

RESOLUTION NO. 2023-42

**RESOLUTION BY THE PUBLIC WORKS, PARKS & FACILITIES COMMITTEE
APPROVING A PARTNERS FOR FISH AND WILDLIFE PROGRAM LANDOWNER
AGREEMENT**

To the Honorable Members of the Racine County Board of Supervisors:

WHEREAS, as set forth in Res. No. 2016-137, the Racine County Board of Supervisors authorized Racine County to enter into a cooperative agreement with the Root-Pike Watershed Initiative Network (Root-Pike WIN), a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization that initiated and implements the 2014 Wind Point Nine Element Watershed Restoration Plan, to develop grant applications; and

WHEREAS, Cliffside Park, a Racine County Park, is a choice destination in Racine County and Root-Pike WIN is working cooperatively with the County to make the area an iconic coastal pollinator paradise; and

WHEREAS, the Cliffside Park – Coastal Pollinator Paradise project was chosen by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) for funding because Racine County shares a common objective with the USFWS to restore habitat for the benefit of Federal trust species on private lands, and the project supports priority actions identified in the Regional Partners for Fish and Wildlife Program Strategic Plan; and

WHEREAS, the Cliffside Park – Coastal Pollinator Paradise project addresses the need to rehabilitate 40 acres of fallow farmland known as “ID22” and listed as “Highly Critical” in the EPA/DNR-approved Nine-Key Element Wint Point Watershed Restoration Plan. The park is one of the largest contiguous natural areas along Lake Michigan in the watershed. Unfortunately, the coastal prairie and wetland are being overrun by invasive vegetation and lack the habitat diversity needed to support at-risk monarch butterflies and other valuable pollinators; and

WHEREAS, rehabilitation will focus on native plantings and removing invasive species. The main outcomes include foraging, hatching and feeding opportunities for the monarch butterfly, and more experiential opportunities to engage with and learn about monarchs; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to the proposed agreement, USFWS will provide seed to plant scrapes (5 acres) and spoil piles with wet prairie (10 acres) for the restoration with its partner the Root-Pike WIN and the County will work with Root-Pike WIN to provide maintenance of the seeded side; and

5 **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the Racine County Board of Supervisors
6 that the Partners for Fish and Wildlife Program Landowner Agreement between Racine
7 County and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Services, attached here as Exhibit A and
8 incorporated by reference, is hereby approved; and
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10 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** by the Racine County Board of Supervisors that such
11 agreements shall incorporate such further terms as the Corporation Counsel, Finance
12 Director, and the Public Works and Development Services Director deem necessary and
13 appropriate; and
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15 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** by the Racine County Board of Supervisors that any
16 two of the County Clerk, County Executive, and/or County Board Chairman are authorized
17 to execute any contracts, agreements, amendments, or other documents necessary to
18 carry out the intent of this resolution.
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22 Respectfully submitted,
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24 1st Reading _____

Public Works, Parks & Facilities Committee

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26 2nd Reading _____

Tom Kramer, Chairman

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28 **BOARD ACTION**

29 Adopted _____

30 For _____

31 Against _____

32 Absent _____

Robert D. Grove, Vice Chairman

Eric Hopkins, Secretary

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34 **VOTE REQUIRED:** Majority

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36 Prepared by:
37 Corporation Counsel

Jessica Malacara

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Marlo Harmon

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Edward Chart

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Greg Horeth
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**The foregoing legislation adopted by the County Board of Supervisors of
Racine County, Wisconsin, is hereby:**

Approved: _____

Vetoed: _____

10 **Date: _____,**

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Jonathan Delagrave, County Executive