



City of Fayetteville, Arkansas

113 West Mountain Street
Fayetteville, AR 72701
(479) 575-8323

Legislation Text

File #: 2024-146

Approval of a landowner agreement with the Illinois River Watershed Partnership (IRWP) for natural stream restoration of an unnamed tributary of Flynn Creek within Rocky Branch Park.

A RESOLUTION TO APPROVE A LANDOWNER AGREEMENT WITH THE ILLINOIS RIVER WATERSHED PARTNERSHIP FOR NATURAL STREAM RESTORATION OF AN UNNAMED TRIBUTARY OF FLYNN CREEK WITHIN ROCKY BRANCH PARK

WHEREAS, staff have received concerns from landowners around the tributary that runs through Rocky Branch Park for several years related to the loss of fencing and property damage associated with continued stream bank erosion; and

WHEREAS, the bank erosion is also contributing to sediment loads that ultimately drain to the Illinois River and on to the Arkansas River; and

WHEREAS, as a response to those concerns, staff completed a Capital Improvement Project budgetary request for 2024 that was approved by City Council; and

WHEREAS, this agreement is an extension of that approved funding to begin the design and construction process for a natural stream restoration.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF FAYETTEVILLE, ARKANSAS:

Section 1: That the City Council of the City of Fayetteville, Arkansas hereby authorizes Mayor Jordan to sign a landowner agreement with the Illinois River Watershed Partnership for natural stream restoration of an unnamed tributary of Flynn Creek within Rocky Branch Park.



MEETING OF JUNE 18, 2024

TO: Mayor Jordan and City Council
THRU: Chris Brown, Public Works Director
FROM: Alan Pugh, Staff Engineer
SUBJECT: **Approval of a landowner agreement with the Illinois River Watershed Partnership (IRWP) for natural stream restoration of an unnamed tributary of Flynn Creek within Rocky Branch Park.**

RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends approval of a landowner agreement with the Illinois River Watershed Partnership (IRWP) for natural stream restoration of an unnamed tributary of Flynn Creek within Rocky Branch Park.

BACKGROUND:

For several years staff have received concerns from landowners around the tributary that runs through Rocky Branch Park. Specifically, these concerns are related to the loss of fencing and property damage associated with continued stream bank erosion. The bank erosion is also contributing to sediment loads that ultimately drain to the Illinois River and on to the Arkansas River.

DISCUSSION:

As a response to these concerns of bank erosion and sediment/pollutant loading, staff completed a Capital Improvement Project budgetary request for 2024 that was ultimately approved by Council. This agreement is an extension of that approved funding to begin the design and construction process for a natural stream restoration. As the stream is located within the Illinois River Watershed, IRWP also has an interest in developing a solution to reduce sediment and pollutant loading within the Illinois River basin. The City has partnered with IRWP for years to help educate the public about water quality efforts and implement water quality projects. To further that partnership, attached is a landowner agreement between IRWP and the City of Fayetteville. It is proposed that IRWP will take the lead on the project and have already engaged Natural State Streams to begin the design. The proposed agreement would allow the City of Fayetteville to reimburse IRWP for the City's portion of the project and to implement the project on City property.

BUDGET/STAFF IMPACT:

Sales tax capital improvement project funds were allocated within the 2024 budget for the project totaling \$275,000. These funds will be combined with \$149,938 provided by IRWP to complete the project.

ATTACHMENTS: SRF (#3), Rocky Branch Agreement (#4)

Mailing address:

113 W. Mountain Street
Fayetteville, AR 72701

www.fayetteville-ar.gov