

Illinois Department of Natural Resources

One Natural Resources Way Springfield, Illinois 62702-1271
www.dnr.illinois.gov

JB Pritzker, Governor
Colleen Callahan, Director

September 24, 2020

Craig Talsma
Executive Director
Hoffinan Estates
1685 West Higgins Road
Hoffinan Estates, IL 60169

RE: FY'20 OSLAD Grant
Birch Park Revitalization Project

Dear Director Talsma:

Many Grantee's have inquired recently whether the FY'20 OSLAD grants will be extended due to the COVID-19 pandemic. I am writing today to inform you that this will not occur.

This agreement is subject to the Grant Funds Recovery Act (30ILCS 705/1 et seq.) as stated multiple times throughout the grant agreement, most specifically paragraph 27.13. This was also noted in the FY 2020 OSLAD Grant Application Manual on page 1. Due to the advance payment of \$112,500.00 that was issued to your organization, this grant cannot be extended past the 2-year timeframe stated in your grant agreement on page 2.

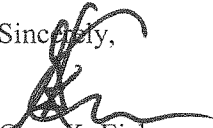
We are aware that this pandemic has caused financial instability within many organizations. If you feel that you will not be able to complete your project due to the financial restrictions that COVID-19 has placed on your organization, the IDNR is prepared to allow you to withdraw your project from the FY20 OSLAD program without the normal penalty of a 2-year debarment.

If you choose to withdraw your project, your advance payment plus interest must be returned to the IDNR no later than 45 days after the acceptance of your withdrawal. No project expenditures can be billed against this project since it will not be deemed complete.

If you choose to reduce the scope of your project, you may present your reduced scope to your grant administrator. The reduced scope would have to be re-scored by staff and if the reduced scope scores high enough to be recommended for funding, then the project may be allowed to proceed once that determination has been made. If it would not have scored high enough, this will not be allowed.

Outdoor recreation has always been a priority for the IDNR and we are hopeful that you can continue this project to support this mission in your community. I recognize this may not be an option for you at this time and encourage you to reach out to your grant administrator, who is copied below, to discuss your options.

Sincerely,


Gary K. Eicken
Chief Grant Administrator
Office of Grant Management and Assistance

cc: Ann Fletcher - email: ann.fletcher@illinois.gov office phone: (217) 557-7815