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**Sponsor:** Parks & Recreation

**Meeting Date:** 11/14/2023

**Title:** Awards from the Metropolitan Council for Regional Parks  
Operation and Maintenance Allocation

**File Number:** 2023-492

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**Background and Rationale:**

The state of Minnesota provides funding to the Metropolitan Council for operation and maintenance of regional parks and open space system through General Fund Appropriations and 22.5% of money collected and received under Minnesota Statutes 297A.94. Minnesota Management and Budget has budgeted an appropriation of \$17,490,000 for State Fiscal Year (SFY) 24 and \$11,490,000 for SFY 25 for operations and maintenance of regional parks and open spaces. The Metropolitan Council is required to allocate funding in the form of agreements to the regional park implementing agencies for SFY 2024 (July 1, 2023-June 30, 2024) and SFY 2025 (July 1, 2024-June 30, 2025). The funding allocation is based on a statutory formula. Ramsey County has been allocated \$1,625,382 for SFY 2024 and an amount to be determined in July 2024 for SFY 2025. Based on the amount to be received for SFY 2024, and the state of Minnesota appropriation for SFY 25, it is estimated Ramsey County will receive approximately \$1,067,421 for SFY 25.

This agreement will cover both SFY 24 and SFY 25 funding allocations for operation and maintenance of regional parks and open space system. Approved allocation funds for SFY 2024 were available for use beginning July 1, 2023, and will have an agreement period from July 1, 2023, to June 30, 2025. SFY 2025 funding amounts will not be known until July 2024 and will be based reporting for calendar year 2023 expenditures. Approved allocation funds for SFY 25 will be available for use beginning July 1, 2024, and will have a agreement period from July 1, 2024, to June 30, 2025. Any adjustments to SFY 2025 funding amounts will be updated in SFY agreement contracts.

Operation and maintenance funding for regional parks and open spaces provides resources to implement maintenance and operation activities to the regional parks and trails within Ramsey County. These activities create safe places, build a sense of community, protect, restore, and preserve the environment.

**Recommendation:**

The Ramsey County Board of Commissioners resolved to:

1. Accept awards from and approve agreements with the Metropolitan Council for Regional Parks Operation and Maintenance Allocation for the periods of July 1, 2023, through June 30, 2025, in the total amounts of \$1,625,382 for State Fiscal Year 2024 and an amount to be determined in July 2024 for State Fiscal Year 2025.
2. Authorize the Chair and Chief Clerk to execute the allocation agreements.
3. Authorize the County Manager to accept State Fiscal Year 2025 Regional Parks Operation and Maintenance Allocation and enter into an agreement in a form approved by the County Attorney's Office.

A motion to approve was made by Commissioner Reinhardt, seconded by Commissioner McGuire. Motion passed.

Aye: - 7: Frethem, Martinson, McGuire, Moran, Ortega, Reinhardt, and Xiong

By: 

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Mee Cheng, Chief Clerk - County Board