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FOR INFORMATION CALL

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Ald. Jim Bohl
(414) 286-2219

Hartung Park Wins Stewardship Grant Award

The Hartung Quarry park project has been awarded a key \$250,000 matching grant from the state Department of Natural Resources (DNR), a critical step that paves the way for development of an environmental public park and 10 single-family homes at a decades-old landfill, Ald. Jim Bohl said today.

The Hartung Park Community Association (HPCA), a neighborhood grass roots organization supporting the project, has also been awarded two other grants to support the park development, including \$5,000 in funds from REI (nominated by the Brookfield Store on W. Capitol Dr.) and \$3,000 in funds from the Maihaugen Foundation. "I am pleased that these grant agencies recognize the quality of the project and the dedication the HPCA has brought to this park site. This is an amazing investment in the area that has been driven by neighbors and supported by the community," Ald. Bohl said.

The 16-acre quarry, used as a landfill for the city since 1964, will reach its capacity in the next couple of years and plans to use the area as a public park with approximately 10 single-family homes along the eastern and southern boundaries were approved with a resolution approved by the Common Council in 2006. The \$250,000 DNR grant will be matched by \$200,000 included by Mayor Tom Barrett in his 2008 budget and \$50,000 that had been previously allocated for the project.

These monies will support the development of phase one of the park, encompassing approximately five acres on the northwest quadrant near the Menomonee River Parkway and Keefe Ave., this year.

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Hartung Park/ADD ONE

“This award shows great progress of a true public/private partnership,” said Mayor Barrett. “I want to congratulate the HPCA and area residents for their hard work making Hartung Park into a development we can all be proud of. This development will support the area’s natural ecology, enhance our community’s quality of life, and generate important tax base for the city.”

The HPCA, working cooperatively with the City of Milwaukee and the City of Wauwatosa, has been actively raising funds to support the purchase of playground equipment for phase one of the park. In addition to a children’s play area, the park is expected to have landscaped trails and walkways, rain garden features, a natural amphitheater, a sledding hill and a lannon stone labyrinth among its many amenities.

Ald. Bohl said that he has been actively working on the Hartung project since 2001 and with the onset of phase one of the park to begin this year, “all the work and time put into this was well worth it.”

“We are thankful to the DNR, REI and Maihaugen Foundation for trusting our project and supporting our efforts monetarily,” said Ald. Bohl. “This is a perfect example of the kind of collaboration neighbors, community organizations and government can have,” he said.

A total of 133 grant applications were submitted to the very competitive DNR Stewardship Grant selection process and the review committee awarded the City of Milwaukee the maximum grant. “The fact that the City of Milwaukee was awarded \$250,000 for this project says a whole lot about what the city is creating here,” said Mayor Barrett.