

TO: Michael C. Van Milligen, City Manager
FROM: Laura Carstens, Planning Services Manager *LC*
SUBJECT: DMATS TAP Grant Application for Bee Branch Creek Trail – Phase 1
DATE: November 15, 2017

Introduction

This memo transmits for City Council review and approval, the City of Dubuque's application to the Dubuque Metropolitan Area Transportation Study (DMATS) for Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP) grant funds for the Bee Branch Creek Trail – Phase 1 project adjacent to the 16th Street detention Basin. The application form, narrative discussion, location map, and a resolution are enclosed.

Background

DMATS is seeking applications for the TAP grant funds in the urbanized area. The Iowa Department of Transportation Study (IDOT) administers DMATS Transportation Enhancement Program grant funds as part of the federal pass-through funding in the IDOT Transportation Alternatives Program. TAP grants provide 80% of project costs. Cities must provide written assurance of the required 20% of local match and maintenance of the completed project for a minimum of 20 years.

Discussion

The Bee Branch Creek Trail - Phase 1 project will extend south from the existing Lower Bee Branch Trail across the Sycamore Street bridge at the intersection of 16th Street and Sycamore Street, then southeast under US Highway 61/151 along the shoreline of the 16th Street Detention Basin, then south to 12th Street adjacent to the Alliant Energy solar array, then east approximately 600 lineal feet towards Kerper Blvd. The project will consist of a 10-foot paved multi-use trail to accommodate bicyclists and pedestrians.

The project is part of a multi-phase trail to be built along the restored Bee Branch Creek that will extend connections to two regional trails -- Dubuque Heritage Trail and Mississippi River Trail – as well as to the citywide trail system. The project is part of a phased trail connection to the Jule public transit service and bicycle/pedestrian amenities at the City's Intermodal Transportation Center on Elm Street.

The project will provide a connection to the new solar array installed by Alliant Energy adjacent to the project. Alliant Energy plans to construct a 10-foot paved trail adjacent to the educational features of the solar array site that will be open to the public.

The project fulfills the top and high priorities, goals, and objectives of the DMATS 2045 Long Range Transportation Plan. The project is included in the DMATS Plan.

Budget Impact

The 0.38-mile Bee Branch Creek Trail – Phase 1 project has an estimated total cost of \$525,000. The 80% TAP grant request will be \$420,000. The City has the 20% local match of \$105,000 available in FY202 Sales Tax Increment (STI) from the State Flood Mitigation Program for the Bee Branch Creek Watershed Flood Mitigation project.

The project cost breakdown is as follows:

Construction	\$420,000
Engineering (15%)	63,000
Contingency (10%)	42,000
<u>Total</u>	<u>\$525,000</u>

The project funding breakdown is as follows:

DMATS TAP Grant (80%)	\$420,000
City FY2020 STI Funds (20%)	\$105,000
<u>Total</u>	<u>\$525,000</u>

Recommendation

I recommend the City Council approve the resolution authorizing submittal of the DMATS TAP grant application for the Bee Branch Creek Trail - Phase 1 project written assurance of the required 20% of local match and maintenance of the completed project for a minimum of 20 years.

Enclosures

- cc: Marie Ware, Leisure Services Manager
- Gus Psihoyos, City Engineer
- Steve Brown, Project Manager
- Jenny Larson, Budget Director