



WILDWOOD

April 19, 2016

The Honorable City Council
City of Wildwood, Missouri
16860 Main Street
Wildwood, Missouri 63040

Re: **Erosion Control Project in Bonhomme Creek (Ward - One)**

Council Members:

INTRODUCTION >>>

To date, the City has been providing maintenance services within the new Community Park for over eight (8) months and attempting to ensure all of its improvements are safe, functional, and available to users during the park's hours of operation. In support of this effort, the Department of Planning and Parks staff, as directed, has also been documenting operational issues and complaints from users, so as it can address them with the City Council on a timely basis. Together, with the financial accounting being provided on a monthly basis, the costs of the City's parks and trails investments is has developed will be well managed well and within reasonable budget allowances.

A pressing concern relative to creek erosion by the new pavilion was identified to the Committee by the Department of Planning and Parks staff regarding Community Park. The Department began watching an area of Bonhomme Creek for many months, after the City's contractor sent photographs of the creek during a major rain event, while work was still underway on the Phase One improvements. These photographs are attached to this letter. These photographs clearly indicate the power of the water flow associated with this creek and the volume associated with it as well.

CURRENT CONDITIONS AND CONCERNS >>>

Over the course of the last year, the issue did not appear it was going to become a problem or concern, until the flooding rains of December 2015. These rains began to expose more of the tree root systems, which led to the Department reviewing its condition on a more systematic and frequent basis. This on-going review has led to the discovery that bank erosion has accelerated and the Committee believes it is a concern warranting action at this time. This action does have costs and ramifications for the City.

APPROACH AND RECOMMENDATION >>>

To address the Committee's concern, the Department met with the general contractor and project engineer from Phase One of Community Park, so their opinions and recommendations on this matter could be provided. The consensus on this matter was the western side of the creek bank should be armored to preserve the remaining area between the centerline of the creek and the pavilion. The addition of rocks and vegetation of types suitable for the velocity and volume of flow in the creek would provide the necessary

protection and accomplish this armoring of the creek. The Committee is keenly aware that fixes in one segment of the creek can lead to other issues downstream, but, at this stage, protecting the active use area of park is highest priority. The Committee would also note that the long-range plan for Community Park includes the installation of retention basins upstream from this area and, once installed in the future, should assist in the management of stormwater along the length of creek and prevent future downstream impacts from this bank stabilization project.

The Committee has received a bid from Gershenson Construction to perform this work within the creek and has included it as part of this report. The bid is for just under twenty-three thousand dollars (\$23,000.00) and would include the following items:

1. The delivery of rock to the site for use in the creek. This rock is from a roadway project in Jefferson County and being provided to the City by Gershenson Construction at no charge, except delivery. The rock is a buff color, which is much preferred over the typical white limestone type that is used extensively for this purpose.
2. The extent of the repair will include over one hundred fifty (150) feet of the creek and entail placing larger rock below the creek bed to anchor the wall and stacking the rock by size (larger to smaller), as the wall is built from the bottom up.
3. The rock layers will provide spacing for the placement of small water-adaptable species of plantings to assist in holding the bank in place over time.
4. The access into the creek is proposed at two (2) locations to minimize disturbance within it and one (1) of the two (2) locations is already in place, and has been for many years. The other location will require the removal of some trees, but is the best approach to address concerns about access within the creek.
5. The necessary permits will be obtained from the respective agencies with jurisdiction in this regard.
6. The work can be coordinated, while Gershenson Construction is on site for the construction of improvements associated with Phase Two of the Community Park.

The Committee would identify this work as a priority repair and would like to proceed with it as quickly as practical to ensure the bank of this portion of the creek is preserved to the greatest extent possible, given its proximity to the pavilion and other improvements in Community Park. To illustrate this matter, the Committee has included a set of photographs that provide a view of the area of concern within the waterway. These images and photographs indicate the variability of the park's environment, but are also factors in the City decision to purchase this site, i.e. its inherent beauty and the nature lessons it provides to all users who visit Community Park.

SUGGESTED ACTION/RECOMMENDATION >>>

The Committee, acting at its April 19, 2016 meeting, and by a vote of 7 to 0, is recommending this contractor be selected for this project. In making this recommendation, the Committee members would again note the urgency in protecting the creek bank; the reduced costs in the bid due to the donation of material and the current mobilization of the contractor for the previously authorized Phase 2 project; and the available funding for this work. This matter is being presented at tonight's Work Session to the City Council for its review and, if acceptable, to recommend legislation be drafted in this regard. With City Council's endorsement, the contract for this project could be completed by May, with construction starting in early summer.

INFORMATION >>>

If any of the City Council Members should have questions or comments before tonight's meeting about this information, please feel free to contact the Department of Planning and Parks at (636) 458-0440. A presentation is planned on this matter at tonight's Work Session. Thank you for your review of this information and participation in tonight's discussion.

Respectfully submitted,
CITY OF WILDWOOD

Jim Baugus, Chair*
Planning/Economic Development/Parks Committee

Cc: The Honorable Timothy Woerther, Mayor
The Honorable James R. Bowlin, Mayor-elect
Ryan S. Thomas, P.E., City Administrator
Rob Golterman, City Attorney
Kathy Arnett, Assistant Director of Planning and Parks
Gary Crews, Superintendent of Parks and Recreation

* The Department of Planning and Parks developed this report, in conjunction with the Planning/Economic Development/Parks Committee. Content reflects the Committee's consideration of this subject, and not necessarily an individual's position or opinion.