

March 17, 2021

202101077

To: Mayor and Members of City Council

From: Paula Boggs Muething, City Manager

Subject: Emergency Ordinance – ODNR REALM Grant

Attached is an Emergency Ordinance captioned:

ESTABLISHING new capital improvement program project no. 980x199x211923, “Nature Playscape – Bramble Park”; and further **AUTHORIZING** the City Manager to apply for, accept, and appropriate a grant in the amount of up to \$75,000 from the State of Ohio, Department of Natural Resources, Office of Real Estate & Land Management for the purpose of funding the design and construction of a new nature playscape at the Bramble Recreation Area, located at 6395 Bramble Avenue.

This Emergency Ordinance authorizes the City Manager to apply for, accept, and appropriate a grant in the amount of up to \$75,000 from the State of Ohio, Ohio Department of Natural Resources (ODNR) Office of Real Estate & Land Management (REALM) for the purpose of funding the design and construction of a new Nature Playscape at the Bramble Recreation Area located at 6395 Bramble Avenue. In addition, this Emergency Ordinance also authorizes the Finance Director to establish new capital improvement program project account no. 980x195x211923, "Nature Playscape - Bramble Park," for the purpose of providing grant resources for the engineering, design, and construction of the Nature Playscape.

ODNR is a federally funded reimbursement grant program that provides 100% of project funding. The project was submitted at a projected total project cost of \$330,000 and may be approached in a phased concept. The Cincinnati Recreation Commission (CRC) will enlist the help of community partners (Groundworks, Cincinnati Parks Department) to complete as much of the project as possible given the initial amount received. The CRC will provide engineering and design services, labor contributed by department staff and enlist community volunteers to leverage all available resources for project completion.

The grant requires no local match, and no new FTE are associated with the grant. Recreation has applied for the grant but will not accept any resources without City Council approval.

This Emergency Ordinance is in accordance with the “Live” goal to “Create a more livable community,” as described on page 156 of Plan Cincinnati (2012).

The reason for the emergency is the immediate need to assure timely acceptance of grant funds.

The Administration recommends passage of this Emergency Ordinance.

cc: Christopher A. Bigham, Assistant City Manager
Karen Alder, Finance Director

Attachment

