

# 2018 Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund Recommendations

## 2018 Development Project Recommendations

### Central Michigan

#### **Genesee County – Flint River Scenic Overlook Picnic Area - \$296,000**

*Development to improve and renovate the Archimedes Screw Block of Riverbank Park, an urban park that will serve the needs of Flint's residents and visitors by enhancing recreational access to the Iron-Belle Trail, improving lighting and railings, creating a riparian habitat, and safe recreational access to the Flint River. Work consists of creating a scenic overlook of the river, complete with an accessible river outlook, an accessible kayak ramp, and a universally accessible picnic table. In addition, the project will soften the river's edge with a beach area and riparian habitat.*

#### **Genesee County – Iron Belle Trail Improvements at Vietnam Veterans Park - \$296,000**

*Development to improve and renovate Vietnam Veterans Park, an urban park that will serve the needs of Flint's residents and visitors by enabling recreational access on the Iron-Belle Trail, creating a riparian habitat and safe recreational access to the Flint River. Work consists of repaving a 43-year-old section of the Iron Belle Trail, which is in poor condition and not up to current day standards. In addition, the project will add ADA access and improve the boat launch and dock. Finally, adding handicap parking spaces near the boat launch as well as planting native vegetation in the riparian zone along the river.*

#### **Genesee County – Iron Belle Trail - Richfield County Park - \$300,000**

*Development of a 1.36-mile section of the Iron Belle Trail in Genesee County from its current end point at Irish Road, south of the Flint River, going east along the Flint River, through Richfield County Park. This section of the trail will provide non-motorized access to the outdoor recreation opportunities provided by the park's facilities, including unlimited shorefishing, playscapes, a popular canoe/kayak launch and restrooms.*

#### **Genesee County – Argentine Township, Argentine/LAFF Multi-Use Trail - \$300,000**

*Development of a 2.1-mile trail system to improve safety and accessibility for all citizens and visitors to the community. This project is the first phase of the 16-mile Linden, Argentine Township, Fenton and Fenton Township (LAFF) regional trail system which begins in Southern Genesee County and connects to Southern Oakland County at Seven Lakes State Park. The trail will promote tourism, exercise, and outdoor recreation to all surrounding communities.*

#### **Genesee County – Mundy Charter Township, Hill Road Recreational Park Project - \$283,000**

*Development of a paved walking path and park amenities within Mundy Township's Hill Road Recreational Park.*

**Ingham County – Lake Lansing Park South Improvements - \$300,000**

*Development to replace the dock on Lake Lansing at one of the county's most popular parks. The improvements will benefit people of all abilities for fishing, viewing and boating. The project will also include new walkways, interpretative signage, lighting, and benches.*

**Ingham County – City of East Lansing, Bailey Park Improvements - \$219,000**

*Development to renovate Bailey Community Park and improve accessibility, increase recreational offerings and replace obsolete park features. Under this project, the 5-12-year-old children's playground will be resurfaced to meet playground safety standards and a new play structure will be provided for children 2-5 years of age. The park will be beautified with landscape gardens that demonstrate the use of native, pollinator friendly plants in the suburban environment. New shade trees will be provided throughout the park and a paved plaza with a shade structure will provide a social gathering space for park users. A walking path, bicycle loops, drinking fountain, and fencing will be installed as well.*

**Ingham County – City of Lansing, Cambridge to Frances Park River Trail Connection - \$300,000**

*Development of a connection from Cambridge Road to the Frances Park River Trail. With the increasing interest in biking, hiking, canoeing and kayaking supported by the River Trail along the Grand River, this project will help the city to better meet these needs by providing better connectivity. The larger plan calls for installing the pathway connection along Moores River Drive. The completion of this connection will provide more access to the River Trail, Frances Overlook, and the Waverly Road Path, which leads to the newly constructed River Trail South Extension.*

**Ingham County – Lansing Township, Gould Park Redevelopment - \$26,800**

*Development to include the construction of an asphalt driveway with the addition of parking spaces, one of which will be ADA-accessible, access pathways between all of the park amenities, expansion and/or rehabilitation of the park's playground equipment, resurfacing of the basketball court, and the addition of educational materials focused on the importance of our groundwater.*

**Greater Tri-Cities / Thumb**

**Saginaw County – Kochville Township, Kochville Township Trail Extension - \$300,000**

*Development of a 2.1-mile non-motorized trail that will extend the existing Great Lakes Bay Regional Trail (GLBRT) from Kochville Township westward to Tittabawassee Township.*

**Saginaw County – Tittabawassee Township, Freeland-Kochville Path Extension - \$300,000**

*Development of a 2.69-mile multi-use path that is part of the Great Lakes Bay Regional Trail system. It will extend the existing Freeland Path eastwardly from the Sports Zone to connect with the proposed Kochville Township Path at Hospital Road.*

## **Northern Michigan**

### **Emmett County – City of Petoskey, Iron Belle Trail Bear River Bridge - \$83,000**

*Development of a pedestrian bridge for the North Country Trail/Iron Belle Trail connecting the trail through North Central Michigan College across the Bear River to the City of Petoskey's River Road Sports Complex.*

### **Emmett County – DNR, Iron Belle Trail - Carp River Bridge Replacement - \$140,000**

*Development to replace the Carp River bridge on the Iron Belle Trail, which is also part of the North Country National Scenic Trail. The Iron Belle Trail is a hiking trail that runs from Detroit to Ironwood. The existing trail runs through existing state forest property located just south of Mackinaw City in Emmet County. This project will replace the existing bridge with one possessing the structural integrity needed to ensure the safety of trail users. The bridge will be designed to meet all current state and federal standards.*

## **Southeastern Michigan**

### **Macomb County – Harrison Township, Waterfront Park Shoreline Improvements - \$156,000**

*Development to improve Waterfront Park, located along Jefferson Avenue with frontage on Lake St. Clair. The project will include the removal of the existing seawall, to be replaced with a stone breakwater and marsh. Other park amenities will include a kayak launch, boardwalk, sidewalk, trees, shoreline plantings, site furnishings and educational exhibits.*

### **Oakland County – Commerce Township, Scarlet's Playground at Dodge Park #5 - \$195,000**

*The Scarlet's Playground Project will build a 16,000-square-foot all-inclusive playground in Commerce Township's Dodge Park #5 where all children, regardless of their ability, can play together. Scarlet's Playground will be the largest outdoor all-inclusive, universally designed playground in Michigan to provide accessibility for children and adults of all abilities in an environment of equality. The playground will include swings, teeter totters, sensory equipment, climbing structures, slides, play decks and more, all situated under sun-shaded canopies.*

### **Oakland County – Oakland Charter Township, Paint Creek Junction Park Northern Trailhead Development - \$228,400**

*Development of the Northern Trailhead for the Paint Creek Trail in Oakland Township will provide a new access point, parking and rest facilities for trail users including pedestrians, cyclists, skiers, and equestrians. The Paint Creek Trail is part of the statewide Iron Belle Trail system. This project will include a 35-space parking lot, 12' wide access pathway to the main trail, two unisex universal-access vault toilets and an accessible well for potable water. Other improvements include a picnic area, native plantings and signage. The parking area will also accommodate horse trailers.*

**Oakland County – Orion Charter Township, East Clarkston Road Pathway - M-24 to Paint Creek - \$300,000**

*Development of approximately 1 mile of trail along the south side of East Clarkston Rd from M-24 (Lapeer Road) to connect to the Paint Creek Trail near Kern Rd. This project will fill a critical gap in the Iron Belle Trail route, to connect the Polly Ann Trail with the Paint Creek Trail. The ten-foot-wide pathway will include sections of fourteen-foot-wide boardwalk over wetlands and will meander through forested DNR property before finally crossing over the Paint Creek to connect to the Paint Creek Trail. The project is also supported by a Transportation Alternatives Program Grant through the Michigan Department of Transportation.*

**St. Clair County – City of Port Huron, Palmer Park Inclusive Playground - \$50,000**

*Development project at Palmer Park to create an accessible walkway, paved ADA parking, unique universal access (UA) play equipment, sensory boards, UA benches and native plantings. The project will be first of its type in Port Huron and will compliment a current project underway that is creating a tike track, UA playhouses and nature play area for kids.*

**Wayne County – Venoy Dorsey Park Canoe and Kayak Launch Development - \$300,000**

*Development project at Wayne County's Venoy Dorsey Park in the City of Wayne to add two canoe/kayak launches and associated parking and amenities to both ends of the park on the Rouge River. One launch will be at the west end of the park near Venoy Road and the other at the east end, off of Merriman Road. The two launches will provide a mile of accessible water trail for everyone to enjoy. The Rouge River Water Trail is part of a 27-mile route which will travel through ten communities in Wayne County.*

**Wayne County – City of Detroit, Romanowski Park Renovation - \$300,000**

*Development project to renovate Detroit's Romanowski Park. The project includes a 2/3-mile ADA-compliant walking path around the perimeter of the park. A new play structure will also be installed along with new park amenities such as accessible tables and benches installed throughout the park. Three existing basketball courts will be renovated and the existing tennis courts will be converted into futsal and pickleball courts.*

**Wayne County – DNR, Belle Isle Park - Picnic Shelter Replacement - \$300,000**

*Development funding for the replacement of shelters 19 and 20 at Belle Isle Park in order to improve accessibility, safety and the quality of the recreation experience. Both shelters are located adjacent to a popular shoreline fishing area which is currently being renovated. The shelters are over 30-years-old and have reached the end of their useful life. The project will also include parking lot accessibility improvements, picnic tables, grills and routes from the parking areas.*

**Wayne County – Van Buren Charter Township, Iron Belle Trail - Belleville to Heritage Park - \$300,000**

*Development of a half-mile of the Iron Belle Trail in Van Buren Charter Township. The ten-foot-wide trail will begin at Edgemont Street in the City of Belleville and travel east along Huron River Drive to Martinsville Road which connects to Riggs Heritage Park. This park will serve as a trailhead for the Iron Belle Trail. The project will include tree planting along the trail.*

## **Upper Peninsula**

### **Baraga County – Point Abbaye Natural Area Pathway & Picnic Improvements - \$49,500**

*Development project at Baraga County's Point Abbaye Natural Area to create a barrier-free pathway from the existing parking area out to the point. Point Abbaye is a remote and rocky peninsula situated between Lake Superior and Keweenaw Bay. The project will develop four new picnic sites with tables and grills along the pathway. The site also features accessible and primitive tent camping opportunities.*

### **Delta County – Rapid River Falls ORV/ATV Campground - \$85,000**

*Development of a 25-site semi-modern campground focused on serving ORV and ATV enthusiasts at Delta County's Rapid River Falls Park. The park will feature a beginner loop for families with youth that are just starting out in the sport. This ORV/ATV campground will be the first of its kind in the Upper Peninsula, attracting riders from throughout Michigan and beyond. This campground will act as a trailhead for regional DNR trail routes with connectivity to miles of riding opportunities across the U.P. The park also features a day-use picnic area overlooking scenic Rapid River Falls.*

### **Delta County – City of Escanaba, North City Limits Non-Motorized Pathway - \$300,000**

*Development project in the City of Escanaba to construct a non-motorized pathway along US-2 at the north end of town which will help connect Escanaba to the adjacent communities of Wells, Escanaba Township and the City of Gladstone. The North City Limits Pathway will also connect Bay College, MTech Center, Bayside Soccer, Hannahville Ice and Turf Complex, U.P. State Fairgrounds and numerous businesses. The North City Limits Pathway will enable pedestrians to safely traverse the city. The project is also supported by a Transportation Alternatives Program Grant through the Michigan Department of Transportation.*

### **Delta County – DNR, Fayette Historic State Park - Visitor Center Accessibility - \$50,000**

*The A. Gene Gazlay Visitor Center at Fayette Historic State Park is popular for park visitors that come for the Fayette historic townsite. The visitor center provides interpretation and tells the story of the abandoned iron smelting town. The visitor center is accessed by an existing concrete pathway from the parking lot, which has exceeded its useful life and is in need of ADA-compliant accessibility enhancements. This project will replace the existing pathway, install an accessible ramp and striping at the parking lot and also improve the landing immediately adjacent to the visitor center entrance to eliminate existing trip hazards.*

### **Gogebic County – Bessemer to Ramsay Iron Belle Trail Project - \$299,900**

*Development of a three-mile long 10-foot-wide paved recreational trail from Bessemer to Ramsay in Gogebic County as part of the Iron Belle Trail. The trail will be located primarily on an existing railroad grade as well as an abandoned roadway and through a wooded property. This trail project will extend a previously constructed 6.7-mile segment from the western terminus in Ironwood to Bessemer. The bike trail will link Ramsay to Bessemer, Ironwood, and Hurley to the west which will increase the region's tourism attraction due to the additional recreational opportunities. The project is also supported by a Transportation Alternatives Program grant from the Michigan Department of Transportation.*

**Gogebic County – City of Ironwood, Miners Memorial Heritage Park Mountain Bike Trail System - \$280,000**

*Development of a new mountain biking trail system in Ironwood's Miners Memorial Heritage Park. The 167-acre park, located in the center of the city, was once the location of numerous historical mining operations. The new network of mountain biking trails will provide opportunities for cyclists of all levels - from beginner to advanced. The project will include development of several trailheads around the park as well as a link and trailhead on the Iron Belle Trail north of the site. The park also features a network of walking, cross-country and snowshoe trails and hosts community activities such as the Candle Light Snowshoe Hike and the SISU Skifest, a popular cross-country ski race in Ironwood.*

**Iron County – Bates Township, Paint River Access Site Improvements - \$58,800**

*Development of a new accessible launch site on the Bates-Crystal Falls Township Paint River Water Trail. The project includes accessible parking, vault toilets, an accessible paddle craft launch, an accessible camp site, and other improvements to the waterfront area to enhance access to the river. Development of three additional rustic campsites, including a vault toilet, are also planned upstream of the accessible launch.*

**Keweenaw County – Grant Township, Keweenaw Point Trail - High Rock to Montreal River - \$297,000**

*Development of 15.6 miles of a 30-mile bike-optimized, looped multi-use non-motorized trail through rugged and remote terrain paralleling Lake Superior at Keweenaw Point near Copper Harbor on state land. The single-track trail will be open to both cyclists and hikers. This project is a joint effort of Grant Township, the Copper Harbor Trails Club and the Michigan Department of Natural Resources. This project is the final phase of an effort to provide a unique remote, non-motorized back-country trail experience. The project expands non-motorized trail access to unique and scenic geography acquired with funding from the Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund and will help sustain and expand recreational tourism in the region.*

**Schoolcraft County – DNR, Palms Book State Park - Raft Canopy Replacement - \$50,000**

*Palms Book State Park is home to one of Michigan's most alluring natural attractions - Kitch-iti-kipi. Two hundred feet across and 40-feet deep, Kitch-iti-kipi is Michigan's largest freshwater spring. More than 10,000 gallons per minute gush from fissures in the underlying limestone at a constant 45 degrees Fahrenheit. A self-guided raft experience allows guests to view the spring's crystal-clear waters and resident fish species. Several rafts have serviced Kitch-iti-kipi over the years. The current raft was installed in 2004 with funding from the Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund. The shade canopy on the raft is comprised of canvas material over an aluminum frame and is in need of replacement. This project will replace the canopy to ensure a quality experience for visitors to this extremely popular tourist destination.*

## **Western Michigan**

### **Kalamazoo County – City of Kalamazoo, Kalamazoo River Valley Trail Development - \$300,000**

*Development of the Kalamazoo River Valley Trail (KRVT) through downtown Kalamazoo adds approximately 3,800 feet of 12-foot-wide, paved multi-purpose trail to the existing regional network of non-motorized trails that includes the Kal-Haven Trail and others. This development includes two non-contiguous but directly related sections of trail that add to the north and south ends of existing KRVT trail.*

### **Kent County – City of Grand Rapids, Roberto Clemente Park Improvements - \$300,000**

*Development of Roberto Clemente Park as a showcase of green infrastructure, environmental education and recreation in the heart of an urban neighborhood. The project elements include green infrastructure systems including raingardens and bioswales with interpretive signs, nature-themed discovery area, playground, restroom, shelter and accessible routes.*

### **Mecosta County – Fork Township, Rustic Campground Development - \$50,000**

*Development of a small rustic campground at Fork Township Park located on M-66 just north of the Village of Barryton. Future plans for the park include hiking and biking trails, a trailhead for the proposed trail from Barryton to the Pere Marquette Rail Trail and a BMX biking course.*

**Total Development Grant Recommendation Amount: \$7,393,400**

30 Local Developments - \$6,853,400

4 State Developments - \$540,000