## 2005 MICHIGAN NATURAL RESOURCE TRUST FUND

# (MNRTF) GRANT

The 2005 MNRTF Grant memo attached is a summary of the status of this grant and how it has progressed through various phases. Correspondence from the Michigan Department of Natural Resources and copies of the maps depicting requirements are also attached.

# MEMORANDUM



TO:

PAM ANTIL, ASSISTANT CITY MANAGER

FROM:

RANDY AULER, CPRP, DIRECTOR PARKS RECREATION &

FORESTRY Raulen

SUBJECT: 2005 MICHIGAN NATURAL RESOURCE TRUST FUND

(MNRTF) GRANT

DATE:

FEBRUARY 6, 2008

This memo is an update on the status of the 2005 Michigan Natural Resource Trust Fund (MNRTF) grant to acquire the 15-acre Roskelly property on the East side of Meadowbrook Road and the 36acre Mirage Development property on the West side of Meadowbrook Road. The extent of public access on the Mirage Development property has been subject of discussion and concern with the Michigan Department of Natural Resource (MDNR) since the grant was awarded.

In a December 5, 2007 memo to City Council, I provided a letter from MDNR stating that we may not proceed with the acquisition of the property until a modification of the existing conservation easement on the Mirage Development parcel is requested from the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality (MDEQ). City staff believed we complied with this request in 2006; however, in December 2007 we, once again, requested from MDEQ a modification of the existing conservation easement to permit the improvement of trails on the Mirage Development parcel. MDEQ has verbally notified the City and MDNR that they will not modify the easement.

On January 22, 2007, I spoke via telephone with Ms. Hegstrom (MDNR) to seek potential solutions that would meet the public access requirements on the Mirage Development parcel and gain MDNR staff approval to proceed with the acquisition. Ms. Hegstrom indicated a willingness to consider approval of a crushed limestone pathway on the existing drainage easement. The easement (attached) is located outside of the MDEQ conservation easement. I sent the easement and attached map to Ms. Hegstrom reflecting the proposed trail location within the easement, the material, and width of the trail and public access point.

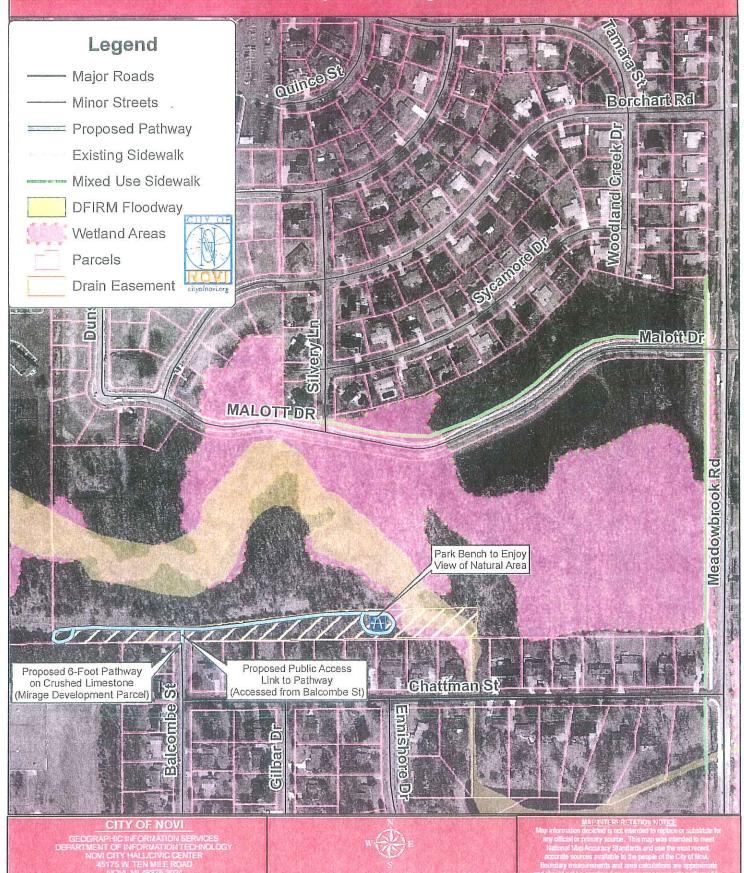
Please note that the drainage easement is adjacent to homes. The trail will be developed within the easement by Parks, Recreation & Forestry staff and located as far as possible from those homes.

On February 6, 2008, I received the attached letter from Ms. Hegstrom providing approval to proceed with the acquisition. Staff and the City Attorney will prepare the necessary documentation and proceed towards completion of the acquisition within the next 90 days.

# 2005 MNRTF Grant for Mirage Property City of Novi, Michigan Legend Major Roads Borchart Re Minor Streets Proposed Pathway Existing Sidewalk Mixed Use Sidewalk DFIRM Floodway Parcels Drain Easement Maloff Dr MALOTTEDR Park Bench to Enjoy View of Natural Area Proposed Public Access Proposed 6-Foot Pathway on Crushed Limestone Link to Pathway (Accessed from Balcombe St) (Mirage Development Parcel)

# 2005 MNRTF Grant for Mirage Property

City of Novi, Michigan



# JENNIFER M. GRANHOLM

GOVERNOR

#### STATE OF MICHIGAN

### DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

Lansing



January 30, 2008

Mr. Randy Auler, Director Parks, Recreation, and Forestry City of Novi 45175 West Ten Mile Road Novi, MI 48375

Dear Mr. Auler:

SUBJECT: TF05-165, Village Wood Lake/Orchard Hills West Acquisition

I am writing to inform you that your preliminary site development plans for the Mirage Development Property have been approved. You are now approved to proceed with the acquisition, in compliance with the provisions of Public Law 91-646 (the "Uniform Relations Assistance and Real Property Acquisition Policies Act of 1970"), as outlined in the Acquisition Project Procedures booklet that was sent to you with your Project Agreement.

Please consult the Acquisition Project Procedures booklet for information on the documentation that must be submitted to this office before reimbursement can be made. Request for Reimbursement forms are included in the acquisition procedures booklet. These forms must be completely and accurately filled out, to include actual acquisition and incidental costs, and returned to this office before any reimbursements can be processed.

As always, please contact me at the telephone number or email address below with any questions you may have. You may also write to me at: **Grants Management, Department of Natural Resources**, P.O. Box 30425, Lansing, MI 48909-7925.

Sincerely,

Linda J. Hegstrom, Grant Coordinator

Grants Management

517-241-4128

hegstroml@michigan.gov

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