

Washtenaw County Parks and Recreation Commission

MEMORANDUM

To:

Washtenaw County Parks and Recreation Commission

From:

Robert L. Tetens, Director

Date:

July 24, 2012

Re:

B2B, River Terrace Trail (segment D1) - Construction Contract

Background

In 2003 the Commission authorized a contract with Pollack Design Associates to conduct a feasibility study to determine the conceptual location of the Border-to-Border Trail along a 4.3 mile section of the Huron River between the Village of Dexter and Delhi Metropark (Segment D). More specifically, the study identified the first priority as the 1.42 mile trail from the Village to Dexter-Huron Metropark (Segment D1), also known as the River Terrace Trail. The planning process was coordinated closely with the Huron-Clinton Metropolitan Authority, Scio Township and the Village of Dexter.

The River Terrace Trail proposal includes a 170-foot bridge spanning the Huron River near the entrance to Dexter-Huron Metropark. In November 2005, the Michigan Department of Natural Resources (MDNR) denied a Natural Rivers Act permit application to construct the bridge – making the construction of D1 unfeasible. In January 2006, WCPARC filed an appeal of the permit denial. In July 2010 the appeal was finally granted by court order and all necessary permits were issued for construction of the bridge and trail project. The MDNR permit will expire on July 29, 2012.

Discussion

Phase 1 of the River Terrace Trail project was formally bid on September 21, 2011 (RFP #6638) and ten local firms attended the mandatory pre-bid meeting on October 13th. The bid opening was held on October 28, 2011 with four firms submitting competitive bids. Anlaan Corporation was the low bid at \$1,994,230.00. In order to ensure that installation of the bridge was completed prior to expiration of the permit, staff worked with the selected bidder to reduce the project scope by shifting a portion of the trail construction to a future phase. In December 2011, the Commission authorized a contract with Anlaan for construction of Phase 1 of the project for a total fee of \$1,237,230. The first phase was recently completed and included all the improvements on the north side of the Huron River, the bridge, and

approximately 80 linear feet of boardwalk on the south side of the river. The project was completed ahead of schedule and at a cost that was \$15,000 under the contract amount.

Staff is proposing to amend the contract with Anlaan to construct the remainder of Phase 1. This next phase (Phase 1B) will include construction of approximately 650 LF of boardwalk and 235 LF of paved asphalt trail, as well as 1,500 LF of trail base (construction access road) that will be ready for paving in Phase 2 of the project. Anlaan has proposed to complete this work for a cost of \$753,811, which would bring the total cost of Phase 1 approximately \$19,000 under their original bid. Since the Village of Dexter has sewer and water lines buried under the project access drive, the Village is requiring that the contractor take additional measures to protect these shallow utilities from damage. The Village is requiring that geotextile fabric and an additional 6 inches of aggregate base be placed along the entire length of the haul road. This will result in an additional cost of \$36,890, bringing the total cost to \$793,701. As an alternative, Anlaan has proposed that the majority of the haul road be shifted to the location that is the proposed trail alignment. Although this will result in some additional grading and tree removal in the current phase, it will leave a trail base that is ready to be paved during Phase 2 of construction. This alternative will result in an additional \$123,929 cost, bringing the total Phase 1B cost to \$877,740, but will allow the construction of an additional 3,195 LF of trail (aggregate base/haul road).

Recommendation

It is my recommendation that WCPARC amend the contract with Anlaan Corporation, the low bidder, for the construction of Phase 1B for a total of \$877,740. Construction is anticipated to commence immediately upon approval of a contract.

