Date: April 15, 2021

To: Parks & Recreation Committee and City Council

From: Dan Glynn, Parks & Recreation Director

Subject: 2021 Wisconsin DNR Stewardship Local Units of Government, Land and Water Conservation Fund, and Recreational Trails Grant Programs Grant Application.

Background

The Wisconsin DNR's Stewardship Local Units of Government, Land and Water Conservation Fund, and Recreational Trails Grant Program is a state level grant program for the acquisition and/or development of land for outdoor recreation purposes. The City has been successful in acquiring grants in 2019 and 2020 for bank restoration, trail improvements, and the pedestrian bridge. These are all Phase I items in the project.

Grant Application, Items, and Costs

This grant application will be for Phase II items which include:

- Whitewater Park paddling improvements including dam reconstruction
- Trail improvements from 4th Street to Water Street, pedestrian plaza and seating areas where the dam's headrace and tailrace are located, and a trail underpass at 4th Street.

The paddling improvements have an estimated cost of $1,933,351. The trail improvements, underpass, and pedestrian plazas have an estimated cost of $1,480,996. The estimated combined cost for these improvements is $3,414,347. The grant has a 50% cost share and could potentially provide $1,707,173 in funding for these improvements.

Grant Stipulations

If the City is successful with its application, then we would have two construction seasons to complete the project. The DNR does grant an additional one-year extension if there are unforeseen circumstances. Additionally, if the City is successful with the application and decides to not move forward with the project, then the funding can be turned down.

If a Land Water Conservation Fund Grant is awarded, the City would be responsible for complying with the National Park Service. A couple of factors with this include compliant with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and Bacon-Davis prevailing wages. Being compliant with NEPA would likely result in requiring the City to complete an Environmental Assessment (EA). DNR permitting staff have communicated with City staff that an EA would not be needed for permitting at the state level. Bacon-Davis prevailing wages are not likely to cause an increase in costs due to high local wages.

City of Stoughton, 207 S. Forrest Street, Stoughton WI 53589

RESOLUTION OF THE COMMON COUNCIL

Authorizing the submittal of a Wisconsin DNR Stewardship Local Units of Government, Land and Water Conservation Fund, and Recreational Trails Grant Programs grant application by the Director of Parks & Recreation for Phase II of the Yahara Riverfront Development Project.

Committee Action:	Parks & Recreation Committee
Fiscal Impact:	The grant application would be for $00000 to partially fund list items.

File Number: R- -2021	**Date Introduced:**

WHEREAS, the City of Stoughton is interested in acquiring or developing lands for public outdoor recreation purposes as described in the application; and,

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

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOVLED, that the City of Stoughton has budgeted a sum sufficient to complete the project or acquisition, and,

HEREBY AUTHORIZES, the Director of Parks & Recreation to act on behalf of the City of Stoughton to:

Submit and sign an application to the State of Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources for any financial aid that may be available;

Submit reimbursement claims along with necessary supporting documentation with 6 months of project completion date; and

Take necessary action to undertake, direct, and complete the approved project.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, by the Common Council of the City of Stoughton, Dane County, Wisconsin will comply with state or federal rules for the programs; will keep the facilities open to the general public during reasonable hours consistent with the type of facility; and will obtain from the state of Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources or the National Park Services approval in writing before any change is made in the use of the project site.

Vote: X-X

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Timothy Swadley, Mayor Date

Published: _____

Council Action: _____ ☐ **Override** **Vote** _____