

**Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund
2020 Request for Proposals (RFP)**

Project Title:

ENRTF ID: 281-G

Mesabi Trail; New Trail and Additional Funding

Category: G. Land Acquisition for Habitat and Recreation

Sub-Category:

Total Project Budget: \$ 6.337.000

Proposed Project Time Period for the Funding Requested: June 30, 2024 (4 yrs)

Summary:

Constructing two new Mesabi Trail segments and one new trail head; and additional funding for trail segments currently in development.

Name: Robert Manzoline

Sponsoring Organization: St. Louis and Lake Counties Regional Railroad Authority

Job Title: _____

Department: _____

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Location:

Region: Northeast

County Name: St. Louis

City / Township: McKinley, Biwabik, Ely

Alternate Text for Visual:

Attached map is a general description of the proposed trail locations. Detailed maps are prepared and will be submitted upon request.

_____ Funding Priorities	_____ Multiple Benefits	_____ Outcomes	_____ Knowledge Base
_____ Extent of Impact	_____ Innovation	_____ Scientific/Tech Basis	_____ Urgency
_____ Capacity Readiness	_____ Leverage	_____ TOTAL	_____ %

PROJECT TITLE: Mesabi Trail; New Trail & Trailhead Development and Additional Funding Request

I. PROJECT STATEMENT

Request funding for constructing two new Mesabi Trail segments and one new trailhead; and additional funding needed to complete five trail segments currently under development.

New funding will be used to construct trail segments: Wahlsten Road to City of Tower; and Palo Tia Road to Sauna Road; and a Trailhead at the Bruce Headframe Historic Site.

Additional funding request is for those trail segments previously approved/funded by the LCCMR and are in need of additional funds to complete construction including: Hwy 1/169 Underpass to Ely; and Wolf Creek to Hwy 1/169 Underpass; and Trygg Road to Eagles Nest; and Sauna Road to Wahlsten Road; and City of Biwabik to the City of McKinley.

II. PROJECT ACTIVITIES AND OUTCOMES

Activity 1 Title: New Trail - Wahlsten Road to the City of Tower

Description: Perform Environmental review, permitting, acquire r-o-w, design and construct a 10' wide, bituminous surface trail from Wahlsten Road (intersection of CR 26 and State Hwy 135) to the existing Mesabi Trail located near Locomotive Park in the City of Tower. This segment will connect to the planned Sauna Road to Wahlsten Road project on the southerly end. This trail is approximately 6 miles in length planned to be located partly on the abandon DM& IR Railroad grade and through forested areas. The trail will pass through the City of Tower Memorial Forest.

ENRTF BUDGET: \$ 1,962,000

Outcome	Completion Date
1. Environmental review and permitting	June 2021
2. Design, acquire right-of-way	October 2021
3. Construction	June 2023

Activity 2 Title: New Trail - Palo Tia Road to Sauna Road

Description: Perform Environmental review, permitting, acquire r-o-w, design and construct a 10' wide, bituminous surface trail from the existing Mesabi Trail at Palo Tia Road to Sauna Road (intersection of Sauna Road and CH 21). This segment will connect to the planned Sauna Road to Wahlsten Road project on the northerly end. This trail is approximately 2 miles in length planned to be located alongside of Palo Tia Road and CH 21 for the entire length.

ENRTF BUDGET: \$825,000

Outcome	Completion Date
1. Environmental review and permitting	complete
2. Design, acquire right-of-way	October 2020
3. Construction	November 2021

Activity 3 Title: New Trailhead – Bruce Head Frame Historic Site

Description: Perform Environmental review, permitting, design and construction of a trailhead at the site of the Bruce Headframe located at the easterly entrance to the City of Chisholm. The Trailhead will include an access road, parking, restrooms, landscaping, overlook and interpretation of the function of the Bruce Mine Headframe Historic site.

ENRTF BUDGET: \$1,550,000

Outcome	Completion Date
1. Environmental review and permitting	June 2021
2. Design, acquire right-of-way	December 2021
3. Construction	June 2023

Activity 4 Title: Additional Funding Request

Description: Requesting additional construction funds to build the trail segments listed within “Outcomes”. The attached project map identifies the location and current funding for each segment.

For the most part, environmental work, planning, design and right-of-way have been completed or current funding is being used to complete these tasks.

Additional funds will be used for increased construction costs, wetland mitigations, and environmental permitting primarily for realigned trail segments.

Each of these segments has been reviewed by LCCMR and further described within year 2015, 2017, 2018 & 2019 Workplans.

ENRTF BUDGET: \$ 2,000,000

Outcome	Completion Date
Hwy 1/169 Underpass to City of Ely, length approximately 6 miles	November 2020
Wolf Creek to Hwy 1/169 underpass, length approximately 3 miles	October 2021
Trygg Road to Eagles Nest Town Hall, length approximately 2 miles	June 2023
Sauna Road to Wahlsten Road, length approximately 6.5 miles	November 2021
City of Biwabik to City of McKinley, length approximately 5.5 miles	November 2022

Attachment A: Project Budget Spreadsheet
Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund
M.L. 2020 Budget Spreadsheet



Legal Citation:
Project Manager: Robert Manzoline
Project Title: Mesabi Trail; New Trail, Trailhead and Additional Funding Request
Organization: St. Louis & Lake Counties Regional Railroad Authority
Project Budget: 6,337,000
Project Length and Completion Date: various with latest completion date June 2023
Today's Date: April 12, 2019

ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES TRUST FUND BUDGET		Budget	Amount Spent	Balance
BUDGET ITEM				
		\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Professional/Technical/Service Contracts				
Contract with multiple firms TBD for environmental and archeology work selected through an RFP		\$ 186,000	\$ -	\$ 186,000
Contract with multiple firms TBD for engineering work selected through an RFP process.		\$ 657,000		\$ 657,000
		\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Capital Expenditures Over \$5,000				
Contract with multiple firms TBD for construction work selected through a competitive bid process		\$ 5,494,000	\$ -	\$ 5,494,000
		\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Other				
		\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
COLUMN TOTAL		\$ 6,337,000	\$ -	\$ 6,337,000
SOURCE AND USE OF OTHER FUNDS CONTRIBUTED TO THE PROJECT				
	Status (secured or pending)	Budget	Spent	Balance
Non-State: Federal	secured	\$ 1,300,000	\$ -	\$ 1,300,000
State: Bond and Legacy	secured	\$ 2,938,000	\$ -	\$ 2,938,000
In kind: Administrative & Legal		\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Other ENRTF APPROPRIATIONS AWARDED IN THE LAST SIX YEARS				
	Amount legally obligated but not yet spent	Budget	Spent	Balance
		\$ 6,069,000	\$ 4,800,000	\$ 1,269,000

2020 LCCMR Requests

New Trails & Trailhead	
Palo Tia Road to Sauna Road	\$150,000
Bruce Head Frame Historic	\$1,550,000
Wahlstein Road to Tower	\$2,000,000

Additional Funding Request	
Sauna Road to County Road 26	\$200,000
Trygg Road to Eagles Nest Town Hall	\$750,000
Biwabik to McKinley	\$700,000
Highway 169 Underpass to Ely	\$800,000
Total	\$6,150,000

Recent LCCMR Funding

2019	\$3,000,000 (Requested)
2018	\$600,000
2017	\$2,269,000
2016	\$1,200,000
2015	\$1,000,000
2014	\$1,000,000

2020 Construction
 Highway 169 Underpass to Ely - 6 miles
 2015 LCCMR \$1,000,000
 2018 LCCMR \$600,000
2020 LCCMR Request \$800,000
 2020 Federal \$300,000
Total = \$2,700,000

2018 Construction
 Highway 169 Relocation - 3 miles
 2017 Legacy \$750,000

2020 Construction
 Wolf Creek to Hwy 169 Underpass - 2.5 miles
 2019 LCCMR Request \$600,000

Eagles Nest Town Hall to Existing Trail Connection
 2019 LCCMR Application \$750,000

2021 Construction
 Trygg Road to Eagles Nest Town Hall - 2.0 miles
2020 LCCMR Application \$750,000

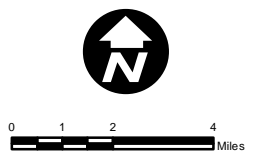
Possible 2022 Construction
 County Road 26 To Tower - 6 miles
2020 LCCMR Request \$2,000,000
 2021 State Bond \$1,138,000

2019 Construction
 Palo Tia Road to Sauna Road - 3 miles
 2019 LCCMR Request \$700,000
2020 LCCMR Request \$150,000

2019 Construction
 Sauna Road to CR 26 - 6.0 miles
 2019 Legacy \$1,800,000
 2019 LCCMR Request \$200,000
2020 LCCMR Request \$750,000

2018 Construction
 Biwabik to McKinley - 5.5 miles
 2017 LCCMR \$1,400,000
 Federal TAP \$1,000,000
2020 LCCMR Request \$700,000

Chisholm
 Bruce Head Frame Historic Site
2020 LCCMR Request \$1,550,000



Legend

- Biwabik to McKinley
- Eagles Nest Town Hall to Existing Trail Connection
- Trygg Road to Eagles Nest Town Hall
- Highway 169 Relocation (~3 miles)
- Highway 169 Underpass to Ely
- Sauna Road to County Road 26
- Highway 135 North to Palo Tia Road
- Palo Tia Road to Sauna Road (~3.0 miles)
- Wolf Creek to Hwy 169 Underpass
- County Road 26 to Tower (~6 miles)
- Existing Mesabi Trail
- Roads

Document Path: P:\PT\REGRA\Common\GIS\Overall_Mesabi_Trail_041219.mxd



Project Manager Qualifications for ENRTF 2020 Proposal

Project manager is Robert Manzoline, Executive Director of the St. Louis & Lake Counties Regional Railroad Authority, hereafter referred to as the "Rail Authority".

The Rail Authority is a local government unit of Minnesota organizes and operating under MN Laws M.S. 398A.

Rail Authority has been working on the development of the Mesabi Trail since year 1995 and has constructed 128 miles of the trail thus far.

The 2020 proposal includes several new segments of the Mesabi Trail similar to most other trail segments constructed to date. The Rail Authority is experienced with all aspects of this project including public involvement, agency contacts, environmental, engineering, construction, budgets and funding.

The Rail Authority has worked with many granting agencies over the years including LCCMR, MN State Bond, MN Legacy, MN DEED, MN IRRB and Federal Enhancement, TAP and Recreational Trails grants. Mesabi Trail grants have totaled in excess of \$28 million dollars.