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August 1, 2018

National Recreation and Parks Association
22377 Belmont Ridge Road
Ashburn, VA 20148-4501
RE: Village of Milan – Great Urban Parks Campaign Grant Application

Dear NRPA Review Committee,

We write this letter to you to demonstrate our support for the Village of Milan's (Village) National Recreation and Parks Association (NRPA) grant application to provide improvements to Mirabal Park. The Local Government Division (LGD) has been partnering with the Village to build up and develop the Southside of Milan for over 15 years. We truly understand the vision and recognize the value in improving this recreational facility for the Village residents as well as other nearby communities.

The Village has utilized investments from our Small Communities/Cities Community Development Block Grant Program (CDBG) that LGD administers, as follows:

- 2004-05: Village of Milan utilizes \$25,000 in CDBG Planning Grant funds matching a Legislative investment dollar-to-dollar to develop the Southside Infrastructure Master Plan, which planned, prioritized, and then guiding develop for over a decade.
- 2004-05: LGD awards Milan \$400,000 in CDBG funds for Uranium Avenue Road & Drainage Improvements (Phase I)
- 2008-09: LGD awards Milan \$500,000 in CDBG funds for Uranium Avenue Road & Drainage Improvements (Phase II)
- 2009-2010: LGD awards Milan \$500,000 in CDBG funds to construct a multi-purpose center in this neighborhood.
- 2010: Grants-Cibola County School District opens the new Milan Elementary School.
- 2012-13: LGD awards Milan \$500,000 in CDBG funds for Uranium Avenue Road & Drainage Improvements (Phase III); matching \$328,000 in Legislative funding.
- 2014-15: LGD awards Milan \$500,000 in CDBG funds for Uranium Avenue & Sand Street Road & Drainage Improvements (Phase IV-V); matching \$200,000 in Legislative funding.
- 2016-17: LGD awards Milan \$500,000 in CDBG funds for Mirabal Park (Phase I) Flood Control Facility; matching \$208,000 in Legislative funding.

This facility will provide this New Mexico urban community with:

- New habitat for wildlife often forgotten about;
- Flood mitigation for local residents;
- A positive safe place to play for our youth. It will be an outlet for physical activity;
- An amenity for local youth organizations to host events and competitions;
- Revitalization to the Village core, and
- The opportunity to increase outdoor activities within course curriculum at Milan Elementary.

The LGD can vouch for the Village's commitment to the engagement, prosperity, environmental quality, and overall better quality of life for all. We are excited about their NRPA grant application which if successful will allow for the final piece of over a decade of planning and improvement to make their community better.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Rick Lopez". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "R" and "L".

Rick Lopez, Director
Local Government Division