



CITY OF CONCORD

REPORT TO THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL

FROM: Edward L. Roberge, PE, City Engineer

DATE: December 21, 2016

SUBJECT: Resolution accepting and appropriating the sum of \$100,000 in grant funds from the NH Department of Environmental Services Aquatic Resources Mitigation Grant Program to be used for the design and construction of culvert replacement and stream bed restoration improvements along Mill Stream at Portsmouth Street, in conjunction with the Portsmouth Street Culvert Replacement Project (CIP83).

Recommendation

Accept this report and set the attached resolution accepting and appropriating the sum of \$100,000 in Aquatic Resource Management (ARM) Program Grant funds with the NH Department of Environmental Services (NHDES) in conjunction with the Portsmouth Street Culvert Replacement Project (CIP83) for a public hearing on February 13, 2017.

Background

City Council will recall that upon the Interstate 93 drainage failure (Summer 2015), funds from CIP83/FY2015 that were to fund the culvert replacement on Portsmouth Street were redirected to support required drainage improvements on Storrs Street. That left the funds available for the Portsmouth Street project \$125,000 short.

Discussion

The City had been tracking a grant program where funding for flood mitigation/water resource improvements could help offset the costs for the Portsmouth Street culvert replacement. The NHDES Aquatic Resource Management Program funds eligible projects that mitigate and improve flood flow within sensitive resource areas and look to improve ecosystem functionality (level of water restored to wetland areas where previously hindered or constrained – in our case restricted by a limited culvert crossing on Portsmouth Street).

The City's wetland scientist evaluated this opportunity and was confident that our culvert replacement project was a strong candidate for funding. At the September 12, 2016 Council meeting, City Council authorized the City Manager to apply for grant funds to be used for the culvert replacement project.

An application was submitted in September and on December 12, 2016, NHDES notified the City that we had been awarded \$100,000 for the Portsmouth Street Culvert Replacement Project. Therefore, it is recommended that City Council accept this report and set the attached resolution accepting and appropriating the sum of \$100,000 in Aquatic Resource Management (ARM) Program Grant funds with the NH Department of Environmental Services (NHDES) in conjunction with the Portsmouth Street Culvert Replacement Project (CIP83) for a public hearing on February 13, 2017.

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