


COUNCIL COMMUNICATION

	Number:	22-040	Meeting:	February 7, 2022
	Agenda Item:	12I	Roll Call:	22-161
	Submitted by:	Benjamin R. Page, Park and Recreation Director		

AGENDA HEADING:

Approval of Resource Enhancement and Protection (REAP) Grant Agreement with the Iowa Department of Natural Resources (IDNR).

SYNOPSIS:

Recommend approval of the IDNR Agreement Number 22-R4-JV for \$300,000 in REAP funding for the Beaverdale Park Woodland Restoration. Major components of the project include improving Beaverdale Park's natural woodland to enhance recreational use by select-thinning the timber stand, removing invasive plant species, employing prescribed fire management, native seeding, removing undesirable tree species, preserving key native species, and constructing storm water management efforts such as weir walls and stream bank armoring.

FISCAL IMPACT:

Amount: \$300,000 Resource Enhancement and Protection Program funding revenue toward an overall restoration and storm water management plan estimate of \$325,000.

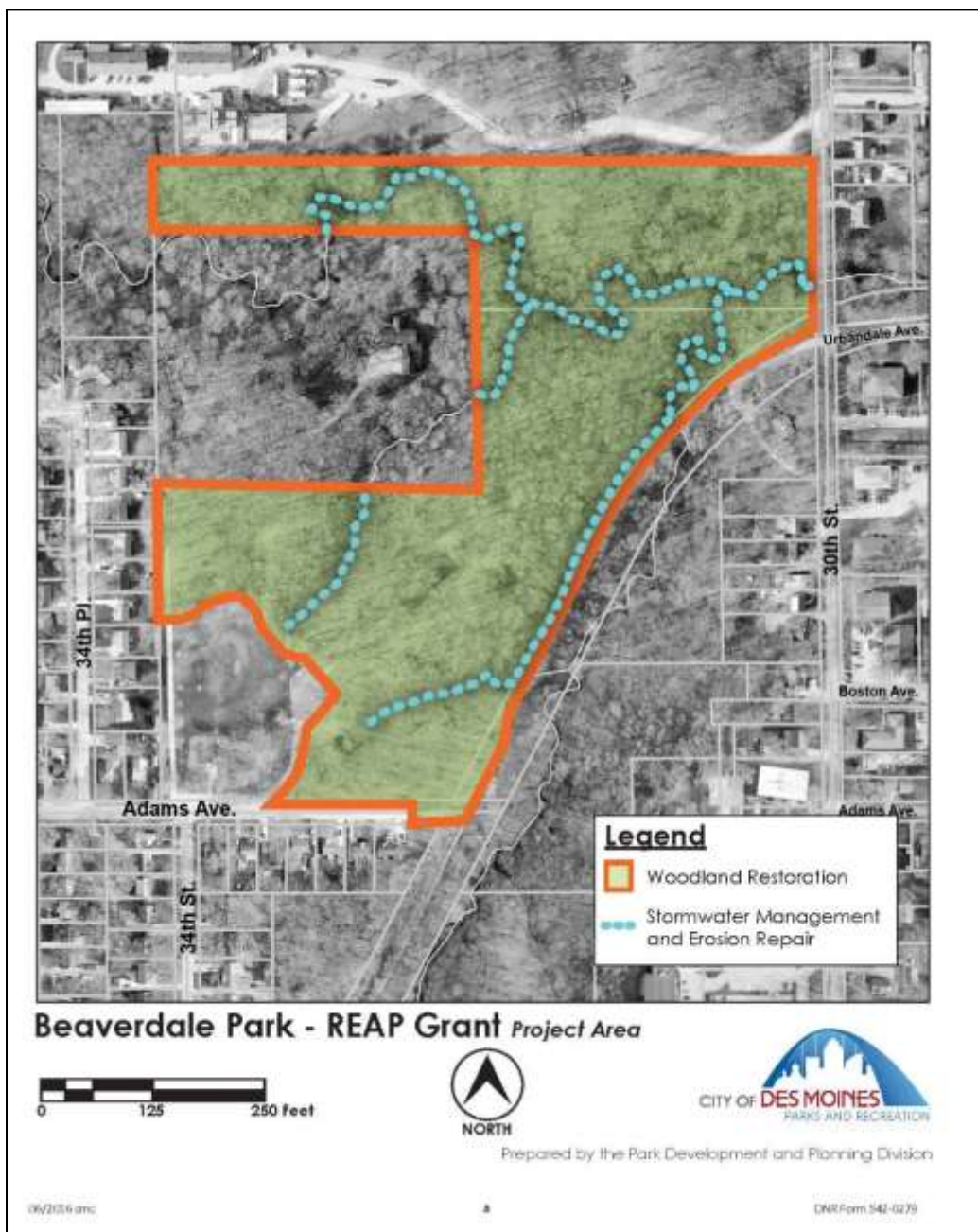
Funding Source: 2021-2022 CIP, Page 66, Park Improvements, PK137, Being: \$300,000 in IDNR REAP Program, and \$25,000 transfer from 2021-2022 CIP, Page 72, Urban Conservation Programs, PK167, G.O. Bonds issued.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

- Beaverdale Park is located in the northwest area of the City in the Beaverdale Neighborhood. The park's 20 acres of natural woodland holds great opportunity but is in need of restoration. Such efforts will also support future implementation of park improvements, which were requested by the Beaverdale Neighborhood Association.
- On September 13, 2021, by Roll Call No. 21-1423, the City Council approved the Parks and Recreation Department's application for a \$300,000 IDNR REAP award for Beaverdale Park Woodland Restoration. This application required that the City Council provide certain authorizations and certifications when making the application, including the responsibility for project completion as outlined in the project grant proposal.
- This project will improve and protect the natural woodland area by enhancing the existing canopy and protecting key native species. Woodland restoration will include invasive species

removal, stormwater management improvements, prescribed fire management, native seeding and on-going work after invasive species are initially removed. The project is planned to begin summer 2022.

- As a requirement of the REAP grant, the City will make a concerted effort to procure goods and services related to this project's work from Targeted Small Businesses in compliance with all state, federal and City of Des Moines procurement requirements, laws and ordinances.
- The restoration will support future low-impact improvements, such as outdoor educational spaces and granular soft-surface pathways. Such features will accommodate Parks and Recreation environmental education programming, provide residents with access to the natural woodland and creeks of Beaverdale Park and provide opportunities for advocacy, interpretation, and stewardship of Beaverdale Park's natural resources.



PREVIOUS COUNCIL ACTION(S):

Date: September 13, 2021

Roll Call Number: [21-1423](#)

Action: [Ratification](#) of Iowa Department of Natural Resources (IDNR) Resource Enhancement and Protection (REAP) funding grant [application](#) seeking \$300,000 for Beaverdale Park Woodland Restoration. ([Council Communication No. 21-389](#)) Moved by Boesen to adopt. Motion Carried 6-1. Absent: Westergaard.

BOARD/COMMISSION ACTION(S): NONE

ANTICIPATED ACTIONS AND FUTURE COMMITMENTS:

Anticipated actions include ordering construction, public hearing, receive and file bids, designate lowest bidder, contract and bond approval, partial payments to the contractor, and final acceptance of work.

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