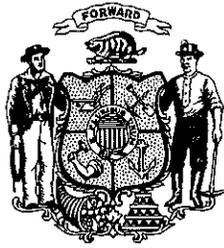


State of Wisconsin

SENATE CHAIR
Alberta Darling

317 East, State Capitol
P.O. Box 7882
Madison, WI 53707-7882
Phone: (608) 266-5830



ASSEMBLY CHAIR
John Nygren

308 East, State Capitol
P.O. Box 8593
Madison, WI 53708-8953
Phone: (608) 266-2343

Joint Committee on Finance

MEMORANDUM

To: Members
Joint Committee on Finance

From: Senator Alberta Darling
Representative John Nygren

Date: August 29, 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 August 29, 2019.

Please review the material and notify **Senator Darling** or **Representative Nygren** no later than **Wednesday, September 18, 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



August 28, 2019

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

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

AUG 29 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 the use of Stewardship Program funds in excess of \$250,000. These funds will be provided through the Recreational Boating Facility (RBF) grant program. Effective October 27, 2007, RBF grants are funded with Stewardship Program moneys.

The City of Omro has requested grant aid totaling \$581,528 to reconstruct and enhance the existing deteriorated, non-ADA compliant boat launch/ramps, seawalls, and boarding and transient docking. This project will: widen the existing launch ramp area, repair all adjacent seawalls, construct and install new ADA-compliant floating boarding docks, add ADA-compliant floating docks for transient boaters to use, install a canoe/kayak launch, and rehabilitate all support facilities including parking lots, connecting walkways, and access drives.

The City of Omro, Lower Miller Park Boat Launch project meets the following goals:

- Replaces the old, deteriorated launch, seawalls, docks and parking areas.
- Provides and enhances public access for the elderly and disabled through ADA improvements.
- Increases recreational opportunities on the water with the installation of a canoe/kayak launch.
- Stabilizes shoreline and improves stormwater control and filtration to limit runoff impact to the Fox River.
- Improves overall traffic safety through improved traffic flow and creation of a boat staging area.

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 the date of this letter, the Department will award this grant.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Beth Beer

for Preston D. Cole
Secretary Designee

C: Dave Siebert, Administrator, External Services Division
Jean Romback-Bartels, Secretary Director, NER
Roberta Winebar, Recreational Boating Grant Program Manager
Jessica Terrien, RBF Grant Project Manager, NER

CORRESPONDENCE/MEMORANDUM

DATE: August 28, 2019

TO: Members of the Joint Committee on Finance

FROM: Preston D. Cole, Secretary Designee

**SUBJECT: REQUEST FOR APPROVAL –
RECREATIONAL BOATING FACILITY GRANT USING
STEWARDSHIP PROGRAM FUNDS GREATER THAN \$250,000**

Pursuant to s. 23.0917(6m)(a) and (c), Wis. Stats., the Department is notifying you of the proposed use of Stewardship Program funds in excess of \$250,000. These funds will be provided through the Recreational Boating Facility (RBF) grant program. Effective October 27, 2007, RBF grants are funded with Stewardship Program moneys. The Knowles-Nelson Stewardship program is funded under s. 20.866(2)(ta), Wis. Stats. The City of Omro has requested \$581,528 to renovate its boat launch, seawalls, transient marina, and parking area at Lower Miller Park.

I. PROJECT DETAILS:

Project Sponsor: City of Omro
Grant sub-program: Recreational Boating Facilities (RBF)
Location: Lower Miller Park, City of Omro, Winnebago County. The boat launch facility and park are located on the Fox River and is open to the public for boating, fishing, and picnicking.

Project Description: The City of Omro is proposing to reconstruct and enhance the existing facilities at Lower Miller Park, City of Omro. The park has deteriorated and is currently not ADA-compliant. The proposed project will widen the existing launch ramp area, repair all adjacent seawalls, construct and install new ADA-compliant floating boarding docks, add ADA-compliant floating docks for transient boaters to use, install a canoe/kayak launch, and rehabilitate all support facilities including parking lots, connecting walkways, and access drives.

Background: The improvements at Lower Miller Park will address the deteriorated conditions (due to age and use) that pose a safety concern and the lack of a fully ADA-accessible facility. The boat launch facilities are in the lower section of the park that also houses the municipal family aquatic center. These facilities are located a block north of State Highway 21, which runs through the downtown section of the City. As Lower Miller Park has aged and deteriorated, boaters have migrated to the other two public launches that the City operates. As a result, those other two launches are overcrowded and unable to handle all the boaters wanting to launch. It is time for the City to now upgrade Lower Miller Park to help meet the needs of all boaters. The other two launch facilities do not have separate canoe/kayak launches, which is a recreational activity that is seeing a significant increase in popularity. Improvements will bring this launch fully into ADA-compliance. The installation of floating docks will help maintain regular operation during water level fluctuations. This investment will improve the overall viability of the park and contribute to the local economy by continuing to provide high quality public access to all boaters on the heavily used Fox River.

Project Goals: The City of Omro, Lower Miller Park Boat Launch project meets the following goals:

- Replaces the old, deteriorated launch, seawalls, docks and parking areas.
- Provides and enhances public access for the elderly and disabled through ADA improvements.
- Increases recreational opportunities on the water with the installation of a canoe/kayak launch.
- Stabilizes shoreline and improves stormwater control and filtration to limit runoff impact to the Fox River.
- Improves overall traffic safety through improved traffic flow and creation of a boat staging area.

Public Uses: The park and boat launch are available to the public seven days per week, 365 days per year, for boating, fishing, and picnicking. The new design accommodates two-lanes of launching, additional vehicle/trailer parking spaces, and a separate canoe/kayak launch area away from the motorized launch. The new traffic flow will be safer for all users and the life of the facility will be increased due to the improved storm water drainage.

Property Management: The launch will be operated and maintained by the City of Omro, consistent with its management policy.

Timetable: The City expects to advertise for bids in fall 2019. Construction is proposed to begin in May 2020 and be complete in the fall of 2020.

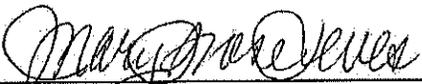
Partnerships:

- City of Omro: Responsible for redevelopment, operation, and maintenance.
- Department of Natural Resources: Provides financial assistance in the form of a grant.

II. PROJECT FINANCES:

Total Project Costs	\$ 1,163,056	
City of Omro contribution		\$ 581,528
<u>DNR RBF grant amount</u>		<u>\$ 581,528</u>
		\$1,163,056

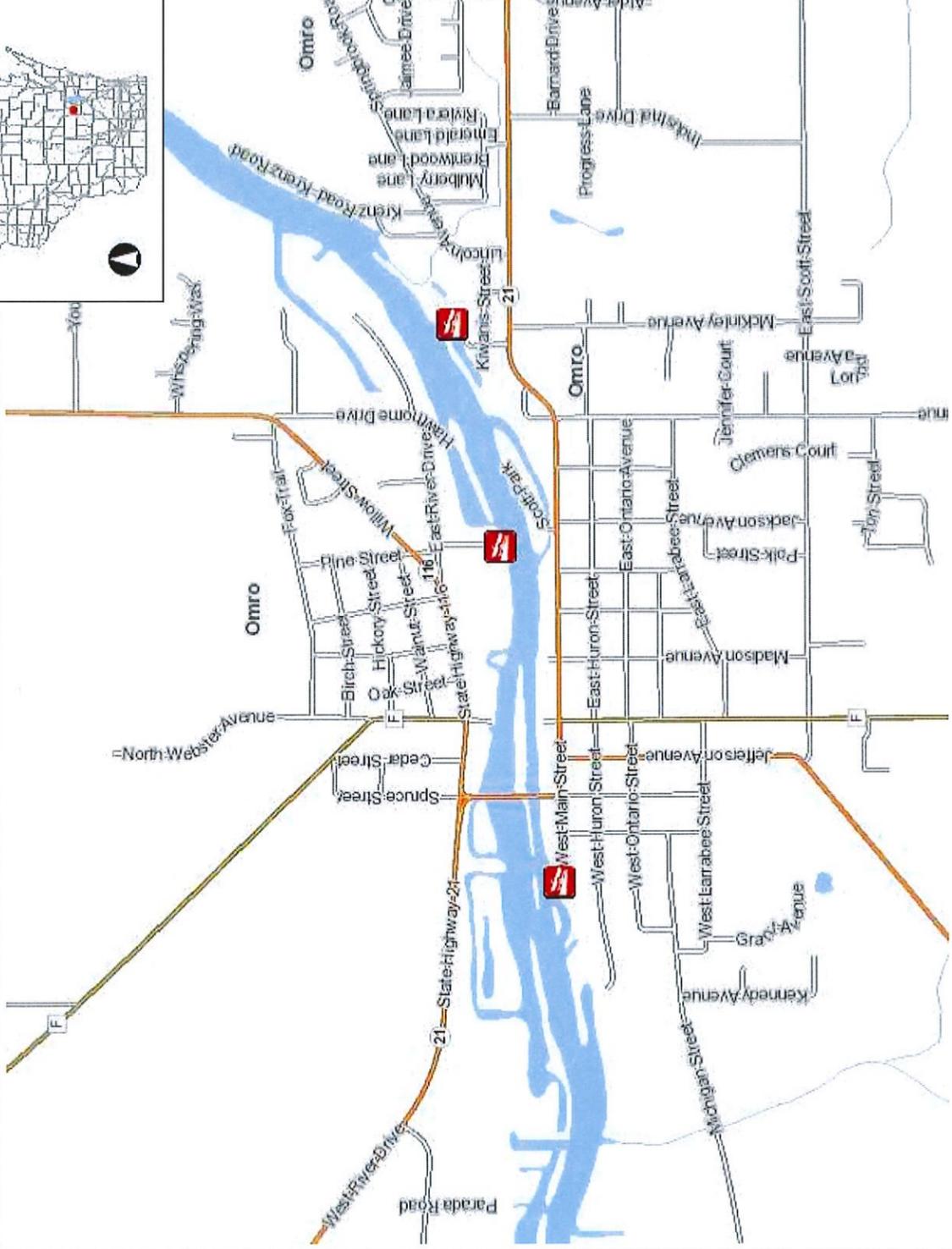
III. RECOMMENDED:

 _____ Mary Rose Teyes, Director Bureau of Community Financial Assistance	 _____ David Siebert, Administrator External Services Division	<u>27 Aug 2019</u> Date	<u>8/27/19</u> Date
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Attachments:

- Appendix A – Lower Miller Park map
- Appendix B – Conceptual site plan
- Appendix C – Current photos

Omro Boat Launches



Legend

- Parking Lot
- Shore Fishing
- Boat Access
- CARRY-IN
- RAMP
- UNKNOWN
- Municipality
- State Boundaries
- County Boundaries
- Major Roads
 - Interstate Highway
 - State Highway
 - US Highway
- County and Local Roads
 - County HWY
 - Local Road
- Railroads
- Tribal Lands
- Rivers and Streams
- Intermittent Streams
- Lakes and Open water

Notes

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: <http://dnr.wi.gov/legal/>

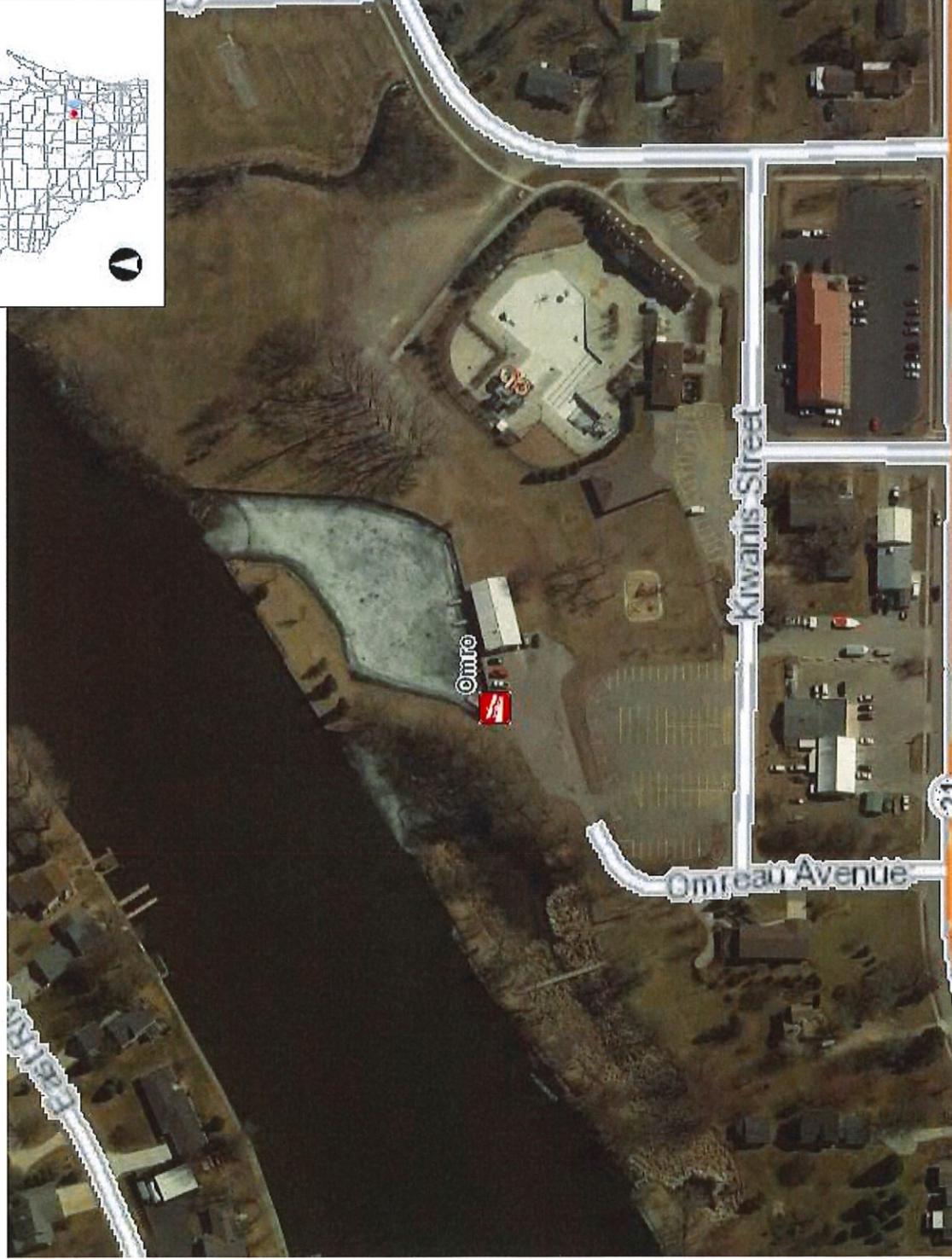


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Lower Miller Park and Boat Launch Map



Legend

- Parking Lot
- Shore Fishing
- Boat Access
- CARRY-IN
- RAMP
- UNKNOWN
- Municipality
- State Boundaries
- County Boundaries
- Major Roads
- Interstate Highway
- State Highway
- US Highway
- County and Local Roads
- County HWY
- Local Road
- Railroads
- Tribal Lands
- Index to
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Notes

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Appendix C - Current Photos



Existing boat launch to be reconstructed with a new floating pier.



Existing seawall to be repaired as the existing boards have
To be replaced and the wall will be backfilled properly behind it.



Existing turn around area for boat launch. Pavement area will be reconstructed.



Existing boat launch to be reconstructed and sections of existing
Seawall to be removed to widen the launch a make it safer.



Existing transient marina and seawall to launch area.



Existing seawall by restroom building and associated permanent/stationary docks to be removed.