

November 10, 2022

TO THE HONORABLE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF BERRIEN COUNTY, MICHIGAN: Your County Administration Committee respectfully recommends the adoption of the following:

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, the Berrien County Board of Commissioners (BOC) approved the Parks & Recreation Plan 2020-2024 which included the Berrien County Linear Trail, connecting all 7 current parks with safe pedestrian and bicycle trails – known as non-motorized transportation facilities; and

WHEREAS, a part of that plan includes non-motorized transportation facilities along Red Arrow Highway, also referred to as the Red Arrow Linear Park Pathway Project (PROJECT); and

WHEREAS, in 2021, the BOC authorized applying for and later accepting a U.S. Department of Agriculture Rural Business Development Grant for the engineering design funding for the PROJECT, specifically the 1.8 miles of road right-of-way from US-12 to Community Hall Road in New Buffalo Township; and

WHEREAS, the Berrien County Road Department (BCRD), an Act 51 Agency, was recently made aware of available Michigan Department of Transportation-Transportation Alternative Program (TAP) grant funds and the Southwest Michigan Planning Commission has offered to write the TAP grant application for the construction of that piece of the PROJECT; and

WHEREAS, the estimated budget for the construction is \$900,000 and the BCRD would like to apply for 60% of the project budget (up to \$540,000) with a 40% match (up to \$360,000); and

WHEREAS, the BCRD, as an Act 51 agent, is applying for the grant to meet the 10K rule; and

WHEREAS, other entities have offered funding for the full grant match and future maintenance costs associated with the non-motorized transportation facility; and

WHEREAS, if awarded, the BCRD will formalize the additional funding for the grant match and future maintenance costs, prior to accepting the grant.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED that the Berrien County Board of Commissioners authorizes the Berrien County Road Department to proceed with an application for the TAP Grant for the purposes of funding a non-motorized transportation facility in New Buffalo Township as described above and identifies the Engineering Supervisor to be the authorized official for grant documents associated with this funding.

**RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED
BERRIEN COUNTY ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE**

Jim Curran, Chairperson

David Vollrath, Vice Chairperson

James R. Martin

Julie Wuerfel

RESOLUTION APPROVED AS TO FORM	
Administrator <u>[Signature]</u>	Date <u>11.9.22</u>
Comments Attached _____	
Corporate Counsel _____	Date _____
Comments Attached _____	