



STAFF REPORT

DATE: October 17, 2017

CONSENT

ITEM #: 14

AGENDA ITEM: LELA Grant Request

SUBMITTED BY: Kristina Handt, City Administrator

BACKGROUND:

In 2016, the Environmental Committee requested \$40,000 in the 2017 budget for matching grants to the four recreational lakes for water quality improvements like treating invasive species. This funding represents a 50% match, up to the maximum amount of \$10,000 per lake. A match is required by the Lake Associations and any grant amounts received would not be included as part of the Lake Association match amounts. That request was included in the final 2017 budget.

ISSUE BEFORE COUNCIL:

Does Council approve the grant request of \$2,921 from the LELA?

PROPOSAL:

The Lake Elmo Lake Association (LELA) has requested \$2,921 in matching funding to treat Eurasian Milfoil this summer on Lake Elmo. A copy of their letter requesting funds is included in your packet.

FISCAL IMPACT:

\$2,921 from the budgeted \$40,000. To date \$4,577.50 has been spent from the fund.

OPTIONS:

- 1) Approve \$2,921 for LELA Eurasian Milfoil Treatment
- 2) Approve a different amount for LELA Eurasian Milfoil Treatment
- 3) Do not approve any funding for LELA Eurasian Milfoil Treatment

RECOMMENDATION:

If removed from the consent agenda:

“Motion to approve the LELA lake improvement grant request of \$2,921.”

ATTACHMENTS:

- LELA Request Letter

Lake Elmo Lake Association
P.O Box 78
Lake Elmo, MN 55042

Lake Elmo Lake Association Funding Request

Request

Lake Elmo Lake Association Funding Request
September, 2017

Lake Elmo Lake Association (LELA) has been actively monitoring and mitigating Lake Elmo for Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS). To date LELA has received two county grants and has successfully removed approximately 12 acres of Eurasian Water Milfoil from many areas of the lake. Removing the weeds by harvesting has had an added benefit to the lake by removing more than 70,000 pounds of Biomass that if chemically treated would be left in the bottom of the lake. Removing the plant material from the lake reduces unnecessary nutrients that promote AIS plant growth. LELA also monitors the lake for clarity and water quality as well as weed growth and location on a regular basis. (Approx. every two weeks). Lake monitoring is a required part of the project and also advises our weed mitigation plans and DNR permitting requirements. LELA is responsible lake monitoring, hiring third party consultants to conduct pre and post weed delineation reports as well as purchasing liability insurance and obtaining all necessary permits and lake owner agreements just to name a few of LELA's administrative costs for the harvesting project. LELA has significant expenses to initiate the execution of weed harvesting grant that it gets from Washington county. Below outlines the expenses to date and our request for available city matching funds:

LELA Monitoring and Mitigation Activities and Expenses

LELA Activities	LELA Contribution	Washington County Contribution	Total Lake Elmo Project	Request For City Match of LELA's Expenses
LELA Weed Mitigation and Lake Monitoring	\$2,921	\$8,000 (Milfoil Weed Harvesting Contract)	\$13,842	\$2,921