



STAFF REPORT

TO: Mayor Keis and Members of the City Council

FROM: Bryce Shearen, CPRP, Parks & Recreation/Community Services Manager
Mark D. Kasma, P.E., City Engineer

DATE: July 21, 2021

RE: Spooner Park Drainage Improvements

ACTION TO BE CONSIDERED:

Motion to award the Spooner Park Storm Sewer Improvements to Forest Lake Contracting in the amount of \$68,062.50 and a total project cost of up to \$88,000.

BACKGROUND:

Over the past several years staff has been assigning funds from the Capital Improvement Plan to trail repair in the parks. The amount of money assigned per year were an estimate based on knowledge of the trail system and balancing annual impact to the CIP. Similar to the Roadbotics street condition survey, staff has completed a similar analysis of the City's trail system.

City staff and engineers from Bolton & Menk walked all of the trails and assigned condition ratings to each one in each park. Once these ratings were known, a 10-year improvement plan was put together and included the CIP. Through that process, staff has learned that some of the funds assigned to certain trails were not placed in the correct year or assigned an appropriate level of funding to complete the improvements.

Findings and Examples:

One of the trails that had been included in the 2021 budget does not require any maintenance for the next few years was located in Spooner Park. It also became clear that the trail in Rondeau Park needs extensive maintenance but only had \$10,000 assigned to it. The updated CIP will include funds for a replacement of the trail in Rondeau Park in 2022. Since Rondeau Park is located in a qualified census tract, it might also be possible to utilize ARPA funds for some or all of this work and potentially add additional amenities to the park.

With the new knowledge in hand, staff shifted its focus in Spooner Park to a drainage issue that has been causing problems for a number of years. There is an area Spooner Park between the lower parking lot and the trail to the south that is in need of storm water improvements. This area is susceptible to flooding and erosion issues when the snow melts in the spring and during large rain events.

Another reason for proposing a correction to this longstanding drainage issue is due to the fact that the lower shelter is scheduled to be replaced this year. Staff is currently working with contractors on scheduling the upgrades to the lower shelter, so it is not being rented this year.

Staff thought this would be the ideal time to make the storm water improvements rather than making the improvements in the future and have the work area impact future rentals of the lower shelter in 2022.

The issue at the south end of the park is the amount of water that channelizes and flows across the park has caused numerous washouts over the years. The water comes from north of the tennis courts and includes some of the school’s storm water. Past repairs have included fortifying the known areas where the washouts occur with coconut matting, which worked for a while but also eventually failed. Knowing that the water channelizes in these areas makes it easier to install a pipe to carry the water rather than letting it flow over ground.

The City Engineer has provided a plan to make the necessary improvements to address the storm water issues. The improvements needed are the installation of cleanout to capture the water (that travels from north to south in this area of the park) north of the lower shelter and have the water travel through 260 feet of storm sewer pipe underground to an existing storm sewer structure to the south to prevent slope erosion. The Engineer’s Estimate for this project was \$69,186.00.

On July 16, 2021, quotes were received for the Spooner Park Storm Sewer Improvements Project. We have worked with Forest Lake Contracting on similar projects in the past and have found their work to be timely with good workmanship.

The following is a summary of the bids received:

Bidders	Total Bid
1 Forest Lake Contracting	\$68,062.50
2 T.A. Schifsky & Sons, Inc.	\$77,680.00
3 Jaco LLC	\$78,368.50
4 Veit & Company, Inc.	No Bid
5 Albrecht	No Bid
6 St. Paul Utilities	No Bid

The following is a table identifying the total estimated project costs for the City:

Task	Amount
Construction	\$68,062.50
Contingency	\$6,800.00
Engineering	\$12,250.00
Total	\$87,112.50

SOURCE OF FUNDS:

The proposed drainage improvements will be funded through the City's General Capital Improvement Fund (Fund 400). A total of \$100,000 from Fund 400 is currently included in the 2021 budget for trail repair/maintenance at Spooner Park. As part of creating a 10-year Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) staff has worked with the City Engineer to create a 10-year trail repair and maintenance plan. After reviewing the trails at Spooner Park, it was determined that the trails included in the 2021 budget would not need to be improved this year. Subsequent trail repairs and maintenance have been scheduled in the 10-year CIP. Savings from the trail repair and maintenance that was budgeted for this year and will not be completed will be sufficient for this park improvement project.

STAFF RECOMMENDATIONS:

Staff recommends that the City Council award the bid to Forest Lake Contracting in the amount of \$68,062.50 and recommend approval of the total project cost of up to \$88,000.

