


COUNCIL COMMUNICATION

 CITY OF DES MOINES OFFICE OF THE CITY MANAGER	Number:	24-306	Meeting:	July 15, 2024
	Agenda Item:	47	Roll Call:	24-0975
	Submitted by:	Benjamin R. Page, Park and Recreation Director		

AGENDA HEADING:

Approval of Agreement for sharing of financial expenses between the City of Des Moines and Polk County.

SYNOPSIS:

Recommend approval of the agreement with Polk County to contribute 50% of the reasonable expenses incurred by Polk County for the management, maintenance and operation of MidAmerican Energy Two Rivers Park.

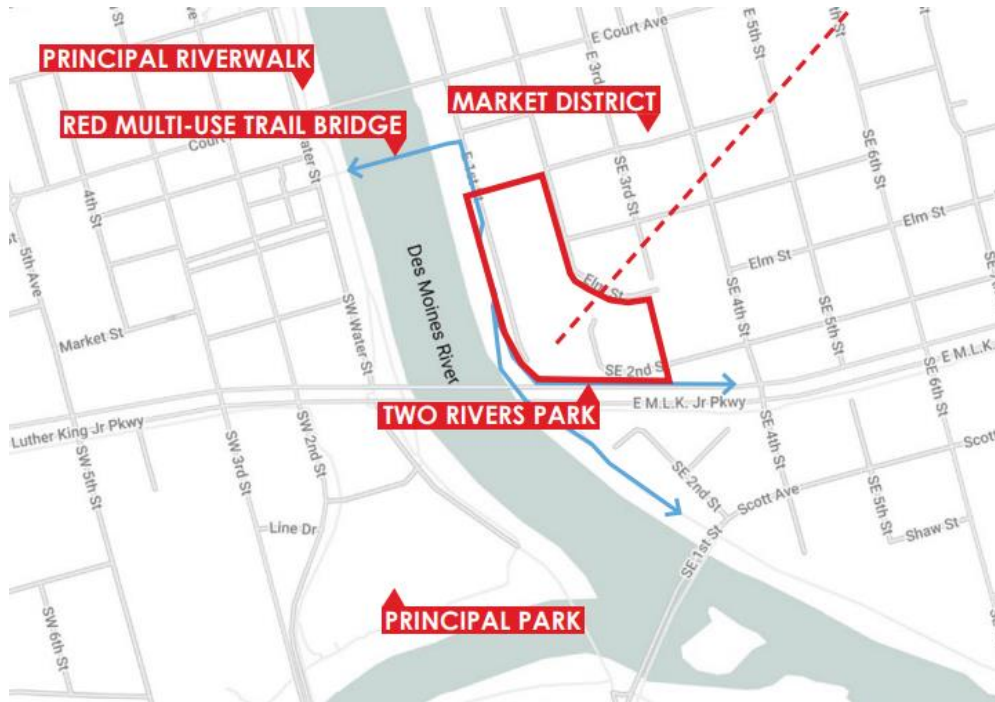
FISCAL IMPACT:

Amount: \$150,000 estimated annually

Funding Source: Fiscal Year (FY) 2024-2025 Operating Budget, Parks and Recreation Department, Downtown Maintenance, G001, PK200225, Page 169

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

- MidAmerican Energy (MidAm) owns property near the confluence of the Des Moines and Raccoon Rivers along the east bank of the Des Moines River. This property is within the Market District of the East Village of the City of Des Moines (City). Polk County (County) has leased this property from MidAm for use as a public park and the land has been rezoned by the City to allow for this use.
- The City supports the use of this site as a public park for the benefit of the general public and proposes to contribute 50% of the expenses incurred by the County for the management, maintenance and operation of the park, to be known as MidAmerican Energy Two Rivers Park (Two Rivers Park).
- The County agrees to only use this land for a public park for the term of this agreement which begins on the commencement date of the lease and will continue for a 25-year period and automatically renew every five (5) years unless the City or County provide a 12-month written notice.
- The City is not a party to the lease between the County and MidAm, and the County agrees to indemnify and hold the City harmless from any and all liability connected to negligence in the maintenance or operation of the Two Rivers Park.



Location Map from Urban Design Review Board Submission

PREVIOUS COUNCIL ACTION(S): NONE

BOARD/COMMISSION ACTION(S):

Board: Urban Design Review Board

Date: April 16, 2024

Action: Motion to recommend approval of the design by Ward with the following board comments: Consider incorporating educational story telling of the site’s history as an industrial/contaminated site redeveloped into a park; Review bike paths, cut throughs, and overall trail widths where there are potential pedestrian and bike use traffic conflicts; Consider installation of bike racks at the entrance of the Market District area. Seconded by Burnham. Motion carried. Yes = 7, No = 0, Abstain = 1, Absent = 2.

ANTICIPATED ACTIONS AND FUTURE COMMITMENTS: NONE

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