## Zander Park Pavilion Project Met 2024 Fundraising Goal, Lions Club Announced

By Laina Gustafson

The Pavilion Legacy project is one big step closer to reality, the Cross Plains Lions Club announced. Ahead of schedule, the project surpassed its goal of collecting 85 percent of necessary funding by the end of 2024.

The update marks an exciting milestone in the Lions Club's vision of an outdoor, environmentally sound community pavilion in the heart of downtown Cross Plains. Projected to be completed in 2026, the pavilion will host events such as concerts, outdoor movie nights, art fairs and even yoga classes. The Lions Club also highlighted that the public will be able to rent the pavilion space for celebrations, performances, family reunions and other events.

Kevin Engelien, Chair of Cross Plains Lions Club Trout Days Committee, described the pavilion as a space for everyone to enjoy. He said the Legacy project "fosters the connections and memories that we hope can be made for generations to come."

Local donations made up the majority of funding, which the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources pledged to match for up to \$249,900. Over thirty members of the Lions Club also participated in a matching fund grant with Latitude Graphics, contributing over \$51,000.

"We're thrilled," Engelien said. "It's an incredible achievement that wouldn't have been possible without the generous support of the community."

Since achieving their 2024 \$425,000 fundraising goal, the Lions Club is moving ahead with the Village of Cross Plains to review construction plans, permits and bidding. Plans to officially break ground are set for May 2025, during the town's beloved Trout Days celebration in H.M. Zander Park.

Fundraising for the remainder of the project will continue in 2025. For more information or to make a donation, visit lionslegacypaviilon.org.