



TO: The Honorable Mayor and City Council Members

FROM: Michael C. Van Milligen, City Manager

SUBJECT: Lower Bee Branch Creek Floating Island Project
CIP #7201654, Project #4X0003

DATE: March 22, 2017

City Engineer Gus Psihoyos recommends the City Council give preliminary approval of the proposed plans, specifications, form of contract and construction estimate of \$231,690 for the Lower Bee Branch Creek Floating Island Project in the 16th Street Detention Basin and set a public hearing for April 17, 2017.

The Vision Iowa River Enhancement Community Attraction and Tourism grant application and grant agreement includes partial funding for a floating island to be constructed as part of the Bee Branch Creek Restoration Project, located within the 16th Street Detention Basin.

The proposed floating island system is a form of a wetland which will "bio-mimic" natural floating wetland systems invented by Nature. Vegetated with native plants, it is a beautiful, natural and sustainable eco-system which provides many benefits, from habitat restoration to water cleansing.

When a floating island is launched, a whole diverse eco-system is created which attracts life in all its forms, from microbes to nymphs, to butterflies, to fish, birds.... all the way up the food chain.

I concur with the recommendation and respectfully request Mayor and City Council approval.



Michael C. Van Milligen

MCVM:jh
Attachment

cc: Crenna Brumwell, City Attorney
Cindy Steinhauer, Assistant City Manager
Teri Goodman, Assistant City Manager
Gus Psihoyos, City Engineer