



HOUSE of REPRESENTATIVES

STATE OF MICHIGAN

Appropriations Requests for Legislatively Directed Spending Items

1. The sponsoring representative's first name:
Jennifer
2. The sponsoring representative's last name:
Wortz
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:
County of Hillsdale
5. Physical address of the entity that the spending item is intended for:
29 N. Howell St. Hillsdale, MI 49242
6. If there is not a specific recipient, the intended location of the project or activity:
HILLSDALE COUNTY LEWIS EMERY PARK 2111 STATE RD. HILLSDALE MI 49242
7. Name of the representative and the district number where the legislatively directed spending item is located:
Jennifer Wortz 35th District
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. On September 6, 1961, the State of Michigan Department of Conservation conveyed property in Hillsdale County Michigan to the County of Hillsdale for use for public purposes. That property conveyed is not title Lewis Emery Park. This property was used for multiple historic events that have been documented, and the property had a historical marker erected in 2017 by the Michigan Historical Commission. The history of the property stretches back to 1862 when the Eighteenth Michigan Infantry Regiment erected Camp Woodbury on the property for their training in July and August of that year prior to their mustering into service on August 26, 1862. This regiment was

formed from volunteers from Hillsdale, Lenawee and Monroe Counties for service to the Republic.

In 1930 the Michigan Conservation Department along with others, established a pond on the property of the raising of fish for conservation activities. In 1931 the Civil Works Administration dug five additional ponds on the property and these ponds were used for rearing bluegill and bass by the Conservation Department. After ceasing this raising of fish, the property was transferred to the County.

Hillsdale County needs financial assistance to preserve the property for the future and to continue to commemorate the past uses of the property. This property is in need of funding for multiple repairs. The ponds that were dug in 1930 and 1931 which were used for rearing of fish that were then used to stock lakes and streams across Michigan are in dire need of dredging to continue to be used for recreational fishing for local citizens and Hillsdale County youth. The park is also home to a community center that was built in 1994-95 from a grant received from the Department of Natural Resources that is now in need of repairs and updates as the parking lot and roof of this building need to be replaced. Finally, many of the roads within the park need to be repaved.

In 1994 the Park was awarded a USDA grant for construction of a playground, and ballfield at the park. There is a recommendation from the Natural Resources Trust Fund to fund a grant application that was submitted in 2024 for updates to docks on the lakes to make them ADA compliant as well as work on trails within the park to bring them up to ADA standards. The grant funding recommended is for \$255,500 and is awaiting action by the Michigan Legislature. The County will contribute an additional \$89,770 for this grant project. The breakdown of the funding request is as follows; Pond Dredging \$1,500,000, Community Center roof \$50,000, Community Center parking lot \$70,000, and park roads \$180,000.

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.

1800000

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

["Federal"]

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:

April 1, 2026 - August 31, 2026

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

Yes



NO PHOTO AVAILABLE

Front - Title/Description

Camp Woodbury

On July 2, 1862, President Abraham Lincoln issued a call for troops for the Union Army. Men from Monroe, Hillsdale and Lenawee counties met in Hillsdale to form the Eighteenth Michigan Infantry Regiment. Local mill owner Lewis Emery volunteered this land for the regiment's use. Near here they created Camp Woodbury, named for Colonel Dwight Woodbury from Adrian. The men trained at Camp Woodbury from July to August. The regiment was mustered into service on August 26, 1862, under the command of Colonel Charles Doolittle.

Significant Date:

Civil War and After (1860-1875)

Registry Year: 2017 ***Erected Date:*** 2017

Marker Location

Address: 2020 State Road

City: Hillsdale

State: MI ***ZipCode:*** 49242

County: Hillsdale

Township:

Lat: 41.92644900 / ***Long:*** -84.60901300

Web URL:

Back - Title/Description

Lewis Emery Park

In 1930 the Hillsdale chapter of the Izaak Walton League partnered with the Michigan Conservation Department to establish a pond here to raise fish for sport fishing and conservation. It yielded more than 472,000 bluegills in its first year. Over the next few years, laborers employed by the federal relief Civil Works Administration dug five more ponds which were used to raise bluegill and bass. After the state stopped using the ponds in the early 1960s, the land was deeded to Hillsdale County and renamed Lewis Emery Park.