



**SUBJECT:** Approval of Resolution authorizing submission of a grant application to the Oakland County Parks and Recreation Park Improvements Grant Program for Development of Novi Northwest Park. Total estimated development cost, including \$100,000 grant, is \$569,442.

**SUBMITTING DEPARTMENT:** Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services

**BACKGROUND INFORMATION:**

The City of Novi acquired 9.94 acres of land southeast of 12 Mile and Napier Roads in 2015 to become the future site of Novi Northwest Park. The land was officially designated as parkland via an August 2017 City Council resolution in compliance with the Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund (MNRTF) grant that helped fund the park's acquisition. The park is located at 50635 Twelve Mile Road, Novi, MI 48374. Novi Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services Department (PRCS) staff has been working internally with Parks Maintenance Staff, the City Forester and Landscape Architect and GIS staff to formulate a plan for developing the park with a Nature Based theme.

In November 2019, PRCS conducted an online survey and held a public input meeting with neighboring households. Residents were in favor of maintaining the park in a natural state as much as possible including using crushed stone for trails rather than asphalt, a nature-based play area and/or equipment, renovation of the prairie in the south end of the park and a gravel parking lot.

In November 2020, the PRCS Grants Committee met and recommended PRCS staff make submittal of a Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) development grant for the Northwest Park a priority. The committee met again in January 2021 and was given a conceptual plan and asked to discuss the overall intent of the park, parking lot location and construction options, trail composition options, the natural play area and plans for the prairie restoration. Consensus was reached by the Committee on the following:

1. The parking lot should be located off 12 Mile Road. Approximately 12 spots and composed of crushed stone to match the overall natural design of the park.
2. The main trail (outer perimeter) should be composed of crushed stone for ADA Accessibility purposes. The interior trails could remain natural.
3. Staff were requested to inquire with the eastern boundary property owner (Catholic Central) on the possibility of a shared parking lot.

The PRCS Commission reviewed and discussed the Grant Committee's recommendations and the park conceptual plan at their January 2021 meeting and supported the recommendations. City staff revised the conceptual plan and budget to include the following Proposed Features:

- Crushed Stone Perimeter Trails (.5 mile)
- Natural Interior Trails
- 12 Mile Pathway Completion
- Natural Play Area
- Prairie Restoration & Overlook
- Interpretative Signage
- 12-15 Vehicle Gravel Parking Lot

The PRCS Commission reviewed the final conceptual plan and proposed budget at their February 2021 and recommended approval of the requested grant application to City Council.

In addition, a virtual public input meeting was held on February 25, 2021 with over 30 people in attendance. A few residents with property bordering the park expressed concerns regarding privacy and the proximity of the trail to their back yards. The route on the conceptual plan is not final and may be adjusted in final design based on this feedback. Tree Fund dollars may also be allocated to enhance the property line with additional trees. Overall, the project received a favorable response from the attendees.

City Council approved submittal of the 2021 application for the LWCF grant at their March 8, 2021 meeting. The City received notice the grant application was not recommended for funding in December 2021. This is a competitive grant program, and more applications were submitted than could be funded.

When the Oakland County Parks and Recreation (OCPR) millage was passed by voters in November 2020, a portion of the funds were allocated for competitive grant programs that support local park improvement projects and non-motorized trails. The OCPR Grant Programs were created to assist local communities with planning, preliminary engineering/design, and construction costs directly related to park improvement and trail projects located in Oakland County. Staff is recommending a grant application be submitted to the Oakland County Parks and Recreation Park Improvements Grant Program for Development of Novi Northwest Park. The deadline to apply is January 14, 2022.

The total estimated construction cost for the project is \$569,442. The Oakland County Parks grant requires a mandatory 25% funding match. If the grant is approved the City's cost will be \$469,442. If the grant is approved, construction would take place in FY 2022-23.

**RECOMMENDED ACTION:** Approval of Resolution authorizing submission of a grant application to the Oakland County Parks and Recreation Park Improvements Grant Program for Development of Novi Northwest Park. Total estimated development cost, including \$100,000 grant, is \$569,442.

**Oakland County Parks and Recreation Park Improvements Grant Program**  
**RESOLUTION OF AUTHORIZATION**  
**City of Novi**  
**Northwest Park**

WHEREAS, City of Novi supports submission of an application titled "Northwest Park Improvements" to the Oakland County Parks and Recreation Park Improvements Grant Program for development of nature based park improvements to include a nature play area, nature trails, parking area, sidewalk and a prairie preservation at Northwest Park, 50635 Twelve Mile Road, Novi, MI 48374 in the amount of \$100,000; and

WHEREAS the proposed application is supported by the Community's 5-Year Approved Parks and Recreation Plan; and

WHEREAS the Grant Program requires a local match of twenty-five percent (25%) of the requested grant; and

WHEREAS the Grant Program requires that City of Novi certify compliance with all Grant Program requirements, including commitment to long-term maintenance and all project cost overruns.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that City of Novi hereby approves participation in the Park Improvements Grant Program and authorizes the submission of a Park Improvements Grant Program application for \$100,000.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Grant Program application is supported by the Community's 5-Year Approved Parks and Recreation Plan.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that City of Novi acknowledges and certifies compliance with all grant program requirements, including commitment to long-term maintenance and all project cost overruns.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that City of Novi shall make a local match through financial commitment in cash, force account, federal or state funds, private funds, or donated labor/materials directly related to the project for \$469,442.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Jeffrey Muck will be authorized to sign all grant-related documents on behalf of City of Novi.

AYES:  
NAYES:  
ABSENT:

MOTION APPROVED.

I HEREBY CERTIFY, that the foregoing is a Resolution duly made and passed by City Council of City of Novi at their regular meeting held on January 10, 2021, at 7 p.m. in Novi, MI, with a quorum present. \_\_\_\_\_



Map Author: Keri Blough  
 Date: January 22, 2021  
 Project: Novi Northwest Park  
 Version #: 3.8

**MAP INTERPRETATION NOTICE**

Map information depicted is not intended to replace or substitute for any official or primary source. This map was intended to meet National Map Accuracy Standards and use the most recent, accurate sources available to the people of the City of Novi. Boundary measurements and area calculations are approximate and should not be construed as survey measurements performed by a Licensed Michigan Surveyor as defined in Michigan Public Act 132 of 1970 as amended. Please contact the City GIS Manager to confirm source and accuracy information related to this map.

# 2021 Northwest Park Conceptual Plan



**City of Novi**  
 Integrated Solutions Team  
 Geospatial Resources Division  
 45175 Ten Mile Rd  
 Novi, MI 48375  
 cityofnovi.org



Proposed ADA parking lot will have 12 parking spaces, 1 of which will be ADA van accessible. The park entrance off of Twelve Mile Road will connect to the proposed sidewalk and parking lot. The parking lot will then connect to the proposed ADA access pathway, play area and trail throughout the park. The orange line represents a 6' wide path made of crushed stone.

