


COUNCIL COMMUNICATION

	Number:	21-212	Meeting:	May 10, 2021
	Agenda Item:	40	Roll Call:	21-0707
	Submitted by:	Benjamin R. Page, Park and Recreation Director		

AGENDA HEADING:

Approval of donation and naming agreement with the Thomas and Linda Koehn Foundation and Des Moines Parks and Recreation Foundation for the Boardwalk at MacRae Park and naming the boardwalk the “Linda and Thomas Koehn Boardwalk at MacRae Park.”

SYNOPSIS:

Approving the donation and naming agreement with the Thomas and Linda Koehn Foundation and Des Moines Parks and Recreation Foundation for the Boardwalk at MacRae Park and naming the boardwalk the “Linda and Thomas Koehn Boardwalk at MacRae Park.” This generous \$200,000 donation will support the construction of an iconic boardwalk feature at MacRae Park pond which includes fishing access points serving one (1) of the highest quality, highest use urban fishing opportunities in Iowa.

FISCAL IMPACT:

Amount: \$200,000 charitable donation

Funding Source: Donation \$200,000: 2021-2022 Recommended CIP, PK179 MacRae Park Improvements, Page 75

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

- MacRae Park was acquired in 1897 and was formerly known as South Park. This 62.7-acre landmark site is located just south of downtown Des Moines.
- The park has been in a state of renovation since 2017 with multiple phases already complete. Past phases include enclosing the Works Progress Administration (WPA) era Walker Shelter, construction of Phases 1 and 2 of the park road with additional parking and park loop trail, the EMC Overlook, the Julie and Woody Brenton Shelter and dredging plus related improvements to MacRae pond. Investments to date total roughly \$2.7 million in construction, which was funded in part by many generous donors.
- The Linda and Thomas Koehn Boardwalk at MacRae Park is part of the overall Phase 3 renovations to MacRae Park that include this element, major roadway and trail improvement, the destination Larry E. Moore Natural Playscape, a new open-air shelter and other related

work. This generous donation will specifically support the new boardwalk over MacRae pond set to begin construction in spring 2021 and completed by fall 2022.

- This donation agreement between the City of Des Moines and Thomas and Linda Koehn Foundation and the Friends of Des Moines Parks provides for the Friends to make such charitable donation to the City for the boardwalk, that the boardwalk will be named the “Linda and Thomas Koehn Boardwalk at MacRae Park” and in order to expedite such naming, the City Council desires to waive the requirements of the City’s Policy for Naming of Streets, Facilities and Park Land for the naming of such boardwalk in honor of Linda and Thomas Koehn and to acknowledge such a generous donation.



PREVIOUS COUNCIL ACTION(S):

Date: April 19, 2021

Roll Call Number: [21-0654](#)

Action: [MacRae](#) Park Improvements Phase 3: Resolution approving plans, specifications, form of contract documents, engineer's estimate, receive and file bids and designating lowest responsible bidder as Minturn, Inc. (Clinton M. Rhoads, President), \$2,932,177.50. ([Council Communication No. 21-181](#)) Moved by Mandelbaum to adopt. Motion Carried 7-0.

BOARD/COMMISSION ACTION(S):

Board: Access Advisory Board

Date: March 17, 2021

Resolution Number: 21-14

Action: Motion by Thompson to Approve. Seconded by Bowman. Motion Carried 9-0.

ANTICIPATED ACTIONS AND FUTURE COMMITMENTS:

Partial payments to the contractor and final acceptance of work.

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