

DATE: December 11, 2024
TO: Lyon County Commissioners
FROM: Redwood Riverbank Workgroup
RE: Request for Cost-Share on Pilot Streambank Restoration Project
112 Park Avenue, Marshall MN

Beginning in September 2023, a group of interested parties began meeting to discuss the condition of the Redwood River through the City of Marshall, and the deterioration that is occurring. Severe erosion has occurred as illustrated in the photo below.



This group consists of citizens, city and county officials, and DNR representatives. Group discussions have involved the history of the river, along with a WPA project that placed much of the riprap/armoring that is in the river. DNR and SWCD staff kayaked the stretch of river and documented all areas of concern.

Some of the long-range goals are:

- 1) to remove unneeded low-head dams in the river (ex. golf course) and replace with rock structures that allow fish passage
- 2) design and implement streambank restorations along several adjacent properties to eliminate the vertical drops and increasing erosion caused by flooding
- 3) Promotion of the BWSR *Lawns to Legumes* program, reminders to not place lawn clippings in the river, Marshall's water softener rebate program, and other educational programs/events.

Two property owners have joined together on a pilot restoration project at 112 Park Avenue. The location below (circled in red) shows the erosion and the difficulty to access the project site.



DNR is willing to waive the \$1,200 permit fee for the pilot project. The City of Marshall has granted permission to access the site along the river on the park site. DNR staff designed the restoration which the owners obtained a quote from D&G Excavating for the work.

The quote is \$40,800 for the work including: removing wall structure, haul and place fill on riverbank, place geotextile fabric and riprap, repair any tracks through the park, and seed. The area is approximately 100 feet in length; however, it is the difficulty in accessing the site and need to haul all the materials stockpiled by the street that impacts the cost.

In order to get this pilot project moving forward and for it to become the “showcase” project to encourage other landowners to be proactive, we need to ask Lyon County for financial assistance. This is the ONLY project that will request funding as others will apply for grant funding for implementation. No other funding sources have been identified.

Please consider participation in this project by providing 90% cost-share (\$36,720) from the County’s Buffer Enforcement funds.

On behalf of the Redwood River Workgroup, I thank you for your consideration of this worthy project and to consider the promotion capabilities that this project can provide to others with similar impacts.