

 <p>Council Communication Office of the City Manager</p>	Date: February 27, 2012
	Agenda Item No. 55 Roll Call No. [] Communication No. <u>12-088</u> Submitted by: William G. Stowe, Assistant City Manager – Public Works Director

AGENDA HEADING:

Approving 28E Cooperative Agreement with Iowa Department of Natural Resources and Polk County Conservation Board to fund Easter Lake Water Quality Plan

SYNOPSIS:

Recommend approval of the 28E Cooperative Agreement with the Iowa Department of Natural Resources and the Polk County Conservation Board to provide funding for the development of the Easter Lake Water Quality Plan

FISCAL IMPACT:

Amount: City share not to exceed \$10,000.

Funding Source: The funding distribution is as follows:

City of Des Moines	\$10,000
Polk County Conservation Board	\$10,000
Iowa DNR	\$40,000

The City of Des Moines’ share is allocated between Public Works (\$5,000) and Park and Recreation (\$5,000) provided for in the 2011-2012 Stormwater Capital Improvements Program, Page 18, Watershed Studies, STE072 EN304 PWK990000; and Park Capital Improvements Program, Page 20, Urban Conservation Projects, PKS167 CP040 PKS9900000.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

Easter Lake is considered impaired by the Iowa DNR and United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). The lake has shrunk from its original size in both surface area and volume; it is almost 48 acres smaller than when it was built, and the lake volume is 24% less. Dirt and other sediment washing in from the watershed have filled the lake. Excess nutrients, specifically phosphorous, have washed in, also. The sediment and nutrients have resulted in frequent algae blooms and low water clarity. Elevated bacteria levels in the lake have resulted in swimming advisories for Easter Lake. The lake also has some undesirable fish species (carp and shad) and has a stunted panfish population.

This funding provides for the development of a Water Quality Plan to reduce pollutants entering Easter Lake. The study will take data and input from many stakeholders in the community and deliver a conceptual plan that can help meet water quality goals.

PREVIOUS COUNCIL ACTION(S): NONE

BOARD/COMMISSION ACTION(S): NONE

ANTICIPATED ACTIONS AND FUTURE COMMITMENTS: NONE

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