



Brainerd City Council Agenda Request

MEETING DATE: June 5, 2023

TITLE OF ITEM: Discussion on Evergreen Landing Gate

AGENDA: SPW Committee

ACTION REQUESTED: Approve/Deny Motion

SUBMITTED BY: City Eng/PW Director Dehn

DEPARTMENT: Public Works

PRESENTER: City Eng/PW Director Dehn

ESTIMATED TIME (MIN): 10 Minutes

SUMMARY OF ISSUE:

Staff received a request from Council Member Johnson to bring the gate at Evergreen Landing to Council for further discussion. On 4/5/2021, then-City Engineer Paul Sandy presented a recommendation to the Council to install a gate at this location to prevent damage to the gravel road during the spring season while the road was in poor condition and submerged for spring flooding. At that meeting, Council Member Johnson asked if the spring season included fishing opener, the response was “no”. During Spring 2023, we received a significant amount of flooding of the Mississippi River and thus the road and parking area was submerged under flood waters for a considerable amount of time. At the time fishing opener came, staff reviewed the area with the Police Department. As there were still flood waters present in the road and parking area, the decision was made to keep the gate closed to prevent vehicle entry with the presence of flooding in the park. Police and Public Works staff agreed that there existed a public safety concern as well as potential damage to the roadway should vehicles be allowed to enter the area. Staff did present this decision and the basis of such at the Council meeting on May 15th.

ALTERNATIVE, OPTIONS, EFFECTS ON OTHERS/COMMENTS:

Three potential options are available for the Council to discuss:

1. Remove the gate at the entrance to the park.
2. Keep the gate and clarify that staff is directed to ensure that the gate is open for fishing opener, regardless of conditions.
3. Keep the gate and clarify that the gate can continue to be closed should the conditions not be supportive of vehicle traffic.

Council could utilize one of the above options or provide an alternative proposal or directive to staff as they wish.

RECOMMENDED ACTION/MOTION:

Staff recommends option 3 as described above to keep the gate in-place and allow staff to evaluate conditions throughout the spring to determine an appropriate opening date based on conditions.

FINANCIAL IMPACT:

Is there a cost associated with this request: No

What is the total cost, with tax and shipping: Click to enter text

Is this budgeted? (Please Explain) Click to enter text