



**TO:** The Honorable Mayor and City Council Members

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

**SUBJECT:** National Recreation and Park Association Great Urban Parks Campaign Grant Submittal

**DATE:** May 11, 2016

Leisure Services Manager Marie Ware is transmitting the National Recreation and Park Association Great Urban Parks Campaign Grant that was submitted on behalf of the City of Dubuque in the amount of \$555,100 for components to be developed in the Lower Bee Branch.

The grant would fund 1) increased public access to recreational opportunities and access to nature via parks in underserved low-income communities and communities of color; 2) improved environmental quality and increased hazard mitigation by reducing flooding, improving the site's ability to hold and retain stormwater, improving water quality, improving wildlife habitat and increasing biodiversity; and 3) a community engaged in improving environmental quality through green infrastructure solutions to stormwater management.

The floating treatment wetland (floating island), a permeable small craft boat ramp and access, fishing docks and piers, interpretive signage and rain garden were physical projects submitted in the grant. The purchase of a set of kayaks and associated equipment is proposed to help get residents on the water. Lastly a Bee Keeper's environmental stewardship program is proposed. The Bee Keepers were a concept proposed as a part of a 2013 EPA technical assistance workshop.

The grant requires no matching funds, however it was expected the grant supplemented substantial secured funding necessary to complete the project. The application outlined \$82,249,321 in secured funding. This grant, if received, will match the RECAT grant for the floating island.



Michael C. Van Milligen

MCVM:jh

Attachment

cc:     Barry Lindahl, City Attorney  
          Cindy Steinhauser, Assistant City Manager  
          Teri Goodmann, Assistant City Manager  
          Marie L. Ware, Leisure Services Manager