

 <p style="text-align: center;">Council Communication Office of the City Manager</p>	Date: June 28, 2010
	Agenda Item No. 24 Roll Call No. <u>10-1035</u> Communication No. <u>10-396</u> Submitted by: Donald M. Tripp Park and Recreation Director

AGENDA HEADING:

Approval of an agreement for grant assistance in the amount of \$20,000 to the Des Moines Bicycle Collective to help establish a B-Cycle program.

SYNOPSIS:

Staff recommends approval of an agreement for a one-time grant assistance in the amount of \$20,000 to the Des Moines Bicycle Collective, Carl Voss, President, 617 Grand Avenue, Des Moines, Iowa 50309, to help establish a B-Cycle program.

FISCAL IMPACT:

Amount: \$20,000

Funding Source: FY10-11 Operating Budget, Economic Development Enterprise, SP743, CMO980717, page 56.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

Carl Voss, President of the Bicycle Collective, and Tim Lane, with the Iowa Department of Public Health, initially approached the City about presenting a B-Cycle system project proposal. At the February 23, 2010 Park and Recreation Board meeting, the Board received a presentation from the Des Moines Bicycle Collective on the B-Cycle program. B-Cycle is a membership-based bike sharing system that is physically enabled through a network of self-service wireless stations that allow both checking out and returning of bikes throughout the public sharing system. The Bicycle Collective is raising funds to install three B-stations (solar powered kiosks and locking stations) with 18 bikes this summer, and more kiosks in future years. Sites under consideration are Meredith Trail at Gray’s Lake, Brenton Skating Plaza/City Hall, a site near the Polk County Administration building or a site near the Pappajohn Sculpture Park. The Bicycle Collective is working with City planning staff to finalize locations.

On June 3, 2010, City staff met with representatives of the Bicycle Collective, as well as representatives from the Iowa Department of Public Health and the Downtown Community Alliance to discuss the status of the project. City staff recommends funding a portion of the initial start-up capital at a \$20,000 sponsorship level. Staff believes this public/private partnership is a wonderful example of new and innovative ways we can work together to improve the health and wellness of our citizens and visitors, and to decrease our impact on the environment.

On June 14, 2010, by Roll Call No. 10-930, the Council authorized the City Manager to negotiate an agreement for grant assistance in the amount of \$20,000 to the Bicycle Collective to help establish a B-Cycle program. The agreement is attached to the Roll Call. Highlights of the B-Cycle program agreement include:

- Install three kiosks and 18 bicycles
- Operate the bicycle sharing program for at least two months during 2010
- Expand the program in 2011 using non-City funds, unless opportunities arise for joint grant applications such as Air Quality grants through Traffic and Transportation
- The locations of the three downtown B-stations will be mutually agreed to by the City and Bicycle Collective
- Recognize the City as a Founding Sponsor
- Reimburse the City if at any time the program ceases to operate

Other start up funding sources:

- \$20,000 Polk County
- \$15,000 Polk County Health
- \$15,000 Downtown Community Alliance
- \$ 5,000 Principal Foundation
- \$12-18,000 Wellmark (promised, yet to be finalized)

Operational costs for the small pilot network of bikes are estimated to be \$300-500 per week. The Bicycle Collective will absorb these costs within their current volunteer and paid staff of a lead mechanic and apprentice mechanic. The Bicycle Collective plans to expand the program in the next couple of years to 100 bikes with 18 B-stations all in the downtown area – a \$410,000 investment. The operating budget for the expanded program is attached to the Roll Call. The vision for the first three pilot B-stations is to use it to demonstrate to corporations, foundations and other funders the value of expanding the program to add additional B-stations and bicycles.

The locations of the three downtown B-stations will be mutually agreed to by the City and Bicycle Collective upon which time both parties will enter into an agreement if placement of any of the B-stations is on City property, including a trail or Right-of-Way. The agreement will include a review of the Bicycle Collective's participant waiver and will detail insurance requirements. The B-stations are portable and can be moved to adjust to use patterns.

A question was raised regarding other municipalities funding this program when or if it is expanded into surrounding communities. The Des Moines Bicycle Collective agrees to leverage the funding commitment from the City of Des Moines and seek funding from each of the local governments, and if they do not do so, will return the \$20,000 to Des Moines, if requested.

Board members of the Bicycle Collective include:

Carl Voss, Chair	Jed Gammell, Director
Kent Newman, Vice Chair	Terry Huerter, Director
Joe Schmidt, Treasurer	Eve Shonts, Director
Mary Moore, Secretary	Kim West, Director
Jeff Bock, Director	
Gervase Gallant, Director	

If the City wishes to appoint a board member to the Bicycle Collective for one board term as part of the quarter sponsorship of the pilot program, the Bicycle Collective is amenable.

PREVIOUS COUNCIL ACTION(S):

Date: June 14, 2010

Roll Call: 10-930

Action: City Manager to negotiate an agreement of grant assistance for the Bike Collective to help establish a B-Cycle Program, \$20,000 (Council Communication No. 10-348) Moved by Hensley to adopt. Motion Carried 6-1. Nays: Coleman.

BOARD/COMMISSION ACTION(S):

Date: February 23, 2010

Roll Call Number: 10-017

Action: The Parks and Recreation Board received and filed the B-Cycle bike sharing program.

ANTICIPATED ACTIONS AND FUTURE COMMITMENTS: NONE

Additional sponsorship for program will be funded with private dollars.

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