



City of Rochester Hills
AGENDA SUMMARY
FINANCIAL ITEMS

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www.rochesterhills.org

Legislative File No: 2016-0113

TO: Mayor and City Council Members

FROM: Ken Elwert, Director of Parks & Forestry, Extension 2552

DATE: March 14, 2016

SUBJECT: Support for **Land and Water Conservation Fund** Grant Application and Matching Funds – Riverbend Park and supporting amenities

REQUEST:

We are requesting that the Rochester Hills City Council approve submission of a grant application to the State of Michigan Department of Natural Resources (MDNR) Land and Water Conservation Fund and \$150,000 as a 50% match. Elements of the grant request include development of a 500 foot boardwalk (completing one trail loop within park), small modular restroom, water connection & drinking fountain, connection to the city wide pathway system and supporting trail signage and benches. Submission of the grant requires a 50% commitment of matching funds by the governing body prior to submission. Total estimated project cost is \$300,000. Cost was obtained from estimates provided in the detail of Riverbend Park Strategic Framework. Total requested grant from the MDNR is \$150,000. Application deadline is April 1, 2016.

REASON FOR PURCHASE:

The Riverbend Park Strategic Framework Plan recently approved by the Rochester Hills City Council contains many different unique amenities that will be pursued with a variety of funding sources over several years.

This specific project is recommended because (1) It provides a basic trail infrastructure that can be utilized by our residents immediately upon completion and (2) Trail development and connection to our city-wide pathway system aligns with current priorities of available State grants and (3) It provides basic amenities for the park necessary with increased usage.

This project is included as part of the 2016-2021 Capital Improvement Plan. The City of Rochester Hills Parks and Recreation Master Plan 2016-2020 identifies development of Riverbend Park as a goal.

PROCESS:

Approximately 50% of the Land and Water Conservation Fund grants submitted to the MDNR are funded based on a competitive scoring system. If our grant request is accepted, we will be notified by the MDNR in the fall of 2016. A project agreement will then be prepared by the MDNR and will be presented to City Council for approval. Once the project agreement is signed by both parties work can begin on the project. This is a reimbursable grant: any work done on the project prior to the signed project agreement is not reimbursable and may not count towards our match. If the grant is awarded, it is expected construction will begin in 2017.

BUDGET:

As part of the 2016-18 Budget process, \$750,000 was allocated in the Facilities Fund for the development of Riverbend Park in FY 2016 (expense).

Also as part of the 2016-18 Budget process, \$750,000 was identified in the Facilities Fund for Contributions and Donations related to the development of Riverbend Park in FY 2016 (offsetting revenue).

If this grant application is approved, the total estimated project cost of \$300,000 would be offset by a 50% MDNR grant in the amount of \$150,000, leaving a total 50% City match of \$150,000.

It is recommended that the General Fund contribute the \$150,000 City match to the Facilities Fund for this development in Riverbend Park. As Riverbend Park is a “new” park, there are no accumulated funds within the Facilities Fund dedicated towards it.

Fund Name	Department Account No	Account No. Description	Budget Amount	Cost	Remaining Budget
Facilities	631.974000	Land Improvements	\$750,000	\$300,000	\$450,000

RECOMMENDATION:

We are requesting that the Rochester Hills City Council approve submission of a grant application to the State of Michigan Department of Natural Resources (MDNR) Land and Water Conservation Fund for development of a 500 foot boardwalk (completing one trail loop within park), small modular restroom, water connection & drinking fountain, connection to the city wide pathway system and supporting trail signage and benches. Submission of the grant requires a 50% commitment of matching funds by the governing body prior to submission. Total estimated project cost is \$300,000. Cost was obtained from estimates provided in the detail of Riverbend Park Strategic Framework. Total requested grant is \$150,000. Match requested by City Council is \$150,000. Application deadline is April 1, 2016.

APPROVALS:	SIGNATURE	DATE
Department Review		
Department Director		
Budget Content: Finance Director		
Purchasing Process: Supervisor of Procurement		
Mayor		
Deputy Clerk		