In July 2017, the City Commission approved acceptance of funding from Pinellas County related to the Deepwater Horizon accident in the Gulf of Mexico. The project submitted and approved by the County is to renovate the trails at McGough Nature Park. This project involves replacing a 2,500 foot section of sidewalk with 2,500 feet, 5 foot wide poured in place rubber trail system in the park. The original proposal was to replace the asphalt trail with concrete, however, due to the cost of concrete and restrictions on equipment that can be brought into the park and trail area, only 800 feet of sidewalk can be poured. However, the poured in place rubber trails will allow for 2,500 feet of trail. The proposed vendor, Rubber Designs LLC, has provided this type of trail surfacing at the Robinson Preserve in Bradenton where they have developed a 130,000 square foot trail system. They also provided this surfacing to the City of St. Pete Beach.

Upon project completion, staff will submit a reimbursement request for the grant funding.