


TO: Michael C. Van Milligen, City Manager
FROM: Gus Psihoyos, City Engineer 
SUBJECT: Lower Bee Branch Creek Floating Island Project
CIP# 7201654, PROJECT# 4X0003
DATE: April 24, 2017

INTRODUCTION

The enclosed resolution authorizes the award of the construction contract for the Lower Bee Branch Creek Floating Island Project.

BACKGROUND

In October of 2010 the City Council passed Resolution 390-10 authorizing an application for Vision Iowa River Enhancement Community Attraction and Tourism (RECAT) grant funding specifically for amenities associated with the Bee Branch Creek Restoration Project. One of the amenities included is to construct a floating island system in conjunction with the construction of the Bee Branch Creek Restoration Project.

In April of 2011 the City Council passed Resolution 114-11 approving and authorizing the execution of the RECAT Grant Agreement.

The RECAT grant application and grant agreement include funding for a floating island to be constructed as part of the Bee Branch Creek Restoration Project, located within the 16th Street Detention Basin.

The proposed floating island system is a form of a wetland which will "bio-mimic" natural floating wetland systems invented by Nature. Vegetated with native plants, it is a beautiful, natural and sustainable eco-system which provides many benefits, from habitat restoration to water cleansing.

When a floating island is launched, a whole diverse eco-system is created which attracts life in all its forms, from microbes to nymphs, to butterflies, to fish, birds.... all the way up the food chain. Figure 1 shows the multitude of benefits provided by floating island systems.

Genuine BioHaven® Floating Island

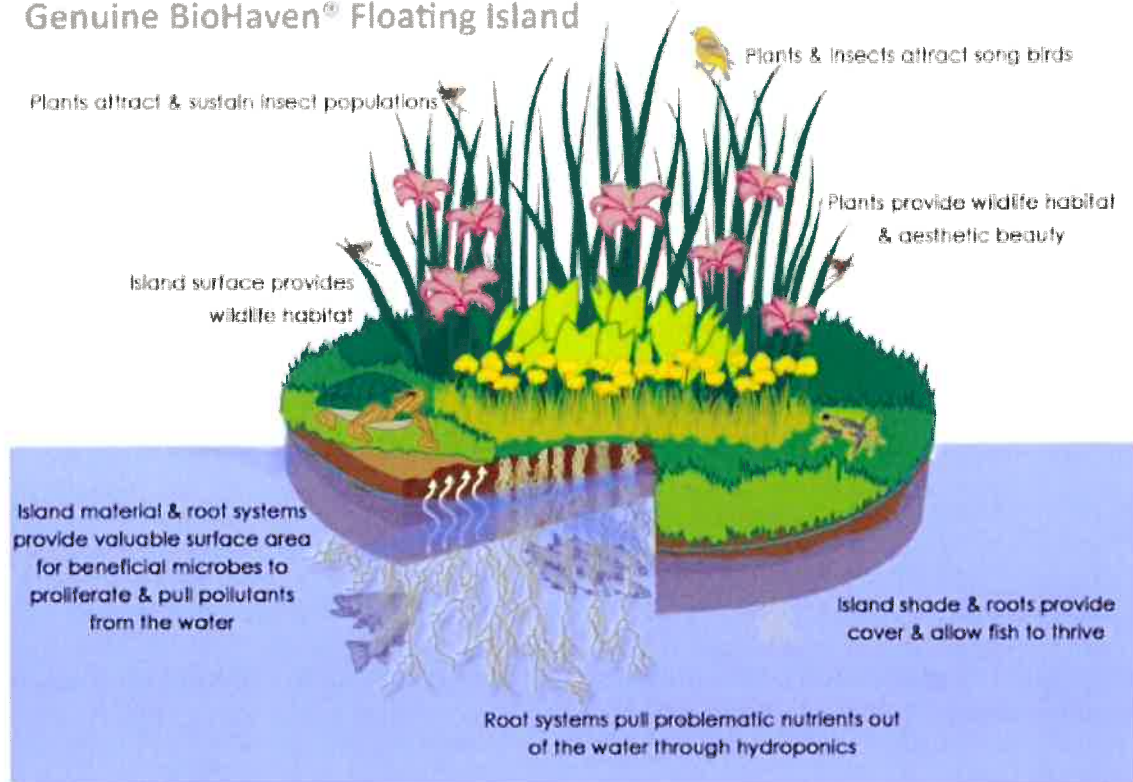


Figure 1. Benefits of a floating island system.

The proposed floating island system consists of fourteen floating islands that vary in size from 70 square feet to 300 square feet in area. The total combined island area is 2,674 square feet. The islands will be assembled, planted with native wetland plants, launched, and anchored to the bottom of the Lower Bee Branch Creek and 16th Street Detention Basin.

DISCUSSION

Sealed bids were received on April 21, 2017, for the Lower Bee Branch Creek Floating Island Project. ENCAP, Inc. of DeKalb, Illinois submitted the low bid in the amount of \$197,075.00. This amount is 7.75% over the estimate of probable cost. A summary of the bid proposals received is as follows:

Contractor	Bid Amount
ENCAP, Inc.	\$ 197,075.00
Dubuque Barge & Fleeting Service Co.	\$ 203,000.00
Tricon General Construction, Inc.	\$ 241,000.00

ENCAP, Inc. has been in business operating as general contractors specializing in ecologically sensitive and water resource oriented projects for over 40 years. Their work history has involved ecological restoration of natural areas such as prairies and wetlands, state and federally listed historical nature preserves, and large-scale natural forest-preserve land. Well versed in native landscapes, they have completed over five

hundred native plant community installations over the past 20 years. Some of their current work includes creek ecosystem restoration, invasive species plant control, and wetlands restoration.

As an out-of-state contractor, ENCAP, Inc. has not recently performed work within the State of Iowa. And even though they have applied for registration with the Iowa Division of Labor Services, they are not currently registered to transact business in Iowa. Therefore, the City should not sign a contract with ENCAP until their application is approved.

ENCAP is also required to file a surety bond with the Iowa Division of Labor Services of the Iowa Department of Workforce Development prior to commencing with the work. Therefore, the City would not issue a notice to proceed until ENCAP provides sufficient documentation proving that this requirement has been satisfied.

RECOMMENDATION

I recommend that the contract be awarded to ENCAP, Inc. of DeKalb, Illinois in the amount of \$197,075.00 for the Lower Bee Branch Creek Floating Island Project contingent upon the approval of the Iowa DNR.

BUDGET IMPACT

The estimate of probable costs for the Lower Bee Branch Creek Floating Island Project is as follows:

	Estimate	Award
Construction	\$ 182,900.00	\$197,075.00
Contingency (10%)	18,290.00	18,290.00
Engineering	30,500.00	30,500.00
Total Project Cost	\$231,690.00	\$245,865.00

The funding summary is as follows:

<u>CIP No.</u>	<u>Fund Description</u>	<u>Fund Amount</u>
7201654	Bee Branch Creek Restoration Project	\$245,865.00
	Vision Iowa RECAT Grant Funding	\$ 46,000.00
	State Revolving Loan Fund Proceeds	\$199,865.00

The overage of 7.75% will be funded through the State Revolving Loan Fund Proceeds.

The Iowa DNR previously approved SRF loan funds for the project. However, they are still in the process of reviewing and approving the specific improvements outlined in the plans and specifications. The use of SRF also requires that the Iowa DNR concur with the award recommendation.

ACTION TO BE TAKEN

I respectfully request that the City Council adopt the attached resolution awarding the construction contract for the Lower Bee Branch Creek Floating Island Project contingent upon approval from the Iowa Department of Natural Resources and contingent upon ENCAP, Inc. becoming registered to transact business in the State of Iowa.

Prepared by Deron Muehring

cc: Crenna Brumwell, City Attorney
Jenny Larson, Budget Director
Alexis Steger, Senior Budget Analyst
Steve Sampson Brown, Project Manager
Deron Muehring, Civil Engineer