
Sponsor: Parks & Recreation

Meeting Date: 11/26/2024

Title: Grant Award from the Metropolitan Council for Legacy Amendment Parks and Trails Fund Project

File Number: 2024-522

Background and Rationale:

During the 2024 regular legislative session, the Minnesota Legislature appropriated funds to be used for the sole purpose of planting trees in the regional parks and trails system within the grantees jurisdiction (Chapter 116, Article 1, Section 5). Funding through the legacy program provides improvements to regional parks and trails within Ramsey County.

Parks received \$184,031 for State Fiscal Year 2025. In 2023, Ramsey County Parks and Recreation department received a grant from Metropolitan Council for the removal of dead or declining ash trees infected with emerald ash borer, which is an invasive exotic beetle. An Ash Tree Management Plan was developed and is posted on the Ramsey County website.

<https://www.ramseycounty.us/residents/environment/habitats-natural-resources/ash-tree-management-plan> These funds will be utilized to plant more diverse, climate-adapted species trees.

Recommendation:

The Ramsey County Board of Commissioners resolved to:

1. Accept grant award from and approve the grant agreement with the Metropolitan Council for Legacy Amendment Parks and Trails Fund Project for the period upon execution through December 31, 2025, in the total amount of \$184,031.
2. Authorize the Chair and Chief Clerk to execute the grant agreement.
3. Authorize the County Manager to execute amendments to the grant agreement in the form approved by the County Attorney's Office.

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

Aye: - 5: Frethem, McGuire, Ortega, Reinhardt, and Xiong

Absent: - 1: Moran

By: _____



Jason Yang, Interim Chief Clerk - County Board