



Leanne Scott <scottl@rochesterhills.org>

Innovation Hills bridge

12 messages

Theresa Mungiolit <mungiolit@rochesterhills.org>

Thu, Nov 9, 2023 at 11:39 AM

To: Ken Elwert <elwertk@rochesterhills.org>, Joe Snyder <snyderj@rochesterhills.org>, Leanne Scott <scottL@rochesterhills.org>

Please help me to understand why we need a second bridge in Innovation Hills. We approved the "rope bridge" which was equally expensive. Did we cancel that bridge? I remember there is a delay due to finding an area with appropriate footings to place the bridge. I have a hard time spending more money on a second bridge. Please remind me of the cost of the first bridge and what is its current status. Thanks!

Theresa

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Ken Elwert <elwertk@rochesterhills.org>

Thu, Nov 9, 2023 at 5:18 PM

To: Theresa Mungiolit <mungiolit@rochesterhills.org>

Cc: Joe Snyder <snyderj@rochesterhills.org>, Leanne Scott <scottL@rochesterhills.org>, Bryan Barnett <barnettb@rochesterhills.org>

Dear Councilwoman Mungiolit,

Thanks for your question, and I understand the confusion because this has taken a long time. This agenda item refers to the only rope bridge. There is no second bridge of any type planned. Budget adjustments had been approved previously by Council for this bridge, but a contractor has not yet been approved by Council. We have been working to reengineer the design and construction for much of this year to reduce the cost of this project down \$750k to where it stands today.

The work area you see at Innovation Hills had to do with getting equipment out to take soil borings for the structural engineering.

Ken Elwert, CPRE | Director of Parks and Natural Resources
City of Rochester Hills, Michigan
248.841.2552 | www.rochesterhills.org

*Building connections in our community:
Neighbor to Neighbor; Neighbor to Nature; and Neighbor to History*

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Theresa Mungiolit <mungiolit@rochesterhills.org>

Thu, Nov 9, 2023 at 5:25 PM

To: Ken Elwert <elwertk@rochesterhills.org>

Cc: Joe Snyder <snyderj@rochesterhills.org>, Leanne Scott <scottL@rochesterhills.org>, Bryan Barnett <barnettb@rochesterhills.org>

Ken,

Thanks for the info. Was the budget previously approved? Or just engineering? What was the original time-line? I thought we had this already planned and budgeted. What was the Council meeting when this was discussed before? Thanks.

Theresa

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Joe Snyder <snyderj@rochesterhills.org>

Fri, Nov 10, 2023 at 11:10 AM

To: Theresa Mungiolli <mungiolit@rochesterhills.org>
Cc: Ken Elwert <elwertk@rochesterhills.org>, Leanne Scott <scottL@rochesterhills.org>, Bryan Barnett <barnettb@rochesterhills.org>

Good morning Councilperson Mungiolli,

Funding for the Innovation Hills - Rope Bridge Architect/Engineering phase was initially included in the FY 2022 Budget, with the Construction phase initially included in FY 2023 Budget.

The IH - Rope Bridge Architect/Engineering contract was awarded on March 21, 2022 @ \$77,110, with an increase to the contract on July 25, 2022 due to inclusion of a pathway to the new bridge of +\$7,480 for a revised Architect/Engineering contract of \$84,590.

In the FY 2023 3rd Quarter, as the re-engineering process to reduce overall costs was wrapping up, the overall project budget was increased by +\$500,000 from \$2.5M to \$3.0M. This amount will cover the bridge construction plus contingency, but is a little shy of the associated testing and construction engineering contract costs = leaving the total proposed project ~ (\$235K) over budget.

If approved, it is proposed to transfer-in the additional ~ \$235K in funds from the Capital Improvement Fund (CIF) to complete the project. Through the FY 2023 3rd Quarter, the CIF is projected to have a Year-End Fund Balance of \$11.1M. Note: I do anticipate the Year-end fund balance of the CIF to increase to a higher level as part of the FY 2023 4th Quarter Amendment Process. We're currently in the process of reviewing each department's respective budgets (operating & capital project) to get closer to actual by year-end. On a whole, revenues are higher than our conservative budget projections with expenditures largely under budget helping to provide a year-end 'favorable budget surplus'. Much of the General Fund's 'favorable budget surplus' will be transferred-in to the CIF at year end per our Fund Balance Policy.

As well the City has been awarded a +\$500,000 grant through the State of MI for this project.

Hope that helps from a 'budget' perspective.

Any additional questions, feel free to let me know.

Thanks,
Joe

Joseph M. Snyder
Chief Financial Officer
City of Rochester Hills
[1000 Rochester Hills Drive](https://www.rochesterhills.org)
[Rochester Hills, MI 48309](https://www.rochesterhills.org)
(248) 841-2534
snyderj@rochesterhills.org
www.rochesterhills.org

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Leanne Scott <scottl@rochesterhills.org> Sun, Nov 12, 2023 at 10:04 AM
To: Carol Morlan <morlanc@rochesterhills.org>, "Dale (City Cell) Hetrick" <hetrickd@rochesterhills.org>, "David (Personal) Blair" <blaird@rochesterhills.org>, "David (Personal) Walker" <walkerd@rochesterhills.org>, "Ryan (City Cell) Deel" <deelr@rochesterhills.org>, "Susan (Personal) Bowyer" <bowyers@rochesterhills.org>

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Theresa Mungiolli <mungiolit@rochesterhills.org> Sun, Nov 12, 2023 at 4:16 PM
To: Ken Elwert <elwertk@rochesterhills.org>
Cc: Joe Snyder <snyderj@rochesterhills.org>, Leanne Scott <scottL@rochesterhills.org>, Bryan Barnett <barnettb@rochesterhills.org>

Ken,

Thanks for the info and the conversation we had the Parks open house on Saturday. I have been digging thru emails to find more information on the rope bridge. I find comments that that price is higher than anticipated however no indication

of how much. Am I missing something? When was the appropriation awarded to RH to help cover the rope bridge?

I am also trying to find the prioritization of the parks projects. When was that completed? I would like to understand what other priorities there are for the parks.

Thanks!

Theresa

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Ken Elwert <elwertk@rochesterhills.org>

Sun, Nov 12, 2023 at 7:34 PM

To: Susan Bowyer <bowyers@rochesterhills.org>

Cc: Bryan Barnett <barnettb@rochesterhills.org>, Joe Snyder <snyderj@rochesterhills.org>, Ryan Deel <deelr@rochesterhills.org>, David Walker <walkerd@rochesterhills.org>, "Dale A. Hetrick" <hetrickd@rochesterhills.org>, Theresa Mungiolit <mungiolit@rochesterhills.org>, David Blair <blaird@rochesterhills.org>, Carol Morlan <morlanc@rochesterhills.org>, Leanne Scott <scottl@rochesterhills.org>

Dear Vice President Bowyer,

Thanks for your questions.

The way this grant agreement reads, we have agreed to spend \$500k on this project and once we do, that fulfills the agreement. There is not a claw back clause in this agreement if the project is not completed. No, the State would not require us to send back the funds if the project isn't built, but will require proof that we spent the funds on the project.

According to Midwest Strategy, giving back the funds or not building the bridge will make it much more difficult to pursue this type of funding in the future. While our local representatives would probably be understanding of the situation, the rest of the Legislature most likely would not be open to future consideration for other projects.

As for cost, our staff is as confident as we can be that this number presented is accurate. Purchasing has worked intensely with HRC and the recommended contractor over the last six months on re-engineering the construction methods and design, even changing the method of bidding out steel to reduce costs to get the costs down \$750k. The firm has a detailed understanding of the project and their bid reflects that.

Ken Elwert, CPRE | Director of Parks and Natural Resources
City of Rochester Hills, Michigan
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From: **Susan Bowyer** <bowyers@rochesterhills.org>

Date: Sun, Nov 12, 2023 at 3:21 PM

Subject: Fwd: Innovation Hills bridge

To: Ken Elwert <elwertk@rochesterhills.org>

Cc: Bryan Barnett <barnettb@rochesterhills.org>, Joe Snyder <snyderj@rochesterhills.org>, Ryan Deel <deelr@rochesterhills.org>, David Walker <walkerd@rochesterhills.org>

Ken

If we spend the entire \$500,000 from the state grant and then don't have any funds to finish the bridge, would the state still want the money back? and would that be a problem in the future (that we did not finish the project)?

I just see the price tag on this bridge ending up closer to \$4million when it is finally installed.

Please send the response to all of council.

thank you

Susan

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Ken Elwert <elwertk@rochesterhills.org>

Mon, Nov 13, 2023 at 10:17 AM

To: Theresa Mungiolit <mungiolit@rochesterhills.org>

Cc: Joe Snyder <snyderj@rochesterhills.org>, Leanne Scott <scottL@rochesterhills.org>, Bryan Barnett <barnettb@rochesterhills.org>

Dear Councilwoman Mungiolit,

The state appropriation/grant was originally pursued in spring of 2021 and granted on October 1, 2021, with a grant agreement signed January 14, 2022.

Cost estimates in early 2023 by HRC right before the project was bid out were \$1.3 million, but failed to capture the uniqueness of this project (they have been working on this project for free to re-engineer the project since that point to address their mistake). This project is a long term investment that will serve our community long into the future, similar to several other projects Council has approved over the last few years, such as \$3 million on redoing the dairy barn roof and building, and \$3.5- \$4 million on park parking lots (Borden and Bloomer). This project also addresses one of the top desires of our residents, new walking trails.

I have attached both the Park portion of the most recent CIP and the list of projects from the 2023-2027 Master Plan per your request for park project priorities. If you have any other questions please let me know.


Ken Elwert, CPRE | Director of Parks and Natural Resources
City of Rochester Hills, Michigan
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2 attachments

 **2024 CIP Parks projects.pdf**
720K

 **2023-2027 Parks Master Plan Projects.pdf**
46K

Theresa Mungiolit <mungiolit@rochesterhills.org>

Mon, Nov 13, 2023 at 10:58 AM

To: Ken Elwert <elwertk@rochesterhills.org>

Cc: Joe Snyder <snyderj@rochesterhills.org>, Leanne Scott <scottL@rochesterhills.org>, Bryan Barnett <barnettb@rochesterhills.org>

Ken

Thanks for the info. Do you have any pictures of where the proposed bridge will connect with existing paths in the green space?

Theresa

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Ken Elwert <elwertk@rochesterhills.org>

Mon, Nov 13, 2023 at 11:12 AM

To: Theresa Mungiolit <mungiolit@rochesterhills.org>

Cc: Joe Snyder <snyderj@rochesterhills.org>, Leanne Scott <scottL@rochesterhills.org>, Bryan Barnett <barnettb@rochesterhills.org>

Please see attached.

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2 attachments

 **IH Bridge Location.pdf**
2673K

 **IH_Trails.pdf**
3017K

Leanne Scott <scottl@rochesterhills.org> Mon, Nov 13, 2023 at 12:37 PM
To: "Ryan (City Cell) Deel" <deelr@rochesterhills.org>, "Susan (Personal) Bowyer" <bowyers@rochesterhills.org>, "David (Personal) Blair" <blaird@rochesterhills.org>, "Dale A. Hetrick" <hetrickd@rochesterhills.org>, Carol Morlan <morlanc@rochesterhills.org>, "David (Personal) Walker" <walkerd@rochesterhills.org>

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From: **Ken Elwert** <elwertk@rochesterhills.org>
Date: Mon, Nov 13, 2023 at 10:18 AM
Subject: Re: Innovation Hills bridge
To: Theresa Mungiola <mungiolit@rochesterhills.org>

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Leanne Scott, MiPMC/MMC
City Clerk
City of Rochester Hills
scottL@rochesterhills.org
(248) 841-2460
(248) 656-4744 - Facsimile

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