



# MICHIGAN SENATE

## Appropriations Requests for Legislatively Directed Spending Items

Date Submitted: 03/31/2026

**1. Sponsoring legislator's full name:**

Senator Jeff Irwin

**2. Cosponsoring legislators' names (if applicable):**

N/A

**3. Intended legislatively directed spending item recipient:**

Huron Clinton Metroparks Authority

**4. Physical address of legislatively directed spending item recipient and the intended location of the project or activity:**

13000 Highridge Drive Brighton, MI 48114

**5. The recipient's employer identification number:**

386005602

**6. Requested amount of the legislatively directed spending item:**

\$2,000,000.00

**7. What is the purpose and how does the legislatively directed spending item provide a public benefit that is an appropriate use of taxpayer money?**

Project Summary: The project will help provide for the construction of a trail connecting Island Lake Recreation Area and Huron Meadows Metropark. This trail is the first phase of a larger project to improve the trail network in Livingston County to better connect secondary trails, recreation areas, and populations centers with the State's Great Lake-to-Lake Trail's Route 1. • Trail is approximately 2.8 miles including a pedestrian overpass • Provide connections to four regional parks: Brighton State Recreation Area, Huron Meadows Metropark, Island Lake Recreation Area, and Kensington Metropark • Parks encompass nearly 15,000 acres and include miles of paved scenic trails, beaches, water trails, and many other recreation opportunities • Includes a non-motorized bridge over US-23 to provide safe connection from the City of Brighton, its high school, middle schools, and surrounding residential areas to

parks and the Green Oak Village Place Mall Community Impact: This project expands outdoor recreation opportunities, a vital part of the local, regional, and state economy which helps drive economic development. • Extended trail network will draw visitors desiring easy access to miles of scenic trails • Provides a low-cost recreation option to increase physical activity and health • Allows for increased mobility, health, and well-being • Pedestrian bridge over US-23 increases safety o Pedestrians and cyclists currently use the Lee Road overpass containing 3 traffic circles, no pedestrian walkways, and scant shoulder space amid vehicles trying to navigate the unusual triple circle la The Huron-Clinton Metroparks are one of the nation’s premier regional park systems. With 14 Metroparks covering nearly 25,000 acres, we have several hundred miles of trails which connect to several statewide trails including Michigan’s Iron Belle Trail, the Great Lakes Way, and the Great Lake to Lake Trail. The Huron-Clinton Metroparks have been collecting zip code data from its visitors since 2021 and we know that visitation goes far beyond Southeast Michigan. Every year, approximately 7 million Michiganders from both peninsulas often visit the Metroparks to recreate at our world-class facilities; including our harbors, mountain bike trail systems, 10 full-service interpretive centers including 2 working farms, disc golf courses, our 7 golf courses, pools, fully accessible playgrounds, beaches, and so much more. The Metroparks are proven economic engines for Michigan, powering regional growth, supporting thousands of jobs, strengthening local tax bases and generating \$92.4 million annually in direct visitor spending.

**8. Has the legislatively directed spending item previously received or been awarded any of the following types of funding in the past 5 years? If so, how much? Check all that apply:**

Federal, State

**Amount**

\$5,673,804.00

**9. Estimated time frame for completion of the legislatively directed spending item project:**

The estimated time frame for completion is by the end of fiscal year 2028

**10. Is the recipient a nonprofit corporation?**

No

*Additional Information for Nonprofit Corporations (if applicable)*

*The answer to questions 1 to 3 must be "Yes" for the nonprofit corporation to qualify for a legislatively directed spending item.*

**1. Has the nonprofit corporation continuously operated in this state for the preceding 36 months?**

No

**2. Has the nonprofit corporation had a physical office in this state for not less than the preceding 12 consecutive months?**

No

**3. Does the organization have a board of directors?**

No

**4. List all of the officers and active members on the board of directors:**

N/A

*Certification By Sponsoring Legislator*

*"I certify that my immediate family members, legislative staff members, and I have no direct or indirect pecuniary interest in the requested legislatively directed spending item."*

*"I certify that the intended recipient of this legislatively directed spending item is not a for-profit entity."*

*"I certify that the information in this form is true to the best of my knowledge."*

*Senator Jeff Irwin*