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Community Foundation for Southeastern Michigan Awards \$2 Million to Support GreenWay Projects

Detroit, Michigan – The **Community Foundation for Southeastern Michigan** has awarded more than \$2 million to assist organizations and municipalities with the creation of a connected green infrastructure in southeast Michigan. These grants have been awarded as part of the Community Foundation's **GreenWays Initiative**, a five-year program to support the construction of a regional network of green pathways for recreation, nonmotorized transportation and wildlife habitat. The initiative aims to connect people and communities to each other and to the region's natural, cultural and recreational resources. The new \$2 million brings the total grants distributed through this project to \$15.3 million.

The following organizations and municipalities are receiving grants:

- **Detroit Riverfront Conservancy**, *Detroit*, \$1,000,000 to support the construction of Phase III of the Detroit RiverWalk. Phase III is the final stage for construction of this three-mile multipurpose pathway. Land that has been abandoned for years will be transformed into a place where individuals and families can enjoy a natural setting and spots for rest and relaxation.
- **Downriver Community Conference**, *Southgate*, \$75,000 to support the construction of Phase I of the North-South Connector of the Downriver Linked Greenways Initiative, connecting Gibraltar to Trenton. This project will bring the Downriver greenway system north toward Detroit and provide linkages to the 28 miles of greenways already completed along the east-west corridor as well as linking to new developments.
- **County of Macomb**, \$65,000 to support the completion of the Macomb Orchard Trail, a 24-mile, 300-acre community development program that passes through eight municipalities within the county. The trail begins in a residential area east of Rochester Hills. As it extends east, it provides users opportunities to enjoy the social, cultural and commercial amenities of the area without the need of a car.
- **City of Mount Clemens**, \$75,000 to construct a pedestrian trail and expand the riverfront boardwalk along the Clinton River, resulting in a pedestrian-friendly route from downtown Mt. Clemens to Shadyside Park, and continuing on to Metropolitan Beach and Lake St. Clair.

- **Orion Township**, \$75,000 to support the construction of an extension to the Polly Ann Trail, a 12.2-mile trail that begins in Orion Township, passes through Lake Orion and heads north. An additional 4.3 miles will be added to the trail, enabling residents to benefit from linkages to cultural, educational, and recreational resources.
- **Trust for Public Land, St. Paul, Minn.**, \$50,000 to support the purchase of Six Points, a 15-acre parcel of property on the lower Detroit River. The Six Points area is a critical component of the greenways network because it connects to a number of Downriver communities. Trails through Six Points will connect Lake Erie Metropark with Gibraltar and will link up to greenways that extend 28 miles to the west.
- **University Cultural Center Association, Detroit**, \$500,000 to support the construction of Phase II of the Midtown Greenway Loop. The loop will provide visitors access to businesses and institutions on Cass, Canfield, John R and Warren avenues. It will also stimulate economic investment in the region, provide a safe alternative to driving and improve the aesthetic appearance of the neighborhood.
- **Detroit Eastside Community Collaborative, Detroit**, \$100,000 to support plans for the third phase of the Conner Creek Greenway, which extends the length of Conner Ave. and St. Jean from Eight Mile Road to the Detroit River. This project builds on existing work taking place to revitalize the area around Coleman A. Young International Airport.
- **County of Macomb**, \$60,000 to support plans for a greenway following the Clinton River from the Macomb Orchard Trail to Mt. Clemens. The community has shown a strong interest in having amenities along the Clinton River, such as festivals and canoeing. This grant will build on the success of these activities as it links neighborhoods with additional recreational resources, educational and cultural institutions, and commercial centers.
- **Southwest Detroit Business Association, Detroit**, \$95,000 to support the design development process for the second phase of the Southwest Detroit-Dearborn Greenway. The grant will help address the lack of recreation and open space in southwest Detroit. It will support efforts to link residential and commercial districts with the Rouge River and cultural and educational institutions in southwest Detroit and Dearborn.

The **Community Foundation for Southeastern Michigan**, founded in 1984, is a permanent community endowment built by gifts from hundreds of individuals and organizations committed to the future of southeast Michigan. The Foundation works to improve the region's quality of life by connecting those who care with causes that matter. The Foundation supports a wide variety of activities benefiting education, arts and culture, health, human services, community development and civic affairs. The

Foundation has assets of more than \$470 million and, since its inception, has distributed more than \$230 million through more than 24,500 grants to nonprofit organizations throughout Wayne, Oakland, Macomb, Monroe, Washtenaw, St. Clair and Livingston counties.

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