

Memorandum

To: Bassett Creek Watershed Management Commission
From: Barr Engineering Co.
Subject: Item 6A – Review of Main Stem Restoration Project; Golden Valley Rd. to Irving Ave. N. – 90% Development Plans (CIP 2012 CR)
BCWMC March 20, 2014 Meeting Agenda
Date: March 12, 2014
Project: 23270051 2014 626

6A. Review of Main Stem Restoration Project; Golden Valley Rd. to Irving Ave. N. – 90% Development Plans (CIP 2012 CR)

Summary

Proposed Work: Main Stem of Bassett Creek Restoration Project (CIP 2012 CR)

Basis for Commission Review: 90% plan review

Change in Impervious Surface: N.A.

Recommendation: Conditional Approval

The Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board (MPRB) Main Stem of Bassett Creek restoration project (CIP 2012 CR) is being funded by the BCWMC's ad valorem levy (via Hennepin County) and by a Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources Clean Water Fund Grant. The MPRB provided the 90% design plans to the BCWMC for review and comment, as set forth in the BCWMC CIP project flow chart developed by the TAC.

Feasibility Study Summary

The Feasibility Report for the 2012 Bassett Creek Main Stem Restoration Project – Golden Valley Road to Irving Avenue North (Barr, June 2011) was completed by the BCWMC to develop approaches to stabilize eroding stream banks along the Main Stem of Bassett Creek. Between Golden Valley Road and Irving Avenue North, Bassett Creek flows through Golden Valley and Minneapolis, and is nearly entirely contained within MPRB-owned land in Theodore Wirth Regional Park, Theodore Wirth Golf Course, and city parks. The goal of the project is to reduce the phosphorus loading to the Main Stem of Bassett Creek by 60 pounds per year and to consolidate sediments in an in-stream pond upstream of Highway 55. Eight stabilization sites with severe or moderate erosion were identified in the feasibility study, along with the sediment consolidation in the pond.

The feasibility study developed conceptual stabilization approaches for each of the eight erosion sites. The approaches used combinations of riprap, grading, biolog, j-vanes, root wads, live stakes, and native plantings. It also developed a conceptual approach to the pond drawdown to achieve the goals of sediment consolidation, vegetation re-growth, and invasive species control.

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Previous reviews

The cooperative agreement for this project between the BCWMC and the City of Minneapolis acknowledges that the City will act through the MPRB to construct the project. On behalf of the BCWMC, the Commission Engineer met twice with MPRB and its consultant to discuss the project during different design phases. The first meeting occurred on April 26, 2013 at MPRB headquarters to discuss the project approach and preliminary/conceptual plans. The second meeting occurred on June 4, 2013 at the Theodore Wirth Golf Course chalet and was followed by visits to each of the restoration sites to discuss concept plans. The MPRB submitted the 50% drawings and the BCWMC conditionally approved the 50% plans at its September 19, 2013 meeting. The majority of the comments provided as part of the September 2013 submittal were adequately addressed.

Recommendations

- A. Authorize BCWMC Engineer to provide administrative approval after final plans have been revised and comments have been sufficiently addressed.
- B. Conditional approval of 90% drawings based on the following comments:
 1. The plans should clarify construction limits. It is assumed the tree clearing limits are not the same as construction limits because trees do not need to be cleared in all locations and there are not designated staging areas.
 2. On Sheet 19, the plans show a construction access route near the new Wirth Lake outlet just downstream from Highway 55. The plans should include a callout to protect the new Wirth Lake outlet structure.
 3. Sheets 13 – 19: Instructions for the contractor to limit tree clearing as much as possible and only at the direction of the Engineer should be included on the plans.
 4. BCWMC rules state that filling in the floodplain is not allowed unless compensatory storage is created or it can be demonstrated that the fill will not adversely impact upstream flood levels. Modeling or other documentation must be submitted to document no change in the flood level caused by proposed fill.
 5. It is understood that the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and the Minnesota State Historic Preservation Office are reviewing the restoration plan and the placement of some of the techniques, such as fascines, may be altered to improve visibility of the creek. The final revegetation plan should be submitted to the Engineer for review.
 6. The final plans must be submitted to the BCWMC Engineer for review and approval after modifications have been completed.