


COUNCIL COMMUNICATION

 CITY OF DES MOINES OFFICE OF THE CITY MANAGER	Number:	23-333	Meeting:	July 17, 2023
	Agenda Item:	8	Roll Call:	23-0969
	Submitted by:	Benjamin R. Page, Park and Recreation Director		

AGENDA HEADING:

Approving and authorizing the execution of agreement with Iowa Department of Natural Resources (IDNR) for the Federal Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) program for SW 1st Street Bridge Improvements project.

SYNOPSIS:

Recommend approval and authorization of IDNR Agreement No. 19-01364 for LWCF, between the City of Des Moines, the IDNR, and the National Park Service (NPS) for \$200,000 towards the SW 1st Street Bridge Improvements project.

FISCAL IMPACT:

Amount: \$200,000 LWCF grant revenue toward an overall pre-engineering estimate of \$750,000.

Funding Source: Anticipated \$200,000 in LWCF funding from IDNR and NPS and remaining funding from:

- \$445,000 GO Bonds – 2023-24 CIP, PK045 Multi-Use Trails, Page 72
- \$30,000 in Private Donations Currently Held by Friends of Des Moines Parks
- \$75,000 Tax Increment Financing Cash on Hand

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

- Located near the confluence of the Raccoon and Des Moines Rivers, the 0.6-acre SW 1st Street Bridge was originally built in 1937 and rehabilitated in 1974. The bridge was converted to a multiuse trail facility in 2003 and was again rehabilitated in 2019 as part of the City's TIGER grant projects. In addition to structural repairs, the deck was rehabilitated providing a flat surface and lighting for future park improvements.
- The proposed park improvements include resilient planting beds with low maintenance green roof vegetation to manage stormwater and provide visual interest, modular precast concrete seating, an open-air shade structure that will act as a rental facility for events, a dedicated multi-use trail corridor, hammock-netted rest and relaxation areas, and sculptural play features suitable for multiple age groups.

- Engineering and construction documentation for the project is anticipated during fall 2023. Pending Council approval, construction is anticipated to be completed in calendar year 2024 with administrative close out and opening tentatively planned for late fall 2024.
- SW 1st Street Bridge is part of the Meredith Trail greenway which helps serve 5,772 Des Moines residents who live within a 10-minute walking distance, plus many residents and visitors coming from beyond this distance. An infrared bicycle and pedestrian counter installed on the bridge captured approximately 350,000 uses each year in 2021 and 2022.
- The NPS LWCF is managed through the IDNR and supports cities with populations of 50,000+ in seeking up to \$200,000 for the development and/or acquisition of land for natural resources and outdoor recreation. The maximum request of \$200,000 was requested and subsequently awarded for this project. The project's funding sources exceed the minimum 50% local grant match requirement.
- Upon receipt of the grant funding reimbursement, the City is required to record notice of the grant agreement with the Polk County Recorder showing the project property in the project boundary map, with a statement that the property has been developed with LWCF assistance and cannot be converted to other than public outdoor recreation use without written approval of Secretary of Interior.

SW 1st Street Bridge Improvements - Concept Plan



PREVIOUS COUNCIL ACTION(S):

Date: March 22, 2021

Roll Call Number: [21-0466](#)

Action: : [Ratification](#) of the NPS LWCF)grant application by the Parks and Recreation Department seeking \$200,000 towards the SW 1st Bridge Improvement. ([Council Communication no. 21-134](#)) Moved by Gatto to adopt. Motion Carried 7-0.

BOARD/COMMISSION ACTION(S): NONE

ANTICIPATED ACTIONS AND FUTURE COMMITMENTS:

Anticipated future actions include ordering construction, public hearing, receive and file bids, designate lowest bidder, approval of contract and bond, partial payments to the contractor and final acceptance of work.

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 first 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.