

2020 LAND AND WATER CONSERVATION FUND

Congress approved an apportionment of \$2,811,620 for the State of Iowa. A total of \$2,000,118 is available to cities and counties for outdoor recreation acquisition and development projects from one half of Iowa's apportionment plus additional roll-over funding from 2019.

A total of 17 applications were received by the March 15, 2020 deadline. Grant requests for the 17 applications totaled \$1,706,995 for a variety of activities including general park improvements, campground developments, playgrounds and land acquisitions. (Some applications included aspects that fit into more than one of the previous listed areas).

A five member committee reviewed the 17 applications and scored/ranked them based on the following criteria:

- Relationship to SCORP Priorities (Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan)
- Direct Recreation Benefits Provided
- Local Need
- Quality of the Site

Additional bonus points and penalty points are also included in the scoring system. They are based on such things as level of prior assistance from the LWCF; special features for the elderly and handicapped; minority populations served; degree of public participation and supports; recycled content material use; and level of planning that has preceded the application for a LWCF grant.

On May 14, 2020 and August 13, 2020, the Natural Resource Commission approved the ranking from the Review Committee. After the appropriation letter was received, it was determined that the top 16 projects were approved for full funding.

Ranked List of Land and Water Conservation Fund – City and County Grants

Rank	Score	Grant Applicant	Project	Total Project Cost	Grant Amount Requested	Grant Award
1	75	City of Des Moines	Chesterfield Park Master Plan Implementation	\$1,210,000	\$200,000	\$200,000
	Chesterfield Park Master Plan Implementation will improve an existing 5.8-acre outdoor park space in a diverse neighborhood with a desperate need for new amenities. The improvements will include, but are not limited to, a splash pad, playground, unprogrammed open lawn space, a walking loop, an open-air shelter, restroom renovations, a basketball court, and permanent table tennis.					
2	70.2	Boone County Conservation Board	Swede Park Trail, High Trestle to City Segment	\$520,000	\$150,000	\$150,000
	Phase 1B trail project in will create a paved trail within Swede Park and connect the camping area to the High Trestle Trail. The overall Phase I will extend along QM Ave. and Hwy 210, and connect to the High Trestle Trail via advisory bike lanes along QF lane.					
3	69	City of Chariton	Chariton City Splash Pad	\$450,000	\$75,000	\$75,000
	The City of Chariton, Iowa and the local youth leadership group "Splash" have plans to build a splash pad for the Chariton and Lucas County community. The splash pad will be adjacent to the current aquatic center and utilize the water and mechanics to recirculate the water from the pool area to the splash pad. We are requesting \$75,000.00 from LWCF to assist with the project.					
4	68.6	Poweshiek County Conservation Board	Diamond Lake Stagecoach Trail Enhancement Project	\$156,118	\$78,059	\$78,059
	The Stagecoach Trail is a trail system that connects Montezuma to Diamond Lake Park in central Iowa. Enhancements to the trail and park area are needed, including an improved parking area along the trail that is handicapped accessible, an updated bathroom facility from the current pit toilets, access to potable water, and improvements to the trail surface.					

Rank	Score	Grant Applicant	Project	Total Project Cost	Grant Amount Requested	Grant Award
5	68.6	City of Elk Heights	Mayor's Park Enhancements	\$94,067	\$47,033	\$47,033
	The City of Elk Run Heights seeks funding for the replacement of an existing park shelter and the construction of a new restroom facility. These park enhancements will both include storm collection and rain gardens to encourage bird and butterfly habitat. The shelter will include LED solar lights, wood laminate beams, and steel roof drip edges.					
6	68.4	City of Murray	Murray Recreation Complex, Phase II	\$602,155	\$50,000	\$50,000
	The Murray Recreational Complex is a future 12-acre park in the town of Murray, IA that will have 3 ball fields, 3 mini soccer fields, a multi-use concession building, sidewalks, trails, a half basketball court, playgrounds and parking. This application is to help fund Phase 2 of the project, which will include a sidewalk extension, a trail extension, an irrigation system, and a multi-use concessions building.					
7	66.4	City of Sioux City	Chris Larsen Park Riverfront Development Project	\$14,000,000	\$200,000	\$200,000
	The Project is located along the Missouri River on city-owned land. The park development will be designed to include all new construction of: park facilities; gathering spaces for small and large events; everyday spaces for active and passive activities.					
8	66.4	City of Swisher	Castek Park Walking Trail	\$83,400	\$40,190	\$40,190
	LWCF funds will be used for trail improvements on the existing grass and dirt walking trail located at Castek Park in Swisher, Iowa. Improvements include paving, installing culverts and grading to address drainage, and the installation of a Born Learning! Trail, a set of interactive signs to encourage physical activity and play for children and young families.					
9	66.2	Jasper County Conservation Board	Bison Ridge Campground at Mariposa Recreation Area	\$258,000	\$129,000	\$129,000
	A large lake restoration project was recently completed at Mariposa Recreation Area. The bison wildlife exhibit was removed to allow more room for construction. At project completion, the bison pen area was graded to prepare for modern campground. This project will create a 10 site modern campground with electricity, water, a shower house and dump station.					
10	65.8	City of Spirit Lake	Spirit Lake Community Park	\$1,300,000	\$75,000	\$75,000
	The Spirit Lake Community Park will be a unique and aesthetically pleasing community park available to all patrons. The park will entail a lighted pathway with a beautifully structured promenade, creative steel art structures, countless recreational facilities such as tennis, pickleball, bocce ball, shuffleboard and basketball and modern rubber playground. Everyone will reap the benefits of the park.					
11	63.8	City of Bloomfield	Bloomfield City Pool Upgrades	\$145,737	\$71,536	\$71,536
	The City of Bloomfield currently has a deteriorating city pool that requires some upgrades and repairs to maintain the proper functioning and safety requirements. This project would assist in funding the repairs of the concrete pool deck, rusted toilet stalls, replacing bathroom ventilation systems, repairing and adding shade features, updating lighting to LED and repainting the main pool.					
12	63.2	Van Buren County Conservation Board	Lake Sugema Campground Enhancement Project	\$122,338	\$61,169	\$61,169
	This project will upgrade the electrical in campsites with existing service, add electrical to primitive campsites and replace the existing roadway through the campground. The driveway has deteriorated with over 20 years of use and the electrical does not meet today's demands. These improvements are part of a larger project called to improve outdoor recreation opportunities throughout the county.					
13	63.0	City of Washington	Wellness Park	\$3,571,467	\$100,000	\$100,000
	Construct four baseball/soft ball fields, two soccer fields, a concession stand, access road and shared use trail connecting the park to the Kewash Trail.					

Rank	Score	Grant Applicant	Project	Total Project Cost	Grant Amount Requested	Grant Award
14	62.2	City of Newton	Arbor Estates Pond and Sledding Hill	\$1,450,565	\$125,000	\$125,000
	This project will construct a fishing pond and sledding hill in the new Arbor Estates subdivision. The pond will include an ADA fishing pier. The subdivision will include connection trails throughout the neighborhood.					
15	61.4	Ringgold County Conservation Board	Liberty Lake Development Project	\$350,795	\$100,000	\$100,000
	Ringgold County Conservation acquired Liberty Lake in 2018. This relatively undeveloped area has been deemed a priority asset to establish cabins, kayak and canoe rentals, a shower house, electric camping and a lodge. These amenities are not currently available to Ringgold CCB area users and will be an exciting new addition to rural Iowa communities. LWCF funds will establish these assets.					
16	61.2	City of Mason City	High Line Trail Phase I Improvements	\$260,016	\$130,008	\$130,008
	Development of a 10 ft. wide lime chip trail with 2 ft. shoulders along approximately 0.41 miles of the former Union Pacific Railroad property. This segment of trail will run from 1st Street SE to 4th Street NE.					
17	57	City of Glidden	Glidden City Northland Park	\$251,560	\$75,000	-0-
	The City of Glidden is looking to dig a pond in the city's Northland Park. This pond will allow visitors to the park the opportunity to fish. LCWF funds will be used to complete the excavation.					