## TOWNSHIP OF VERONA COUNTY OF ESSEX, STATE OF NEW JERSEY

## **RESOLUTION No. 2021-081**

A motion was made by Mayor McEvoy; seconded by Councilwoman McGrath that the following resolution be adopted:

## RESOLUTION OF SUPPORT FROM LOCAL GOVERNING BODY AUTHORIZING THE SUBMISSION OF THE FY2021 LOCAL RECREATION IMPROVEMENT GRANT (LRIG) APPLICATION FUNDED BY THE NEW JERSEY DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY AFFAIRS

**WHEREAS**, the New Jersey Department of Community Affairs is offering the Local Recreation Improvement Grant (LRIG); and

**WHEREAS**, the Local Recreation Improvement Grant is a competitive grant that supports improvement and repair of public recreation facilities including local parks, municipal recreation centers, and local stadiums.; and

**WHEREAS**, ensuring public access to community facilities is imperative given the current strain on communities confronting the COVID-19 pandemic; and

WHEREAS, access to outdoor recreation and community resources is critical for mental and physical health, particularly for those residents with limited or no other access to quality outdoor space or private recreational opportunities. Assisting local units in achieving unmet recreational obligations addresses these equity considerations, meeting the needs of communities that have been placed under substantial stress due to the lack of quality recreational facilities and spaces; and

WHEREAS, the Local Recreation Improvement Grant funds will be allocated to each grant recipient to help cover costs associated with updating community centers, playgrounds, pools, fields, walking or bicycle trails, rail trails, multi-sport courts, and recreational facilities; one-time personnel costs directly related to improvements; project development professional services costs; equipment costs including playground and recreation facilities equipment; and environn1ental remediation costs required to prepare recreation sites for use; and

**WHEREAS**, the Local Recreation Improvement Grant exists to: fund improvements to recreational facilities; provide quality outdoor recreational space to underserved, communities, particularly in this time of heightened need; and assist local units in achieving unmet recreational obligations; and

**WHEREAS**, the Township of Verona strives to save tax dollars, assure clean land, air, and water, improve working and living environments; and

**WHEREAS**, the Township of Verona wishes to apply for funding through the NJDCA Local Recreation Improvement Grant; and

**WHEREAS**, the NJDCA Local Recreation Improvement Grant prioritizes unfunded projects and those that include a local match component; and

WHEREAS, the Township of Verona is qualified to apply for this funding.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Township Council of the Township of Verona, in the County of Essex, State of New Jersey formally supports this NJDCA Local Recreation Improvement Grant application.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Township Manager, Township Clerk, and any other officer deemed appropriate are hereby authorized to submit a grant application for the NJDCA Local Recreation Improvement Grant on behalf of the Township of Verona.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Township Manager and Township Clerk are hereby authorized to sign the grant agreement on behalf of the Township of Verona and that their signature constitutes acceptance of the terms and conditions of the grant agreement and approves the execution of the grant agreement.

**ROLL CALL:** 

AYES: McGrath, Giblin, Ryan, Roman, McEvoy

NAYS:

THIS IS TO CERTIFY THAT THE FOREGOING IS A TRUE AND EXACT COPY OF A RESOLUTION ADOPTED BY THE TOWNSHIP COUNCIL OF THE TOWNSHIP OF VERONA AT THE SPECIAL MEETING HELD ON MAY 24, 2021.

Jennifer Kiernan Municipal Clerk

