



Onondaga County Legislature

JAMIE McNAMARA
Clerk

TIMOTHY T. BURTIS
Chairman

TAMMY BARBER
Deputy Clerk

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PLANNING & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE MINUTES – NOVEMBER 13, 2024 **DAVID H. KNAPP, CHAIR**

MEMBERS PRESENT: Mr. Meaker, Mr. Ryan, Ms. Harvey, Mr. Olson
ALSO ATTENDING: Mr. Romeo; also see attached

Chair Knapp called the meeting to order at 9:36 a.m. and the previous meeting's minutes were approved.

1. DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING: Troy Waffner, Director **a. Transfer Resolution**

PURPOSE:

Appropriate funds for:

- 1. Greenways/Blueways Plan – Development, Scoping, Engagement (\$375,000)*
- 2. Greenways/Blueways Development Fund (\$1,100,000)*
- 3. Greenways/Blueways Projects (Submitted) (\$435,000)*
- 4. Onondaga Lake Amphitheater Bypass Trail – Scoping, Design (\$200,000)*
- 5. Loop the Lake/Bear Trap Creek Trail Connection – Concept, Scoping, Design (\$150,000)*
- 6. Empire State Trail Connections and Enhancements (\$150,000)*

OBJECTIVE/ WORK PLAN:

Appropriated funds will be used to complete these five projects

FUNDING SOURCE:

Transfer from Contingency

BUDGET:

\$2,410,000

- \$1.1M Development Fund for municipalities and possibly Land Trust

Questions/Comments from the Committee:

- Are there examples of what the \$1.1M Development Fund will be used for?
 - Municipalities would provide a plan; Planning Department would review and provide funding
 - Projects need to be of ecological significance
 - Examples could include Erie Canal, and possibly Parks
 - Planning Department is putting together an application and a process to apply for funds
- Could it be a benefit to 3 Rivers area?
 - Yes, each town would need to put together a plan and apply
- How is ecological significance determined?
 - Plant life, wildlife, etc.
 - An example would be Skaneateles Lake, needs to be maintained to protect the overall wildlife plan
- Law Department
 - Does Bear Trap Creek Trail go along Ley Creek?
 - It is where the glass barriers on Rt. 81 are; connects to Ley Creek at the Lake outlet
 - Connecting the Lake Trail to Bear Trap Creek Trail is ultimate goal

- Is hiring a firm for the Greenways/Blueways Plan the master plan countywide?
 - Yes, but have not started that process
- How far down does the Bear Trap Creek Trail go?
 - Starts at Northern lights and goes all the way to the new candle factory project
 - Need to go underneath 81; conceptual pathway has been figured out
- Will it go down to the Lake Trail?
 - Yes
 - Planning Department will share the conceptual path with Legislators
- Law Department
 - The State built a bridge over Ley Creek underneath the railroad tracks by the Park St. bridge
- Planning Department
 - The City has \$2M they are putting towards the Regional Market area to improve the bike path
- Timing with 81 is good
- The more projects that are done, the more utilization the trails will get
- Towns and Villages will be able to add it
- How will Towns and Villages know there is a Development Fund?
 - Will send a letter to let them know

A motion was made by Mr. Olson, seconded by Mr. Meaker, to approve this item. Passed unanimously; MOTION CARRIED.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:46 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,



TAMMY BARBER, Deputy Clerk
Onondaga County Legislature

ATTENDANCE

COMMITTEE: **PLANNING & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE**

DATE: **NOVEMBER 13, 2024**

NAME (Please Print)	DEPARTMENT/AGENCY
Elizabeth Bouq Martin	Environment
Megan Costa	Planning
Troy Wuffme	Planning
Darcie Lesniak	Leg
Kristi Smiley	Finance
Ben Yaus	Law Dept.
Joe Frakschi	Legal Counsel
Jim Beebe	Leg.
John DeSantis	Leg.