

ORDINANCE NO. 14987

FILE OF CITY COUNCIL

BILL NO. 21 - 2012

APRIL 4, 2012

AN ORDINANCE

Amending the 2012 Capital Fund Budget to provide for a supplemental appropriation of Three Hundred Fifty Thousand (\$350,000) Dollars to provide for the receipt of a grant from the Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources. This grant will provide funding which will be used to assist with the development of the Jordan Creek Greenway Development Project.

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF ALLENTOWN:

SECTION ONE: That City Council authorizes an increase of Three Hundred and Fifty Thousand (\$350,000) Dollars to the unappropriated balance of the Capital Fund Budget.

SECTION TWO: That City Council authorizes a supplemental appropriation from the unappropriated balance of the Capital Fund in the following manner:

Capital Fund - Department of Parks and Recreation

001-08-1663-1210-46	Contract/Service Fees	\$100,000
001-08-1663-1210-76	Construction Contracts	<u>250,000</u>
		\$350,000

SECTION TWO: That this Ordinance will take effect ten (10) days after final passage.

SECTION THREE: That all Ordinances inconsistent with the above provisions are repealed to the extent of their inconsistency.

	Yea	Nay
Julio A. Guridy, Pres.	X	
Jeanette Eichenwald	X	
Ray O'Connell, VP	X	
Cynthia Y. Mota	X	
Mike Schlossberg	X	
Peter G. Schweyer	X	
TOTAL	6	0

I hereby certify that the foregoing Ordinance was passed by City Council on April 18, 2012 and signed by the Mayor on April 25, 2012.



 CITY CLERK

What Department or bureau is Bill originating from? Where did the initiative for the bill originate?
Department of Parks & Recreation.

- **Summary and Facts of the Bill**

The ordinance places awarded grant funds of \$350,000 into the capital project designated as the for the purpose of implementing the development of the project as per the master plan.

- **Purpose – Please include the following in your explanation:**

- **What does the Bill do – what are the specific goals/tasks the bill seek to accomplish**
- **What are the Benefits of doing this/Down-side of doing this**
- **How does this Bill related to the City's Vision/Mission/Priorities**

This ordinance will allocate grant funds received to be used for the purpose of implementing a phased approach to the Jordan Creek Greenway Development Project.

The 2-mile Jordan Creek Greenway Trail-Allentown segment will act as a critical next step in completing the 12-mile greenway and trail from the City of Allentown to the Trexler Nature Preserve.

The project will provide a strategic four (4) mile link from the City of Allentown's Jordan Basin Park, through the City's 51-acre Jordan Creek Park, 8/10 mile of Whitehall's trail section and halting, for now, on the western end of Lehigh County's 296-acre Jordan Creek Parkway via the proposed greenway and trail.

This trail is a priority project as indentified in the recently completed City of Allentown Trail Network Feasibility study entitled, 'Connecting Our Community' - A Plan for Connecting Allentown's Parks and People through a Network of Bicycle and Pedestrian Trails.

The City of Allentown's intent to create a locally and regionally linked trail system was established in advance of this study in the officially adopted City of Allentown Comprehensive Plan, Allentown 2020, the City of Allentown Parks and Recreation Master Plan and the Lehigh Valley Greenway Plan, which recognizes the City as a focal point to connecting regional trails, the Jordan Creek Greenway feasibility study, and of course, relates to the 2009-2013 Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan- Pennsylvania Outdoors-The Keystone for Healthy Living.

This 10-12 foot wide pathway will serve the residents of the City of Allentown, the Lehigh Valley and the Commonwealth by providing significant recreational, economic, educational, and environmental benefits. In addition, the development of the overall greenway through the Jordan Creek corridor will connect up to thirty (30) existing city, county, and township parks, two state game lands, and two nationally significant greenways all while protecting significant greenspace in the heart of Allentown.

This project will establish a safe, continuous corridor through an urban community which will help promote outdoor recreation, assist in fostering a culture of active living, facilitate non-motorized transportation and assist in marketing and promoting Allentown as a destination for trail users.

Two local groups have taken a special interest in this project. Central Catholic High School has "adopted" the Jordan Basin Park area as an outdoor classroom. They conduct clean-ups and provide environmental education programming for students there. The Jordan Heights committee is a volunteer group of neighbors that are implementing a plan to better the entire Jordan Heights area which includes the Jordan Creek Greenway.

- **Financial Impact – Please include the following in your explanation:**

- **Cost (Initial and ongoing)**
- **Benefits (initial and ongoing)**

The funds have been awarded by the PA Department of Conservation and Natural Resources and will not involve any costs other than staff time needed to process.

- **Funding Sources – Please include the following in your explanation:**

- **If transferring funds, please make sure bill gives specific accounts; if appropriating funds from a grant list the agency awarding the grant.NA**

- **Priority status/Deadlines, if any** March 31, 2012

- **Why should Council unanimously support this bill?**

To allow for additional fundraising efforts to develop project fully and begin with the development of construction documents and necessary permitting.