

Iowa Department of Natural Resources

REAP LARGE (> 25,000 pop.) City Parks and Open Spaces Grant

City of Des Moines / Derek Hansen
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Des Moines, IA 50317, United States
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Submitted: August 30, 2021

Forms

General Application Information

* indicates a required field

1. Applicant

City of Des Moines

2. Contact Person

Aaron Graves

3. Email Address

afgraves@dmgov.org

4. Telephone Number

(515) 248-6355

5. Applicant Mailing Address

400 Robert D. Ray Drive, Des Moines, Iowa 50309

6. County

Polk County

7. Project 911 Address (if available)

3333 Adams Ave, Des Moines, IA 50310

8. Latitude/Longitude Coordinates:

(To find Lat/Long Coordinates: Go to Google Map. Right-click on the primary public access point for the project. Select What's here? In the search box at the top of the page, the coordinates will appear.)

41°37'20.7"N 93°39'43.7"W

9. Grant Amount Requested

How much money are you requesting for this grant round?

300000

General Project Timeline

* indicates a required field

1.

Is the project a portion of a larger, overall project to be implemented over a multi-year period?

No

2. If yes, estimated years to completion

3. Estimated costs of the overall project

325000

4. Estimated Project Start Date

09/15/2022

5. Estimated Project End Date

04/15/2023

REAP LARGE (over 25,000 pop.) City Parks and Open Spaces Grant Application * indicates a required field

1. City Population

Provide the population of the city based on the 2020 Census data. Population must be over 25,000 2000 to apply in the large city category.

214133

2. Quality of the site and/or project (30 points)

If acquisition, include the number of acres and describe the resources and existing facilities/improvements on and adjacent to the property. Also describe its prospective use and management goals. If rare, unique, or high quality plant and animal species and communities occur on the site, provide a listing. Upload a map and pictures.

If development, describe the facilities to be constructed, existing facilities in the project area and the natural resources in the area. Upload a map and pictures. If this project is part of a larger project, very clearly detail the portion that this application is covering. If this application is for the continuation of a project that previously received a REAP grant, provide a status report of the project elements that were previously funded. Describe the relationship to any other local, state or federal park areas.

Describe any resources of historical nature on the project site, such as buildings, Native American burial mounds, historic trails, architectural features and archaeological elements. Explain impacts on these resources that will be caused by the project.

If applicant does not possess all fee title interest in property, please explain. Additionally, explain contractual or joint agreements with other parties for operation and maintenance of the site and facilities. Enclose copies of any such agreements and other ownership conditions on the property.

Sports complexes, play grounds and dog parks do not qualify for REAP funds. The minimum width of a multi-use or biking trail is 8 feet, while 10 feet is recommended.

The southwest 4-acre corner of Beaverdale Park has existing park features for outdoor recreation. The features include an outdated public restroom, off-street parking lot, open lawn space, an accessible 5–12 yr old playground, open-air shelter, and street access to the Inter-Urban Trail. The remaining 20 acres of Beaverdale Parkland is a woodland area where the restoration project will be. The woodland canopy includes large critical native species, including specimen oaks and hickories exhibiting tree form typical to a savanna setting.

Internal site analysis of the park's historic native vegetation communities, soils data, and historic aerials indicate that the woodland was historically a North-Central Bur Oak-dominated. The GIS analysis is included within the project portfolio attachments. The woodland has remained primarily undisturbed since being acquired by the City in 1932; thus, the canopy has slowly expanded, creating dense shade. From historic aerials, only the southwest corner of the site has seen the drastic change to accommodate human use as the area around Beaverdale Park began to develop. The undulating topography of Beaverdale Park likely made development undesirable. The non-developable land resulted in the remnant woodland before becoming adopted as a park by The City of Des Moines in 1932. The Office of the State Archaeologist's I-Sites Public Web Map indicates that the section surrounding Beaverdale Park is close to two pre-historic sites. While their location is unknown, this project should not impact those pre-historic sites, given the nature of the work proposed.

This woodland has become under-managed due to deferred maintenance but has retained a moderate quality of a healthy eco-system. The Beaverdale Park woodland restoration project goal is to enhance this natural resource by initial mitigation efforts to address invasive species, overgrowth from fire suppression, and runoff-based erosion throughout the area to bring the woodlands of Beaverdale Park to a high-quality eco-system for future habitat and low-impact outdoor recreation use. This project intends to enhance and protect the woodland area with minimal impacts to the existing canopy and protection of native key species.

The project scope for the Beaverdale Woodland Restoration Project will include selective thinning for timber stand improvement, invasive species removal, stone check dams/weir installation, streambank shaping and armoring, prescribed fire management, native seeding, and invasive species treatments.

Woodland invasive species are sporadically located along the edges and throughout the woodland area. Their management will include removal by mechanical extraction or forestry mowing. Locations involving invasive species removal within critical root zones of protected native tree species, or other protected plant species of interest, will need to be addressed with specified herbicide treatments to reduce disturbance. After resprouting, the prescribed burn will set back invasives further. After the prescribed burn and before the winter season, we will apply a native woodland seed mix. The following spring, invasive species treatment will be applied to any remaining invasive plant material starting to develop.

The current proposed stormwater management issues are addressed by reducing runoff rates with native vegetation, slowing runoff with stone check dams, and increased resiliency through

streambank armoring. All of these strategies contribute to increasing groundwater recharge rates. The impervious surfaces in Beaverdale Park and increasingly flashy storms have caused an increase in erosion, as seen in the project portfolio. With the historical development of the City and the Beaverdale Neighborhood, faster and larger volumes of stormwater runoff have been flowing into the park's ravines, causing erosion that is becoming increasingly severe. One stormwater management strategy will include the demolition of the existing shelter and old restroom building. Both buildings were constructed in natural drainage ways, thus increasing the volume of stormwater runoff near the streams in the woodland. Slowing down stormwater runoff will increase the capacity for water to recharge into the ground. With the invasive species removal and seeding of native herbaceous vegetation, the City anticipates reduced runoff and higher rates of groundwater recharge in the area. In addition to slowing down water, the project calls for armoring of stream banks. Some locations along the stream banks in Beaverdale Park are experiencing large soil sluffs from many stormwater events incrementally eroding the bank, causing failure and sediment wash out. The project intends to reduce the undermining occurring at locations along the stream banks, thus reducing the risk of further erosion on site.

This project would start site preparations for future enhancements for low-impact recreation, such as outdoor educational spaces and granular pathways. These uses will accommodate a wide variety of environmental education programs run by the Parks and Recreation Department and provide safe access for the public and wildlife to utilize and enjoy the natural woodland and creeks of Beaverdale Park. In addition, low-impact recreational uses help promote the protection of the woodland area, increase the marketability of natural resources, and provide opportunities for stewardship of this natural resource.

High Quality Vegetation for Opening; Woodland, North-Central Bur Oak Inventory of Site: (Iowa NRCS Plant Community Species List) and the Potential Wildlife habitat protection of Site:

Carex spp. (Variety): Chickadees

Carya ovata: Eastern Phoebe

Elymus virginicus: Kestrel

Geranium maculatum: Wood Ducks

Quercus alba: Hooded Mergansers

Quercus macrocarpa: Bats

Quercus rubra ground: Bees

Quercus velutina: Bluebirds

Rubus allegheniensis: White-tail deer

3. Attach maps of project

Please attach a detailed map of the proposed project. Please make sure that the proposed project is clearly indicated on the map. If presenting multiple maps, they must be grouped into one document.

[Beaverdale Park_Existing Conditions and Project Area.jpg](#)

4. Relationship to local, regional and state plans (40 points)

Describe project justification and need. Make references to the County REAP plan, current Iowa Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (SCORP), Iowa Wildlife Action Plan and other local plans that help direct conservation and recreation programs. Do not include entire plans in the application.

This project will uniquely contribute to the SCORP plan as follows:

Priority 1-Goal 2 (SCORP, p. 46) Preservation and management of the Beaverdale Woodland bring affordable ways for low-impact recreation use. According to The Trust for Public Land, Beaverdale Park serves 3,622 residences within a 10-minute walk from the park providing affordable, close-to-home outdoor recreation opportunities that directly benefit area residents and visitors. Priority 3-Goal 3(SCORP, p. 62) We offer a wide variety of outdoor recreational activities, and Beaverdale is no different. Elevating Beaverdale Park's natural resources will create an asset worth keeping and protecting long term by restoring the natural environment. Preserving natural resources like those in Beaverdale Park have allowed the Parks Department to become a key asset for residents and visitors of Des Moines, area wildlife, and serving as an economic driver and trend-setter for future environmentally conscious development around our parks and open spaces. Restoring the woodlands of Beaverdale Park will also provide future opportunities for volunteer stewardship further to develop a sense of community buy-in and ownership.

This project will uniquely contribute to the Polk County REAP Plan as follows:

Polk County REAP Goals (Polk County REAP Plan, pg. 4) Beaverdale Park has preserved 20 acres of oak-hickory dominant woodlands for 90 plus years. Today, this natural resource has moderately degraded to acceptable quality levels, but like REAP, the City wants to maintain high-quality natural environments for public enjoyment and wildlife benefit. Invasive species and matured undesirable trees are growing sporadically throughout the area due to deferred maintenance. The opportunity to enhance this woodland area would offer a high-quality protected natural resource to the Beaverdale neighborhood. Additional funding resources would enable the City to address all degraded locations and prevail with significantly improved woodland. After the initial restoration project is complete, the City will develop an ongoing maintenance plan for the woodland to continue its management long-term. Given plans for low-impact recreation, the Parks and Recreation Department will be more responsible for protecting this investment and maintaining a high-quality natural resource. Focus Areas, B. Enhancement and Development (Polk County REAP Plan, pg. 4) The Beaverdale Woodland Restoration Project impacts residents and visitors to the City of Des Moines. Those who enjoy the Inter-Urban Trail will enjoy the benefits of enhancing the woodland area because the trail runs along the east side of the park boundary providing views into the woodland understory. The trees create an enclosed canopy over the trail providing adequate shading and a unique experience. The project will also directly impact park users who have never had the chance to explore the natural resources of Beaverdale Park. With an abundance of poison ivy, much of the woodland deters people from experiencing the natural beauty. In addition, understory brush and undesirable volunteer trees inhibit views through the woodland generating concern for safety and security. Addressing these issues with restoration efforts is vital to maintaining a healthy woodland area and improving the overall safety and well-being of residents and visitors of Beaverdale Park. The woodland restoration provides

the opportunity for residents and visitors to explore the site without concern for their well-being. Access to natural resources provides a sense of curiosity which brings in people from all over. Restoration will also provide additional locations for environmental education programs such as insect investigations, guided bird watching, Monarch butterfly citizen science, pollinator habitat construction, geo-caching, and more.

This project will uniquely contribute to the Iowa Wildlife Action Plan as follows:

(Chapter 4, Habitats of Species of Greatest Conservation Need, Priorities for Habitat Protection, pg. 80) Beaverdale Park's woodland location provides a 20-acre habitat area for wildlife of the region. With the moderate health of the woodlands, maintaining and restoring this area will benefit a wide array of Iowa wildlife. Additionally, the project restoration efforts will provide an opportunity to plant greater diversity of native species to help support more species, thus making them more accessible and generating human empathy through exposure. The protection of this land will keep the site from future development, provide healthy core habitat for wildlife, benefit water quality, and provide low-impact recreation opportunities for visitors of the Beaverdale Park.

This project will uniquely contribute to the City's LiveDSM Plan as follows: (Goals to Realize the Vision of LiveDSM, Goal 4-Improve Natural Systems, pg. 14) The Parks and Recreation Department's comprehensive plan calls for greater focus on managing and improving natural resources throughout the City. Funding support is being sought after to support the goal, and once the investment is complete, ongoing maintenance will become management with the current staffing resources available. In addition, restoration of the area enhances the natural legacy of our department and provides an opportunity to explore and discover Iowa's natural resources.

This project will uniquely contribute to the Beaverdale Neighborhood Association Plan as follows: (Goal Four: Improve infrastructure in the neighborhood, maintain a high quality of our parks, pg. 21) The Beaverdale Neighborhood Association has already implemented a sense of stewardship over the parks within their neighborhood plan. Investing in restoring this woodland area will reinvigorate the sense of pride and ownership while also increasing the number of eyes on the park, reducing the number of undesirable activities occurring within the property.

5. Environmental Benefits (20 points)

Describe the environmental impacts of the proposed project. Identify any features of the project that protect or improve water quality and habitat, reduce energy and water use or are innovative.

Beaverdale Park provides an opportunity to improve a well-established woodland in an urban area. Not only is there a need to protect this fleeting resource but provide solutions for the preservation and management of natural resources in Iowa. The Beaverdale Park Woodland Restoration project will implement mitigation strategies to address existing environmental issues within the 20 acres of woodlands located within the park.

There are two primary areas of focus in the project: woodland restoration and stormwater management. The woodland restoration component includes several practices to preserve and improve the plant community deemed appropriate for restoration (Opening, North-Central Bur Oaks), thus benefitting the habitat that results from it. The practices include selective thinning for

timber stand improvement, invasive species management, prescribed fire management, seeding a native woodland mix, and follow-up spot treatments as needed. Identifying the impacts of disturbance when implementing this project is a necessity. The Parks and Recreation Department will identify vital native species and install protective fencing around the critical root zones. The protection fencing will allow a forestry machine to remove the invasive species while minimizing disturbance in the root zones. Invasive species within or near the critical root zone of vital native species will need to be addressed by hand-removing or introducing selective herbicide treatments to remove undesirable species. A further on-site investigation will also guide thinning and timber stand improvement to allow further sunlight penetration to the woodland understory promoting growth conditions for native shrub and herbaceous species. This process will benefit wildlife by protecting the in-tact habitats, favor species that provide forage and cover, eliminate invasive species that favor generalists, and provide new habitats by increasing biodiversity. We will achieve this by preserving several mixed organic debris piles or creating new snags and den trees via girdling during the thinning effort. These will support a variety of terrestrial species. Bolstering the upland natural habitat could benefit numerous mammals, bluebirds, chickadees, eastern phoebes, kestrels, wood ducks, hooded mergansers, pollinating insects, and multiple bat species which favor the bark of oak and hickory trees for nesting. Reptilian and amphibian species common to woodlands will also benefit from increased biodiversity and stormwater management practices.

The second major component of the project is stormwater management. Erosion within the woodland ravines has triggered a \$120,000 storm sewer repair along the trail, thus indicating intervention is needed. Selective thinning and seeding will allow for sunlight penetration to reinvigorate the herbaceous layer whose fibrous roots hold soil in place. The removal of two buildings constructed in drainage ways will directly reduce runoff from hard surfaces. The installation of check dams will assist in slowing water, thus reducing the risk of erosion while increasing travel time and infiltration. Repairing and armoring streambanks will reduce erosion that drives significant soil sluffing and the release of captured carbon and phosphorus in the soil. We will apply a native woodland seed mix throughout the 20 acres, which will help reinvigorate the herbaceous layer, improve water quality infiltration and biofiltration, benefit the wildlife through seeds for forage and flowers through multiple seasons for pollinator species. This project will bring awareness to the natural beauty this ecosystem has to offer.

Introducing mitigation efforts now will prepare the site for future streamlined operation and maintenance. After establishing the woodland as a high-quality environment, the Parks and Recreation department can institute volunteer programs to assist our Natural Resources Team with preserving this improved environment. Our department's Natural Resources Team is small, so a restored habitat will be much more manageable in the future. Ongoing management includes selective herbicide treatments as needed for returning unwanted woody and herbaceous plants, periodic prescribed burns, and other solutions as needed. Funding initial restoration efforts will incentivize our department to add additional resources to help manage and maintain the improved area. Having Des Moines residents more involved with protecting this natural area will also help preserve this space from future development.

6. Public Benefit Served (20 points)

Identify benefits to be derived from the project in terms of populations being served and resource management/protection. This discussion should also include expected impacts caused by users, as well as impacts on economic, cultural, aesthetic and quality of life.

Proposed projects, must meet the requirements described in the Assurance of Compliance with Americans with Disabilities and Civil Rights. Explain how development projects meet these requirements.

According to the Trust for Public Land, Beaverdale Park serves 3,622 residents within a 10-minute walk from the park. The Woodland Restoration Project will directly impact those who live in the vicinity of the park. Many home buyers focus on the location of homes with additional amenities located near the property. Walking paths, parks, open spaces, and natural resources all play a role in the value of a home. In general, improvements to a park offer increased value for homes in the area.

Providing new amenities generally generates new park users. Parks that have seen improvements in some fashions have seen growth in users as distinct and unique attractions bring more user groups to the park. Bringing change to the woodland offers an exploration of land, a habitat conducive to many different programs for environmental education like building nesting structures, bat roosting structures, and placing woodland debris on the ground provides an opportunity for a simple way of improving wildlife habitat. Programs implemented after the project like geo-cache and the others listed provide educational experiences to explore and discover natural environments in low-impact ways. Restoring the woodland enables the Parks and Recreation Department to introduce low-impact programs in the future to bring in more park users to explore and discover Beaverdale Park. Although highlighting the improvement will bring more users to the area, the awareness of natural resources promotes the protection and conservation of these areas. Limiting future use to low-impact recreation will help minimize the disturbance and disruption that increased users can have. With the restoration of the woodland, new users and existing users will be experiencing the site.

Today, the woodland has significant poison ivy coverage causing many users to not venture into the woodland area. Unkept viewsheds into the understory resulted in unfavorable activities happening in the woodland area. Proper restoration and undesirable plant removal from the woodland will stop habitat degradation while reducing unwanted activities and promoting safer and less impactful activities in the woodland area. Without intervention, the quality of the Beaverdale woodland will continue to degrade, making it more challenging to restore.

With the Inter-Urban Trail adjacent to the park, there is an opportunity to enhance the multi-use trail user experience and develop the area as a natural resource destination. The restoration of the woodland would provide this user group with scenic views. Selectively opening up the canopy and removing undesirable trees will enhance views and contribute to a growing culture of conservation among trail users. For example, the woodland boasts wolf oaks (large DBH w/horizontal branching), large Shagbark Hickories, and Kentucky Coffee Trees. By exposing these by removing vegetative pressure, Beaverdale park will become a spectacle of natural beauty, offering viewsheds of high-quality habitat while providing the opportunity to see wildlife.

The woodland restoration project will not have any programs or activities that require ADA compliance for access. This project is strictly to enhance and protect the woodland of Beaverdale Park. This project will be on public land open to all user groups regardless of race, gender, or economic status.

This project will have site preparations for granular paths and outdoor educational spaces. Granular pathways and outdoor education areas will introduce new user groups to the park. They will also incentivize the opportunity for exploration and discovery of a natural resource within Beaverdale Park.

7. Local Support (20 points)

Explain the extent of public participation in the formulation of this proposed project. Describe the process and mechanisms used and the findings. Do not include actual public participation reports, board meeting minutes and petitions; rather reference their existence and conclusion in this section.

The Parks Department met with multiple stakeholder groups regarding the woodland restoration project, including the Trails Advisory Group (TAG), the Beaverdale Neighborhood Association, and the City's Environmental Education Specialists. These stakeholders identified and discussed the benefits of restoration and how woodland restoration improvements will positively impact the environment, the park, and park users. Beaverdale Park stakeholder groups provided feedback and offered suggestions concerning the woodland project proposal. In addition, the Parks and Recreation Department focused on the continued success of other woodland restoration projects like Ashby Park to help demonstrate and clarify the means, methods, and positive outcomes.

The general public, park users, and the neighborhood association identified one of the most significant concerns with the existing conditions of the park was visibility and safety. Undesirable activities were occurring in the woodland area with reduced visibility resulting in an unsafe environment for public use. According to the GIS site analysis, much of Beaverdale Park's visibility concerns are due to the woodland area of the park and the current state of the woodland vegetation management. The woodland restoration will focus on woodland and native species restoration, creating and supporting sustainable natural ecosystem attributes such as increased viewsheds into the woodland. Restoration will produce multiple benefits, visible access to the woodland and reducing the undesirable activities and vegetation in the park. In addition, the viewsheds will increase the safety of the park and provide beautification and restoration of native ecosystem function to the woodland area.

The department also notified and coordinated the woodland restoration with the Trails and Greenways Committee (TAG). TAG's interest is in the preservation and restoration of natural areas in and around the City. TAG's focus was on the Inter-Urban trail and the benefits of woodland restoration from a safety aspect, restoration of ecosystems along the trail, and increased beauty and aesthetics. The department discussed woodland improvements and the

positive impacts of the project as it relates to trails specifically. Restoring the woodland would generate destination locations along the trail for all users and allow viewsheds into the woodland. In addition, the woodland restoration will remove undesirable trees and understory vegetation providing site lines to the Inter-Urban Trail. Improving the greenway of the Inter-Urban Trail involves Beaverdale park and the associated woodland. This project brought interest to this committee like other projects that involve the Parks and Recreation Department's trail system and parks. The TAG committee was in full support of the project. They were excited to see the improvements to visibility, beautification, safety, and tree coverage to the Inter-Urban Trail corridor and Beaverdale Park.

Lastly, the department's Supervisor of Environmental Education outlined multiple benefits and impacts the project would provide for the programs offered by the department. The Beaverdale woodland would present another opportunity for interpreting and introducing environmental programs such as; bug collecting, habitat construction, nature walks, species identification, and much more. These programs market the City's natural resources and prevail a sense of ownership and stewardship to the general public and future generations. Introducing and providing natural spaces for environmental education programs is a high-priority incentive tool for showcasing and marketing the grant project and the importance of preserving and protecting natural resources in Des Moines. Programming and educational efforts that highlight, feature, and market natural resources in the City will help the public's perception and demand for further preservation and restoration of high-quality natural resource areas. These areas can provide future programing and low-impact recreation for future generations. The supervisor was excited about the opportunity for programming in Beaverdale Woodland.

8. Letters of Support

Optional - Upload letters of support or other documentation of local support.

[LOS.pdf](#)

9. Public Communications Plan (10 points)

A description of the public communications plan shall be included in every project. If the grant is approved for funding, this plan must be implemented. The plan must include how the applicant will inform and advise users about the importance of the project and plans to promote the project to expected user groups upon completion of the project and into the future. Be creative!

Given the urban setting of the park, residential properties adjacent to the park, and the very informed and involved community, public communications are essential for the woodland restoration to be successful. Our strategy is to build upon the successful public engagement efforts and learn from those that weren't as viable as intended during the previous woodland restoration project. Using these efforts as a building block for this restoration project will set us up for success. The last woodland restoration project we completed was at Ashby Park, in the Beaverdale Neighborhood and roughly two blocks away from Beaverdale Park.

The neighborhood association helped facilitate the public engagement for Ashby Park, which sent direct mailers to area residents. This approach worked well, but not as well for a small number of park neighbors. So, we intend to continue engaging the neighborhood and direct park neighbors early and often through direct mailers, social media posts, and input opportunities. The success at Ashby Park has turned the area into a destination for nature lovers and the department's environmental educator. Today, volunteer and city staff management projects have kept the Ashby Park woodland in high quality as a natural resource. The City desires the same effect on Beaverdale Park.

Addressing the project with the neighborhood upfront and providing information about the initial mitigation efforts will help foster a positive association with the neighborhood. Proper engagement will allow the Parks and Recreation Department to showcase the success of Ashby Park and promote similar ideas at Beaverdale Neighborhood. The public communication plan aims at engaging the general public at events held by the neighborhood association. These events will target the residents who live near or around the park, residents within the Beaverdale community, surrounding neighborhoods, and trail users. Engagement strategies will provide marketing promotion and communicate information to preserve and protect the Beaverdale Park Woodland. Engagement strategies may include precedent pictures, drone footage, poster boards, hand-outs, program demonstrations, and educational information on the restoration and preservation of natural resources. Precedent imagery and drone footage are some of the best tools to communicate the ideas of restoring the Beaverdale woodlands. Precedent imagery will provide examples of past projects the department has successfully implemented and provides context to the means and methods of restoration and preservation management of woodland areas. Drone footage represents a larger context and movement to the surrounding area by aerial footage describing the relationship and proximity to destinations like downtown, other outdoor recreation facilities, and restaurants near Beaverdale Park.

Poster Boards and hand-outs can provide a physical object that residents can use to inform them about the project long-term. Poster Boards represent the project as a whole with crucial information about the project in a concise matter. For example, project maps, contextual photos, perspectives, precedent project imagery, budget, means, and methods are all types of information that could be on the poster board. Hand-outs provide a physical sense of direct connection to the project for residents, including the project management information to help answer questions and respond to concerns about the project. In addition, they often help keep informing the resident about the project as time goes on about upcoming meetings and outreach events.

Program demonstrations and educational information produce a connection between the benefits of natural resource restoration and provide a more exciting engagement strategy for future site users. Program demonstrations often get the general public excited about the future use of a natural resource area. The programmer will have the opportunity to market new and established programs that could benefit from the project. Educational information helps inform the public about best management practices and the importance of management strategies like prescribed fire management. Informing the public of these actions before implementing them will reduce the concerns for changes to a site project.

Our department will also install REAP signage in a highly visible location and promote REAP funding in the project through our social media channels with over 30,000 subscribers. These communication and engagement efforts intend to inform and provide reasoning for the restoration of the Beavertdale woodland area.

10. Communication and Outreach Uploads

Optional - Upload samples or documentation of the public communications plan.

REAP Grant Budget Form

* indicates a required field

1. Project Budget

Provide the budget for your project. Include types of construction, dimensions, lengths. This can be an upload of a budget sheet or completed in the table below. Items that must be included in the budget are: project components, component cost, REAP request, other funding and whether those other funds are secured.

Up to 20% can be used for engineering and design. Appraisal costs are eligible. This itemized cost listing will be the basis for determining what items are eligible for REAP funding. Items not listed will not be eligible for funding under the grant agreement.

Project Component	Component Cost	REAP Request	Other Funding	Secured?
Design/Engineering/Professional Services	25,000	0	CIP	yes
Restoration Contractor Project Fees	24,000	24,000	no	no
Woodland Restoration (Existing Removals)	26,900	26,900	no	no
Woodland Restoration (Native Vegetation)	65,600	65,600	no	no

Woodland Restoration (Post Planting Management)	1,000	1,000	no	no
Natural Waterway Restoration	182,500	182,500	no	no

2. Budget, Funding and Timeline Narrative (optional)

Provide information on budget, funding and timeline of the project. Limit 2000 characters.

The project budget for the Beaverdale Woodland Restoration Project covers the scope of work with a CIP match of \$25,000.00 to cover staff charges and additional items needed for the project. REAP funding will include woodland invasive species removal, storm water management improvements, prescribed fire management, native seeding, post invasive species treatments. Please review the attached file for further detail of the budgeted items.

3. Upload Budget

Upload the budget for your project.

[Beaverdale Park REAP Grant Budget Form.pdf](#)

General Acquisition Schedule

* indicates a required field

This form only needs to be completed if your project is an acquisition request.

1. Type of Purchase

2. Upload an aerial photo of the property to be purchased.

On the aerial photo please indicate the boundary and if there is adjacent public lands, please identify those areas in an alternating color. (Please join multiple pages into 1 pdf to upload if applicable.)

3. Date waiver of retroactivity granted by the Department

Waiver of retroactivity. In case of extreme urgency involving land acquisition, a grant applicant may formally request a written “waiver of retroactivity” which, if granted by the director of the department of natural resources, will permit the applicant to acquire the real property immediately without jeopardizing its chances of receiving a grant. However, the granting of the waiver in no way implies or guarantees that any subsequent grant application covering the acquisition will be selected for funding by the planning committee. The request for the waiver must include justification regarding the urgency of the acquisition, a description of the land to be acquired, and a county map on which the land to be acquired is located. Acceptable justification would include situations in which land is to be sold at auction or by sealed bids or when the landowner requires immediate purchase.

4. Estimated date of acquisition

5. Number of acres to be purchased

6. Land Acquisition Values

Provide estimates of value for columns 2 and 3

7. Additional Land Acquisition Costs

8. Overall Cost Including Incidental

Minority Impact Statement

* indicates a required field

Pursuant to 2008 Iowa Acts, HF 2393, Iowa Code Section 8.11, all grant applications submitted to the State of Iowa shall include a Minority Impact Statement. This is the state’s mechanism to require grant applicants to consider the potential impact of the grant project’s proposed programs or policies on minority groups.

1. I have reviewed the Iowa Code Section 8.11 defining “Minority Persons”

“Minority Persons”, as defined in Iowa Code Section 8.11, mean individuals who are women, persons with a disability, Blacks, Latinos, Asians or Pacific Islanders, American Indians, and Alaskan Native Americans.

“Disability”, as defined in Iowa Code Section 15.102, subsection 5, paragraph “b”, subparagraph (1): b. As used in this subsection: (1) "Disability" means, with respect to an individual, a physical or mental impairment that substantially limits one or more of the major life activities of the individual, a record of physical or mental impairment that substantially limits one or more of the major life activities of the individual, or being regarded as an individual with a physical or mental impairment that substantially limits one or more of the major life activities of the individual.

"Disability" does not include any of the following: (a) Homosexuality or bisexuality. (b) Transvestism, transsexualism, pedophilia, exhibitionism, voyeurism, gender identity disorders not resulting from physical impairments or other sexual behavior disorders. (c) Compulsive gambling, kleptomania, or pyromania. (d) Psychoactive substance abuse disorders resulting from current illegal use of drugs.

“State Agency”, as defined in Iowa Code Section 8.11, means a department, board, bureau, commission, or other agency or authority of the State of Iowa.

Yes

2. Please choose the statement that pertains to this grant application.

Complete all the information requested for the chosen statement.

The proposed grant project programs or policies are NOT EXPECTED to have a disproportionate or unique impact on minority persons.

2.1. Present the rationale for determining no impact.

This project is not expected to have a disproportionate or unique impact on minority persons. Minorities are among the many park users who will benefit from natural resource restoration provided, but the facility will not attract any additional minority persons because of the way it is designed or constructed. Similarly, the facility will not in any way be designed or constructed to limit use by minority persons.

3.

I hereby certify that the information on this form is complete and accurate, to the best of my knowledge:

YES

REAP Signatures

* indicates a required field

1.

Upon signing in the space provided below, the applicant agrees to conform with the requirements in the following two paragraphs pertaining to ADA/Section 504 accessibility guidelines and civil rights assurance.

I, the undersigned, certify that the applying entity has reviewed Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1975, Title II of the American with Disabilities Act of 1990, the Age Discrimination Act of 1975, Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, and the Iowa Civil Rights Act of 1965, each Act as amended, and agrees to abide by all requirements from the Acts, associated regulations, guidance documents, and to any other related requirement imposed by federal or state law or the Iowa Department of Natural Resources, related to this project. Applicant-Recipient further agrees and gives full assurance that it will immediately take any and all measures necessary to effectuate the referenced laws and shall not, on the basis of race, color, creed, national origin, age, physical or mental ability, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, religion, or retaliation, allow any person to be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or otherwise subject to discrimination under or from any project or activity undertaken by the Applicant-Recipient for which the Applicant-Recipient receives REAP grant dollars or other assistance from the Iowa Department of Natural Resources.

This assurance is binding on the Applicant-Recipient, its successors, transferees, and assignees, and the person or persons whose signature appears below are authorized to sign this assurance on behalf of the Applicant-Recipient.

Aaron Graves, City of Des Moines Parks and Recreation Department Park Planner

2. City or County Approval

I, the undersigned, certify that the city council/county conservation board has reviewed this proposed project and approved its submittal for Resource Enhancement and Protection (REAP) grant consideration.

Type name below.

Ben Page, City of Des Moines Parks and Recreation Department Director

3. City Council/County Conservation Board Resolution

Optional - Upload the approved City Council Resolution or minutes approving of the submittal of this application.

[RC #04-395.png](#)

4. REAP County Committee Approval

I, the undersigned, verify that the County Resource Enhancement Committee reviewed the proposed project for which this application is submitted. If the committee provided comments, a summary of those comments has been signed and dated by me and attached to this application.

Type REAP County Chairperson's name below.

Ted Ohmart, Polk County REAP Chair

5. REAP County Committee Chair Email

Provide the email of the REAP County Committee Chairperson.

tvohmart@yahoo.com

6. Upload REAP County Committee Information

Optional - Upload any relevant information from the REAP County Committee. Minutes from meetings, etc.

[REAP Comments CDM 2021.pdf](#)

Certification

* indicates a required field

1.

By checking the box below, I certify that all the information provided in this application is true and correct.

YES

ATTACHMENTS

Letters of Support & Supporting Info (optional)

Upload letters of support or additional information here.

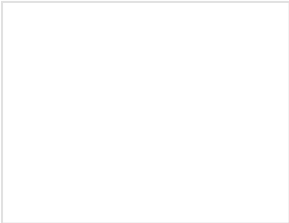
LOS.pdf

Additional Supporting Information (optional)

Combine documents if submitting multiple items.

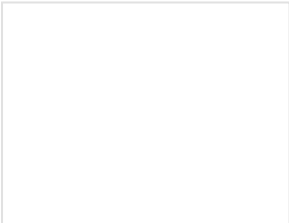
[no file]

PORTFOLIO



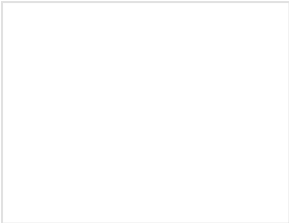
 Beaverdale Park_Existing Conditions

Includes Site analysis to support the Woodland Restoration and Native species selection.



 Beaverdale Park_Existing Project Area

Woodland Restoration Project Maps and Photos to support the project.



 Beaverdale Parks Woodland Species List