Agenda Item Number: B 200-15  
Department Source: Parks and Recreation  
To: City Council  
From: City Manager & Staff  
Council Meeting Date: 7/6/2015  
Re: Appropriation of Park Sales Tax funds to Stephens Lake Park Project for interior trail/walkway lights.

Documents Included With This Agenda Item

Council memo, Resolution/Ordinance  
Supporting documentation includes: Proposed Stephens Lighting Plan

Executive Summary

The Parks and Recreation Department is requesting an appropriation of $45,000 from the Park Sales Tax Fund in order to complete the installation of dusk-to-dawn lights at Stephens Lake Park. Park staff will install 22 lights along the East Walnut trail and walkway and 10 lights along the upper parking lot area that services the Gordon, Happy Hollow Shelter and other park amenities. The East Walnut trail is used for late night egress during large special events such as Roots-N-Blues-N-BBQ Festival and Art in the Park. Additionally, this trail serves as the only accessible walkway along that portion of the street and the lighting improvements will improve citizen safety and accessibility.

Park staff will install colonial style, 14-ft tall poles with LED light fixtures which matches the current light poles in the park. All new light fixtures will use LED bulbs to minimize energy consumption and operating costs of the lights. The LED bulbs will provide adequate lighting for pedestrian use and minimize light spill outside of the desired lighting area.

Discussion

Over the last two years, Thumper Entertainment has paid a total of $38,363 in per ticket fees to the Parks and Recreation Department for the operation of the Roots-N-Blues-N-BBQ concert in Stephens Lake Park. In addition to offsetting the department’s operating costs for this concert, the department wishes to put a portion of the funds back into the park for improvements. Lighting of both the lake trail and perimeter trail is one of the most requested amenities by park users. In addition to the lighting of the trails, park staff will add lighting to the parking lot that serves Gordon Shelter, Happy Hollow Shelter, and other amenities adjacent to the parking lot. These lights will improve park patron safety throughout the year, as many events end in the park after dusk and the parking lot is very dark due to the location.

As shown on the attached "Proposed Stephens Lighting Plan," the department will install 22 LED lights along the perimeter trail on East Walnut and 10 lights in the upper parking lot. The lights on the perimeter trail adjacent to East Walnut will provide security lighting for individuals that use these routes as they leave the park from large events, such as concerts, shelter rentals and other special events, such as Art in the Park. The lighting will assist in minimizing the number of individuals that attempt to walk down East Walnut after park festivals and events. The department currently rents
portable lights for the Roots-N-Blues-N-BBQ Festival, and the permanent lights will replace this need for the festival. The estimated cost for the installation of the trail lights is $30,930 which includes poles, fixtures, conduit and concrete.

Along with the trail lights, the department will also install 10 lights throughout the upper parking lot that services Gordon Shelter, Happy Hollow Shelter, and other park amenities. The park is often used after dusk until 11:00 pm, and the lights are needed to improve park and patron safety. The lights will also improve festival and event egress routes, as the parking lots lead directly to the trail under Broadway. This park exit route is highly used by residents adjacent to the park. The estimated cost for the installation of the upper parking lot lights is $14,060 which includes poles, fixtures, conduit and concrete.

Park staff will install colonial style LED light fixtures along the trail and parking lot. The new lights will resemble the current lighting in the park with 14 foot poles and the same lighting fixture. Park staff has installed these LED lights at the parking lots at Jay Dix Station, Fairview Park, and Garth Nature Area. The use of LED lighting will minimize energy consumption and operating costs of the lights. The LED bulbs will provide adequate lighting for pedestrian use and minimize the light spill outside of the desired areas inside the park.

Park staff anticipates that the lighting project will be completed by the 2015 Roots-N-Blues-N-BBQ Festival that is scheduled September 25 to September 27.

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<th>Fiscal Impact</th>
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<td>Short-Term Impact: One time cost of $45,000 for the lights.</td>
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<td>Long-Term Impact: There will be an estimated increase in utility costs; but by making the park more desirable for special events, an increase in rentals may offset this cost. The use of LED lighting will also minimize the utility costs compared to existing park lights, and the annual cost of renting portable lights will be eliminated.</td>
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<th>Vision, Strategic &amp; Comprehensive Plan Impact</th>
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<td>Vision Impact: Parks, Recreation and Greenways</td>
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<td>Strategic Plan Impact: Health, Safety and Wellbeing</td>
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<td>Comprehensive Plan Impact: Livable &amp; Sustainable Communities</td>
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<th>Suggested Council Action</th>
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<td>Approve the ordinance that authorizes the appropriation of funds for security lighting at Stephens Lake Park.</td>
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<th>Legislative History</th>
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<td>None</td>
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Department Approved
City Manager Approved
AN ORDINANCE

appropriating funds for the installation of dusk to dawn lights along the interior trail and walkways at Stephens Lake Park; and fixing the time when this ordinance shall become effective.

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF COLUMBIA, MISSOURI, AS FOLLOWS:

SECTION 1. The sum of $45,000.00 is hereby appropriated from the Park Sales Tax Fund Account No. 220-0000-411.10-00 to the Stephens Lake Park Development Project Account No. 440-8800-548.49-90 C00095 for the installation of dusk to dawn lights along the interior trail and walkways at Stephens Lake Park.

SECTION 2. This ordinance shall be in full force and effect from and after its passage.

PASSED this _________ day of ______________________, 2015.

ATTEST:

______________________________________________________________
City Clerk

______________________________________________________________
Mayor and Presiding Officer

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

______________________________________________________________
City Counselor

CERTIFICATION:  I certify there are sufficient funds available in the Park Sales Tax Fund Account No. 220-0000-411.10-00 to cover the above appropriation.

______________________________________________________________
Director of Finance
SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS INCLUDED WITH THIS AGENDA ITEM ARE AS FOLLOWS:

Proposed Stephens Lighting Plan
PROPOSED STEPHENS LIGHTING PLAN

7-6-2015