

# State of Wisconsin

SENATE CHAIR  
**Howard Marklein**

316 East, State Capitol  
P.O. Box 7882  
Madison, WI 53707-7882  
Phone: (608) 266-0703



ASSEMBLY CHAIR  
**Mark Born**

308 East, State Capitol  
P.O. Box 8592  
Madison, WI 53708-8953  
Phone: (608) 266-2540

## Joint Committee on Finance

### MEMORANDUM

To: Members  
Joint Committee on Finance

From: Senator Howard Marklein  
Representative Mark Born

Date: January 24, 2024

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 January 24, 2024.

Please review the material and notify **Senator Marklein** or **Representative Born** no later than **Monday, February 12, 2024**, if you have any concerns about the request or if you would like the Committee to meet formally to consider it.

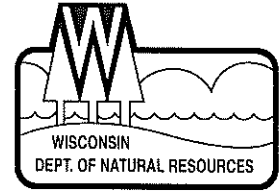
Also, please contact us if you need further information.

Attachments

HM:MB:jm

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

**Tony Evers, Governor**  
**Adam N. Payne, Secretary**  
Telephone 608-266-2621  
Toll Free 1-888-936-7463  
TTY Access via relay - 711



JAN 24 2024  
*St. Finance*

1/22/2024

The Honorable Howard Marklein Co-Chair  
Committee on Joint Finance  
Room 316 East  
State Capitol  
PO Box 7882  
Madison WI 53707

The Honorable Mark Born, Co-Chair  
Committee on Joint Finance  
Room 308 East  
State Capitol  
PO Box 8952  
Madison, WI 53708

Dear Senator Marklein and Representative Born:

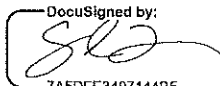
Pursuant to s. 23.0917(6m), Wis. Stats., the Department is notifying you as co-chairs of the Committee on Joint Finance of a proposed development grant to the City of Oconomowoc for the John and Lavinia Rockwell Park Restrooms and Pavilion development project using grant funds in the amount of \$335,000.00 from the Knowles-Nelson Stewardship Program. The proposed grant award represents 50% of the estimated total project costs. This parcel is located in the City of Oconomowoc, Waukesha County.

The proposed project will construct ADA accessible restrooms, a pavilion, pathway, and stairwell. In addition, utility work will be completed, lighting installed, and site furnishings included at the John and Lavinia Rockwell Park.

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

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

DocuSigned by:  
  
7A5DFE3497144B5...  
Steven Little  
Deputy Secretary

**CORRESPONDENCE/MEMORANDUM**

**DATE:** 1/22/2024

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

**FROM:** Steven Little, Deputy Secretary

**SUBJECT: Request for approval of stewardship development grant exceeding \$250,000**

Pursuant to 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 \$335,000 to City of Oconomowoc for the John and Lavinia Rockwell Park Restrooms and Pavilion development project. The Knowles-Nelson Stewardship program is funded under s. 20.866(2)(ta), Wis. Stats.

**I. PROJECT DETAILS:**

**Project Sponsor:** City of Oconomowoc

**Grant Subprogram:** Acquisition and Development of Local Parks

**Location:** John and Lavinia Rockwell Park is located in the City of Oconomowoc, Waukesha County.

**Project Description:** This project will construct ADA accessible restrooms, pavilion, utility work, pathway, stairwell, lighting, and site furnishings at Rockwell Park. The park is located on a unique parcel that sits between Lac La Belle and Fowler Lake, providing canoe/kayak access to both lakes and portage around the dam located between them. The proposed restrooms will be built into a hill, which will lower the demands for heating/cooling. Most of the remaining park will remain green space to reduce the heat island effect. The public fundraised the \$2 million to purchase the property and keep it green space, and additionally raised over \$600,000 to do the initial development of the park. A map and conceptual site plan for this project are attached.

**Public Benefit:** Providing support facilities such as a restroom and pavilion to a developed park allows users to stay and recreate longer. It will give the public a reason to stop while they are kayaking or canoeing on Lac La Belle or Fowler Lake and enjoy the park amenities. These facilities will allow the city to utilize this park for more activities, special events, fundraisers, etc.

**Coordination with recreational planning:** This project will advance the purposes of the Acquisition and Development of Local Parks grant program and objectives of local and regional recreation planning efforts by:

- providing new public nature-based outdoor recreation facilities.
- enhancing public access to the park.
- implementing recommendations from the City of Oconomowoc 2030 Park and Open Space Plan and the Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan.

**Public Access:** The John and Lavinia Rockwell Park will be available to the public from 7:00 am-10:00 pm, 7 days per week, and 365 days per year. Users will be able to enjoy the open green space, the canoe/kayak launches on Lac La Belle and Fowler Lake, walk and bike on the pathways, sit on one of the new benches and enjoy the view of both lakes, use the pavilion for shade, a picnic on a nice day, or plan a special event.

**Property Management:** John and Lavinia Rockwell Park will be operated and maintained by the City of Oconomowoc.

**Timetable:** Construction will begin April 2024. It will be completed and fully open to the public by December 2024.

**Partnerships:** The Build Rockwell Team is fundraising the entire match for this project, \$335,000.

**II. PROJECT FINANCES:**

City of Oconomowoc - donations match	\$335,000
Proposed Stewardship grant	<u>\$335,000</u> (50%)
Total project costs	\$670,000

**III. RECOMMENDED:**

 1/21/2024 | 9:17 PM CST

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Terry H. Bay, Director  
Bureau of Facilities and Lands

Date

 1/23/2024 | 9:05 AM CST

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Tim Cooke, Administrator  
Division of Internal Services

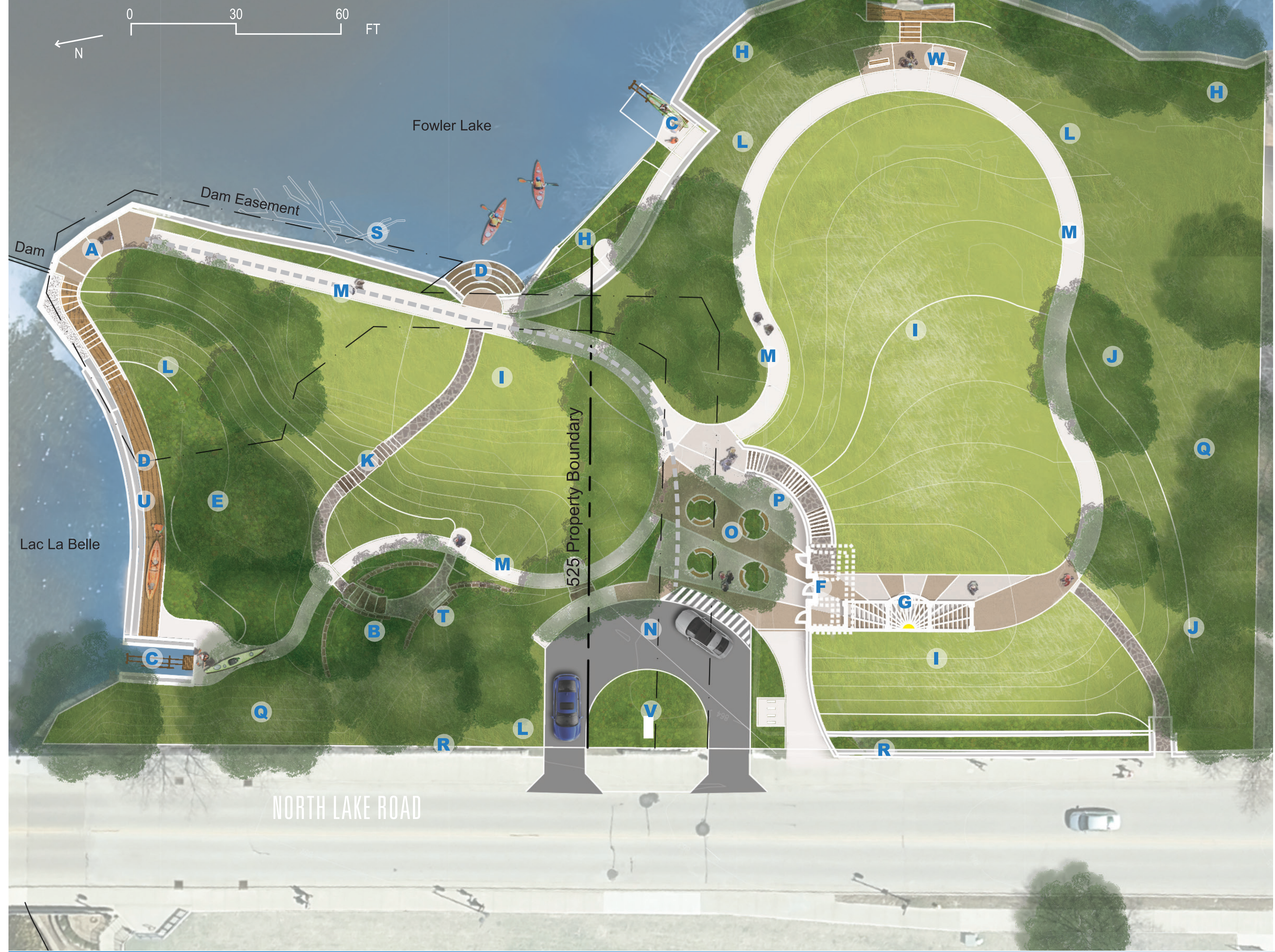
Date

Attachments: Appendix A – Map and Conceptual site plan

### Appendix A: Location Map - John and Lavinia Rockwell Park - City of Oconomowoc











# CONCEPT PLAN



## Legend

- A: Overlook
- B: Terraced Shade Garden
- C: Accessible Kayak Ramp
- D: Stepped Kayak Launch
- E: Raingarden
- F: Walkout Restroom
- G: "Front Porch" with Sunburst Pattern Pergola
- H: Shoreline Restoration
- I: Lawn
- J: Bird Habitat Hedge
- K: Stone Step Portage Route
- L: Native Ornamental Short Meadow
- M: Accessible Walking Route
- N: Dropoff & ADA Parking
- O: Plaza
- P: Decorative Donor Wall
- Q: Preserve Existing Trees
- R: Preserve Existing Wall
- S: Fish Habitat
- T: Decorative Bench
- U: Boardwalk with Terraced Wall
- V: Monument Entry Sign
- W: "Back Porch" with Swing Benches

-  Lawn
-  Native Meadow
-  Garden
-  Dam Maint. Access Route
-  Decorative Pavement
-  Rustic Stone Pathway
-  Stained Glass Panel in Pergola Roof
-  Tree Planter with Benches

June 29, 2021