

# Applicant Information

1. All required fields are marked with an \*.
2. Click **SAVE** to save changes.
3. See the Grant Program handbook [here](#) for additional information.

<b>Name of Applicant (Government Unit)*</b>	<b>Unique Entity Identifier Number*</b>	<b>Sigma Vendor Number*</b>	<b>SIGMA Address ID*</b>
<i>Oakland Charter Township</i>	<i>HFA2DKR4HPP2</i>	<i>CV0023503</i>	<i>001</i>

**Organization Type\***
*Local Unit of Government*
**Name of Authorized Representative\***
*Melinda Milos-Dale*
**Title\***
*Director of Parks and Recreation*

<b>Address*</b>	<b>City*</b>	<b>State*</b>	<b>ZIP*</b>	<b>County*</b>
<i>4393 Collins Road</i>	<i>Rochester</i>	<i>MI</i>	<i>48306</i>	<i>Oakland County</i>

<b>Telephone*</b>	<b>E-mail*</b>
<i>(248) 651-4440</i>	<i>mmdale@oaklandtownship.org</i>

<b>State House District*</b>	<b>State Senate District*</b>	<b>U.S. Congress District*</b>
<i>District 46</i>	<i>District 12</i>	<i>District 8</i>

The following link contains District Maps - <https://www.michigan.gov/micrc/mapping-process/final-maps>

**Proposal Title (Not to exceed 60 characters)\***
*Stony Creek Ravine Nature Park Access Improvements*

<b>Address of Site*</b>	<b>City, Village or Township of Site*</b>	<b>Zip*</b>
<i>4393 Collins Road</i>	<i>Rochester</i>	<i>48306</i>

**County in which Site is located\***
*Oakland*

What is/will be the applicant's type of ownership and control of the property?\*

Fee simple ownership. Please upload the deed and site control form which can be found in the handbook.

*Signed Site Control Form and Deeds for ARPA-0122.pdf*

Less than fee simple. Explain what rights the applicant has and what agency holds the underlying fee simple ownership.

Lease/Easement. Upload a copy of the lease/easement and site control form which can be found in the handbook.

**Latitude/Longitude at park entrance\***
*42.440290*
*-83.063600*
**DNR Only**
**Regional Partner**
**Project Category**
**Comments**

# Narrative Details - Part 1

1. All required fields are marked with an\*.
2. Click **SAVE** to save changes.
3. To add rows to a section, click the + button.
4. See the Grant Program handbook [here](#) for additional information.

**Park Name\***

*Stony Creek Ravine Nature Park*

Is this an existing park?\*

Yes

No

**If yes, please explain what features currently exist at the park?**

*Stony Creek Ravine Nature Park is located on the north side of Snell Road, between Sheldon Road and Mount Vernon Road, just north of Stony Creek Metropark. While Stony Creek Ravine Nature Park's 268 acres are rich in natural features, it is deficient in facilities to access and appreciate them. This park's access is restricted to a pedestrian entrance from an internal subdivision road which leads to the park's sole recreation facility; a half-mile packed dirt trail. This park is located near a sizeable urban population, however the lack of facilities has severely limited the number of park visitors.*

*This park contains exceptional natural communities including :*

- 1. a half-mile stretch of the West Branch of the Stony Creek and oak-hickory woodland which are protected by a 36-acre conservation easement held by Six Rivers Land Conservancy,*
- 2. one of only two wooded tracts in the township containing stands of beech and sugar maple,*
- 3. 52 acres of wetlands including vernal pools, wet prairie, forested swamp, a large complex of southern wet meadow and southern shrub-carr,*
- 4. Two wetland mitigation basins, which are in year three of successful efforts to restore marsh, forest and shrub wetlands and are protected by 47-acre EGLE conservation easements, and*
- 5. 56 acres of prairie restoration.*

*This park's grassland, woodland, and wetland areas provide habitat to more than 150 bird species, observed during OTPR birding walks as shown on the attached ebird species list.*

**If you are submitting multiple Spark applications, what is the priority for this application? (1=highest)\***

1

**Proposal Description**

**What do you want to do?\***

The development of Stony Creek Ravine Nature Park access improvements is a new project. This project will provide: 1. An entrance road and universal-access parking lot off a main collector road, 2. Accessible trailhead facilities including drinking water, restrooms, and a picnic area, 3. A multi-use trail system that will include a universally accessible .77-mile loop with adaptive birding facilities that leads to an accessible observation deck overlooking Stony Creek, 4. A 1.17-mile trail loop providing a connection to Stony Creek Metropark, 5. Tactile wayfinding signage, and solar-powered audio interpretive signs which will highlight the park's bird species and natural areas including the pristine stretch of the West Branch of the Stony Creek, forests, wetlands, and prairie restorations.

Stony Creek Ravine Nature Park's proposed 2-mile multi-use trail system (hiking, bicycling, horseback riding) will provide longer distance trail opportunities by connecting internally to the existing .54-mile park trail that overlooks Stony Creek and externally to the hiking/biking trails immediately across Snell Road at Stony Creek Metropark.

This project's outdoor recreation facilities were first proposed and publicly supported in conjunction with the 2019 expansion of this park from 60 acres to 268 acres. That same year, in the Oakland Township Parks and Recreation community-wide survey, the most-requested improvements to Township parks were crushed limestone paths and restrooms. This project, which includes both of those high-priority amenities, is included in the Capital Improvement Plan found on page 104 and 105 of the 2020-2024 Oakland Township Parks, Recreation and Land Preservation Master Plan. The project is familiar to Township residents, officials, and staff as it is highlighted in the Parks and Recreation 3-year budgets, associated Capital Improvement Schedules, and at Township budget workshops.

In 2022 OTPR requested a proposal from PEA Group, the Township consulting engineers, to lead public input activities for this project and to use the information gathered to develop a conceptual site plan, cost estimate and project schedule. On November 21, 2022 the public was invited to a design workshop for this project where 40 participants provided suggestions for the access improvements which were then further refined at an accessibility workshop held on November 30th. Please see attached workshop minutes and the attached Preliminary Site Plan which describe and illustrate these Project Scope Items:

*Universal-Access Parking Lot* – Two-way entrance drive and aggregate 30-space parking lot including three paved, striped, and signed ADA accessible spaces and looped drive for drop-offs, buses, and horse trailer parking.

*Universal-Access Pathways* connecting to support facilities – 8' wide paved-surface access route with a maximum 5% slope will connect directly from the ADA accessible parking spaces to the accessible restrooms, drinking water, picnic area, and universal-access trails.

*Universal-Access Toilets* – A wooden enclosure will be constructed on a concrete slab along the accessible route to house two ADA-accessible portable restrooms.

*Hand Pump Well and Bike Rack*– Bike parking and potable water, which will be provided by a hand pump well, will be located along the accessible route with appropriate height and clear space to allow people to approach and operate the water spout with one hand from either the right or left side.

*Universal-Access Picnic Area* – Concrete-paved and shaded; located on the accessible route with adequate clear space around four picnic tables with clear sitting space or extended tabletops.

*Universal-Access Trail* – 8' wide crushed limestone trail with a maximum 5% slope with accessible benches located on minimum 60" x 60" pull-off areas every 500 linear feet and wayfinding signage in a variety of formats at each intersection. Adaptive birding will be supported with guide ropes installed alongside the trail, as well as tactile markers that will indicate where there are wayfinding or interpretive signs or other points of interest.

*Universal-Access Observation Deck* over Stony Creek – located on universal access trail, with a transition plate between the trail and deck, has clear viewing space between 32" and 51" height, two sitting benches with backs and arm rests, and interpretive signage in auditory and pictorial formats. See attached photo examples of universally-accessible observation decks.

*Trail Loop and Crossing to Stony Creek Metropark* – packed earth or mowed trail leading to safe crossing area with safety stencil on paved end-section of trail leading to crossing area, flanked by vehicular and pedestrian directional signs.

*Solar-powered interpretive signs* in auditory and pictorial formats explaining following topics : 1 natural communities including woodlands, wetlands, and grasslands, 2. Bird species typically found in this park's habitats, 3. Stony Creek habitat and its aquatic life, 4. Introduction to park, its natural areas, trails, and amenities.

*Bioswale and Native Planting* – A bioswale will be planted with native plants that will detain and clean stormwater runoff from the parking lot.

*Recycle Bins/Trash Receptacles* – Six will be constructed of recycled plastic lumber and located on the accessible route and multi-use trails with adequate clear space to approach the receptacle opening.

*Signage* – Includes Wayfinding, Entrance, Informational, Directional, and Parking signs in a variety of formats. Trailhead information signs will include the length of the trail segment, type of trail surface; typical and maximum trail tread width, trail grade, and cross slope.

**1. Public benefit and anticipated outcomes**

**1a. How was the community negatively impacted by COVID? How does this project address that? (Maximum of 10 Points)\***

COVID greatly impacted the population surrounding Stony Creek Ravine Nature Park as their percentage of COVID cases was among the highest in Oakland County, which recorded the highest number of COVID cases in the state. At the November 21, 2022 Stony Creek Ravine Nature Park Design Workshop, the majority of participants described their personal negative effects of COVID as being isolated from friends, family, and community; having their physical activity and freedom of movement restricted; and experiencing increased stress. They also indicated that this project could address these issues; improving their physical and mental health by providing the opportunity to walk, bicycle, or horseback ride outdoors in nearby nature while socializing with friends and family. SEMCOG data shows that visits to parks increased two to three times during the pandemic which is what Oakland Township Parks and Recreation experienced especially in usage of our park trail systems that offer self-guided and socially-distanced recreation opportunities. For more than 40 years Oakland Township Parks has focused on offering visitors recreation experiences in high-quality park natural areas. Stony Creek Ravine Nature Park's new trail systems and support facilities will contribute to the physical and mental health of the larger community by offering recreation opportunities that allow people to connect with nature and get physical exercise while safely socially interacting with friends/family.

**1b. How will this project contribute to strong healthy communities that promote health and safety? (Maximum of 8 Points)\***

Stony Creek Ravine Nature Park's trails and support facilities will provide new recreation opportunities for people of all abilities including nature enthusiasts, walkers, runners, bicyclists, and equestrians. The project will serve a population of 50,000 in an area that includes Oakland Township, Rochester Hills/Rochester to the south, and Macomb County's Washington and Shelby townships to the east as well as being adjacent to Stony Creek Metropark, which serves over 1,500,000 visitors annually.

Studies have shown that experiencing natural environments can restore our energy and aid in recovering from stress. SCRNP's new internal trail loops and connection to Stony Creek Metropark will contribute to the improved mental health and physical activity of the larger community by providing a restorative nature experience; satisfying the public's desire to "get outside to explore what nature has to offer", as indicated in Oakland Township's Summer 2022 survey responses.

This project's entry and parking lot will provide visitors with safer access than the current situation where visitors are forced to park vehicles along an adjacent road. The parking lot's location and layout also facilitates monitoring by Sheriff Deputies and will provide access for buses, maintenance, and emergency vehicles. The accessible Stony Creek observation deck will provide park visitors with a safer viewing experience than the current option of climbing down steep creek banks; endangering themselves.

**1c. What kind of stakeholder and community input did you have? (Maximum of 4 Points)\***

Stakeholder and community input was received at several meetings including a dedicated Stony Creek Ravine Nature Park (SCRNP) design workshop held at the November 21, 2022 Parks and Recreation Commission meeting. The workshop, which was widely advertised to the general public, park users, and SCRNP neighbors, generated many suggestions from 40 participants. See the attached invitation, meeting minutes, individual comments from participants regarding how this project could address COVID impacts, and letters of support received from Oakland Township Park users, Huron Clinton Metroparks, Dinosaur Hill Nature Preserve, Six Rivers Land Conservancy, Oakland County Trails and Waters Alliance, and Oakland Township Safety Paths and Trails Committee. The input from the design workshop was used to create a draft preliminary site plan that was then presented at a November 30th Accessibility Workshop where organizations and individuals representing people of varied abilities were invited to provide input. Participants suggested plan refinements to increase accessibility. Please see the attached invitation, list of invitees, and meeting minutes. As many of their suggestions as feasible were included in the final preliminary plan that is included in this grant application. See attached letters of support from Paralyzed Veterans of America, Disability Network of Eastern Michigan, The ARC of Oakland County, Dutton Farm, and the Older Persons Commission.

**While not a requirement for funding, is this project part of a community recreation or capital improvement plan?\***

Yes, the Stony Creek Ravine Nature Park access improvements are included as a high priority grant-assisted project in the 5-Year Capital Improvement Plan of the 2020-2024 Oakland Township Parks, Recreation and Land Preservation Master Plan and this project is included in the Parks and Recreation 3-year budgets and associated Capital Improvement Schedules. The 2020-2024 Master Plan Summary of Public Input states, "Township residents have clearly embraced stewardship of park properties and want to see trails provided throughout the park system. The Stony Creek Ravine Nature Park expansion will necessarily be a focus of those activities over the next five years as the Township will finally be able to provide easy access for residents." The Master Plan underscored that four of the top ten requested park items were trail-related.

These Access Improvements are integral to Oakland Township achieving park land objectives including:

Objective 1.2 "Develop partnership agreements with local park and recreation systems to help develop trails that can connect to their parks and create a system of trails for the Township"

Objective 1.3: "Continue to focus on connectivity of external and internal trails to connect facilities"

Objective 1.6 "Address barrier-free accessibility in all of the Township's parks and facilities. Provide facilities to enhance water access. Improve the park and trail systems with amenities such as such as benches, restrooms, drinking fountains and parking."

**Please provide examples of documented stakeholder and community input that you have (including Letters of Support).**

Minutes of 11-30-22 SCRNP Accessibility Workshop.pdf

Minutes of 11-21-22 SCRNP Design Workshop.pdf

SCRNP Stakeholder LOS.pdf

Park Users LOS for SCRNP Improvements.pdf

All Accessibility LOS.pdf

Design Workshop Emailed Comments Support.pdf

**1d. Certified Resolution from the highest governing body (Maximum of 2 Points):\***

22-22 The Michigan Spark Grant Application ARPA-0122 BOT signed.pdf

**2. Access to the Project Site**

2a. Access to the Project Site: Based upon the geographic location of the proposed project, the DNR will determine what portion of the community's population will be within a half mile of the project site. (Maximum of 7 Points)

2b. How will the public reasonably access the project site. Select all that apply.\* (Maximum of 7 Points)

Vehicle

Bus stop within 0.25 miles

Sidewalk

Boat/Kayak

BikeTrail

Dial-a-ride

Older Persons' Commission Minibus Transportation

Township Safety Path Proposed for Snell Road

**2c. What programs and partnerships currently exist that bring people to your project and activate the space?\*** Example – Summer camp, farmers market, music in the park etc. (Maximum of 3 Points)

*Oakland Township Parks and Recreation Commission (OTPRC) offers a variety of programs and events annually including 50 nature programs, 128 archery programs, 81 outdoor adventure programs, 3 summer camps, 40 health and wellness programs, 56 natural area stewardship programs including weekly bird walks, and 6 special events including summer outdoor concerts and seasonal festivals. OTPR does not charge any park entry fee and does not have a residents'-only policy. Admission and entertainment at all OTPR events are open to everyone and free of any cost to attendees. Programs are either offered free of charge, as in all natural area stewardship programs and nature center open houses, or offered for a nominal fee.*

*Oakland Township's Natural Areas Stewardship staff have been leading weekly bird walks at Township Parks for a number of years however the majority of these parks do not contain accessible trails or support facilities. The 4-season bird walks at SCRNP have already generated a list 153 different bird species, which is comparable to bird observations at regional parks and demonstrates that this park would be ideal for offering adaptive birding programs.*

*For many years OTPR has contracted with Dinosaur Hill Nature Preserve to provide nature programming for a variety of audiences in our Oakland Township parks. After these access improvements are added to Stony Creek Ravine Nature Park, this contract would include new 4-season nature programming for this park including programs for special needs individuals of all ages (see attached advertisements of prior offerings) which will be important in creating greater awareness of the new facilities. Oakland Township Parks and Recreation (OTPR) staff will lead monthly adaptive bird walks and would be happy to collaborate with regional partners including Huron-Clinton Metroparks, Six Rivers Land Conservancy (SRLC), and the Older Persons' Commission on new nature programming as well as fitness programming that could be offered at this park. OTPR and OPC have partnered on archery programs for 50+ age group population and OPC would like to offer their senior population additional outdoor recreation opportunities. The SCRNP proposed parking lot includes a loop with a significant turning radius so that larger vehicles, such as the OPC Minibus, could safely transport program participants.*

*In the financial details page of this application Oakland Township's in-kind match includes \$1500 to cover costs of OTPR staff and Dinosaur Hill naturalists leading a total of 13 accessible nature and birding programs to activate the new facilities in 2025. The Spark Grant is proposed to cover the \$3200 cost of acquiring initial adaptive birding equipment including wheelchair mounts for binoculars or scopes, digiscoping adaptor for a tablet, and tripods and adaptors for binoculars.*

### 3. Financial and Social Considerations

Household income, park density, and health are all important attributes of a strong, healthy community and the basis for the social and financial scoring section. DNR will score this section based on statewide available data and the geographical location of the proposed project. (Maximum of 19 Points)

**DNR Only**

## Narrative Details - Part 2

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### 4. Clarity of scope and ability to execute

4a. Provide your targeted dates for the following project milestones.\* (Maximum of 10 Points)

	Target Completion Date	Description of Timeline
Public Input	12/13/2022	Received public input at 11-21-22 Design Workshop, 11-30-22 Accessibility Workshop, 12-8-22 Parks and Recreation Meeting, 12-13-22 Board of Trustees Meeting
Planning and Design	9/29/2023	Topographic Surveys, Geotechnical analysis, Wetland delineation in Summer 2023. Site Plan, Specifications, Permits acquired and Bid Documents completed Fall 2023
Bidding (must be complete by 12/31/2024)	12/29/2023	Bids advertised in Oct. 2023, contract awarded and DNR notified by end of December 2023
Construction (must be complete by 10/31/2026)	11/29/2024	Construction to start March 2024 including demolition, earthwork, paving, path installation, overlook construction, signage and amenities installed and site restoration concluded by November 2024
Programming and activation	12/31/2025	Nature Programming/site activation will occur Jan. - Dec. 2025

#### Conceptual Site Development:\*

*StonyCreek Ravine Nature Park Preliminary Plan.pdf*

Do you have a Licensed Landscape Architect, Engineer, or Architect under contract or on staff for this project?  Yes  No

If yes, what is the firm name and did you use a competitive selection process to retain them? *PEA Group has led the workshops to gather public input for this project. They used the public input to create the preliminary site plan and associated project cost opinion and project schedule. For a variety of situations, PEA Group acts as Oakland Township's consulting engineer. PEA Group is familiar with most Township parks and therefore, for this initial public input and preliminary planning work, the Township used their services.*

Are construction plans and specifications available?\*

Yes  No

4b. Are Federal, State and/or Local permits required for the project?\*

Yes  No

TYPE OF PERMIT	PERMITTING AGENCY	EFFORTS TAKEN TO OBTAIN PERMIT OR DETERMINING PERMIT REQUIREMENTS	Permit Status
Building Permit for Observation Deck	Oakland Township Building Dept.	Consultation about observation deck with Building Dept. Director to determine requirements.	Initial Consultation
Public Water Well	Oakland County Environmental Health	Anticipated Application Submittal Sept. 2023	
Work in Road Right-of-Way	Road Commission for Oakland County	Multiple on-site meetings with RCOC Permit Reps to Review Best Entry Locations	Initial Consultation
Soil Erosion and Sedimentation Control	Oakland County Water Resource Commission	Anticipated Application Submittal Sept. 2023	
Site Plan Approval	Oakland Township	Anticipated Application Submittal Sept. 2023	

Is there any evidence of contamination within the project area?\*

Yes  No

Select all the following project partners or support staff.

Contact Name	Description
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Local Government Staff	Melinda Milos-Dale Director, Oakland Township Parks and Recreation
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Non-Profit Organization/Group	Sue Neal Exec. Director, Dinosaur Hill Nature Preserve
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Community Foundation	Greg Yankee CFSEM Design and Access Grant Administrator
Regional Planning Agency	
Volunteer	
Friends Group	
State or Federal Agency	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Land Conservancy	Chris Bunch Exec. Director, Six Rivers Land Conservancy
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other	Sarah Plumer Chief of Planning and Development, Huron Clinton Metroparks
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other	Renee Cortright Exec. Director, Older Persons' Commission

### 5. Access to new opportunities for people of all abilities

5a. Please select what groups you have received feedback from and upload the associated support documentation.\* (letters, plan review comments, testimonials, etc.) (Maximum of 5 Points)

No feedback received.

Center for Independent Living

Center for Assisted Living

Local or regional Disability Network

*Disability Network Letter.pdf*

Physical or Recreational Therapist

*OMPT Therapist SCRNP Accessibility Comments.docx*

Individual

*Dr. Guillet Accessibility Comments.docx*

Formal Group or Organization

*SCRNP Letter of Support The ARC.pdf*

Other

*Paralyzed Veterans of America LOS.pdf*

Other

*Older Persons Commission LOS.docx*

Other

*Accessibility LOS Dutton Farm.docx*

Other

Comments and Minutes of 11-30-22 SCRNP Accessibility Workshop.pdf

**5b. What specific features make your project unique and can clearly show that input from the above groups has been incorporated?\***  
(Maximum of 10 Points)

The features that make this project unique will ensure equitable access to high-quality recreation experiences for the five communities that surround Stony Creek Ravine Nature Park, including their 22,500 residents with disabilities. These accessible features, located on the project's .77-mile universal trail loop, will provide unique inclusive nature observation/education and physical activity opportunities for all visitors: Oakland Township Parks' first Adaptive Birding Trail and Oakland Township Parks' first Observation Deck cantilevered over the sinuous West Branch of the Stony Creek. Accessible wayfinding and interpretive signage will highlight the inhabitants of this park's high-quality forests, wetlands and grasslands including more than 150 bird species.

The "Birdability" organization furnishes guidance on how to implement accessible and inclusive birding to ensure the outdoors are welcoming, inclusive, safe, and accessible for everybody. The SCRNP Adaptive Birding trail incorporates many of their recommendations including: having a choice of trail lengths as well as shaded or sunny sections, providing a stable trail surface with less than 5% slope, installing guide ropes along the trail to help people orient themselves and tactile markers to indicate where there is a sign or other point of interest, providing interpretive signage in auditory and pictorial formats and directional signage that includes accessibility information in a variety of formats (such as braille, large print QR codes) located at each trail crossing, locating accessible benches and rest areas every 500 feet, and offering ADA parking spaces, accessible restrooms, drinking water and picnic tables at the trailhead.

The universal-access observation deck over the West Branch of Stony Creek will have clear viewing space between 32" and 51" height and two sitting benches with backs and arm rests. The cantilevered deck will provide excellent vistas for signage to explain the effect of ice age glaciers on the park's landscapes and to identify fish, amphibian, and reptile inhabitants such as the Fantail Darter, Grass Pickerel, Northern Leopard Frog, Blue-spotted Salamander, and Blue Racer.

The following improvements suggested by attendees at the Nov. 30, 2022 SCRNP Accessibility Workshop are included in this project's preliminary site plan and scope items:

Pull-off areas on universal trail where visitor can rest on accessible benches.

Adding audio component to interpretive signage.

Including "split-level" guardrails on observation deck to allow for clear vision for wheelchair users as well as benches and seating incorporated into the observation deck design.

Multi-use trail system for different trail uses to co-exist adjacent to each other.

Wayfinding signage and trail distance signage in a variety of formats (such as braille, large print QR codes) located at each trail crossing.

Looped drive for bus to safely drop off visitors and pull into parallel parking space.

**6. New Construction, Renovation and Future Maintenance**

**Please do not include mobilization, site work, etc. in the scope list.**

Questions 6a1 and 6a2 - Maximum of 7 points.

6a1. Is new construction part of your project?\*

 Yes

No

If yes, please identify the major components of your construction project.

Scope List

Brief Description

Parking - Gravel/Crushed Stone w Accessible Parking

Aggregate 30-space parking lot including three paved, striped, and signed ADA accessible spaces.

Access Pathway 6' wide or more

8' wide paved-surface access route with a maximum 5% slope will connect from the Accessible parking spaces to accessible restrooms, drinking water, picnic area, and universal-access trails.

Restroom/Bathhouse

A wooden enclosure will be constructed on a concrete slab along the accessible route to house two ADA-accessible portable restrooms.

Other

Hand pump well located along accessible route with appropriate height and clear space to allow people to approach and operate water spout with one hand.

Picnic Area

Concrete-paved and shaded; located on the accessible route with adequate clear space around four picnic tables with clear sitting space or extended tabletops.

Trail 8' wide or more

.77-mile crushed limestone trail loop - max 5% slope with accessible benches located on minimum 60" x 60" pull-off areas every 500 linear feet. Adaptive birding supported with guide ropes installed.

Overlook or Observation Deck

Deck over Stony Creek – located on accessible trail, with transition plate between trail and deck. Has clear viewing space between 32" and 51" height, two sitting benches with backs and arm rests.

Other

1.17-mile packed earth/mowed trail loop leading to safe crossing connecting to Stony Creek Metropark trails.

Other

4 Solar-powered interpretive signs in auditory and pictorial formats explaining natural communities, bird species, Stony Creek habitat, and park introduction.

Landscaping

Bioswale planted with native plants to detain and clean stormwater runoff from parking lot, native shade trees and seed mixes for site restoration.

Access Road/Entrance Drive

2-way entrance drive with loop for drop-offs, buses, and horse trailer parking.

Site Amenities (Benches, Picnic Tables, Trash Bins, Signage, etc.)

Six recycle bins/trash receptacles, 11 accessible benches and 4 accessible picnic tables will be made from recycled plastic, 12 directional signs, 1 bike rack

6a2. Is this renovation (replace with the same scope item) or redevelopment (change of use with similar footprint) part of your project?\*

Yes

No

What mechanisms and resources are in place to maintain this investment? Please check all that apply.\*

General Fund support for Parks and Recreation

Mileage

Endowment Fund

Grants

Friends Group

Dedicated Parks and Recreation Staffing

None of the above

Other

Oakland Township has dedicated millages for Parks/Recreation and Land Preservation

**Based upon the existing mechanisms and resources, how long could you maintain this investment?\***

Oakland Township Parks and Recreation has dedicated funding and appropriate staffing to operate and maintain the proposed Stony Creek Ravine Nature Park access improvements over the long term.

The majority of funding to support Oakland Township's parks and recreation system comes from two millages: the Parks & Recreation Millage (Park Fund) and the Land Preservation Millage (Land Preservation Fund). The Land Preservation Millage, initiated in 2001 for a 10-year period was extended 20 more years through early renewals that occurred in 2006 and in 2018. Each fund has different obligations and two separate budgets.

The Land Preservation millage partially funded the original acquisition of Stony Creek Ravine Nature Park and will fund the long term maintenance and operation of Stony Creek Ravine Nature Park's natural areas and proposed access improvements. Approximately 50% of Land Preservation's annual revenue is devoted to the operation and maintenance of park natural areas and access facilities. The remaining revenue would certainly be able to fund the maintenance of these new improvements for their useful life and well beyond. Moreover, starting in 2023, 10% of the Land Preservation millage revenue will be reserved for long-term maintenance.

The Parks and Recreation Department is staffed with skilled and experienced administrative, maintenance, natural areas stewardship and recreation employees who would be responsible for the operation and maintenance of these improvements.

**6b. Describe the selection of materials, the way the project is designed, and other features that make it sustainable.\* (Maximum of 2 Points)**

The site amenities specified were chosen to reduce the environmental impact of the park. The benches and picnic tables will be made from recycled plastic, and the decking for the observation platform will be a constructed of recycled plastic. Additionally, the crushed limestone pathway and the compacted earth trail reduce the amount of pavement on site, minimizing water runoff and the need for carbon producing materials such as concrete and asphalt. Native plantings support pollinators that form the basis for our food chains and require less resources. To encourage recycling of water bottles and other recyclables, recycling bins will be partnered with trash receptacles at multiple locations. Interpretive signs will be powered with solar energy in lieu of connecting to the electrical grid. A bioswale of native plants will filter storm water from the parking lot prior to directing it to on-site wetland area.

**6c. What design features or considerations in your project reduces long term maintenance?\* (Maximum of 2 Points)**

Low Maintenance elements of the design include the manual (hand pump) water fountain, and solar-powered audio guide for the interpretive signs, which removes the need to connect to the electrical grid. Both the crushed limestone and earthen trails require minimal upkeep including mowing and grading the pathway. Landscaping with native plants that are adapted to this geographical area's weather and soils, reduces the need for irrigation, fertilization, or pesticides. The recycled plastic lumber used for the observation deck, picnic tables, and benches has a longer life-span than treated lumber, is easier to clean, and does not require repeated sanding and sealing.

DNR Only



# Financial Details

1. Click **SAVE** to save changes and generate calculations.
2. To add rows to a section, click the + button.
3. See the Grant Program handbook [here](#) for additional information.

<u>Budget Categories</u>	<u>Need for project?*</u>		<u>Total Cost</u>
<b>Pre-planning</b> - Only includes conceptual designs, public input, public surveys and other meetings.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	No	\$10,500
<b>Administration</b> - Internal activities necessary to support the oversight and implementation of the project. This category is capped at 5% of the Project Subtotal.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	No	\$5,600
<b>Project Permitting, Plan Designs and Oversight</b> - This category is capped at 25% of the Project Subtotal.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	No	\$185,000
<b>Construction</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	No	\$1,044,100
<b>Programming</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	No	\$1,500
<b>Equipment</b> - directly related to activities supporting the construction improvements of the project; maintenance equipment is not eligible.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	No	\$3,200
	<b>Subtotal</b>		\$1,249,900
This program does permit the use of funds to cover indirect costs. Do you want to include indirect costs in this project?*			
Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No		
	<b>Budget Total</b>		\$1,249,900
<b>Grant amount requested*</b>			\$1,000,000
<b>Does this project have match?*</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	No	
<b>Total Match</b>			\$
<b>Total Project Cost</b>			\$1,249,900
a) General Funds or Local Restricted Funds (Applicant's own cash)			\$137,000
NO ARPA FUNDS			
b) Force Account Labor/Materials (Applicant's own paid labor or materials)			\$62,900
c) Federal or State Funds			\$
d) Cash Donations			\$50,000
You have entered a value for item d). <b>Please list the individual sources and the amounts to be donated below.</b>			
<u>SOURCE</u>			<u>AMOUNT</u>
* Wilson Legacy Fund Design & Access Grant			\$50,000
			\$
			\$
			\$
			\$
	<b>Total</b>		\$50,000
*Is a letter of intent from each donor included with the application?			
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	No		
e) Donated Labor and/or Materials			\$

**Maintenance** - Funding identified is based upon possible need to help support maintaining the project. Please note that the spark grant does not allow for ongoing maintenance, however the DNR may utilize this information to help align additional funding opportunities.

\$

**DNR Only**

# Additional Information

1. Click **SAVE** to save changes.
2. See the Grant Program handbook [here](#) for additional information.

## Additional Information

Provide any additional information relevant to the project such as site photos, support letters, surveys, etc.

Title:

Document Upload:

*Resolution for Design and Access Grant*

*22-23 The Wilson Legacy Fund Design and Access Grant Application IG-202221214 BOT Signed.pdf*

*SCRNP Natural Community Map*

*SCRNP NaturalCommunities Map.jpg*

*SCRNP Bird Species Observations List*

*SCRNP Bird Species Sightings List.pdf*

*Workshop COVID Impact Comments*

*Design Workshop Comments about COVID Impact.pdf*

*Accessibility Workshop Invitation*

*Invitation to Stony Creek Ravine Design Accessibiity Workshop.pdf*

*Accessibility Workshop Invitee List*

*Disability Advocate Invitation List SCRNP MMM.pdf*

*Oakland Township Safety Path and Trails Network 12-2022 Strategy Plan*

*SPTC Master Plan Map 22-12-15.pdf*

*Accessible Observation Deck Photos*

*Universally Accessible Observation Deck Photos.docx*

*SCRNP Natural Area Photos*

*Photos of Stony Creek Ravine Nature Park Natural Areas.docx*

*SCRNP Geographic Proximity Map*

*GeographicProximitytoStonyCreekRavineExpansion.pdf*

*11-21 Design Workshop Invitation*

*Invitation to Stony Creek Ravine Design Workshop.pdf*

*OTPR Inclusive Programming*

*OTPR Inclusive Programming.docx*

*OTPR Fall 2022 Newsletter*

*OTPR Fall 2022 Newsletter.pdf*

## Certification by Authorized Official

1. Click **Save** to save changes.
2. Only an Authorized Official may complete this page.

- By saving this page, I certify that I am a designated official for the applicant and that all statements on this application and the attachment hereto are true, complete and accurate to the best of my knowledge.
- I understand that if funded, all funds must be obligated into third party contract by December 31, 2024.
- I understand that if funded, this project will need to be fully expended and completed by October 31, 2026.

*Melinda Milos-Dale*  
Authorized Official

*12/19/2022 10:41:40 PM*  
Date