



John M. Cannon

Mayor

Efficiency & Excellence

April 17, 2019

Re: Land and Water Conservation Fund Grant Awarded for Imagination Glen

For Immediate Release to the Press:

The City of Portage Parks and Recreation Department was awarded a \$200,000 grant for facility improvements at the Imagination Glen softball complex. This matching grant, administered by the Indiana Department of Natural Resources, will provide much needed upgrades at the complex as well as provide for additional amenities. Imagination Glen Park is the largest in the park system at 276 acres. The site contains numerous amenities that include softball and soccer fields, playgrounds and shelters, Mountain Bike trails and the Iron Horse Heritage Trail, as well as access for fishing on Salt Creek. The park has been in existence for over 40 years and is one of the most popular among residents and visitors.

“Many of our park facilities received upgrades in the past 5 years; we believed that Imagination Glen was next in line to be improved. Over the past few years we have hosted softball World Series and baseball tournaments as well a variety of other events. With this increased use in our facility, we believed it was time to give it the much needed upgrades. We are excited to receive this great news!” – Park Superintendent Jenny Orsburn

Included in this grant project are a variety of improvements such as new ballfield fencing, restroom facilities, expansion of the concession stand and the addition of a shelter at the softball complex. Just outside of the complex, a separated bike path will connect the softball complex to the playground, shelter the Iron Horse Heritage Trail and Outback Mountain Bike Trails. Lighting will be upgraded as well.

The Land and Water Conservation Fund provides matching grants for local and state park projects outside of national park boundaries.

“We are excited about this matching grant to help our already amazing Park Facilities become even better. We thank Park Superintendent Jenny Orsburn and her staff for operating our Parks Department with event and programs that are second to none. A big ‘Thank You’ also to Congressman Pete Visclosky for his help in making this possible.” – Mayor John Cannon