

# HOUSE of REPRESENTATIVES

## STATE OF MICHIGAN

### Appropriations Requests for Legislatively Directed Spending Items

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1. The sponsoring representative's first name:  
Greg
2. The sponsoring representative's last name:  
Alexander
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:  
The Sanilac County Community Foundation
5. Physical address of the entity that the spending item is intended for:  
138 Maple Valley St, Suite B, Sandusky, MI 48471
6. If there is not a specific recipient, the intended location of the project or activity:  
Patrick Tierney Park
7. Name of the representative and the district number where the legislatively directed spending item is located:  
Greg Alexander | District 98
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 Tierney Park Conservancy is seeking funding to assist the Village of Lexington with the completion of a major renovation of Patrick Tierney Park, its primary public gathering space. The Park's renovation is being undertaken by the Village in connection with the overhaul of the adjacent Lexington State Harbor, a project that is being overseen by the Michigan Department of Natural Resources, and the US Army Corp of Engineers. This \$16 million effort involves the complete replacement of the current marina docks and infrastructure as well as substantial renovation of the break-water structure which

maintains the Lexington Harbor. As part of the uplands portion of this project, the Village is undertaking a complete redesign of Tierney Park to improve pedestrian access to and along the waterfront, enhance green space and improve public enjoyment of the park. The centerpiece of this redesign, as depicted on the attached plan, is the creation of a new elliptical central gathering space and the construction at the northern end of a new pavilion structure and restroom facilities. The pavilion will be used for musical performances and other public gatherings at Tierney Park, and replaces a current structure which is in need of substantial repair and in its current location blocks access and visibility to the lake and lacks ADA accessibility.

The total budget for all upland improvements inclusive of site-prep, earthwork, hardscape, landscaping, utilities, lighting, and the Pavilion is \$4,500,000. The Village has secured \$2,500,000 toward this total scope, which leaves it without funds to proceed with construction of the Pavilion and related restroom structure. The requested grant of \$2 million by the Conservancy would close all remaining gaps and allow the project to proceed as described above.

These funds would allow the Village, in collaboration with the Conservancy, to proceed with the full renovation of Tierney Park at the same time as renovations to the Marina are being undertaken. While the marina work is fully funded through the MDNR, the park plan as designed needs additional funding to proceed. This grant would allow the public space plan to proceed at the same pace as the marina work. This in turn would ensure that the marina, which is largely used for transient boaters, has the intended benefits to the community, by providing a first-rate venue of the Village's music program and other seasonal programming, which serves the entire region. Further, the redesigned park will enhance the connection between the marina and the Village's business district, creating greater economic impact for the Village.

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.

2000000

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.'

Lyn Mossett – Co-Chair, Bill Sarkella – Co-Chair, Paul Cowley – Vice Chair, Jennifer Kursinsky – Treasurer, Susan Dreyer – Secretary, Joshua Robinson – Executive Director

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."

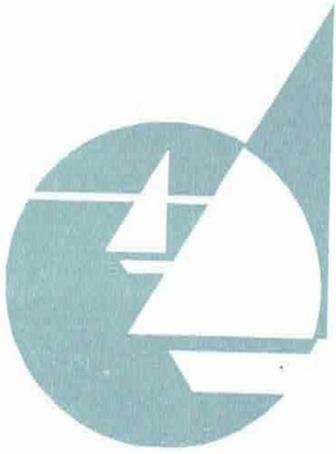
Yes, this is correct

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

Start - October 1st 2025 | End - October 1st 2026

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

Yes



## VILLAGE OF LEXINGTON

7227 HURON AVENUE, SUITE 100  
LEXINGTON, MICHIGAN 48450  
810-359-8631  
FAX: 810-359-5622

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing this letter on behalf of the Village of Lexington to express its support for a state grant relating to planned renovations and improvements at Patrick Tierney Park. This transformational project will bring much needed improvements to the Village's primary public gathering space. The Park's renovation is being undertaken by the Village in connection with the overhaul of the adjacent Lexington State Harbor, a project that is being overseen by the Michigan Department of Natural Resources, and the US Army Corp of Engineers. As part of the uplands portion of this project, the Village is undertaking a complete redesign of Tierney Park to improve pedestrian access to and along the waterfront, enhance green space and improve public enjoyment of the park. The centerpiece of this redesign, as depicted on the attached plan, is the creation of a new elliptical central gathering space and the construction at the northern end of a new pavilion structure and restroom facilities. The pavilion will be used for musical performances and other public gatherings at Tierney Park, and replaces a current structure which is in need of substantial repair and in its current location blocks access and visibility to the lake and lacks ADA accessibility.

While the marina portion of the project is fully funded, additional support is needed to proceed with the full renovation of Tierney Park at the same time as renovations to the Marina are being undertaken. This in turn would ensure that the marina, which is largely used for transient boaters, has the intended benefits to the community, by providing a first-rate venue of the Village's music program and other seasonal programming, which serves the entire region. Further, the redesigned park will enhance the connection between the marina and the Village's business district, creating greater economic impact for the Village.

The Village greatly appreciates the potential of additional state support for our efforts, and believes such support will provide substantial public benefit to our community.

Regards

Kristen Kaatz  
Village of Lexington  
Council President

**The Village of Lexington Common Council held a Special Council Meeting Friday, March 14, 2025  
in the Village Council Chambers, 7227 Huron Avenue, Lexington, MI 48450**

**Call to Order Special Council Meeting at:** 9:00 a.m. by President Kristen Kaatz

**Pledge of Allegiance** led by President Kristen Kaatz

**Roll call taken by** Clerk Vicki Scott

**Present:** Ehardt, Muoio, Dost, DeCoster, Kaatz

**Absent:** Adams, Cole

**Others present:** L. Fisher, S. Fox, D. Dirita

**PUBLIC COMMENT** – None

**BUSINESS**

**ADMINISTRATION**

**A. DISCUSS PROVIDING A LETTER OF SUPPORT TO SEEK POTENTIAL, ADDITIONAL GRANT FUNDING FROM THE STATE OF MICHIGAN FOR IMPROVEMENTS TO TIERNEY PARK –**

Discussion: Board members discuss the importance of seeking additional funds for improvements to Tierney Park in coordination with the Master Plan.

Motion by Ehardt, seconded by Muoio, to authorize a letter of support for the community foundation and the Tierney Park Conservancy in support of their efforts to seek funds for the benefit of Tierney Park.

Ayes – Ehardt, Muoio, Dost, DeCoster, Kaatz

Nays – None

Motion carried

**PUBLIC COMMENT** – None

**ADJOURNMENT** – Kaatz adjourned the meeting 9:41 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted

Vicki Scott

I, Vicki Scott, (Village Clerk), do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and original copy of the draft minutes of the Village of Lexington Village Council at a regular meeting held on the 14<sup>th</sup> day of March, 2025.

Clerk: Vicki A. Scott

Dated: 3.14.25

