

Office of the City Engineer

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March 13, 2019

Legistar Item: 0290-19
Grant Control No. 00227

To: Alderman Shakoor, Chairman
Finance & Personnel Committee

From: John Rooney *JCR*
Assistant Commissioner of Public Works/City Engineer

Re: 2019 WDNR Urban Nonpoint Source & Storm Water Planning Grant for Redevelopment Area/City Parks

This communication is seeking permission to apply for a Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (WDNR) Urban Nonpoint Source and Storm Water Planning Grant. The grant reimburses up to 50% of eligible expenses for comprehensive regional planning to implement the control of urban nonpoint and storm water runoff pollution from existing urban areas.

The locations for the project are in City parks and properties under control of the Redevelopment Authority (RDA). These properties can potentially provide space to regionally treat storm water because of their unique location that currently has existing storm sewers that large drainage basins are routed through.

The intent of the grant is to evaluate and site regional treatment facilities that can benefit both existing parklands and redevelopment areas, and the greater mission/requirements of the City of Racine Storm Water Utility's Wisconsin Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (WPDES) permit issued by the WDNR. This plan can help augment treatment required on-site required by Chapter 98 of the Municipal Code to reduce total suspended solids (TSS) for new and redevelopment projects. This grant would also include refreshing the City's Municipal Pollution Prevention Procedures Manual and implement a web-based inspection on the Cityworks GIS platform. In addition, the grant includes an update to the Citywide Storm Water Quality Model, a computer software model commonly referred to as WinSLAMM. WinSLAMM has not been updated since 2011 and is the measurement tool used to report TSS reduction to the WDNR per our WPDES permit.

I have discussed this project with Directors Tom Molbeck and Amy Connolly as a unique opportunity to incorporate and include these regional facilities in all future Parks and RDA planning. The specific areas in the planning grant are: Harborside Area (near Michigan Blvd. & Dodge St.), Racine Steel Castings site, Haban Manufacturing/Marino Park area, the balance of the untreated areas near Southside Industrial Park, and Washington Park Golf Course.

The estimated cost of this project is \$55,000. If the City is awarded the 50-50 cost share grant, the intention would be to fund the remaining \$27,500 from: Parks Department - \$6,250, RDA - \$6,250, and Storm Water Utility - \$15,000.

If the Committee agrees, the appropriate action would be to authorize the City Engineer to apply for the grant.

JCR:njp

Cc: Mayor Mason
Jim Palenick
Amy Connolly
Tom Molbeck