



**May Board Cycle**

**Milwaukee County Parks**

9480 Watertown Plank Rd.

Wauwatosa, WI 53226

(414) 257-PARK

Date: April 16, 2020

To: Chairperson, County Board of Supervisors

From: Jen Francis, Interim Executive Director, Milwaukee County Parks

Subject: **Retroactive Authorization to Apply for 2020 WDNR Stewardship and Federal Recreational Trails Grants (ACTION)**

**Issue**

Milwaukee County Parks continuously works to identify and apply for grant funding to contribute to systemwide needs. Both the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources Stewardship Program and the Federal Recreational Trails program have application windows in May-June of 2020, and Parks requests retroactive permission to apply to each.

**Background**

One the of the most popular assets of the Milwaukee County Parks System is the Oak Leaf Trail (OLT) that extends across the County. Parks has targeted two key trail projects along the OLT this year for trail grant applications in 2020. Each project is a priority concern because of direct impact to the public’s health, safety, and welfare while using segments of the OLT.

Trail Project	Type	Location	Cost Est.	Length (ft)	Notes
Oak Leaf Trail Union Pacific Segment Stone Culvert Replacement – Zip Line	Major Repair	Near Wingate (N of Silver Spring)	\$640,000	NA	Sinkhole in pavement due to culvert failure below.
Root River Line of Oak Leaf Trail Flood Mitigation and Sustainability Improvements	Major Repair	1/3-mile section between Howard and Morgan along 116th	\$400,000	1800'	Trail consistently flooded.

The Stewardship Program is designed to facilitate and promote nature-based outdoor recreation. Nature-based outdoor recreation consists of activities whose primary purpose is the appreciation or enjoyment of nature. Examples include hunting, trapping, fishing, multi-use trail activities, picnicking, and wildlife or nature observation. Support facilities that



enhance nature-based outdoor recreation and/or improve disabled accessibility access such as roads and parking lots are also eligible for Stewardship funding. Program funds are reimbursed on a 1:1 state-local cost-share basis, and grant applications are due May 1, 2020.

The Recreational Trails Program is a federal program administered in all states. Municipal governments and incorporated organizations are eligible to receive reimbursement for development and maintenance of recreational trails and trail-related facilities for both motorized and non-motorized recreational trail uses. Eligible sponsors may be reimbursed for up to 50 percent of eligible project costs. Funds from this program may be used in conjunction with funds from several other state grant programs.

### **Recommendation**

Parks' Interim Executive Director recommends retroactive authorization to apply for a State of Wisconsin Stewardship and the Federal Recreational Trails Program grants.

Prepared By: Sarah Toomsen, Manager of Planning & Development, Milwaukee County Parks

Approved By: Jen Francis, Interim Executive Director, Milwaukee County Parks



### **Attachments:**

- Resolution
- Fiscal Note
- Maps

### **Copy**

- David Crowley, County Executive Elect
- Chris Abele, County Executive
- Raisa Koltun, Chief of Staff, County Executive's Office
- Parks, Energy & Environment Chair
- Parks, Energy & Environment Committee Members
- Chief of Staff, County Board of Supervisors
- Fiscal Mgt. Analyst, Admin & Fiscal Affairs/DAS
- Kelsey Evans, Committee Coordinator, Office of the County Clerk
- Emily Peterson, Research & Policy Analyst, Office of the Comptroller

