

**CITY of NOVI CITY COUNCIL**

**Agenda Item K  
March 22, 2010**

**SUBJECT:** Approval of a resolution of support for the "Commerce, Walled Lake and Wixom Trailway Management Council" grant application to the Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund (MNRTF).

**SUBMITTING DEPARTMENT:** Community Development – Planning <sup>Bans</sup>

**CITY MANAGER APPROVAL:** 

**BACKGROUND INFORMATION:**

The Charter Township of Commerce, the City of Walled Lake and the City of Wixom have formally created the "The Commerce, Walled Lake and Wixom Trailway Management Council" to acquire part of a rail corridor in those communities in order to construct an 5.45 mile stretch of non-motorized trailway. This section of the rail corridor is north of the City of Novi and runs from approximately Haggerty Road on the east, into the City of Wixom on the west. This section of rail corridor is considered a missing link in the Oakland County cross-county trails plan (see attached map). The section of rail line under consideration is operated by the Michigan Air-Line Railway Co., part of Railmark Inc., which operates the Star Clipper Dinner Train and other rail entertainment attractions based in Walled Lake.

The Air-Line Trail would link the Huron Valley and West Bloomfield Trails. Novi will be linked to this trail by the proposed MDOT M-5 trail; the first link of this connection is planned to be constructed by MDOT in 2010, extending between 13 and 14 Mile Roads.

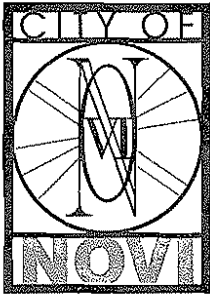
The Commerce, Walled Lake & Wixom Trailway Management Council is applying for a Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund (MNRTF) grant to partially fund the purchase of the 5.4 mile right-of-way. This grant application is in addition to a Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT), Transportation Enhancement grant to help fund the right-of-way purchase.

After recommendation by the City of Novi's Walkable Novi Committee, the City of Novi City Council previously passed resolutions supporting the Trailway Management Council's MNRTF grant application (July 20, 2009) and the City of Wixom's Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT), Transportation Enhancement grant application (October 26, 2010).

**RECOMMENDED ACTION:** Approval of a resolution of support for the "Commerce, Walled Lake and Wixom Trailway Management Council" grant application to the Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund (MNRTF).

	1	2	Y	N
Mayor Landry				
Mayor Pro Tem Gatt				
Council Member Crawford				
Council Member Fischer				

	1	2	Y	N
Council Member Margolis				
Council Member Mutch				
Council Member Staudt				



## City of Novi Oakland County Michigan

### Resolution of Support of the Commerce, Walled Lake & Wixom Trailway Management Council Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund (MNRTF) Grant Application

#### **CITY COUNCIL**

**Mayor**  
David B. Landry

**Mayor Pro Tem**  
Bob Gatt

Terry K. Margolis

Andrew Mutch

Kathy Crawford

Dave Staudt

Justin Fischer

**City Manager**  
Clay J. Pearson

**City Clerk**  
Maryanne Cornelius

At a meeting of the City Council for the City of Novi, Oakland County, Michigan held on the 22nd, day of March, 2010 at the City Hall, 45175 West Ten Mile Road, Novi, Michigan 48375.

WHEREAS, the proposed 5.4 mile Michigan Airline Trail is a link in the State of Michigan's first proposed cross-state multi-use route, starting with the Kal Haven Trail in South Haven and ending with the Bay-to-Bridge Trail in Port Huron; and

WHEREAS, this acquisition will contribute significantly to meeting the goals of the Southeast Michigan Greenways Plan, Oakland County Trails Master Plan goals and "Connecting Michigan" the Michigan Trails and Greenways Alliance statewide trailways vision and action plan; and

WHEREAS, this trail will serve as a unique regional asset for a variety of purposes including: a place for a family friendly hike, bike or jog, serve as a non-motorized transportation corridor, and providing a permanently preserve green space along its route; and

WHEREAS, this trail will provide a safe route for pedestrians, bicyclists, roller bladers, cross country skiers, etc to traverse these communities with minimal interference from automotive traffic; and

WHEREAS, this trail will provide health benefits, economically-friendly family recreational opportunities and low cost, hands on learning opportunities for our school systems; and

WHEREAS, the City of Novi's Walkable Novi Committee has reviewed the proposed trail and recommends City of Novi support of the trail, and

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED that the Council of the City of Novi, supports the Commerce, Walled Lake & Wixom Trailway Management Council Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund (MNRTF) Grant Application to acquire 5.4 miles of Michigan Airline Railway right-of-way because the trail will improve the quality of life of people in the region.

#### **CERTIFICATION**

I, Maryanne Cornelius, duly appointed Clerk of the City of Novi, Oakland County, Michigan, do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of a resolution adopted by the City Council of the City of Novi at a regular meeting held the \_\_\_\_ day of March, 2010.

Maryanne Cornelius, City Clerk

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cityofnovi.org



cityofnovi.org

**WALKABLE NOVI COMMITTEE**  
**March 11, 2010**  
**Minutes**  
**Novi Civic Center Conference Room A**  
**45175 W. Ten Mile, Novi, MI 48375**  
**(248) 347-0475**

**CALL TO ORDER**

Meeting was called to order at 6:05 p.m.

**ROLL CALL**

Present: David Greco, Andrew Mutch, Paul Policicchio and David Staudt

Absent: David Baratta (excused), Elizabeth Iszler (excused) and Michael Lynch (excused)

**Staff Present:** Mark Spencer, Planner, Charles Boulard, Community Development Director, Randy Auler, Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services Director and Derek Smith Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

**Motion by Member Policicchio seconded by Member Greco; CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY to approve the agenda.**

**AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION**

County Commissioner Kim Capello reviewed with staff and the Committee the discussions that the County and City have had with ITC on installing recreation trails on ITC property. Commissioner Capello stated that ITC should have their policies finalized in the next 30 days and that although the County would not be able to donate money to build City trails it could provide planning, engineering and grant writing assistance. He said a City project with ITC could be used as a model for other communities in the County.

Jennifer Brown discussed her communications with the City expressing a desire to install pathways, sidewalks and crossings along Pontiac Trail and West Park Drive.

**COMMUNICATIONS**

Articles in packet.

**STAFF REPORT**

None

**LANDINGS PROPERTY PHASE 1 MNRTF GRANT APPLICATION**

The Committee and staff discussed the request from Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services for a letter of support.

Motion by Member Staudt seconded by Member Greco to have the Chair sign a letter of support on behalf of the Committee. *MOTION CARRIED 4-0.*

**COMMERCE, WALLED LAKE & WIXOM TRAILWAY MANAGEMENT COUNCIL MICHIGAN AIR-LINE RAILWAY ACQUISITION MNRTF GRANT APPLICATION**

The Committee and staff discussed the request from the Trailway Management Council for a new letter of support from City Council.

Motion by Member Staudt seconded by Member Policicchio to request that City Council provide a resolution of support for the Michigan Air Line Trail Acquisition MNRTF Grant application.  
*MOTION CARRIED 4-0.*

**MEDILODGE POTENTIAL PATHWAY**

The Committee and staff discussed routes, connection points and surfaces for MediLodge's proposed recreation trail in the ITC corridor that may be built as a public benefit of their PRO application. The trail would be one segment of the City's proposed north south recreation trail that would link ITC Sport Center Park with Lakeshore Park and potentially neighboring regional facilities. The Committee concluded that the logical point for this trail to cross I-96 is at Beck Road and that the preferred route from the ITC corridor to the intersection of Grand River Avenue and Beck Road is through the southern portion of the Providence Hospital site along current pathway routes and through their conservation easements. The Committee also expressed a desire for the trail to provide a place to connect with Wildlife Woods Park and that the route should weave into the park if practical to provide more trail experience variety. The Committee asked staff to consult with Providence Hospital on potential routes and easements through their site. The Committee also stated that they wanted the trail to be paved with asphalt instead of concrete to make it more cost effective.

**CIP**

Planner Spencer and the Committee briefly discussed the draft Capital Improvement Plan in relationship to sidewalks and pathways.

**REGIONAL TRAIL CONCEPT**

The Committee asked Planner Spencer to set up a meeting in April with representatives neighboring communities to discuss potential interest in planning for a regional trail connecting the Huron Valley/Air Line Railroad Trail with the Hines Park trail.

**GAP CONSTRUCTION PRIVATE FUNDING CONCEPT DISCUSSION** - postponed

**POTENTIAL 2010 WORK PLAN** - postponed

**ADJOURN**

Motion by Member Staudt seconded by Member Greco. *MOTION CARRIED 4-0*

Meeting adjourned at 7:12 pm.

Future meetings April 8, May 13.

**Recreation Lands:**

-  Township Parks
-  Public School Facilities
-  Regional Recreation Facilities
-  Other Recreation Facilities
-  Neighboring Municipal Parks

**Existing Trails:**

-  Trail
-  Safety/Side Path
-  Bike Lane
-  Water Trail
-  Park Path
-  Roads
-  Water Bodies
-  Water Features
-  Municipal Boundaries

**Park Key:**

1. Bicentennial Park
2. Byer's Homestead Park
3. Dodge 5 Park
4. Hickory Glen Park
5. Long Nature Park
6. Maple Glen Park
7. Mill Race Park
8. Richardson Park/Community Center
9. Commerce Elementary
10. Country Oaks Elementary
11. Geisler Middle
12. Glengary Elementary
13. Oakley Park Elementary
14. Oak Valley Middle
15. Smart Middle
16. Walled Lake Central High
17. Walled Lake Northern High
18. Walled Lake Western High
19. Walled Lake Outdoor Education Center
20. Huron River Trail
21. Lakes Community Trail
22. Proud Lake State Rec Area
23. Bay Pointe Golf Club
24. Bescon Hill Country Club
25. Birmingham Gun Club
26. Commerce Commons (Twp-Owned Property and Township Library)
27. Detroit Gun Club
28. Edgewood Country Club
29. Fox Lake Park (Twp-Owned Undeveloped Property)
30. Glenlore Golf Club
31. Multi-Lakes Conservation Club
32. Union Lake Golf Club
33. Clara Miller Park
34. Gilbert Willis Park
35. Gunnar Metallia Park
36. Marshall Taylor Mini Park
37. Mercer Beach
38. Pratt Park
39. Riley Park
40. Sibley Square Park
41. Sims Park
42. Wixom Habitat Park

SOURCES:  
Roads: TeleAtlas Road Data, 2005  
Trail Network: Oakland County GIS, 2004  
Recreation Lands: Wade Trim Field Survey of July 2008

September 2008



## FIVE-YEAR RECREATION MASTER PLAN

