

Takoma Park City Council Meeting – June 14, 2023 Agenda Item 4

Work Session

Single Reading Ordinance Authorizing Approval of Contract for Takoma Branch Stream Restoration

Recommended Council Action

Approve the ordinance.

Context with Key Issues

The FY23 Stormwater Capital budget includes funding for the Takoma Branch Stream Restoration Project. This project was identified many years ago and design development and permitting has been underway for years. The stream is the outfall of the stormwater system in the southern end of the City within the Open Space area known as Sligo Mill/Poplar Mill. The City issued an RFP for the project and received six responses listed below. The Department recommends the award of the contract to Ecotone as the low bidder.

BWE Construction & Engineering	\$ 532,681.50
Ross Contracting	\$ 353,112.90
Triangle Contracting	\$ 256,987.00
Meadville Land Service	\$ 214,147.45
Environmental Quality Resources	\$ 212,050.80
Ecotone Inc	\$ 197,485.00

A Brief History of the Sligo Mill/ Poplar Mill Open Space:

The 5.2-acre undeveloped natural open space area, located inside New Hampshire Avenue and Poplar Avenue, and behind the properties along 4th Avenue, Orchard Avenue and Sligo Mill Road was purchased by the Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission (M-NCPPC) in 2001. The purchase included 23 lots at a cost of \$760,000. The City reimbursed M-NCPPC \$110,000 through a 4-year allotment of the City's Program Open Space allocation from FY03 through FY FY06. M-NCPPC and the City finalized a Memorandum of Understanding in August 2003 that stipulated the acquisition, maintenance and management requirement of the property. The City agreed to perform maintenance of the property, which included an initial Phase 1 and Phase 2 Environmental Assessment. Since that time the City has performed invasive removal and tree removal, as well as cleanup of surface dumping in and around the property. This area experienced significant historical dumping, so much of the buried material remains in place.

The stream, known as the Takoma Branch starts at a stormwater outfall located behind 6608 Poplar Avenue. The area upstream from the watershed includes 355 acres of residential and light commercial land use. The Takoma Branch joins several other small tributaries before meeting Sligo Creek and eventually the Anacostia River. The stream bank slope is moderate to steep along the channel and is experiencing severe erosion due to heavy rainfall flows and the conditions of the stream bank. Lack of streamside vegetation is also a contributing factor.

Council Priority

Engaged Responsive and Service-Oriented Government Environmentally Sustainable Community

Environmental Impact of Action

The stream restoration project will include the restoration of approximately 200 of the 700 linear feet of stream valley, and installation of streambed stability features. The design of the project has been reviewed and approved by M-NCPPC and all required permits have been received (MDE Non-Tidal Wetland & Waterway Permit, MD Programmatic General Permit, Erosion & Sediment Control Permit, Forest Conservation Plan, Floodplain District Permit and MNCPPC Park Permit). At the completion of the project, the City will receive restoration credit towards our NPDES permit requirements.

Racial Equity Considerations

The completion of this project, through the Stormwater Management Fund, will restore a portion of this blighted area of the City, which was previously located in Prince George's County prior to incorporation into the City, and has long been neglected.

Fiscal Impact of Action

The contract award to purchase will be made through the Stormwater Capital Budget which included \$250,000 for the project. In addition to the construction costs, there are also Bidding Phase and Construction Management costs through our consulting engineering firm of approximately \$22,000.

Attachments and Links

Single Reading Ordinance Project Plan Overview Map Site Vicinity Map

CITY OF TAKOMA PARK ORDINANCE NO. 2023-

AWARDING A CONTRACT FOR AUTHORIZING OF CONTRACT FOR TAKOMA BRANCH STREAM RESTORATION

- WHEREAS, the Fiscal Year 2023 Stormwater Management includes funding for the Takoma Branch Stream Restoration; and,
- WHEREAS, the City advertised an RFP for this project and received six (6) responses; and
- WHEREAS, the bid provided by Ecotone Inc. was the low bidder and is considered responsive and responsible; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TAKOMA PARK, MARYLAND, THAT:

- Section 1. The City Manager is authorized to enter into a contract for the Takoma Branch Stream Restoration Project in the amount of One Hundred Ninety-Seven Thousand, Four Hundred Eighty-Five Dollars (\$197,485) with Ecotone, Inc.
- Section 2. This Ordinance shall become effective upon adoption.

Adopted this _____ day of June, 2023.

AYE: NAY: ABSTAIN: ABSENT:

SITE VICINITY MAP



