



Agenda Cover Memorandum

Meeting Date: January 14, 2019

Meeting Type: Committee of the Whole City Council Budget Workshop

Item Title: Green Infrastructure Grant

Action Requested: Approval For Discussion Feedback Requested For Your Information

Staff Contact: Wayne Zingsheim, Public Works Director Ph:(847)318-5247 Email: wzingshe@parkridge.us

Background:

Staff received a call from the Metropolitan Water Reclamation District of Greater Chicago (MWRDGC) stating that Alderman Moran had contacted them and had been informed about a green infrastructure grant and provided information on a project that was discussed. Staff completed an application, and sent it to MWRDGC for their consideration. The project submitted was for the reconstruction of the Central (Library) Lot as a pilot program for green infrastructure. The project was for an approximate \$1.3 million dollar green parking lot in the Central Lot in Uptown and would include permeable pavement, excavation, drainage, and other green technologies.

On November 30, 2018 staff received a letter stating that the City had indeed been awarded a grant for this project. The grant allows for MWRDGC to pay 50% of the construction costs, not to exceed \$650,000 and funds only items that are considered green infrastructure. If the project comes in under budget, MWRDGC would only reimburse 50% of the project cost. There is no reimbursement for design or construction engineering. Staff estimates the design and engineering costs to be between \$200,000-\$300,000 and would be at the City's expense. Using the total project cost estimate, the City's portion of the project may be in the neighborhood of \$850,000-\$950,000 (\$650,000 construction and \$200,000-\$300,000 for design / engineering).

At this time, items for discussion include:

- The Central Lot is in acceptable condition at this time, with the exception of the west end which has alligator cracking and would need rehabilitation in the next few years.
- A resurfacing project alone would be in the \$150,000-\$200,000 range and could be completed in a relatively short time period.
- If reconstructed, parking would need to be revised per the current Zoning Code parking lot, landscaping, and lighting standards.
- If the Green Infrastructure Project goes forward, the parking lot would be closed for an extended period of time during the spring and summer as excavation, islands and drainage work would need to be done. This would result in limited parking and relocation of 18 permit parking holders as well as 3-hour parking.
- If reconstructed, the city would need to transfer funds from the General Fund to the Sewer Fund to pay for the "Fee in Lieu" charge, as the City's Ordinance does not accept void storage as storm detention. The MWRD Watershed Management Ordinance would also apply for infiltration requirements.
- There will still be some impact to the City's drainage system, as there would be a connection to the City's sewer system, although the parking lot design would hold water and slow the release.
- Staff has said many times that "every little bit helps". The Council needs to discuss the benefits of this 'pilot' green parking lot.
- Staff is looking for direction on whether the Council wants staff to bring an Intergovernmental Agreement (IGA) between the City and MWRDGC back as an Action Item. If approved, staff would then go forward with a Request for Proposals (RFP) for the design / inspection of the project.

We will discuss this matter.