



## CARVER COUNTY PARKS

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Division of Public Works

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### Park Commission Meeting

**6:30 p.m.**

**Wednesday, April 9, 2014**

**Public Works Building**

**11360 Highway 212, Cologne, MN**

#### Regular Meeting Agenda

- 1) Call Meeting to Order, Roll Call (6:30 p.m.)
- 2) Nomination and Election of Officers (6:35 p.m.)
- 3) Approval of the February 12, 2014 Regular Meeting Minutes (6:40 p.m.)
- 4) Additions or Deletions to the Agenda (6:41 p.m.)
- 5) Approval of Agenda (6:42 p.m.)
- 6) Commissioner Liaison Report (6:43 p.m.)
- 7) Open to the Public (6:45 p.m.)
- 8) Discussion (6:50 p.m.)
  - a. 2015 Budget Discussions
    - i. CIP Review
    - ii. 2015 Operation Budget
- 9) New Business (6:55 p.m.)
  - a. 2040 Regional Parks Policy Plan
  - b. Park and Trail Tours
- 10) Staff Reports (7:30 p.m.)
  - a. AIS Update
  - b. Lifeguard Services 2014
  - c. Eagle Lake Aeration System
  - d. Lake Minnewashta Regional Park Road and Parking Lot Project
  - e. MN River Bluffs RT Stakeholder Kick-off Meeting
  - f. Preliminary Scoring for Transportation Alternatives Program
  - g. Legislative Update
  - h. County Road 10 Trail Connection to Dakota Rail Regional Trail
  - i. Events and Activities
- 11) Commission Member Reports (8:00 p.m.)
- 12) Set Next Meeting Date (8:05 p.m.)
- 13) Adjourn Meeting (8:10 p.m.)

**Please note if a Commission Member cannot attend the meeting, please call the Park Office at 466 – 5250.**

**Draft**  
**Meeting Minutes**  
**February 12, 2014**

**Members Present:** Carroll Aasen, Ron Trick, Tom Hermann, Josh Ives, Gerald Bruner, Jim Boettcher  
Commissioner Tim Lynch

**Staff Present:** Marty Walsh, Sam Pertz, Connie Keller

**Welcome New Members - (6:31pm)**  
Gerald Bruner, Jim Boettcher - New Park Commission members introduce themselves to the Park Commission and Staff; Current Park Commission members and Staff introduced themselves to the new members

**CALL TO ORDER:** Walsh called the meeting to order at 6:38p.m.

**Nomination and Election of Officers: (6:38pm)**  
Trick motioned to postpone until March meeting, Ives second the motion  
Passed 6 to 0  
  
Ives was nominated to run February meeting, Hermann motioned, Trick seconded  
Passed 6 to 0

**MINUTES:** **(6:40p.m.)**  
Trick motioned to approve the minutes of the January 8, 2014 regular meeting minutes. Hermann seconded the motion.  
Motion passed 6 to 0.

**Additions/Deletions to the Agenda: (6:41p.m.)**  
None

**AGENDA:** **(6:42p.m.)**  
Aasen motioned to approve meeting agenda, Hermann seconded the motion.  
Motion passed 6 to 0.

**Commissioner Liaison Report: (6:42p.m.)**  
None

**Open to the Public:** **(6:42 p.m.)**  
John Pierson - Chaska  
Brent Baker - Chaska  
Cy Kerber - Chanhassen  
Tim Kraft - Chaska  
Laurie Susia - Chanhassen  
Elise Ryan - Chanhassen  
Ron Kleve - Chanhassen  
Vern Wagner - Mpls  
Steve Mohn - Chaska  
Steve Aldritt - Excelsior

**New Business:**

**(6.42p.m.)**

*A. Regional AIS Inspection Presentation –*

Tim Kraft made a presentation for an AIS Inspection Pilot Program on behalf of Joe Shnieder, assisted by Brent Baker – they are both part of the Lake Bavaria HOA. They presented to the Park Commission a map of the proposed lakes to be included in this pilot program along with area that is being consider for an inspection station service area, other documents included is a glossary of terms, flow charts related to how the service would be provided, proposed signage, registration, proof of compliance and incident log report. He explained each of these forms and how the process would work for each item he presented.

Question: Bruner are these inspections a onetime thing per season or every time you go on a county lake; Kraft comments that these are inspections that happen every time you access one of the lakes in the pilot program.

Mr. Baker states that many of these lakes have had inspections in the past, what they are trying to put in place is a centralized inspection point so we can use the same amount of money with additional hours they would also like to have a decontamination area at the site, so that when they identify they can take care of it right away. They are working with government bodies and the Lake Minnehaha Watershed District to try and get this pilot program going.

They think an aggressive program is needed now. They are not looking for additional money, just feels that we need a localized area.

They are looking for Lake Bavaria to be included in this pilot program. They are looking to get the Park Commissions ok to take to the County Board so they can move forward with this program.

Walsh presented to the Park Commission the points of the pilot program; Walsh highlighted the points on why at this time he is not able to recommend the pilot program.

- The Board has provided staff with direction for 2014 AIS program, as staff we cannot change that direction without Board direction.
- The Board would need greater detail of the operations planned.
- Other Agencies have not agreed to participate or lead the program.
- We don't have language in our County Ordinance to support enforcement .
- AIS regional inspection site has not been determined, once site selected does it comply with existing zoning laws.
- Board has not discussed what level of a public process they would want to employ to consider a pilot AIS inspection program.
- A Joint Powers Agreement has not been created that would provide detail for the County's involvement.

Walsh commented that he couldn't recommend for 2014, but could possible for 2015 if the following items would take place:

- Have the County Board provide direction for staff to explore a Pilot AIS Regional program for 2015.
- Develop a memorandum of understanding with local unit of government to operate 2015 program.
- Provide detailed operations plan, staffing, location, duration of program, hours, and budget.
- Develop ordinance language to support AIS inspection program.
- Draft JPA to be approved by the County Board.
- Implementation.

**Questions and Comments – Park Commission**

Aasen - comments that the hours of operation severely restricts lake access, the person that goes out on the lake at 4am that live in other counties and fish in Carver County, they are not going to want drive over to have their boats inspected then drive home to come back to fish the next day. They will just not come to our lakes.

Baker commented that this is a pilot program and we would have to adjust hours as we find out what is needed, we may have to be open 18 hours a day. Some of the Lakes covered by inspectors last summer were only covered a few hours a day.

Aasen – feels we should have a frequent user pass, he thinks that if they a person goes and gets the training, shouldn't they be allowed to inspect their own boats. Kraft – not opposed to this, but we are not to that point yet. Aasen can't support something that is restricting. We need to target higher risk areas. Kraft commented that is if we can show that this program is successful then we can maybe target the high risk areas.

Walsh – commented that we are not voting on the pilot program tonight just asking questions. So maybe we can make a recommendation for the 2015 pilot program at a later date.

Bruner - is there a state law requiring counties to have this type of program; Staff – the County is not required to have an AIS inspection programs. Carver County is one of the few counties that provided it.

Ives – after hearing what it took for the program in 2013, it seems like an aggressive program to try and implement for 2014.

Bruner - his initial thought is to try something to implement a program.

Ives - Do we have any thoughts on 2015 recommendation?

Boettcher – there seems to be too many unknowns at this point. He thinks people would blow past signs; he sees the point of the program, but not the way about going about it. He does not support it.

#### Questions and Comments – Public

Mr. Wagner (Vice President of Anglers for Habitat) - Involved with AIS community – he is trying to bring the angler voice to the AIS community. Our group was involved with passing of the law to remove your drain plug, and for fines for milfoil on your trailer. We did try for bigger fines, but the state wouldn't go for it. There is a state AIS Community that was put together 2 years ago made of citizens from different counties; this community does not support this as a recommended project. They do not see a centralized decontamination station.

He stated the regional decontamination stations are not in state statue, what is mentioned in the state DNR AIS plan regional centers to being a possible recommendation. It has been explored.

MN has the highest boat ownership per capita, none of us want to see the AIS transported into our lakes, he thinks there might be other pilot programs that might work better and should be explored.

Ms. Susla (Chanhassen) – She stated that the State law does allow for the pilot programs (a4d102 state statue) this pilot would not be illegal – this would be the only way to protect smaller lakes. We would like to try to get things done by August and test the program, instead of waiting for a whole year. She wants to protect the smaller lake.

Mr. Wagner – reads the statue to the group.

Walsh- states that if we want to consider, there is a process that must occur. If we decided to go forward then we need to follow the process.

Mr. Mohn – (Lake Pierson) - Stated that it would be nice to have inspectors at the lakes 18 hours a day, but knows that is not cost affective. We are just looking at a more cost efficient way. He feels it should be pursued.

Ms. Ryan – (Park Commission Chanhassen) – stated that various groups have come to the Chanhassen commission to, there doesn't seem to be much cohesiveness between the groups, if we decided to put this in place for 2015. She encourages us to bring all the various groups together as early as possible to start working on a plan so we are prepared for 2015 if it does not move forward in 2015

Aasen – would like to make a motion, he feels that the plan is incomplete and questions need to be answered. He motioned to table until May so they can come back with more information and a more complete plan. He feels 90 days should give them enough time to come back with a plan for the 2015.

No other questions or comments

Aasen motions for meeting in 90 days, Trick seconds the motion.  
Motion passed 5 to 1

B. New Member Orientation

Walsh presented to the Park Commission a new member orientation power point to the new members and a refresher to our existing members the responsibilities of the Park Commission.

Some of the points presented are:

- Items that the seven member Park Commission is in charge of is preparing and update park master plan, review and make recommendations to park operating policies, periodically update the county POST plan, review annual park budget, provide citizen input to general park operations.
- Overview of the staff that the parks department has during the year.
- Overview of the Regional Park System – where parks are located, number acres associated with each park, types of service offered at each park, trails that are under the park system.
- Overview of the projects that have or that will be taken place in the parks or on the trail system.
- Overview of what programs and events that we provided or have taken place at the parks.

No questions or comments

C. 2014 Strategies and Implementation Program -

Walsh presented a power point presentation on the Carver County Park Strategies and Implementation of the Public Works Strategic Plan. Points of the presentation are:

- County Goals
  - Communities – Create and maintain safe, healthy and livable communities
  - Culture – Provide and organizational culture which fosters individual accountability and achieve public trust confidence in county government.
  - Connections – Develop strong public partnerships.
  - Finance – improve County's financial health
  - Growth – Manage challenges resulting from growth and development.
- Mission and values
  - Enhance the quality of life in Carver County with safe & Congestion free travel and exceptional recreational opportunities. Safe and efficient highway system and well managed parks and trail system. Teamwork!
- Community
  - Improve Regional Parks and protect park natural resource. – Develop CIP to replace or update existing infrastructure in parks, prepare a phase 1 development plan for Lake Waconia, prepare annual maintenance work plan for park facilities and grounds, implement 2014 and beyond AIS strategy, develop natural resource management plans, reach JPA agreement with DNR for LWP public access.
  - Plan, construct operate regional trails – complete SWRT connection, develop trail maintenance work plan, design MN River Bluffs RT, develop five year CIP, complete trail cost share and maintenance policy, enhance trail signage.
  - Hire programmer, survey county residents, analyze and partner with other parks and rec programs.
- Finances Goals
  - 2015 budget preparation, apply for outside grants, take finance on park tour.
  - Increase revenue for park and trails operations
- Growth Goal
  - Plan and strategize future parkland acquisition

- Suggested Park Commission Initiatives
  - Develop CIP
  - Plan, construct operate Regional Trails
  - Enhance Parks and recreation programs – assist with one special event, survey county residents.

Questions or comments:

Ives – Likes the volunteering for an event

**Staff Reports (8:28p.m.)**

*A. Lake Minnewashta Regional Park Conceptual Designs – Cost Estimates:*

Walsh went over the cost for the road, entrance and parking lots, we have been having an on-going conversation with state agency, they wanted a 40 mile design speed, Staff said no not interested in that speed in the park, we need to come up with a new agreement, they have since agreed to a 30 mile design speed in the park, we are going to ask to be able to sign with a lower speed. This has delayed us from coming up some design elements. We are looking at some other financial help with this project. Public works is willing to help us with trucking in the aggregate rock or sand base material into park. We are looking into using county resources so we can get more bang for our buck! We need to see if some of the excess grant money from other projects can be re-written to be able to use on this project.

*B. Events and Activities:*

Candle light ski event taking place at Lake Minnewashta on Saturday February 22<sup>nd</sup> from 6:00pm – 9:00pm

*C. Construction Project Updates*

We continue to work to close projects out.

*D. TAP Application – MN River Bluffs Trail & Lake Minnetonka Trail:*

Walsh stated that applications have been made for these federal funds for the MN River Bluffs Trail (Cty Rd 61 and Bluff Creek Drive) and the Lake Minnetonka Trail (Stieger Lake to Rolling Acres Rd). Staff feels these two projects are excellent projects and right size for this grant funding.

No other comments

**Commission Member Reports: (8:42p.m.)**

Aasen Commented that he saw a Picture of Dave Hemze on a fishing form with a big fish he caught on Milacs Lake.

No other comments

**Next Meeting Date: (8:44p.m.)**

Next meeting will be on March 12<sup>th</sup>, 2014 at 6:30pm at Carver County Public Works building in Cologne

**Adjourn Meeting: (8:45p.m.)**

Trick motioned to adjourn the meeting, Hermann seconded the motion. Motion passed 6 to 0.



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# DIRECTORS REPORT

## REGULAR PARK COMMISSION MEETING

**To:** Members of the Park Commission  
**From:** Martin Walsh, Parks Director  
**CC:** Lyndon Robjent, County Engineer  
Tim Lynch, County Commissioner  
**Date:** 4/4/2014  
**Re:** April 9, 2014 Regular Park Commission Meeting

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### Nomination and Election of Officers:

County Ordinance, which establishes the Parks Commission, states that the Commission shall meet during the second month to elect officers. Positions of Chair, Vice Chair and Secretary (Secretary need not be a member of the Commission) are to be opened for nominations. At the February 12, 2014 Commission Meeting, the Commission postponed elections until the next meeting in order for the new members to become acquainted with the other members of the Commission. However, the Commission did not meet in March.

### Recommendation:

Nominations for the positions of Chair and Vice Chair will be taken. County Park Staff can fill the position of Secretary as we have done in the past. Voting can proceed by showing of hands or by written ballot whichever the Commission is most comfortable with.

### Discussion:

#### A) 2015 Budget

2015-20 CIP – Staff will review with the commission the current 2014-2019 CIP for awareness of the current CIP and to begin preparation of the 2015- 2020 CIP. During the upcoming 2015 budget cycle the Park Commission will have opportunity to make recommendation on any additions or deletions to the proposed 2015 -2020 CIP.

2015 Operations Budget – The 2015 budget cycle also provides opportunity to review and make recommendation which would address operation and service needs. Areas that changes in service are foreseen or demand for service increasing include; caretaker services, staffing as it pertains to recreation programming, collection of user visit data, project management and natural resource stewardship, customer service enhancements.

- Caretaker Services- The County for many years has relied on Caretakers to perform services during times when full or part-time staff are not available. These services have included opening and closing of park facilities, customer service for campground and ski rental operations, minor maintenance of facilities and grounds, evening security. For the service provided by the Caretakers, they receive a reduced rent on the housing provided inside the park areas of Lake Minnewashta and Baylor Regional Parks.

The County Employee Relations Department is asking that the Caretaker position be evaluated to better determine if these positions should remain as a contracted service or be hired staff. There is thought that these positions if they continue to develop may be a better fit as employees as compared to a contracted service.

- Staffing
  - Great strides have been made in recent years to provide access to our parks and facilities, retain customers, increase customer service base, and respond to increased recreation service demands through recreation programming and special events. Work is currently underway to provide increased funding for recreation staffing through a requested amendment to the 2015 appropriation of Parks and Trails Funding for a Recreation Specialist/Volunteer Coordinator position. To support this position and the Parks and Trails Supervisor it is foreseen that seasonal staffing and instructors are needed to complete the service delivery.
  - The need to collect user visit data to support Operations and Maintenance Funding received through the Metropolitan Council has increased. Each year survey data is collected at each regional park and trail. Over the last 4 years new regional trails have been added to the County Park System increasing the amount of staff time needed for the collection of the data. The 2015 budget will need to account for increase staff time for the survey data collection on the Southwest Regional Trail.
  - Project management and natural resource management are areas of foreseen growth to the system. With continued success of obtaining grant funding for park and trail projects and increased funding for park and trail projects through the Parks and Trails Funds, more park development/ redevelopment and asset management work is on the horizon. Also, there will be increasing pressure to create and implement natural resource management plans for our park and trail areas to be eligible for funding and respond natural resource stewardship and issues such as tree disease.
- Customer Service Enhancements – Staff will be working to budget software for recreation programs and special events to be more efficient and accessible for program registration. Currently registration for recreation programs is largely done by hand and over the phone. With increased recreation programming it is necessary for us to be more automated and accessible on-line.

## **New Business:**

### **B) 2040 Regional Parks Policy Plan**

The Metropolitan Council is in the process of preparing to update the Regional Parks System Plan as a part of the elements of the *2040 Regional Parks Policy Plan (2040 RP3)*. Metropolitan Council is requesting information from implementing regional park agencies such as Carver County to see whether our agency will have any proposed additions to the regional parks system to be considered by the Metropolitan Council as part of the 2040 RP3.

Since 2009, the *2030 Regional Parks Policy Plan* has been updated and amended to add 19 regional trail search corridors and two special recreation features. It is anticipate that the 2040 RP3 will focus

more on policy language, rather than expansion of the system. However, if there are requested additions this information should be presented. The deadline for system for submitting system additions is April 30, 2014.

It is not currently contemplated that Carver County would seek to add an additional park area to the existing proposed regional park search areas in the County. However, concerning regional trails there has been some thought about realigning some trails and adding others.

Staff is proposing to meet with representatives of the cities within the County to discuss if from their perspective additional regional trails should be added or existing planned trails realigned.

Examples of these trails include the 101 Regional Trail south of Pioneer Drive, County Road 61 from county line to Bluff Creek Drive, TH 41 and County Road 11.

The TH 101 grade south of Pioneer Trail along this portion of the proposed trail corridor is very steep. Even with the planned reconstruction of TH 101, the grade would continue to pose a significant challenge. An alternate alignment from TH 101 and Pioneer Trail to Bluff Creek Drive to TH 101 appears to be less challenging.

County Road 61 from the County Line to Bluff Creek Drive warrants consideration as Hennepin County and Three Rivers Park District are looking to potentially place a trail on County Road 61 east of the county line. A connection would be made to the TH 101 Regional Trail as well as to Bluff Creek Drive.

TH 41 is identified on our existing trails map and could meet the criteria for a regional trail in terms of making connections to other regional facilities of the MN River Valley (DNR and USFW Service properties, MN Landscape Arboretum, and Lake Minnewashta Regional Park).

County Road 11 between County Road 10 and County Road 40 could be considered and has been mentioned by the City of Carver as a possible addition to the regional system.

Staff will present these trail alignments as possible regional system additions.

**Recommendation:** Staff will work to meet with representatives of the cities of the County, find out if there are additional trail suggestions and present suggested additions that meet regional trail definitions along with above listed trail segments for possible inclusion into the 2040 RP3. Staff would make presentation to the County Board in time for April 30, 2014 deadline.

### C) Park and Trail Tours

Possible summer tours include the following locations:

- Southwest Regional Trail (Chaska and Victoria Segments)
- MN River Bluffs RT, Chaska to Carver
- Lake Minnewashta RP
- Lake Minnetonka RP
- Carver Park Reserve
- Baylor Regional Park
- Lake Waconia Regional Park
- Other as the Commission would decide

The Commission may choose from the above listing or make other suggestions.

**Recommendation:** It is recommended that the Park Commission tour the areas of Carver Park Reserve and Lake Minnetonka Regional Park, new construction of the SWRT in Victoria and Chaska, and the MN River Bluffs RT between Chaska and Carver at meetings of May, June and July.

## **Staff Reports;**

### AIS – 2014

Staff presented to the County Board details of operation for the 2014 Aquatic Invasive Species services. Programmed services, upon direction from the Board in the Fall of last year will be similar in service to 2013. Overview of the services are:

- Year 2 of the Delegation Agreement with the DNR to administer AIS services
- Signed agreements with the stakeholders involved in the County operated services
  - o Minnehaha Creek Watershed District
  - o DNR
  - o Friends of Lake Bavaria
- Hiring of 21 part-time, seasonal staff to work as inspectors
- Training and certification with the DNR
- Services start May 10<sup>th</sup>, conclude September 14<sup>th</sup>
  - o Planned 7,000 hours
  - o 9 lakes, 10 accesses

The County Board took action on two requests by Staff to approve the 2014 AIS program and authorize the Board Chair to sign agreements with the stakeholders.

### Lifeguard Services – Park Beaches

Lifeguard services have been contracted to start Saturday, June 7<sup>th</sup> and run (65) consecutive days through August 10<sup>th</sup> at Lake Waconia Regional Park Beach and Lake Minnewashta Park beaches. Services will start daily at noon and conclude at 6:00pm. Minnetonka Aquatics will provide the service as done so in prior years and also services other local City beaches and pools. The agreement for this service is not to exceed \$37,800, which are budgeted funds for 2014. Staff will work to devise another 2-year contract with Minnetonka Aquatics and propose appropriate funds for upcoming budget cycles for such service in 2015/16.

### Eagle Lake Aeration System

There has been some die off of fish in Eagle Lake. The extent of the die off is not known at this time but certainly apparent.

Background information: The aerators were installed January 13, 2014 and are in the same area that we have had them for many years. However, this year at the suggestion of DNR, they encouraged us to try and open some water next to shore in the event that someone would fall in, they would have access to shore. The aerators were aimed a bit differently pointing them at the old DNR access across from the park. For reasons we don't understand, more water than anticipated was opened along the north shore. The aerators are pointed in one direction and the open water occurred to the right or a bit north of where the aerators are pointed. Typically water opens directly in front of the aerators.

We are working to get a DNR official to visit Eagle Lake with the regards to why the oxygen level continued to fall to very low oxygen levels despite continuous operations of the aerators and maintenance of an open water area in excess of the equivalent of 150' X150' as recommended. Over the phone a DNR representative who works on permitting aerators stated that many lakes are experiencing difficulty due to snow and ice depth.

### Lake Minnewashta Regional Park Road and Parking Lot Project

Class V crushed aggregate is in the process of being stockpiled in the park with County crews and equipment in preparation of the road project. It is expected that the estimated 5000 ton of material needed for the road will be placed on site before bidding the project. Work with County resources is to assist with stretching budgeted funds for the project.

Plans for the project are being prepared; a draft set is expected at the end of April for review by MN DOT.

### MN River Bluffs RT Stakeholder Kick-off Meeting

Stakeholder meeting was held Wednesday, March 12, 2014 with consulting engineer and officials from Chaska and Carver. Work has official gotten underway with survey data collection. Project Memorandum is to be complete by end of May. Preliminary plans are due end of June. Work will continue on survey data collection, responding to MN DOT's review of the Project Memorandum, finalizing plans and preparation of bid documents during 2014. This project will be bid during late winter 2015.

### Preliminary Scoring for Transportation Alternatives Program

Trail pavement projects of the Lake Minnetonka Regional Trail (Stieger Lake Boat Access Road to Rolling Acres Road) and the MN River Bluffs Regional Trail (County Road 61 to Bluff Creek Drive) were submitted to the Transportation Alternative Program for consideration of being federally funded. Preliminary scoring of the projects indicates that that the MN River Bluffs Regional Trail project scored well enough to receive funding during the 2017. The Lake Minnetonka Regional Trail did not score as well and appears to be below the cut off for funding. Appeals for stronger scoring on both projects were submitted to MNDOT to shore up our scoring and potential elevate the Lake Minnetonka Regional Trail into the funding.

### Legislative Update

Amendment to Parks and Trails Funds for Lake Minnewashta roads, parking lots and Parks Programmer position - Language for the amendment has been included in HF1926. Work is underway to have similar language provided in SF2098.

Bonding Bill - HF 2490 includes \$9 million for Metropolitan Regional Parks and Trails Capital Improvements. If that amount is appropriated, \$6 million of Metro Council bonds would match the \$9 million for a total amount of \$15 million. This is 82% of the Metro Council's Regional Parks CIP total of \$18.33 million. Consequently, each regional park implementing agency would receive 82% of its request. To my knowledge, a bonding bill on the Senate side has not yet been presented. For Carver County, the 82 % represents \$386,000 of the \$472,000 requested through the CIP of the Metropolitan Council. These funds are programed to reimburse the County for past land acquisition expenses at Waconia Regional Park.

### County Road 10 Trail Connection to Dakota Rail Regional Trail

Work is underway to acquire land needed to make the trail connection from County Road 10 to the Dakota Rail Regional Trail as a part of the 2015 County Road 10 reconstruction project between County Road 30 and Hwy 7.

### Activities and Events

Spring season is underway and the trails at Baylor Park were filled with park goers on March 29<sup>th</sup> for the annual Maple Syrup Open House with an estimated 150 people in attendance. Staff is very

pleased with the event and once again appreciated the support of the Carver County Libraries and Carver County Historical Society in providing activities.

Staff is preparing promotional materials and marketing efforts for a very busy summer ahead. (9) Day Camps, (23) Public Archery or Paddling programs, (8) private recreation program bookings will prove to be the busiest summer for the Department ever.

A large summer kick-off event is being planned to celebrate the start of summer as well as commemorate the grand opening of the SW Regional Trail sections in Victoria and Chaska. The Park Commission is invited to support the event on Saturday, June 21<sup>st</sup> from 3-7pm to help in a variety of roles. Park Commission members are encouraged to bring their bikes and ride the 8 mile event route on the County and City trail system, starting in Victoria and ending at the Chaska Community Center.