



HOUSE of REPRESENTATIVES

STATE OF MICHIGAN

Appropriations Requests for Legislatively Directed Spending Items

1. The sponsoring representative's first name:
Denise
2. The sponsoring representative's last name:
Mentzer
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:
City of Sterling Heights
5. Physical address of the entity that the spending item is intended for:
40555 Utica Road, Sterling Heights, MI 48313
6. If there is not a specific recipient, the intended location of the project or activity:
Red Run Park and Iron Belle Connector
7. Name of the representative and the district number where the legislatively directed spending item is located:
Denise Mentzer HD61
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.
The City of Sterling Heights Pathway to Play and Preservation Initiative seeks to develop a vacant City owned 14.9 acre parcel into an open green space. It will connect with the Iron Belle Trail and Baumgartner Park via a pedestrian bridge. This will create a full-service recreational outdoor space for residents. It will include a dog park, pickleball courts, restroom facility, two picnic shelters and much more. Immigration policy language is attached.

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.

1500000

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

["None"]

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:

November 2025 through November 2026

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

Yes



Red Run Bridge

Funding Request

\$1,500,000

A component of the City of Sterling Heights Pathway to Play and Preservation initiative (PPP), the development of Red Run Park seeks to add new recreation amenities in the southeast portion of the City. To enhance regional connectivity, the City intends to connect the park with a new trail section of the Iron Belle Trail that will be constructed on the other side of Red Run Drain. The bridge crossing is a key component to making this vision reality.



Red Run Park

Currently a vacant, city-owned 14.9-acre parcel, development is critical as the southeast quadrant of Sterling Heights lacks open park space. The park will intersect with the proposed Iron Belle Trail and connect to L.W. Baumgartner Park via a pedestrian bridge. This will create a full-service recreational outdoor space for area residents. Planned improvements and amenities include:

- Dog park
- Outdoor pickleball courts
- An internal asphalt path for hikers and bikers
- Restroom facility
- Two picnic shelters
- A nature observation deck over the Red Run Drain

Iron Belle Trail Connector

The City wishes to connect a current gap along the Iron Belle Trail (IBT) that travels through Sterling Heights along an ITC easement in the southern part of the City. This trail alignment is being evaluated as an alternative to the proposed IBT route along Schoenherr Road, a five-lane principal arterial road.

The proposed greenway would be more consistent with the remainder of the IBT trails in the City, which run primarily along the Clinton River greenway, as well as complete the IBT through the City of Sterling Heights. The City has previously worked with ITC to plan and construct trails along ITC easements in the northern part of the City.



CITY OF Sterling Heights
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