

**ROCHELLE CITY COUNCIL
AGENDA ITEM MEMO
REGULAR MEETING**

SUBJECT: A Resolution Authorizing Execution of the OSLAD Grant Agreement for the Pickleball Court Project at Fairways Golf Course

Staff Contact: Jenny Thompson, Assistant to the City Manager/Director of Community Engagement

Summary:

The City of Rochelle has been awarded an Open Space Lands Acquisition and Development (OSLAD) Grant through the Illinois Department of Natural Resources in the amount of \$237,000 for the pickleball court project at Fairways Golf Course, located at 533 South 7th Street. The grant award represents approximately 50% of the anticipated total project cost.

The proposed project will redevelop an existing, underutilized tennis court area into six regulation pickleball courts, helping meet the growing demand for pickleball within Rochelle and the surrounding region.

Project Overview

In addition to the new courts, the project includes several related site improvements intended to enhance accessibility, traffic flow, and the overall user experience at Fairways. Current site plans include:

- Construction of six pickleball courts
- Reconfiguration of the driveway to create a wider entrance
- Addition of more parking spaces in the lot
- Relocation of Fairways signage to the north and south ends of the property
- Retention of Luna's sign in its current location, with a possible request to incorporate a smaller Fairways sign
- Construction of a shade structure

A permit application has also been submitted to IDOT for the driveway modifications.

Project Schedule

The project is continuing to move forward, with the following tentative timeline:

April 13, 2026 – City Council consideration of the grant agreement

Late May / Early June 2026 – Anticipated release of bid specifications

Late Summer / Early Fall 2026 – Anticipated construction period

Financial Impact

Based on the current preliminary estimate of approximately \$474,000, the anticipated funding structure remains:

50% OSLAD Grant: \$237,000

25% City of Rochelle: approximately \$118,500

25% Flagg-Rochelle Community Park District: approximately \$118,500

The cost shares are based on current project estimates and may shift slightly as the project is finalized and bids are received.

Grant Agreement

Acceptance of the OSLAD funding requires the City to enter into a formal grant agreement with the Illinois Department of Natural Resources. The agreement outlines the terms, conditions, and compliance requirements associated with the funding, including a project term of April 1, 2026 through March 31, 2028.

Recommendation

Staff recommends approval of the resolution authorizing the City Manager to execute the OSLAD Grant Agreement with the Illinois Department of Natural Resources.

Funding Sources:

Source:	Budgeted Amount:	Proposed Expenditure:
Hotel Motel Transfer to Golf	\$175,000	Approx. \$118,500

Strategic Plan Goal Application: Quality of Life

Recommendation: Approve the Resolution Authorizing Execution of the OSLAD Grant Agreement for the Pickleball Court Project at Fairways Golf Course