



*Masterpiece on the Mississippi*



**TO:** Michael C. Van Milligen, City Manager

**FROM:** Gus Psihoyos, City Engineer

**DATE:** January 26, 2015

**SUBJECT:** Upper Bee Branch: MRT Route Trailhead parking lot at 22nd and Prince Streets Project [DMATS TAP Funding Application & Assurances] (CIP# 7201654)

### **INTRODUCTION**

The enclosed resolution establishes the City's support for the Upper Bee Branch: MRT Route Trailhead parking lot at 22nd and Prince Streets Project. It also provides assurance that the City will maintain the improvements for twenty (20) years following completion of the project. Adoption of the attached resolution is required in order to secure \$300,000.00 in Transportation Alternatives Program Funds for the improvements as appropriated in the DMATS Fiscal Year 2014-2017 Transportation Improvement Program.

### **BACKGROUND**

On October 4, 2010 the City Council passed Resolution 390-10 authorizing an application for Vision Iowa River Enhancement Community Attraction and Tourism (RECAT) grant funding for amenities associated with the Bee Branch Creek Restoration Project. The RECAT grant application requested funding for a trailhead parking lot at 22<sup>nd</sup> Street and Prince Street.

The City's RECAT grant application was approved by the Vision Iowa Board and on April 4, 2011 the City Council passed Resolution 114-11 approving and authorizing the execution of the RECAT Grant Agreement. Per the Agreement, the City of Dubuque will construct the Upper Bee Branch: MRT Route Trailhead parking lot at 22nd and Prince Streets Project with the RECAT funding to cover up to 23% of the project cost.

At the request of the City of Dubuque, the Dubuque Metropolitan Area Transportation Study (DMATS) included Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP) funding for the Upper Bee Branch: MRT Route Trailhead parking lot at 22nd and Prince Streets Project (Trailhead Parking Project) with the adoption of its Fiscal Year 2014-2017 Transportation Improvement Program. The DMATS TAP funds will provide up to 80% of the cost to construct the Trailhead Parking Project.

### **DISCUSSION**

The improvements associated with the proposed Upper Bee Branch: MRT Route Trailhead parking lot at 22nd and Prince Streets Project (Trailhead Parking Project) include a 39-stall parking lot and a trailhead plaza with plantings, an informational kiosk, and seating areas. A rendering of the improvements is shown in Figure 1 below. The

Trailhead Parking Project will in effect replace the smaller trailhead parking lot located at 22<sup>nd</sup> and Elm Street.

Figure 1. Rendering of the Trailhead Parking Project.



In order to secure the use of the DMATS funding for the project, a Request for Transportation Improvement Program Funds must be completed and submitted to the Iowa Department of Natural Resources. In addition, the City must provide an official endorsement of the project and written assurance that the improvements will be maintained for at least twenty (20) years.

### **RECOMMENDATION**

I recommend that the City Council adopt the attached resolution establishing the City's support for the Trailhead Parking Project by authorizing the City Manager to sign and submit a Request for Transportation Improvement Program Funds to the IDOT for the use of DMATS funding for the project and providing written assurance that the improvements will be adequately maintained for a minimum of twenty (20) years following completion of the project.

### **BUDGET IMPACT**

The current estimate for the Trailhead Parking Project is \$400,000.00. Funding for the improvements was established for the project with the adoption of the FY2015 CIP Budget as part of the Bee Branch Creek Restoration Project (CIP#7201654). The specific revenue source for the improvements will come from a combination of RECAT funding (approximately 20%), DMATS TAP funding (approximately 75%), and stormwater utility funding (approximately 5%).

**ACTION TO BE TAKEN**

I respectfully request that the City Council adopt the attached resolution establishing the City's support for the Trailhead Parking Project by authorizing the City Manager to sign and submit a Request for Transportation Improvement Program Funds to the IDOT for the use of DMATS funding for the project and providing written assurance that the improvements will be adequately maintained for a minimum of twenty (20) years following completion of the project.

Attach.

Prepared by Deron Muehring, Civil Engineer II

cc:     Barry Lindahl, City Attorney  
          Jenny Larson, Budget Director  
          Ken TeKippe, Finance Director  
          Deron Muehring, Civil Engineer II