


COUNCIL COMMUNICATION

 CITY OF DES MOINES OFFICE OF THE CITY MANAGER	Number:	23-278	Meeting:	June 12, 2023
	Agenda Item:	43B	Roll Call:	23-0843
	Submitted by:	Benjamin R. Page, Park and Recreation Director		

AGENDA HEADING:

Approving Water Quality Initiative Urban Conservation Demonstration Projects cost-share grant contract with Iowa Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship (IDALS) in the amount of \$250,000 for the Glendale Cemetery Wet Pond Rehabilitation Project.

SYNOPSIS:

Recommend approval of the IDALS Water Quality Initiative Grant cost-share contract in the amount of \$250,000 for the Glendale Wet Rehabilitation Project.

FISCAL IMPACT:

Amount: \$250,000 IDALS cost-share grant funding towards an overall pre-design project cost estimate of \$1,000,000

Funding Source: 2023-24 CIP, Page 80, Urban Conservation Projects, PK167, \$250,000 IDALS cost-share grant funding and \$750,000 G.O. Bonds

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

- In 2013, the Parks and Recreation and Public Works Departments partnered to plan for more ecologically-based, sustainable stormwater infrastructure in the upper watershed of Waveland Creek, a tributary of Walnut Creek. The Waveland Golf Course and Glendale Cemetery Stormwater Management Master Plan was the result of the planning efforts. These two (2) City-owned properties comprise nearly two-thirds of the upper watershed.
- This work evaluated existing site conditions and identified opportunities to improve stormwater management practices, parks and recreation benefits, golf course playability and ecological conditions within the 515-acre study area.
- The study findings detail significantly undersized stormwater capacity that are overwhelmed during ever more frequent heavy rain events. Storm water pipes have been replaced and repaired several times in the years since the study was completed in 2014, but implementation of recommendations is needed and becoming more urgent.
- In 2022, the City hired a consultant to assist with refining the 2014 schematic design of recommendations. The focus was at Glendale Cemetery, including the relationship to the

downstream opportunities at Waveland Golf Course. This resulted in the recommendation to proceed with advancing efforts first at improving the functionality and water quality of Glendale Pond.

- Outreach included City staff and the consultant establishing the Master Plan Advisory Committee, which provided expertise relevant to the watershed stormwater issues and opportunities and two (2) public meetings to solicit information and document support for watershed stormwater solutions proposed by the Master Plan from residents.
- The roughly 1.5-acre Glendale Pond is positioned along the southern edge of the cemetery adjacent to University Avenue. The pond is a multi-functional feature within the larger cemetery that provides stormwater control for a 122-acre watershed. The pond is currently not accessible, so provides just an aesthetic amenity.
- The primary inflow to the pond is from a storm sewer outlet in its northwest corner. No pretreatment measures are currently in place, so the pond suffers from poor water quality and excessive sedimentation. The result is a shallow pond with an average depth of approximately five (5) feet or less. Shoreline erosion is a constant maintenance and operational issue. Due to these conditions, the pond currently offers little to no stormwater quality assistance.
- The proposed improvements will greatly improve the pond's stormwater control capabilities based on Iowa Stormwater Management Manual (ISWMM) guidance. User accessibility will be introduced with an accessible path leading to and along the pond perimeter. Installing shoreline stabilization measures and native plantings will support water quality, aesthetics, maintenance, operations, accessibility and align with the recommendations of the adopted Goose Management Plan to deter nuisance geese populations.
- The Parks and Recreation Department applied for the IDALS Water Quality Grant February 2023. Pending Council approval, the Glendale Wet Pond project is anticipated to be bid in fall 2023, with project completion anticipated in winter 2024. Grant requirements include completion by no later than December 31, 2024.
- Public outreach efforts included the Waveland Park Neighborhood Association (WPNA) which provided valuable feedback throughout 2022 and into 2023. Because of their strong support, the WPNA provided a letter of support for the IDALS Glendale Wet Pond Grant. This project closely aligns with their mission of promoting the general welfare of their community through educational and recreational activities by renovating the Glendale Cemetery Pond in an environmentally sensitive manner.

PREVIOUS COUNCIL ACTION(S):

Date: May 20, 2013

Roll Call Number: [13-0809](#)

Action: [Proposal](#) of Applied Ecological Services for provision of professional consulting services for the assessment and master planning for storm water management at Waveland Golf Course and Glendale Cemetery. ([Council Communication No. 13-237](#)) Moved by Hensley to approve. Motion Carried 7-0.

BOARD/COMMISSION ACTION(S): NONE

ANTICIPATED ACTIONS AND FUTURE COMMITMENTS:

No future actions are anticipated for this grant; however, anticipated actions related to construction would include public hearing, receive and file bids, designate lowest bidder, approve contract and bond, partial payments to the contractor and final acceptance of work.

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