

# RESOLUTION

## ROCK COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

Public Works Committee  
Initiated by

Public Works Committee  
& Parks Advisory Committee  
Submitted by



John Traynor, Parks Manager  
Drafted by

May 4, 2020  
Date Drafted

**AUTHORIZING APPLICATION WITH  
WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES  
FOR STEWARDSHIP, LOCAL ASSISTANCE, FEDERAL LAND & WATER CONSERVATION  
FUND, & RECREATIONAL TRAILS PROGRAM APPLICATION GRANT FUNDS**

1 **WHEREAS**, the Rock County Parks Division desires to participate in stewardship grant funded  
2 projects pursuant to provisions of s.23.09(11) of the Wisconsin Statutes: and,  
3

4 **WHEREAS**, matching grant funds are available from the Wisconsin DNR and a resolution of  
5 application for Stewardship Grant is required: and,  
6

7 **WHEREAS**, Rock County is interested in developing trails for public outdoor recreation purposes  
8 as described in the application; and,  
9

10 **WHEREAS**, financial aid is required to carry out the project; and,  
11

12 **WHEREAS**, Rock County is in the final stages of recommendation and adoption of the 2020-  
13 2025 Rock County Parks Outdoor Recreation Open Space (POROS) Plan that recommends the  
14 paving of the Peace Trail.  
15

16 **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Rock County Board of Supervisors on this  
17 14th day of May, 2020, hereby authorizes the Parks Manager, Parks Division-  
18 Public Works Department, to act on behalf of Rock County to submit an application to the State  
19 of Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources for financial aid for Stewardship Recreational  
20 Trails Program Application Funds that may be available.

Respectfully submitted,

PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE

PARKS ADVISORY COMMITTEE

\_\_\_\_\_  
, Chair

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Floyd Finney

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Dean Paynter

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Tom Presny

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FISCAL NOTE:

This resolution authorizes an application for a grant and therefore has no fiscal impact at this time. If a grant is awarded, a subsequent resolution would be required to accept the grant and amend the budget.

*/s/ Sherry Oja*

Sherry Oja  
Finance Director

LEGAL NOTE:

The authority to accept grant funds pursuant to sec. 59.52(19), Wis. Stats., necessarily implies the authority to make application for such funds.

*/s/ Richard Greenlee*

Richard Greenlee  
Corporation Counsel

Administrative Note:

Recommended.

*/s/ Josh Smith*

Josh Smith  
County Administrator

- EXECUTIVE SUMMARY -

**AUTHORIZING APPLICATION WITH  
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We are in the final stages of adopting the 2020-2025 Rock County Parks Outdoor Recreation and Open Space (POROS) Plan. The 2020-2025 Rock County POROS plans recommends paving the Peace Trail from Janesville to Beloit with a hard surface to improve accessibility. This resolution provides authorization to apply for funding from the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources for Stewardship, Local Assistance, Federal Land & Water Conservation Fund, and Recreation Trails Program Application Grant Funds and include the City of Janesville's portion.

In order to move forward on this project, the Rock County Parks Division desires to apply for Department of Natural Resources Recreational Trails Stewardship Grant Fund and be the project sponsor for the City of Janesville's portion of the Peace Trail. This grant program prioritizes projects that rehabilitate existing trails and inter-governmental cooperation.

The grant being applied for requires a 50/50 match of local funds. The anticipated joint project cost for the paving of the Peace Trail is \$423,200, of which \$211,600 would be covered by the Stewardship Grant funds. Rock County's share of the project costs would be \$139,750, with the City of Janesville contributing \$71,850.

Estimated Cost of Peace Trail Paving from Janesville Wastewater Plant to Walters Road

	Cost	50/50 Match
City of Janesville (1.57 mile section)	\$143,700	\$ 71,850
County of Rock (3.06 mile section)	\$279,500	\$139,750
Total	\$423,200	\$211,600

The Stewardship Grant is open for applications on an annual basis. In an effort to maximize grant opportunities, we are requesting approval to submit this application in the 2020 cycle. With a determination of approval anticipated during the summer/fall of 2020, the Parks Division would be able to pursue completing this project as early as 2021.

If the grant application is approved, the County would have until June 30, 2023, to utilize the funds. Currently, the Parks Division is pursuing additional funding options, including possible donations or use of ATC funds, to offset the remaining balance not covered by the Stewardship Grant. The Parks Division does not intend to impact current or future County fund balances with this grant application. If the grant is approved, further action from the County Board would be required to accept the Stewardship Grant funding and authorize paving of the Peace Trail.

If the grant application is not approved, the Parks Division will delay the project and look to pursue a grant opportunity in the 2021 cycle.