

**STATE OF MICHIGAN  
GEORGETOWN CHARTER TOWNSHIP BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

**GRAND RIVER GREENWAY – GEORGETOWN TOWNSHIP RESOLUTION**

At a regular meeting of the Board of Trustees of Georgetown Charter Township, Michigan, held at the Georgetown Township Hall in Jenison, Michigan on the 14th day of March 2016, at 7:30 o'clock p.m. local time.

PRESENT:

ABSENT:

It was moved by \_\_\_\_\_ and supported by \_\_\_\_\_  
that the following resolution be adopted.

**WHEREAS**, Georgetown Charter Township is located on the Grand River, Michigan's longest river and the Township's most significant natural feature;

**WHEREAS**, the Township includes seven miles of Grand River waterfront, with varied landscapes and ecosystems, including extensive floodplain forest, riverine wetlands, native grasslands, and magnificent ravines;

**WHEREAS**, this waterfront and its associated landscapes and ecosystems constitute an invaluable resource, that, if properly protected, maintained, and developed, could provide substantial and unique recreational, natural, economic, and public health benefits to Township residents, businesses, and visitors for generations to come;

**WHEREAS**, the Township recognizes the value in protecting a resource as critical and distinctive as the Grand River through an interconnected network of preserved properties within the river corridor known as a greenway;

**WHEREAS**, it is the goal of the Ottawa County Parks and Recreation Commission to preserve and link key natural lands along the Grand River and thereby create the "Grand River Greenway" in Ottawa County, including the segment of the Grand River Greenway through Georgetown Township;

**WHEREAS**, County has commenced with plans to construct a 28-mile long non-motorized pathway known as the Grand River Greenway Trail that would access thousands of acres of land along the river and facilitate connections between communities located along the Grand River including Georgetown Township;

**WHEREAS**, Georgetown Township has taken steps to support the Greenway Project, including the following:

- Adopting a Township Parks and Recreation Plan which supports the efforts of the Ottawa County Parks and Recreation Commission to establish the Greenway where possible;
- Collaborating, through its Mineral Mining Board in conjunction with the Ottawa County Parks and Recreation Commission, to support an innovative master plan for the “Bend Area” with a goal to maximize the future public benefit of the property and provide the opportunity to establish a county park encompassing the site’s extensive natural and man-made water features.

**WHEREAS**, the Ottawa County Parks and Recreation Commission is seeking to acquire greenway properties along the Grand River including 231 acres in the Bend Area;

**WHEREAS**, Georgetown Township owns an undeveloped riverfront property along Baldwin Street (see Attachment A) adjacent to a property owned by the Ottawa County Parks and Recreation Commission;

**WHEREAS**, the purpose of this resolution is to define the terms of collaboration between Georgetown Charter Township and the Ottawa County Parks and Recreation Commission to share in the development of the Georgetown segment of the Grand River Greenway

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that Georgetown Charter Township designates its riverfront property along Baldwin Street for greenway purposes as appropriate including trail construction and maintenance access to greenway properties;

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that Georgetown Charter Township pledges \$900,000 in funding to assist the Ottawa County Parks and Recreation Commission in completing the Georgetown segment of the Grand River Greenway including trail development and specifically designates approximately \$180,000 of the \$900,000 be directed to construct approximately 2,400 linear feet of the Grand River Greenway trail in the Bend Area and on the County and Township owned riverfront properties to serve both local and regional trail needs.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, to further the goals of the Greenway Plan, Georgetown Charter Township requests the Ottawa County Parks and Recreation Commission commit to future maintenance and operation of the Grand River Greenway trail and properties in Georgetown Township including the Township’s riverfront property on Baldwin Street with the eventual goal of developing the Grand River Greenway trail on this property.

YEAS:

NAYS:

**RESOLUTION ADOPTED**

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