

# 2020 Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund Recommendations

## 2020 Development Project Recommendations

### Upper Peninsula

#### **Gogebic County – City of Ironwood, Norrie Park Renovation and Montreal River Water Trail - \$111,300**

*Development project at Ironwood's 100-acre Norrie Park, located in the southern portion of the city on the Montreal River bordering Wisconsin. The project will renovate the park's boardwalk and fishing dock, install additional paved trails and an accessible canoe and kayak launch on the river. The project also includes a second launch and take-out site further down the river to create the first leg of the Montreal River Water Trail. The new launch site will include picnic tables, parking, and shoreline stabilization improvements. Both locations will include signage with information on the water trail.*

#### **Houghton County – DNR, Sturgeon River Sloughs Bridge Development - \$300,000**

*Development of a vehicular and pedestrian bridge providing access to 200 acres of the Sturgeon River Sloughs SWMA. This project will replace an aged 12 x 50-foot bridge in Houghton County that was damaged during the catastrophic flood event in June of 2018. Engineers inspecting the bridge condemned it as unsafe and determined it was not salvageable. This bridge has been used for decades by sportspersons to access valuable hunting land and by field managers to conduct intensive management operations. During the winter months, this bridge is the singular connection between the north and south sections of Snowmobile Trail #15, running between Baraga and Chassell, Michigan. Restoring the bridge will return management to the project area and open it to hunters, trappers, and anglers and reopen the snowmobile trail.*

#### **Mackinac County – Portage Township, Portage Creek Fishing Access - \$50,000**

*Development project to provide parking and construct a stream-side fishing platform on Portage Creek, a tributary of Big Manistique Lake. The project, near Curtis on Manistique Lakes Road (CR H-33), will include access and safety improvements to the popular fishing site such as new barrier-free parking, an access walk, and a stream-side fishing platform with built-in bench to allow persons with mobility issues to enjoy fishing. Portage Creek is best known as a great fishing spot to catch suckers in spring and summer. The lake also contains a remnant population of Lake Sturgeon which may sometimes be seen at this location.*

#### **Mackinac County – Portage Township, Shoepac Creek Fishing Access - \$50,000**

*Development project to improve fishing access on Shoepac Creek at Sherman Road, west of Curtis. One of the most popular creekside fishing sites in Portage Township, it is located on the only road leading to the popular South Manistique Lake State Forest Campground. Improvements include barrier-free parking, accessible boardwalks and fishing platforms on both sides of the river. Persons, including those with mobility challenges, will be able to safely access*

*the creek, away from the roadway. Shoepac Creek, a tributary of South Manistique Lake, is popular for panfish and bass.*

**Marquette County – City of Marquette, Mattson Lower Harbor Park - Inclusive Playground - \$300,000**

*Development project to replace the outdated Kid's Cove Playground at Mattson Lower Harbor Park in downtown Marquette with a new inclusive playground for children of all abilities. The 13-acre park, located on Lake Superior, serves as a gathering place for visitors, residents and the surrounding community. This project will be a collaboration between the City of Marquette, Marquette Playgrounds for All and the Marquette Rotary Club, who will establish a maintenance fund. The design will follow the principles of Universal Access design so that it is inclusive of all users, is flexible and intuitive, and minimizes transfer efforts. Popular playground elements, such as track rides and merry-go-rounds, will be accessible in ways that invites all users. The site will be separated into areas for younger and older children and include a poured-in-place unitary safety surfacing throughout to assist persons with mobility challenges.*

**Marquette County – City of Negaunee, Jackson Mine Park Playground Development - \$125,700**

*Development project for a playground at Negaunee's Jackson Mine Park. The park is located within a 900-acre tract west of Negaunee which features multiple recreational opportunities including the Iron Ore Heritage Trail, single-track mountain bike trails, snowmobile and ORV trails, and historic elements that help convey the region's rich mining history. The community playground will be located at the main entrance to the park adjacent to downtown Negaunee. The barrier-free playground will feature a variety of play equipment, access walkways and seating.*

**Marquette County – DNR, Little Presque Isle Trail Development and Renovation - \$300,000**

*Development of trailways at the Little Presque Isle recreation area, a popular hiking, swimming, picnicking, fishing, mountain biking, hunting and birdwatching area due to its proximity to the City of Marquette. Due to a growing local community and marketing of the Iron Belle Trail, which this area serves, the recreation area is increasing in popularity, causing wear and tear and the need for extensive renovation. This project includes boardwalk construction, trail re-routing, trail drainage, trailhead parking lot improvements, and footbridge renovations.*

**Northern Michigan**

**Antrim County – DNR, Torch River Bridge Boating Access Site Redevelopment - \$300,000**

*Development project to expand the existing Torch River Bridge Boating Access Site, using recently acquired property adjacent to the original launch site. The proposed site renovation will include the removal of existing structures on the new property and expansion of the paved parking area.*

**Benzie County – Village of Elberta, Elberta Lake Michigan Beach Improvement Project - \$300,000**

*Development at the Village of Elberta's Lake Michigan Beach to provide beach access and protect the high-quality dunes. Improvements include parking with paved accessible spaces, vault toilet, lighting, picnic pavilion and access pathways. A special beach access mat walkway will be installed so that all people can access the beach and the Elberta Pier.*

**Charlevoix County – Boyne City to Charlevoix Trail - Phase 3 - \$292,600**

*Development of two miles of the Boyne City to Charlevoix Trail from North Springwater Beach Road through the Village of Horton Bay to the Teesdale Nature Preserve, partially along Lake Charlevoix. The paved 10-foot-wide trail will ultimately connect the City of Boyne City with the Little Traverse Wheelway, just east of Charlevoix, a total distance of 14 miles. This segment is the third of five phases.*

**Charlevoix County – City of East Jordan, Sportsman's Park River Access Upgrades - \$300,000**

*Development project to renovate the City of East Jordan's 16-acre Sportsman's Park to improve access to the Jordan River Water Trail. The improvements will include a non-motorized watercraft landing and accessible canoe/kayak launch as well as restrooms, fishing dock, parking and walkways.*

**Cheboygan County – City of Cheboygan, Increasing Fishing Access in the Cheboygan River - \$300,000**

*Development of a boardwalk and two fishing platforms on the east side of the Cheboygan River. The project includes installation of an aggregate path connecting the platforms to downtown Cheboygan, boat launches, bathrooms, and park amenities. Lighting will be from solar wayfinding bollards that emit enough light for the path, but not enough to affect fishing for nocturnal species such as walleye.*

**Grand Traverse County – City of Traverse City, Fishpass Project - Union Street Dam Park Improvements - \$300,000**

*Development of new park amenities and access to the Boardman River corridor at Union Street Dam Park. The proposed work will support FishPass, a large, multi-partner project aimed at replacing the Union Street Dam with a one-of-a-kind fish passage research facility in a park-like setting. This project includes canoe/kayak launches above and below the dam, kayak slide rail with erosion-resistant landings, stepped-stone fishing access to the river, and new boardwalks that connect to existing boardwalks on both sides of the river and Hannah Park.*

**Grand Traverse County – East Bay Township, Arbutus Lake #5 Park Improvements - \$300,000**

*Development at Arbutus Lake #5 Park to better accommodate increased park use, provide universal access and improve sustainability. The project includes an accessible canoe/kayak launch, fishing pier, access paths, benches, picnic areas, accessible beach mat, shoreline improvement and rain garden to filter and slow stormwater runoff into the lake.*

**Iosco County – Oscoda Charter Township, Iosco Exploration Trail - Phase III - \$300,000**

*Development to extend the Iosco Exploration Trail/Iron Belle Trail approximately 3 miles west from the terminus of the trail at the Oscoda High School. The trail will connect to a variety of non-motorized uses, as well as cross country skiing, wildlife viewing, and fishing opportunities.*

**Leelanau County – Elmwood Charter Township, Greilickville Harbor Park - Discovery Pier Improvement - \$300,000**

*Development of Discovery Pier at Elmwood Township's Greilickville Harbor Park. The project is a recreation-based redevelopment project of the city's old coal dock. The project will provide the only Universal Access kayak launch and trailhead on the West Grand Traverse Bay Water Trail. The project includes restrooms, paved parking and a rain garden with native Michigan plants for storm water management. The project will also feature pier-based deep-water fishing, picnicking, and birdwatching. The pier will be lit with dark-sky compliant LED and include shade pavilions overlooking the bay.*

**Western Michigan**

**Berrien County – New Buffalo Township, Marquette Greenway Development - \$300,000**

*Development of 2 miles of the Marquette Greenway, a 58-mile non-motorized trail connecting New Buffalo to Chicago's east side. A shared use path will be constructed from the US-12 Grand Beach Road entrance to the New Buffalo city limits in MDOT right of way between US12 and Amtrak. This 3-state collaborative effort will result in a safe non-motorized path connecting communities and prime destinations along the south shore of Lake Michigan. Trail users will experience the region's industrial heritage, splendid sand dunes and places such as New Buffalo with its Lake Michigan beach and the Indiana Dunes National Park in Indiana.*

**Kent County – City of Grand Rapids, Ottawa Hills Park Improvements - \$247,900**

*Development of a restroom building, parking and amenities at Ottawa Hills Park, a neighborhood park serving a diverse neighborhood adjacent to Ottawa Hills High School.*

**Newaygo County – City of Fremont, Fremont Branstrom Park Warming Lodge - \$259,000**

*Development of a warming lodge, parking and access routes at Branstrom Park to replace the original 60-year-old rustic lodge. The new lodge will be located close to the sledding hill and outdoor ice rink.*

**Oceana County – City of Hart, Veteran's Memorial Park - \$300,000**

*Development of Veteran's Memorial Park including renovation of fishing boardwalk and canoe/kayak launch on Hart Lake and construction of a shelter, restroom, plaza, parking, access routes, interpretive signs, entrance sign and amenities.*

**Ottawa County – Grand Haven Charter Township, Hofma Park & Preserve - Trail Expansion & Universal Design - \$300,000**

*Development of a new trail network at the 566-acre Hofma Park and Preserve. Improvements include nearly 3 miles of multi-use and hiking trails, boardwalk, parking, native landscaping, and observation deck within an area noted as having a high probability ranking per the Michigan Natural Features Inventory. The trails will interconnect and expand an existing trail network in the park.*

**Ottawa County – Village of Spring Lake, Tanglefoot Park UA Waterfront Redevelopment - \$300,000**

*Development to transform and expand the use of Tanglefoot Park from a RV park used six months a year by a limited number of visitors, to a welcoming waterfront year-round community park and trailhead for the Grand Haven/Spring Lake/Ferrysburg Trail Network and the Grand River Heritage Water Trail. Improvements include canoe/kayak launch, overlooks, fire pit, rain gardens, landscaping and parking.*

**Van Buren County – South Haven Area Recreation Authority, Deerlick Creek Park Development - \$15,000**

*Development at Deerlick Creek Park to include an accessible picnic table on ADA surfacing, signage, a recycling bin and native plantings. This will provide expanded support and resting places for users of the park.*

**Central Michigan**

**Calhoun County – Kimball Pines Development - \$193,400**

*Development of Kimball Pines County Park to revitalize a once-thriving 75-acre park by adding a new park entrance, parking lot, Iron Belle and North Country Trail parking, ADA-compatible bathrooms and universally accessible trails. A natural disaster in 2011 devastated the park's natural canopy and created issues with invasive species. This grant begins a long-awaited transformation.*

**Calhoun County – Village of Homer, Iron Belle Trail - Homer Gap Development - \$101,000**

*Development of a section of the Iron Belle Trail to eliminate gaps in the Village of Homer. The project will bring the Iron Belle Trail route within the village up to AASHTO Guidelines for Hiking and Bicycling. The trail will be widened along Sophia Street between E. Sprague Street south to E. Leigh Street. Two new trail sections will be constructed, one on the south end of Sophia Street on E. Leigh Street, and the other on the north end of Sophia Street on E. Sprague Street. Existing trail will be widened, and new trail built within Grist Mill Park which is south of M-60 to the east of North Clay Street in Homer. The construction of trail improvements will accommodate the level of service required within the village and make improvements for universal accessibility.*

**Eaton County – Village of Dimondale, Danford Island Park Restroom Development - \$126,000**

*Development project to construct a universally accessible restroom building, a bench, an interpretive sign and approximately 300 SF of access pathway.*

**Ingham County – Bunker Road Landing Renovations - \$50,000**

*Development work at Bunker Road Landing to replace the existing canoe/kayak launch and expand the parking lot. The renovation project will include walkway improvements for accessibility.*

**Ingham County – Lake Lansing Park South Launch and Lot Development - \$300,000**

*Development project to construct a new accessible canoe/kayak launch and pave the existing gravel parking lot with (2) additional ADA parking spaces. The project also includes additional*

walkways to connect features for accessibility and a rain garden with native plantings as a natural way to drain the parking area and filter runoff before reaching Lake Lansing.

**Ingham County – City of East Lansing, Patriarche Park Tennis/Pickleball Court Renovation - \$300,000**

*Development project to reconstruct a combined tennis and pickleball court surface in Patriarche Park including: removal of the existing tennis courts (2) and pickleball courts (6); construction of 1 tennis court and 10 pickleball courts; removal and replacement of chain-link fencing and court nets; installation of a shade structure, accessible walkways, a grill, trash/recycling receptacles, picnic tables and bike loops; and installation of pollinator-friendly gardens and retention basins. Patriarche Park is a community park with a regional draw.*

**Jackson County – IBT-Jackson County Mike Levine Lakelands Trail Extension - \$300,000**

*Development of a shared use path from Monroe Street in the City of Jackson to the intersection of Cooper Street and Parnall Road in Blackman Charter Township. The development project extends the Mike Levine Lakelands Trail to the City of Jackson Grand River ArtsWalk Trail and the City non-motorized network, which connects to the Falling Waters Trail and continues west toward Albion and Marshall in Calhoun County. The proposed trail is not only an extension of the Mike Levine Lakelands Trail but also part of Route 1 of the Great Lake-to-Lake Trail as well as the Iron Belle Trail, all three significant regional and statewide trail systems. The proposed segment will close a key gap in what will be an uninterrupted 44-mile long safe non-motorized route that currently starts in Winkelhaus Park, Hamburg Township (Livingston County), and ends in Concord, Jackson County.*

**Jackson County – Blackman Charter Township, Canary Lane River Access Development - \$45,000**

*Development of the recently acquired Canary Lane property for access to the Grand River Water Trail running through Blackman Charter Township. The partnership between GREAT (Grand River Environmental Action Team) and Blackman Township will allow for parking, ADA walkway to the river, and canoe launch capability with benches for river viewing. Parking will be on GREAT property, with river access on Blackman Twp. property. The township parkland is adjoining GREAT on the north and Northwest Schools on the south side and will provide for a future trail at the river's edge on the three properties.*

**Jackson County – DNR, Mike Levine Lakelands Trail Phase 3 - \$300,000**

*Development of the final phase of the Mike Levine Lakelands Trail from the existing Hawkins Road Trailhead to Parnall Road which is approximately 3.5 miles. This last segment of the trail will connect to the City of Jackson's trail system and fill a critical gap in Michigan's Iron Belle Trail. The trail will consist mostly of compacted limestone surfacing with asphalt paving near Parnall Road. This trail will attract visitors and provide transportation alternatives to local highways, which parallel part of the trail. It will also provide economic benefits to the Jackson region as people use the trail for recreation and tourism.*

**St. Joseph County – Rawson's King Mill Park Renovations - \$50,000**

*Development to renovate a public restroom and pavilion at Rawson's King Mill Park. As part of the county's designated water trail network, these upgrades will provide amenities identified as high priority to water trail users and help to increase access to the unique natural features of the*

historic mill site. Located along Nottawa Creek, Rawson's King Mill Park offers scenic waterfalls, a historic mill, and over eight acres of bridges, paths and gardens. Because of its unique beauty, Rawson's is a favorite spot for photographers and nature lovers. The upgrades will significantly improve a high priority site identified in the St. Joseph County 5-year Parks and Recreation Plan and increase access to high quality natural resource recreation opportunities.

### **Greater Tri-Cities / Thumb**

**Genesee County – Iron Belle Trail from Atlas Township to Grand Blanc Township - \$300,000**  
*Development of a 2.28-mile section of the Iron Belle Trail in Genesee County along the south side of Perry Road stretching from Atlas Township to Grand Blanc Township. This section of trail will provide non-motorized access to the outdoor recreation opportunities provided by the Genesee County Parks facilities at Atlas County Park. Outdoor recreation opportunities include paddling Kearsley Creek, shore fishing, and hiking. This trail connects end points of the Iron Belle Trail.*

**Genesee County – City of Fenton, Millpond Park and Shiawassee Riverwalk - \$300,000**  
*Development of an ADA-accessible kayak/canoe launch, wayfinding signage, kayak/canoe storage building, benches, accessible playground, landscaping and wellness stations within the Millpond Park which is located along the Shiawassee River Water Trail. In addition, construct approximately 400 linear feet of shared-use pathway along the Shiawassee River between W. Caroline Street and Silver Lake Road to provide a needed connection to the Linden-Argentine-Fenton-Fenton Township (LAFF) Trailway.*

**Genesee County – City of Swartz Creek, Swartz Creek Genesee Valley Trail Development - \$300,000**  
*Development of trailway in concert with a Transportation Alternatives Program-funded grant through the Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT). The City of Swartz Creek, along with MDOT, is hoping to develop two (2) miles of trail that will connect the west side of the City to its east side and connect the entire City of Swartz Creek to the Genesee Valley Trail. This trail project begins in Elms Park at the termination of the MDNR Recreation Passport Grant RP15-0003 Universally Designed trail and will terminate at Norko Drive in Flint Township. This connection will allow non-motorized and ADA access from Swartz Creek to Flint Township and then connects to the City of Flint and the Iron Belle Trail.*

**Genesee County – Southern Lakes Parks & Recreation District, Development of the Silver Lake Road Connector Trail - \$300,000**  
*Development of the Silver Lake Road Connector Trail through the communities of Linden, Fenton and Fenton Township, connecting Triangle Park in the City of Linden with Silver Lake Park in the City of Fenton. The proposal includes observation areas along the trail with unobstructed views of Silver Lake, emergent marsh wetlands, prairies and cultural resources. The proposed pathway benefits the southern lakes area communities by providing alternate transportation options, recreational opportunities, and regional connectivity and is contemplated as part of an overall goal to develop non-motorized connectivity in southern Genesee County.*

**Huron County – Lighthouse County Park Improvements - \$217,000**

*Development of Lighthouse County Park to include an accessible canoe/kayak launch that will be part of the Lake Huron Tip of the Thumb Heritage Water Trail, replacement of old and outdated fish cleaning station, renovation of existing woodland path and replacement of playground equipment. Additional barrier-free parking spaces, interpretive signage, and benches will be added to the park as part of this project.*

**Saginaw County – City of Saginaw, Saginaw Riverwalk-Iron Belle Trail through Wickes Park - \$300,000**

*Development of the Saginaw Riverwalk-Iron Belle Trail through Wickes Park. The existing Riverwalk ends at the north end of 92-acre Wickes Park. The park drive in Wickes Park will be converted to accommodate the proposed trail extension. The trail will include lighting along the entire proposed path. The existing parking lots will serve as IBT trailhead parking.*

**Southeastern Michigan**

**Livingston County – Hamburg Township, Hay Creek Bridge Renovation - \$50,000**

*Development project to replace decking on the Hay Creek Bridge which is a part of the Lakelands Trail, a 34-mile-long linear trail and state park in Ingham and Livingston counties and part of the Great Lake to Lake Trail which extends from Port Huron to South Haven. The original railroad bridge was built in the 1890s and was converted for trail use in 1994. The project is important to keep the bridge safe and the trail open. The multi-use trail is suitable for biking, walking, running and equestrian use and passes through woods, pastures, picturesque wetlands. The bridge traverses Hay Creek, a tributary of the Huron River.*

**Oakland County – City of Auburn Hills, Kayak Point Park Development - \$192,600**

*Development of Auburn Hill's 8-acre Kayak Point Park featuring a new kayak launch, parking, kayak storage and riverside trail. The park borders 800' of the tree-lined Clinton River, flowing from west to east, and will create a new trailhead for the developing Clinton River Water Trail. The park's design encourages enjoyment of nature along the Clinton River including benches, picnic tables, and a shade shelter connected by nature trails. Signage, lighting, and landscaping finish the design.*

**Oakland County – Village of Milford, Central Park Pathway and Launch - \$43,800**

*Development project for a walking trail and canoe and kayak launch in Milford's 17-acre Central Park on the Huron River. The Village of Milford is an official Trail Town on the Huron River Water Trail, a state and nationally designated water trail. The project will include pathways from the parking to the launch to facilitate easy access for persons of all abilities. The new accessible launch location will further integrate the natural river corridor with the Village of Milford, enhancing Central Park as Milford's gateway to the water trail.*

**St. Clair County – City of Port Huron, Bridge to Bay Regional Trail Connector - \$287,000**

*Development of a portion of the popular "Bridge to Bay" regional trail in the city of Port Huron at both the north and south city boundaries. There are several smaller segments of the trail within the core of the community and partial connectors on the north side to the Fort Gratiot Trail System, to the south at the Marysville Trail link and potential links to the non-motorized*

*pathways connecting townships and villages on the west; and the International Blue Water Bridge to the east. The goal is to complete as many gaps in the trail system as feasible, to provide access and create routes that combine easy neighborhood access, linkage to parks, schools, commercial sites and natural surroundings that would encourage pedestrians, bikers, runners, and those with mobility challenges to enjoy our outdoor public spaces.*

**Washtenaw County – City of Ypsilanti, I-94 Non-motorized Crossing at Huron Street Overpass - \$300,000**

*Development project in the City of Ypsilanti with the Michigan Department of Transportation to create a non-motorized pathway across I-94 at Huron Street. Currently the overpass has no sidewalks or safe routes of travel for bicyclists or pedestrians. The overpass pathway will connect the non-motorized network in the city with the planned Ypsilanti Township non-motorized pathway system from the south city limit to South Huron River Drive, linking to existing pathways as well as North Bay Park. On the north side, bike lanes on Hamilton & Huron will link to downtown Ypsilanti, as well as the parks and the Border-to-Border Trail. The project will remove a major barrier and create a loop off the Border-to-Border/Iron Belle Trail around Ford Lake, with access to downtown Ypsilanti's walkable commercial districts as well as to Ypsilanti Township.*

**Washtenaw County – Huron-Clinton Metropolitan Authority, Dexter-Huron Metropark - Launch and Picnic Area Renovation - \$192,700**

*Development at Dexter-Huron Metropark launch site and picnic area to improve accessibility of the park. The project includes parking lot expansion for designated trailer parking and increased accessible spaces, new loading and unloading area, a new floating boat launch, renovation of the picnic shelter, access walkways, playground and picnic area improvements and new landscaping. The 120-acre park is located northwest of Ann Arbor in Washtenaw County on the Upper Middle Huron River. Dexter-Huron Metropark is located on the National Huron River Water Trail, Washtenaw County's Border-to-Border Trail, and the Iron Belle Trail and is one of thirteen Metroparks owned and managed by the HCMA in southeast Michigan.*

**Wayne County – Huron-Clinton Metropolitan Authority, Lower Huron Metropark - Iron Belle Trail Extension - \$300,000**

*Development of a segment of the statewide Iron-Belle Trail connecting Lower Huron Metropark to East Huron River Drive near Belleville. The project will improve accessibility and safety to extend the trail route for a half-mile section, and include planting of trees native to Michigan, new signage and a trailhead. The 1,256-acre park is in Wayne County on the Huron River. The project will provide critical connections to the community and lengthen the existing Iron-Belle Trail through Wayne County. The trail runs adjacent to the nationally designated Huron River Water Trail and also will provide access to the park's Walnut Grove Campground, one of only two public campgrounds in Wayne County. Lower Huron Metropark is one of thirteen Metroparks owned and managed by the HCMA in southeast Michigan.*

**Total Development Grant Recommendation Amount: \$10,500,000**

42 Local Development Projects - \$9,300,000

4 State Development Projects - \$1,200,000