
Sponsor: Parks & Recreation

Meeting Date: 5/26/2026

Title: Temporary Construction Easement Agreement and Permanent Easement Agreement for Vadnais-Snail Lakes Regional Park Paved Trail on Private Property

File Number: 2026-178

Background and Rationale:

Ramsey County is the fee owner of the Vadnais-Snail Lakes Regional Park property in the City of Shoreview. The Snail Lake section of Vadnais-Snail Lake Regional Park has an existing paved, multi-use public trail that has been periodically flooding from high water since late 2015. During high water periods, the public created an informal natural surface trail on private property to get around the flooded paved public trail. The informal natural surface trail is located on the west side of Floral Drive and runs across three private properties (312 Floral Drive owned by Wesley and Tara Crouch, 314 Floral Drive owned by Lawrence & Tammy Swope, and 306 Floral Drive owned by Cynthia Segura and David Hodgson). The residents previously granted the county a temporary easement for a woodchipped natural surface trail for use by the public. The informal trail had been wood chipped by the county to prevent erosion of the soil and maintained for the duration of the temporary easement until the county trail improvement project could begin. The temporary easement allowed public access and short-term maintenance until permanent easements are established.

Over the past year, county staff worked with the residents to complete a design for the paved trail improvements to determine the final boundaries (i.e. extents) of the permanent easements. The residents have now agreed to grant the county the temporary easements needed to construct the paved trail improvements and the permanent easements allowing the public use of the trail.

Recommendation:

The Ramsey County Board of Commissioners resolved to:

1. Approve a temporary construction easement agreement and permanent public trail right-of-way easement agreement with private residents Wesley and Tara Crouch at 312 Floral Drive, Shoreview, MN adjacent to Vadnais-Snail Lakes Regional Park in the amount of \$37,000.
2. Approve a temporary construction easement agreement and permanent public trail right-of-way easement agreement with private residents Lawrence & Tammy Swope at 314 Floral Drive, Shoreview, MN adjacent to Vadnais-Snail Lakes Regional Park in the amount of \$4,800.
3. Approve a temporary construction easement agreement and permanent public trail right-of-way easement agreement with private residents Cynthia Segura and David Hodgson at 306 Floral Drive, Shoreview, MN adjacent to Vadnais-Snail Lakes Regional Park in the amount of \$1,800.
4. Authorize the Chair and Chief Clerk to execute the easement agreements.
5. Authorize the County Manager to enter into agreements and amendments in accordance with the county's procurement policies and procedures, provided the amounts are within the limits of available funding.

A motion to approve was made by Commissioner Xiong, seconded by Commissioner Jebens-Singh.

Motion passed.

Aye: - 7: Jebens-Singh, McGuire, McMurtrey, Miller, Moran, Ortega, and Xiong

By: 

Jason Yang, Chief Clerk - County Board