



CITY OF ALLENTOWN

No. \_\_\_\_\_

**RESOLUTION**

**R118 - 2023**

***Introduced by the Administration on July 19, 2023***

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Authorizes submission of a formal application to the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation for a grant of One Million Two Hundred Ten Thousand Six Hundred and Fifty Dollars (\$1,210,650) to support the construction of a 1.2 mile extension of the Martin Luther King Drive (MLK) Trail.

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***Resolved by the Council of the City of Allentown, That***

***BE IT RESOLVED***, that the City of Allentown, Lehigh County hereby requests a Multimodal Transportation DCED Grant of \$1,210,650 from the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation to support the construction of a 1.2 mile extension of the Martin Luther King Drive (MLK) Trail.

***BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED***, that the City of Allentown hereby designates Matt Tuerk, Mayor, and Bina Patel, Finance Director, as the official(s) to execute all documents and agreements between the City of Allentown and the Commonwealth.

***NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED*** that the Council of the City of Allentown, hereby authorizes the City of Allentown to submit the application for One Million Two Hundred Ten Thousand Six Hundred and Fifty Dollars (\$1,210,650) in Multimodal Transportation DCED Funds to the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation.

## Legislative Template

- What department or bureau is this bill originating from? Where did the initiative for the bill originate?

Parks and Recreation

- Summary and facts of the bill.

Parks and Recreation requests a resolution required to submit a DCED Multi-Modal Transportation (MTF) for MLK Trail extension. Total cost estimate is \$1,729,500. Grant ask is \$1,210,650 and match is \$518,850(30% of total project cost). We have also applied to DCNR and DCED-GTRP for the same project funding due to the competitive nature of this grant. If awarded, match for MTF will either be Trexler Trust 24-25 or DCNR.

- Purpose – Please include the following in your explanation:
  - a. What does the bill do? What are the specific goals or tasks the bill seeks to accomplish?

The bill will allow Parks and Recreation to apply for a DCED Multi-Modal Transportation. This project involves construction of a 1.2 mile extension of the Martin Luther King Drive (MLK) Trail.

- b. What are the benefits of doing this? What are the drawbacks?

The proposed 10-foot-wide paved, multi-use path provides a strategic walking and bicycling link from Lehigh Parkway Park to Fountain Park in the City of Allentown, Lehigh County. The project also closes a critical gap between the MLK Trail and the Little Lehigh Parkway Path network creating an 8-mile-long trail network in this section of Allentown.

- c. How does this bill relate to the City's vision/mission/priorities?

It supports building trails and increasing connectivity for non-vehicular modes of transportation.

- Financial Impact – Please include the following in your explanation:
  - a. Cost (initial and ongoing)

\$518,850 (30% of total project cost) match to be funded with DCNR if awarded, or 2024-2025 Trexler funds if not.

- b. Benefits (initial and ongoing)

Trails increase the value of nearby properties, boost spending at local businesses. Communities along trails benefit from the influx of visitors, On longer trails, hotels, bed

and breakfasts, and outdoor outfitters benefit. Trails make communities more attractive places to live. When considering where to move, homebuyers rank walking.

- Funding Sources – Please include the following in your explanation:
  - a. If transferring funds, please make sure to give specific account names and numbers. If appropriating funds from a grant, please list the agency awarding the grant.

Match would be from Trexler Trust 2024-2025 or DCNR C2P2 if awarded.

- Priority status – Are there any deadlines to be aware of?

Deadline for application is 7/31

- Why should Council unanimously support this bill?

It will allow access to state grant funds to build a trail. It supplements the previous 2 grants submitted for this project.