



CITY of NOVI CITY COUNCIL

**Agenda Item G
May 23, 2011**

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

SUBMITTING DEPARTMENT: ^{Plans} Community Development – Planning

CITY MANAGER APPROVAL: *[Signature]*

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 Railway 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 was constructed by MDOT in 2010, extending between 13 and 14 Mile Roads.

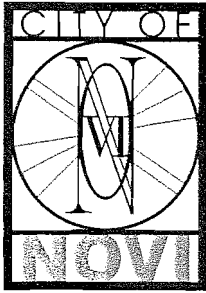
The Commerce, Walled Lake & Wixom Railway Management Council is applying for a Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund (MNRTF) grant to partially fund the purchase of the 5.4 mile right-of-way. This grant application is in addition to a Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT), Transportation Enhancement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

After recommendation by the City of Novi's Walkable Novi Committee, the City of Novi City Council previously passed resolutions supporting the Railway Management Council's MNRTF grant application (March 22, 2010 and 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 Railway Management Council" grant application to the Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund (MNRTF).

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

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



**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

At a meeting of the City Council for the City of Novi, Oakland County, Michigan held on May 23, 2011 at the City Hall, 45175 West Ten Mile Road, Novi, Michigan 48375.

CITY COUNCIL

Mayor
David B. Landry

Mayor Pro Tem
Bob Gatt

Terry K. Margolis

Andrew Mutch

Dave Staudt

Justin Fischer

Wayne Wrobel

City Manager
Clay J. Pearson

City Clerk
Maryanne Cornelius

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 23rd of May 2011.

Maryanne Cornelius, City Clerk

City of Novi
45175 W. Ten Mile Road
Novi, Michigan 48375
248.347.0460
248.347.0577 fax

cityofnovi.org




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. Glangary 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. Beacon 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. Glenore Golf Club
31. Multi-Lakes Conservation Club
32. Union Lake Golf Club
33. Clara Miller Park
34. Gilbert Willis Park
35. Gunnar Mettala 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, 2006
 Trail Network: Oakland County GIS, 2008
 Recreation Lands: Wade Trim Field Survey of July 2008

September 2008



FIVE-YEAR RECREATION MASTER PLAN

