7 February 2023

Rep. Ken Rahjes, Chairman House Agriculture and Natural Resources Committee Kansas State Capital 300 SW 10th St. Topeka, Kansas 66612

Chairman Rahjes and Members of the House Committee of Agriculture and Natural Resources:

The Allen County Commissioners support the proposed Lehigh Portland State Park.

Allen County has experienced increased tourism from the existing Rail Trail systems. We believe that turning the Lehigh Portland area into a state park, and with its connection to the Rail Trials, local and regional economies will benefit. Additionally, like many counties in the Midwest, Allen County has struggled with population loss. This park will be a catalyst for reversing that trend.

Lehigh Portland State Park would be a safe and beautiful place for families to gather for recreation. What a quality-of-life enhancer it would be for all that use it.

The proposed Lehigh Portland State Park, with its 360 acres of water, diverse landscape, and connection to the existing Rail Trails system, would benefit Allen Countians, Kansans, and all who use it for many years into the future.

Respectfully,

Chairman David Lee

Commissioner Jerry Daniels

Commissioner Bruce Symes