

B. Draft Terms of Joint Powers Agreement – Mississippi West Regional Park Boat Launch and Access Road (15)

Purpose

To review and seek comment on proposed terms for a Joint Powers Agreement with the City of Ramsey for the construction of a boat launch at Mississippi West Regional Park.

Background/Discussion

The City of Ramsey has made a request to Anoka County to accelerate the timetable for construction of a boat launch on the Mississippi River in Mississippi West Regional Park. The City cites the lack of a boat launch between Anoka and Elk River (10 mile stretch) and a growing city and regional population as the basis for the request.

Currently, there are no Metropolitan Parks grant funds programmed for the boat launch or park development. The next conceivable opportunity is through the 2012/13 Regional Park and Trails Legacy Grant Program.

In light of this situation, the City of Ramsey has indicated a willingness to assist the County with temporary funding for the boat launch development, with the promise of future reimbursement to the City from future Metropolitan Parks grant funds. A similar approach to the development of regional trails has been used in the advanced funding of the Lexington Avenue, Bunker Lake Boulevard, and CSAH 14 trails vis-à-vis the cities of Blaine, Andover, and Centerville respectively.

The Parks and Recreation Department views this as a reasonable and workable solution to begin a phased development program for the regional park. A proposed concept plan for the park, showing the temporary boat access road off of Traprock Street and future park development, is attached for reference. The cost for construction of the boat launch and parking facility is also detailed in the following pages and is currently estimated at \$390,000.

Assuming the County and the City desire to move forward with a cooperative approach to this project, a formalized Joint Powers Agreement will be required. The initial outline of responsibilities for the county and the city in such an arrangement follows:

1. Anoka County Responsibilities:

- Submit an updated Master Plan for Mississippi West Regional Park to the Metropolitan Council incorporating the latest design concepts for facilities and trails.
- Request Metropolitan Council authorization to commence development of the boat launch and access road project at Mississippi West Regional Park with future eligibility as a reimbursement project.
- Implement the project design and bidding process: public meeting, concept design, permit applications, construction documents, bidding, and construction administration.
- Manage the grant process through the Metropolitan Council: CIP project funding request, grant administration, project documentation, reimbursement and closure.
- Execute reimbursement to the City of Ramsey for the cost of the project upon receipt of funds from the Metropolitan Council (2-4 years estimated for project funding in Metro Parks CIP).

2. City of Ramsey Responsibilities:

- Commit \$20,000 of city funds to the construction of the boat launch and access road.
- Assist in facilitating a public meeting on the master plan and site specific boat launch plan.
- Assist in obtaining local project approvals and permits.
- Provide advanced funding to Anoka County to construct the project beginning in 2011 (amount in addition to city's contribution of \$20,000).
- Provide maintenance of Traprock Street into the park, until boat launch road is connected to future internal park roads.
- Provide ongoing surveillance and law enforcement at the boat launch through the Ramsey Police Department.

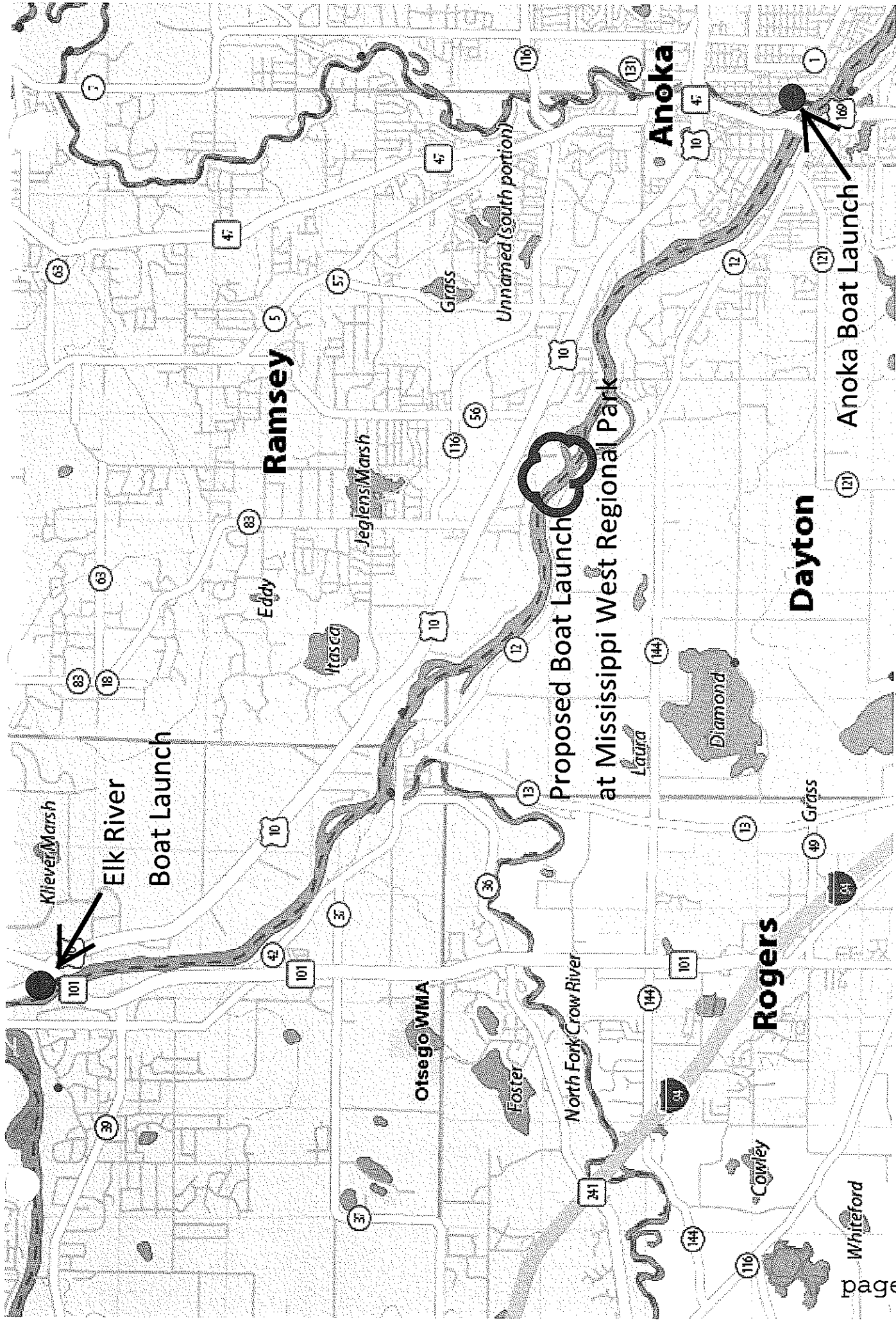
If the Parks and Recreation Committee agrees with the general direction of this arrangement, the following rough estimated timeline would be used in the implementation of the project:

- May 2010: execution of a joint powers agreement with the City of Ramsey
- June – September 2010: Metro Council master plan process and approvals
- Fall 2010: development of 2012-13 Parks and Trails Legacy funding requests
- Winter 2010/11: project planning / construction documents
- Spring 2011: project bidding
- Summer 2011: project construction and opening to public
- Fall 2011: estimated timing of grant agreement with the Metropolitan Council
- Winter 2011: estimated timing of reimbursement to the City of Ramsey

It should be noted that there is no certainty to the funding of the Regional Parks and Trails Legacy Program by the state legislature. Based on the current (and first) biennial appropriation to the program, and the anticipated continued funding split between the state parks and regional parks systems, the likelihood is strong that the metro regional park system and Anoka County will continue to see similar appropriations in fiscal years 2012 and 13. This would yield about \$1.6 million per year for regional park projects in Anoka County in each year of the biennium. Consequently, it would appear that the probability is rather good that funding from the 2012 Parks and Trails Legacy funding would be available for reimbursement to the City of Ramsey.

For Committee Action

To consider authorizing the Parks and Recreation Department to negotiate a Joint Powers Agreement with the City of Ramsey for the development of a boat launch in Mississippi West Regional Park, with further review at the May 2010 Parks and Recreation Committee meeting.

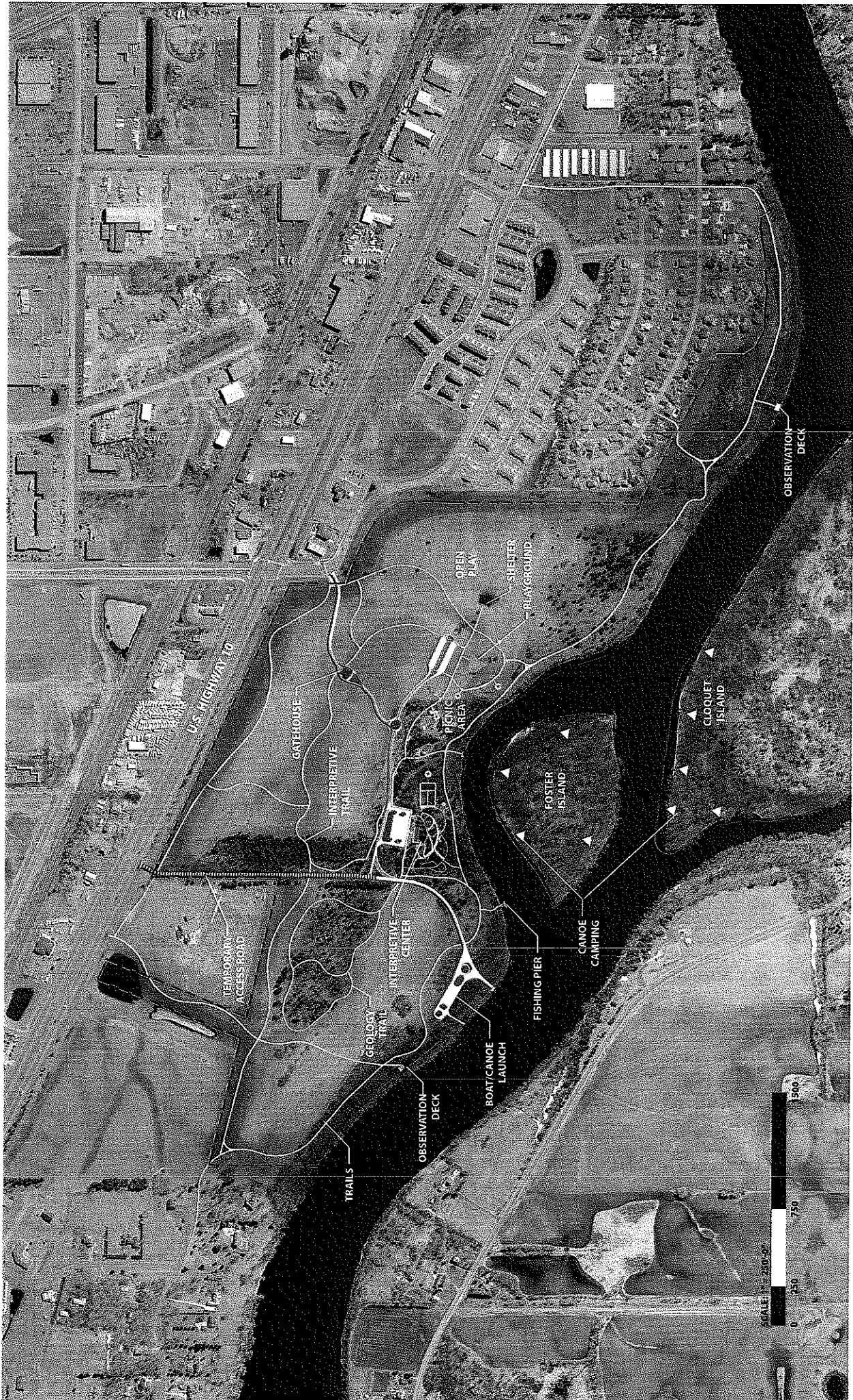


**Proposed Boat Launch
at Mississippi West Regional Park**

Boat Launches in the area of
Mississippi West Regional Park

**Mississippi West Regional Park
 Temporary Road, Parking and Boat Launch Estimates**

Improvement Summary	
Item	Total Cost
Boat Launch Parking Lot	\$ 215,000
Boat Launch	\$ 40,000
Temporary Access Road	\$ 50,000
Signage	\$ 5,000
Survey (topographic survey and Construction Staking)	\$ 10,000
Removal/Demolition of House and Hazard Material Abatement	\$ 40,000
Permits (City, Watershed, escrow)	\$ 5,000
Subtotal	\$ 365,000
Contingency	\$ 25,000
Total	\$ 390,000



MISSISSIPPI WEST MASTER PLAN
 Conceptual Design
 (3.5.2010)

