

## CITY OF TONKA BAY Worksession

# Memo

**To:** Honorable Mayor and City Council  
**From:** Joe Kohlmann, City Administrator  
**Date:** May 28, 2013  
**Re:** Trail Bridge Crossing CSAH 19

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Three Rivers Park District is planning on building a bridge over Country Road 19 in 2014. Three Rivers Park is looking to secure temporary or permanent easements from the City of Tonka (*see attached map*).

They are seeking essentially three different easement areas.

- 1) An easement connecting the Manitou Park parking lot to the LRT.
- 2) An easement connecting the Manitou Park parking lot, across Manitou, and down Brentwood Avenue.
- 3) An easement connecting Brentwood Avenue to the LRT

Staff comments related to the proposal:

- 1) The proposed easement from the parking lot to the LRT, through the park – runs over the Public Works maintenance access to the park.
- 2) If the County Road 19 Trail is located near the Manitou Parking lot, what safety precautions will be put in place?
- 3) Does the City prefer temporary or permanent easements, if any?

Review and discuss the proposal from Three Rivers.

*Attached is a foot/bike traffic survey of the area.*

*Attached is an overhead shot of the project area, with easements outlined.*

*Attached is a sample easement agreement.*

**No Action Required.**

Discuss easements.

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# memo

**Date:** April 10, 2013

**To:** Alex Meyer, Landscape Architect

**From:** Jon Nauman, Research and Evaluation Manager

**Subject:** Visitor Counts at Lake Minnetonka LRT RT & County Road 19

Three Rivers' Research staff conducted 26 two-hour observation counts at the intersection of County Road 19 and the Lake Minnetonka LRT Regional Trail (RT) during September of 2012. During this time, 1,689 regional trail visitors were observed. Average daily trail use at this location for September is estimated at 365 visits, with 26 percent of these visits either accessing or exiting the regional trail from County Road 19 (Table 1).

**Table 1.** Average daily visits to the Lake Minnetonka LRT RT at the intersection of County Road 19.

Time	Number of Two-hour Counts	Average Number of Trail Visitors			
		Total	Getting <b>ON</b> Trail from County Road 19	Getting <b>OFF</b> Trail & Using County Road 19	<b>CONTINUING</b> on Trail & Not Using County Road 19
8:00 – 10:00	2	85.0	21.0	11.0	53.0
10:00 – 12:00	4	46.9	9.3	7.1	30.5
12:00 – 2:00	7	53.8	7.5	9.0	37.3
2:00 – 4:00	5	70.4	5.8	7.0	57.6
4:00 – 6:00	7	82.1	9.8	7.3	65.0
6:00 – 8:00	1	27.0	0.0	0.0	27.0
<b>Total</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>365.2</b>	<b>53.4</b>	<b>41.4</b>	<b>270.4</b>

Table 2 shows that regional trail visitors use County Road 19 between the trail and Tonka Bay (North) approximately the same frequency as they use County Road 19 between the trail and Shorewood (South). Tables 3 and 4 summarize observed visitors by time of day.

**Table 2.** Portion of County Road 19 that regional trail visitors use.

Description of Trail Visitor	Number of Visitors Observed	Percent of Visitors Using the Following Portions of County Road 19	
		North of Regional Trail (Tonka Bay)	South of Regional Trail (Shorewood)
Bikers Accessing Regional Trail	140	47%	53%
Bikers Exiting Regional Trail	94	46%	54%
Hikers Accessing Regional Trail	72	59%	41%
Hikers Exiting Regional Trail	75	50%	50%
Runners Accessing Regional Trail	18	49%	51%
Runners Exiting Regional Trail	31	54%	46%
All Visitors Accessing Regional Trail	230	51%	49%
All Visitors Exiting Regional Trail	200	49%	51%

**Table 3.** Direction visitors come from prior to accessing the Lake Minnetonka LRT RT.

Time	Number of Two-hour Counts	Average Number of Trail Visitors Accessing Lake Minnetonka LRT RT from the ...							
		North (Tonka Bay)				South (Shorewood)			
		Bike	Hike	Run	Total	Bike	Hike	Run	Total
8:00 - 10:00	2	7.5	2.0	0.5	10.0	8.5	1.5	1.0	11.0
10:00 - 12:00	4	3.0	2.0	0.5	5.5	2.5	1.0	0.3	3.8
12:00 - 2:00	7	1.1	1.1	0.3	2.5	3.3	1.6	0.1	5.0
2:00 - 4:00	5	1.4	1.2	0.0	2.6	2.0	0.6	0.6	3.2
4:00 - 6:00	7	3.4	2.3	0.7	6.4	2.0	1.3	0.1	3.4
6:00 - 8:00	1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
<b>Total</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>16.4</b>	<b>8.6</b>	<b>2.0</b>	<b>27.0</b>	<b>18.3</b>	<b>6.0</b>	<b>2.1</b>	<b>26.4</b>

**Table 4.** Direction visitors travel on CR 19 after exiting the Lake Minnetonka LRT RT.

Time	Number of Two-hour Counts	Average Number of Trail Visitors Exiting Lake Minnetonka LRT RT and Traveling ...							
		North (Tonka Bay)				South (Shorewood)			
		Bike	Hike	Run	Total	Bike	Hike	Run	Total
8:00 - 10:00	2	3.5	0.5	0.5	4.5	3.5	1.0	2.0	6.5
10:00 - 12:00	4	2.5	2.5	1.0	6.0	0.3	0.8	0.0	1.1
12:00 - 2:00	7	1.4	0.6	0.6	2.6	3.1	2.6	0.7	6.4
2:00 - 4:00	5	1.0	1.4	0.2	2.6	2.4	1.6	0.4	4.4
4:00 - 6:00	7	1.1	2.1	1.4	4.6	1.7	1.0	0.0	2.7
6:00 - 8:00	1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
<b>Total</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>9.5</b>	<b>7.1</b>	<b>3.7</b>	<b>20.3</b>	<b>11.0</b>	<b>7.0</b>	<b>3.1</b>	<b>21.1</b>

During eight of the 26 observation counts, staff documented which direction regional trail visitors traveled on Lake Minnetonka LRT RT immediately before or after traveling on County Road 19. The following observations were made for those accessing the trail from County Road 19.

- People traveling north on CR 19 and then going east on the trail = 30% of everyone accessing the trail
- People traveling south on CR 19 and then going east on the trail = 27% of everyone accessing the trail
- People traveling north on CR 19 and then going west on the trail = 22% of everyone accessing the trail
- People traveling south on CR 19 and then going west on the trail = 21% of everyone accessing the trail

Tables 5-7 summarize the distribution of those traveling east and west on the regional trail.

**Table 5.** Portion of Lake Minnetonka LRT RT that visitors use.

Description of Trail Visitor	Number of Visitors Observed	Percent of Visitors Using the Following Portions of Lake Minnetonka LRT RT	
		East of County Road 19 (towards Excelsior)	West of County Road 19 (towards Carver Park)
Bikers Accessing Regional Trail	32	63%	37%
Bikers Exiting Regional Trail	40	46%	54%
Hikers Accessing Regional Trail	41	60%	40%
Hikers Exiting Regional Trail	37	50%	50%
Runners Accessing Regional Trail	12	73%	27%
Runners Exiting Regional Trail	19	54%	46%
All Visitors Accessing Regional Trail	119	53%	47%
All Visitors Exiting Regional Trail	96	49%	51%

**Table 6.** Direction visitors travel after accessing the Lake Minnetonka LRT RT at County Road 19.

Time	Number of Two-hour Counts	Average Number of Trail Visitors Accessing Lake Minnetonka LRT RT and Traveling ...							
		East (towards Excelsior)				West (towards Carver Park)			
		Bike	Hike	Run	Total	Bike	Hike	Run	Total
8:00 - 10:00	2	10.0	1.5	1.0	12.5	6.0	2.0	0.5	8.5
10:00 - 12:00	2	4.0	0.5	0.0	4.5	3.5	1.0	0.5	5.0
12:00 - 2:00	1	3.0	0.0	0.0	3.0	5.0	2.0	0.0	7.0
2:00 - 4:00	0	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
4:00 - 6:00	2	6.0	0.0	0.5	6.5	0.5	0.5	0.0	1.0
6:00 - 8:00	1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
<b>Total</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>23.0</b>	<b>2.0</b>	<b>1.5</b>	<b>26.5</b>	<b>15.0</b>	<b>5.5</b>	<b>1.0</b>	<b>21.5</b>

**Table 7.** Direction visitors were traveling prior to exiting the Lake Minnetonka LRT RT and accessing County Road 19.

Time	Number of Two-hour Counts	Average Number of Trail Visitors Exiting Lake Minnetonka LRT RT that were Traveling from the...							
		East (from Excelsior)				West (from Carver Park)			
		Bike	Hike	Run	Total	Bike	Hike	Run	Total
8:00 - 10:00	2	2.5	1.5	1.5	5.5	4.5	0.0	1.0	5.5
10:00 - 12:00	2	3.0	0.5	0.5	4.0	0.0	1.0	0.5	1.5
12:00 - 2:00	1	0.0	2.0	1.0	3.0	5.0	1.0	0.0	6.0
2:00 - 4:00	0	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
4:00 - 6:00	2	1.0	0.0	0.5	1.5	2.0	0.0	0.0	2.0
6:00 - 8:00	1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
<b>Total</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>6.5</b>	<b>4.0</b>	<b>3.5</b>	<b>14.0</b>	<b>11.5</b>	<b>2.0</b>	<b>1.5</b>	<b>15.0</b>