



October 25, 2023

Priority Development and Advisory Committee
c/o Miami Valley Regional Planning /Commission
10 N. Ludlow Street, Suite 700
Dayton, OH 45402

38 E. Monument Ave.
Dayton, OH 45402
(937) 223-1271

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Mark G. Rentschler
Michael H. van Haaren
Beth G. Whelley

GENERAL MANAGER

MaryLynn Lodor

Re: Letter of Support for Five Rivers MetroParks – Island Park Improvement Project

Dear PDAC Members:

The Miami Conservancy District is pleased to write this letter in support of the Five Rivers MetroParks' Island MetroPark improvement project in the Priority Development and Advocacy Committee process.

Situated a few miles north of RiverScape, where the Stillwater River flows into the Great Miami, Island MetroPark is an urban oasis with a long Dayton history. This popular riverfront park features a playground, seasonal splash pad, shelters, landmark bridge, band shell, and paved trails. With aging infrastructure, additional investment is needed to ensure these well-known and much-loved regional features remain operational and continue to be a regional attraction for years to come.

This project will accomplish much more than merely replacing aged infrastructure. It will offer enhancements that will serve our community long into the future, allowing MetroParks to increase its financial stability and better connect families and children with nature.

The splash pad and playground will serve as an improved health intervention tool for the neighboring underserved communities, particularly its youth. Renovation of the historic band shell will return this iconic art deco structure in the heart of perhaps Dayton's most beautiful park to full activation.

MCD's Great Miami Riverway travels through many green spaces, including Island MetroPark and we know these spaces make the Dayton region a better place to live, work, learn and play and provide outdoor experiences that allow visitors the opportunity to enjoy a healthy, active lifestyle.

We thank you for your consideration of this project for funding.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "MaryLynn Lodor". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "MaryLynn" written in a larger, more prominent script than the last name "Lodor".

MaryLynn Lodor
General Manager

10/30/23

Quality of Life Committee
Priority Development and Advocacy Committee
Dayton Area Chamber of Commerce
8 W. Main Street, Suite 100
Dayton, OH 45402

Re: Island MetroPark Improvement Project

Dear Quality of Life Committee,

CityWide Development Corporation is pleased to write this letter in support of the Five Rivers MetroParks' Island MetroPark improvement project in the Priority Development and Advocacy Committee process.

Situated a few miles north of RiverScape, where the Stillwater River flows into the Great Miami, Island MetroPark is adjacent to some of Dayton's most populated and traditionally underserved neighborhoods. This popular park is also an important component of The Dayton Riverfront Plan which includes an overall framework for the greater downtown area and river corridors.

The Island MetroPark improvements will upgrade a well-loved community asset, including the splash pad and playground as well as the renovation of the historic band shell, returning an iconic art deco structure in the heart of one of Dayton's most beautiful parks to full activation.

Parks are at the heart of every community and additional park and recreation infrastructure is an investment in the people who live, work, and play in these areas providing the opportunity to enjoy a healthy active lifestyle. Projects like Island MetroPark combine recreation with community economic redevelopment along Dayton's beautiful waterways. CityWide fully supports funding for this project as a high priority in our community.

Sincerely,



Dan Kane
President
CityWide Development Corporation



Quality of Life Committee
Priority Development and Advocacy Committee
Dayton Area Chamber of Commerce
8 West Main Street
Suite 100
Dayton OH 45402

RE: Island MetroPark

Members of the Quality of Life Committee:

The Montgomery County Land Bank wishes to express our support for the renovations at Island MetroPark through the Priority Development and Advocacy Committee process. Five Rivers MetroPark has set a high standard at every MetroPark site, but with extensive use by the public and the element of time, the Island MetroPark infrastructure and equipment are slowly not meeting this standard and there is a need for updates and renovations.

This green space, situated along the Stillwater River north of Downtown Dayton's urban hub and the highly successful Riverscape MetroPark, is a retreat in an otherwise underserved neighborhood. It offers a playground, seasonal splash pad, picnic shelters, landmark bridge, paved trails, and the iconic Art Deco band shell. While still an incredible site - the Land Bank recently held our summer picnic at this park - the aging infrastructure and well used equipment is in much need of upgrades and additional investment. This investment is needed to ensure this well-known and much-loved park remains operational and continues to be a regional attraction for years to come.

These renovations will complement the Dayton Riverfront Plan which identifies the Stillwater River as the Cultural Corridor for the community. Improvements to Island MetroPark ensure another layer of success to Downtown Riverfront Plan that addresses inclusiveness, healthy living and equitable distribution of assets. Having a thriving regional park can be the catalyst for economic and community growth in a struggling neighborhood.

Improvements to Island MetroPark will add support to the neighborhood efforts to provide a higher quality of life for its residents and complement elements of the Dayton Riverfront Plan. This is why the Montgomery County Land Bank supports the application before the Quality of Life Committee.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Susie Crabill".

Susie Crabill

Acquisition Manager



Rebuilding Vibrant Communities, One Property at a Time



Priority Development & Advocacy Committee (PDAC)
Dayton Development Coalition
1401 S. Main St.
Dayton, OH 45409

Dear PDAC Committee Members,

On behalf of the City of Dayton I am pleased to submit this letter of support for the Island MetroPark improvement project in the Priority Development Advocacy Committee process. This is a perfect fit within the Quality-of-Life subject area, and we hope you will consider giving this priority for funding.

Situated a few miles north of RiverScape, where the Stillwater River flows into the Great Miami, Island MetroPark is an urban oasis with a long Dayton history. This popular riverfront park, located at 101 E. Helena St., in Dayton, features an historic bandshell, playground, seasonal splash pad, shelters, landmark bridge, and paved trails. The bandshell at Island MetroPark is an iconic, art deco feature in Dayton's history and restoration would allow cultural festivals, music, and grassroots programming to return. Replacement of the 25-year-old splash pad and playground will serve as an improved health intervention tool for the neighboring underserved youth.

With aging infrastructure, additional investment is needed to ensure these well-known and much-loved regional features remain operational and continue to be a regional attraction for years to come. Investments in park infrastructure allow for increased access to green space and nature, help bring vital services and programs to the community, improve the physical and mental health of all residents, and is vital to our region's quality of life.

The City of Dayton would like to go on record with our support of this application in the hope that it receives the funding to improve and preserve this well-loved public space in our city. Thank you in advance for your consideration of this request on behalf of Five Rivers MetroParks, the community, and the region.

Sincerely,

Jeffrey J. Mims, Jr
City of Dayton, Mayor



COMMUNITY & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT

Montgomery County Administration Building

451 West Third Street, 10th Fl
Dayton, OH 45422-1110

937-225-5704 – phone
www.selectmcoho.com

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

Judy Dodge
Deborah A. Lieberman
Carolyn Rice

COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR

Michael B. Colbert

ASSISTANT COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR, BUSINESS SERVICES

Chris Williams

October 31, 2023

Quality of Life Committee
Priority Development and Advocacy Committee
Dayton Area Chamber of Commerce
8 W. Main Street, Suite 100
Dayton, OH 45402

To whom it may concern:

On behalf of County Commissioners Judy Dodge, Deborah Lieberman and Carolyn Rice, as well as County Administrator Michael Colbert, I am writing in support of the Five Rivers MetroParks' Island MetroPark improvement project in the Priority Development and Advocacy Committee process. The Montgomery County Commissioners has historically supported projects that enhance the safety, recreational and economic impact of the Great Miami River throughout the Dayton Region.

Situated a few miles north of RiverScape, Island MetroPark is an urban oasis with a long Dayton history. The Dayton Riverfront Plan includes an overall framework for the greater downtown area and river corridors as well as conceptual designs to improve ten riverfront parks, including Island MetroPark. This popular riverfront park, located at 101 E. Helena St., in Dayton, features a playground, seasonal splash pad, shelters, landmark bridge, band shell, and paved trails. With aging infrastructure, additional investment is needed to ensure these well-known and much-loved regional features remain operational and continue to be a regional attraction. The park is in an underserved part of our community in greater downtown Dayton and is vital to establishing and maintaining the quality of life in our community.

Green spaces, like Island MetroPark, make the Dayton region a better place to live, work, learn and play and provide outdoor experiences that allow visitors the opportunity to enjoy a healthy, active lifestyle. The Island MetroPark improvements will not only upgrade well-loved community assets, but it will also implement elements of the Dayton Riverfront Plan. The splash pad and playground will serve as an improved health intervention tool for the neighboring underserved communities, particularly its youth. Renovation of the historic band shell will return this iconic art deco structure in the heart of perhaps Dayton's most beautiful park to full activation. The renovation of the band shell will allow Five Rivers MetroParks to provide a regional destination performance venue and, on a more daily basis, a community-level culture, education, and fitness space where the black community in northwest



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Michael B. Colbert

ASSISTANT COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR, BUSINESS SERVICES

Chris Williams

Dayton and the immigrant community in northeast Dayton can adopt as their own to express their culture, develop active lifestyles, and connect to nature.

This project will accomplish much more than merely replacing aged infrastructure. It will offer enhancements that will benefit the community long-term, allowing MetroParks to increase its financial stability and better connect families and children with nature. Investments in park infrastructure allow for increased access to green space and nature, help bring vital services and programs to the community, and improve the physical and mental health of all residents.

Parks are at the heart of every community, and additional park and recreation infrastructure is an investment in the people who live, work, and play in these areas.

Your consideration and support of this critically important project to Five Rivers MetroParks is greatly appreciated.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Tawana S. Jones". The signature is fluid and cursive.

Tawana S. Jones, Director
Montgomery County Community & Economic Development



409 E. Monument Ave.,
Third Floor
Dayton, OH 45402

Phone (937) 275-7275
metroparks.org/Foundation



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- Kroger #TH964
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November 1, 2023

Priority Development & Advocacy Committee (PDAC)
Dayton Development Coalition
1401 S. Main St.
Dayton, OH 45409

Dear PDAC Committee Members,

The Five Rivers MetroParks Foundation is pleased to write this letter in support of the Island MetroPark improvement project in the Priority Development and Advocacy Committee process.

Island MetroPark is one of the most well-loved public spaces in our city and we believe the capital project to improve the park is a perfect fit for the Qualify-of-Life's subject area.

Island MetroPark features an iconic band shell, playground, seasonal splash pad, shelters, landmark bridge, a boat launch, and paved trails. But the infrastructure is aging and additional investment is needed to ensure the well-loved features of this urban oasis remain operational and continue to be a regional attraction for years to come. Island MetroPark has been and will continue to be a mainstay in the Dayton community. Investing in the needed restorations and updates will be a lasting gift to future generations, particularly those in the nearby, underserved communities.

Plans for the park include replacing the splash pad and playground, vital summer play areas that have reached the end of their useful lives, and renovating the band shell. The investments would increase access to green space and nature, help bring vital services and programs to the community, and improve the physical and mental health of all residents. Parks are at the heart of every community, and additional park and recreation infrastructure is an investment in the people who live, work, and play in these areas.

Thank you in advance for your consideration of this request on behalf of Five Rivers MetroParks, the community, and the region.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Vince McKelvey". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

Vince McKelvey
President, Five Rivers MetroParks Foundation

