

**DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION
DESIGN AND CONSTRUCTION**



CITY OF SAINT PAUL
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Dear Lilydale Community Advisory Task Force Members,

The Department of Parks and Recreation is hard at work assembling a variety of funding sources to implement the \$15M Master Plan for Lilydale Regional Park as amended and approved in 2009.

As we have discussed, the site layout and construction sequencing of the Lilydale Master Plan requires that the utility, road work and associated site work gets implemented first. To meet the various grant request deadlines we are proceeding on several funding fronts for the basic infrastructure package as follows:

- On Wednesday July 20th, the city council reviewed our request to submit a grant for 2015 in the amount of \$1M for shared use trails through Lilydale. This work would include trail work beyond the necessary connections that will be made within the existing network as the roadway improvements are implemented.
- On Wednesday, July 27th, the City Council will be reviewing the Department's request for approval to submit a grant proposal to Metropolitan Council for the 2012/2017 Regional Park and Trails Capital Improvement Plan (CIP).
 - \$1.2M of CIP dollars requested for the 2012/2013 biennium for Lilydale for the construction of the roadway and associated bicycle lanes.
 - Tentative requests are also in for Lilydale 2014/15 and 2016/17 but those requests may change as other regional park priorities shift.
- We have also requested Legacy dollars for 2012 (\$1.5M) and 2013 (\$1.59M) to complete the roadway, storm water improvements, and new bridge construction.
- Road turnback funds for road improvements are also looking promising; \$900,000 and \$140,000 which may become available in 2011 or early 2012.

If all funding sources come through as requested we will have assembled over \$6.6M to implement phase I construction!! This work includes the new roadway from the high bridge to just past Pickerel Clearing including the bike lanes, new bridge, stormwater improvements, gateway signage, associated site work and any park trails impacted by construction. If successful in obtaining the funding, we hope that phase I of the construction project will begin summer of 2012. Please let us know of any additional funding sources that you are aware of that might help us get to our goal faster.

I am still planning to meet with you as a group to help you organize your priority recommendations within the Master Plan. I will schedule a time within the next few weeks to discuss that and the current sequencing for projects within the park and the intended schedule for phasing and progress. Because of the complexity and variety of grant sources, construction phasing is necessary. Please be patient as progress on this huge new park takes shape.

Thank you.

Ellen Stewart, ASLA
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