



Lexington-Fayette Urban County Government
DIVISION OF GRANTS AND SPECIAL PROGRAMS

Jim Gray
Mayor

Sally Hamilton
CAO

**TO: JIM GRAY, MAYOR
URBAN COUNTY COUNCIL**

**FROM: IRENE GOODING, DIRECTOR
DIVISION OF GRANTS AND SPECIAL PROGRAMS**

DATE: JANUARY 26, 2016

**SUBJECT: Grant Applications requesting funding from American Water
Company for improvements to Raven Run Discovery Trail and
Veterans Park Natureground**

Request:

Request Council Authorization to submit grant applications to American Water Company for (1) \$148,076 for a new educational play trail with interactive opportunities for participants of all ages at Raven Run and (2) \$140,867 for Phase II of the Veterans Park Natureground providing an environmentally themed playground.

Why are you requesting?

The Division of Parks and Recreation has prepared applications requesting funds for these two projects. The Raven Run Discovery Trail is a nature themed playground arranged in linear form around a meadow. Anchored by a gently sloping 1/2 mile paved trail, visitors of all ages will be encouraged to explore the landscape and discover strategically placed educational play stations that offer both recreation and learning opportunities. The stations are designed around specific environmental, cultural or historic features of Raven Run Nature Sanctuary. All themes will highlight the importance of water as a natural resource for plants and animals.

The Veterans Park Natureground is an environmentally themed playground arranged in linear form through a lush woodland tree line and near West Hickman Creek. Phase I of the Natureground was financed with \$125,000 of local funds and a topographic site survey is underway. Phase II plans for the park include construction of 330 linear feet of trail, the construction and equipment installation of an accessible Tot Lot, the construction and installation of three Woodland Play Stations and a Comfort Plaza near the center of the tree line. Additional Phase II funding includes clearance of non-native invasive plants, building the remaining 770 linear feet of trail, installing an Accessible Motion and Balance Play Station, installing the final four woodland Play Stations and providing site amenities such as benches and signs.

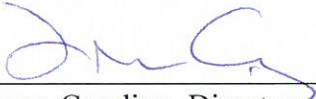
What is the cost in this budget year and future budget years?

If approved, the cost for improvements to the Raven Run project will be \$148,076 and the cost for improvements to Veterans Park will be \$140,867. No matching funds are required.

Are the funds budgeted? Funds will not be budgeted until approved by the granting agency.

File Number: 60-16

Director/Commissioner: Conrad/Reed



Irene Gooding, Director