

**TO THE HONORABLE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF BERRIEN COUNTY, MICHIGAN:** Your County Administration Committee respectfully recommends the adoption of the following:

**RESOLUTION**

**WHEREAS**, the Berrien County Road Department is an Act 51 Agency and therefore, is an eligible entity for the Highway Infrastructure Community Project grant, a competitive grant program offered through the Office of Representative Fred Upton; and

**WHEREAS**, the Berrien County Road Department and the Southwest Michigan Planning Commission have prepared the FY2023 Transportation, Housing and Urban Development Appropriations Community Project Funding application for the McCoy's Creek Trail Extension Phase IV; and

**WHEREAS**, the Berrien County Board of Commissioners have approved previous involvement in this trail project via resolutions A1801154, A1805242, and A1903185; and

**WHEREAS**, the phase IV segment is a 1.5 mile trail segment that would help connect the non-motorized McCoy's Creek Trail in Buchanan with the proposed City of Niles to Village of Berrien Springs Trail, an extension of the Indiana-Michigan River Trail; and

**WHEREAS**, the Indiana Michigan River Valley Trail is a 17-mile non-motorized trail that currently connects the communities of Niles, Niles Charter Township, St Joseph County (IN), Roseland, South Bend and Mishawaka and is the result of extensive collaboration and cooperation between Friends of the McCoy's Creek Trail, municipalities, non-profits, and private entities in Michigan; and


**WHEREAS**, the estimated project cost is \$1,000,000; and


**WHEREAS**, although the Berrien County Road Department agrees to be the ACT 51 agent for this project, the Road Department will not provide any funding for the match or future maintenance of the non-motorized facility; and

**WHEREAS**, if the grant is awarded, the Berrien County Road Department will be a contracted party with the Michigan Department of Transportation for this project and that will come back to the Board of Commissioners for approval.


**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED** that the Berrien County Board of Commissioners authorizes the Road Department to proceed with an application for the FY 2023 Transportation, Housing and Urban Development Appropriations Community Project Funding grant for the purposes of funding the McCoy's Creek Trail Extension Phase IV.

**RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED,  
BERRIEN COUNTY ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE**

  
Jim Curran, Chairperson

  
David Vollrath, Vice-Chairperson

  
Don Meeks

  
Julie Wuerfel

RESOLUTION APPROVED AS TO FORM  
Date 4-20  
4/20/22