



CITY OF CONCORD

REPORT TO THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL

FROM: Edward L. Roberge, P.E., City Engineer

DATE: October 28, 2015

SUBJECT: Accepting and appropriating the sum of One Hundred Thousand Dollars in grant funds from the Land and Water Conservation Fund and accepting and appropriating the sum of One Hundred Thousand Dollars in private donations from the Friends of the Merrimack River Greenway Trail to be used for the design and construction of a portion of the Merrimack River Greenway Trail Project (CIP 543).

Recommendation

Accept and appropriate the sum of One Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$100,000) in grant funds from the Land and Water Conservation Fund and accept and appropriate the sum of One Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$100,000) in private donations from the Friends of the Merrimack River Greenway Trail to be used for the design and construction of a portion of the Merrimack River Greenway Trail Project (CIP 543).

Background

The City Council granted the City Manager the authority to apply for a Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) grant on November 4, 2014. On September 29, 2015, the City was notified that we were awarded the grant.

The proposed project will construct approximately 150' of shared use trail, (10'-12' wide) and 100' of boardwalk (12' wide). This portion of the project will stand alone as a recreational resource within Terrill Park as an accessible viewing platform of the Merrimack River, an inlet tributary, and downtown Concord. The platform will allow for nature and wildlife observation/education.



Discussion

This grant and associated donation from the Friends of the Merrimack River Greenway Trail will allow for the design, permitting and construction of the initial segment of the Merrimack River Greenway Trail. The \$200,000 project will be funded through a 50/50 grant. The Land and Water Conservation Fund will fund \$100,000 and the Friends of the Merrimack River Greenway Trail will

provide the \$100,000 match as a donation to the City. The match will be provided in two installments. The initial installment (\$35,000) will be provided immediately and fund the match portion of the design and permitting. Prior to construction, the Friends of the Merrimack River Greenway Trail will provide the remaining match \$65,000. The Friends of the Merrimack River Greenway Trail will continue to assist with the project through volunteer efforts and offer input on the trail/boardwalk design (material, width, alignment, height, etc.).

To help ensure that the project is designed and constructed expeditiously, a resolution has been submitted which will allow the Manager to enter into an agreement with the New Hampshire Department of Resources and Economic Development (NHDRED) after the November meeting but prior to appropriating the funds. Approval of the agreement resolution will allow staff to make the necessary contacts with NHDRED, the surveyor and design consultant(s) such that after the December meeting design work can commence immediately. This is particularly important relative to field survey and data collection which will be difficult to obtain after snow has accumulated on the ground.

jaw/ELR
attachment