

Agenda
Planning and Policy Committee
West Olive Administration Building – Board Room and YouTube
12220 Fillmore Street, West Olive, Michigan 49460
Tuesday, March 5, 2024
9:00 AM

Public Comment

Approval of Agenda

Consent Resolutions:

- I. Approval of the minutes from the [February 6, 2024](#) Planning and Policy Committee Meeting

Agenda and Action Requests:

- I. [Land & Water Conservation Fund Grant Application For UMAC](#)
To recommend application to the Land and Water Conservation Fund program for funding assistance for Upper Macatawa Natural Area - Greenway Trailhead project and forward to the County Board of Commissioners for final approval.
2. [Contract for MDNR Support of Bass River Trail Segment](#)
Suggested Motion:
To approve the Cooperative Agreement with the Michigan Department of Natural Resources for funding assistance in the amount of \$715,000 for the development of the Idema Explorers Trail Bass River Segment Phase I and forward to the Board of Commissioners for final approval.
3. [2024 Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund Grant Application](#)
Suggested Motion:
To recommend an application to the Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund (MNRTF) program for funding assistance to construct the Eastmanville Connector Segment of the Grand River Greenway Idema Explorers Trail and forward to the County Board of Commissioners for final approval.

Committee Reports:

Discussion Items:

- I. [Ottawa County Materials Management Plan](#)

Public Comment

Adjournment at Call of the Chairperson

Note: Public Comments on the day's business are to be limited to three (3) minutes.

PLANNING AND POLICY COMMITTEE

Proposed Minutes

DATE: February 6, 2024

TIME: 9:01 a.m.

PLACE: Fillmore Street Complex

PRESENT: Roger Belknap, Roger Bergman, Allison Miedema, Joe Moss, and Sylvia Rhodea. (5)

SUBJECT: PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

SUBJECT: APPROVAL OF AGENDA

PP 24-005 Motion: To approve the agenda of today.
Moved by: Bergman

UNANIMOUS

SUBJECT: CONSENT RESOLUTIONS

PP 24-006 Motion: To approve the minutes from the January 9, 2024, Planning and Policy
Committee Meeting.
Moved by: Moss

UNANIMOUS

SUBJECT: OTTAWA SANDS LAKE LOOP CONSTRUCTION

PP 24-007 Motion: To accept the bid from McCormick Sand, Inc, in the amount of \$788,314.25 for
construction of the Lake Loop project at Ottawa Sands and forward to the Board of
Commissioners for final approval. Furthermore, the Parks Commission requests that the
Fiscal Services Department transfers \$150,000 from CP2208 Ottawa Sands Development
Phase I (Parks contribution) to CP2302 Ottawa Sands Lake Loop, to fully fund this project
with contingency for a total project amount of \$891,844.
Moved by: Miedema

The motion passed with the following votes: Yeas: Joe Moss, Sylvia Rhodea, Allison
Miedema, Roger Bergman, Roger Belknap. (5)

SUBJECT: OTTAWA SANDS DAY USE RESTROOM CONSTRUCTION

PP 24-008 Motion: To approve the bid from Denny's Excavating in the amount of \$510,000 for
construction of the day use restroom at Ottawa Sands and forward to the Board of
Commissioners for final approval. Furthermore, the Parks Commission request that the
Fiscal Services Department transfer \$100,000 from CP2208 Ottawa Sands Development
Phase I (Parks contribution) to CP2301 Ottawa Sands Restroom, to fully fund this project
with contingency for a total project amount of \$585,000.
Moved by: Bergman

The motion passed with the following votes: Yeas: Roger Bergman, Allison Miedema, Joe Moss, Sylvia Rhodea, Roger Belknap. (5).

SUBJECT: COMMITTEE REPORTS

1. Environmental Health Notice of Intent Presentation-Kim Wolters gave a presentation on the Notice of Intent.
2. Farmland Protection Presentation-Becky Huttenga gave a presentation on Farmland Protection.

SUBJECT: DISCUSSION ITEMS

1. Legislative Update Pertaining to Septic Inspections-Administrator Gibbs and Adeline Hambley gave an update on the latest version of the legislation.

SUBJECT: PUBLIC COMMENT

1. Joe Spaulding-Holland Township
2. Karen Obits-Spring Lake
3. Shontel Martinel-Park Township

SUBJECT: ADJOURNMENT

The chairperson called for adjournment at 10:34 a.m.

Action Request

Electronic Submission – Resolution #: 2229



Committee: PLANNING AND POLICY

Meeting Date: 3/5/2024

Requesting Department: PARKS AND RECREATION

Submitted By: CURT TERHAAR

Agenda Item: LAND & WATER CONSERVATION FUND GRANT APPLICATION FOR UMAC

Suggested Motion:

To recommend application to the Land and Water Conservation Fund program for funding assistance for Upper Macatawa Natural Area - Greenway Trailhead project and forward to the County Board of Commissioners for final approval.

Summary of Request:

In the 2021 Ottawa County Parks and Recreation Open Space Plan, a capital improvement project was proposed for development of a modern restroom at the 84th Avenue day-use area for the Upper Macatawa Natural Area park in Zeeland Township. This entry is one of the more popular sites in the Ottawa County Parks system, in part since it provides access to the mountain biking trails through the park. It is also a critical location along the developing Macatawa Greenway Trail and the trail network from Holland to Grand Rapids (which includes the Fred Meijer Kenowa Trail, which commences at the northern end of the Upper Macatawa Natural Area). With the planned development of and funding secured for the "Middle Macatawa" trail connection to Hawthorn Pond and Hawthorn Pond improvements to the west, it is important to provide these enhanced amenities on the eastern end of this portion of the Macatawa Greenway. The proposed modern restroom will provide amenities for Macatawa Greenway users and mountain bikers as well as sustainable and universal design features. This includes men's and women's restrooms, a family restroom with an adult changing table, two changing rooms with showers targeted for mountain bikers, a rainwater harvesting system, and paved connections to the parking area. It was also be constructed to operate for all seasons.

This project meets many of the criteria for a successful Land and Water Conservation Fund development project. This funding allows for the inclusion of enhanced features for this project such as the rainwater harvesting system and the adult changing table. Therefore, staff is recommending preparation and submission of a \$347,500 grant application to assist with funding this project.

A project sheet, site concept, example restroom designs, and draft resolution for the Board of Commissioners are attached.

Financial Information:

Total Cost: **N/A**

General Fund Cost: **N/A**

Included in Budget: **N/A**

If not included in Budget, recommended funding source:

N/A

Action is Related to an Activity Which Is: Non-Mandated

Action is Related to Strategic Plan:

Goal:

Goal 2: To Contribute to the Long-Term Economic, Social and Environmental Health of the County.

Administration:

Recommended by County Administrator:

2/29/2024 2:28:14 PM

Committee/Governing/Advisory Board Approval Date:

COUNTY OF OTTAWA

STATE OF MICHIGAN

RESOLUTION INDICATING INTENTION TO UNDERTAKE THE UPPER MACATAWA
NATURAL AREA GREENWAY TRAILHEAD DEVELOPMENT PROJECT IF GRANT
AWARDED.

At a regular meeting of the Ottawa County Board of Commissioners of the County of Ottawa,
Michigan, held in the Ottawa County Fillmore Street Complex, West Olive, Michigan, in said
County on the 12th day of March, 2024 at 9:00 o'clock a.m. local time.

PRESENT:

ABSENT:

It was moved by Commissioner _____ and supported by Commissioner
_____ that the following Resolution be adopted:

WHEREAS, this proposed application is supported by the 2021 Ottawa County Parks,
Recreation and Open Space Plan, which identifies the need for expansion and improvement of
Ottawa County parks and recreation facilities; and

WHEREAS, the Parks and Recreation Commission has identified this project as a priority 2021
Ottawa County Parks, Recreation and Open Space Plan due to the increasing usage of the park
and to enhance the user experience; and

WHEREAS, the Parks and Recreation Commission has identified the development of the
Macatawa Greenway Trail and related amenities as a high priority initiative; and

WHEREAS, the Upper Macatawa Natural Area Greenway Trailhead Development Project is a
key component of meeting the goals of the Macatawa Greenway and has been identified as a
high priority for the 2025 fiscal year; and

WHEREAS, the Upper Macatawa Natural Area Greenway Trailhead Development Project will
provide important natural resource-based recreation opportunities accessible to residents
throughout Ottawa County, and

WHEREAS, the County of Ottawa is hereby making a financial commitment to the project in the amount of 50% local match (\$347,500 of the \$695,000 total project cost) matching funds, in cash and/or force account; and

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Ottawa County Board of Commissioners authorizes submittal of the grant application for the Upper Macatawa Natural Area Greenway Trailhead Development Project to the Land and Water Conservation Fund and and further resolves to make available its financial obligation amount of \$347,500 (50 %) of a total \$695,000 project cost, during the 2025 fiscal year.

Adopted/Issued this date by the Ottawa County Board of Commissioners

YEAS:

NAYS:

ABSTENTIONS:

RESOLUTION ADOPTED.

Joe Moss
Chairperson, Ottawa County
Board of Commissioners

Justin F. Roebuck
Ottawa County Clerk/Register

CERTIFICATION

I, the undersigned, duly qualified Clerk of the County of Ottawa, Michigan, do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and complete copy of a Resolution adopted by the Board of Commissioners of the County of Ottawa, Michigan, at a meeting held on March 12, 2024 the original of which is on file in my office. Public Notice of said meeting was given pursuant to and in compliance with Act No. 267, Public Acts of Michigan, 1976, as amended.

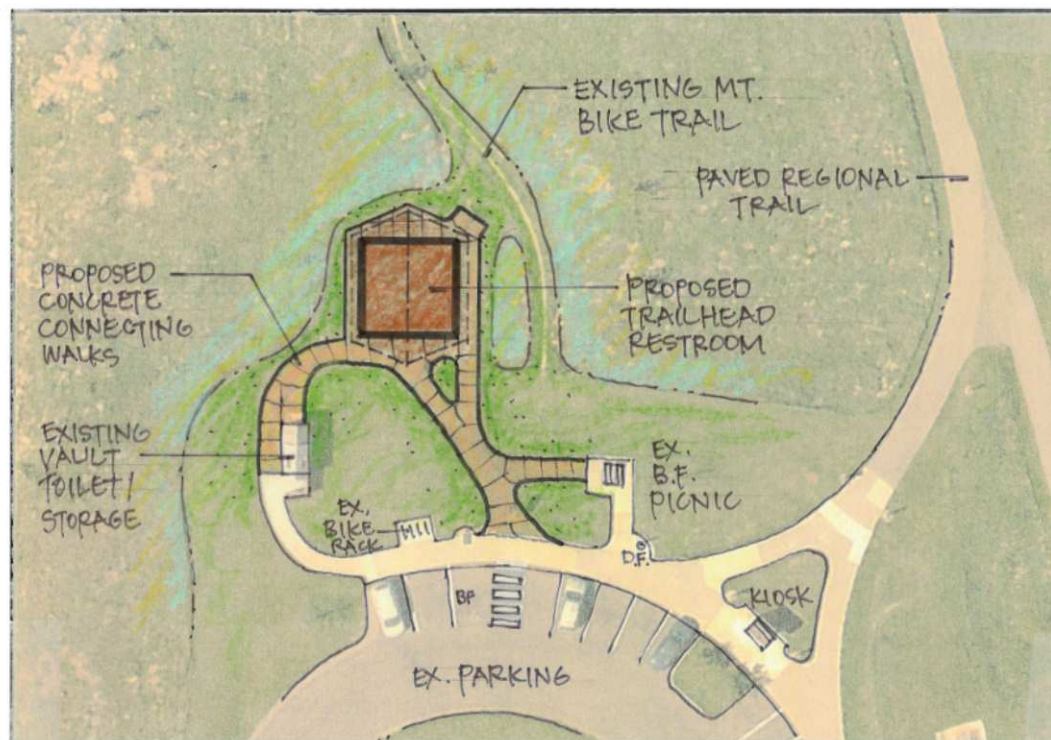
IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereto affixed my official signature this 12th day of March, A.D., 2024.



Project: Upper Macatawa Natural Area – Greenway Trailhead (CP2307)

- **Parks Initiative:** Upper Macatawa Natural Area and Macatawa Greenway
- **Parks Plan/Strategic Plan/Master Plan Reference (where applicable):** Page 256 & Project D15 (Appendix L-3)
- **Location:** Zeeland Township (Senate District 31, State House District 85)
- **Estimated Cost:** \$695,000
- **Proposed/Committed Funding:**
 - Parks Capital Funding: \$347,500
 - Land and Water Conservation Fund (Proposed): \$347,500

- **Summary:** The 84th Avenue entry for the Upper Macatawa Natural Area is one of the more popular sites in the Ottawa County Parks system, in part since it provides access to the mountain biking trails through the park. It is also a critical location along the developing Macatawa Greenway Trail and the trail



Site Plan
UMNA Trailhead



0 15 30 60
Feet



Ottawa County Parks & Recreation Commission

network from Holland to Grand Rapids (which includes the Fred Meijer Kenowa Trail, which commences at the northern end of the Upper Macatawa Natural Area). Due to its popularity and its key Greenway role, this site has been reviewed for enhanced amenities, in particular a modern restroom. With the planned development of and funding secured for the “middle Macatawa” trail connection to Hawthorn Pond and Hawthorn Pond improvements to the west, it is important to provide these enhanced amenities on the eastern end of this portion of the Macatawa Greenway. The proposed modern restroom will provide amenities for Macatawa Greenway users and mountain bikers as well as sustainable and universal design features. This includes men’s and women’s restrooms, a unisex family restroom with an adult changing table, two changing rooms with showers targeted for mountain bikers, a rainwater harvesting system, and paved connections to the parking area.

- **Status:** Grant application being prepared.

Action Request

Electronic Submission – Contract # 2199



Committee: PLANNING AND POLICY

Meeting Date: 3/5/2024

Vendor/3rd Party: MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

Requesting Department: PARKS AND RECREATION

Submitted By: CURT TERHAAR

Agenda Item: CONTRACT FOR MDNR SUPPORT OF BASS RIVER TRAIL SEGMENT

Suggested Motion:

To approve the Cooperative Agreement with the Michigan Department of Natural Resources for funding assistance in the amount of \$715,000 for the development of the Idema Explorers Trail Bass River Segment Phase 1 and forward to the Board of Commissioners for final approval.

Summary of Request:

Discussions with the Michigan Department of Natural Resources for construction of the Idema Explorers Trail through the Bass River State Recreation Area involved negotiations in regard to trail location and funding. One result of these negotiations was the commitment from the State to assist with funding for a more expensive but less intrusive route through the property. Exact sources of all of this State funding have not been determined, but this agreement represents the third installment of this commitment and provides sufficient funds to complete the first phase (west) of the trail through State property. In 2023, the state DNR granted \$50,000 & \$75,000 through two separate agreements towards the Bass River segment of the Idema Explorers Trail.

Bass River Phase 1 (west)

Total Estimated Cost: \$1,632,096

Funding Sources:

MDNR: \$840,000

ARPA: \$535,000 (secured)

Greenway Fund (Parks Foundation): \$257,096 (secured)

Financial Information:

Total Cost: \$1,632,096.00

General Fund Cost: \$0.00

Included in Budget: Yes

If not included in Budget, recommended funding source:

Action is Related to an Activity Which Is: Non-Mandated

Action is Related to Strategic Plan:

Goal 2: To Contribute to the Long-Term Economic, Social and Environmental Health of the County.

Administration:

Recommended by County Administrator:

2/22/2024 2:28:13 PM

Committee/Governing/Advisory Board Approval Date: 3/5/2024



GRETCHEN WHITMER
GOVERNOR

STATE OF MICHIGAN
DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
LANSING



M. SCOTT BOWEN
DIRECTOR

Cooperative Agreement
Between
Michigan Department of Natural Resources
Parks and Recreation Division
and Ottawa County Parks and Recreation

I. PURPOSE

This Cooperative Agreement (CA) entered into this ____ Day of _____, 2024, between the State of Michigan by the Department of Natural Resources' Parks and Recreation Division (MDNR-PRD) and Ottawa County Parks and Recreation (County) for the purpose of granting funds to the County for the purpose of providing non-motorized trail development within, and connectivity to, the Bass River Recreation Area.

II. AGREEMENT

MDNR-PRD agrees to convey to the County the amount of Seven Hundred Fifteen Thousand Dollars and 00/100 (\$715,000.00). The County agrees, that in exchange for these funds, it will undertake the necessary development work for the Idema Explorers Trail, Grand River Greenway - Phase 1 construction from Riverside Park to Boat Launch Lot of an AASHTO paved linear trail through Bass River RA, as part of the greater county-wide Grand River Greenway in accordance with terms of Operating Agreement #PRD-T-002-2022.

Equal Opportunity and Access:

MDNR-PRD provides equal opportunities for employment and access to Michigan's natural resources. Both state and federal laws prohibit discrimination on the basis of race, color, national origin, religion, disability, age, sex, height, weight or marital status under the U.S. Civil Rights Acts of 1964 as amended, 1976 MI PA 453, 1976 MI PA 220, Title V of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 as amended, and the 1990 Americans with Disabilities Act, as amended.

The County and its members, employees and staff shall adhere to the same policy and not refuse such person(s) any accommodation to facilities, service or privilege offered to or enjoyed by the general public.

Addressing Issues and Concerns:

Any concerns or issues should first be discussed with the MDNR-PRD Representative, Jill Sell, at SellJ1@michigan.gov. If resolution cannot be found with the above identified MDNR Representative, then it should be elevated to the MDNR Resource Protection & Promotion Section Chief, Jason Fleming, at flemingj@michigan.gov or 517-930-6726 for final resolution.

INFORMATION RELEASE / OWNERSHIP

News Releases: News releases pertaining to this CA, data or the project to which it relates will not be made without prior written MDNR-PRD approval.

Publication: The County will not use, release, publish or present any analyses, findings, results, or techniques developed under this agreement, or any information derived therefrom until such analyses, findings, or techniques have been reported to the MDNR-PRD. No material may be published that is exempt from disclosure under Michigan Public Act No. 442 of 1976, known as the "Freedom of Information Act," without express permission from the MDNR.

Data Release: The County shall not make available for review and/or provide to any source outside of the scope of this agreement any information released by the MDNR-PRD.

Data Ownership: Any data provided by the MDNR-PRD for use under this CA will remain the sole property of the MDNR-PRD and must be returned upon the request of the MDNR-PRD.

Dissolution:

This CA may be terminated by any party upon notice to the other parties to this agreement. Such termination shall be effective 30 days after notice is received by the parties to the agreement., and any unencumbered funds shall be returned to the MDNR-PRD.

Assignment:

This CA may not be assigned to any other party without the prior written approval of the MDNR-PRD.

Revisions/Amendments to Agreement:

This CA may be changed, amended, modified, extended or assigned only by mutual consent of the parties, provided that consent shall be in writing and executed by the parties hereto prior to the time such change shall take effect.

Governing Law:

This CA is governed by, and construed in accordance with, the laws of the State of Michigan. Any dispute arising under this CA must be resolved in the Michigan Court of Claims.

IV. APPROVAL/SIGNATURES

This CA is effective upon execution by the Parties.

Ottawa County

By: _____
Date

**Michigan Department of Natural Resources
Parks and Recreation Division**

By: _____
Ronald A. Olson, Chief Date

Action Request

Electronic Submission – Resolution #: 2228



Committee: PLANNING AND POLICY

Meeting Date: 3/5/2024

Requesting Department: PARKS AND RECREATION

Submitted By: CURT TERHAAR

Agenda Item: 2024 MICHIGAN NATURAL RESOURCES TRUST FUND GRANT APPLICATION

Suggested Motion:

To recommend an application to the Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund (MNRTF) program for funding assistance to construct the Eastmanville Connector Segment of the Grand River Greenway Idema Explorers Trail and forward to the County Board of Commissioners for final approval.

Summary of Request:

Ottawa County Parks has been planning and developing portions of the Idema Explorers Trail for over a decade. The three-mile long Eastmanville Connector Segment is a critical segment for connecting growing areas of Allendale Township to the Grand River via Eastmanville Bayou Open Space and will include one mile along the river. The trail runs from the Eastmanville Bayou parking area east until it turns south along 61st Avenue right-of-way. It then heads east along Lincoln Street and then south along 60th Avenue until it meets existing sidewalk near Comfort Street. Parks millage funds (\$35,000) and private donations (\$1,100,200) would provide the bulk of the funds necessary for construction. The intent of this grant application is to use these existing funds as the required match for the MNRTF Trust program that would provide \$400,000 in additional grant funds to complete the estimated \$1,535,200 total project.

If successful, the grant would be applicable for the current project schedule for this segment which anticipates construction starting in late 2025.

Financial Information:

Total Cost: **N/A**

General Fund Cost: **N/A**

Included in Budget: **N/A**

If not included in Budget, recommended funding source:

N/A

Action is Related to an Activity Which Is: Non-Mandated

Action is Related to Strategic Plan:

Goal:

Goal 2: To Contribute to the Long-Term Economic, Social and Environmental Health of the County.

Administration:

Recommended by County Administrator:

2/29/2024 2:28:20 PM

Committee/Governing/Advisory Board Approval Date:

COUNTY OF OTTAWA

STATE OF MICHIGAN

RESOLUTION INDICATING INTENTION TO UNDERTAKE THE EASTMANVILLE
CONNECTOR SEGMENT DEVELOPMENT PROJECT IF GRANT AWARDED.

At a regular meeting of the Ottawa County Board of Commissioners of the County of Ottawa,
Michigan, held in the Ottawa County Fillmore Street Complex, West Olive, Michigan, in said
County on the 12th day of March, 2024 at 9:00 o'clock a.m. local time.

PRESENT:

ABSENT:

It was moved by Commissioner _____ and supported by Commissioner
_____ that the following Resolution be adopted:

WHEREAS, this proposed application is supported by the 2021 Ottawa County Parks,
Recreation and Open Space Plan, which identifies the need for expansion and improvement of
Ottawa County parks and recreation facilities; and

WHEREAS, the Parks and Recreation Commission has identified the Grand River Greenway
and the construction of a multi-use pathway (the Idema Explorers Trail) to connect Greenway
lands as a high priority initiative; and

WHEREAS, the Eastmanville Connector Segment Development Project is a key component of
the Idema Explorers Trail project and has been identified as a high priority for the 2025 fiscal
year; and

WHEREAS, the Eastmanville Connector Segment Development Project will provide important
natural resource- based recreation opportunities accessible to residents throughout Ottawa
County, and

WHEREAS, the County of Ottawa is hereby making a financial commitment to the project in
the amount of 76% local match (\$400,000 of the \$1,696,000 total project cost) matching funds,
in cash and/or force account; and

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Ottawa County Board of Commissioners authorizes submittal of the grant application for the Idema Explorers Trail Eastmanville Connector Development Project to the Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund and further resolves to make available its financial obligation amount of \$1,296,000 (76%) of a total \$1,696,000 project cost, during the 2025 fiscal year.

Adopted/Issued this date by the Ottawa County Board of Commissioners

YEAS:

NAYS:

ABSTENTIONS:

RESOLUTION ADOPTED.

Joe Moss
Chairperson, Ottawa County
Board of Commissioners

Justin F. Roebuck
Ottawa County Clerk/Register

CERTIFICATION

I, the undersigned, duly qualified Clerk of the County of Ottawa, Michigan, do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and complete copy of a Resolution adopted by the Board of Commissioners of the County of Ottawa, Michigan, at a meeting held on March 12, 2024 the original of which is on file in my office. Public Notice of said meeting was given pursuant to and in compliance with Act No. 267, Public Acts of Michigan, 1976, as amended.

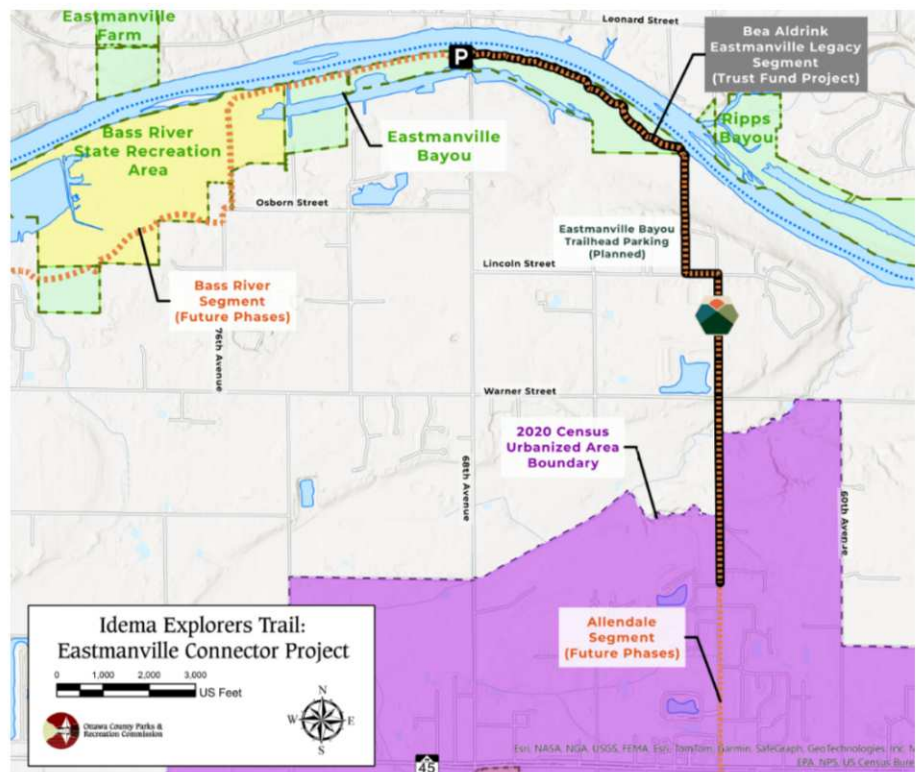
IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereto affixed my official signature this 12th day of March, A.D., 2024.



Project: Eastmanville Connector Segment (CP2210 to be named Bea Aldrink Eastmanville Legacy Segment)

- **Parks Initiative:** Grand River Greenway – Idema Explorers Trail
- **Parks Plan/Strategic Plan/Master Plan Reference (where applicable):** 2021 Parks Plan Pages 161-163; Appendix L-4 (Project D50)
- **Estimated Cost:** \$1,696,000
- **Proposed/Committed Funding:**
 - Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund (Proposed): \$400,000
 - Ottawa County Parks Millage (Committed): \$35,000
 - Ottawa County Parks Foundation – Grand River Greenway Fund (Committed): \$1,261,000
 - **Location:** Allendale Township, Ottawa County (Senate District 31, State House District 89)

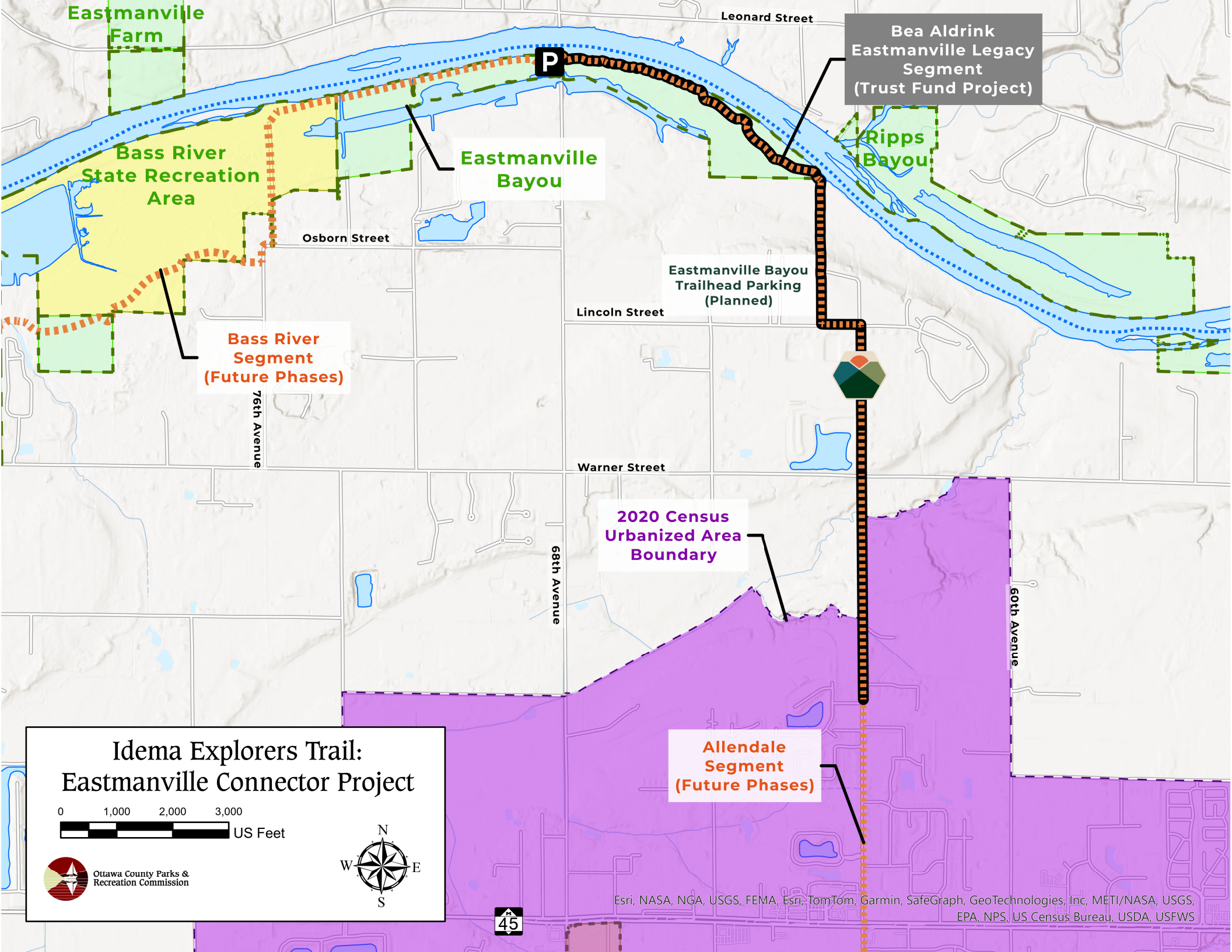
- **Summary:** This 3-mile segment will connect the neighborhoods of Allendale Township to the Grand River waterfront via Eastmanville Bayou Open Space. It will feature over a mile along a high bank adjacent to the Grand River and provide access to the eastern section of Eastmanville Bayou. This eastern area of the park is not readily accessible to the public and features a stand of rare Virginia Bluebells, which the trail route has been designed to preserve. It will also include an expanded underpass under the 68th Avenue bridge over the Grand River and a trailhead with rustic restrooms at Eastmanville Bayou.



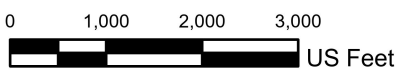
- **Status:** Tentatively Scheduled for Construction in FY 2025. 95% design completed.

Grand River Greenway Background Info:

The Grand River Greenway connects Lake Michigan to Millennium Park and Grand Rapids with a multi-use river and land trails on and along the Grand River through vast parks, deep woods, and hidden bayous. The heart of the Greenway is the Idema Explorers Trail, which is currently being developed. When connected, the 36.5-mile trail will offer endless opportunities to explore nature, community, and culture while also expanding access to over 100 miles of regional trails. (Located in US District 2, State Senate District 30, State House Districts 88 and 89)



Idema Explorers Trail: Eastmanville Connector Project



Esri, NASA, NGA, USGS, FEMA, Esri, TomTom, Garmin, SafeGraph, GeoTechnologies, Inc, METI/NASA, USGS, EPA, NPS, US Census Bureau, USDA, USFWS

Ottawa County Materials Management Plan (Part 115) Pros and Cons of Naming Ottawa County as the County Approval Agency (CAA) and Submitting the Notice of Intent

Pros:

1. **Local Control:** Ottawa County maintains local control over the management of solid waste, recycling, organics, and other related activities.
2. **Needs Identification:** Will help Ottawa County identify gaps and local needs for infrastructure and services to better serve community members.
3. **Funding:** To support our efforts and to supplement cost of the Sustainability Program's effort and staffing. May include hiring a consultant to assist in the development of plans.
 - Approximately \$210,000 per year for the initial 3 years (totaling \$630,000).
 - \$60,000 annually after the initial 3-year period.
4. **Partnerships:** Engages Municipal and County level partnership for achieving MMP goals and objectives.
5. **Educational Investment:** Increases investment in educational programming.
6. **Public/Private Sector Partnership:** Empowers both private and public sector leadership to work together and have a voice in the process.
7. **Increased Capacity:** Increases processing capacity for traditional recyclables through the establishment of new facilities.
8. **Improved Access:** Improves access to recycling services that businesses and residents may choose to participate in. This makes disposing of items easier for all.
9. **Organic Diversion:** Increases diversion of organic materials through composting or anaerobic digestion.
10. **Cost Efficiency:** Maintaining available capacity in local landfills can prevent the cost increases associated with developing new landfill capacity or shipping waste to distant locations for disposal. This strategy helps keep disposal costs lower for residents.
11. **Environmental Risk Mitigation:** Increasing the number of landfills and the volume of waste deposited can elevate the risk of future environmental issues in Ottawa County. By reducing the rate at which materials are buried, these initiatives aim to lessen such environmental risks.

Cons:

1. **Time Commitment:** The process spans a long 3-year commitment once started.
2. **Industry Pushback:** Possible pushback from haulers and landfill operators due to new regulations and reporting requirements. This could occur whether the MMP is developed by Ottawa County or EGLE. EGLE will write our plan for us if we elect to not be involved.
3. **Funding Sufficiency:** The more robust the program, the more funding it might require, potentially exceeding the initially allocated funds based on the plan's scope and needs. Ultimately, some of the funding will likely need to be addressed because landfill tipping fees have not been increased since creation in 1990.