



Request for Board Action

Attachment 6.4

Agenda Item: Sylvan Hills Park Stormwater and Habitat Enhancement Feasibility Study

Presenter: Shawn James

Meeting Date: 12 September 2023

Flexibility: Yes No

Estimated Time: Consent Agenda 10 Min. 15 Min. 30 Min. 45 Min. 1 Hour

Action Request: Information/Review Motion to approve Budget Change Other

Board Action: Approved Denied Tabled Accepted Report Other

Date of Action: 12 September 2023

Background

The City of Fridley plans to renovate Sylvan Hills Park during the 2024 construction season, including enhancement of amenities and modifications to layout for improved experience and safety. The park concept plan shows potential locations for water quality improvements and storage area. In the 10-Year Watershed Management Plan, the park is identified as a Capital Improvement Project (CIP) with eligible costs that include both conducting a feasibility study and implementing stormwater improvements.

The MWWMO is in the process of administering a feasibility study, with the City of Fridley serving on the advisory committee. The study will explore opportunities to improve water quality, provide flood mitigation, and enhance habitat in the park. Opportunities that could offer an experience with nature by demonstrating and informing the public about the importance of removing pollutants from stormwater runoff and the value of habitat within the urban landscape will also be considered. The park's upstream drainage area primarily consists of residential land use, and the City's storm sewer passes adjacent to the park (as shown in Attachment A). There is also a low area and catch basin at the southern end of the park where flood waters tend to accumulate. These present opportunities to integrate habitat and water quality enhancements into the park design. This study could serve as a model for other neighborhood parks.

The study would entail review of the MWMO's watershed modeling and other existing data, identification of various scenarios to meet the project goals, cost-benefit evaluation, and recommendations for implementation. Deliverables would include a summary memo, concept renderings showing size and placement of BMPs, and updated modeling and GIS data. These deliverables will inform the park design, which will begin by January 2024.

The MWMO sent a Request for Proposals to three firms and all responded. After review and evaluation of each proposal, staff met with the City of Fridley and would like to pursue Houston Engineering's proposal. Staff is requesting a not to exceed amount of the proposal amount plus a 15 percent contingency, totaling \$68,000. Given the tight timeline, the contingency will help address any project unknowns as the need arises, and in a timely manner.

Mississippi Watershed Management Organization

RESOLUTION 2023-027

A RESOLUTION APPROVING FUNDING FOR A STORMWATER AND HABITAT ENHANCEMENT FEASIBILITY STUDY AT SYLVAN HILLS PARK IN FRIDLEY, MN

WHEREAS, the MWMO strives to protect and improve water quality within its jurisdiction through planning and implementation of stormwater best management practices; and

WHEREAS, the MWMO strives to enhance and restore ecosystem functionality within its jurisdiction through the planning and implementation of habitat projects; and

WHEREAS, the Sylvan Hills Park project is prioritized in the Capital Improvement Projects (CIP) program within the 10-Year Watershed Management Plan to improve water quality, mitigate flooding, and restore habitat; and

WHEREAS, the outcomes of the Sylvan Hills Park Stormwater and Habitat Enhancement Feasibility Study include stormwater, flooding, and habitat improvement scenarios that are recommended for implementation; and

WHEREAS, the MWMO worked with the City of Fridley to solicit and review proposals from several qualified contractors to perform the Sylvan Hills Park Stormwater and Habitat Enhancement Feasibility Study; and

WHEREAS, the MWMO has funds available in the Watershed Assessment fund to cover the cost of the Sylvan Hills Park Stormwater and Habitat Enhancement Feasibility Study.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the MWMO Board of Commissioners approves up to \$68,000 for the Sylvan Hills Park Stormwater and Habitat Enhancement Feasibility Study, and authorizes MWMO staff to take all necessary administrative actions to implement the resolution.

Adopted this the 12th day of September, 2023.

Review for the Board: _____
Stephen Eggert, Chair

Review for Administration: _____
Kevin Reich, Executive Director