

**MCHENRY COUNTY CONSERVATION DISTRICT  
RESOLUTION #20-108**

**ADVANCING THE PRAIRIE TRAIL - MCHENRY RESURFACING AND WAYFARING SIGNAGE  
PROJECT - PHASE 1 TO THE MCHENRY COUNTY CONSERVATION FOUNDATION FOR  
FUNDING CONSIDERATION**

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**WHEREAS**, the McHenry County Conservation Foundation is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization classified by the Internal Revenue Service as a 509(a)3, Type 1 supporting organization of the McHenry County Conservation District; and

**WHEREAS**, the Prairie Trail is a 26-mile, multi-use trail stretches across the length of McHenry County from north to south. The trail passes through eight municipalities and is used by an estimated 135,000 people annually. For nearly 25 years, the trail has served not only as a recreational opportunity, but as a valuable resource that links residents and visitors with services and amenities in our communities; and

**WHEREAS**, the District's Capital Asset Management Plan (CAMP) contains a number of improvements and repairs that need to take to place along the Prairie Trail in coming years; and

**WHEREAS**, staff is seeking consensus to move the following project forward to the McHenry Country Conservation Foundation's Board of Director for funding consideration; and

**WHEREAS**, establishing wayfaring signage along the Prairie Trail. Signage of this sort is common along trails where public-private partnerships exist, serving to further "brand" the trail and strengthen local economic development and ecotourism.

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, the Board of Trustees of the District recommends moving the advancement of the Prairie Trail - McHenry Resurfacing and Wayfaring Signage Project - Phase 1 to the McHenry County Conservation Foundation forward for funding consideration.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Secretary of the Board of Trustees be directed to provide a copy of this resolution to the Road District.



IN WITNESS WHEREOF, this Resolution #20-108 has been executed this 19<sup>th</sup> day of November 2020, by the President and attested by the Secretary of the Board of Trustees of the District.

Ayes: 7

Nays: 0

Absent: 0

Abstain: 0

  
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JOHN HENNING, PRESIDENT  
BOARD OF TRUSTEES

  
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CAROLYN CAMPBELL, SECRETARY  
BOARD OF TRUSTEES





## Funding Request Form

Please submit with the required budget worksheet.

**Project Title:** Prairie Trail - McHenry Resurfacing and Wayfaring Signage

**Project Manager:** Amy Peters, Planning Manager

**Project Description:**

The Prairie Trail is a 26 mile, multi-use trail that stretches across the length of McHenry County from north to south. The trail passes through eight municipalities and is used by an estimated 135,000 people annually. For nearly 25 years, the trail has served not only as a recreational opportunity, but as a valuable resource that links residents and visitors with services and amenities in our communities.

The District's Capital Asset Management Plan (CAMP) contains a number of improvements and repairs that need to take to place along the Prairie Trail in coming years, including:

- Improvements/resurfacing of the Prairie Trail in McHenry;
- Stern's Woods Prairie Trail improvements and connections to Crystal Lake Park District Trails;  
and
- Improvements to the Prairie Trail in Ringwood.

It's anticipated that additional work will also be needed in the coming years as the 25-year-old trail approaches the end of its life expectancy.

Additionally, District staff is interested in erecting wayfaring signage along the Prairie Trail. Signage of this sort is common along trails where public-private partnership exist, serving to further "brand" the trail and strengthen local economic development and ecotourism.

This request is for the first segment of repairs and signage along the Prairie Trail in McHenry. The District anticipates an RTP grant award which would cover 80% of the project costs and has a 20% match requirement. Staff believes that the Community Foundation of McHenry County would be receptive to considering a grant request to provide up to \$75,000 for this project as part of their Transformational Grant cycle. Additionally, given that signage along the Prairie Trail would increase the connection between trail investments and local economic development, it is believed that private businesses and the municipalities that benefit by having the trail at their front door would be receptive to asks for support. If successful in finding support for the first portion of work, staff anticipates replicating the approach to fund future Prairie Trail improvements.



**Project Goal(s):**

Project goals include enhanced recreational opportunities along the Prairie Trail and the establishment of public-private partnerships with community members and the municipalities along the trail.

**Total Project Budget:** \$ 275,000.00

**Funds Needed from McHenry County Conservation Foundation:** \$ 75,000.00

**If Foundation Request is for Partial Funding, List Other Funding Sources:**

RTP Grant (pending): \$200,000



**Date Funds are Needed By:** 06/01/2021

**Expected Project Start Date:** 07/01/2021

**Expected Project End Date:** 12/31/2021

**Prairie Trail - McHenry Resurfacing/ Renovation & Wayfinding Signage Project - Phase 1**  
**McCullum Lake Road to Route 120**

<b>Construction</b>		<b>Budget</b>
1	Permits	\$ 500.00
2	Construction Documents and Bidding	\$ 500.00
3	Mobilization/ Traffic Control	\$ 5,000.00
4	Demolition of Existing Asphalt (HMA), replacement of additional aggregate base (if needed) and resurfacing with new HMA	\$ 168,000.00
5	Pedestrian Crossing Improvements	\$ 30,000.00
6	Regulatory Signage and Pavement Markings	\$ 7,000.00
7	Restoration and Native Landscaping	\$ 40,000.00
<b>Total Construction Cost:</b>		<b>\$ 250,000.00</b>

<b>Total Construction Cost:</b>	<b>\$ 250,000.00</b>
<b>RTP Requested (80%) Construction Cost:</b>	<b>\$ 200,000.00</b>
<b>District (Local) Match (20%) Construction Cost:</b>	<b>\$ 50,000.00</b>

<b>Wayfinding Signage Design - Phase 1</b>		<b>Budget</b>
1	Artist / Artwork Fee (3 custom designs for \$2,000 each)	\$ 6,000.00
2	Signage Design + Fabrication (Assuming In-house design; x3 signs)	\$ 10,000.00
3	Installation (Assuming In-house construction; x3 locations)	\$ 7,500.00
4	Donation Recognition (8x10 print of artwork, bulk)	\$ 1,500.00
<b>Total Signage Cost:</b>		<b>\$ 25,000.00</b>
<b>TOTAL PROJECT COST</b>		<b>\$ 275,000.00</b>
<b>TOTAL FOUNDATION REQUEST</b>		<b>\$ 75,000.00</b>





## Trail Signage from the Wisconsin Glacial Park Trail

Example Only: Prairie Trail signage is not expected to mirror these



