

TO: The Honorable Mayor and City Council Members

FROM: Michael C. Van Milligen, City Manager

SUBJECT: Upper Bee Branch Creek Restoration Project
Upper Bee Branch Creek Mississippi River Trail (MRT)
Iowa DOT Project No. SB-IA-2100(675)—7T-31
(CIP #7201654 & 3401654)

DATE: September 28, 2015

Sealed bids were received by the Iowa Department of Transportation for the Upper Bee Branch Creek Mississippi River Trail Project. City Engineer Gus Psihoyos recommends award of the construction contract to the sole bidder, Portzen Construction, Inc., in the amount of \$1,823,521.58, subject to Iowa Department of Transportation approval. This is 14.2% below the estimate of probable costs.

The improvements associated with this contract are to convert the current on-street bike route of the National Mississippi Trail to an off-road bike/hike trail that will be located in the linear park along the daylighted Bee Branch Creek. The Bee Branch Mississippi River Trail Route will incorporate bike/hike trails, lighting, benches, trees, sustainable landscaping, parking, a waterfall overlook, and an amphitheatre/outdoor classroom.

Due to the use of National Scenic Byways and State Recreation Trails funding to help fund the improvements, the project must be let through the Iowa Department of Transportation who administers these funds on behalf of the federal and state governments respectively.

The project will be funded by the Fiscal Year 2016 appropriation in the amount of \$43,359,000 for the Bee Branch Creek Restoration Project – Phase 4 and Phase 7 of the Bee Branch Watershed Flood Mitigation Project.

Project funding includes \$1,000,000 from a National Scenic Byways grant, \$250,000 from a RECAT grant, and \$100,000 from a State Recreation Trails grant.

I concur with the recommendation and respectfully request Mayor and City Council approval.


Michael C. Van Milligen

MCVM:jh
Attachment

cc: Barry Lindahl, City Attorney
Cindy Steinhauser, Assistant City Manager
Teri Goodmann, Assistant City Manager
Gus Psihoyos, City Engineer