

Meeting Date: 10/25/2022

By: Sean Sullivan, Community Development

Information

Title:

Adopt Resolution #22-241 Authorizing COR Public Infrastructure and Wetland Analysis

Purpose/Background:

The purpose of this case is to consider a recommendation to complete COR infrastructure and wetland analysis.

On January 18, 2022 the Public Works Committee discussed the COR Site improvement and Infrastructure needs and asked staff to obtain cost estimates for the work. The EDA meeting in February 2022 and supported getting more information. Staff has not been able to complete the work in-house so Staff asked Bolton and Menk (they completed the previous COR infrastructure Study) to put together proposals to complete analysis and cost estimates on completing the following items:

- Ramsey Parkway from Willemite Street to Sunwood Drive (Roundabout)
- Zeolite Street from Sunwood Drive to Bunker Lake Boulevard,
- Yolite Street from Sunwood Drive to Ramsey Parkway,
- Center Street Realignment,
- Veterans Drive between Rhinestone Street and Ramsey Boulevard,
- The Waterfront Pond and Park Area,
- Filling of stormwater ponds in the southeast quadrant of the Bunker Lake Boulevard and Armstrong Boulevard intersection and related analysis
- Filling of wetlands in the southeast quadrant of the Bunker Lake Boulevard and Armstrong Boulevard intersection and related analysis.

Bolton and Menk has provided two proposals that cover the work needed to provide feasibility and costs of completing the work. Construction and contracting costs have changed significantly since the last time analysis was done in 2018. During initial investigation it has become apparent that the wetland analysis and delineation need to be completed to determine the feasibility of the wetland and stormwater pond relocation and coordinated excavation of The Waterfront to make Parcel 46 a developable lot by adding fill excavated from the future Waterfront to it. Bolton and Menk has completed the wetland delineation component due to the time of the year and ability to complete the delineation while vegetation is still identifiable. There is additional work and analysis that is included in the attached wetland proposal that is also underway. Many of these items are interrelated and should be coordinated to maximize efficiency to compete the work. Preliminary analysis of the delineated Wetlands indicates that there are four defined wetlands on site but more analysis is needed. Kevin Kielb provided information to the EDA regarding the process to buy wetland credits off-site and that more research was needed to identify the cost and ability to fill them.

Some of the items in the proposals (construction of streets, site improvements, cost of study) could be paid for in full, or in part by TIF District 14 or other TIF Districts that have eligible funds. In order to be able to fund these items out of TIF 14 the work needs to be completed or in process prior to November 2023. Based on this short time period, staff is suggesting that costs are quantified as soon as possible so that the City Council can determine which projects should move forward and how they can be funded most efficiently.

The work being proposed is consistent with the mission of the EDA by helping facilitate and to encourage quality development.

Notification:

N/A

Observations/Alternatives:

Financing options for improvements in the COR will become more limited after November 2023. According to the CIP, Zeolite Street is planned to be reconstructed in 2026 and to be funded by TIF District 2 but development pressure for Parcel 46 could likely move the need for reconstruction forward. Some costs, such as the excavation of the Waterfront basin to obtain fill for Parcel 46 is a TIF eligible expense and would need to occur before November 2023 to be included in the TIF 14 budget. Completion of the attached proposals is needed to determine the feasibility of projects and to identify costs so the projects can coordinated and be budgeted efficiently.

Alternatives:

- 1) Recommendation to City Council to authorize the Wetland and COR Infrastructure proposals utilizing TIF District (2,14) funds.
- 2) Recommendation to City Council to authorize the Wetland and COR Infrastructure proposals utilizing EDA funds.
- 3) Something else.

Funding Source:

To be determined. The proposals being consider by the City Council are TIF eligible expenses. It is likely that different facets of this project would be handled by different funding sources. Potential funding sources include:

- TIF 14, TIF 2
- Sewer and/or Water Fund
- Park Dedication / Trust Fund,
- PIR
- EDA
- Wetland bank

Recommendation:

The EDA met on October 13th and unanimously approved a recommendation to the City Council to authorize the Bolton and Menk Wetland and COR Infrastructure proposals utilizing TIF District (2, 14) funds.

Action:

Motion to Adopt Resolution #22-241 Authorizing COR Public Infrastructure and Wetland Analysis

Attachments

ACTION - Resolution #22-241

ACTION - COR Infrastructure Analysis

ACTION - COR Wetland Analysis

REFERNCE - Draft EDA Minutes 10-13-22

Form Review

| Inbox | Reviewed By | Date |
|---------------------------------|---------------|---------------------------------|
| Sean Sullivan (Originator) | Sean Sullivan | 10/18/2022 09:45 AM |
| Brian Hagen | Brian Hagen | 10/20/2022 10:04 AM |
| Form Started By: Sean Sullivan | | Started On: 10/14/2022 09:03 AM |
| Final Approval Date: 10/20/2022 | | |

Councilmember _____ introduced the following resolution and moved for its adoption:

RESOLUTION #22-241

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING COR PUBLIC INFRASTRUCTURE AND WETLAND ANALYSIS

WHEREAS, the City of Ramsey owns over 60 acres in the COR development and site improvements are needed to make many of the parcels developable; and

WHEREAS, the Bolton and Menk completed an Infrastructure Study for the COR in 2018 identifying costs for the construction of public infrastructure; and

WHEREAS, the current interest rate environment and inflation has increased the cost of public infrastructure and more information is needed relating to existing wetlands and the ability to fill them and construction of the Waterfront in the COR; and

WHEREAS, Bolton and Menk has provided two proposals to complete both the Wetland and Public Infrastructure Analysis in an amount not to exceed \$31,980; and

WHEREAS, the Ramsey EDA met on October 13, 2022 and unanimously made a recommendation to the City Council to approve the Wetland and Infrastructure Analysis by Bolton and Menk and to fund it with TIF 14 or TIF 2.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF RAMSEY, ANOKA COUNTY, STATE OF MINNESOTA, as follows:

- 1) That the City Council hereby authorizes completion of the COR Public Infrastructure and Wetland Analysis proposals from Bolton and Menk in an amount not to exceed \$31,908.
- 2) That The City Council authorizes the funding source of the proposals to come from TIF District 14 and/or TIF District 2

The motion for the adoption of the foregoing resolution was duly seconded by Councilmember _____, and upon vote being taken thereon, the following voted in favor thereof:

and the following voted against the same:

and the following abstained:

and the following were absent:

Whereupon said resolution was declared duly passed and adopted by the Ramsey City Council this the 25th day of October, 2022.

Mayor

ATTEST:

City Clerk



Real People. Real Solutions.

7533 Sunwood Drive NW
Suite 206
Ramsey, MN 55303-5119

Ph: (763) 433-2851
Fax: (763) 427-0833
Bolton-Menk.com

September 26, 2022

Mr. Bruce Westby, P.E.
City Engineer/Interim Public Works Director
City of Ramsey
7550 Sunwood Drive NW
Ramsey, Minnesota 55303

RE: City of Ramsey - The COR – Public Infrastructure Analysis

Dear Mr. Westby:

In response to our recent meeting related to The COR, we have prepared a scope of services and fee estimate for analysis associated with public infrastructure for the following improvements:

- Ramsey Parkway from Willemite Street to Sunwood Drive (Roundabout),
- Zeolite Street from Sunwood Drive to Bunker Lake Boulevard,
- Yolite Street from Sunwood Drive to Ramsey Parkway,
- Center Street Realignment,
- Veterans Drive between Rhinestone Street and Ramsey Boulevard,
- The Waterfront Pond and Park Area,
- Filling of stormwater ponds in the southeast quadrant of the Bunker Lake Boulevard and Armstrong Boulevard intersection, and
- Filling of a wetland in the southeast quadrant of the Bunker Lake Boulevard and Armstrong Boulevard intersection.

We will draw from the initial concepts and strategies that were detailed in the Center Street report and The COR report. Our proposal is based upon carrying these concepts and principals forward into the new analysis, with an updated project cost estimate for the work. Each street segment analyzed will include public utilities (sanitary sewer and water main), along with storm sewer, trails and sidewalks.

The material generated from the regional storm water retention pond can be used as fill for the remaining undeveloped portion of The COR. We will analyze the amounts of fill required for each lot and will make estimates for how much material will be generated from excavation of the Waterfront.

See attached figure for the general area of the analysis.

CONSTRUCTION COST ESTIMATES

Previous analyses presented project costs associated with the street and public utility related improvements. Those amounts were based on 2018 construction costs, and included a 30 percent allowance for contingencies and project development. No costs were included in The COR report for the Waterfront. Based on conversations with the City, the work will most likely consist of the following:

- Clear and grub the area of The COR bounded by Sunwood Drive, Bunker Lake Boulevard, Armstrong Boulevard and Center Street,
- Strip off topsoil for the above area and stockpile the material,
- Dewater the area to allow for deep excavations to occur,
- Excavate the pond, placing the material in locations identified within The COR,
- Place a 2 ft thick clay liner in the pond from the bottom up to the normal water level,
- Fine grade the area of the regional stormwater retention pond, and
- Revegetate all areas disturbed by construction.

We will provide construction cost estimates associated with the improvements.

SCOPE OF SERVICES

Our anticipated scope of services will be as follows:

- Complete a drone flight of the area to provide a current aerial image of the area. The drone flight will provide a level of accuracy of 0.1 ft horizontal and 0.3 ft vertical. This will allow for accurate estimations of excavations and fill volumes required to construct the Waterfront and move the material to adjacent lots within The COR area.
- Update the stormwater model to analyze elevations within the Waterfront and impacts associated with filling existing stormwater ponds across The COR.
- Analyze the potential for filling the wetland that was created in the southeast quadrant of Bunker Lake Boulevard and Armstrong Boulevard. This will be completed under a separate contract and the results will be discussed in the updated report.
- Analyze previous report assumptions and update proposed horizontal and vertical elevations associated with the roadways and public utilities within The COR area. Develop current construction cost estimates based on the analysis.
- Prepare a report detailing the findings of our analyses. This will likely be in the form of an update to previously prepared reports.

No geotechnical analysis will be performed for the project, although previous soil borings completed for the area will be reviewed.

SUMMARY OF FEES

We have prepared preliminary fee estimates based on our understanding of the work to be performed. We estimate fees will be as presented below:

| <u>Task</u> | <u>Fees</u> |
|--|--------------------|
| Drone Flight | \$ 2,880.00 |
| Stormwater Analysis | \$ 7,200.00 |
| Roadway and Public Utility Analysis | \$ 9,680.00 |
| <u>Report preparation, Including Figures</u> | <u>\$ 4,420.00</u> |
| Not-To-Exceed Fees | \$24,180.00 |

The fees in the above table represent not-to-exceed costs based on the scope present above.

Mr. Bruce Westby, P.E.
September 26, 2022
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If there are any questions or concerns, please call me at (651) 968-7760.

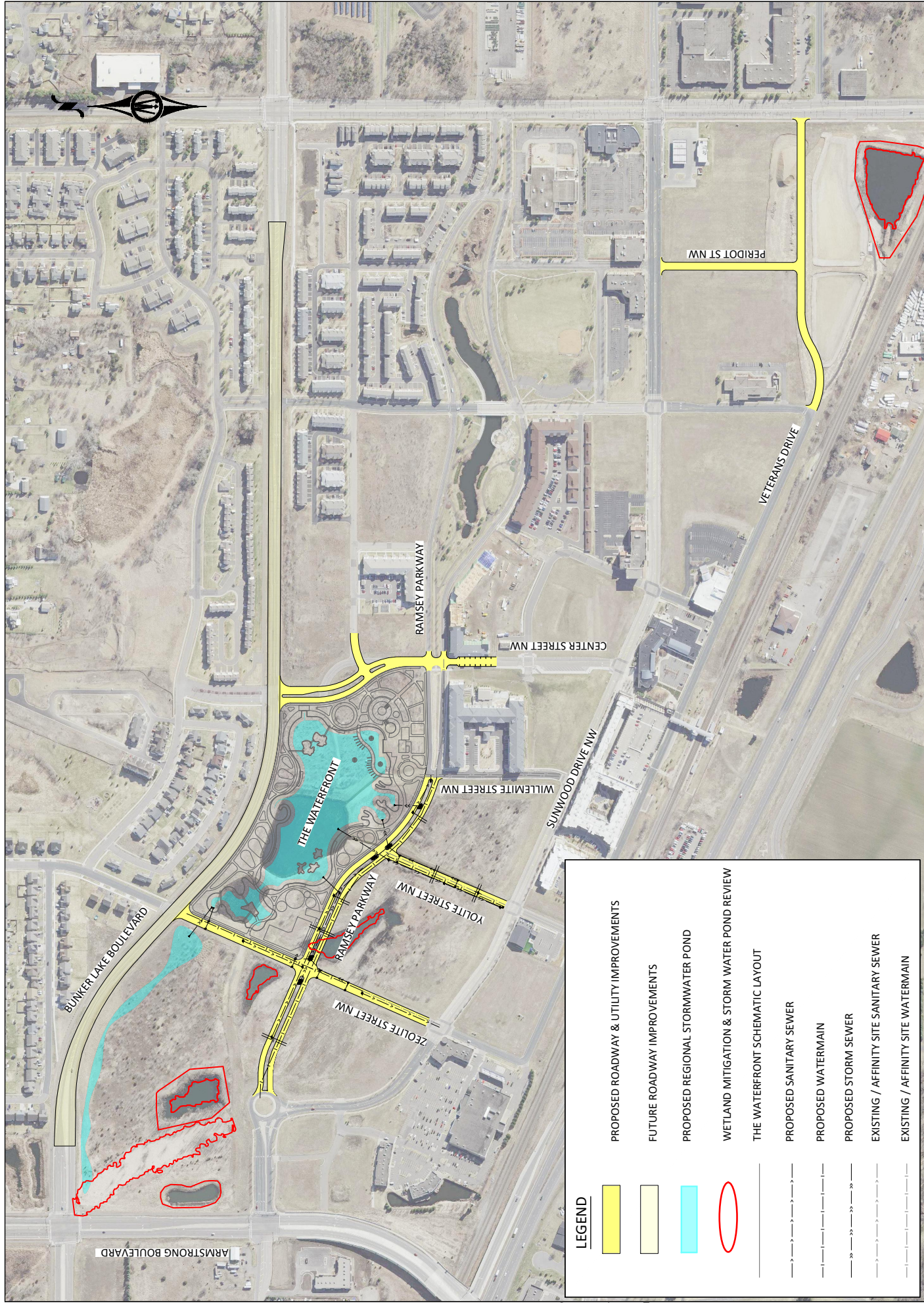
Sincerely,

Bolton & Menk, Inc.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Kevin P. Kielb". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Kevin P. Kielb, P.E.
Project Manager

Attachment: Area of Analysis



LEGEND

- PROPOSED ROADWAY & UTILITY IMPROVEMENTS
- FUTURE ROADWAY IMPROVEMENTS
- PROPOSED REGIONAL STORMWATER POND
- WETLAND MITIGATION & STORM WATER POND REVIEW
- THE WATERFRONT SCHEMATIC LAYOUT
- PROPOSED SANITARY SEWER
- PROPOSED WATERMAIN
- PROPOSED STORM SEWER
- EXISTING / AFFINITY SITE SANITARY SEWER
- EXISTING / AFFINITY SITE WATERMAIN



Real People. Real Solutions.

7533 Sunwood Drive NW
Suite 206
Ramsey, MN 55303-5119

Ph: (763) 433-2851
Fax: (763) 427-0833
Bolton-Menk.com

September 22, 2022

Mr. Sean Sullivan, EDFP
Economic Development Manager
City of Ramsey
7550 Sunwood Drive NW
Ramsey, Minnesota 55303

RE: City of Ramsey - The COR – Wetland Analysis

Dear Mr. Sullivan:

Bolton & Menk, Inc. has prepared this proposal for natural resources related services for The COR area in Ramsey. We propose to investigate available background information needed prior to visiting the site. This includes compiling information as follows:

1. Available Aerial Photographs,
2. Anoka County LiDAR Maps,
3. National Wetlands Inventory Maps,
4. Anoka County Soil Survey Maps, and
5. MnDNR Public Waters Maps.

We are proposing to complete the following tasks as a portion of the project:

Task 1 – Level II Aquatic Resource Delineation: We will visit the study area to delineate the wetland boundaries within the COR area. The delineation will include performing transects and sampling in the vicinity of any aquatic resources, placing 3-foot pin flags at the limits of any aquatic resources found. Our delineator will use a sub-meter GPS unit to accurately locate and map each point and prepare a written report of our findings. This report will be submitted to the appropriate agencies for approval.

Task 2 – Historical Analysis: Bolton & Menk staff will review each delineated aquatic resource to determine their historical status. This will include reviewing historical imagery and mitigation plans. If the wetlands are found to be constructed within upland areas, then they will be considered incidental under the WCA and non-jurisdictional under section 401 of the Clean Water Act.

Task 3 – Meetings and Additional Requests: Reviewing agencies generally request additional information and/or an on-site meeting during the review process. Our attendance is typically requested at these meetings to discuss the acceptance of the delineated boundaries or to provide the agencies with additional information.

SUMMARY OF FEES

We have prepared preliminary fee estimates based on our understanding of the work to be performed. We estimate fees will be as presented below:

| <u>Task</u> | <u>Fees</u> |
|--|--------------------|
| Task 1 – Level II Aquatic Resource Delineation | \$ 4,900.00 |
| Task 2 – Historical Analysis | \$ 1,800.00 |
| <u>Task 3 - Additional Requests & Meetings</u> | <u>\$ 1,100.00</u> |
| Not-To-Exceed Fees | \$ 7,800.00 |

The fees in the above table represent not-to-exceed costs based on the scope present above.

If there are any questions or concerns, please call me at (651) 968-7760.

Sincerely,

Bolton & Menk, Inc.



Kevin P. Kielb, P.E.
Principal Engineer

**ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY
CITY OF RAMSEY
ANOKA COUNTY
STATE OF MINNESOTA**

The City of Ramsey Economic Development Authority (EDA) conducted a regular meeting on Thursday, October 13, 2022, at the Ramsey Municipal Center, 7550 Sunwood Drive NW, Ramsey, Minnesota.

Members Present: Chairperson Michael Olson
 Member Chelsee Howell
 Member Rachal Johnson
 Member William MacLennan
 Member Chris Riley
 Member Shanna Stewart

Members Absent: Member Scott Wiyninger

Also Present: Sean Sullivan, Economic Development Manager

4. EDA BUSINESS

4.01: Request Recommendation to Complete COR Site Improvements, Infrastructure and Wetland Analysis

Economic Development Manager Sullivan presented the staff report.

Member Howell asked if task one has already been completed or whether there would be more work needed to complete that in addition to the delineation that was completed.

Economic Development Manager Sullivan replied that the delineation work in task one has been completed but more wetland analysis was yet to be done. He explained that in order to complete a delineation, the vegetation has to be growing and therefore that was completed during the appropriate season to ensure there would not be additional delay to complete the report.

Member Howell asked how these project costs would be recouped through development.

Economic Development Manager Sullivan replied that some of these costs have been identified in the CIP, such as Zeolite Street improvements. He stated that the other costs are able to be funded through TIF or could be schedule through the CIP or street improvement program. He stated that most of the costs, aside from building the waterfront park, are TIF eligible expenses. He explained that those costs could be spent now and reimbursed later if TIF is used. He stated that once the costs are better known, staff would present more specific options for funding. He noted that the study itself could be funded through TIF.

Member Stewart asked for clarification on purchasing wetland somewhere else.

Economic Development Manager Sullivan replied that in the past if you filled a wetland there were a few options in that you could create additional wetlands onsite, you could purchase wetland credits, or purchase wetlands offsite.

Member Stewart asked where the new wetlands would be purchased and whether that would be somewhere the City does not want to develop in the future.

Kevin Kielb, Bolton & Menk, stated that people establish wetlands in certain watersheds and areas in the state. These wetlands are “certified and banked” and are available for purchase to offset other wetlands that are filled in. He noted that other parties can then purchase the credits from that bank to offset their wetland impacts. He provided additional details on the process for the creation of wetland credits. He provided some general estimates of the cost for wetland credits, noting that price fluctuates depending on availability and geographic location. He stated that thus far they have delineated the wetlands in the COR and they are researching where wetlands have been moved or created. He explained that if one acre of wetlands is disturbed, two acres would need to be replaced. He reviewed some of the additional details that would be within the report that will help to eliminate hidden costs.

Chairperson Olson asked if the wetland credits would be local.

Mr. Kielb replied that the credits would need to be within a reasonable watershed, noting that he was unsure of the exact boundaries but advising that it would be within the regional area.

Member Johnson recognized that there would be a water feature in The COR and asked if there is a plan to have more wetlands or water features within that area.

Economic Development Manager Sullivan replied that the areas marked in red are anticipated to be filled to create more buildable area within The COR. He stated that once they have the costs known, they would determine if that is a cost the City would want to bear. He stated that the City could then choose whether that cost is rolled into the land price or split between the City and future development. He stated that staff believes that there will be an economy of scale in using the dirt from the excavation of the waterfront area to fill the desired areas.

Member Riley commented that this would seem to be follow up to the decision the EDA made in February. He stated that the work has not been able to be done inhouse and therefore this action would contract that work out.

Economic Development Manager Sullivan confirmed that to be true and noted that the intention was to keep the EDA informed in the process. He recognized that there may be more cost than originally anticipated due to wetland replacement and that will be flushed out through this study.

Member Riley stated that his other question was whether this would be the right time to complete this work but acknowledged that the TIF funds are available now and the work would need to be done prior to November of 2023 if that funding is going to be used.

Motion by Member Stewart, seconded by Member MacLennan, to recommend to City Council to authorize the Wetland and COR Infrastructure proposals utilizing TIF District (2, 14) funds.

Motion carried. Voting Yes: Chairperson Olson, Members Stewart, MacLennan, Howell, Johnson, and Riley. Voting No: None. Absent: Member Wiyninger.

6. ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Member MacLennan, seconded by Member Stewart, to adjourn the meeting.

Motion carried. Voting Yes: Chairperson Olson, Members MacLennan, Stewart, Howell, Johnson, and Riley. Voting No: None. Absent: Member Wiyninger.

The regular meeting of the Economic Development Authority adjourned at 8:05 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Sean Sullivan
Economic Development Manager

ATTEST:

Wendy Schlueter
Economic Development Administrative Assistant

Draft by Amanda Staple
TimeSaver Off Site Secretarial, Inc.