



*Washtenaw County Parks and Recreation Commission*

A RESOLUTION ACKNOWLEDGING A PARTNERSHIP BETWEEN THE CITY OF YPSILANTI AND THE WASHTENAW COUNTY PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION, TO DESIGN, BUILD AND OPERATE A COMMUNITY RECREATION CENTER IN THE CENTRAL BUSINESS DISTRICT OF THE CITY OF YPSILANTI (WATER STREET REDEVELOPMENT AREA)

RESOLVED BY THE WASHTENAW COUNTY PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION:

WHEREAS, the Washtenaw County Parks and Recreation Commission, in response to survey data and citizen interest, has been considering and exploring opportunities for the development of a community recreation center to serve the residents of the greater Ypsilanti area, and;

WHEREAS, the Commission has determined that the most beneficial location for the development of a community recreation center would be within the central business district of the City of Ypsilanti, specifically on the northwest corner of the Water Street redevelopment site - adjacent to the Huron River, Michigan Avenue (US-12) and the proposed alignment of the Commissions Border-to-Border trail, and;

WHEREAS, the Commission, in consideration of the limited resources currently available for such a project, first approached the City of Ypsilanti in late 2011 and proposed a project partnership that at a minimum includes the Commission and the City of Ypsilanti, and;

WHEREAS, under the proposed partnership the City of Ypsilanti would provide the land necessary for the project; the Commission would construct and own the community recreation center, and;

WHEREAS, the Commission and the City Council both approved an initial Letter of Intent to proceed with work towards the development of the Eastside Recreation Center on January 10, 2012 (see exhibit 1), and;

WHEREAS, in early 2012 the Commission contracted for the professional services of a multidisciplinary design team from the University of Michigan's Graduate School of Architecture and Urban Planning to evaluate the merits of the proposed project; to determine the appropriateness of the site; to develop a conceptual site plan for the community recreation center at the preferred location; and to explore the opportunities and challenges for development of the remainder of the Water Street redevelopment area, and;

WHEREAS, to inform the public and gather the necessary input and support essential for a successful project, the conceptual study and design (including scale models) have been presented at a number of public meetings of both the Ypsilanti City Council and the Washtenaw County Parks and Recreation Commission; were formally presented at a public open house, where the plans and models were left on display for several days to allow for additional public review and comment; and have also been available online for review and comment, and;

WHEREAS, an important component of the project is the extension of the Commissions Border-To-Border Trail, which would link the City's riverside parklands now separated by multiple roads and the river, to form a non-motorized linear park throughout the City -- a broadly supported community vision first expressed over 100 years ago in a plan prepared by the Olmsted Brothers, the pre-eminent landscape design firm of that era, and;

WHEREAS, with the financial and design assistance provided by the Commission, the City has already been awarded two grants (2011 and 2012) from the Michigan Department of Natural Resources Trust Fund program to facilitate the extension of the Border-to-Border Trail, with a bridge crossing the river and connecting Riverside Park and the Water Street site near the proposed community recreation center; and then to continue an urban non-motorized trail along the rivers edge through the Water Street site to Waterworks Park and further to Grove Road, with the potential to ultimately connect the City and the recreational resources of Ford Lake, and;

WHEREAS, the parties agree that the successful completion of these projects would be of significant benefit for the residents of the greater Ypsilanti area; would recognize, restore and emphasize the cultural and environmental significance of the Huron River to the quality of life in the Ypsilanti community; and would serve as a catalyst for additional redevelopment of the Water Street site, and;

WHEREAS, the parties agree and acknowledge that resources are limited and that none could accomplish this broad community vision unilaterally; and that these projects are still in the preliminary design phase and that there are may details that will need to be resolved among the parties should there be agreement for the projects to proceed to construction;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that by way of this resolution the undersigned parties publicly demonstrate their support for this project and their commitment to provide the necessary resources and/or skills, to work together cooperatively and in good faith, in the best interests of the community, towards the completion of this ambitious effort, and;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the City of Ypsilanti agrees to provide sufficient land at the preferred site as previously agreed to in the Letter of Intent approved on January 10, 2012 to allow the Commission to confidently proceed to the design phase; that the Washtenaw County Parks and Recreation Commission agrees to proceed with the design phase for the building and further define the site plan, including determining the exact footprint of the project and the amount of land necessary, and;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the parties agree that this intergovernmental, public/private partnership demonstrates a commendable and challenging level of collaboration that should serve as a model for future efforts to improve the quality of life for residents in communities throughout Washtenaw County.

Resolution moved by: \_\_\_\_\_

Supported by: \_\_\_\_\_

Passed with \_\_\_\_\_ aye votes recorded and \_\_\_\_\_ nay votes recorded.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Nelson Meade, Secretary  
Washtenaw County Parks and Recreation Commission



Resolution No. 2013 -037  
February 19, 2013

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**RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF YPSILANTI:**

WHEREAS, the Washtenaw County Parks and Recreation Commission, in response to survey data and citizen interest, has been considering and exploring opportunities for the development of a community recreation center to serve the residents of the greater Ypsilanti area, and;

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further define the site plan, including determining the exact footprint of the project and the amount of land necessary, and;

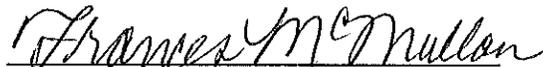
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the parties agree that this intergovernmental, public/private partnership demonstrates a commendable and challenging level of collaboration that should serve as a model for future efforts to improve the quality of life for residents in communities throughout Washtenaw County.

OFFERED BY: Council Member Robb

SUPPORTED BY: Council Member Vogt

YES: 7      NO: 0      ABSENT: 0      VOTE: Carried

I do hereby certify that the above resolution is a true and correct copy of Resolution 2013-037 as passed by the Ypsilanti City Council, at their meeting held on February 19, 2013.

  
Frances McMullan  
Frances McMullan, City Clerk