

June 23, 2021

City Administration Department  
Attn: Tom Pagel  
420 N Pokegama Ave  
Grand Rapids, Minnesota 55744



Itasca Ski & Outing Club  
P. O. Box 553  
Coleraine, MN 55722

Dear Tom:

At the recommendation of Councilor Dale Adams, Itasca Ski and Outing Club is sending this letter of request to the City of Grand Rapids. We would also like to attend a city council work session so we can present our request in person and answer any questions the city council may have.

Itasca Ski and Outing Club, Incorporated (ISOC) is requesting \$5000 from the City of Grand Rapids. These funds will go toward an artificial track project on our ski jumps. Presently, we have artificial tracks only on the 70-meter jump, and we manually set the tracks each season on the remaining jumps (40-, 20-, 15-, and 10-meter jumps) using man-made snow. Adding artificial tracks to the remaining jumps would reduce the work needed to prepare the jumps at the beginning of the season, allowing jumpers to begin practice earlier in the season. We believe this will help grow the program. The total project cost is estimated at \$35,000 and consists of lumber, plastic track components, and labor for installation. Our fundraising efforts have brought in approximately \$25,000 so far. An additional \$5,000 each from the City of Grand Rapids and the Greenway Joint Recreation Association (GJRA) would move us to our goal.

I presented our annual request to the GJRA board last Monday evening at their meeting. Councilor Adams was present at the meeting (as Grand Rapids has representation in GJRA), so he has already been informed of the project.

As a part of our presentation, we would also like to outline our longer-term plans at Mt Itasca. We completed a four-year strategic plan last summer, and it lays out some restructuring to make Mt Itasca more sustainable. Partnerships with local governments continue to be critical to our success. We are making efforts to ease volunteer burdens for the larger maintenance items on the hill, thereby reducing the risk of volunteer burnout or retirements, which have hurt Mt Itasca several times in the past. Revenue growth over the past five years has helped us to do that.

Feel free to contact President Bob Conzemius, Secretary Jamie Mjolsness, Treasurer Jan Maki, or Board Members Kurt Mangseth, Carter Petterson, and Jim Ohman with any questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Robert J. Conzemius". The signature is written in a cursive style.

Robert J. Conzemius, President

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jan Maki". The signature is written in a cursive style.

Jan Maki, Treasurer