
Sponsor: Parks & Recreation

Meeting Date: 4/22/2025

Title: Grant Award from the Metropolitan Council for 2024 Legacy
Amendment Parks and Trails Fishing Piers Grant Program

File Number: 2025-137

Background and Rationale:

The 2024 legislative session appropriated \$500,000 for competitive equity grants to Regional Park Implementing Agencies for new fishing piers to increase fishing opportunities on lakes in the metropolitan parks system. A lottery was held at the Metropolitan Parks and Open Space Commission meeting on February 6th, 2025, and the Ramsey County Parks Sucker Lake Fishing Pier application was one of four awarded from a pool of eligible applications.

Fishing at the Sucker Lake section of Vadnais-Snail Lake Regional Park is extremely popular. Currently the only fishing available in this section of the park is either along Sucker channel or the shoreline of Sucker Lake. Because of the limited availability of fishing locations, the channel has collected significant amounts of lead tackle, leading to dozens of swan deaths.
www.ramseycounty.us/leadfreelakes

Adding a fishing pier to Sucker Lake will alleviate some fishing pressure at the channel while providing increased fishing opportunities to a diverse community of anglers and accessible fishing access that is missing at this location. Signage would be installed to encourage people at this popular fishing location to visit the pier.

Recommendation:

The Ramsey County Board of Commissioners resolved to:

1. Ratify the submittal of the grant application to the Metropolitan Council for the 2024 Regional Parks Fishing Piers Grant Program.
2. Accept grant award from and approve the grant agreement with the Metropolitan Council for Legacy Amendment Parks and Trails Fishing Piers Grant Program for the period upon execution through June 30, 2026, in the total amount of \$125,000.
3. Authorize the Chair and Chief Clerk to execute the grant agreements.
4. Authorize the County Manager to enter into agreements and amendments to agreements, in accordance with the county's procurement policies and procedures, provided the amounts are within the limits of the grant funding.
5. Establish a project account number for Sucker Lake Fishing Pier in 2025.

A motion to approve was made by Commissioner Jebens-Singh, seconded by Commissioner Miller.
Motion passed.

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

By: 
Jason Yang, Interim Chief Clerk - County
Board