Memorandum

To: Bassett Creek Watershed Management Commission
From: Barr Engineering Co.
Subject: Item 4G – Sochacki Trail Paving Project – Robbinsdale
        BCWMC September 17, 2015 Meeting Agenda
Date: September 9, 2015
Project: 23270051 2015 2057

4G Sochacki Trail Paving Project - Robbinsdale

Summary:
Proposed Work: Paving and existing gravel trail, culvert replacement, ditch grading
Basis for Commission Review: Work in a floodplain
Impervious Surface Area: No change
Recommendation: Conditional approval

General Background & Comments

The proposed project includes paving an existing gravel trail, replacement of a culvert, and grading of a ditch along a portion of the trail. The project is in the Bassett Creek Main Stem (Grimes, North Rice, South Rice Lake) subwatershed in Sochacki Park (east of June Avenue North and north of Bassett Creek Drive). The project site is approximately 2 acres. The proposed project results in no net change of impervious surface and a total proposed impervious area of 0.56 acres.

Floodplain

A portion of the project is located between North Rice Lake and South Rice Lake. Limited contour information is shown on the design plans. Based on the information provided, it appears that a portion of the work between approximately station 12+50 and station 13+25 will be within the North Rice Lake floodplain. The North Rice Lake floodplain elevation is 838.0 feet. The South Rice Lake floodplain elevation is 831.5 feet. Based on the revised cross section information and communications with the Three Rivers Park District staff, there will be no fill placed within the North Rice Lake floodplain.

Wetlands

The Bassett Creek Watershed Management Commission is the LGU for administering the Minnesota Wetland Conservation Act of 1991 in the City of Robbinsdale. As such, the BCWMC must investigate and appropriately address any wetland impacts. Based on a review of the National Wetland Inventory mapping, it appears there are wetlands within the project area. It is not clear if the project will impact the wetlands. The applicant provided an unofficial wetland delineation where the trail crosses between North Rice Lake and South Rice Lake. The unofficial wetland delineation indicates there are no wetland impacts in this portion of the project. However, it appears that the work to replace a
culvert and grade a drainage swale to North Rice Lake may result in wetland impacts. Due to the proximity of the project to the wetlands, a wetland delineation must also be performed in this area by the applicant. The delineation must be reviewed by the BCWMC Engineer. If the delineation in the area of the culvert replacement indicates there is work within the wetland, the applicant will need to provide the appropriate wetland impact application based on the nature of the work within the wetland (i.e. temporary impact, permanent impact, or request for exemption due to minor impact). The BCWMC Engineer would then review the final wetland delineation and/or application on behalf of the BCWMC.

**Stormwater Management**

Under existing conditions runoff from the site drains along the trail to either North Rice Lake or South Rice Lake. Under proposed conditions the drainage patterns will remain the same. An existing culvert is being replaced and a new ditch graded to improve conveyance and minimize the potential for the trail to flood.

**Water Quality Management**

There is currently no water quality treatment provided on the site. Since both compacted gravel and paved trails are considered as impervious surfaces, there will be no change in impervious surface as part of this project. The project does not include any new permanent best management practices.

**Erosion and Sediment Control**

Since the area to be graded is greater than one acre on a linear project, the proposed project must meet the BCWMC erosion control requirements. Proposed temporary erosion control features include bioroll and a rock construction entrance.

**Recommendation**

Conditional approval based on the following comments:

1. The BCWMC is the LGU for administering the Minnesota Wetland Conservation Act of 1991 in the City of Robbinsdale. A wetland delineation report must be submitted for review for the area where the trail passes between North Rice Lake and South Rice Lake and for the area where the culvert will be replaced and a drainage swale graded to North Rice Lake (both upstream and downstream of the culvert). The delineation report must be approved by the BCWMC Engineer on behalf of the BCWMC as the LGU. A Joint Permit Application Delineation Approval Request should be submitted with the delineation report. If work will be done within a wetland, the appropriate application must also be submitted for review and approval (i.e. temporary impact, permanent impact, or exemption). The wetland application should consider if upsizing the culvert and adding a ditch will change the hydrology of the downgradient wetland.

2. A fee for the wetland review must be provided in accordance with the January 1, 2014 fee schedule.
3. Grading a drainage swale into North Rice Lake may trigger the need for a Public Waters Work Permit from the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources.

4. Revised drawings must be provided to the BCWMC Engineer for final review and approval.