

1. Resolution Recognizing West Michigan Trails & Greenways Coalition as a Local Civic Organization



Item Number: 1



CITY OF GRAND RAPIDS AGENDA ACTION REQUEST

DATE: April 15, 2025

TO: Mark Washington, City Manager

COMMITTEE: Fiscal Committee

LIAISON: Scott Saindon, Acting Chief Financial Officer

FROM: Philip Strom, Deputy City Attorney
Department of Law

SUBJECT: **Resolution Recognizing West Michigan Trails & Greenways
Coalition as a Local Civic Organization**

Attached is a letter from Jennifer Antel, Program Manager for West Michigan Trails & Greenways Coalition, requesting the recognition of their organization as a local civic organization for the purpose of obtaining a license from the Bureau of State Lottery. The letter includes a brief description of the nature of the organization and the work it conducts for the community.

The organization's Articles of Incorporation and Tax Exemption Letter are also on file in our office if you should desire to see them.

Attached is a resolution by which the City Commission can grant the requested recognition if it chooses.

Your FISCAL COMMITTEE recommends adoption of the following resolution recognizing West Michigan Trails & Greenways Coalition as a local civic organization pursuant to MCLA 432.103a(i)(ii).

WHEREAS, West Michigan Trails & Greenways Coalition, of 1345 Monroe Ave NW, Suite 244, Grand Rapids, MI 49505, has applied to the Bureau of State Lottery for a Bingo/Raffle License and, as part of the required licensing procedure, has requested recognition as a local civic organization from the City Commission pursuant to MCLA 432.103a(i)(ii); therefore

RESOLVED that the City Commission hereby finds that, to the best of its knowledge, West Michigan Trails & Greenways Coalition exists as a non-profit local civic organization which conducts a major portion of its activities within the City of Grand Rapids and, therefore, hereby officially recognizes West Michigan Trails & Greenways Coalition as a local civic organization pursuant to MCLA 432.103a(i)(ii).

CORRECT IN FORM



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DEPARTMENT OF LAW



March 26, 2025

Mayor David LaGrand
300 Monroe Ave NW
Room 620
Grand Rapids, MI 49503

Dear Mayor LaGrand,

West Michigan Trails respectfully requests recognition as a local civic organization for the purpose of obtaining a license from the Bureau of State Lottery.

West Michigan Trails (WMT) is a registered 501(c)(3) nonprofit dedicated to connecting people, trails, and communities. We collaborate with stakeholders across an 18-county region in West Michigan to coordinate projects that support the development and connection of trails. Additionally, we serve as a fiduciary for smaller trail groups and lead private fundraising efforts for public trail projects. Most recently, we successfully raised the private funds necessary for the Leonard to Ann Street Trail Project.

As part of our upcoming fundraising events in May and June, we plan to offer a weekend stay at Ottawa Sands Park as an incentive for new monthly donors. A generous Board member has personally purchased the stay, and we will conduct a random drawing from among our new donors to select a recipient.

We appreciate your consideration of this request and look forward to your response. Please let us know if any additional information is required.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jennifer Antel".

Jennifer Antel
Program Manager





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