August 1, 2025

Natalie Phelps Finnie, Director

Illinois Department of Natural Resources

One Natural Resources Way

Springfield, Illinois 62701

Dear Director Phelps Finnie,

As a resident of the City of South Beloit, I wanted to submit this letter of support on behalf of the City’s efforts to establish the proposed Neighborhood Park at Nature at the Confluence project. The community has had the opportunity to review and comment on the Master Plan for the proposed Neighborhood Park. This well-planned project has been in the works for many years. This letter serves as my written support for the City of South Beloit’s application for IDNR’s Open Space Land Acquisition and Development (OSLAD) funding.

The Neighborhood Park at Nature at the Confluence is an approximately 25-acre Neighborhood Park Development located just off of Charles Street and along the Rock River in the northwest quadrant of the City of South Beloit.  The planned development components at this park include a Playground area, a scenic Overlook Area at Kelley Creek, a Picnic Shelter, Picnic Tables, an informational kiosk, outdoor classrooms, and roadway and parking improvements.

This Neighborhood Park at Nature at the Confluence will promote healthy living by encouraging recreational activity use and enhance the overall quality of life for residents of the City. We are excited and hopeful for the long-awaited project to be implemented and we appreciate the efforts the City is taking to make this happen.

As a local resident who supports the efforts and management of the City, I respect and appreciate the community coordination that this project created. I strongly encourage the Illinois Department of Natural Resources to support the City of South Beloit’s OSLAD grant project.

Thank you for your consideration

Sincerely,