



April 13, 2007

To Whom It May Concern,

Speaking as a Monroe County Council at Large member, Plan Commissioner, and appointee to the Metropolitan Planning Organization, I am writing to recommend that the Karst Farm Greenway Trail Head Visitor's Center Transportation Enhancement Grant Application be approved for funding.

As a recipient of the funding, Monroe County can continue the realization of a beautiful enhancement that will be accessible to diverse people. Additionally, the investment of the funding in this project promises exponential returns in the way of providing an educational experience, respite time for our Monroe County citizens, and it will honor one of the famous first settlers of Monroe County, Colonel John Ketcham!

The Ketcham Barn feature was saved and salvaged from a former historic property in Monroe County that was rezoned for development. Precious few irreplaceable assets such as this pre-Civil War Barn exist throughout Indiana. Repurposing the barn to be a multi-use community trailhead feature is a project that will be a signature piece of our local parks system and countywide development of trails.

County revenue streams and resources are very difficult to allocate towards these more joyful aspects of where local government serves our citizenry and the taxpayers. My perspective as a Councilperson has been to urge our County Parks & Rec Department to aggressively seek grant funding---we're grateful for this opportunity.

It is my hope that the State of Indiana will help Monroe County with TE grant funding. The launch of the Karst Farm Greenway Trail Head will also be dynamic towards serving people with disabilities. We would be honored if Monroe County would be a model for other communities if this project can break ground with your help.

Thank you,

Sophia Travis  
Monroe County Council at Large  
2570 Fluck Mill Road  
Bloomington, IN, 47403  
[Sophia@littlebear.com](mailto:Sophia@littlebear.com)  
812-824-7333