



## Resolution 2023-98

### **RESOLUTION APPROVING THE SERVICES AGREEMENT WITH DRIVEN WILD GOOSE CONTROL FOR CANADA GOOSE MITIGATION SERVICES WITH TRAINED BORDER COLLIE SERVICE DOGS AS A PILOT PROJECT FOR THE MINNEAPOLIS PARK AND RECREATION BOARD'S CANADA GOOSE MANAGEMENT PROGRAM EFFECTIVE JUNE 1, 2023, TO DECEMBER 31, 2023, IN THE AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$3,500**

Whereas, The mission of the Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board (MPRB) is to permanently preserve, protect, maintain, improve, and enhance its natural resources, parkland, and recreational opportunities for current and future generations of our region including people, plants, and wildlife;

Whereas, The MPRB is the steward of and responsible for the management of the Minneapolis lakes and water resources;

Whereas, The large populations of Canada geese attracted to Minneapolis parkland and beaches create aesthetic as well as public health and safety issues;

Whereas, The MPRB seeks to mitigate the adverse effects of goose loafing and feeding on water quality and beach health and therefore conducts Canada Goose management efforts including public education, habitat modification, temporary physical barriers, and beach cleanup;

Whereas, The MPRB has engaged in Canada Goose management activities since 1982 and has developed a Canada Goose Management Plan to guide management activities;

Whereas, The MPRB's primary goose management activities are conducted by the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA);

Whereas, Bde Maka Ska Thomas Beach and Wirth Lake Beach host significant summer goose populations that have adverse effects on water quality and beach health, and the MPRB wishes to pilot additional goose mitigation activities with trained Border Collie service dogs at these locations in 2023;

Whereas, The MPRB requested proposals from multiple vendors and accepted the proposal from Driven Wild Goose Control, a Target Market vendor, that has a proven successful background in goose mitigation with trained service dogs and met the required criteria of the MPRB's scope of services for the 2023 project;

Whereas, Driven Wild Goose Control has a standard Services Agreement they utilize to perform contractual services;



Whereas, The MPRB's Environmental Management Department has budgeted contractual funds to cover the expenses of the pilot goose mitigation activities;

Whereas, A Services Agreement has been created between the MPRB and Driven Wild Goose Control delineating the terms of the goose mitigation services and MPRB legal counsel has reviewed and approved the Agreement; and

Whereas, The Agreement is supported by Goal 2 to "Steward a continuum of nature and recreation" of the Parks for All MPRB Comprehensive Plan 2021 - 2036;

RESOLVED, That the Board of Commissioners approve the Services Agreement with Driven Wild Goose Control for Canada Goose mitigation services with trained Border Collie service dogs as a pilot project for the Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board's Canada Goose Management Program effective June 1, 2023, to December 31, 2023, in the amount not to exceed \$3,500; and

RESOLVED, That the President of the Board and Secretary to the Board are authorized to take all necessary actions to implement this resolution.



TO: Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board

FROM: Jeremy Barrick, Assistant Superintendent, Environmental Stewardship

DATE: 5/24/2023

SUBJECT: RESOLUTION APPROVING THE SERVICES AGREEMENT WITH DRIVEN WILD GOOSE CONTROL FOR CANADA GOOSE MITIGATION SERVICES WITH TRAINED BORDER COLLIE SERVICE DOGS AS A PILOT PROJECT FOR THE MINNEAPOLIS PARK AND RECREATION BOARD'S CANADA GOOSE MANAGEMENT PROGRAM EFFECTIVE JUNE 1, 2023, TO DECEMBER 31, 2023, IN THE AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$3,500

---

## **BACKGROUND**

This action considers approval of the Services Agreement (*Attachment B*) with Driven Wild Goose Control for Canada Goose Mitigation Services with trained Border Collie service dogs as a pilot project for the Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board's Canada Goose Management Program effective June 1, 2023, to December 31, 2023, in the amount not to exceed \$3,500.

Large numbers of Canada geese roosting (resting overnight) and loafing (congregating in the daytime) in Minneapolis parks and beaches can lead to aesthetic as well as public health and safety issues. As part of its stewardship and management of the lakes and water resources within the city of Minneapolis, the Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board (MPRB) maintains a Canada Goose Management Plan and conducts efforts including public education, habitat modification, temporary physical barriers, and beach cleanup. In addition, the MPRB has engaged in Canada Goose management services with university, private, and government agencies since 1982.

Currently, the MPRB holds an agreement with the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) to conduct Canada Goose management services including egg oiling, nest management, and prevalence surveys. Environmental Management staff plan to pilot additional goose mitigation activities in 2023, including deterrent buoys at Bde Maka Ska 32<sup>nd</sup> Street Beach and Harriet Southeast Beach. Staff would also like to pilot the services provided by Driven Wild Goose Control. Driven Wild works with trained Border Collie service dogs to drive geese off targeted areas to prevent them from congregating, loafing, feeding, and defecating. The 2023 pilot project use of trained service dogs would be conducted and evaluated at Bde Maka Ska Thomas and Wirth Lake Beaches.

The MPRB requested proposals from multiple vendors and accepted the proposal (*Attachment A*) from Driven Wild Goose Control, a Target Market vendor, that has a proven successful background in goose mitigation with trained service dogs and met the required criteria of the



MPRB's scope of services for the 2023 project. Driven Wild Goose Control has a standard Services Agreement that they utilize to perform contractual services.

A Services Agreement (*Attachment B*) has been created between the MPRB and Driven Wild Goose Control delineating the terms for the goose mitigation services. MPRB legal counsel has reviewed and approved the Services Agreement.

MPRB's Environmental Management Department has budgeted contractual funds to cover the expenses of the 2023 pilot project.

### **RECOMMENDATION**

Staff recommends that the Board of Commissioners approve the Services Agreement with Driven Wild Goose Control for Canada Goose mitigation services with trained Border Collie service dogs as a pilot project for the Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board's Canada Goose Management Program effective June 1, 2023, to December 31, 2023, in the amount not to exceed \$3,500.

This action is supported by the following goal and strategy statements in the Parks for All Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board 2021-2036 Comprehensive Plan:

- Goal 2:** Steward a continuum of nature and recreation
- Strategy 1:** Prioritize preservation of historic, cultural, and scenic resources with protection of natural resources and contemporary recreational needs in park management, design, implementation, interpretation, and development decisions

### **Attachments**

Attachment A: Driven Wild Thomas and Wirth Beach Proposals 2023

Attachment B: MPRB 2023 Services Agreement with Driven Wild

*Jbr 5.24.2023.*