

Council Communication

Office of the City Manager

Date: February 19, 2018

Agenda Item No. 37 Roll Call No. <u>18-292</u>

Communication No.

Submitted by: Jonathan A. Gano, P.E.,

18-090

Public Works Director

AGENDA HEADING:

Approving application to the Iowa Department of Natural Resources (IDNR) for a Water Resources Restoration Sponsored Project to fund implementation of rural and urban storm water best management practices.

SYNOPSIS:

Recommend authorizing to submit Water Resource Restoration Sponsored Project Application to the IDNR for implementation of rural best management practices in Swan Lake Branch watershed in Dallas County and for retrofitting of City owned detention basins located south of Martin Luther King Jr. Parkway, west of SW 11th Street, east of SW 16th Street and north of the Raccoon River in downtown Des Moines to improve urban water quality management. Funding is available for Sponsored Projects utilizing this program in conjunction with a Clean Water State Revolving Fund (SRF) Loan for the Near Westside Sewer Separation Project.

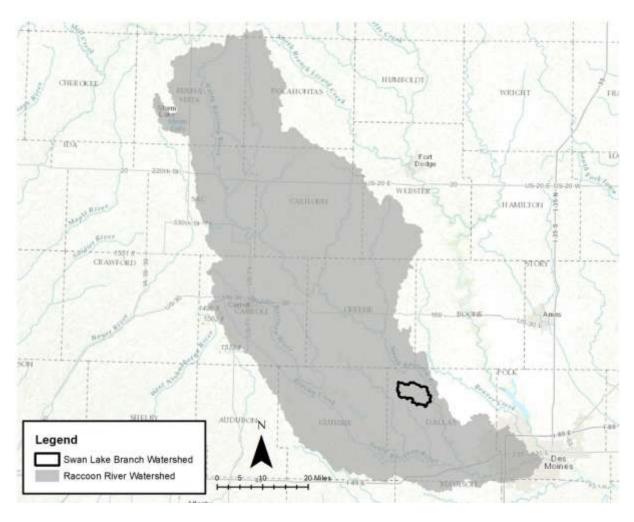
FISCAL IMPACT:

Amount: \$1,860,000 total IDNR request being: \$500,000 state funds for estimated \$500,000 total Swan Lake Branch Watershed project costs and \$1,360,000 state funds for the estimated \$2,150,000 total cost for City owned detention basin retrofit project

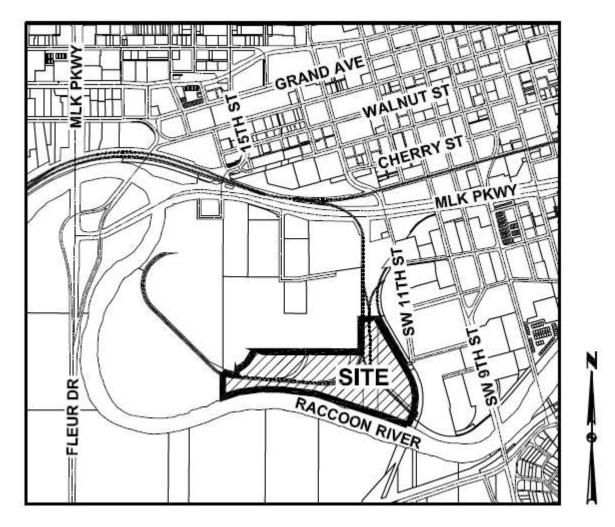
<u>Funding Source</u>: Stormwater Enterprise Funds for remainder of project cost unless other grant funds are awarded.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

• The first project area included in the Sponsored Projects application is Swan Lake Branch Watershed in rural Dallas County. In May 2017, the City entered into a memorandum of understanding with the Iowa Soybean Association to develop a watershed plan for this rural area which is tributary to the Raccoon River. The City is applying for \$500,000 of sponsored project funds to be used to help fund design and construction of bio-reactors, saturated buffers, and wetlands. If funding is approved, the City will develop cooperative agreements with other project partners such as Iowa Soybean Association, Dallas County Soil and the Water Conservation District to identify specific projects and work with land owners to install and ensure future maintenance of these practices.



• The second project area included in the Sponsored Projects application is the retrofitting of City owned regional detention basins located south of Martin Luther King Jr. Parkway, west of SW 11th Street, east of SW 16th Street and north of the Raccoon River in downtown Des Moines. The reconfigured detention basins will include land under current ownership by the City, Hubbell Realty Company, and Des Moines Area Regional Transit Authority (DART). Improvements will include constructed wetlands to provide water quality treatment while continuing to provide flood protection function of existing pump station and basins. The reconfigured basins would provide for continued regional stormwater management while also offering a low-impact public wetland park amenity for education and passive recreation. City staff in Office of Economic Development, Public Works Department, Engineering Department, and Park and Recreation Department will work with Hubbell Realty Company, Iowa Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship (IDALS) and the Polk County Soil and Water Conservation District on planning, design, construction, programming of the area, and ongoing maintenance. The design plans are currently in preparation by RDG Planning and Design, Civil Design Advantage and Hubbell Realty Company. Work will include concrete removal, micrograding, and native plant establishment.



Runoff from both project areas are tributary to the Raccoon River. The Raccoon River is currently
impaired due to high nitrate levels and pathogens.

PREVIOUS COUNCIL ACTION(S):

Date: February 5, 2018

Roll Call Number: 18-0209

<u>Action</u>: <u>Application</u> to the Iowa Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship (IDALS) for a Water Quality Initiative Targeted Demonstration Watershed Project Grant on City-owned land. (<u>Council</u> Communication No. 18-050) Moved by Gatto to adopt. Motion Carried 7-0.

Date: February 5, 2018

Roll Call Number: 18-0208

<u>Action</u>: <u>Application</u> to the Prairie Meadows Community Betterment Program for a Water Quality Initiative Targeted Demonstration Watershed Project Grant on City-owned land. (<u>Council Communication No. 18-051</u>) Moved by Gatto to adopt. Motion Carried 7-0.

Date: May 8, 2017

Roll Call Number: 17-0786

<u>Action</u>: <u>Memorandum</u> of Understanding with Iowa Soybean Association to conduct a North Raccoon River Watershed Study and authorizing submission of a Water Resource Restoration Sponsored Project Application for the North Raccoon River Watershed to the Iowa Department of Natural Resources. (<u>Council Communication No. 17-417</u>) Moved by Hensley to adopt. Motion Carried 7-0.

BOARD/COMMISSION ACTION(S): NONE

ANTICIPATED ACTIONS AND FUTURE COMMITMENTS:

- Normal actions related to bidding a capital improvements project for detention basin retrofit.
- Council approval of future cooperative agreements to implement rural best management practices.
- Approval of SRF loan application.

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