

# State of Wisconsin

SENATE CHAIR  
**Alberta Darling**

317 East, State Capitol  
P.O. Box 7882  
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ASSEMBLY CHAIR  
**John Nygren**

309 East, State Capitol  
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Phone: (608) 266-2343

## Joint Committee on Finance

### MEMORANDUM

To: Members  
Joint Committee on Finance

From: Senator Alberta Darling  
Representative John Nygren

Date: April 20, 2017

Re: 14-Day Passive Review Approval – DNR

Pursuant to s. 23.0917(6m), Stats., attached is a 14-day passive review request from the Department of Natural Resources, received on April 20, 2017.

Please review the material and notify **Senator Darling** or **Representative Nygren** no later than **Tuesday, May 9, 2017**, if you have any concerns about the request or if you would like the Committee to meet formally to consider it.

Also, please contact us if you need further information.

Attachments

AD:JN:jm

State of Wisconsin  
DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES  
101 S. Webster Street  
Box 7921  
Madison WI 53707-7921

Scott Walker, Governor  
Cathy Stepp, Secretary  
Telephone 608-266-2621  
FAX 608-267-3579  
TTY Access via relay - 711



April 20, 2017

The Honorable Alberta Darling, Co-Chair  
Committee on Joint Finance  
Room 317 East  
State Capitol  
PO Box 7882  
Madison WI 53707

The Honorable John Nygren, Co-Chair  
Committee on Joint Finance  
Room 309 East  
State Capitol  
PO Box 8953  
Madison, WI 53707

Dear Senator Darling and Representative Nygren:

Pursuant to s. 23.0917(6m), Wis. Stats., the Department is notifying you as co-chairs of the Joint Committee on Finance of a proposed development grant to the City of Wisconsin Rapids for the East Side River Bank Development Phase II.

The City requested grant funds to construct a multi-use trail, trail amenities, river bank terrace, scenic river overlook, accessible fishing pier, canoe/kayak launch, and restroom along the Wisconsin River in downtown Wisconsin Rapids. Upon completion of the project, the public will be able to hike, bike, picnic, observe the Wisconsin River, launch a canoe/kayak, and fish from the park.

The proposed grant award of \$580,729.00 is from the Knowles-Nelson Stewardship Program. The award amount represents 30% of the estimated total project costs. The City has secured their required matching funds.

As provided in s. 23.0917(6m)(a), Wis. Stats., if the Department does not receive notification of the scheduling of a hearing from either of the Joint Committee on Finance co-chairpersons within 14 working days from today, the Department will award this grant.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,



Cathy Stepp  
Secretary

Cc: Doug Haag – Administrator, Division of Internal Services  
Terry Bay – Director, Bureau of Facilities & Lands

Enclosure

**DATE:** April 20, 2017

**TO:** Members of the Joint Committee on Finance

**FROM:** Cathy Stepp, Secretary

**SUBJECT: REQUEST FOR APPROVAL OF STEWARDSHIP DEVELOPMENT GRANT FOR FUNDING GREATER THAN \$250,000: EAST SIDE RIVER BANK DEVELOPMENT PHASE II, CITY OF WISCONSIN RAPIDS**

Pursuant to s.s. 23.0917(6m)(a) and (c), Wis. Stats., the Department of Natural Resources is notifying you of a proposed Knowles-Nelson Stewardship Program grant in the amount of \$580,729.00 to the City of Wisconsin Rapids for the East Side River Bank Development Phase II. The Knowles-Nelson Stewardship program is funded under s. 20.866(2)(ta), Wis. Stats.

**I. PROJECT DETAILS:**

**Project Sponsor:** City of Wisconsin Rapids

**Grant Sub-programs:** Acquisition and Development of Local Parks; Urban Rivers

**County:** Wood County

**Location:** The project is located downtown Wisconsin Rapids along the east shore of the Wisconsin River, from Grand Avenue on the south to the City limits at the north. At its northern end, the new East Side River Bank trail will connect with a trail constructed by the Village of Biron in 2015.

**Project Description:** The East Side River Bank Development Phase II includes construction of a multi-use trail, trail amenities, River Bank terrace, scenic river overlook, accessible fishing pier, canoe/kayak launch, and restroom along the Wisconsin River in downtown Wisconsin Rapids.

The City of Wisconsin Rapids is implementing the East Side River Bank Development in three phases. The City received two Stewardship grants totaling \$626,274.00 for construction of Phase I. These grants were submitted to the Joint Committee on Finance in December 2015 and March 2016 for passive review. No objections were raised. Engineering and permitting for Phase I is nearing completion.

**Project Goals:** The East Side River Bank project implements goals of the Wisconsin Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan and the following local/regional plans:

- City of Wisconsin Rapids Comprehensive Plan
- City of Wisconsin Rapids Outdoor Recreation Plan
- Wood County Park, Recreation, and Open Spaces Plan
- Wisconsin Rapids Hydroelectric Project FERC Report on Recreation Resources

**Public Uses:** The East Side River Bank project will be available to the public 24/7/365. The public will be able to hike, bike, picnic, observe the Wisconsin River, launch a canoe/kayak, and fish from the park.



**Property Management:** The East Side River Bank project will be operated and maintained by City of Wisconsin Rapids.

**Timetable:** Construction will begin in fall of 2017. The project will be fully open to the public by fall of 2018.

**Project Partners:**

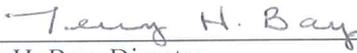
- City of Wisconsin Rapids: Design, engineering, construction, operation, and maintenance of the project.
- Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources: Grant assistance for engineering and construction.
- Federal Recreational Trails Program: Grant assistance for engineering and construction.

**II. PROJECT FINANCES:**

City Funds	\$ 1,346,958.00 (68%)
DNR Stewardship Grant	\$ 580,729.00 (30%)
Federal Recreational Trails Program Grant	\$ 45,000.00 (2%)
Total Project Cost	\$ 1,972,687.00

The Federal Recreational Trails Program grant was approved by the Federal Highway Administration in November, 2016, and verified by the Wisconsin Department of Transportation in January, 2017. The City has secured their required matching funds.

**III. RECOMMENDED:**

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Terry H. Bay, Director  
Bureau of Facilities and Lands

4/14/17  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Doug Haag, Administrator  
Division of Internal Services

4-17-17  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

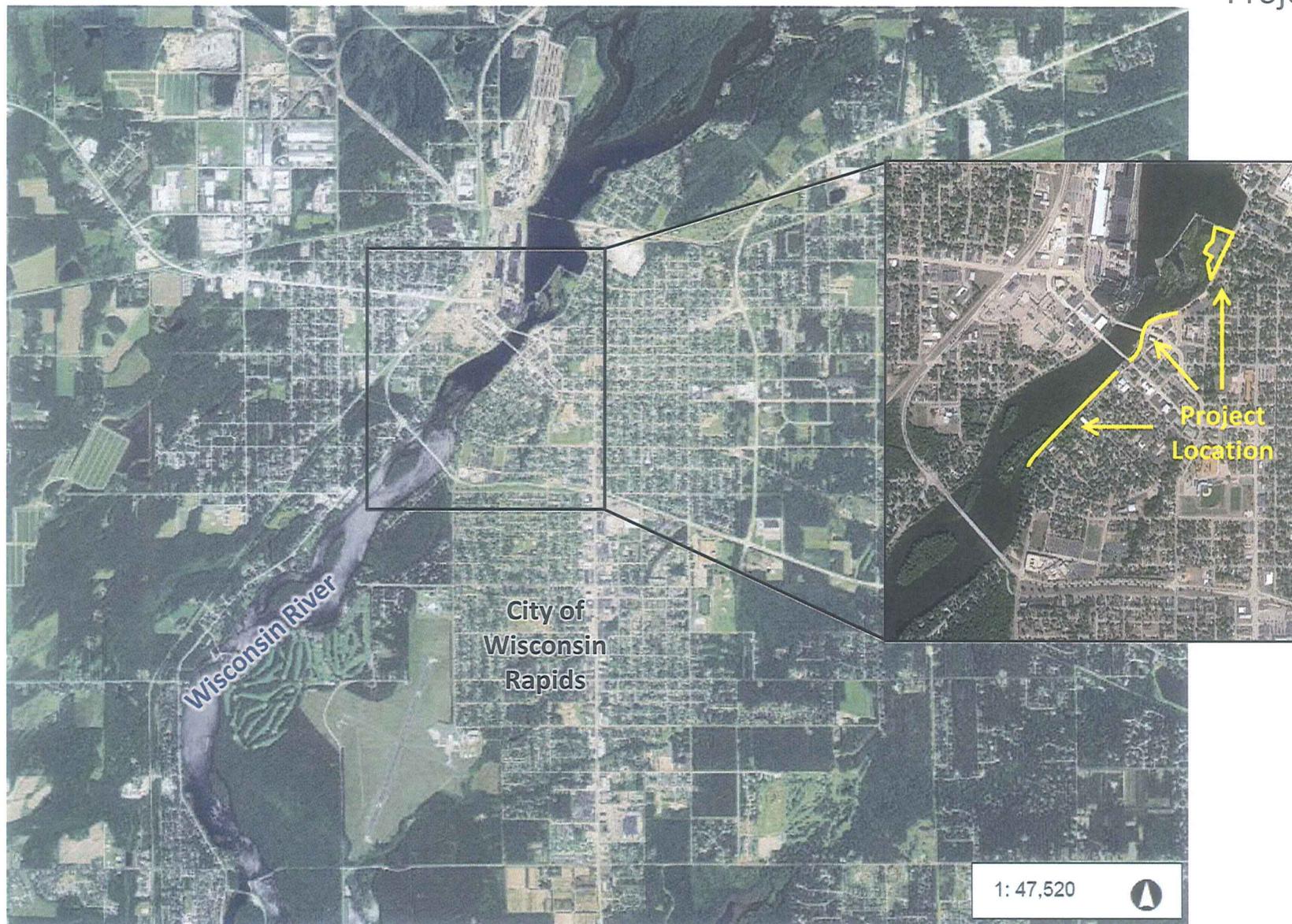
**IV. ATTACHMENTS:**

- A: Project location map
- B: Site development plan



Proposed Knowles-Nelson Local Units of Government Stewardship Grant Award  
East Side River Bank Development Phase II: City of Wisconsin Rapids, Wood County

Attachment A  
Project Location  
Map



1.5 0 0.75 1.5 Miles

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# River Bank Development Project

