



MEMORANDUM

DATE: March 20, 2023

TO: Honorable Mayor and City Councilmembers
Dave Perrault, City Administrator

FROM: David Swearingen, P.E. Public Works Director / City Engineer

SUBJECT: Proposed Trails Discussion

Budgeted Amount:	Actual Amount:	Funding Source:
\$0 (Old Hwy 10 Trail)	\$2,531,800	PIR Fund, Ramsey County, Grant Funding
\$0 (LJB Trail)	\$9,500,000	PIR Fund, Ramsey County, Grant Funding

Council Should Consider

- Proposed Old Snelling Ave / Old Highway 10 Trail segment along Old Highway 10 from Lake Valentine Road to Highway 96
- Proposed Lake Johanna Blvd Trail from County Rd D to Old Snelling Ave

Background

Old Snelling Ave / Old Highway 10 Trail

At the December 20, 2021 Work Session, Council indicated to staff to initiate work with HR Green to update the December 2008 Old Snelling Ave / Old Highway 10 Trail Feasibility Study of the proposed trail segment along Old Highway 10 from Lake Valentine Road to County Road 96 and prepare a geotechnical report. On February 14, 2022, City Council approved professional services with HR Green to complete the update for the feasibility study and prepare a geotechnical report. Since then, the update has been completed (Attachment A) and staff has worked with HR Green to identify available grants to fund the project, estimated at \$2,531,800. HR Green has provided a memo (Attachment B) that describes each of these sources and their process. The primary source identified is the Metropolitan Council Regional Solicitation. Currently, the City does not have this project programmed in the Capital Improvement Plan.

Lake Johanna Blvd Trail

In the Summer of 2021, Ramsey County led a study to identify trail and road design concepts for Lake Johanna Boulevard between Old Snelling and County Rd D. The goal of this project was to explore options for a potential future trail along this segment of Lake Johanna Blvd. On September 19, 2022, Ramsey County and engineering consultant Kimley Horn, presented the final report to City Council at the Work Session (Attachment C). At that time, it was presented

that the estimated cost of the trail would be \$6,000,000 with an anticipated construction date of 2028, if funding became available.

Ramsey County staff recently reached out to City staff with the following information related to this proposed trail:

“Met Council’s 2024 Regional Solicitation for 2028/2029 federal projects is opening this fall. In anticipation of this, Ramsey County is evaluating what projects we might want to submit. The Lake Johanna Boulevard trail project is one of the projects we are considering (CR D to Old Snelling). Per Ramsey County’s cost participation policy local costs would be applied 50% to Ramsey County and 50% to Arden Hills. Assuming we are able to obtain the maximum \$5.5 million federal grant, local costs would then be \$2 million for Ramsey County and \$2 million for Arden Hills. If a smaller federal grant is received local shares would increase accordingly.”

Lake Johanna Boulevard Trail (North/West Alternative)

- 2022 estimate (Corridor Study): \$7 million
- 2028 cost estimate (5% annual inflation): \$9.5 million
- Maximum Regional Solicitation Award: \$5.5 million

- **Anticipated Local Project Cost: \$4.0 million (\$2 million RC / \$2 million City of Arden Hills)**

In order to submit the grant request to Met Council, Ramsey County will need an approved motion or resolution from your city council requesting the county to submit the grant application and financially committing to your city local match contribution. We will need this council action no later than July 31st in order to submit the grant request.”

Currently, the City does not have this project programmed in the Capital Improvement Plan.

Discussion

City staff is requesting direction from Council on how to proceed with these two proposed trail projects.

If given direction to proceed with the Old Snelling / Old Highway 10 Trail, City staff would coordinate grant applications with HR Green (roughly \$5,000 for services) and begin discussions with Ramsey County about cost share and programming the project within their Transportation Improvement Plan.

If given direction to proceed with the Lake Johanna Blvd Trail, City staff will notify Ramsey County of the decision and bring forward a Resolution for Council approval at a future Council meeting before the July 31, 2023 deadline.

If given to direction to proceed with both proposed trails, City staff will proceed accordingly. City staff would like to point out that both proposed trails will be competing for the same funding source, Met Council Regional Solicitation, although the City can attempt a couple of other sources with the Old Snelling / Old Highway 10 Trail. Please review the memo provided by HR Green (Attachment B) that describes each potential funding source regarding the typical City match and history of approved projects.

Budget Impact

Proposed Old Snelling Ave. / Old Highway 10 Trail: \$2,531,800. This project is not currently programmed in the City’s CIP.

Proposed Lake Johanna Blvd Trail:

City PIR	\$2,000,000
Ramsey County	\$2,000,000
Grant Funding	\$5,500,000
<u>Total:</u>	<u>\$9,500,000</u>

This project is not currently programmed in the City’s CIP.

Attachments

- Attachment A – Old Snelling Ave. / Old Hwy 10 Feasibility Study
- Attachment B – HR Green Funding Opportunities memo
- Attachment C – Lake Johanna Blvd Trail Preliminary Design Report