

November 13, 2019

The Honorable Michael P. Byrne
Mayor of the City of Parma Heights
6281 Pearl Road
Parma Heights, Ohio 44130

Re: Letter of Support: Proposed Nathan Hale Basin Project

Dear Mayor Byrne:

The information contained in this letter is being provided in response to questions raised by the Department of Interior, Division of National Parks, regarding the proposed Nathan Hale Basin Project.

1. Is the District aware of the Quit Claim Deed transfer between the Federal Government and the City of Parma Heights? Also, is the District aware of the deed restriction and the reversionary clause, in favor of the Federal Government that is contained in the Quit Claim Deed?

The Quit Claim Deed recorded on May 20, 1971, has been reviewed by the District's Legal Counsel, and in particular Item 7, which discusses the reversion of the property to the United States of America. Upon review the District is not concerned about the clause because it is confident that the City will fulfill all of the terms of the Member Community Infrastructure Program Agreement.

2. Can the District provide written confirmation regarding the extension of time that has been requested by the City in light of the current status of the proposed project?

The District confirms that the MCIP Grant funding will be available to the City of Parma Heights. No date has been set to limit the availability of funds, as the District is committed to the project's completion.

3. A copy of the Award Letter for the \$1,000,000 Project Grant.

A copy of the Award Letter is attached.

4. Can the District provide written authorization for the use of \$400,000 from the Community Cost-Share Program funds to satisfy the balance of the monies required for the proposed project?

Twenty-five percent of the funds collected from each community are put into an account solely for that community's use and is therefore, non-competitive. Through the Community Cost-Share Program, Parma Heights can use the funds in their Community Cost Share Account for District-approved projects relating to stormwater. The Nathan Hale Basin Project is an approved use of Community Cost-Share funds under Title V, Section 5.0903 which states that eligible activities include, "projects that reduce volume, flow rate, or pollutant load of stormwater to the Local Stormwater System or the Regional

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Stormwater System," as well as "operation, maintenance, and capital projects necessary to address stormwater-related problems." Upon completion of an application and executed agreement, these funds become available to the City of Parma Heights for the proposed Nathan Hale Basin Project.

5. Can the District provide written authorization for the use of Community Cost-Share Program funds for future maintenance of the proposed basin project?

The Nathan Hale Basin Project's future maintenance is an approved use of Community Cost-Share funds under Title V, Section 5.0903, which states that eligible activities include "repair, replacement, or cleaning of local storm sewers, catch basins, and other components of the Local Stormwater System." Upon completion of an application and executed agreement, these funds become available to the City of Parma Heights for the proposed Nathan Hale Basin Project's future maintenance.

By creating a multiuse amenity, Parma Heights is adapting to the needs of its community members while maintaining the purpose originally assigned to the land. The basin will reduce stormwater flow in the local sewers and decrease basement backups during storm events, resulting in a benefit to the residents in the area. The walking path and ecological nature of the design will reconnect people to their watershed in a positive way, influencing how they perceive stormwater management in Parma Heights. We look forward to the completion of the Nathan Hale Basin Project and fully support the progress and initiative taken by the City of Parma Heights to redevelop part of their traditional recreation space into an innovative and adaptive public park feature.

Sincerely,



Frank Greenland

Director of Watershed Programs