

Parks and Trails Local and Regional Grant Program

AT A GLANCE

2020 Request Amount: \$4,000

Priority Ranking: 9

Project Summary: \$4 million in state funds is requested to provide competitive grants to local governments for acquisition and development of local and regional parks and trails across the state.

Project Description

This \$4 million request in state funds is to provide competitive grants to local governments for acquisition and development of local and regional parks and trails across the state. These funds will support park and trail grant programs as established in M.S. 85.019, which establishes four matching grant programs:

- The Outdoor Recreation Grant Program helps local governments acquire, develop and/or redevelop close-to-home outdoor recreation facilities.
- The Regional Park Grant Program helps local governments acquire shoreland, natural areas and threatened habitat, and develop and rehabilitate natural resource-based outdoor recreation facilities of regional significance.
- The Local Trail Connections Grant Program provides grants to local units of government to develop and acquire trail connections to residential areas, schools, workplaces, community centers, recreation areas, trails and parks.
- The Regional Trail Grant Program provides grants to local units of government for development and acquisition of regional trails outside of the metropolitan area.

The grant programs allow the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) to partner with local communities to acquire land and develop parks and trails that help create a network of close-to-home recreation facilities. The request will provide funding for park grants to local communities to acquire approximately 100 acres, develop or redevelop several local and/or regional parks, and also provide funding for about 20 local and regional trail projects.

Project Rationale

This project supports Minnesota’s communities by helping to ensure public access to a high-quality system of local and regional parks and trails. Connecting people to Minnesota’s great outdoors has been identified by the DNR as a strategic direction critical to enhancing community health and wellness.

Project Timeline

Project funds will be granted within the given time frame.

Other Considerations

While Legacy funds have provided additional park and trail building acquisition and development funding to areas of regional significance, these funding sources cannot be used for local parks and

trails. Therefore, bond funding remains one of the only sources of money for the purchase and development of smaller recreational opportunities located within communities.

Impact on Agency Operating Budgets

There will be minimal impact on the operating budget involved in managing the grant process.

Description of Previous Appropriations

n/a

Project Contact Person

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Governor's Recommendation

The Governor recommends \$4 million in general obligation bonds for this request. Also included are budget estimates of \$4 million for each planning period for 2022 and 2024.

Natural Resources

Project Detail

(\$ in thousands)

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PROJECT FUNDING SOURCES

Funding Source	Prior Years	FY 2020	FY 2022	FY 2024
State Funds Requested				
General Obligation Bonds	\$ 1,400	\$ 4,000	\$ 4,000	\$ 4,000
Funds Already Committed				
Pending Contributions				
TOTAL	\$ 1,400	\$ 4,000	\$ 4,000	\$ 4,000

TOTAL PROJECT COSTS

Cost Category	Prior Years	FY 2020	FY 2022	FY 2024
Property Acquisition	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0
Predesign Fees	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0
Design Fees	\$ 210	\$ 600	\$ 600	\$ 600
Project Management	\$ 70	\$ 200	\$ 200	\$ 200
Construction	\$ 1,120	\$ 3,200	\$ 3,200	\$ 3,200
Relocation Expenses	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0
One Percent for Art	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0
Occupancy Costs	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0
Inflationary Adjustment	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0
TOTAL	\$ 1,400	\$ 4,000	\$ 4,000	\$ 4,000

IMPACT ON STATE OPERATING COSTS

Cost Category	FY 2020	FY 2022	FY 2024
IT Costs	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0
Operating Budget Impact (\$)	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0
Operating Budget Impact (FTE)	0.0	0.0	0.0

SOURCE OF FUNDS FOR DEBT SERVICE PAYMENTS

	Amount	Percent of Total
General Fund	\$ 4,000	100 %
User Financing	\$ 0	0 %