



HISTORIC
FRANKLIN
TENNESSEE

ITEM #19
WRK S 01/12/10

MEMORANDUM

December 30, 2009

TO: Board of Mayor and Aldermen

FROM: Lisa R. Clayton, Parks Director
Vernon Gerth, ACA Community & Economic Development
Eric Stuckey, City Administrator

SUBJECT: Recreational Trails Program (RTP) Resolution for a Multi-purpose Trail System at the Park at Harlinsdale Farm.

Purpose

The intent of the TN Recreational Trails Program is to enhance recreational trail opportunities and to provide and maintain recreation trails as directed by Congress. The purpose of this resolution is to provide a mandatory component of the guidelines and apply for the Recreational Trails Program (RTP) for a Multi-purpose Trail System at The Park at Harlinsdale Farm.

Background

The U.S. Department of Transportation manages the Recreational Trails Program through the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA). The RTP is a State-administered, Federal aid program. The Governor designated the Department of Environment and Conservation, Recreational Educational Services (TDEC-RES) to administer the program. In 2006, the City of Franklin Parks Department received an RTP grant and will implement the funding (\$100,000) in the calendar year of 2010 for the Bicentennial Park along the Harpeth River.

As part of the existing master plan for the Park at Harlinsdale Farm, a multi-purpose trail system along the Harpeth River and Spencer Creek is shown (see attachment). The RTP grant will provide a start to the trail system which will accommodate pedestrians, bikes and equestrian (no motorized vehicles except for maintenance or emergency services) and provide alternative funding during these hard economic times.

Financial Impact

The maximum grant for each RTP project is \$80,000. The applicant must provide a match of 20% of the total project cost. Matching the grant funds may be done through land purchase, land donation, cash, labor or materials or donation of these items. The Parks Department shall match the 20% with labor and materials. The department will be requesting \$80,000.

Recommendation

Approval of the initial resolution in compliance with the Recreational Trails Program is recommended along with acceptance of the \$80,000 grant if and when it is received.

RESOLUTION 2010-04

RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE THE MAYOR TO SUBMIT AN APPLICATION TO THE TENNESSEE DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENT AND CONSERVATION FOR TENNESSEE RECREATION TRAILS PROGRAM GRANT FUNDS

WHEREAS, the City of Franklin is seeking to construct a pervious trail network, made up of crushed rock, on Harlinsdale Farm, and development of trails on this property is identified as part of Phase 1, Option A, in the City's Greenways and Open Space Masterplan; and

WHEREAS, a multi-use trail for walkers, runners, and horseback riding will provide passive recreation and link residential areas within the City of Franklin; and

WHEREAS, Harlinsdale Farm serves as the hub for the trail network outlined in Option A of the Greenways and Open Space Plan with proposed spokes extending to Franklin High School, Franklin Recreation Complex, Chestnut Bend Subdivision, The Factory, Bicentennial Park, and Downtown Franklin; and

WHEREAS, Franklin residents are increasingly becoming aware of the health and economic benefits of accessible recreational trails; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Mayor and Alderman has been committed to finding ways to allow residents to get from one area of the city to the other without having to depend on an automobile, and the trails at Harlinsdale will get us one step closer to having an extremely connected system of trails that lead to commercial, educational recreational, and residential destinations; and

WHEREAS, trail construction and maintenance activities of the project will be done by City employees and citizen volunteers whenever possible to minimize costs; and

WHEREAS, the City may apply to the Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation for Tennessee Recreation Trails Program (RTP) grant funds to further assist with the costs associated with development of the trail network.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, BY THE BOARD OF MAYOR AND ALDERMEN OF THE CITY OF FRANKLIN, TENNESSEE THAT:

Mayor John Schroer is hereby authorized to sign and submit an application for RTP Grant Funds to be matched by the requested amount, of at least twenty percent (20%) of the total project cost, with said funds coming from capital fund revenues, in-kind labor and materials, and volunteer resources, to construct a pervious trail network on the City-owned Harlinsdale Farm property.

Approved and Adopted this _____ day of _____, 2010.

Attest:

John Schroer
Mayor

Eric Stuckey
City Recorder