernan to adopt. Motion carried 6-0. Absent: Cownie.

BOARD/COMMISSION ACTION(S): NONE

ANTICIPATED ACTIONS AND FUTURE COMMITMENTS:

Normal Council Actions for awarding construction of the trail.

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