

Memo

To: Honorable Mayor and City Council
From: Joe Kohlmann, City Administrator
Date: April 14th, 2015
Re: Cityscape

Staff has met with Councilmembers Ansari and Clapp to discuss parks, right-of-ways, and overall aesthetics of the City. There was discussion about our capital improvement funds and what they are being used for in regards to these topics. Staff has identified the following unspent funds and planned funds related to these topics. They are as follows:

Monument Signs:	\$8,000
Monument Signs:	\$8,000
Signs:	\$7,500
Signs:	\$7,500 (2015)
Signs:	\$7,500 (2016)
Signs:	\$7,500 (2017)
<u>Court resurfacing:</u>	<u>\$25,000 (2016)</u>
Total funds:	\$71,000

We discussed these funds and the best way to utilize them would be. There was discussion about developing a plan with an outside firm. The plan could include but would not be limited to: design standards; landscape design; right of way assessment/design; feasibility; financing/cost allocation assessment; etc.

Staff was able to purchase a Park Plan for Wekota Park from a student who created the plan as part of her thesis for \$100. In addition, Staff has reviewed a trail plan that was created prior to engaging Hennepin County about the County Road 19 trail plan. This plan includes some analysis on extending a trail from 19 to Wekota Park.

Elements of these existing plans can be incorporated into a master plan for the Cityscape. Once a plan is developed, it opens the doors to grants and other

opportunities but most importantly, develops a course of action and enables the City to stay on a path to a desired outcome.

*Staff has attached excerpts from the Wekota Park Thesis Plan
Staff has attached the 2005 trail Study*

Staff has contacted WSB and they have people who are familiar with this type of plan development. In addition, there are likely other options to engage contractors for something like this.

Some key components to consider:

- The end of the bond payments for the public safety facility in potentially 2023
- Road reconstruction within the City for which a rough plan has been developed but no timeline established (CIP from Bolten & Menk 2009). This provides an opportunity to rework right of ways and use assessments as a financing tool.
- Modest levy increases could potentially begin accumulating a fund for implementation
- Approximately \$4,000 was rebated from the Fire District
- Over the last five years, the City has built up approximately \$100,000 in “working capital” from General Fund surpluses. However, this would likely be used to fund already planned CIP purchases in the near future.

Suggested Action:

Review the Memo and attached materials and discuss. Provide Staff with direction on beginning the conversation with agencies or to begin developing an RFP.