



January 31, 2022

Mr. Lee J. Shirey
Economic Development Representative for Michigan
U.S. Department of Commerce
Economic Development Administration
230 S. Dearborn Street, Suite 3280
Chicago, IL 60604

Dear Mr. Shirey,

The City of Marquette is pleased to provide this letter of commitment for our application requesting \$932,500 in grant funding through the U.S. Economic Development Administration's Fiscal Year 2021 American Rescue Plan Act Travel, Tourism, and Outdoor Recreation Program.

This proposed project will transform the city-owned Great Lakes shoreline into more of a tourism destination by: 1) creating the new Lake Superior Cultural Arts Trail along eight miles of existing, ADA-accessible waterfront hiking trail and 2) improving public access with nature-based green infrastructure to stabilize and restore prioritized coastal erosion sites and degraded areas immediately adjacent to the proposed Cultural Arts Trail. This innovative EDA project is designed to increase sustainable economic development through increased tourism and longer local stays due to the Lake Superior Cultural Arts Trail. Project partners include but are not limited to, Marquette Community Development, Marquette Arts and Culture, Marquette Economic SmartZone, Keweenaw Bay Indian Community, and the Superior Watershed Partnership.

To support this important work, the City of Marquette commits to providing a minimum of \$235,000 in non-federal match. This funding is committed to the project for the three-year period of performance. The funds are not conditioned or restricted in any way and will be available as needed to support the project.

If you should have any questions regarding this, please feel free to contact me via phone (906-225-8102) or e-mail (manager@marquettemi.gov).

Sincerely,

Karen M. Kovacs, City Manager
City of Marquette