COON CREEK WATERSHED DISTRICT
Request for Board Action

MEETING DATE: December 8, 2014
AGENDA NUMBER: 11
ITEM: Public Hearing on Woodcrest Bank Stabilization Project

FISCAL IMPACT: Policy
POLICY IMPACT: Budgeted

REQUEST
Hold hearing and receive comments from the public

BACKGROUND
As part of the Comprehensive and Capital Improvement planning process, the Woodcrest Bank Stabilization project was prioritized and budgeted $136,500 for work in 2014 as part of the District Bank Stabilization Program. The project is intended to address very severe bank erosion, incised channel and approximately 20 foot vertical bank walls either side of the channel. Top of bank is densely wooded with mature trees.

At the September 9, 2013 Board meeting the Board approved the 2014 budget.

At the February 10, 2014 Board meeting the Board received an itemization of projects commencing in 2014, including the Woodcrest Bank Stabilization Project.

On March 3, 2014 staff met with City of Coon Rapids staff to discuss project details.

On March 5, 2014 an open house was held at Coon Rapids City Hall. Residents from 4 properties attended. Residents concluded that a project is warranted and that the District should proceed with survey and design. Staff attempted contacting residents who did not attend by phone and mailed a follow-up letter and copy of the open house handouts.

On April 22, 2014 staff attempted to conduct a site survey but was unsuccessful due to tree canopy and high banks.

On April 28, 2014 Wenck conducted a site survey using equipment specialized for the site conditions.

On July 16, 2014 Wenck completed preliminary design options.

On July 22, 2014 staff met with City of Coon Rapids staff to discuss project details.

On September 3, 2014 an open house was held at Coon Rapids City Hall. Residents from 3 properties attended. Resident concerns were addressed and design options were presented. A vegetated riprap design was determined to be the most feasible design. Staff attempted contacting residents who did not attend by phone and mailed a follow-up letter and copy of the open house handouts.
At the September 22, 2014 Board meeting the board authorized staff to seek quotes for the project.

From November 7, 2014 through November 14, 2014 an advertisement for bids was published in the Anoka County Union Herald and Sun Focus Columbia Heights/Fridley newspapers. The advertisement for bids was also made available through QuestCDN.

On November 18, 2014 a prebid meeting was held onsite. 9 contractors attended.

**ISSUES/CONCERNS**

**Construction Budget:** is $136,500

**Engineers Estimate:** is $130,000

**North bank:** 14 single family properties. Fences, sheds, tress and other issues limit design options and present difficulties in modifying this bank or working from this side. All residents agree a project is needed to address the bank erosion.

**South bank:** Woodcrest Park. Densely wooded adjacent to the channel with many problem trees.

**Design:** Reshape south bank to a gentler slope. Place vegetated riprap along toe of either bank to a height of 4 feet above the channel bottom. Install 4 rate control structures. Place additional rock at pedestrian bridge and end of culverts.

**Tree Removal:** Trees will be marked for removal that interfere with rock placement, obstruct access or pose hazardous. Flagging has been provided to the residents to mark trees they wish to save. Staff has explained that saved trees will be the responsibility of the residents should they cause issues in the future.

**Access:** South side of project completely within park.

**Piping Design Alternative:** during the March 3, 2014 open house residents expressed concern that previous attempts to stabilize the bank have failed. Residents requested the District explore piping the channel. At the September 5, 2014 open house the design alternative for piping the channel was presented. Piping the channel was estimated to cost $528,960; which exceeds the district budget by $392,460.

**Publication:** notice for quotes required to be published in official District newspapers as project estimated cost exceeds statutory minimum.

**RECOMMENDATION**

Convene public hearing and receive comments from the public.