

# State of Wisconsin

SENATE CHAIR  
**Alberta Darling**

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## Joint Committee on Finance

### MEMORANDUM

To: Members  
Joint Committee on Finance

From: Senator Alberta Darling  
Representative John Nygren

Date: February 5, 2019

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 February 5, 2019.

Please review the material and notify **Senator Darling** or **Representative Nygren** no later than **Friday, February 22, 2019**, 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

Tony Evers, Governor  
Preston D. Cole, Secretary  
Telephone 608-266-2621  
Toll Free 1-888-936-7463  
TTY Access via relay - 711



February 4, 2019

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

The Honorable John Nygren, Co-Chair  
Committee on Joint Finance  
Room 309 East  
State Capitol  
PO Box 8953  
Madison, WI 53708-8953

FEB 05 2019  
J. Finance

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 Knowles-Nelson Stewardship grant to the City of Oshkosh for development of the City Riverwalk Connector. The proposed grant award of \$310,175.00 is 20% of the estimated project cost.

The City will develop a new multi-use recreational trail connecting the WIOUWASH State Trail to the City's Riverwalk Trail System. The Riverwalk Connector will be constructed along the south bank of the Fox River. The Connector will complete a significant segment of the Riverwalk and includes a bump-out for fishing and scenic viewing. The project is a public-private partnership between the City and Oshkosh Corporation.

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

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Preston D. Cole  
Secretary

**DATE:** February 4, 2019  
**TO:** Members of the Joint Committee on Finance  
**FROM:** Preston D. Cole, Secretary

**SUBJECT: REQUEST FOR APPROVAL OF STEWARDSHIP DEVELOPMENT GRANT  
GREATER THAN \$250,000: CITY OF OSHKOSH RIVERWALK CONNECTOR**

Pursuant to s. 23.0917(6m)(a) and (c), Wis. Stats., the Department of Natural Resources has proposed execution of a Knowles-Nelson Stewardship grant in the amount of \$310,175.00 with the City of Oshkosh for the development of the City Riverwalk Connector. The Knowles-Nelson Stewardship program is funded under s. 20.866(2)(ta), Wis. Stats.

**I. PROJECT DETAILS:**

**Project Sponsor:** City of Oshkosh

**Project Name:** City Riverwalk Connector

**Grant Program:** Stewardship Local Units of Government, Urban Rivers Subprogram

**County:** Winnebago

**Location:** The City Riverwalk Connector will be located along the south bank of the Fox River, connecting the Tribal Heritage Trail and Rainbow Park.

**Project Description:** The City will construct ~4600 feet of paved multi-use recreational trail, a bump-out for fishing, and other trail amenities along the south bank of the Fox River. This trail segment will complete a key segment of the City Riverwalk. The Riverwalk consists of looped multi-use trails that encompass the north and south banks of the Fox River with connections to the Tribal Heritage Trail, WIOUWASH State Trail, and several local parks.

The Riverwalk Connector will be constructed on part of the former Lakeshore Municipal Golf Course site, continuing the City's long-term riverfront revitalization initiative, which began in 2008. Revitalization projects completed along the riverfront included redevelopment of Riverside Park, construction of the Leach Amphitheater, reconstruction of the Wisconsin Street Bridge, and construction of "The Rivers" senior living complex. With successful completion of these projects, riverfront revitalization efforts have now turned to completion of the Riverwalk Trail system. Oshkosh Corporation acquired 32 acres of the former golf course from the City in 2018 for development of their world headquarters. Through this private development and financial contributions, Oshkosh Corp. is a key partner on the Riverwalk Connector.

**Project Goals:** The Riverwalk Connector project supports goals of the Wisconsin Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan and the following local/regional plans:

- City of Oshkosh Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan 2018-2022
- City of Oshkosh Comprehensive Plan 2005-2025
- WIOUWASH State Recreational Trail Master Plan (1994)
- East Central Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission Action Plan (2008)
- City of Oshkosh Pedestrian and Bicycle Circulation Plan (2017)

**Public Uses:** The Connector will be accessible to the public 24 hours a day, 7 days per week, year-round. The trail will provide access to shoreline fishing and wildlife viewing opportunities. The project connects to Rainbow Park, which has a large boat launch area, parking lot, open shelters, green space, trails and playground area.

**Ownership & Management:** The City owns the project site. The City will operate and maintain the Connector and associated amenities.

**Timetable:** Construction is scheduled to begin late spring of 2019, with estimated completion by fall of the same year.

**Project Partners:**

- City of Oshkosh: Construction management and ongoing operation/maintenance
- Oshkosh Corporation: Cash donation
- Federal Land and Water Conservation Fund (LAWCON): Grant assistance
- Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (DNR): Grant assistance

**II. PROJECT FINANCES:**

City of Oshkosh	\$	193,248.00
Oshkosh Corp. Donation	\$	600,000.00
DNR Stewardship Grant	\$	310,175.00
<u>Federal LAWCON Grant</u>	<u>\$</u>	<u>483,072.00</u>
Project Total	\$	1,586,495.00

The City has secured their required matching funds.

**III. RECOMMENDED:**

Terry Bay  
Terry Bay, Director, Bureau of Facilities and Lands

1/31/19  
Date

Douglas Haag  
Douglas Haag, Administrator, Division of Internal Services

2-1-19  
Date

Attachments: Project Maps

# Attachment A Project Location Map

Proposed Knowles-Nelson Local Units of Government Stewardship Grant Award  
Riverwalk Connector: City of Oshkosh, Winnebago County



DISCLAIMER: The information shown on these maps has been obtained from various sources and are of varying age, reliability and resolution. These maps are not intended to be used for navigation nor are these maps an authoritative source of information about legal land ownership or public access. No warranty, expressed or implied, is made regarding accuracy, applicability for a particular use, completeness or legality of the information depicted on this map. For more information, see the DNR Legal Notices web page: <https://dnr.wi.gov/legal/>

Projection: NAD\_1983\_HARN\_Wisconsin\_TM



Proposed Knowles-Nelson Local Units of Government Stewardship Grant Award  
 Riverwalk Connector: City of Oshkosh, Winnebago County

Attachment B  
 Project Site Map

