

CONSERVATION COMMITTEE REPORT

October 26, 2011

8:45–10:00 am

140 West Pine Street

Members Present: Marilyn Marler (chair), Pam Walzer, Bob Jaffe, Renee Mitchell, Jon Wilkins, Dick Haines, Cynthia Wolken, Ed Childers, and Lyn Hellegaard

Members Absent: Dave Strohmaier, Stacy Rye

Others Present: Donna Gaukler, Dave Shaw

I. ADMINISTRATIVE BUSINESS

A. Approve minutes.

Minutes of [- October 19, 2011](#) were approved as submitted.

II. FINAL CONSIDERATION AGENDA ITEMS

III. CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS

1. **[Discussion Date: 10/26/11]** Approval of agreement, with EKO Compost to implement DNRC Wood Waste Grant and to support the Missoula Sawmill Site Wood Waste Reclamation Project. ([memo](#))—Regular Agenda (Donna Gaukler) (Referred to committee: 10/24/11)

MOTION: The Committee recommended the Council approve and allow the Mayor to sign the agreement, with EKO Compost to implement DNRC Wood Waste Grant and to support the Missoula Sawmill Site Wood Waste Reclamation Project.

Last week Council approved two agreements related to this project, one with the Millsite Redevelopment Project (MRP) and Department of Natural Resources for a grant of \$300,000 to take wood waste from the Champion mill site to Eko compost.

The grant of \$300,000 is a reimbursable grant administered by DNRC. Costs to the City include existing staff oversight of grant and process as well as existing staff and equipment for use of the materials in parks. No new general fund costs are anticipated, though the Department will be able to purchase annual materials supplies for routine maintenance of parks and sports fields and greatly reduced costs from prior years. Annually, the Department spends \$5000 to \$15,000 on topsoil, compost and mulch from routine maintenance general fund budgets. Costs incurred for new park development will be funded by alternative (non-GF) funding sources, such as impact fees, cash in lieu, tax increment financing, Knife River credits, or grants/donations, etc.

Staff research indicated the price in the Eko agreement was very reasonable. Marilyn Marler agreed.

It was moved to approve the agreement with Eko Compost with all members voting in favor of the motion.

2. **[Discussion Date: 10/26/11]** Approve change orders in the amount of \$12,563.73 on Project #PR11-09MT, Milwaukee Railroad Path- Missoula Russell to Reserve CTEP #STPE 8199(66). ([memo](#))—Regular Agenda (Dave Shaw) (Referred to committee: 10/24/11) **(REMOVE FROM AGENDA) (MEMO) Please link updated memo.**

Motion: Approve and authorize the Mayor to sign a Resolution for change orders in an amount of \$12,563.73 for construction of Project #PR11-09MT, Milwaukee Railroad Path- Missoula Russell to Reserve CTEP #STPE 8199(66).

This change order incorporates important elements into the project as follows:

1. Grant Street Trailhead/Wayside:

The Missoula Rotary Club has been a notable financial partner in the Milwaukee Trail – Russell to Reserve project. The Club has donated \$30,000 toward the project allowing for the inclusion of further enhancements than previously anticipated. Additionally, the Rotary's donation is being used as part of the local funding needed to leverage the federal CTEP funding. A portion of the Rotary donation is being put toward the installation of a trailhead/wayside for the project. The area will include a concrete pad, bench, interpretive signage, landscaping and a few parking stalls.

The main feature will be a monument celebrating the life of Karen Kempel Jones, a local Rotarian renowned for her efforts in connecting people to community projects.

This change will come to the project as an increase of \$10,140.93.

2. Davis Street Area Fence Mitigation:

It was discovered late in the project that base gravels did not have a sufficient retaining structure along a small portion of trail just east of Davis Street. In order to retain the gravels and protect adjacent private properties, this addition to the project includes the installation of a short block wall and topsoil, relocation of a private fence, and installation of landscape timbers.

This change will come to the project as an increase of \$6,998.00.

3. ADA Curb Cut, North end of Justus Lane Sidewalk:

During a project review with WGM, Parks staff and City Engineering staff, it was discovered that an ADA compliant ramp does not exist at the north end of the existing sidewalk along Justus Lane. The project included the installation of an ADA compliant ramp on the south end of the sidewalk, which has been installed. It was the opinion of staff and WGM that adding an ADA compliant ramp with detectable warnings at the north end would be appropriate as the sidewalk is considered part of the trail corridor along with the remainder of the Justus Lane right-of-way.

This change will come to the project as an increase of \$1,705.00.

4. Irrigation Modification, Grant Street Landscaping:

During a construction restoration meeting with WGM, Parks staff, LS Jensen and an adjacent landowner, the landowner offered the opportunity to modify the planned irrigation connection for the Landscape Area B (Grant Street) to obtain source water by connecting to the adjacent landowner's existing, functioning irrigation system as opposed to connecting to Mountain Water Company (MWC) mains. This change results in savings by not requiring a tap and connection to MWC mains, a controller and various irrigation hardware. It was the opinion of staff and WGM that this modification would be appropriate for irrigation service while resulting in project savings.

This change will come to the project as a decrease of \$6,280.20.

Discussion:

Committee members questioned Dave regarding the arrangement to connect to the private land owner irrigation system. Dave did not see any issues even if the irrigation system was to fail, as the vegetation is low and will not always need irrigation. Mr. Childers suggested getting a formal agreement with the land owner.

The committee also discussed the proposed lightening system to help drivers and users of the trail. Staff is working with MRA for lights to go from Garfield east to Russell, with construction proposed for next year. Northwestern Energy will also be installing three new overhead street lights at Russell, Curtis and Davis.

It was moved to approve the change order and all members present voted in favor of the motion.

IV. REGULAR AGENDA

3. **[Discussion Date: 10/26/11]** Approve and authorize the Mayor to sign an amendment to the agreement with Territorial Landworks, Inc. (TLI) in an amount not to exceed \$136,702.37 for professional services, including engineering, surveying, and construction management for Project #PR 08-02 GCT, Grant Creek Trail, CTEP #STPE 8199(105). ([memo](#))—Regular Agenda (Dave Shaw) (Referred to committee: 10/24/11)(**Held in Committee**) Parks staff and TLI met with the Grant Creek Trail Association on changes to the scope of the projects. This item will be held waiting for further discussion with GCTA.

HELD ITEMS

1. Update from Greenhouse Gas Energy Conservation Team. ([memo](#))—Regular Agenda (Ben Schmidt and Marilyn Marler) (Referred to committee: 04/11/2011)
2. Discuss the city's strategy to complete a boundary survey of Greenough Park. ([memo](#))—Regular Agenda (Dave Strohmaier) (Referred to committee: 04/04/2011)

The meeting adjourned at 9:30 am