



Request for Park Board Action

TO: Full Board

PREPARED BY: Lonnie Nichols, Phone: 612-230-6525
Minnehaha District Planner

SUBJECT: East Phillips Park Cultural & Community Center
Resolution to seek Federal Funding

FULL BOARD ACTION DATE: February 20, 2008

ACTION: That the Board consider a Resolution seeking federal funding through the appropriation process for the future East Phillips Park Cultural and Community Center project

ACTION REQUESTED BY: Minnehaha District Planning

SUPERINTENDENT'S RECOMMENDATION: Staff has prepared background information Commissioner Vreeland will provide Proposed Resolution 2008-103.

PROJECT SCOPE AND HISTORY

On September 5, 2007, the Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board directed staff and the LHB consulting team to discontinue work on an east-side (of Park) development scenario in favor of a new park (community and cultural) center building to be located in the southwest quadrant of East Phillips Park. Staff has proceeded with the understanding that the building should be located within close proximity to the existing tot lot and wading pool and that the existing pool mechanical & rest room building and other lesser amenities in the area are removable.

Over the past six (6) months staff and LHB have met bi-weekly or more frequently with members of the East Phillips Park Community Design Team (EPPCDT), a leadership subcommittee of the full Community Advisory Committee (CAC), to work through schematic design options for the west side of the park, as well as discuss budget scenarios and fundraising options. A full CAC (public) meeting was held in the East Phillips neighborhood on January 24, 2008, to review the revised schematic design, which was enthusiastically supported by the community. Staff has requested a preliminary review by City of Minneapolis technical staff and expects to return to the Board in April 2008 for a public hearing of the design schematics.

MPRB representatives, along with East Phillips Park Community Design Team members, have met with Congressman Ellison's office to solicit support for the project. Congressman Ellison supports the Park Board's efforts to construct the East Phillips Park Cultural and Community Center and has asked that an application be made in order to have the project considered for federal funding. Applications are due March 3, 2008 for fiscal year 2009 funding. It should be

noted that this timeframe is not consistent with the approval status of the project. However, the Board may wish to advance a resolution prior to approving the project.

EXISTING FUNDING

<i>Secured Funding Sources and Uses</i>			
Source	Amount	Use	Date of Approval
MN State Legislature	\$3,500,000	Phase I – Plan, Design, Bidding, Construction	May 26, 2006
MPRB General Funds	\$20,000	Pre-Design	June-August 2006
MPRB Reserve Funds	\$42,390	Additional Design Services I	December 5, 2007

RELATED BOARD ACTIONS

- February 15, 2006 Project is included as a priority on the Board’s legislative agenda.

- September 6, 2006 Study session held to inform Board of results of staff research into demographics and similar facilities and services in the area.

- April 18, 2007 LHB, Inc. is retained to provide Architectural Consulting Services for the East Phillips Cultural and Community Center Project.

- May 2, 2007 Staff is authorized to coordinate a nonappointed CAC process for the East Phillips Cultural and Community Center Project.

- September 5, 2007 Public Hearing on East Phillips Cultural and Community Center (Park Building) Schematic Design and Land Use Plan

- December 5, 2007 Approved Additional Design Services Contract amendment for East Phillips Cultural and Community Center (Park Building)

ANALYSIS: Relationship to MPRB Mission and Goals

This project will support the Park Board mission and goals by providing a facility for positive programs for all residents including the youth in the area, and by encouraging environmentally sound design and construction techniques.

SUSTAINABILITY

The State Bonding Funds require that this project meet B3-MSBG requirements, which are roughly equivalent to LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) Silver Certification. Additional funding sources would presumably yield a more economically feasible and sustainable project.

FUNDING TIMEFRAMES

The MPRB has a 2006 contract with Metropolitan Council to fund the State’s \$3,500,000 grant for the East Phillips project. If the contract is not amended, it will expire in three years, 2009. The State Bonds have a requirement that the bonds will be under contract within five years, 2011. If the project is not under construction by 2009, the MPRB will be required to obtain an extension to the Met Council contract for the maximum allowable timeframe 2011.

ATTACHMENTS: Resolution 2008-104

RESOLUTION NO. 2008-103

AUTHORIZING THE INCLUSION OF THE EAST PHILLIPS PARK CULTURAL AND COMMUNITY CENTER IN A CONGRESSIONAL APPROPRIATIONS REQUEST.

WHEREAS, the East Phillips Park property, located in the City of Minneapolis, was acquired by the Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board in 1977 and has received limited physical infrastructure improvements over the past forty (40) years; and

WHEREAS, from 1990 to 2000 (according to US Census Bureau statistics posted on the City of Minneapolis website) there has been a 48% increase in families with children under 18 in Phillips neighborhood, a 39.2% increase in children from 10 to 14 and a 42.3% increase in children from 15 to 19; and

WHEREAS, according to US Census Bureau statistics (in the year 2000) posted on the City of Minneapolis website, 40% of all East Phillips children under the age of 18 live in poverty; and

WHEREAS, the Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board has prioritized the East Phillips Park cultural and community center project in the Minnehaha District; and

WHEREAS, the Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board has created a Citizen's Advisory Committee and Leadership Design Team and contracted professional staff to help design a state of the art, energy efficient "green" building; and

WHEREAS, a cultural and community center building in East Phillips Park would provide space for year round educational programming, health and fitness, crime prevention and cultural activities for people of all races and ages in one of the most ethnically diverse neighborhoods in Minneapolis; and

WHEREAS, the Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board is seeking funding from multiple sources to construct and operate a cultural and community center in East Phillips Park; and

WHEREAS, the Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board, with the assistance of numerous community volunteers, has currently secured four million dollars for the East Phillips project from other sources; and

WHEREAS, the Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board needs a long term plan for continuing program development design and operating capacity; and

WHEREAS, capital investment without programming and operating support does not meet the needs of the East Phillips community;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE MINNEAPOLIS PARK AND RECREATION BOARD SUPPORTS THE FEDERAL FUNDING APPLICATION FOR THE EAST PHILLIPS PARK CULTURAL AND COMMUNITY CENTER PROJECT IN THE AMOUNT OF \$1,500,000 (\$1,000,000 in Capital Investment to complete the building plans and

\$500,000 for Operating Capacity and Program Development design), TO FIGHT CHILD OBESITY AND YOUTH VIOLENCE, AND TO INCREASE EDUCATIONAL AND RECREATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES FOR THE EAST PHILLIPS NEIGHBORHOOD OF MINNEAPOLIS.

Adopted by the Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board
in formal meeting assembled on February 20, 2008.

Tom Nordyke, President

Approved:

Don Siggelkow, Secretary

R.T. Rybak, Mayor