

TO: Michael C. Van Milligen, City Manager

FROM: Deron Muehring, Civil Engineer II *DM*

SUBJECT: Bee Branch Creek Restoration Project, Federal-Aid Agreement for Transportation Alternatives Program Funding

DATE: June 29, 2015

INTRODUCTION

The purpose of this memorandum is to seek authorization to enter into an agreement with the Iowa Department of Transportation in order to utilize the \$940,000 in Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP) funding for the Lower Bee Branch Overlook at the 16th Street Detention Basin and Trailhead Parking (at 22nd Street) for the Mississippi River Trail as part of the larger Bee Branch Creek Restoration Project.

BACKGROUND

The City of Dubuque was awarded \$940,000 in Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP) funding in May of 2015 as approved by the Dubuque Metropolitan Area Transportation Study (DMATS). The funding was specifically for the Lower Bee Branch Overlook at the 16th Street Detention Basin and Trailhead Parking (at 22nd Street) as part of the Bee Branch Creek Restoration Project.

The improvements funded by TAP involve the construction of a 12-space trailhead parking lot at E. 22nd Street and Prince Street to provide trail access for the Bee Branch Creek Mississippi River Trail Route, the 26-mile Heritage Trail, and the Mississippi River Trail Route. The design features a pervious pavement system to infiltrate storm water and minimize the need for storm sewer. The proposed storm sewer drainage system also includes a nutrient separating baffle box to further mitigate the discharge of pollutants into the adjacent Bee Branch Creek. The project also includes sidewalk, lighting, benches, flag poles, litter receptacles, a water fountain, trees, shrubs, and other landscaping elements. The improvements associated with the project include the construction of an overlook and plaza area adjacent to the Bee Branch Creek near 16th Street. Features of the plaza area will include a pavilion, concrete sidewalk, lighting, drinking fountains, bike racks, trash receptacles, benches, trees, shrubs, and interpretive signs.

DISCUSSION

The Federal Highway Administration requires the City of Dubuque to enter into an agreement with the Iowa Department of Transportation prior to authorizing the use of Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP) funds.

The Iowa Department of Transportation has provided an agreement outlining the terms associated with the City's receipt of the \$940,000 in TAP funding. Execution of the agreement will allow for the City's receipt of the TAP funding for the Lower Bee Branch Overlook at the 16th Street Detention Basin and Trailhead Parking (at 22nd Street) as part of the Bee Branch Creek Restoration Project.

The improvements associated with the Lower Bee Branch Overlook at the 16th Street Detention Basin and Trailhead Parking (at 22nd Street) are on schedule to be let through the Iowa Department of Transportation this fall for construction in 2016.

RECOMMENDATION

I recommend that the City execute the attached agreement with the Iowa Department of Transportation in order to secure the use of \$940,000 in Transportation Alternatives Program funding for the Lower Bee Branch Overlook at the 16th Street Detention Basin and Trailhead Parking (at 22nd Street) as part of the Bee Branch Creek Restoration Project.

BUDGET IMPACT

The adopted FY2015 CIP budget identified the use of the \$940,000 in Dubuque Metropolitan Area Transportation Study (DMATS) Transportation Alternatives Program funding the Bee Branch Creek Restoration Project (#7201654).

ACTION TO BE TAKEN

I respectfully request adoption of the attached resolution authorizing the execution of an agreement with the Iowa Department of Transportation required for the City's receipt of the \$940,000 in Transportation Alternatives Program funding for the Bee Branch Creek Restoration Project.

Attach.

Cc: Barry Lindahl, City Attorney
Jenny Larson, Budget Director
Ken TeKippe, Finance Director
Gus Psihoyos, City Engineer