COON CREEK WATERSHED DISTRICT
PERMIT REVIEW

MEETING DATE: April 27, 2015
AGENDA NUMBER: 12
FILE NUMBER: 14 - 079
ITEM: Coon Rapids Wilderness Trail

RECOMMENDATION: Approve

APPLICANT: City of Coon Rapids
   Attn: Mark Hansen
   1115 Robinson Dr
   Coon Rapids MN 55433

PURPOSE: 10 ft wide, 3749 ft long bituminous wilderness trail that will stretch from 121st Ave to CSAH 14 (Main Street)

LOCATION: 121st Ave to CSAH 14 (Main Street) along the west side of the BNSF railroad.
APPLICABILITY:
1. Any work within or adjacent to a Public Ditch within the Watershed District.
2. Any work in or adjacent to wetlands, lakes or water courses.
3. One or more cumulative acres of land disturbance.
4. Excavation or filling or a combination of excavation and filling of sand or other excavation or fill material including the laying, repairing, replacing or enlarging of a culvert or an underground pipe or facility where it crosses a public ditch or waters of the state.
5. Endangered, Threatened or Special concern species, elements of communities.

EXHIBITS:
1. Trail Construction Plan set by City of Coon Rapids, dated 10/10/2014, received 12/5/2014
4. Revised Trail Construction Plan set by City of Coon Rapids, dated XX, Received XX
5. Wetland credit withdrawal approval by BWSR, Dated 1/30/2015, Received 2/9/2015

HISTORY & CONSIDERATIONS:
The Board reviewed this at their January 12, 2015. At the meeting, the item was tabled with the following stipulations:
1. Receipt of escrows
2. Receipt of wetland escrows.
3. Provide a note which states disturbed soils will be stabilized within 14 days of completion of grading.
4. Proof of withdrawal of the wetland credits must be provided to CCWD prior to construction.
5. Provide documentation from the DNR commissioner approving the project.

FINDINGS:
Ditches and Drainage: There is a public ditch on the property but not a County ditch. Tronson Creek is maintained by the City of Coon Rapids. The trend in land use for this drainage area is toward open space and residential. There are no flooding concerns downstream.

Floodplain: There is no floodplain on the property according to FEMA. The District Atlas 14 model predicts the 100-year elevation for the subwatershed at 882.1 feet. The total floodplain impact is 0 acre-feet, within the floodplain. Compensatory storage is not needed.
Groundwater: Surficial ground water is present at an unknown elevation. It is unknown if the site includes groundwater sensitive areas. Information is not required to substantiate low floor elevations. No buildings are proposed.

Historic Sites: The proposed project does not include sites of historic or archeological significance.

Local Planning & Zoning: The proposed project is consistent with local planning and zoning. There is an approved local water plan.

Maintenance: The proposed project does include a ditch maintenance easement or utility line crossings but is under the jurisdiction of Coon Rapids. No storm water/infiltration ponds are proposed or required and therefore no drainage and utility easement is shown on the drainage plan. The proposed project does not change drainage patterns.

Soils & Erosion Control: Soils affected by the proposal are Markey, Lino, Isanti, Rifle and Zimmerman. Stabilizing vegetation is proposed for disturbed areas within two weeks of rough grading. Adjacent properties are protected from sediment deposition. All wetlands, waterbodies, ponds, infiltration basins and water conveyance systems are protected from erosion and sedimentation. Project site is greater than 1 acre; an NPDES permit is required.

Stormwater & Hydraulics: Stormwater leaving the site is discharged into the neighboring wetland. Drainage sensitive uses do not exist downstream from the proposed site. It is unknown if the rate of post development runoff from the site does exceed predevelopment rates, or rates which would interfere with sensitive downstream land uses.

Water Quality: Project does not include new impervious drainage areas greater than 1 acre. All discharges into wetlands are not pretreated by vegetated buffer. The proposal will not detrimentally affect the existing water quality of the receiving water. The proposal will not cause extreme fluctuations of water levels or temperature changes.

Wetlands: Wetlands exist on-site according to the 1987 Federal manual, NWI, PWI and Soil Survey. Wetlands have been delineated. The wetland boundary has been checked.

The project is not exempt

The wetland is not a DNR protected water.

The total proposed wetland impact is 3,278 sq ft. The impact is through fill and vegetation removal in four locations. All impacts are directly related to trail construction.

The applicant has provided 3 alternatives:
1. No Build
2. Eastern Trail Design
3. Proposed Trail Design

The TEP has accepted alternative 3 as the most prudent and feasible alternative to alleviate public health, safety and welfare concerns.

Minimization efforts include:
   1. Weaving around and between wetlands
   2. Crossing at the narrowest portions

The TEP has agreed that the applicant has minimized impacts to the maximum extent practical.

Total Proposed Permanent Wetland impact quantities for project to date are:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Wetland ID</th>
<th>Area of Proposed Fill (S.F.)</th>
<th>Wetland Type</th>
<th>Purpose of Impact</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>75</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>Remove vegetation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>42</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>Remove vegetation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>2618</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>Fill</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D</td>
<td>543</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>Fill</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Impacts (S.F.)</td>
<td>3,278</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**TOTAL FILL IMPACT = 3,278 S.F. or 0.0752 ac**

**Wetland Replacement Plan:** Mitigation is proposed at a 2:1 ratio via wetland credit purchase from an existing wetland bank. Total fill 0.0752 * 2:1 replacement ratio = 0.1505 ac of required mitigation through a wetland bank. A wetland bank application has been completed and approved.

**Wildlife:** The proposed project includes the threatened Blanding’s Turtle (*Emydoidea blandingii*), the special concern plains hog-nosed snake (*Heterodon nasicus*) and the special concern gophersnake (*Pituophis catenifer*) as well as the special concern Rhombic-petaled evening primrose (*Oenothera rhombipetala*) and special concern Purple Sandgrass (*Triplasis purpurea var. purpurea*).

A botanical survey was done on the property by Jason Husveth, Critical Connections Ecological Services (CCES). There are no state-listed vascular plant species identified in the trail corridor.

The DNR has determined that significant information has been provided to document the findings and a takings permit is not required.
Performance Escrow: $2,720.00 - Paid
Wetland Escrow: $50,900.00 - Paid

ISSUES/CONCERNS:
None

RECOMMENDATION:
Approve