



Agenda Item:

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COUNCIL COMMUNICATION

City Manager's Office

GENERAL INFORMATION—

Agenda Date: 12/19/05

Agenda Item Type: Resolution

Communication No.: 05-706

Roll Call No:

Submitted by: Donald M. Tripp, Park and Recreation Director

SUBJECT—

National Recreational Trails Program (NRT) Grant Award from the Iowa Department of Transportation (IDOT) to widen and resurface the Bill Riley Trail.

SYNOPSIS—

Approve the receipt of a National Recreational Trails Program (NRT) Grant Award from the Iowa Department of Transportation (IDOT) in the amount of \$100,000 to widen and resurface the Bill Riley Trail in Des Moines.

FISCAL IMPACT—

The total cost for this project is \$275,000. The amount of funding awarded from National Recreational Trails Program Grant is \$100,000. The remaining \$175,000 will be funded through the City's Capital Improvement Program (CIP), Park Improvements, Recreation Trails, CP040 PKS990000 PKS045.

RECOMMENDATION—

Approval

BACKGROUND—

The 1.7-mile Bill Riley Trail in Greenwood/Ashworth Park and Water Works Park is the oldest and one of the most popular trails in the City of Des Moines. It maintains a width of 8-feet for approximately 1.1 miles of the total length of the trail, with the remainder of the trail being 10-feet wide. The portion of the trail that is 8-feet in width is also the oldest portion of the trail. The original construction occurred in 1973. The asphalt has reached the end of its useful life and has been patched many times. Existing usage rates along the trail cannot be supported by an 8-foot trail, and higher usage rates are expected from the connection of

the Walnut Creek Trail to the Bill Riley. This grant will help to widen and resurface the Bill Riley Trail to a width of 10-feet along the entire length of the trail.

Previous upgrades and enhancements to the trail have included the repair and enhancement of storm water facilities. In the fall of 2004, a project was completed to divert overland storm water flows into existing culverts under the trail. Also, several culverts were widened and enhanced to prevent storm water from leaving debris along the trail as part of the project. This project for widening and resurfacing of the trail is scheduled for bid through the Iowa Department of Transportation in May 2006 with completion by the fall of 2006.