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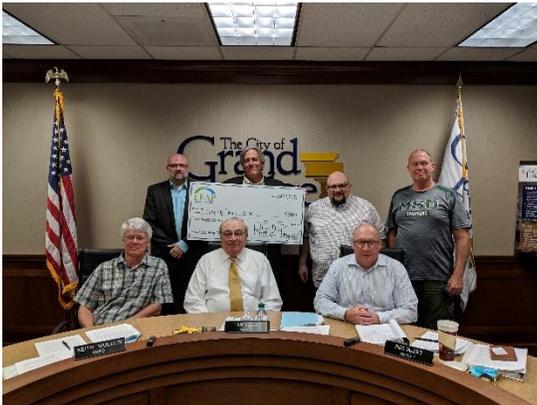
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**Grand Ledge Awarded Public Art Grant for Sound Garden**

GRAND LEDGE, MI, April 19, 2019 – The City of Grand Ledge was awarded an exciting opportunity to add another piece of public art to the already vibrant landscape in our community. Grand Ledge was one of three recipients of a \$10,000 Public Art Grant to commission and install new public art for year-round display. This project was made possible by a grant from the Lansing Economic Area Partnership (LEAP) with support from the PNC Foundation. This is the third time the City has been awarded funding. Other community art projects made possible by this grant were “The Ledges” by Ivan Iller in 2015, and the bike racks by Flatlander’s Sculpture Supply in 2017 that reflect the community’s history and amenities. Both projects were significant additions to the city’s park and downtown areas.



Grand Ledge Mayor, Thomas J. Sowle Jr., attended a press event at LEAP on April 19, 2019 to accept the grant award. "Our city is fortunate to have yet another opportunity to install permanent art pieces that the public will have the chance to interact with for generations to come. The Sound Garden will be an accessible and inclusive installment that will encourage a true sense of place for patrons of Jaycee Park," Mayor Sowle commented.



Mayor Sowle and Grand Ledge City Council Members at meeting Monday night with \$10,000 award from LEAP and PNC Foundation.

The Sound Garden in Jaycee Park will be a collection of permanent, outdoor musical instruments located along the Riverwalk Trail. Visitors will be able to “play” the art pieces together or independently, encouraging universal play and a sensory experience. The City’s Public Art Committee anticipates releasing a Request for Proposals to artists in Michigan at the end of April. These interactive art pieces will reflect the natural environments in the city’s parks, and pay homage to the city’s love for music and inclusiveness, often seen during the Music in the Park Summer Concert Series held by the Grand Ledge Chamber of Commerce. An unveiling event for the new art piece will be scheduled in Fall 2019.

City Manager, Adam Smith noted that, “Grand Ledge has had significant forward momentum in the last few years. Jaycee Park is at peak development this Summer as we welcome a performance shelter, Riverwalk Trail connection, ADA canoe/kayak launch, and now, an interactive public art installment. We are fortunate to continue our partnership with LEAP and PNC Foundation, which has opened doors for creating a sense of place for our residents and visitors.”

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*For detailed information about our parks and public art, visit [www.cityofgrandledge.com](http://www.cityofgrandledge.com).  
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