Resolution 2012-157

Resolution Authorizing the Superintendent to Submit a 2012-2013 Proposal to the Legislative-Citizen Commission on Minnesota Resources (LCCMR) from the Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund (ENRTF) for Up to $500,000 to Provide Paddling Access and Prevent the Spread of Invasive Species Along the Mississippi River

Whereas, The Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board ("MPRB") is the steward of Minneapolis Parks;

Whereas, The MPRB's 2007-2020 Comprehensive Plan supports expanding physical access to the Mississippi River in a manner that is aesthetically compatible with the riverfront and sensitive to ecological function;

Whereas, The Legislative-Citizen Commission on Minnesota Resources (LCCMR) has released a 2012-2013 Request for Proposals for Minnesota's Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund (ENRTF);

Whereas, The Minnesota Constitution Art. XI, Sec. 14 states that "the assets of the fund [ENRTF] shall be appropriated by law for the public purpose of protection, conservation, preservation, and enhancement of the state's air, water, land, fish, wildlife, and other natural resources."; and

Whereas, The MPRB seeks to work with its partners to provide paddle access and prevent the spread of invasive species along the Mississippi River, one of Minnesota's nationally recognized natural resources;

RESOLVED, That the Board of Commissioners authorize the Superintendent to submit a 2012-2013 Proposal to the Legislative-Citizen Commission on Minnesota Resources (LCCMR) from the Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund (ENRTF) for up to $500,000 to provide paddling access and prevent the spread of invasive species along the Mississippi River; 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.

TO: Administration & Finance Committee

FROM: Bruce Chamberlain, Assistant Superintendent for Planning

DATE: March 21, 2012

SUBJECT: Resolution Authorizing the Superintendent to Submit a 2012-2013 Proposal to the Legislative-Citizen Commission on Minnesota Resources (LCCMR) from the Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund (ENRTF) for Up to $500,000 to Provide Paddling Access and Prevent the Spread of Invasive Species Along the Mississippi River

BACKGROUND

The Legislative-Citizen Commission on Minnesota Resources' (LCCMR's) 2012-2013 Request for Proposal (RFP) for funding from the Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund (ENRTF) was issued on December 12, 2011. This RFP is for funds that become available on July 1, 2013. Proposals are due by 4:30 PM on Friday, April 6, 2012 and local units of government must include a resolution or letter authorizing submission from its governing board.

MPRB staff members reviewed the proposal properties and are working with the Minneapolis Riverfront Partnership to develop a proposal to provide paddle access and help prevent the spread of invasive species along the Mississippi River. The proposal will include the creation or improvement of up to 16 water access sites in Minneapolis, and collaboration with Anoka County, Three Rivers Park District, the City of St. Paul and other partners to complete a world-class, accessible urban river corridor. The MPRB will plan these sites with key partners, including the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources, National Park Service, and Wilderness Inquiry.

As public understanding grows about the threat of Asian Carp and other aquatic invasive species to the Mississippi River's ecological health and water quality, the water access sites will provide opportunities to educate visitors about the threat of aquatic invasive species and what they can do to stop the spread to other Minnesota waters. Each site will also provide tools to prevent the spread of aquatic invasive species.

Proposed improvements per access site vary depending on existing amenities and may include shoreline restoration, portage trails, rustic launch areas or ramps, portage equipment, canoe and kayak short-term or long-term racks, and signage. To reduce ongoing maintenance costs, access points will be coordinated with existing park amenities such as picnic pavilions and toilets. The primary increase in maintenance will be regular inspection of access areas to ensure launches and ramps are in good condition and free of debris, and annual inspection of

signage. Potential revenue from canoe racks and potential volunteer clean-up events may help off-set this increase in maintenance.

FUNDING/COST SUMMARY

Possible Sources		**$500,000**
Proposed 2012-2013 ENRTF Allocation (up to)	$500,000	
In-kind or Cash Match - Pending	TBD	
Uses		**$500,000**
16 access points @ approximately $25,000/site	$400,000	
Signage and Wayfinding (Fabrication and Implementation)	$50,000	
Planning, Design and Construction Management	$20,000	
Contingency (6%)	$30,000	
Balance		**$0**

RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends that the Board authorize the Superintendent to submit a 2012-2013 Proposal to the Legislative-Citizen Commission on Minnesota Resources (LCCMR) from the Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund (ENRTF) for up to $500,000 to provide paddling access and prevent the spread of invasive species along the Mississippi River.

This is consistent with the following 2007-2020 MPRB Comprehensive Plan Vision, Goal and Strategy:

Vision Theme 3:	Dynamic parks that shape city character and meet diverse community needs
Goal:	Parks shape and evolving city.
Strategy:	Continue to expand physical access to the Mississippi River in a manner that is aesthetically compatible with the riverfront and sensitive to ecological function.

Prepared By: Jennifer Ringold, Manager of Public Engagement & Citywide Planning, Strategic Planning
Review:

Jennifer Ringold	Completed	03/07/2012 9:10 PM
Bruce Chamberlain	Completed	03/08/2012 10:48 AM

Jayne Miller	Completed	03/12/2012 9:55 PM
Administration & Finance Committee	Completed	04/26/2012 11:24 AM
Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board	Completed	04/26/2012 11:24 AM