



HOUSE of REPRESENTATIVES

STATE OF MICHIGAN

Appropriations Requests for Legislatively Directed Spending Items

1. The sponsoring representative's first name:
Carrie
2. The sponsoring representative's last name:
Rheingans
3. The cosponsoring representatives' names. All cosponsors must be listed. If none, please type 'n/a.' A signed letter from the sponsor approving the co-sponsorship and a signed letter from the member wishing to co-sponsor are required. Attach letters at question #9 below.
n/a
4. Name of the entity that the spending item is intended for:
Manchester Township
5. Physical address of the entity that the spending item is intended for:
275 S Macomb St, Manchester, MI 48158
6. If there is not a specific recipient, the intended location of the project or activity:
n/a
7. Name of the representative and the district number where the legislatively directed spending item is located:
Carrie Rheingans - District 47
8. Purpose of the legislatively directed spending item. Please include how it provides a public benefit and why it is an appropriate use of taxpayer funding. Please also demonstrate that the item does not violate Article IV, S 30 of the Michigan Constitution.
Watkins Lake State Park and County Preserve (WLP) is a 1,122 acre park and the first park in Michigan jointly operated by the MDNR and a County. One of the 10-year Action Goals identified in the joint General Management Plan for WLP, is to collaborate with partners to establish a non-motorized trail connection linking WLP to the Village of Brooklyn and the City of Manchester. This funding request would support the development of a continuous trail segment from Manchester to WLP—an essential first step in achieving the broader goal. The planned trail is expected to spur further trail

development in Jackson County, ultimately extending the network to the Village of Brooklyn. The current proposal is for a 1-mile trail segment that will complete the final gap in the trail.

The trail is expected to generate economic benefits by drawing more visitors to the City of Manchester and expand recreational access for both city and township residents. The proposed route will directly connect Carr Park, located within the city limits, to WLP. Additional city parks—Chi Bro Park, Riverside Park, and Wurster Park—are also located along the greater trail corridor, enhancing access to green space throughout the community. The County's Leonard Preserve lies just north of the proposed trail and could become part of a broader park and preserve network, potentially increasing its visitation. As part of the larger trail experience, users will have the opportunity to explore numerous high-quality natural areas and culturally significant sites, including the historic Oak Grove Cemetery. Also, WLP has been designated as a Network to Freedom site by the National Park Service. This special designation celebrates the role that the property and local people played in the underground railroad system that helped enslaved people escape to freedom.

Washtenaw County Parks recently completed a comprehensive survey of County residents, once again trails were listed as the highest priority and most popular recreational amenity desired by the community. Trails are not only used for recreation, but also for non-motorized transportation.

9. Attach documents here if needed:

Attachments added to the end of this file.

10. The amount of state funding requested for the legislatively directed spending item.

600000

11. Has the legislatively directed spending item previously received any of the following types of funding? Check all that apply.

["Local"]

12. Please select one of the following groups that describes the entity requesting the legislatively directed spending item:

Local unit government

13. For a non-profit organization, has the organization been operating within Michigan for the preceding 36 months?

Not applicable

14. For a non-profit organization, has the entity had a physical office within Michigan for the preceding 12 months?

Not applicable

15. For a non-profit organization, does the organization have a board of directors?

Not applicable

16. For a non-profit organization, list all the active members on the organization's board of directors and any other officers. If this question is not applicable, please type 'n/a.'

n/a

17. "I certify that neither the sponsoring representative nor the sponsoring representative's staff or immediate family has a direct or indirect pecuniary interest in the legislatively directed spending item."

Yes, this is correct

18. Anticipated start and end dates for the legislatively directed spending item:

Start date of spending - July 2025, End date of spending - on or before December 2027

19. "I hereby certify that all information provided in this request is true and accurate."

Yes