Minneapolis
Park & Recreation Board

Resolution 2021-260

Resolution Granting Access and Utility Agreement to CenterPoint Energy for an Underground Natural Gas Line Within Minnehaha Parkway Regional Trail and Collecting Appropriate Fees Associated with the License

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 (Park);

Whereas, CenterPoint Energy (CenterPoint) has determined the need to relocate an underground natural gas line that currently runs under and near the Park;

Whereas, MPRB staff has worked with CenterPoint on relocation alternatives that minimize impacts to park property;

Whereas, CenterPoint's proposed route for the buried gas line across the Park will have minimal impact to park uses; and

Whereas, This resolution is supported by the MPRB 2007-2020 Comprehensive Plan, which envisions "Dynamic parks shape city character and meet diverse community needs;"

RESOLVED, That the Board of Commissioners grants an access and utility agreement to CenterPoint Energy for an underground gas line within Minnehaha Parkway Regional Trail;

RESOLVED, That the Board of Commissioners will collect appropriate fees associated with this license; 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.

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TO: Planning Committee

FROM: Michael Schroeder,

DATE: July 21, 2021

SUBJECT: Resolution Granting Access and Utility Agreement to CenterPoint Energy for an Underground Natural Gas Line Within Minnehaha Parkway Regional Trail and Collecting Appropriate Fees Associated with the License

BACKGROUND

This Board action considers an access and utility agreement (Agreement) (*Attachment A*) with CenterPoint Energy (CenterPoint) to replace underground natural gas line across portions of Minnehaha Parkway. The gas main replacement on East Minnehaha Parkway is required to serve the customers who live on East Minnehaha Parkway from Woodlawn Avenue to 34th Avenue South.

CenterPoint's existing main gas line is located on Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board (MPRB) property. The proposed relocation of the new gas main will leave the existing gas main line in place. Were removal of the existing line required, significant impacts on parkland would result. Any rights to parkland related to the abandoned gas line will be extinguished upon execution of the Agreement for CenterPoint's new gas line. In addition, should removal of the abandoned facility become necessary in the future, CenterPoint agrees to participate in the costs of its removal.

All alternative locations that minimize impacts to park land have been evaluated. MPRB staff has worked with CenterPoint to find the least impactful alignment alternative. MPRB staff has reviewed the project plan exhibits (*Attachment B*) and believes the current proposal has limited impact on park lands and to the public.

This action approves the execution of the Agreement.

Legal Counsel has reviewed and approved the Agreement as to form and legality.

RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends granting an access and utility agreement to CenterPoint Energy for an underground gas line within Minnehaha Parkway Regional Trail and collecting appropriate fees

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associated with the license.

This action is supported by the following vision and goal statement in the MPRB 2007-2020 Comprehensive Plan.

Vision Theme 3: Dynamic parks shape city character and meet diverse community needs.

Goal: Focused land management supports current and future generations.

ATTACHMENTS:

- A - Access and Utility Agreement - Minnehaha Pkwy E - CenterPoint (PDF)
- ATTACHMENT B - Project Plan Exhibits (PDF)

Prepared By: Christine Downey,, Design and Project Management
Review:
Cindy Anderson Completed 06/02/2021 3:27 PM
Cliff Swenson Completed 06/02/2021 4:54 PM
Michael Schroeder Completed 06/04/2021 11:46 AM
Jennifer Ringold Completed 06/07/2021 1:47 PM
Al Bangoura Completed 06/07/2021 1:56 PM
Planning Committee Pending 07/21/2021 5:40 PM