

Press Release - 2/14/19
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City of Winooski Receives National Grant Funding to Support Parks and Open Space Planning

The City of Winooski is proud to announce that it is one of ten communities nationwide selected to receive \$40,000 in grant funding from the National Recreation and Park Association (NRPA) as part of its national 10-Minute Walk campaign. The 10-Minute Walk campaign - led by the National Recreation and Park Association (NRPA), The Trust for Public Land (TPL), and the Urban Land Institute (ULI) - is funded by the JPB Foundation and aims to address the fact that one in three Americans don't have a park within a 10-minute walk (or half-mile) of home.

Funds received through the grant will help the City of Winooski to develop a comprehensive Parks and Open Space plan, including improving access and connectivity between City parks and developing plans to make one of Winooski's parks universally accessible for all visitors regardless of their age, size, ability or disability.

"Parks are essential to the health, happiness and prosperity of our nation," said Jack Kardys, chair, NRPA Board of Directors. "We believe everyone deserves a great park and we're proud to help lead this effort that prioritizes parks in cities and urban areas across the country." The 2019 grant cohort includes Bennettsville, South Carolina; Denver, Colorado; Los Angeles City, California; Los Angeles County, West Athens-Westmont, California; Memphis, Tennessee; Paterson, New Jersey; Raleigh, North Carolina; Tacoma, Washington; Lynnwood, Washington; and Winooski, Vermont.

"This grant is a tremendous recognition for our City," said Ray Coffey, Community Services Director for the City of Winooski. "To have the opportunity to work with an outstanding group of Parks agencies and professionals nationwide will be a huge boost for our efforts to improve our own local parks for our residents and visitors."

"We are so excited to enhance our City parks, making them more accessible and inclusive for all through this program. Green spaces are vital to our wellness especially in urban areas like Winooski," said Alicia Finley, Recreation and Parks Manager for the City of Winooski.

The City of Winooski currently has nearly 200 acres of parks and open space within its 1.4 square miles, with 82% of residents living within a 10-minute walk of a park, compared to a national average of 55%.

To learn more about the 10-Minute Walk campaign, visit www.10minutewalk.org.
To learn more about NRPA, visit www.nrpa.org.

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