

2019 LAND AND WATER CONSERVATION FUND

Congress approved an apportionment of \$2,229,844 for the State of Iowa. A total of \$1,629,140.47 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 2018.

A total of 13 applications were received by the March 15, 2019 deadline. Grant requests for the 13 applications totaled \$1,360,665 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 13 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 June 13, 2019 the Natural Resource Commission approved the ranking from the Review Committee. After the appropriation letter was received, it was determined that the top 12 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	Approved Funding Amount
1	77	Linn County Conservation Board	Morgan Creek Park Phase 1 Development	\$3,200,000	\$150,000	\$150,000
<i>Morgan Creek Park is a 352 acre Park located in southwest Linn County bordering the City limits of Cedar Rapids. Phase 1 of this project involves relocating the Park entrance, construction of a shelter, accessible restroom, inclusive playground and parking areas. This Phase will also include the construction of a series of wetlands and bio-swailes, development of native prairie habitat with walking paths.</i>						
2	76	City of Osceola	Clay Park Development	\$458,000	\$75,000	\$75,000
<i>The City of Osceola has acquired a former residential property in the northeast part of the City. Clay Park will be a neighborhood park of just under one acre along paved streets and the Cities trail system. Project will include an all-abilities playground, landscape open space, shelter, restroom, benches, lighting, shade structures, and related amenities.</i>						
3	72	Madison County Conservation Board	Madison County Conservation Center	\$534,080	\$267,040	\$267,040
<i>This project involves the constructions of a new Conservation Center to meet the expanding need for environmental and outdoor recreation programming in Madison County. The Center will promote outdoor learning experiences through interactive exhibits that encourage outdoor exploration, a classroom for hands-on STEM based programming, and multi-purposed events/conference rooms which will connect people to their natural surroundings while they attend seminars and special events. The Center will be located in Pammel State Park which is managed by the Madison County Conservation Board.</i>						

4	71	City of Norwalk	Great Western Trail Connector	\$3,840,000	\$125,000	\$125,000
<p><i>The Norwalk Great Western Trail Connector is a three phase project constructing a 10ft. recreation trail from the existing municipal system to the City's Northern boundary where it can then connect to the Great Western Trail. The primary right-of- way containing the trail will be 50th street from the West Des Moines City limits to Beardsley Street, and then from Beardsley Street to Highway 28.</i></p>						
5	71	City of Cascade	Cascade Municipal Pool Replacement	\$3,939,000	\$75,000	\$75,000
<p><i>Project involves construction of a new zero depth entry municipal swimming pool for the City of Cascade. The new pool will also include an ADA compliant bathhouse and lift to assist with easy access to the pool. Additional features include shade structures, water features, six 25 yard lap lanes, 1-meter and 3 meter diving towers and a small water slide.</i></p>						
6	68	City of Dubuque	Bee Branch Creek Trail Connector	\$468,880	\$175,000	\$175,000
<p><i>The project will safely connect the Upper and Lower Bee Branch Creek Trail segments via a grade-separated crossing under railroad tracks. The project is part of a multi- phase trail along the Bee Branch Creek Greenway that will connect two regional trails (Dubuque Heritage Trail and Mississippi River Trail), as well as to the citywide trail network.</i></p>						
7	67	City of Fairfax	Sevig Park	\$203,045	\$75,000	\$75,000
<p><i>This project involves the construction of Sevig Park, which will be located in the newest development in the City of Fairfax. Nestled on a .68 acre corner lot, it will feature several public amenities. A small listing includes a pavilion with public restrooms, tables, benches, and development of a playground that has handicapped accessible playground equipment.</i></p>						
8	67	City of Algona	Tietz Park Shelter House	\$280,000	\$100,000	\$100,000
<p><i>The project is for the construction of a new shelter house at Tietz Park in the City of Algona. The shelter house will be located next to an existing parking lot, a segment of the City's recreational trail and will look out upon Tietz Park playground and open space. The shelter will have a kitchenette with counter top, sink, refrigerator, microwave, electrical outlets, heating system, and two restrooms.</i></p>						
9	66	City of Robins	South Troy Park Restroom	\$380,000	\$75,000	\$75,000
<p><i>Project involves the replacement of the existing restroom building located at South Troy Park in Robins, Iowa. The existing restroom is undersized and is not ADA compliant. The new building will include a handicapped accessible restroom, kitchenette to provide additional service for public events, and a private family restroom.</i></p>						
10	66	Wright County Conservation Board	Lake Cornelia Campground Expansion	\$160,514	\$80,000	\$80,000
<p><i>The Wright County Conservation Board will construct 18 new full hook-up campsites adjacent to the boat harbor shoreline. The current campground has a total of 70 campsites. Remove and replace two 1980 era playground structures with one, centrally located, modern play structure and resurface/repair approximately 6100' of crushed limestone surfaced walking trail.</i></p>						

11	66	City of Evansdale	Angels Park Playground Replacement	\$137,250	\$68,625	\$68,625
<p><i>Project involves the replacement of the playground equipment in Angels Park with modern, inclusive equipment. The new playground will include a jungle gym with elevated and ground level play activities, inclusive ten spin, engineered wood fiber surface, and safety mats for slide exits.</i></p>						
12	66	City of Windsor Heights	University Avenue Redevelopment Project	\$335,400	\$75,000	\$75,000
<p><i>This project involves the construction of a multi-use trail system in conjunction with a road project in the City of Windsor Heights. Proposed improvements consist of Complete Street concepts on University Avenue between 63rd and 73rd Street, that will reduce the vehicle lanes from four lanes to a three lane roadway along with creating a</i></p>						
<p><i>continuous left turn lane, addition of multi-use trail, and improving the intersections to provide safer passageway for pedestrians. This project provides pedestrian and bike linkages to local and regional trail systems including the Clive Greenbelt Trail and planned bicycle facilities in Des Moines along Cumming Parkway.</i></p>						
13	53	City of Clear Lake	Clear Lake Boat Decontamination Station	\$40,000	\$20,000	
<p><i>This project, proposed by the City of Clear Lake, Association for the Preservation of Clear Lake (APCL), and the Clear Lake Enhancement and Restoration (CLEAR) Project, is for the installation of a boat decontamination station at one of the Cities boat ramps. The station is needed to help limit the spread of existing zebra mussels to additional lakes.</i></p>						