

Iowa Department of Natural Resources
Natural Resource Commission

ITEM

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DECISION

TOPIC

Land and Water Conservation Fund - City and County Grants

The Commission is requested to approve the ranking of the project applications for the Land and Waters Conservation Fund Program, City and County Grants, and award grants to applicants in that ranked order and as funds are available. The Land and Water Conservation Fund is a federal fifty percent cost share grant program. The funds may be used by Iowa's cities and counties for outdoor recreation projects and is governed by program rules adopted in Chapter 27 of the Iowa Administrative Code.

The Department received 12 applications by the March 16, 2009 deadline, comprising a total request of \$709,798.00 for over \$7M in projects. The five-member Review and Selection committee, comprised of three department staff and two persons appointed by the Director with input from the Iowa Association of County Conservation Boards, the Iowa League of Cities and the Iowa Parks and Recreation Association, scored and ranked the applications based on the following criteria, as established by rule: Relationship to SCORP Priorities (Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan); direct recreation benefits provided; local need; and quality of the site. In addition, the Review and Selection committee awarded bonus and penalty points, also as established by rule, based on such criteria as: level of prior assistance from the LWCF; special features for the elderly and handicapped; minority populations served; degree of public participation and support; recycled content material use; and level of planning that has preceded the application for a LWCF grant.

The Department has not received the official grant appropriation from the U.S. Department of the Interior, but anticipates that Iowa's apportionment will be approximately \$345,000.00. The Department intends to make one-half of Iowa's grant appropriation from the U.S. Department of Interior available to these applicants. The Department requests that the Commission approve the proposed rankings and approve the Department's funding of these projects in the order they are listed and as funds are available.

Kevin Szcodronski, Parks Bureau Chief
Conservation and Recreation Division
May 14, 2009

Attachment: Ranked List of Land and Water Conservation Fund - City and County Grants

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

Applicant -2008	Project	Grant Request	Total Cost	Score (Avg)
Morrison, City of	Morrison Town Park Renovation (Phase II)	12,050.00	24,100.00	68.1
Dubuque, City of	EB Lyons Center Expansion	156,000.00	1,476,994.00	67
Des Moines County Conservation Board	Land Acquisition for Flint River Trail/Thye Woods Expansion	59,006.00	118,012.00	63.6
Stratford, City of	Stratford Youth Recreation Project	25,144.00	50,288.00	59.1
Grinnell, City of	Grinnell Family Aquatic Center & Lion's Park Development	100,000.00	5,500,000.00	57.8
Hamilton County Conservation Board	Little Wall Lake Campground	45,000.00	90,000.00	57.5
Des Moines County Conservation Board	Big Hollow Recreation Area Site Facilities	146,000.00	292,000.00	56.4
Walnut, City of	Walnut City Park Splash Pad	50,000.00	161,888.00	55.1
Pocahontas County Conservation Board	Coopers Cove Restroom/Shower Complex	45,000.00	90,000.00	53.6
Lee County Conservation Board	Pollmiller Park campground improvements	30,000.00	60,000.00	52.4
Luxemburg, City of	City park improvements	24,923.00	49,846.00	50
Vinton, City of	Vinton Trails, 13th Street Trail Segment	16,675.00	33,350.00	49