 <p style="text-align: center;">Council Communication Office of the City Manager</p>	Date: March 14, 2011
	Agenda Item No. 24 Roll Call No. [_____] Communication No. <u>11-161</u> Submitted by: Donald M. Tripp Director of Park and Recreation

AGENDA HEADING:

Approval of a letter of agreement with Polk County to accept a Community Development Grant of \$25,000 for the Des Moines River Trail, Phase 1.

SYNOPSIS:

Approving a letter of agreement with Polk County concerning a \$25,000 Community Development Grant for the Des Moines River Trail, Phase 1, contingent upon the city receiving a Vision Iowa River Enhancement Community Attraction and Tourism (RECAT) grant award for the project.

FISCAL IMPACT:

Amount: \$2,348,790 total estimated project cost; \$824,250 CIP

Funding Source:

- \$622,250 - 2010-2011 CIP, G.O. Bonds from Recreational Trails, CP040PKS990000, PKS 045, page 20.
- \$202,000 - 2009-2010 CIP, G.O. Bonds from Recreational Trails, CP040PKS990000, PKS 045, page 22.
- \$426,526 - Iowa Clean Air Attainment Program funding awarded
- \$300,000 - Resource Enhancement and Protection grant awarded
- \$ 73,474 - State Recreational Trails grant awarded
- \$150,000 - Private donation pending
- \$ 25,000 - Polk County Community Development Grant committed
- \$574,540 - Vision Iowa River Enhancement Community Attraction and Tourism grant requested

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

The purpose of the Polk County Community Development Grant Program is to provide grant opportunities to enhance community service projects and the quality of life within Polk County. The awards are made possible and funded by rental income received by Polk County from the operation of Prairie Meadows Racetrack and Casino.

Polk County has committed to support the Des Moines River Trail, Phase 1 project with \$25,000 through this program, contingent upon the City also receiving funding for this project from Vision Iowa’s River Enhancement Community Attraction and Tourism (RECAT) program. In order for a Vision Iowa grant application to receive funding, the project applied for must demonstrate local support; Polk County’s commitment will fulfill this requirement.

The Des Moines River Trail will create an important link for both the south side of Des Moines and Carlisle to the greater Central Iowa Trail system. It will be developed in phases by the various entities involved – Des Moines, Carlisle and the Polk County Conservation Board. Phase 1, which is being developed by the City of Des Moines, covers a 2.5 mile route along the south side of the Des Moines River from the Meredith Trail at the confluence of the Raccoon and Des Moines Rivers in downtown Des Moines to the James W. Cownie Baseball Park. Along the way users will pass under the busy SE 14th Street and SE 6th Street Des Moines River bridges; adjacent neighborhoods will have access through several street connections along the way. Future phases will connect to Easter Lake Park and pass through rural Polk County to Carlisle and the Summerset Trail south of that city. The trail will include the following elements and amenities:

- 10-foot wide asphalt or concrete trail;
- Emergency lighting under bridges;
- Signage, kiosks, mile markers and way-finding elements;
- Benches and resting points; and
- Scenic overlooks of downtown Des Moines and the Des Moines River.

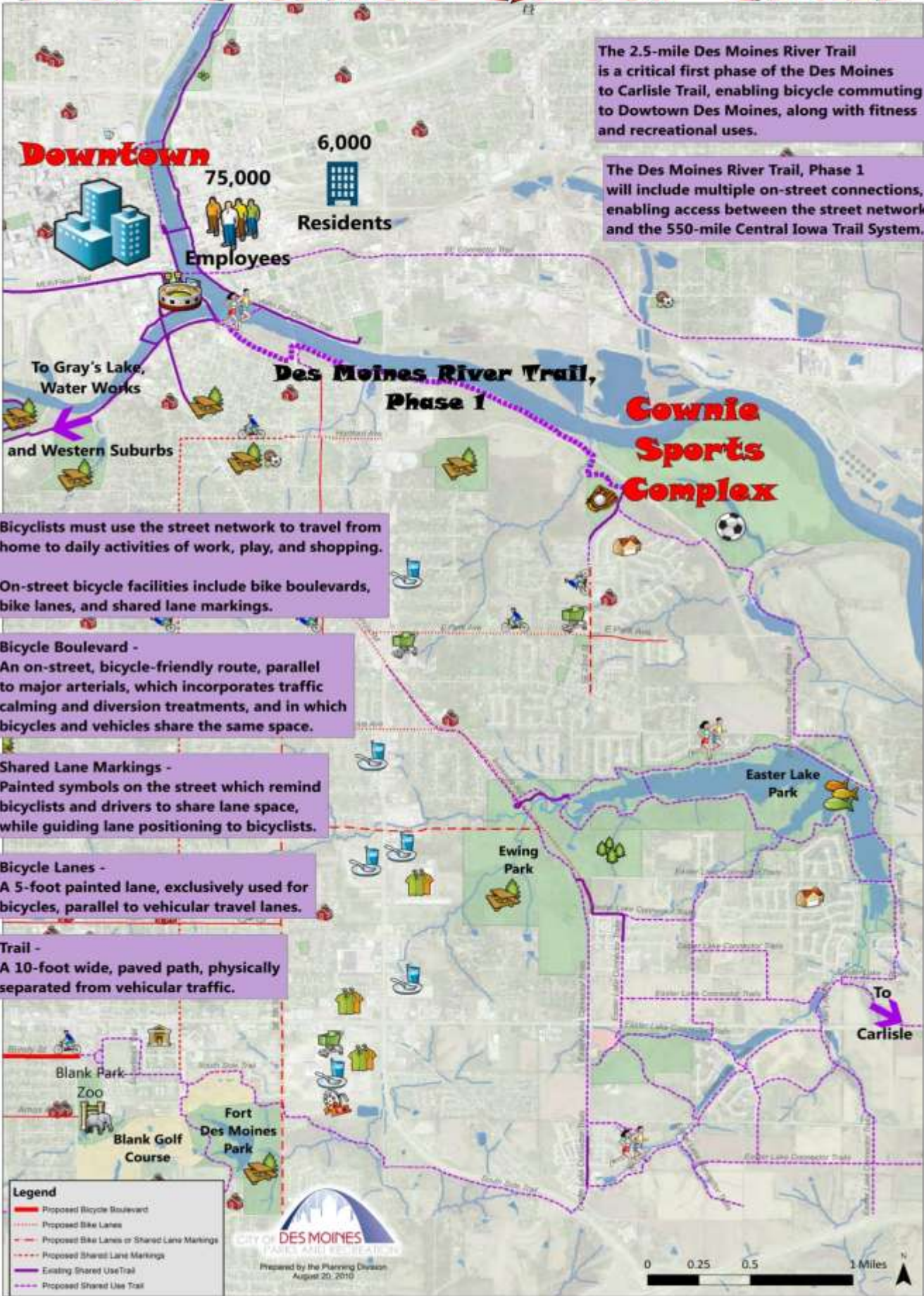
The total investment for completion of the Des Moines River Trail, Phase 1 is estimated at \$2,348,790. This total includes the design contract of \$202,000 which was awarded to AECOM, on May 18, 2009, by Roll Call No. 09-822. An additional \$622,250 of CIP funds have been allocated for construction costs. Current awarded state and federal funds total \$800,000. An application is currently pending with Vision Iowa through the RECAT Program. Vision Iowa funds must be the “last money in” and projects must have various funding sources, including the county. We believe the Polk County commitment of \$25,000 will fulfill the city’s local funding requirement so that the Vision Iowa Board will move forward with scoring the grant application and hopefully commit the remaining funding necessary to begin the project.

The engineering design of the trail is nearly complete. If funding is secured this spring, the project will be on schedule for a fall bid letting.

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.

Des Moines River Trail



The 2.5-mile Des Moines River Trail is a critical first phase of the Des Moines to Carlisle Trail, enabling bicycle commuting to Downtown Des Moines, along with fitness and recreational uses.

The Des Moines River Trail, Phase 1 will include multiple on-street connections, enabling access between the street network and the 550-mile Central Iowa Trail System.

Bicyclists must use the street network to travel from home to daily activities of work, play, and shopping.

On-street bicycle facilities include bike boulevards, bike lanes, and shared lane markings.

Bicycle Boulevard -
An on-street, bicycle-friendly route, parallel to major arterials, which incorporates traffic calming and diversion treatments, and in which bicycles and vehicles share the same space.

Shared Lane Markings -
Painted symbols on the street which remind bicyclists and drivers to share lane space, while guiding lane positioning to bicyclists.

Bicycle Lanes -
A 5-foot painted lane, exclusively used for bicycles, parallel to vehicular travel lanes.

Trail -
A 10-foot wide, paved path, physically separated from vehicular traffic.

- Legend**
- Proposed Bicycle Boulevard
 - Proposed Bike Lanes
 - - - Proposed Bike Lanes or Shared Lane Markings
 - · · Proposed Shared Lane Markings
 - Existing Shared Use Trail
 - Proposed Shared Use Trail



PREVIOUS COUNCIL ACTION(S):

Date: April 12, 2010

Roll Call Number: 10-531

Action: Authorization to apply for a grant in the amount of \$750,750 from the Vision Iowa River Enhancement Community Attraction and Tourism (RECAT) program for the purpose of developing the Des Moines River Trail, Phase 1. ([Council Communication No. 10-179](#)) Moved by Coleman to adopt. Motion Carried 7-0.

Date: January 11, 2010

Roll Call Number: 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 Number: 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.

BOARD/COMMISSION ACTION(S): NONE

ANTICIPATED ACTIONS AND FUTURE COMMITMENTS:

Normal Council actions for awarding a construction contract for development of the trail.

For more information on this and other agenda items, please call the City Clerk's Office at 515-283-4209 or visit the Clerk's Office on the second floor of City Hall, 400 Robert D. Ray Drive. Council agendas are available to the public at the City Clerk's Office on Thursday afternoon preceding Monday's Council meeting. Citizens can also request to receive meeting notices and agendas by email by calling the Clerk's Office or sending their request via email to cityclerk@dmgov.org.