

Glacial Lakes State Trail

Connecting to Sibley State Park through rolling prairies



 **\$6.1 million**

 **4.2 new trail miles**

 Local project partner:
Sibley State Park Improvement Association

 Management Agency:
Minnesota DNR

Brief Description:

Funding will ensure completion of a multi-year effort to connect the Glacial Lakes State Trail from New London to Sibley State Park.

Why this project is important:

The Glacial Lakes State Trail has more than 29 miles of paved trail that weaves through a topography of tallgrass prairie, scattered woodlands, and glacial lakes, a big draw for tourists. This 4.2-mile spur will connect Sibley State Park, which hosts more than 250,000 visitors each year, to a 22-mile segment of the Glacial Lakes State Trail. It will offer exceptional outdoor recreation opportunities and safe biking and walking routes for students at New London public schools. The trail connection between nearby communities and the state park will benefit tourists and nearby residents alike. The trail development builds on this tourist destination and offers economic opportunities to the communities of New London, Spicer, Willmar, and Paynesville.

This project is ready to go!

Three miles of trail within the park have already been completed and a tunnel has been built underneath highway 71. For the remaining 4.2-mile segment to fill in the gap, land acquisition is complete and design and engineering has been funded and is underway. The DNR has designated funds and has entered a joint powers agreement with Kandiyohi County for constructing a critical crossing of the Crow River. Rep. Baker and Sen. Lang have authored bills seeking project funding (HF 1411/SF 2751).

Who supports this project:



Rep. Dave Baker



Sen. Andrew Lang

- Kandiyohi County Board of Commissioners
- Kandiyohi County Convention & Visitors Bureau
- Kandiyohi County & City of Willmar Economic Development Commission
- City of New London
- New London Chamber of Commerce
- City of Spicer
- City of Paynesville
- City of Willmar
- Willmar Bikes
- Sibley State Park Improvement Association
- Parks & Trails Council of MN