


COUNCIL COMMUNICATION

 CITY OF DES MOINES OFFICE OF THE CITY MANAGER	Number:	25-180	Meeting:	May 5, 2025
	Agenda Item:	10	Roll Call:	25-0639
	Submitted by:	Benjamin R. Page, Park and Recreation Director		

AGENDA HEADING:

Approving Water Quality Initiative (WQI) Urban Conservation Demonstration Projects cost-share grant contract with Iowa Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship (IDALS) in the amount of \$108,000 for the Birdland Park Master Plan Improvements – Phase 1A Project.

SYNOPSIS:

Recommend approval of the IDALS WQI Grant cost-share contract in the amount of \$108,000 for the Birdland Park Master Plan Improvements – Phase 1A Project.

FISCAL IMPACT:

Amount: \$108,000 IDALS cost-share grant funding towards an overall pre-design project cost estimate of \$3,195,000.

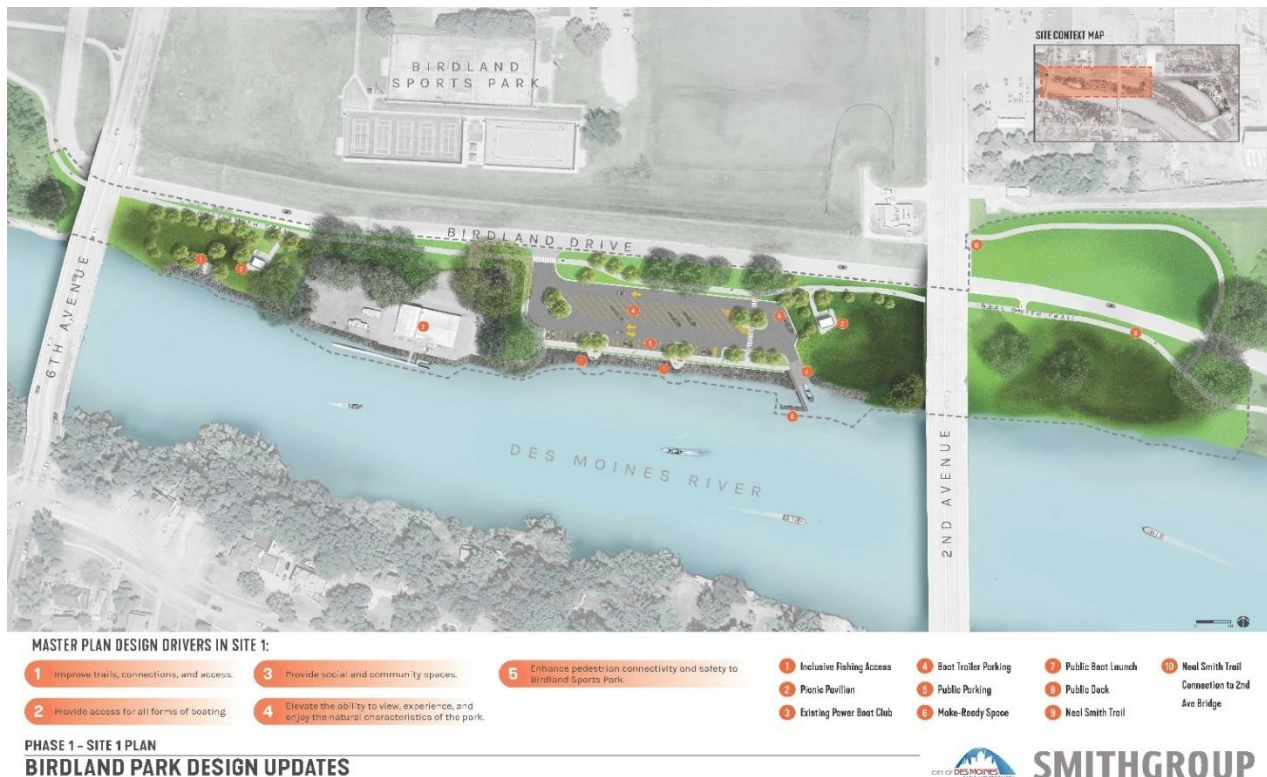
Funding Source: Fiscal Year (FY) 2025-2026 Adopted Capital Improvement Program (CIP), Page 90, Birdland Park and Marina, PK189, Being: \$108,000 IDALS cost-share grant funding, \$1,000,000 in Local Option Sales and Service Tax (LOSST), \$235,000 in G.O. Bonds, \$1,202,000 in agency recommended but yet to be executed Land and Water Conservation Fund Outdoor Recreation Legacy Partnership Program (LWCF ORLP) grant funding, and \$650,000 in additional anticipated external grant funding.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

- A master plan for Birdland Park and Marina was developed in 2021 and was adopted by both the Parks and Recreation Board and the City Council. The master plan outlines a logical, highest value approach to implementing multiple phases of proposed improvements. Implementation of the full Master Plan was estimated at \$54.4 million in 2021.
- Informed by LiveDSM, the Parks and Recreation Department's comprehensive plan, the Birdland master planning project was to be community and stakeholder driven. To facilitate project feedback and achieve community support from the neighborhood and everyday park users, three (3) public meetings were held at different phases of the project's development. The meetings garnered over 200 attendees and generated 350 plus follow-up survey responses. Additional public engagement has been ongoing in association with design development for the Phase 1 project.

- In late 2022, a professional service agreement was completed with SmithGroup, Inc. to provide engineering design for two (2) sites within Birdland Park, Phase 1A and Phase 1B. As of spring 2025, Phase 1A is approximately 95% complete with design and Phase 1B is approximately 60% complete with design.
- Pending City Council approval, both the Phase 1A and Phase 1B projects are expected to bid winter 2025/2026 for substantial construction in calendar year 2026 and close out in 2027 following the completion of all site restoration and landscaping.
- A subsequent request for WQI funding from IDALS is anticipated for the Phase 1B site to cost-share the water quality improvements associated with that project.
- The Parks and Recreation Department applied for the IDALS WQI Grant in February 2025 and was offered a \$108,000 cost-share grant recommended for approval in this action. The WQI grant funds up to 50% of all water quality elements in the project including bioretention cells in the parking lot, associated storm sewer structures, native prairie seeding in stormwater volume control areas, and stencil artwork that interprets the functions and benefits of the water quality improvements.

Phase 1A Site Plan Rendering:



PREVIOUS COUNCIL ACTION(S):

Date: May 8, 2023

Roll Call Number: [23-0653](#)

Action: [Birdland](#) Park and Marina Master Plan Ratification of National Park Service LWCF ORLP Grant Application. ([Council Communication No. 23-235](#)) Moved by Gatto to adopt. Motion Carried 6-1.

Date: November 21, 2022

Roll Call Number: [22-1781](#)

Action: [Approving](#) Professional Services Agreement with SmithGroup, Inc. for Birdland Park Phase 1 Improvements, not to exceed \$798,630. ([Council Communication No. 22-538](#)) Moved by Gatto to adopt. Second by Voss. Motion Carried 6-1. Absent: Sheumaker.

Date: March 22, 2021

Roll Call Number: [21-0465](#)

Action: [Birdland](#) Park and Marina Master Plan. ([Council Communication No. 21-135](#)) Moved by Westergaard to adopt. Motion Carried 7-0.

BOARD/COMMISSION ACTION(S): NONE

ANTICIPATED ACTIONS AND FUTURE COMMITMENTS:

No future actions are anticipated for this grant; however, anticipated related actions would include acceptance of additional grant funding, 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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