

A portion of this funding should be available to municipalities to implement GIS programs.

- (4) Protection of wildlife and fisheries habitats \$5 million

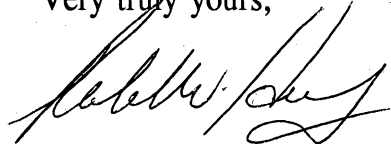
For planning, study and acquisition of "land and interests therein" for the protection of wildlife and fisheries habitats.

- (5) Habitat Management \$5 million

A program for habitat management for upland wildlife species that shall include research, planning and implementation of habitat management plans. Such habitat management activities need to provide access to the public.

The City will carefully monitor grant rounds as they become available in all areas, and will seek to leverage available City funds to the maximum amount possible.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Robert W. Healy", written over a horizontal line.

Robert W. Healy
City Manager



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EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT
ROBERT W. HEALY
City Manager

RICHARD C. ROSSI
Deputy City Manager

April 8, 1996

To the Honorable, the City Council:

In response to Awaiting Report #18 regarding the Open Space Bond Bill, please be advised of the following:

"An Act Providing for an Environmental Enhancement and Protection Program for the Commonwealth" was signed by the Governor on February 12, 1996. A significant portion of the bill is earmarked for specific State or MDC purposes, however, it also includes funding opportunities for which the City can compete. Below please find a summary description of each of the areas for which the City appears to qualify, and the total amount authorized in the legislation.

- (1) Self-Help Program \$25 million

To provide assistance in the acquisition of land to be used for passive/conservation purposes.

- (2) Urban Self-Help Program \$25 million

To provide assistance for the acquisition and/or development of land to be used for recreation purposes.

The Executive Office of Environmental Affairs has announced an upcoming 1997 Self-Help and Urban Self-Help grant round. **A total of \$10 million will be available statewide, with a maximum grant limit of \$500,000.** The program requires a matching portion from the City. Preference in this grant round will be given to projects that "convert 'brownfield' or other contaminated sites to quality outdoor recreation facilities." The City expects to compete in this grant round, and is in the process of identifying the most competitive project.

- (3) Geographic Information System Development \$20 million

Consent Agenda #7

S-193

Relative to Awaiting Report Item
Number Eighteen, regarding the
Open Space Bond Bill.

In City Council April 8, 1996

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