



City Council Memorandum

To: Mayor Hicks & City Council Members
From: Nick Egger – Public Works Director
Date: March 16, 2016
Item: Approve Design & Authorize Advertisement for Bids – Vermillion River Greenway Trail Extension

COUNCIL ACTION REQUESTED

Council is requested to adopt the attached resolution approving the project scope and plans, and authorizing the solicitation of bids for the Vermillion River Greenway Trail Project.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

In 2011, the City partnered with Dakota County to apply for a U.S. Department of Transportation grant for constructing a trail segment between the Vermillion Gorge Bridge and CP Adams Park along the southern side of the Vermillion River. The trail was identified on the County's Vermillion River Greenway master plan, and has been on the City's comprehensive plan since at least 2010. Our joint application was ranked very highly by the reviewing body, and as a result we were deemed a recipient of the grant in 2012, with construction to occur in 2015 or 2016.

Taken together with the extension of a grade-separated trail along Bailly Street also planned for the summer of 2016, this ¾ mile long project and bridge will all but complete a grade-separated trail encircling the City in a 10-mile loop.

The project construction timeline would run from early June to mid-November of 2016.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

The Federal portion of the grant will cover about \$644,000 of the \$805,000 estimated construction cost for the project, while Dakota County will chip in the approximately \$161,000 towards that total. The City's financial responsibility will be in procuring all of the design, project management, and contract administration costs, which are estimated at about \$95,000. Funding to cover the City's expenses has been sourced through untapped staffing dollars in 2015 from the vacancies in the Engineering department (two technicians and City Engineer), along with an allocation in the 2016 budget.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

At a City investment of only around 10% of the overall project costs, it is an incredible opportunity before the City to complete one of the last remaining gaps in our wonderful trail system. This trail will connect the system that we've built up along the Vermillion River with the Mississippi River Trail system, allowing cyclists and pedestrians to travel on a grade-separated trail from the north and eastern area of the City to the very southwest corner of town, through several park spaces and in close proximity to the Vermillion River with very few street crossings along the way.

ATTACHMENTS

The resolution, a copy of the project map, and an illustration of an example of the type of bridge that will be constructed, have all been attached for reference.

CITY OF HASTINGS

DAKOTA COUNTY, MINNESOTA

RESOLUTION NO. _____

**RESOLUTION ORDERING THE IMPROVEMENTS, APPROVING THE PLANS, AND AUTHORIZING THE
ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS FOR PROJECT 2016-4, THE VERMILLION RIVER GREENWAY TRAIL EXTENSION**

WHEREAS, the City of Hastings has partnered with Dakota County to obtain a Federal Transportation grant to fund construction of a trail and bridge along the rim of the scenic and captivating Vermillion River gorge, and

WHEREAS, this project will accomplish the City's goal of completing a 10-mile grade-separated trail system encircling the City through many natural resource spaces and City parks, and

WHEREAS, the project will also make progress towards the broader goal shared by the City of Hastings, Dakota County, and other Dakota County area communities to create a bicycle and pedestrian trail system connecting these communities along the Vermillion River, and

WHEREAS, plans for said project have been completed in accordance with current bicycle trail and pedestrian bridge design standards.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF HASTINGS AS FOLLOWS; that

1. Plans and specifications for these improvements prepared by the Hastings Engineering Department are hereby approved.
2. The Engineering Department shall prepare and cause to be published on the Quest Construction Data Network web site and on the City of Hastings official web site an advertisement for bids for the construction of the approved Project 2016-4. The advertisement shall be published for three weeks, shall specify the work to be done, shall state that bids will be opened at Hastings City Hall on a date and time to be determined, and that no bids will be considered unless sealed and filed with the Clerk and accompanied by a cash deposit, cashier's check, bid bond, or certified check payable to the City of Hastings for 5% of the amount of each bid.

ADOPTED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF HASTINGS, MINNESOTA, THIS 21ST DAY OF MARCH, 2016.

Ayes:

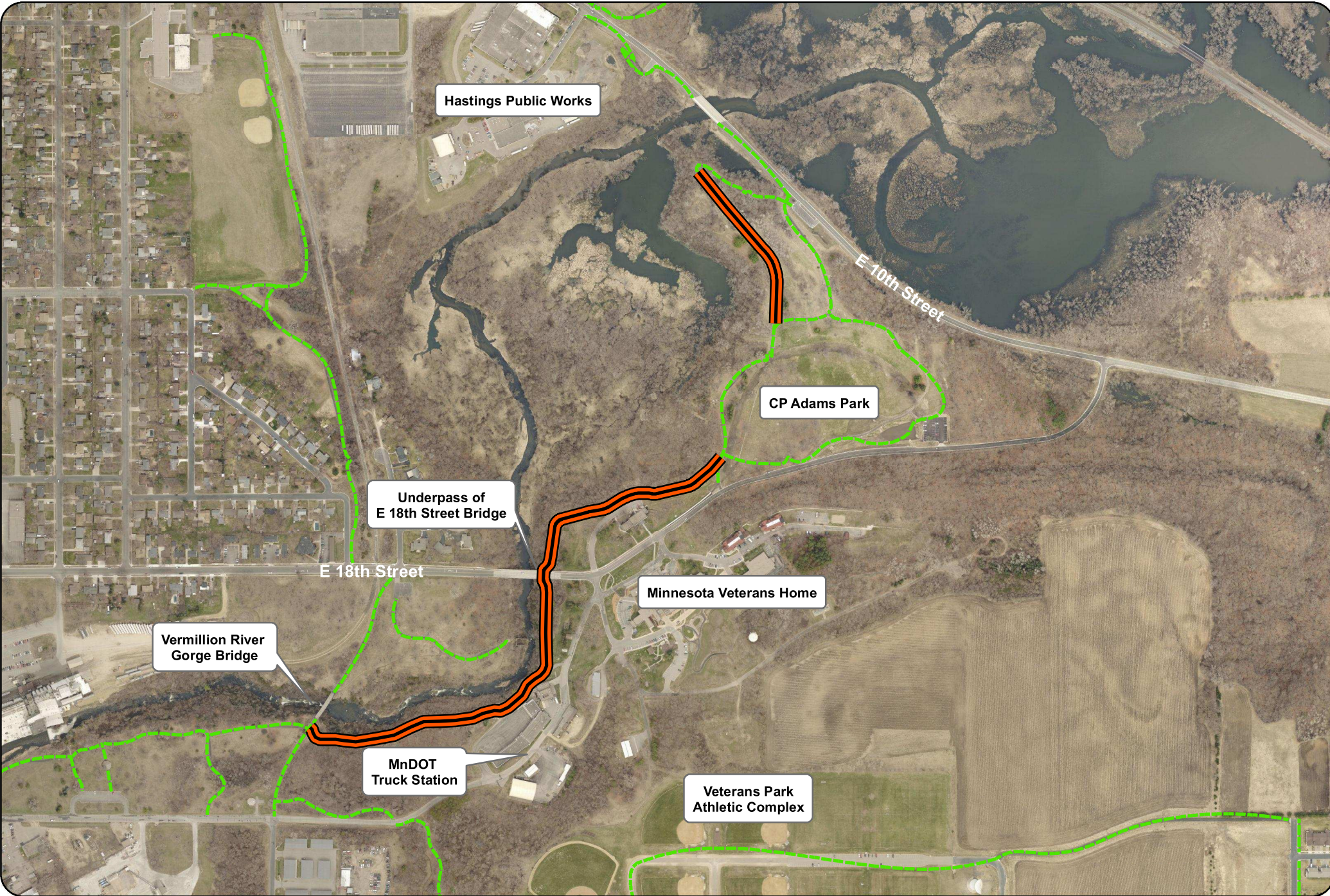
Nays:

ATTEST: _____

Julie Flaten, City Clerk



Paul J. Hicks, Mayor

SEAL



Vermillion River Greenway Trail Connection



	Proposed Trail 2016
	Existing Trails

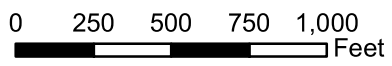




Figure 5: Prefabricated Through Steel Truss

Illustration of Bridge design. The proposed bridge will be similar in design to this illustration.