Nonmotorized Recreation and Transportation Trails Council

Resolution supporting the reauthorization of the Land and Water Conservation Fund

WHEREAS, the Land and Water Conservation Fund, since it was established in 1965, has been an important program for meeting conservation and recreation needs, from national parks and wildlife refuges to sacred battlefields and historic sites, to working forests and critical habitat, to neighborhood playgrounds and recreational facilities; and

WHEREAS, this program invests not only in our quality of life, but in supporting over nine million American jobs in recreation, conservation, and historic activities which contribute more than a trillion dollars to the U.S. economy; and

WHEREAS, in Wisconsin the LWCF has invested more than \$218 million to protect places such as the Chequamegon-Nicolet National Forest, The Ice Age and North Country National Scenic Trails, the St. Croix National Scenic Riverway, and the Apostle Islands National Lakeshore; and

WHEREAS, the LWCF has provided funding for development of recreation trails, community parks, and recreational facilities throughout Wisconsin; and

WHEREAS, the LWCF does not receive taxpayer dollars, but is funded with a small portion of revenues paid to the government from offshore oil and gas drilling; and

WHEREAS, the LWCF will expire on September 30, 2018 unless Congress takes action to continue it; and

WHEREAS, the LWCF needs long term stability and, therefore, should be reauthorized permanently.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Nonmotorized Recreation and Transportation Trails Council request Senators Ron Johnson and Tammy Baldwin to support the permanent reauthorization of the Land and Water Conservation Fund.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Speaker of the House of Representatives Paul Ryan be requested to support the permanent reauthorization of the Land and Water Conservation Fund and to bring pending legislation for that purpose to the House floor for consideration.

ADOPTED: September 24, 2018

Joel Patenaude, Chair