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**Lt. Governor Skillman Awards Oakland City with a
\$30,000 Planning Grant**

Lt. Governor Becky Skillman has awarded the City of Oakland City with a \$30,000 planning grant the city will use to fund a park and recreation master planning study. These federal dollars are from the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program. Indiana's Office of Community and Rural Affairs (OCRA) administers the grants.

"These planning studies are often the first step for communities that want to pursue new economic development opportunities," said Lt. Governor Skillman, who oversees OCRA. "These studies are costly for rural communities, but the state will continue to support communities that have a vision for improving the quality of life for Hoosiers."

The grant will fund a five-year master park planning study which will be created in compliance with the Department of Natural Resources' standards. The study will assess the park system's physical facilities as well as current recreation, arts, community events, sports and fitness offerings, and make recommendations to better serve community needs in the coming years.

The CDBG grant program has proven to be an effective tool for community-based planning and research initiatives. Visit www.in.gov/ocra for additional information on this grant program.

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Lt. Governor Skillman oversees the Indiana Office of Community and Rural Affairs. OCRA was created by legislation in 2005, making rural Indiana a major focus for the first time. For additional information on OCRA and its programs visit www.ocra.in.gov.

For updates from the Lt. Governor and the agencies she oversees, please sign up at www.lg.in.gov.