



June 11, 2021

Lessard-Sams Outdoor Heritage Council
Attn: Mark Johnson
95 State Office Building
St. Paul, MN 55155

RE: Pigs Eye Island Building Habitat Project – Additional Fund Request

Dear Mr. Johnson:

As you are aware, \$4,337,000 was approved by the Lessard-Sams Outdoor Heritage Council (LSOHC) in 2019 for local fund participation regarding the island building project in Pigs Eye Lake to restore and enhance wildlife habitat. Contract bidding has been completed, however construction bids received came in slightly higher than the original estimate in 2018, which required \$4,337,000 of local fund participation. It is common to see bids come in higher on projects like this due to the complexity of construction activities, in addition to the current bidding environment.

Ramsey County and the Army Corps of Engineers is working through project award components, however to accomplish the project in entirety, budgeted funds slated for vegetation restoration, water quality monitoring, and portions of construction management oversight are being shifted to allow for construction of the islands. This leaves a shortfall of \$475,000 of local funds for these components at the end of the project. After discussing these circumstances with LSOHC staff, Ramsey County will plan to apply in spring 2022 for additional OHF funds to cover the local participation shortfall of \$475,000. This request will be matched by approximately \$822,000 in Federal funds. This funding request will be critical to ensure project objectives are fully achieved and outcomes for a healthy native ecosystem are sustainable after the project is completed.

The expected project schedule is listed below:

- Award Contract: June 2021
- Island Construction: July 2021 - September 2023
- Complete Topsoil and Planting: Oct 2024

Thank you for consideration of this request. If you have any questions or require additional information, please do not hesitate to call me at 651-266-0370 or by email me at scott.yonke@ramseycounty.us.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Scott A. Yonke".

Scott Yonke, PLA | Director of Planning and Development
Ramsey County Parks and Recreation Department
2015 North Van Dyke Street
Maplewood, MN 55109
651-266-0370, www.co.ramsey.mn.us