

**Baldwin Township
Sherburne County, Minnesota
Resolution 12-13**

**A RESOLUTION SUPPORTING THE GREATER MN REGIONAL
PARKS AND TRAILS**

Whereas: the state Parks and Trails Legacy plan calls for a statewide system of parks and trails, and

Whereas: Greater MN Regional Parks and Trails have been underfunded for decades when compared to investments in the metro park system over that same time period, and

Whereas: the public expressed overwhelming support at 17 state-sponsored public meetings for the highest quality statewide regional projects possible as a preferred outcome of the 25 year plan, and

Whereas: the first round of park and trail legacy funding in 2009 was unfair to Greater Minnesota - with 43% of the funding dedicated to metro park needs, 43% dedicated to DNR park and trail needs and projects, while leaving only 14% funding for a statewide grants program which included Metro Parks. Of that 14%, 20% of those funds were given to the Metro Park Area, and

Whereas: the second round of park and trail legacy funding in 2011, produced better but still lopsided results with Greater Minnesota receiving 20% in dedicated legacy funding, while metro parks received 43% and DNR received 37%, and

Whereas: a 2011 inventory of Greater Minnesota park and trail needs resulted in \$76 million in projects, and over \$33 million in grant request - or more than four times the amount of the 2011 legacy grants awarded to Greater Minnesota, and

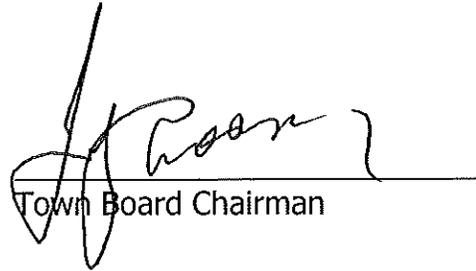
Whereas: Greater Minnesota pre-legacy park and trail funding was spotty and scarce, and

Whereas: the Legacy Act has resulted in Greater Minnesota being charged by both the public and the state plan to build the highest quality statewide regional projects possible;

Therefore be it resolved that: Baldwin Township believes Greater Minnesota should receive adequate funding to carry out the state plan and the public sentiment for high quality projects, and Baldwin Township believes the current

Park and Trail Legacy splits of 43% metro, 37% DNR and 20% to Greater Minnesota are inherently unfair to Greater Minnesota and not enough to carry out the state plan or meet public expectations, and Baldwin Township believes the legacy funding splits at 43% metro, 37% DNR and 20% for the remaining 80 non-metro counties is not fair and will not provide the funding to allow Greater Minnesota to succeed in carrying out expectations of either the public or the state plan, and Baldwin Township believes the Greater Minnesota percentage of Legacy funding should increase to a level more equal to those of the metro area and DNR.

Dated: July 2, 2012



Town Board Chairman

ATTEST



Town Clerk