

REGULAR BOARD MEETING

Meeting Date: 02/19/26 Business Item: ROUTINE BUSINESS Item Number: **5F**

Division: Superintendent's Office

Originating Source: Boe Carlson, Superintendent

Agenda Item: LCCMR Grant Opportunity - Resolutions of Support: CP Rail Regional Trail - South Segment, Mississippi River Trail, Mobile Water Safety Education Program and Mobile Classroom for Outdoor Recreation

Superintendent's Recommendation:

MOTION TO ADOPT:

1. RESOLUTION NO. 26-03, A RESOLUTION SUPPORTING THE LCCMR GRANT APPLICATION FOR THE DESIGN AND CONSTRUCTION OF THE CP RAIL REGIONAL TRAIL WITHIN AND BETWEEN HYLAND PARK RESERVE AND NINE MILE CREEK REGIONAL TRAIL IN THE CITIES OF BLOOMINGTON AND EDINA.
 2. RESOLUTION NO. 26-04, A RESOLUTION SUPPORTING THE LCCMR GRANT APPLICATION FOR THE DESIGN AND CONSTRUCTION OF THE MISSISSIPPI RIVER TRAIL BETWEEN 109TH AVENUE AND DOUGLAS DRIVE IN CHAMPLIN.
 3. RESOLUTION NO. 26-05, A RESOLUTION SUPPORTING THE LCCMR GRANT APPLICATION FOR EQUIPMENT, STAFFING AND CURRICULUM BUILDING FOR THE MOBILE WATER SAFETY EDUCATION PROGRAM.
 4. RESOLUTION NO. 26-06, A RESOLUTION SUPPORTING THE LCCMR GRANT APPLICATION FOR EQUIPMENT, STAFFING AND CURRICULUM BUILDING FOR THE MOBILE CLASSROOM FOR OUTDOOR RECREATION.
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Background:

The Legislative-Citizen Commission on Minnesota Resources (LCCMR) is soliciting projects for 2027 Environmental and Natural Resources Trust Fund funding. Projects are reviewed and selected by the LCCMR this summer and then forwarded to the 2027 Legislature for formal review and approval with funding becoming available on July 1, 2027. Unlike many grants, this grant allows for reimbursement of design and program staffing costs making it a desirable opportunity as these are not typically eligible for grant funding. Further, because it is State funding, it can serve as the local match to federally funded regional trail projects.

In review of the project eligibility, previously funded projects and amounts, funding priorities and existing Three Rivers initiatives, staff recommend soliciting funding for the projects below. Further, similar to many grant opportunities, the application process requires a resolution of

support for Board review and consideration to ensure applicant entities are supportive of the grant application and prepared to move forward should grant funding be awarded to the applicant.

CP Rail Regional Trail South Segment

This is to design and reconstruct the regional trail through Hyland Park Reserve and to design and construct the new regional trail segment between Hyland Park Reserve and Nine Mile Creek Regional Trail in the cities of Bloomington and Edina (**See Attached: CP Rail Regional Trail South One Pager**). Staff are seeking \$2 million which would complement the previously awarded \$5.5 million STIP funding and help offset local costs. Staff prepared the **attached Resolution No. 26-03** for Board review and consideration.

Mississippi River Trail

This is to design and construct the regional trail between 109th Avenue and Douglas Drive in the City of Champlin which overlaps and is also known as the West Mississippi River Regional Trail and US Bikeway 45 (**See Attached: Mississippi River Trail One Pager**). Staff are seeking \$2 million which would complement the recently awarded \$500K from the Federal Land Access Program and help offset local costs. Staff prepared the **attached Resolution No. 26-04** for Board review and consideration.

Mobile Water Safety Education Program

Building upon the success of the indoor Family Water Safety Workshops facilitated in partnership with V3 Sports, this initiative will bring water safety education outside and directly to the parks. Funding would support the launch of a mobile water safety education initiative that where Three Rivers staff, together with partners, will provide water safety education to families in an outdoor setting, helping multi-generational groups to get comfortable and confident in open water when they are here and ready to play. Programs will be offered at Three Rivers and partnership park locations where natural beaches or swim ponds are available. Staff are seeking \$400,000 and prepared the **attached Resolution No. 26-05** for Board review and consideration.

Mobile Classroom for Outdoor Recreation

Outdoor recreation activities are a great way to connect youth to nature. As the weather in Minnesota becomes more unstable and unpredictable, programs are often cancelled if the location does not have an indoor space for participants to get out of the elements. A basic, mobile classroom where students refuge during a weather outburst would allow us to continue programming and wait out the storm. It would allow us to offer programming at park locations we don't often go, including Lake Rebecca, Crow Hassan and Murphy-Hanrahan Park Reserves, as well as other partnership park locations that may be closer to where people live. Staff are seeking \$250,000 and prepared the **attached Resolution No. 26-06** for Board review and consideration.

Relationship to the System Plan:

The Request for Action supports the following goal(s) of the System Plan:

- Goal 1: You Belong Here
- Goal 2: Parks Matter
- Goal 3: Lead by Example

Attachments:

[CP Rail RT South One Pager](#)

Mississippi River Trail One Pager

Resolution No. 26-03 - CP Rail RT Grant.pdf

Resolution No. 26-04 - MRT Grant.pdf

Resolution No. 26-05 - Mobile Water Safety Education Program.pdf

Resolution No. 26-06 - Mobile Classroom for Outdoor Recreation.pdf