



HOUSE of REPRESENTATIVES

STATE OF MICHIGAN

Appropriations Requests for Legislatively Directed Spending Items

1. The sponsoring representative's first name:
Amos
2. The sponsoring representative's last name:
O'Neal
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:
Bridgeport Conservation Club
5. Physical address of the entity that the spending item is intended for:
3265 Roselle Drive Saginaw, MI, 48601
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:
Amos O'Neal, District 94
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. Funding assistance to complete the construction of a training Center and indoor range within our facilities. The club is dedicated to promoting and teaching safe, firearm ownership, marksmanship skills, and camaraderie among shooting enthusiasts of all ages. This new indoor center will allow us to include training on the new high-demand non-lethal products. Bridgeport Conservation Club, founded in 1950 by twenty passionate sportsmen has been serving the local community for nearly 75 years, providing a safe and welcoming environment for individuals interested in shooting sports

. Located on 54 acres near Bridgeport Michigan, we are dedicated to the conservation of wildlife and natural resources. We take an interest in our young people to ensure proper attitude in firearm and conservation and open our club to local Community Schools, Non-Profit Agencies, and Boy Scouts for their events. : The proposed training center and indoor range will cater to various shooting disciplines, including pistol, rifle, and shotgun. It will feature state-of-the-art ventilation systems, soundproofing measures, and safety protocols to ensure the highest standards of safety for our members and visitors. The indoor range will accommodate shooters of all skill levels, from beginners to seasoned marksmen, providing a space for training, practice, and competitions. The overall planning for the Training Center and Indoor Range began nearly 6 years ago with careful thought regarding club expansion and stability over the course of construction. Three specific stages were determined: 1) Foundation and Building Structure; 2) indoor framing, plumbing, and electrical; and 3) Interior design, final finish work, and shooting range installation. Once final approval was made by City of Bridgeport MI, construction was initiated on stage 1.

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.

425000

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:

Non-profit organization

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

Yes

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

Yes

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

Yes

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.'

BCC Officers President – Joann Smith Secretary – Hazel White Vice President – Jeff Gorton Treasurer – John Danks BCC Board Of Directors Rob Reinert Art Turner Tim Lefevre Tom Brush Mike Kusowski Jim Temple Charles Monten C.J. Norris Stephanie Curtis Henry Reyna

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:

2025

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

Yes

Our organization is seeking funding assistance to complete the construction of a training Center and indoor range within our facilities. The club is dedicated to promoting and teaching safe, firearm ownership, marksmanship skills, and camaraderie among shooting enthusiasts of all ages. This new indoor center will allow us to include training on the new high-demand non-lethal products.

Introduction: Bridgeport Conservation Club, founded in 1950 by twenty passionate sportsmen has been serving the local community for nearly 75 years, providing a safe and welcoming environment for individuals interested in shooting sports . Located on 54 acres near Bridgeport Michigan, we are dedicated to the conservation of wildlife and natural resources. We take an interest in our young people to ensure proper attitude in firearm and conservation and open our club to local Community Schools, Non-Profit Agencies, and Boy Scouts for their events.

Our facilities and outdoor ranges are open to Saginaw Veterans Hospital for the disabled Veterans' enjoyment in addition to local law enforcement for their training. With an increasing demand for larger indoor training areas and indoor shooting facilities our club has the desire to enhance our offerings to our community, we embarked on a project to construct a training center and indoor range.

Project Overview: The proposed training center and indoor range will cater to various shooting disciplines, including pistol, rifle, and shotgun. It will feature state-of-the-art ventilation systems, soundproofing measures, and safety protocols to ensure the highest standards of safety for our members and visitors. The indoor range will accommodate shooters of all skill levels, from beginners to seasoned marksmen, providing a space for training, practice, and competitions.

The overall planning for the Training Center and Indoor Range began nearly 6 years ago with careful thought regarding club expansion and stability over the course of construction. Three specific stages were determined: 1) Foundation and Building Structure; 2) indoor framing, plumbing, and electrical; and 3) Interior design, final finish work, and shooting range installation. Once final approval was made by City of Bridgeport MI, construction was initiated on stage 1.

Funding Request: We are seeking \$425,000 in funding to assist with the completion of stages 2 and 3 of the training center and indoor range project. Stage 1 was initiated just before the pandemic and is currently complete (\$160,000). The estimated costs of supplies and construction significantly increased due to unforeseen changes in the economy. This funding will be utilized for:

- 1. Construction Materials:** Procurement of building materials, including bullet-resistant walls, windows, doors, insulation materials, plumbing, flooring, and ceiling materials.
- 2. Equipment:** Installation of shooting stalls, target retrieval systems, bullet traps, and safety barriers.
- 3. Safety Measures:** Implementation of ventilation systems, soundproofing measures, and safety signage.
- 4. Compliance:** Ensuring compliance with local regulations and obtaining necessary permits and certifications.

Benefits to the Community: Bridgeport Conservation Club offers multifaceted benefits to our community, particularly with close ties to law enforcement, non-profit agencies, community events, an open-door range policy, and youth scholarship opportunities. Here's how:

- 1. Community Safety and Engagement:** With connections to law enforcement, Bridgeport Conservation Club can facilitate partnerships and initiatives aimed at enhancing community safety. By promoting responsible firearm ownership and offering training programs, the club contributes to a safer environment. Additionally, through community events, such as safety seminars and outreach programs, the club fosters positive relationships between law enforcement and residents, leading to improved trust and collaboration.
- 2. Community Events and Outreach:** Bridgeport Conservation Club serves as a hub for various community events, such as marksmanship competitions, charity fundraisers, and educational workshops. These events not only promote camaraderie among club members but also attract individuals from the broader community, fostering social connections and community cohesion.
- 3. Open-Door Range Policy:** An open-door range policy demonstrates the club's commitment to inclusivity and accessibility. It allows individuals from diverse backgrounds and skill levels to participate in shooting activities, regardless of membership status. This policy promotes a welcoming and inclusive atmosphere, encouraging community members to explore shooting sports in a safe and supportive environment.
- 4. Youth Scholarships:** By offering youth scholarships, the club invests in the development of future leaders and responsible citizens. These scholarships provide financial assistance for educational pursuits, marksmanship training, and participation in shooting competitions. By empowering young individuals

with skills, discipline, and opportunities for personal growth, the club contributes to the overall well-being and success of the community.

5. **Indoor Range Enhancement:** The addition of an indoor range significantly enhances the club's services and benefits to the community in several ways:
 - a. **Year-Round Accessibility:** Unlike outdoor ranges, an indoor facility offers year-round access to shooting activities, regardless of weather conditions or daylight hours. This ensures consistent opportunities for training, practice, and competition, benefiting both experienced shooters and beginners.
 - b. **Enhanced Safety and Comfort:** Indoor ranges provide controlled environments with advanced ventilation systems, soundproofing, and safety features. This ensures a safe and comfortable shooting experience for participants, minimizing exposure to noise, weather elements, and environmental hazards.
 - c. **Expanded Programming:** With an indoor range, the club can expand its programming to include a wider range of shooting disciplines, such as Archery, CO2 pistol, small caliber rifle, and shotgun. This allows for more diverse training opportunities and competitions, catering to the interests and preferences of a broader audience.
 - d. **Training and Education:** The indoor range serves as an ideal venue for marksmanship training, safety courses, and educational workshops. It provides a dedicated space for instructors to deliver comprehensive instruction and hands-on demonstrations, promoting responsible firearm handling and skill development among participants of all ages.

Conclusion: Bridgeport Conservation Club By providing accessible resources, training opportunities, and social activities, the club plays a vital role in fostering a strong and resilient community. The club is committed to promoting responsible firearm ownership and safe shooting practices within our community through our connections to law enforcement and local non-profit agencies, inclusive policies, youth scholarships, and an outdoor range that not only enhances the shooting sports experience but also contribute to community safety, engagement, and empowerment. The completion of the indoor training center and indoor range will further our mission and provide a valuable resource for enthusiasts of all ages and backgrounds.