

MEMORANDUM

TO: St. Charles County Council

FROM: Ryan Graham, Director of Parks

RE: Resolution Supporting Application for Grant Funding to Improve Dardenne Creek

DATE: 7/6/22

For your consideration is a Resolution requesting support for an application with the Missouri Department of Natural Resources, Financial Assistance Center's State ARPA Grant Program for a stream restoration project on the Dardenne Creek.

Dardenne Creek extends just over 40 miles from its confluence with the Mississippi River through the municipalities of St. Peters, Cottleville, O'Fallon and Dardenne Prairie and then west into Warren County. Decades of channelization have resulted in increased flow rates, erosion, and flooding. This once vibrant stream has become not much more than a drainage ditch and the USEPA in 2020 listed segments of Dardenne Creek as "impaired" in accordance with Section 3003(d) of the Clean Water Act.

The Dardenne Creek Restoration project will provide funding for debris removal, efforts to minimize erosion by installing live stake areas, rock and log riffles. The work will improve water quality and mitigate flash flooding by creating riparian zones, removing levees and restoring wetlands. The project will install native plantings, removal of invasive species, habitat restoration and allow for the formation of pools and ponds within the Dardenne Creek watershed.

Please let me know if you have any questions, concerns or would like to discuss further.
Thank you,

Ryan Graham
Director of Parks