



ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY & ENERGY COMMISSION MEETING

December 13, 2022

7:00 PM

Fridley Civic Campus, 7071 University Ave N.E.

AGENDA

Call to Order

Approval of Agenda

Approval of Meeting Minutes

- [1.](#) Approve the Minutes from the Environmental Quality and Energy Commission meeting of September 13, 2022

New Business

- [2.](#) University Avenue Service Road Trail Project
- [3.](#) 61st Avenue Parklet

Old Business

- [4.](#) Energy Action Plan Updates
- [5.](#) Event and Outreach Updates

- [6.](#) Grant Updates

Other Items

- [7.](#) Planning Commission updates
- [8.](#) Informal Status Reports

Adjournment



AGENDA REPORT

Meeting Date: December 13, 2022

Meeting Type: Environmental Quality and Energy (EQEC) Commission

Submitted By: Rachel Workin, Environmental Planner

Title

Approve the Minutes from the Environmental Quality and Energy Commission meeting of September 13, 2022

Background

Approve the Minutes from the Environmental Quality and Energy Commission meeting of September 13, 2022.

Recommendation

Approve the Minutes from the Environmental Quality and Energy Commission meeting of September 13, 2022.

Attachments and Other Resources

- Environmental Quality and Energy Commission Minutes- September 13, 2022.

Vision Statement

We believe Fridley will be a safe, vibrant, friendly and stable home for families and businesses.



ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY & ENERGY COMMISSION MEETING

September 13, 2022

7:00 PM

Banfill Room, Fridley Civic Campus

MINUTES

Call to Order

CHAIR DRITZ called the commission to order at 7:03 PM

Present

Amy Dritz
Sam Stoxen
Nick Olberding
Mark Hansen
Justin Foell
Heidi Ferris
Stacy Stromberg, Planning Manager
Jessica Leverty, Aquatic Invasive Species Coordinator- Anoka County Parks

Approval of Agenda

MOTION by Commissioner Olberding to APPROVE the September 13, 2022, meeting agenda.
SECONDED by Commission Hansen. The MOTION PASSED unanimously.

Approval of Meeting Minutes

1. MOTION by Commissioner Stoxen to APPROVE the August 15, 2022, meeting minutes.
SECONDED by Commissioner Olberding. The MOTION PASSED unanimously.

New Business

2. Anoka County Aquatic Invasive Species Program

Jessica Leverty, Anoka County Parks, provided an update on the County's aquatic invasive species program, which includes education and outreach events, watercraft inspections, the prevention grant program, and monitoring and early detection. Jessica also reviewed the types of aquatic invasive species typically found in Minnesota lakes.

3. Accessory Dwelling Units (ADUs)

Ms. Stromberg gave a presentation on Accessory Dwelling Units (ADUs), describing what they are and what the City code allows. Ms. Stromberg then answered questions of the Commissioners.

Old Business

Other Items

4. Informal Status Reports

Commissioner Foell shared a few pictures he took at a conference in San Diego that were related to an electric vehicle charging outlet and trash disposal options. Containers were marked with the following options: compost, recycle, paper or landfill for attendees to dispose of their trash.

Adjournment

MOTION by Commissioner Stoxen to adjourn the meeting SECONDED by Commissioner Olberding. The MOTION PASSED unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 8:32 PM.



AGENDA REPORT

Meeting Date: December 13, 2022

Meeting Type: Environmental Quality and Energy
(EQEC) Commission

Submitted By: Rachel Workin, Environmental Planner

Title

University Avenue Service Road Trail Project

Background

In 2019-2020, the EQEC assisted in the development of the 2nd edition of the Active Transportation Plan. This plan identified having walk/bike facilities on both sides of University Avenue as a priority. As part of the University Avenue Service Road Traffic Changes project, the City will be converting portions of the University Avenue Service Rd W to one-way traffic. The newly available space in the road right of way provides an opportunity to install trail facilities on the westside of University between 61st Avenue and the Regional Trail at 69th Avenue, including a bridge crossing of Rice Creek., where there currently are none.

MnDOT is currently accepting applications for grants to construct Active Transportation infrastructure.

Recommendation

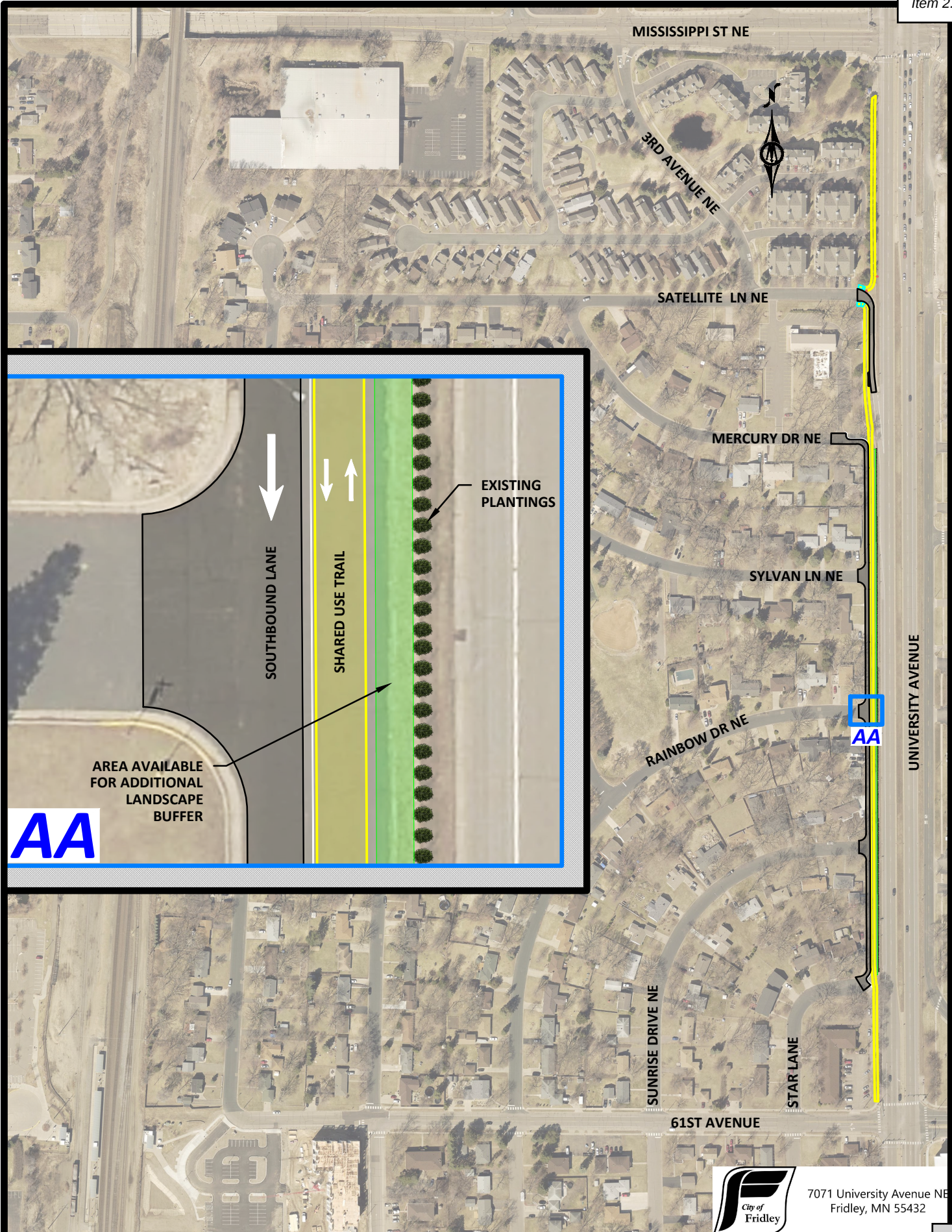
Approve the attached letter of support for the University Avenue Service Rd Trail Project to construct a multi-use trail along University Avenue Service Rd W between 61st Avenue and 69th Avenue.

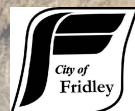
Attachments and Other Resources

- Project exhibit
- Draft letter of support

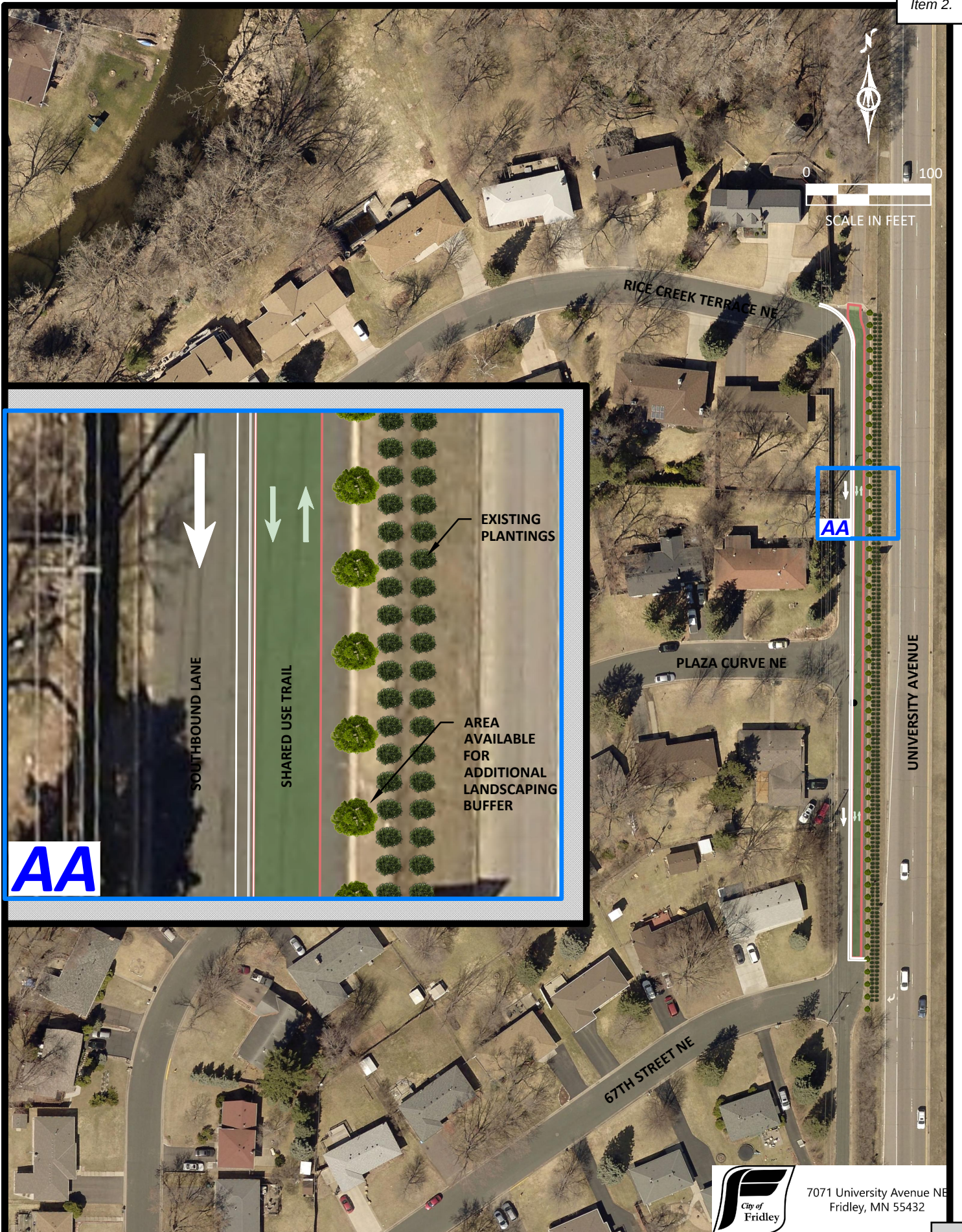
Vision Statement

We believe Fridley will be a safe, vibrant, friendly and stable home for families and businesses.





7071 University Avenue NE
Fridley, MN 55432



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City of Fridley
Attn: Jim Kosluchar, Director of Public Works and Engineering
7071 University Ave NE
Fridley MN 55432

December 13, 2022

Re: Active Transportation Infrastructure Program Grant Solicitation

Dear Mr. Kosluchar,

On behalf of the City of Fridley's Environmental Quality and Energy Commission (EQEC), I am writing to express our support for construction of a trail along the westside of Trunk Highway 47 between 61st Avenue and 69th Avenue. The EQEC is tasked with advising the City on environmental policy and was an instrumental voice in the development of the City's Active Transportation Plan. This plan lists the westside of University Avenue as a priority segment for active transportation improvements. Trunk Highway 47 and Rice Creek are listed as Regional Bicycle Barriers by the Metropolitan Council and are a significant barrier for alternative transportation within the City. Installing improved facilities and a creek crossing in this location would provide an important link between high-density housing, parks, transit, and existing trails; improve safety; and, address a barrier to movement in the City

Sincerely,

Amy Dritz, Chair
Fridley Environmental Quality and Energy Commission



AGENDA REPORT

Meeting Date: December 13, 2022

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(EQEC) Commission

Submitted By: Rachel Workin, Environmental Planner

Title

61st Avenue Parklet

Background

The City of Fridley purchased the property in the northeast quadrant of the University Avenue and 61st Avenue following a tax forfeiture. Due to the proximity of the site to a Park and Ride lot, transit, sidewalk/trails and multi-family housing, staff are proposing to improve the site for multimodal users/pilot a suburban micromobility hub. A potential concept plan has been developed.

MnDOT is currently accepting applications for grant funding to construct streetside activation projects to grow interest in active transportation and help communities test new ideas. The proposed goals for the 61st Avenue parcel are consistent with the goals of the grant.

Recommendation

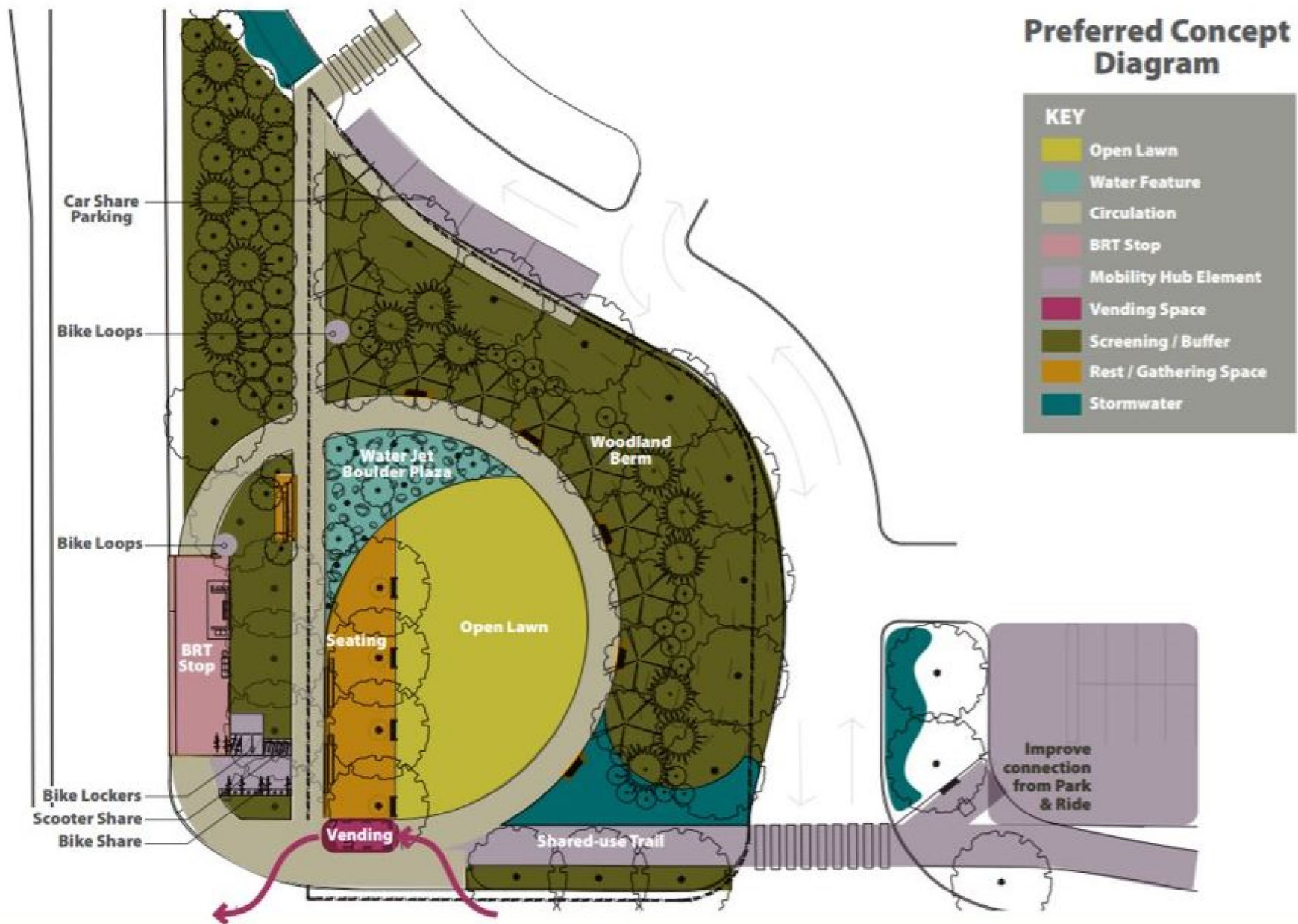
Approve the attached letter of support for an Active Transportation Program Quick-Build project for streetside activation at the 61st Avenue Parklet.

Attachments and Other Resources

- Concept plan
- Draft letter of support

Vision Statement

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City of Fridley
Attn: Scott Hickok, Community Development Director
7071 University Ave NE
Fridley MN 55432

December 13, 2022

Re: Active Transportation Quick-Build Technical Assistance Application

Dear Mr. Hickok,

On behalf of the City of Fridley's Environmental Quality and Energy Commission (EQEC), I am writing to express our support for the City's application for a Quick-Build Project Technical Assistance Grant Application for improvements to the City-owned parcel at 6061 University Ave NE adjacent to Trunk Highway 47. This site presents an exciting opportunity to pilot a micromobility hub in a suburban area and to improve amenities for multi-modal users.

Sincerely,

Amy Dritz, Chair

Fridley Environmental Quality and Energy Commission



AGENDA REPORT

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(EQEC) Commission

Submitted By: Rachel Workin, Environmental Planner

Title

Energy Action Plan Updates

Background

At the November 9, 2021 meeting, the EQEC recommended adoption of Phase 2 of the Energy Action Plan. The following activities were completed this past month:

- Have issued 18 insulation rebates to date
- Completed business blitz with Center for Energy and Environment visiting more than 75 properties
- Added PHEV to the City's fleet (Rental Division)
- Sent business newsletter with energy information

The following activities are projected in the next month:

- Newsletter article with energy information in May

Recommendation

Commissioners should review and discuss if there are other activities that should be considered.

Attachments and Other Resources

- None

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Title

Event and Outreach Updates

Background

Outreach at community events is an important strategy to build environmental awareness and increase engagement. Events that have been completed since the last meeting as well as upcoming outreach events are listed below.

Completed events (8/9-12/13)

- Kids Book Swap- (8/10 before Kids Concert)
- Park Plaza Pollinator Patch Planting Event (9/17)

Confirmed events and topics

- Recycling Events (5 in 2023)
- WinterFest (1/14)
- HRA Open House (2/8)
- Environmental Fun Fair (4/22)

Potential Upcoming Events

- Kids Book Swap
- Water-Themed Summer Concert
- Pollinator Planting at Moore Lake
- 5 year Anniversary Celebration for Civic Campus

Recommendation

Commissioners should discuss if there are other community events that are a priority, what topics should be highlighted, and if there is an interest in commissioner involvement.

Attachments and Other Resources

- None

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Grant Updates

Background

The purpose of this item is to provide Commissioners updates on sustainability grants held by the City. New items are highlighted in yellow.

Grants in the Pre-Application Stage

- CCWD grant for Apex Pond improvements
- MnDOT Active Transportation Pilot Grant
- MnDOT Active Transportation Infrastructure Grant
- Moore Lake Native Plant Restoration

Grants Under Review

- Met Council Regional Solicitation Grant for 44th Avenue Bridge w/ Anoka County (approved by Met Council, waiting for signatures)

Active Grants

- Recycling grant (ongoing)
- BWSR/RCWD grant for Moore Lake IESF project
- RCWD grant for road diet on University Ave Service Rd
- LRIP grant for 53rd Avenue Trail Project
- RS grant for 7th St Trail Project (missing section in front of Community Center, will resume following school release)
- University Avenue Lighting Project
- Met Council Climate Mitigation grant for feasibility study of 73rd Ave
- BWSR HELPP grant for native plant restoration on Commons Park hillside
- Met Council Water Efficiency Grant pt 3

Grants Closed (1/1/2021+)

- SHIP grant for wayfinding kiosk
- MDH Well Sealing Grant
- SHIP grant for bike fleet (SNC/Recreation)

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- CCWD grant for Craig Park improvements
- Lawns to Legumes grant for Craig Park Bee Lawn
- RCWD grant for 6 raingardens in Rice Creek Terrace neighborhood
- Lawns to Legumes Demonstration Neighborhood Grant (ACD grant in partnership with Coon Rapids, and Lino Lakes)
- SHIP grant for Civic Campus orchard
- RCWD grant for sumps in Farr Lake neighborhood
- CCWD grant for hydrodynamic separator in 2022 Street Project Area
- Met Council Water Efficiency Grant pt 2
- DNR grant for mitigating impacts of EAB

Recommendation

Commissioners should review and discuss if there are other activities that should be considered.

Attachments and Other Resources

- None

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Planning Commission updates

Background

Chair Dritz or Commissioner Hansen will provide updates on items before the Planning Commission.

Recommendation

None

Attachments and Other Resources

None

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(EQEC) Commission

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Title

Informal Status Reports

Background

Staff and Commissioners will share informal status reports on programs happening in the City.

Recommendation

None

Attachments and Other Resources

None

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