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# Memorandum

**To: Livingston County Board of Commissioners**  
**From: Planning Department/  
Parks & Open Space Advisory Committee**  
**Date: 11/14/2022**  
**Re: Michigan Department of Natural Resources Michigan Spark  
Grant Application for Recreational Development of Fillmore  
County Park**

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This resolution authorizes the preparation and submission of a grant application to the Michigan Department of Natural Resources for the purpose of securing available Michigan Spark Grant funds for the development of water and electrical utilities, a parking lot, and trail biking course at Fillmore County Park.

The Michigan Spark Grant became available on October 24, 2022. It is a \$65 million grant program administered by the DNR. Michigan Spark Grants will support projects that provide safe, accessible, public recreation facilities and spaces to improve people's health, introduce new recreation experiences, build on existing park infrastructure, and make it easier for people to enjoy both indoor and outdoor recreation. This grant opportunity is possible because of the [Building Michigan Together Plan, signed in March 2022](#), which included a historic infusion of federal funding in our state and local parks.

The Michigan Spark Grant was not available in early 2022 when the Parks & Open Space Advisory Committee made an ARPA request of \$292,250 for the Fillmore County Park Improvements mentioned above. In lieu of requesting Livingston County ARPA funds, the Michigan Spark grant would enable Livingston County to receive a grant award of \$300,438, which includes a 15% local match of \$23,000 from the general fund and a \$23,000 match of in-kind labor from the Motor City Mountain Bike Association.

Although a local match is not required for this grant application, the Livingston County Planning Department believes it would make the Livingston County grant application more competitive for these Michigan Spark Grant funds.

If you have any questions or concerns regarding this matter, please contact Kathleen Kline-Hudson or Scott Barb at the Livingston County Planning Department.