Memorandum

To: Programs, Projects and Operations Subcommittee

Subject: RAD – City of Omaha Standing Bear Lake Trail Project

Date: March 19, 2007

By: Gerry Bowen

The District received the attached letter from Larry Foster, Administrator of the Omaha Parks, Recreation and Public Property Department concerning the Standing Bear Trail Project. This project is included in the FY 07 Budget approved by the Board in April, 2006, and was allocated $50,000 to assist the City with the relocation of one of the Ak-Sar-Ben Bridges to Standing Bear Lake Park to be used on the trail rehabilitation project at the park.

As noted in Mr. Foster’s letter, the City is no longer able to use the bridge, but is proceeding with the trail construction project in Standing Bear Lake and Recreation Area. They have asked to allow the use of the $50,000 on the trail construction.

Since the funds have been allocated to Standing Bear Lake Park for trail construction, and the intended purpose is still the same, Management recommends approval.

It is recommended that the Subcommittee recommend to the Board that the City of Omaha’s request to utilize funds previously allocated to move a trail bridge to Standing Bear Lake and Recreation Area, on trail construction at the park.
February 26, 2007

Papio-Missouri River Natural Resources District
 c/o Gerry Bowen
 8901 S. 154th St.
 Omaha, NE 68138

RE: Standing Bear Lake Trail

Dear Gerry:

I wanted to update you on the status of the Standing Bear Trail. Due to funding and timing issues, we have bid the Trail as three separate projects: The North Trail, the South Trail and the West Trail. The P-MRNND originally committed to providing a trail bridge (currently located at Aksarben) and to supplement this with $50,000.

The bridge was to be installed as part of the West Trail project. Unfortunately, the bids on that project came in so high that the City is unable to implement this section of trail at this time. Therefore, we can no longer use the bridge which the NRD so generously offered.

We are, however, proceeding with construction of the North and South Trail projects. The North Trail began construction last fall, with plans for a late spring completion. The South Trail will begin construction this spring, to be completed by fall, weather permitting.

Over the past years, the P-MRNND has been generous in cost sharing with the City for improvements to the Metro Area Lake park facilities and I appreciate the District’s obligation to contribute to the Standing Bear Trail improvements. In the spirit of this partnership, I am requesting the P-MRNND approve the redirection of the $50,000.00 grant, originally earmarked for the Standing Bear Trail West project, to the Standing Bear Trail North project.

Finally, since this project is already underway, and significant contractor payments have been made, we would be able to invoice the NRD promptly, should you approve our request.

Thank you for your consideration of our request. Please give me a call if you require more information.

Sincerely,

Larry N. Foster, Administration
Parks, Recreation & Public
Property Department

CC Steve Scarpello
Pat Slaven