

BY COUNCILOR FOSLE AND PRESIDENT LARSON:

WHEREAS, the city council-approved management plan for Magney Snively Park provides specific direction for equestrian trail use in Magney Snively Park:

"Horseback riding may be permitted under certain conditions at Magney Snively, but in restricted locations. Determine designated areas for horseback riding, taking the above ecological concerns [soil compaction, soil erosion, and invasive weed propagation] into consideration. Consider involving horseback riders in an adopt-a-trail program to maintain, repair, and restore areas that this new use may impact."

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the city council encourages administration to commission a Magney Snively trail study to be completed by July 1, 2015, by a qualified trail designer with specific expertise in designing, building, and maintaining environmentally sustainable equestrian and cross country skiing trails to:

(a) Assess the potential for environmentally sustainable equestrian use of the main loop, the Ely Peak loop, and portions of the snowmobile trail in Magney Snively; and

(b) Identify trail improvements, realignments, maintenance practices, and potential seasonal trail restrictions necessary to support environmentally sustainable trail use in Magney Snively and prevent unacceptable soil compaction, soil erosion, and invasive weed propagation.

FURTHER RESOLVED, that upon completion of a sustainable equestrian trail plan and all prescribed trail improvements, the selected trails shall be designated for equestrian use.

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the city of Duluth continue to work in partnership with the Duluth Area Horse Trail Alliance and the Minnesota department of natural resources to secure funding and permits to implement the improvements identified in the trail study.

Resolution 14-0628 was unanimously adopted.

Approved December 15, 2014

DON NESS, Mayor