

**COUNCIL ACTION FORM**

**SUBJECT: 2019-20 STORM WATER EROSION CONTROL PROGRAM (IOWAY CREEK BROOKSIDE) AGREEMENTS WITH IOWA DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND LAND STEWARDSHIP AND FINANCE AUTHORITY**

**BACKGROUND:**

The City has been awarded two grants for the 2019/20 Storm Water Erosion Control Program (Ioway Creek Brookside) Improvements Project. The City plans to incorporate stormwater quality best management practices (oxbow construction and native landscaping) to capture and treat runoff draining to Ioway Creek, staying committed to improving and protecting water quality. These practices are within a larger project of streambank stabilization and creek restoration with the additional benefits of wildlife/ fish habitat enhancement as well as recreational and education amenities.

The first grant is for \$100,000 from the Iowa Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship (IDALS) through the Water Quality Initiative Urban Conservation Demonstration Project Program. This program was established in order to assess and reduce nutrients in the state's watersheds, including sub-watersheds and regional watersheds, with the goal of establishing and administering projects to reduce nutrients in surface waters from non-point sources in a scientific, reasonable, and cost-effective manner.

The second grant is for \$500,000 from the Iowa Finance Authority through the Water Infrastructure Fund. This program makes investments to support innovative projects across the state with the goal of protecting, preserving, and restoring Iowa's water resources. The Water Infrastructure Fund invests in nonpoint source watershed projects that improve Iowa's water quality, focusing on green infrastructure and measures to control nonpoint source pollution from hydromodification.

Revenues for this project total \$1,200,000 from the following sources:

- \$300,000 Stormwater Utility Fund
- \$300,000 Clean Water State Revolving Fund
- \$500,000 Iowa Finance Authority Water Infrastructure Fund
- \$100,000 Iowa Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship

**ALTERNATIVES:**

1. a. Approve the Water Quality Initiative Urban Conservation Demonstration Project Funding Agreement from the Iowa Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship for the 19/20 Storm Water Erosion Control Program (Ioway Creek Brookside Project) in the amount of \$100,000.  
  
b. Approve the Water Infrastructure Funding Agreement from the Iowa Finance Authority for the 19/20 Storm Water Erosion Control Program (Ioway Creek Brookside Project) in the amount of \$500,000.
2. Refer these agreements back to staff for further information.
3. Do not approve the grant agreements, and forego the grant funding.

**CITY MANAGER'S RECOMMENDED ACTION:**

Approval of these agreements will allow the City to access financial assistance to complete the erosion control improvements in this project. The approval must occur before moving forward with construction of this project in the 2022/23 construction season.

Therefore, it is the recommendation of the City Manager that the City Council adopt Alternative No. 1 a-b, as noted above.

**IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY**  
OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

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September 8, 2020

Liz Calhoun  
City of Ames  
515 Clark Avenue  
Ames, IA 50010

Re: Squaw Creek- Brookside Park streambank stabilization project

Dear Ms. Calhoun:

Iowa State University (ISU) is supportive of the City of Ames' proposed streambank stabilization project on the section of Squaw Creek located within Brookside Park. The resulting project will improve water quality and provide a demonstration of conservation practices within a widely used community park.

As ISU is the primary landowner of the park property, this project is in accordance with the Maintenance and Improvement responsibilities established in the Iowa State University / City of Ames lease agreement, recorded on January 30, 2017 in Story County, Iowa.

The University also supports your application to the Iowa Department of Natural Resources for SRF sponsored project and look forward to working with you as the project proceeds.

Sincerely,



Catherine S. Brown  
Director Planning Services