



Washtenaw County Parks and Recreation Commission

MEMORANDUM

To: Washtenaw County Parks and Recreation Commission
 From: Robert L. Tetens, Director
 Date: February 11, 2014
 Re: 2014 Connecting Communities Applications

Background

When the **Connecting Communities** program was initiated in 2009, WCPARC pledged to make available up to \$600,000 each year during the 2010 – 2014 period (\$3 million in total) toward the cost of eligible projects. Funding is available only for construction, not for planning or design development. Eligible projects will be those that accomplish the Commission's primary objective of providing valuable, non-motorized connections between communities and activity centers – offering a healthy alternative for recreation, transportation, fitness and energy conservation.

Since 2010 the Commission has approved \$2,450,000 in funding for 14 projects in nine communities. The following projects were approved (projects in *italic* have been completed):

2010

<u>Community</u>	<u>Award</u>
<i>Pittsfield Twp.</i>	\$300k
<i>Ypsilanti Twp.</i>	\$100k
<i>Northfield Twp.</i>	\$120k
<i>City of Chelsea</i>	\$ 80k

2011

<u>Community</u>	<u>Award</u>
<i>Pittsfield Twp.</i>	\$290k
<i>Northfield Twp.</i>	\$250k
<i>City of Saline</i>	\$ 60k
Village of Manchester	\$150k

2012

<u>Community</u>	<u>Award</u>
Scio Twp.	\$250k
Ypsilanti Twp.	\$250k

2013

<u>Community</u>	<u>Award</u>
City of Ann Arbor	\$150k
Pittsfield Twp.	\$150k
Village of Dexter	\$225k
Ypsilanti Twp.	\$75k

The deadline for submitting a Connecting Communities application for 2014 funding was December 31, 2013. The following is a summary of applications received and accepted:

WASHTENAW COUNTY PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION						
CONNECTING COMMUNITIES 2014						
COMMUNITY	ROADS or ROUTE	LENGTH	TOTAL COST \$	REQUEST	PREVIOUS CC AWARD	REMARKS
Ann Arbor Twp	Dixboro Road Fleming Creek	2.0 miles	1.2 M	300 K	none	valuable N-S transp. Link
Manchester	Village owned railbed	2.0 miles	225 K	150 K	none	engineering in progress
Northfield Twp	Barker Rd	phase 3 2,925 ft	600 K	260 K	120 K (2010) 250 K (2011)	Phase 1 complete; Phase 2 complete
Pittsfield Twp	Textile Rd	1.8 mi	1.9 M	400 K	300 K (2010) 290 K (2011) 150 K (2013)	phase 2 of Lohr-Textile Greenway
Ypsilanti Twp	Tuttle-Hill Rd Whitaker Rd	2,032 ft 1,000 ft	165 K 75K	240 K (165 +75)	100 K (2010) 250K (2011) 75K (2013)	Township has pledged \$80,000 for project engineering

Staff was pleased with the quality and variety of applications submitted, as well as the geographic distribution of the proposed projects. At the February Commission meeting, staff will present an overview of the applications and distribute a packet of information to Commission members that includes the project applications, project summary sheets, and the Connecting Communities Program Description and Review Criteria. A final recommendation and Commission action will be scheduled for the March meeting.