

**Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund Application 2021**

**Organization: Ganges Township**

**TF21-0194**

**Section A: Applicant Site and Project Information: Pier Cove Park**

<b>*Is the application for site development <u>or</u> land acquisition?</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Development Acquisition			
<b>*Name of Applicant</b> (Government Unit) Ganges Township		<b>*SIGMA Vendor Number</b> CV0026943	<b>*SIGMA Address ID</b> 006
<b>*Name of Authorized Representative</b> John Hebert		<b>*Title</b> Supervisor	
<b>*Address</b> 1904 64th St		<b>*Telephone</b> (269) 543-8316	
<b>*City</b> Fennville	<b>*State</b> MI	<b>*ZIP</b> 49408	<b>*E-mail</b> gangessupervisor@gmail.com
<b>*State House District</b> District 80	<b>*State Senate District</b> District 26		<b>*U.S. Congress District</b> District 6

<b>*Proposal Title</b> (Not to exceed 60 characters) Pier Cove Park Renovation
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<b>*Proposal Description</b> Development to enhance the overall accessibility and scenic value of Pier Cove Park while honoring the rich history, quiet restfulness, and natural beauty of this unique lakeshore area. Pier Cove Park is a small (66' wide) public beach on Lake Michigan with parking in the adjacent road right of way. Renovating the current parking, fencing, signage, and steps will benefit safety, accessibility, and improve the park's overall attractiveness. A new walkway and gathering space will add barrier-free accessibility to parking, restrooms, and a new overlook on Lake Michigan. The renovations will help restore a more natural and rustic environment and repair damage from shoreline erosion using native plantings and wildflowers. Interpretive signage will offer a unique stop on the Lake Michigan Water Trail between South Haven and Saugatuck and along US Bike Route 35 where users can learn about the history and natural resources available at Pier Cove and enjoy its natural beauty.
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<b>*Address of Site</b> 2290 Lakeshore Drive, Fennville, MI	<b>*City, Village or Township of Site</b> Fennville	<b>*Zip</b> 49408
<b>*County in which Site is located</b> Allegan	<b>*Town, Range and Section Numbers of Site Location</b> <i>Letters must be upper-case: (examples: T02N, R13E, 22)</i> (Town) T02N (Range)R16W (Section)05	<b>*Latitude/Longitude at park entrance</b> 42.585858 -86.226744

<b>*Park Name</b> Pier Cove Park
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**Section B: Project Funding and Explanation of Match Sources**

**TF21-0194**

**SOURCES OF MATCHING FUNDS**

**PROJECT COST AMOUNTS**

<b>*Grant amount requested (round to the nearest hundred dollars)</b>	<b>\$266,000</b>
<b>Total Match</b>	<b>\$89,000</b>
<b>Total Project Cost</b>	<b>\$355,000</b>
Percentage of match commitment ( <b>Must be at least 25% of total project cost</b> )	25%
a) General Funds or Local Restricted Funds (Applicant's own cash)	\$65,500
b) Force Account Labor/Materials (Applicant's own paid labor or materials)	
c) Federal or State Funds	

*You have entered a value for item c). Please provide the information below for each federal or state program from which matching funds will be provided. COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT (CDBG) AND RECREATIONAL TRAILS PROGRAM (RTP) ARE THE ONLY FEDERAL FUNDS THAT CAN BE USED AS MATCH:*

*(1) Program Name	*Administering Agency	
*Contact Name for Administering Agency	*Telephone	*Amount

**\*Type of Funds**

Grant funds awarded

Date grant funds approved

Grant funds applied for, not yet approved

Estimated approval date

Appropriated funds

Date appropriated

Other, explain

**\*Is documentation containing the scope of work and budget for the other grant funds included with application?**

Yes No

**\*Is documentation (such as grant approval letter) that verifies the availability of funds included in the application?**

Yes No

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Check to add program information for additional State of Federal funds that will be used as Match.

(2) Program Name	Administering Agency	
Contact Name for Administering Agency	Telephone	Amount

Type of Funds

Grant funds awarded

Date grant funds approved

Grant funds applied for, not yet approved

Estimated approval date

Appropriated funds

Date appropriated

Other, explain

Is documentation containing the scope of work and budget for the other grant funds included with application?

Yes No

Is documentation (such as grant approval letter) that verifies the availability of funds included in the application?

Yes No

Check to add program information for additional State of Federal funds that will be used as Match.

(3) Program Name	Administering Agency	
Contact Name for Administering Agency	Telephone	Amount

Type of Funds

Grant funds awarded

Date grant funds approved

Grant funds applied for, not yet approved

Estimated approval date

Appropriated funds

Date appropriated

Other, explain

Is documentation containing the scope of work and budget for the other grant funds included with application?

Yes No

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Is documentation (such as grant approval letter) that verifies the availability of funds included in the application?

Yes No

d) Cash Donations \$15,000.00

*You have entered a value for item d). Please list the individual sources and the amounts to be donated below.*

SOURCE	AMOUNT
*Friends of Pier Cove Park	\$15,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$15,000</b>

\*Is a letter of intent from each donor included with the application?

Yes No

e) Donated Labor and/or Materials \$8,500

*You have entered a value for item e). Please include each item to be donated, the source, dollar value, and how the dollar value was determined.*

ITEM	SOURCE	DOLLAR VALUE	VALUATION METHOD
*Volunteer Work Days (approx 350 hours)	Friends of Pier Cove Park	\$3,500	minimum wage
Prime Professional Construction (40 hrs)	Dana R. Burd, P.E.	\$5,000	professional rate
<b>Total</b>		<b>\$8,500</b>	

\*Is a letter of intent from each donor included with application?

Yes No

f) Donated Land Value (acquisition applications only)

*You have entered a value for item f). Please describe how the value of the land donation was determined.*

\*

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\*Is a letter from the landowner committing to the donation of a portion of fair market value and any conditions placed upon their commitment included with application?

Yes No

Section C2: Project Details

Development Applications ONLY

\*Applicant's current control of the site:

- ✓ Fee Simple
- Lease
- Easement
- Other (describe)

\*Age of Park 100 Years

\*Acres 0.15

Project Cost Estimate Table

<u>SCOPE ITEM</u>	<u>DNR ONLY</u> <u>Accessibility Guidelines</u>	<u>QUANTITY</u>	<u>TOTAL ESTIMATED</u> <u>COST</u>
Bench(es)		4	\$9,000.00
Fence		380	\$20,000.00
Landscaping		1	\$23,000.00
Overlook or Observation Deck		1	\$14,000.00
Paved Parking Lot		1	\$15,000.00
Restroom Building		1	\$16,000.00
Signage		1	\$8,000.00
Paved ADA Parking Space(s)		2	\$4,000.00
Rain Garden with Native Plants		1	\$5,000.00

(New rows will appear as rows are completed and Saved)

Other: Retaining Wall		1	\$63,000.00
Other: Bury Overhead Utility		1	\$8,000.00
Other: Guard Rail		1	\$20,000.00
Other: Concrete Walkway 4' width		900	\$54,000.00
Other: Paver Plaza		1	\$25,000.00
Other: Custom Gate		1	\$2,000.00
Other: Steps		1	\$22,000.00

**Do not list the aspects of project execution, such as labor, construction equipment, contingency or raw materials.** (New rows will appear as rows are

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**Section C2: Project Details**

*completed and Saved)*

	<b>Permit Fees</b>	\$700.00
	<b>MNRTF Sign</b>	\$300.00
	<b>Subtotal</b>	\$309,000.00
	<b>Engineering</b> (These fees may not exceed 15% of subtotal)	\$46,000.00
<b>Total Estimated Cost</b> ( <i>Must equal Total Project Cost amount on Section B page.</i> )		<b>\$355,000.00</b>

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Section D: Justification of Need

\*1) If you are submitting multiple acquisition or development applications, what is the priority for this application? (1 = highest) 1

\*2) What page(s) of your recreation plan is the need for the proposed project discussed? From: 16 To: 30  
*If proposed project is on only one page, please enter the page number in both boxes*

\*3) What was the date(s) of public meeting to discuss submission of the grant application? 3/25/2021  
Additional dates: 03/09/2021

\*4) Did you gather public input from individuals with disabilities, their families, or advocates? No  Yes

\*5) Are you the primary provider of recreation services to any surrounding communities, as documented in your recreation plan?  No  Yes

List Communities:

\*6) Explain how you plan to address safety considerations and crime prevention in the project area?

Hours to be clearly posted/visible from steps to beach and in parking lot. Layout seeks to maximize visibility of people. Township meets with County Sheriff and stakeholders on enforcement of no parking and trespass at appropriate times. These efforts will continue to improve abuse of the park. A park ordinance requires a fence/gate be maintained. Current fence/gate to be replaced with natural materials fence/gate that better respect park users and fit with the parks historic character.

\*7) Explain how you will make the public aware of the project, as well as the efforts you will use to publicize and promote your project. Include marketing methods that will effectively communicate with persons with disabilities.

Park efforts have been on local news twice (cc available). Ribbon cutting to be held upon completion as required by DNR. Social media and GoFundMe progress updates by FOPCP. Volunteer work day events organized by FOPCP and advertised. Local newspaper coverage in Commercial Record and Holland Sentinel. FOPCP to host stakeholder zoom/in person meetings during design/construction. Glenn Community Center monthly newsletter progress reports. Community fundraising event at local brewery.

\*8) Does the applicant have a formal recreation department or committee? Please explain below. For park committees, describe how members are appointed, their roles and responsibilities. List of members and meeting schedule.

The Township Board serves this function as noted in the 5-Year Plan on page 5 and meets monthly. Township has 1 staff serving as cemetery sexton/maintenance personnel. FOPCP has hosted several stakeholder meetings during 5-Year Plan and in developing scope of this project.



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Section E: Application History and Stewardship

NO      YES

1) Questions 1 is for acquisition applications only - for development projects, leave blank and move to question 2.

Will the applicant have adequate funds on hand to complete the acquisition transaction without any third party assistance (i.e. loans, lines of credit, etc.) **until partial reimbursement and final audit is completed** (approximately 180 days after closing)?

\* 2) Has applicant received DNR recreation grant(s) in the past? ✓

If yes, does applicant currently have an open, active grant?

\*3) Has applicant closed, sold, or transferred any parkland or recreation facilities in the past 5 years? ✓

\*4) Does applicant have a known unresolved conversion of grant-assisted parkland? (a conversion is a change from public outdoor recreation use to some other use) ✓

\*5) Does applicant have a "residents only" policy for this park or other parks or recreation facilities? ✓

\*6) Do you now or do you intend in the future to charge an entrance fee to the project site? ✓

If yes, fee schedule and policy for reduced entrance fees for low-income users included with application?

If yes, attach supporting Documentation on Required Attachments page.

\*7) What is the applicant's current year budget for parks and recreation? \$8,000.00

\*8) What are the estimated operation and maintenance costs associated with the project? \$2,000.00

Comments:

## Section F: Site Conditions

	<u>NO</u>	<u>YES</u>	<u>UNKNOWN</u>
*1) Does the applicant, landowner, or others have knowledge that any portion of the property is or has been used for industrial purposes, including manufacturing and/or minerals' processing or extraction (sand, gravel, oil, or gas) at this time or in the past?	✓		
*2) Does the applicant, landowner, or others have knowledge that any portion of the property is currently being used or has been used in the past for a gas station, motor vehicle service or repair facility, commercial printing facility, dry cleaners, photo developing lab, junkyard, landfill, waste treatment, storage, processing or recycling or disposal facility?	✓		
*3) Does the applicant, landowner, or others have knowledge that any of the following are or have in the past been stored, discarded, or used on the property – automotive or industrial batteries, pesticides or other chemicals used in agricultural practices, paints, industrial waste, or other chemicals in drums or other containers?	✓		
*4) Does the applicant, landowner, or others have knowledge that fill dirt or other fill material of unknown origin is on this property or has in the past been placed on the property?	✓		
*5) Does the applicant, landowner, or others have knowledge of any evidence of leaks, spills, or stains from a substance other than water at this time or in the past?	✓		
*6) Does the applicant, landowner, or others have knowledge that there are or have in the past been waste disposal pits, lagoons, or ponds on the property?	✓		
*7) Does the applicant, landowner, or others have knowledge that there are at this time or have in the past been registered or unregistered storage tanks on the property?	✓		
*8) Does the applicant, landowner, or others have knowledge that contaminated groundwater lies below the property?	✓		
*9) If there is a water well on the property, does the applicant, landowner, or others have knowledge that contaminants have been identified in the well that exceeded legal standards or has the well been identified as contaminated by a government agency?	✓		

Section F: Site Conditions

- \*10) Has the landowner been notified about any current violations of environmental laws pertaining to activities on the property or does applicant, landowner, or others have knowledge about past violations? ✓
- \*11) Has the landowner been notified of any environmental assessments of the property that identified a) the presence of hazardous substances, petroleum products, or contamination; or b) the need for further assessment? ✓
- \*12) Does the applicant, landowner, or others have knowledge that any hazardous substances, unidentified waste materials, tires, or automotive or industrial batteries have been dumped above ground, buried, or burned on the property? ✓
- \*13) Is the property listed on any federal or state list of contaminated sites, including the site of a leaking underground storage tank? ✓
- \*14) Does the applicant, landowner, or others have knowledge that any of the adjoining properties are currently being used or have been used in the past for the purposes listed in the previous questions 1-13? ✓
- \*15) Has an environmental assessment been completed for the site?  
If yes, provide the most current on the Required Attachments page. ✓
- \*16) Are permits required for the development of the site?  
If yes, please complete the following table:
 

<u>NO</u>	<u>YES</u>	<u>UNKNOWN</u>
	✓	

TYPE OF PERMIT	PERMITTING AGENCY	EFFORTS TAKEN TO OBTAIN PERMIT OR DETERMINING PERMIT REQUIREMENTS
SESC Permit	Allegan County Health Department	permit app for seawall mentioned this project scope
ROW Permit	Allegan County Road Commission	see attached letter

If 'Yes' or 'Unknown' was selected for any of the questions on this page, please explain here:  
SESC Permit is anticipated with no issues. Recent permit for seawall mentioned this project scope. ROW Permit will be obtained from ACRC

**Section F: Site Conditions**

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and their approval for scope in ROW is needed. See attached letters from Township and ACRC acknowledging conversations and intent. EGLE permit is not anticipated. Recent EGLE/Army Corp permit was obtained for seawall and mentioned this project scope. Work is above the existing seawall and outside the ordinary high water jurisdiction of EGLE/Army Corp. Recent ACRC resolution is also attached to explain connection between county project to improve pedestrian safety along Lakeshore Drive and Township effort to improve safety at Pier Cove Park .

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Section G: Natural Features of The Project Site

To the best of your knowledge, does the project site include:

\*Great Lakes shoreline or Great Lakes connecting water frontage?

No  Yes

If yes, name of Great Lake or Great Lakes connecting water:

Lake Michigan

How many linear feet of shoreline or frontage?

66

\*Inland lake frontage?

No  Yes

If yes, name of water body:

What is the size of the total water body in acres?

How many linear feet of frontage are on site?

\*River and/or tributary frontage?

No  Yes

If yes, name of water body:

How many linear feet of frontage?

Is the river or tributary a state natural river or a federally dedicated wild and scenic river?

No  Yes

\*Wetland acreage or frontage?

No  Yes

If yes, please list the number of acres of the type(s) of wetland(s) on site:

Marsh	Bog	Dune and swale complex
Prairie	Forest	Boreal Forest
Fen	Shrub	Type unknown

Is documentation of type and quality with application?

No  Yes

If yes, source of information:

\*Other water acreage or frontage?

No  Yes

If yes, name of other water body:

Pier Cove Creek Outlet

Is the entire water body completely within the site boundaries?

No  Yes

How many linear feet of frontage or acres of water are on site?

66

\*Sand dunes?

No  Yes

If yes, list the number of acres of sand dunes on the site:

Critical  Not designed as critical, or designation unknown

Is documentation of type and quality provided with application?

No  Yes

If yes, source of information:

\*Dedicated state or federal listed wilderness or dedicated natural area or Pigeon River County State Forest land or inholding?

No  Yes

If yes, name of area:

How many acres on site?

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**Section G: Natural Features of The Project Site**

**\*Rare species or any other significant feature as defined by the Michigan Natural Features Inventory?** **No  Yes**

If yes, list species or feature and status.

“high” biorarity value of 15.75 on MNFI. IPaC search identified 8 T&E species and 6 Migratory.

See attached.

if too many to list here, include in the application narrative.

Population/range locations denoted on site plan or other map?

**No  Yes**

Section H: Wildlife Values of The Project Site

*Will the proposed park or park development:*

\* **Protect wildlife habitat** (for example, breeding grounds, winter deeryards, den sites)?

No  Yes

If yes, list species:

see attached

How many acres of habitat does the site provide?

0.05

\* **Act as a wildlife corridor between existing protected areas or buffer an existing protected area?**

No  Yes

If yes, name the existing park(s) or protected area(s):

Lake Michigan  
Shore, Pier Cove  
Ravine

How many acres are currently in protected status?

0.00

Is documentation of the ecological value of adjacent protected areas and/or the ability of the project site to act as a corridor/buffer provided with application?

No  Yes

If yes, source of information:

MNFI, IPaC, DNR,  
ODDC

Section I: Natural Resource Recreation Opportunities

Will the proposed park or park development provide new or additional:

\*Water recreation opportunities? No  Yes

\*Motorized recreation opportunities (ORV and/or Snowmobile)?  No Yes

\*Hunting Opportunities?  No Yes

If yes, what seasons will be available? (for example, deer/firearm)

How many acres will be available for hunting?

\*Fishing opportunities? No  Yes

If yes, what type of fishing opportunities will be provided? (species/methods)

spring coho salmon from shore

\*Bird watching or other nature viewing opportunities? No  Yes

If yes, what species can be viewed?

shore birds & Am. Golden-plover, Bald Eagle, Bobolink, Dunlin, Red-headed Woodpecker, Rusty Blackbird

\*Nature interpretation or education opportunities? No  Yes

If yes, how are the interpretation or education opportunities provided? (check all that apply)

- Interpretive signage  Part time or volunteer naturalist
- Interpretive brochures  Full time naturalist
- Nature center

Have you formed a partnership with another organization to provide interpretive/educational services? No  Yes

If yes, name of organization

SDHC, Bob Grese U of M

Provided examples of interpretive materials, descriptions of classes, and other documentation on the interpretive/educational services provided with application:

Interpretive signage to be provided on unique landscape history, native plantings, O.C. Simonds history in partnership with Bob Grese U of M. Signage on Pier Cove Village historical significance in partnership with Saugatuck-Douglas History Center focused on recreational, historical piers, and old mill. Signage to combine elements of history, native landscape, and natural features in both picture and text display. Materials provided on Great Lakes geology, rock collecting, glacial history, and awareness of fluctuating water levels and shoreline erosion. Currently seeking partnership with Michigan Geological Survey at WMU to assist with content. Custom



**Section I: Natural Resource Recreation Opportunities**

gate will provide artistic connection to interpretive educational elements and draw upon nostalgia of simpler time prior to technology advances of modern times and connect park users to rustic and natural scope elements. Park signage/materials to include awareness of Lake Michigan Water Trail and US Bike Route 35.

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Section J: Public Access Opportunities

\* Will the site be open to the general public?

No  Yes

List the hours open to the public:

	From	To	Closed
Sunday	8am	10pm	
Monday	8	10	
Tuesday	8	10	
Wednesday	8	10	
Thursday	8	10	
Friday	8	10	
Saturday	8	10	
Holidays	8	10	

Comment: plaza always open via non-motorized

How will the public reasonably able to access this site?

- Automobile
- Boat
- Public Transportation
- Motorized Trail
- Non-Motorized Trail including Mountain Bike and Hiking Trails
- Sidewalk or Pathway
- Other (describe) 4' paved shoulders on Lakeshore Drive

Section K: Trails

\* Is the proposed site a trail?

No  Yes

Who is the primary intended user? (Check one)

- Hikers/Pedestrians
- Mountain Bicyclists
- Other motorized vehicle users
- Road Bicyclists
- Cross-Country Skiers
- Other, explain:
- Equestrians
- Snowmobilers
- public park users and neighbors

Who are the secondary users?

- Hikers/Pedestrians
- Mountain Bicyclists
- Other motorized vehicle users
- Road Bicyclists
- Cross-Country Skiers
- Other, explain:
- Equestrians
- Snowmobilers
- paddlers, rock collectors

Is the trail connected to another trail(s) or part of a larger trail network?

No  Yes

If yes, what is the name of the network?

Lake MI Water Trail, US Bike Rt 35

How long is the trail?

- Total linear feet
- Linear feet bituminous (paved)
- Linear feet boardwalk (if applicable)
- Linear feet sidewalk
- Linear feet other hard surface

What is the width of the trail?

Linear feet

\* Is this proposed project part of the Iron Belle Trail (Governor's Showcase Trail)?

Yes  No

Application Narrative

**\*I. Project Justification and Support:**

Prior to settlement, Pier Cove Park was a quiet natural shoreline and creek flowing to Lake Michigan. In the mid-1800's it became a bustling community with mills powered by the creek and two 300 foot piers into the lake. The parks Historical Marker says commercial activity ceased in 1917. Since the early 1920 's the park has provided a legacy of direct public access to the shoreline and a small public beach for recreation enjoyed by several generations since.

Over the past 100 years development has greatly influenced the Pier Cove area. The park itself and surrounding Lakeshore Drive ROW has had signs, chain-link fencing, and other features added that block views and are cluttered in appearance. The current parking, entrance, stairs, seating areas, and vegetation are in need renovation. Shoreline erosion has damaged the park. And safety conflicts with pedestrians, non-motorized, and vehicle traffic have grown as the area has become more developed and utilized by residents and visitors.

Ganges Township is seeking assistance to write the next chapter in Pier Cove's history by renovating the park to enhance its scenic and natural value, improve accessibility and safety, and restore the park and ROW to a more natural and rustic environment. Pioneers such as O.C. Simonds and William Erby Smith spent lifetimes working to balance enjoyment of this area with efforts to preserve its natural beauty . This project pursues that same balance.

The project is supported by the Township's 5-Year Plan and includes three of the main project concepts for Pier Cove: accessible entrance, parking/pedestrian safety, and restore erosion damage. The project seeks to provide multi-generational opportunities for all abilities, maintain current use, focus on natural experiences and lake access, connect to regional recreational planning, involve community participation, and balance use with expectations of area residents for attractive well cared for spaces.

This renovation will create a fully accessible overlook space and enhance direct access to the shoreline along a relatively low bluff. Many surrounding high-bluff beaches have been closed throughout the pandemic from erosion damage. With community involvement Pier Cove has been more resilient. The park provides a unique stop on the Lake Michigan Water Trail between South Haven and Saugatuck and along US Bike Route 35. Lakeshore Drive itself is a major recreational corridor recently improved with 4 ' paved shoulders with connections to other area beaches allowing for scenic walking loops. The park is one mile from the future regional Blue Star Trail Non-Motorized pathway. The park provides outdoor recreation, scenic value, and environmental importance in line with DNR priorities. The project is widely supported, includes several community partners, and enhances accessibility, safety, natural resource awareness, and sustainable features throughout as referenced in supporting documents.

**\*II. Project Description:**

Pier Cove Park is used by the general public including neighborhoods in walking distance, non-motorized users, Bike Route 35, vehicle parking, and area residents who hike a beach-road loop. Mass transit is available 0.5 miles from the park by the Interurban Bus serving Saugatuck, Douglas, and Fennville area with paved shoulder access. Access from the water is available by kayak along the Lake Michigan Water Trail and by anchoring offshore.

Application Narrative

A Park Analysis and Project Concept Plan was developed by Robert E. Grese professor emeritus Environment & Sustainability at UofM with Friends of Pier Cove Park and stakeholders. Final design and details of each item will be completed by professional consultants funded with grant. Layout emphasizes visibility, aesthetic, and respect for the space to deter abuse of the park. Township is working on enforcement planning with stakeholders and will maintain clearly posted hours and rules.

The parking area will be rethought to create a safer and clear path of travel away from the road to the beach entrance – especially for small children. Angled parking is one option shown to create space for a 4' walkway. The limited sight distance on the hill/curve will be considered in design. Two island spaces will promote bio-infiltration with native plantings. Parking is 10 standard spaces and 1 emergency space. Two van accessible ADA spaces with a shared aisle for em. access will be added to maintain 11 spaces. A bike rack will be added. Walkway will extend north and south of the park in the road ROW to allow access around and through the park then transition back to shoulders. This will allow additional overlook space.

Renovation includes an ADA portable restroom in an enclosure located to open views, design to respect history/character of the area, and family changing space. Park trash and signage will be organized to open views and allow accessible route to restroom from parking. All fencing and vegetation will be replaced with natural rustic materials and native plantings. Examples of possible materials attached. Areas with mature trees will be left undisturbed. Overhead utility will be buried. The entrance/top step area will become a universally accessible overlook with recycled content benches, a donor brick plaza, public art gate, DNR plaque, and native plantings. Upper park features are accessible to all trail users.

The beach steps will be rebuilt with a transition to wood steps above the seawall for resilience to waves. Existing sitting area will be converted to a wood deck with two benches using sustainable forestry wood. Terraced retaining walls will be built to repair erosion above existing steel wall and planted with natives/wildflowers with vegetation managed to keep views open from above.

Existing metal fence and guard rail in ROW will be replaced with rustic natural materials as approved by the road commission and adjacent property owner. See letters of support.

**\*III. Natural Resource Access and Protection:**

Resilient locations for direct public access to the Lake Michigan shoreline are in short supply and the pandemic has shown these access points have never been more needed. The township Master Plan and 5- Year plan recognize this unique resource that defines the character of our coastal community. Pier Cove offers the opportunity to improve a short bluff access to the beach and offer a spectacular overlook to the shoreline that is universally accessible. The history and natural beauty of the area will be highlighted in the park design, interpretive signage, gate, and materials used.

Pier Cove's connection to history and the natural environment will be highlighted in combined interpretive signage elements to allow park and trail users the ability to learn about the unique history, geology, and landscaping of the area. Project partners S-D History Center and Bob Grese will help develop content that draw from history and landscapes. Information on rock collecting and water level change will be included too. The community has been engaged through private fundraising, social media, and volunteer work days to keep the park open during high water. These efforts will continue to share information about unique plants, animals, birds, and geology of the project and build community around the park. See examples and support letters

attached.

The MNFI shows a high biodiversity value of 15.75 for the area. The outlet of Pier Cove Creek to Lake Michigan and connecting protected Ravine Trust upstream provide opportunities for wildlife viewing from the road and public park space for several type of plants and animals that travel from forest to water along stream corridors. The USFWS IPaC search identified several T&E species and Migratory Birds that could exist in the area. Letters of support for fisheries, Audubon clubs, and nature education groups are included with MNFI and IPaC data.

The public beach and miles of shoreline will be made more accessible by the park improvements and the renovated overlook and lower seawall seating area will allow passive and active enjoyment of the lakeshore while drawing a sense of nostalgia for the area's unique history and legacy of conservation . Safety to and from the beach will improve and the park made more friendly to small children and those who want to walk the shoreline. Rock collectors from across the county travel to Pier Cove for unique septarian "lightening" stones, and the park is popular with families for all the activities that a public beach offers in addition to the stream which sometimes flows directly through the park.

When completed the park will embody a community effort that connects Lake Michigan to Pier Cove's history and natural resources. Pier Cove park is a special place for so many people and its renovation and continued maintenance will continue to protect and respect the space for generations to come.

\*IV. Other Information:

# Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund Application 2021

Organization: Ganges Township

TF21-0194

## Required Attachments for Development Projects

All location maps, site development plans, boundary maps, and other graphic information must be clear, legible, detailed, and appropriately labeled. Grants Management staff use these materials to help evaluate your application and to find and evaluate many of the sites. We must also photocopy many of the graphic materials in black-and-white; be sure that what you submit will photocopy legibly.

### REQUIRED CONTENT FOR DEVELOPMENT APPLICATIONS

**\* Maintenance Plan:**

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**\* Project Location Map(s):**

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**\* Site Development Plan:**

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[https://midnr.intelligrants.com/\\_Upload/99465\\_5000872\\_4-PictureNarrativeandDesignExamplesCombined.pdf](https://midnr.intelligrants.com/_Upload/99465_5000872_4-PictureNarrativeandDesignExamplesCombined.pdf)

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[https://midnr.intelligrants.com/\\_Upload/99465\\_5000872\\_7-PictureNarrativeExampleSign.pdf](https://midnr.intelligrants.com/_Upload/99465_5000872_7-PictureNarrativeExampleSign.pdf)

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**\* Minutes of the Public Meeting** held for public comment and to pass the resolution for the application:

[https://midnr.intelligrants.com/\\_Upload/99465\\_5000865-\\_MinutesTWP20210325PublicHearingandSpecialMtg](https://midnr.intelligrants.com/_Upload/99465_5000865-_MinutesTWP20210325PublicHearingandSpecialMtg)

**Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund Application 2021**

**Organization: Ganges Township**

**TF21-0194**

**Required Attachments for Development Projects**

.pdf  
[https://midnr.intelligrants.com/\\_Upload/99465\\_5000865\\_2-BroekhuisLetter.pdf](https://midnr.intelligrants.com/_Upload/99465_5000865_2-BroekhuisLetter.pdf)  
[https://midnr.intelligrants.com/\\_Upload/99465\\_5000865\\_3-MillerLetter.pdf](https://midnr.intelligrants.com/_Upload/99465_5000865_3-MillerLetter.pdf)

**\* Site Control Form and Deed** (commitment letter to transfer property, for development projects)

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[https://midnr.intelligrants.com/\\_Upload/99465\\_5000866\\_3-Control\\_ACRCROWCraigAtwood.pdf](https://midnr.intelligrants.com/_Upload/99465_5000866_3-Control_ACRCROWCraigAtwood.pdf)  
[https://midnr.intelligrants.com/\\_Upload/99465\\_5000866\\_4-ControlACRCResolutionLakedshoreDirve4ftpavedshoulder2-24-21.pdf](https://midnr.intelligrants.com/_Upload/99465_5000866_4-ControlACRCResolutionLakedshoreDirve4ftpavedshoulder2-24-21.pdf)

**\* Notice of Intent Form and copy of letter transmitting form** to regional clearinghouse to the regional clearinghouse:

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[https://midnr.intelligrants.com/\\_Upload/99465\\_5000867\\_2-NoticeofIntentltr2021-03-29Bee\(WMRPC\).pdf](https://midnr.intelligrants.com/_Upload/99465_5000867_2-NoticeofIntentltr2021-03-29Bee(WMRPC).pdf)

**ADDITIONAL INFORMATION FOR DEVELOPMENT APPLICATIONS:**

**Letter(s) of support:**

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[https://midnr.intelligrants.com/\\_Upload/99465\\_5000532\\_2-LOS\\_2\\_CombinedResidents.pdf](https://midnr.intelligrants.com/_Upload/99465_5000532_2-LOS_2_CombinedResidents.pdf)  
[https://midnr.intelligrants.com/\\_Upload/99465\\_5000532\\_3-LOS\\_3\\_CombinedElectedOfficials.pdf](https://midnr.intelligrants.com/_Upload/99465_5000532_3-LOS_3_CombinedElectedOfficials.pdf)  
[https://midnr.intelligrants.com/\\_Upload/99465\\_5000532\\_4-LOS\\_Voorhees.pdf](https://midnr.intelligrants.com/_Upload/99465_5000532_4-LOS_Voorhees.pdf)

**Documentation of match commitment(s)**, (if required on the Section B form):

[https://midnr.intelligrants.com/\\_Upload/99465\\_5000530\\_1-MatchFOPCP.pdf](https://midnr.intelligrants.com/_Upload/99465_5000530_1-MatchFOPCP.pdf)

**Universal Design Documentation:**

[https://midnr.intelligrants.com/\\_Upload/99465\\_5000528\\_1-UniversalDisabilityNetworkLakeshore.pdf](https://midnr.intelligrants.com/_Upload/99465_5000528_1-UniversalDisabilityNetworkLakeshore.pdf)  
[https://midnr.intelligrants.com/\\_Upload/99465\\_5000528\\_2-PierCoveParkUniversalDesign.pdf](https://midnr.intelligrants.com/_Upload/99465_5000528_2-PierCoveParkUniversalDesign.pdf)

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**Correspondence regarding regulatory permitting issues**, if applicable:

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[https://midnr.intelligrants.com/\\_Upload/99465\\_5000525\\_3-Seawallinstalled2020WRP025871MinorPermit\(WORD\).pdf](https://midnr.intelligrants.com/_Upload/99465_5000525_3-Seawallinstalled2020WRP025871MinorPermit(WORD).pdf)  
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**Expert documentation, to support the project**



**Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund Application 2021**

**Organization: Ganges Township**

**TF21-0194**

**Required Attachments for Development Projects**

[https://midnr.intelligrants.com/\\_Upload/99465\\_5000526-ExpertDNRMattDianaSupportLetter.pdf](https://midnr.intelligrants.com/_Upload/99465_5000526-ExpertDNRMattDianaSupportLetter.pdf)

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[https://midnr.intelligrants.com/\\_Upload/99465\\_5000526\\_3-ExpertODDCBenH.pdf](https://midnr.intelligrants.com/_Upload/99465_5000526_3-ExpertODDCBenH.pdf)

[https://midnr.intelligrants.com/\\_Upload/99465\\_5000526\\_4-ExpertUSFWSIPaC\\_ExploreLocationresources.pdf](https://midnr.intelligrants.com/_Upload/99465_5000526_4-ExpertUSFWSIPaC_ExploreLocationresources.pdf)

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**Environmental Report**, if applicable based on Property Checklist of application form

# Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund Application 2021

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[https://midnr.intelligrants.com/\\_Upload/99467\\_5000870\\_3-PictureNarrativeandDesignExamplesPage002.jpg](https://midnr.intelligrants.com/_Upload/99467_5000870_3-PictureNarrativeandDesignExamplesPage002.jpg)

[https://midnr.intelligrants.com/\\_Upload/99467\\_5000870\\_4-PictureNarrativeandDesignExamplesPage003.jpg](https://midnr.intelligrants.com/_Upload/99467_5000870_4-PictureNarrativeandDesignExamplesPage003.jpg)

[https://midnr.intelligrants.com/\\_Upload/99467\\_5000870\\_5-PictureNarrativeandDesignExamplesPage004.jpg](https://midnr.intelligrants.com/_Upload/99467_5000870_5-PictureNarrativeandDesignExamplesPage004.jpg)

[https://midnr.intelligrants.com/\\_Upload/99467\\_5000870\\_6-PictureNarrativeExampleSign005.pdf](https://midnr.intelligrants.com/_Upload/99467_5000870_6-PictureNarrativeExampleSign005.pdf)

**\* Certified Resolution:** from the highest governing body:

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**Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund Application 2021**

**Organization: Ganges Township**

**TF21-0194**

**Required Attachments for Development Projects**

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[https://midnr.intelligrants.com/\\_Upload/99467\\_5000866\\_3-Control\\_ACRCROWCraigAtwood.pdf](https://midnr.intelligrants.com/_Upload/99467_5000866_3-Control_ACRCROWCraigAtwood.pdf)

[https://midnr.intelligrants.com/\\_Upload/99467\\_5000866\\_4-ACRCResolutionLakedshoreDirve4ftpavedshoulder2-24-21.pdf](https://midnr.intelligrants.com/_Upload/99467_5000866_4-ACRCResolutionLakedshoreDirve4ftpavedshoulder2-24-21.pdf)

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**Letter(s) of support:**

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**Universal Design Documentation:**

[https://midnr.intelligrants.com/\\_Upload/99467\\_5000528-LOS\\_DisabilityNetworkLakeshore.pdf](https://midnr.intelligrants.com/_Upload/99467_5000528-LOS_DisabilityNetworkLakeshore.pdf)

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**Correspondence regarding regulatory permitting issues**, if applicable:

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[https://midnr.intelligrants.com/\\_Upload/99467\\_5000525\\_2-Seawallinstalled2020SESCPermit.pdf](https://midnr.intelligrants.com/_Upload/99467_5000525_2-Seawallinstalled2020SESCPermit.pdf)

[https://midnr.intelligrants.com/\\_Upload/99467\\_5000525\\_3-Seawallinstalled2020WRP025871MinorPermit\(WORD\).pdf](https://midnr.intelligrants.com/_Upload/99467_5000525_3-Seawallinstalled2020WRP025871MinorPermit(WORD).pdf)

[https://midnr.intelligrants.com/\\_Upload/99467\\_5000525\\_4-Seawallinstalled2020WRP025871\\_ApprovedPermitPlans.pdf](https://midnr.intelligrants.com/_Upload/99467_5000525_4-Seawallinstalled2020WRP025871_ApprovedPermitPlans.pdf)

**Expert documentation, to support the project**

[https://midnr.intelligrants.com/\\_Upload/99467\\_5000526-LOS\\_ExpertDNRMattDianaSupportLetter.pdf](https://midnr.intelligrants.com/_Upload/99467_5000526-LOS_ExpertDNRMattDianaSupportLetter.pdf)

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**Organization: Ganges Township**

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**Required Attachments for Development Projects**

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[https://midnr.intelligrants.com/\\_Upload/99467\\_5000526\\_4-Documentation\\_IPaC\\_ExploreLocationresources.pdf](https://midnr.intelligrants.com/_Upload/99467_5000526_4-Documentation_IPaC_ExploreLocationresources.pdf)

**Environmental Report**, if applicable based on Property Checklist of application form

**Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund Application 2021**

**Organization: Ganges Township**

**TF21-0194**

**Certification of Authorized Official**

*I hereby certify that I am an official of the applicant agency and am empowered to make the necessary commitments to apply for this grant. I also certify that I understand all of the commitments and responsibilities listed in the Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund Application Guidelines (IC1905).*

Robin Phelps  
Authorized Official

4/1/2021  
Date