

MAR 19 2018



**JACKSON COUNTY
Parks + Rec**

22807 Woods Chapel Road
Blue Springs, Missouri 64015
MakeYourDayHere.com

Michele Newman, Director
(816) 503-4800
Fax: (816) 795-1234

March 19, 2018

Ron Achelpohl, Director of Transportation and Environment
Mid-America Regional Council
600 Broadway, Suite 200
Kansas City, MO 64105

RE: Grandview Raytown Road Bridges Project at Longview Lake

Dear Mr. Achelpohl,

I am writing to express Jackson County Parks + Rec's strong support for Grandview's Raytown Road improvement project at Longview Lake and full consideration of their funding assistance application. The project, a collaborative effort between Grandview and Jackson County, includes funding for the replacement of an existing bicycle and pedestrian bridge on the Longview Lake Trail.

These transportation improvements were made necessary when record flooding in the summer of 2017 damaged existing stormwater infrastructure under the road. Portions of the road and the Longview Trail were forced to close for extended periods of time while temporary repairs were made. As I am sure you understand, Raytown Road is a critical transportation corridor for access to Longview Lake for thousands of visitors each week.

The Longview Lake Trail is a proven transportation and recreational asset for Grandview and Jackson County. The pathway is a part of the MetroGreen system, linking neighborhoods in Grandview to Kansas City and Lee's Summit, with planned connections to the County's Little Blue Trace trail. In addition, the BikeShare station located on the trail, records the highest use of all bike share stations in the entire Kansas City area.

I am confident the proposed bridges project will enhance our connectivity and quality of life in Jackson County. Thank you for your consideration of this request and do not hesitate to contact me if I can answer any questions you may have regarding this critical project.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Michele Newman".

Michele Newman, Director
Jackson County Parks + Rec



Frank White, Jr., County Executive



REPLY TO
ATTENTION OF

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
SMITHVILLE, LONGVIEW, AND BLUE SPRINGS PROJECT OFFICES
P.O. BOX 428
SMITHVILLE, MISSOURI 64089-9748
(816) 532-0174

CENWK-OFS-M

March 11, 2018

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing today to express the Corp of Engineers, Kansas City District's support to replace the twin pipe culverts under Raytown Road and under the Longview Lake Trail located south of Harry Truman Drive with twin bridges. The Corps, Longview Lake Project, are in full support of the City of Grandview application for this project.

The Jackson County Parks trail system along the proposed area of Longview Lake is heavily used and enjoyed by the public. The Raytown road improvements will also be critical for public access and Jackson County Parks efforts to provide a full complement of parks and recreation features including; camping facilities, beaches, golf course, marinas, group scout camp and picnicking. The recreation they provide to this region is unique in that no other agencies provides the wide range of features, nor are any other agencies in this area providing the quality of facilities that are provided by Jackson County.

Providing good access to these great facilities through bridge and culvert improvement is an excellent way to keep our parks open for the future. The Corps encourages you to look closely at the application from City of Grandview to continue to provide quality access of our public lands.

Sincerely,

Lora E. Vacca
Operation Manager
Smithville, Longview and Blue Springs