

COMMITTEE REPORT

To: Public Works Committee

From: Jamie Ludovic, Central Services Director

Date: January 23, 2019

Re: Heritage Trails Lake Development & Nonmetallic Mining Project –
Resolution authorizing the HT Lake Development and Mining Project

POLICY QUESTION:

Should the Parks Division continue to pursue an operator to create a 32 acre lake and operate a nonmetallic mine as conceptualized in the presentation/report at Heritage Trails County Park?

DISCUSSION:

The 2019-2021 Parks Fiscal Sustainability plan is a plan to achieve financial independence of the Park system. On July 25, 2018 this committee approved the 2019-2021 Parks Fiscal Sustainability Plan and on August 8, 2018 County Board approved the plan in full as 2018 Resolution 34. Resolution 34 included the approval of all projects and recommendations set forth in the plan subject to annual operating budget appropriation. This plan recommended the Division to “Solicit Proposals for non-metallic mining partners near former nonmetallic mining site at Heritage Trails County Park” as a 2019 partnership goal/objective. In response to this directive, the Parks Division put together an internal ‘Mining Exploration Team’ consisting of Jamie Ludovic (Central Services Director), Eric Hyde (Parks Property Manager), Chad Cook (Park Superintendent), Scott Schmidt (Highway Commissioner), Deb Sielski (PPD Deputy Administrator), and Paul Sebo (County Conservationist) to determine the recommendation in this report in the best interest of the public, Parks System, and County.

The project also calls for the abandonment of the current park entrance road and replacing it with an entrance off of STH 164 (estimated to cost \$150,000). This entrance would make the park more visible and require less maintenance costs over the perpetuity of the park as it is 1,000’ shorter. All options would use undesirable materials to complete the berms along the 300 yard shooting range. The shooting range would be fenced off and staff would work with the Sheriff’s Office to ensure the range is properly concealed from the public. A master plan to retransform the main park amenities around a large body of water created from the mining process is also recommended.

ATTACHMENTS:

Resolution authorizing the Heritage Trails Lake Development and Mining Project
Presentation

RECOMMENDATION:

Approve resolution authorizing staff to further develop and pursue the enactment of the proposed Heritage Trails Lake and Mining Development Project subject to all necessary reviews and approvals which may include a preliminary materials analysis, future budget appropriations, and required zoning approvals.

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ONE CALENDAR WEEK PLUS 3 WORK DAYS prior to the Committee meeting
WITH the Committee Agenda Preparation Form.**

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