

Per Section 16 of the Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board Rules of the Board, amendments and additions to the agenda submitted by the MPRB will be posted by 5 pm the day before the scheduled committee or full-board meeting of the Board of Commissioners.

From: Brooks, Mae R. <MBrooks@minneapolisparcs.org>
Sent: Tuesday, October 17, 2023 11:53 AM
To: Alper, Becky L. <BALper@minneapolisparcs.org>; Bangoura, Al K. <ABangoura@minneapolisparcs.org>; Ringold, Jennifer B. <JRingold@minneapolisparcs.org>; Schroeder, Michael <MSchroeder@minneapolisparcs.org>; Arvidson, Adam R. <AArvidson@minneapolisparcs.org>; Goodrich, John T. <JGoodrich@minneapolisparcs.org>; Deneson, Catherine J. <CDeneson@minneapolisparcs.org>; Forney, Meg A. <MForney@minneapolisparcs.org>
Subject: RE: [External]Resolution 2023-184 Amendments

Hi all,
We will add this as an amendment to resolution 2023-184.
Thanks.
Mae

From: Alper, Becky L. <BALper@minneapolisparcs.org>
Sent: Tuesday, October 17, 2023 11:36 AM
To: Bangoura, Al K. <ABangoura@minneapolisparcs.org>; Ringold, Jennifer B. <JRingold@minneapolisparcs.org>; Schroeder, Michael <MSchroeder@minneapolisparcs.org>; Arvidson, Adam R. <AArvidson@minneapolisparcs.org>; Goodrich, John T. <JGoodrich@minneapolisparcs.org>; Deneson, Catherine J. <CDeneson@minneapolisparcs.org>; Brooks, Mae R. <MBrooks@minneapolisparcs.org>; Forney, Meg A. <MForney@minneapolisparcs.org>
Subject: Fwd: [External]Resolution 2023-184 Amendments

Good morning all,

I respectfully submit these amendments to resolution 2023-184 for potential consideration at tomorrow's Park Board meeting.

Best,
Becky

Becky Alper, District 3 Commissioner
Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board
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I try to respond to all my emails within 2 business days. If you have an urgent matter, please call my cell phone.

Intento responder a todos mis correos electrónicos dentro de 2 días de negocio. Si usted tiene un asunto urgente, por favor llame a mi teléfono celular.

Waxaan isku dayaa inaan kaga jawaabo dhammaan iimayladayda 2 maalmood oo shaqo gudahood. Haddii aad qabto arrin degdeg ah, fadlan wac taleefanka gacanta.

Resolution 2023-184

RESOLUTION GRANTING A PERMANENT EASEMENT TO CITY OF MINNEAPOLIS FOR THE NOKOMIS AVENUE STORM SEWER OUTFALL PROJECT LOCATED WITHIN THE MINNEHAHA PARKWAY REGIONAL TRAIL

Whereas, The Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board (MPRB) was created by the Minnesota Legislature in April 1883 and has the authority to manage and operate park facilities;

Whereas, The MPRB owns and operates Minnehaha Parkway Regional Trail in Minneapolis, Minnesota;

Whereas, The City of Minneapolis (City) operates multiple utilities and public works, including storm sewers within Minneapolis, Minnesota;

Whereas, The City owns and operates a storm sewer that outfalls at Minnehaha Creek, near Nokomis Avenue within Minnehaha Parkway Regional Trail;

Whereas, The City has made it known that the outfall of its storm sewer near Nokomis Avenue is failing and requires replacement (Project);

Whereas, As part of the Project, the city intends to construct a water quality structure (BMP), storm sewer system and outfall pipe that together will convey and treat stormwater runoff from the street storm sewer before it discharges into the creek;

Whereas, The outfall pipe is proposed in a new alignment with an open discharge at the bank of Minnehaha Creek;

Whereas, Stream banks often erode at the point of storm sewer discharges, the proposed pipe outfall system will include bank protection to hard-armor the shoreline to minimize bank erosion;

Whereas, the MPRB and the City are NPDES Phase I co-permittees;

Whereas, As a requirement of the NPDES permit, BMPs and outfalls must be inspected at a designated frequency with follow-up maintenance performed "as soon as possible;"

Whereas, The City requires access and legal rights to construct, maintain, use, and operate the storm sewer and outfall, a portion of both of which are located within Minnehaha Parkway Regional Trail;

Whereas, The City has coordinated closely with MPRB staff on the investigation and negotiation of the proposed permanent easement for that portion of its facilities within Minnehaha Parkway Regional Trail;

Whereas, MPRB staff has requested compensation for the proposed permanent easement, given the impact to regional parkland;

Whereas, Aging stormwater infrastructure and unaddressed maintenance leads to costly damage from pipe failures, poorly performing stormwater infrastructure, etc;

Whereas, Minneapolis residents have an interest in working stormwater infrastructure and regular maintenance;

Whereas, all Minneapolis property owners pay a stormwater utility fee, generating \$45.2 million annually across the city, the majority of which is used by the City of Minneapolis for storm sewer infrastructure maintenance, rehabilitation, engineering, street cleaning, capital improvement projects, and regulatory activities;

Whereas, MPRB currently receives a portion of this fee, \$700,000, as a reimbursement for water quality monitoring and stormwater education activities and as a property owner pays approximately \$450,000 annually, netting \$250,000;

Whereas, MPRB requested and is estimated to receive a greater portion of this stormwater utility fee for a total of \$1,324,000 in 2024 minus the \$450,000 payment, netting \$874,000;

Whereas, it is almost certain that the Project is being paid for by stormwater utility fees, and thus Minneapolis property owners;

Whereas, the majority of MPRB's annual operating budget comes from property taxes paid for by Minneapolis residents;

Whereas, the charging of an easement fee of \$58,429 for this necessary stormwater infrastructure repair represents an additional fee that will ultimately be borne by the taxpayers of Minneapolis;

Whereas, regional parks within MPRB are underfunded and the shortfall is made up by the taxpayers in Minneapolis;

Whereas, the taxpayers of Minneapolis also financially support Minneapolis Public Schools;

Whereas, Minneapolis Public Schools is seeing declining enrollment and related financials issues, leading to the closure of school facilities throughout Minneapolis;

Whereas, many of these closed MPS facilities have park-like features including playgrounds and fields;

Whereas, in 2023 MPRB was ranked #3 park system in the country by Trust for Public Land based on the inclusion of many of these at-risk facilities in the calculation of MPRB's Park Score;

Whereas, Minneapolis residents have a shared interest in retaining these MPS park-like features across the City of Minneapolis;

Whereas, the Easement fee for this Project is currently destined to the Special Revenue Fund – Land Purchase Reserve to be used on land acquisition;

Whereas, Mayor Jacob Frey has advocated for Minneapolis to become a candidate for UNICEF's Child Friendly Cities Initiative and the announcement of this candidacy occurred in February 2023;

Whereas, Mayor Jacob Frey was instrumental in MPRB's stormwater initiative to increase the portion of the fee due to MPRB;

Whereas, a net loss of playgrounds and fields across the city would make Minneapolis less child-friendly;

Whereas, This resolution is supported by Parks for All, the MPRB Comprehensive Plan 2021-2036, under Goal 4: “Work from our strengths and determine our role in partnerships;”

RESOLVED, That the Board of Commissioners grants a Permanent Easement to City of Minneapolis for the Nokomis Avenue Storm Sewer Outfall Project located within Minnehaha Parkway Regional Trail;

RESOLVED, that the Board of Commissioners establishes a new fund specifically to be held as matching funds for City, County, Regional, Philanthropic, and State funds to address the issue of loss of MPS playgrounds and fields;

RESOLVED, that the use of this new fund would come back before the Board of Commissioners for approval prior to any action by MPRB staff;

RESOLVED, That the Board of Commissioners directs staff to modify the agreement related to the Permanent Easement to require the City to provide to the MPRB inspection and maintenance records for the outfall and BMP, require the City at the direction of the MPRB to perform repair and maintenance of creek bank and shoreline protection measures adjacent to the easement area, and require the City at the direction of the MPRB to address ongoing bank erosion, mitigation, and timely repair resulting from the introduction of the Project on parkland; and

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