



Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund

2025 Request for Proposal

General Information

Proposal ID: 2025-051

Proposal Title: St. Louis River Multi-Use Bridge

Project Manager Information

Name: Caleb Peterson

Organization: City of Cloquet

Office Telephone: (218) 879-6758

Email: cpeterson@cloquetmn.gov

Project Basic Information

Project Summary: This project consists of upgrading the Historic D&NE St. Louis River Multi-use Bridge to allow safe use of the bridge by entities that enjoy outdoor recreation.

ENRTF Funds Requested: \$1,485,000

Proposed Project Completion: June 30, 2028

LCCMR Funding Category: Land Acquisition, Habitat, and Recreation (G)

Project Location

What is the best scale for describing where your work will take place?

Region(s): NE

What is the best scale to describe the area impacted by your work?

Region(s): NE

When will the work impact occur?

During the Project

Narrative

Describe the opportunity or problem your proposal seeks to address. Include any relevant background information.

The Historic D&NE St. Louis River Multi-use Bridge was originally constructed to carry railroad traffic. Based on observations, we expect the bridge was originally constructed in the early 1900's and eventually replaced in the 1940's. In 1996 the bridge was converted to serve pedestrians, bicycles, ATVs and snowmobiles with the installation of a timber deck and railing. The bridge connects Dunlap Island and the City's riverfront park system to the northern shoreline of the St. Louis River, serving as a trail head for the regional motorized Lumberjack Trail. Recent structural inspections noted several issues including pier scour, timber deterioration, and stability concerns with a secondary timber abutment. Additionally, it has been noted that the connection on the north shoreline is undesirable for pedestrian use with no ADA compliant access. There have been reports of safety and security concerns with the underpass in its current configuration. The short span over the northern shoreline trail is of lighter construction than the primary bridge and limits the weight of maintenance vehicles that can cross the bridge. Efforts have been made to engage with project stakeholders prior to investment including a user workshop which presented the current findings and solicited feedback from various

What is your proposed solution to the problem or opportunity discussed above? Introduce us to the work you are seeking funding to do. You will be asked to expand on this proposed solution in Activities & Milestones.

The proposed solution to our existing problem/opportunity is to make the following improvements to the bridge. Structural Improvements: This work includes some concrete pier scour repair as identified in a recent report. This will extend the life of the piers and ensure overall integrity of the bridge. Deck Improvements: The recommended deck improvements consist of replacing the existing railing, deck plank and ties with a new laminated panel timber deck with a bituminous overlay. The new deck will add four 4'x20' scenic overlooks. Railing Improvements: The existing timber railing would be removed and replaced with a painted (or galvanized) metal railing. North Side Connection Improvements: This includes replacement of the existing failing timber wall and span with a new precast concrete underpass. Basic Lighting: Basic lighting could consist of shorter pedestrian scale poles equipped with full-cutoff post top luminaires. A total of three or five poles would be spaced at approximately 200 or 100-foot intervals respectively. The grade separated connection to the City's nonmotorized trail system would be upgraded to provide an ADA compliant access from both ends of the structure.

What are the specific project outcomes as they relate to the public purpose of protection, conservation, preservation, and enhancement of the state's natural resources?

Project outcomes include an upgraded bridge that is completed as designed and constructed in compliance with all city, county, state and federal regulations. The upgraded bridge will be used by all of the residents in Cloquet, city businesses, area outdoor recreation organizations and visitors to the community. The completed project gives a safe and ADA compliant access the the city's park as well as access to the St. Louis River activities. The bridge connects to both local and regional trails that are currently used by pedestrians, bikers and motorized users for year around activities.

Activities and Milestones

Activity 1: Engineering/Pre-Design/Pre-Construction/Close-Out

Activity Budget: \$240,000

Activity Description:

The project engineer will be responsible for project design, project administration, plans/specifications, bidding documents, survey, permitting, environmental review, archeologist evaluation and material testing if needed.

Activity Milestones:

| Description | Approximate Completion Date |
|---|-----------------------------|
| Survey and Soils Data Collection | October 31, 2025 |
| City Approval Of Design/ Plans and Specifications | September 30, 2026 |
| All Permits Secured SHPO Consultation Complete | September 30, 2026 |
| All Construction Funds Legally Secured | September 30, 2026 |
| Advertisement for Bid | October 31, 2026 |
| Construction Contract Award | November 30, 2026 |
| Pre-Construction Meeting | March 31, 2027 |
| Construction Oversight Ends | November 30, 2027 |
| ENRTF Signage Installed | November 30, 2027 |
| Punch List Complete | June 30, 2028 |
| As-Built Records Complete | June 30, 2028 |
| Notice of Funding Restriction Recorded | June 30, 2028 |

Activity 2: Project Construction

Activity Budget: \$1,245,000

Activity Description:

General contractor will be responsible for site preparation, bridge upgrades and any other construction activities related to this project . General contractor will coordinate with the engineering firm and the city staff.

Activity Milestones:

| Description | Approximate Completion Date |
|--|-----------------------------|
| Competitive Bid To Select A General Contractor | October 31, 2026 |
| Begin Project Construction | March 31, 2027 |
| Substantial Completion | November 30, 2027 |
| Project Open To The Public | November 30, 2027 |

Project Partners and Collaborators

| Name | Organization | Role | Receiving Funds |
|------------------|--|---|-----------------|
| Mayor Roger Maki | City of Cloquet | Project Oversight | No |
| Holly Hansen | City of Cloquet - Community Development Director | Project/Community Support/Funding | No |
| Ali Bachinski | Carlton County Public Health | Project Stakeholder | No |
| John Anderson | City of Cloquet - Assistant City Engineer | Coordination With Project Engineer And General Contractor | No |
| Eric Senarighi | Carlton County Riders ATV Club | Project Stakeholder | No |
| Chris Rokke | Wood City Riders Snowmobile Club | Project Stakeholder | No |

Long-Term Implementation and Funding

Describe how the results will be implemented and how any ongoing effort will be funded. If not already addressed as part of the project, how will findings, results, and products developed be implemented after project completion? If additional work is needed, how will this work be funded?

All of the annual operation and maintenance costs will be the responsible of the City of Cloquet through annual budgets. The City is requesting \$1.485 million in funding with a \$371,000 local match. Structural assessment, project planning and feasibility reports were previously completed using local funds.

Project Manager and Organization Qualifications

Project Manager Name: Caleb Peterson

Job Title: Public Works Director - City Engineer

Provide description of the project manager's qualifications to manage the proposed project.

Project manager is a registered professional engineer in Minnesota with 20 years experience in design, planning, construction administration and grant administration associated with public improvements.

Organization: City of Cloquet

Organization Description:

The City of Cloquet is the largest city in Carlton County with an estimated 2018 population of 12,022. Located along the beautiful St. Louis River, Cloquet is approximately 20 miles south of the southwestern tip of Lake Superior. With easy accessibility to I-35 and State Highways 33 and 210, we are only 15 minutes south of Duluth and 2 hours north of Minneapolis-St. Paul.

Cloquet residents enjoy a small-town atmosphere with a distinct identity. Our well-established parks and ever growing trail system entices visitors from both near and far. Cloquet has become a destination for adventure seeking bikers, hikers, cross country skiers and ski jumpers.

As part of the Duluth, MN and Superior, WI metropolitan statistical area, Cloquet has a strong economy and stable population with access to many urban amenities including theaters, museums, state recreational areas, medical centers and institutions of higher education.

Budget Summary

| Category / Name | Subcategory or Type | Description | Purpose | Gen. Ineligible | % Benefits | # FTE | Classified Staff? | \$ Amount |
|---|--|--|---------|-----------------|------------|-------|-------------------|--------------------|
| Personnel | | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | Sub Total | - |
| Contracts and Services | | | | | | | | |
| Engineering/Pre-Design/Pre-Construction/Close-Out | Professional or Technical Service Contract | Design, Project Administration and Onsite Observation | | | | 6 | | \$240,000 |
| General Contractor Selected Through A Competitive Bid | Professional or Technical Service Contract | General Contractor Responsible For All Construction Activities | | | | 12 | | \$1,245,000 |
| | | | | | | | Sub Total | \$1,485,000 |
| Equipment, Tools, and Supplies | | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | Sub Total | - |
| Capital Expenditures | | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | Sub Total | - |
| Acquisitions and Stewardship | | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | Sub Total | - |
| Travel In Minnesota | | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | Sub Total | - |
| Travel Outside Minnesota | | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | Sub Total | - |
| Printing and Publication | | | | | | | | |

| | | | | | | | | |
|-----------------------|--|--|--|--|--|--|--------------------|--------------------|
| | | | | | | | Sub Total | - |
| Other Expenses | | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | Sub Total | - |
| | | | | | | | Grand Total | \$1,485,000 |

Classified Staff or Generally Ineligible Expenses

| Category/Name | Subcategory or Type | Description | Justification Ineligible Expense or Classified Staff Request |
|---------------|---------------------|-------------|--|
|---------------|---------------------|-------------|--|

Non ENRTF Funds

| Category | Specific Source | Use | Status | Amount |
|------------------|-----------------|--------------------------------|----------------------------|------------------|
| State | | | | |
| | | | State Sub Total | - |
| Non-State | | | | |
| Cash | City of Cloquet | 25% Local Match - Engineering | Secured | \$60,000 |
| Cash | City of Cloquet | 25% Local Match - Construction | Potential | \$311,000 |
| | | | Non State Sub Total | \$371,000 |
| | | | Funds Total | \$371,000 |

Total Project Cost: \$1,856,000

This amount accurately reflects total project cost?

Yes

Attachments

Required Attachments

Visual Component

File: [a2c87200-7d1.pdf](#)

Alternate Text for Visual Component

Shows the location of the bridge and surrounding land use....

Financial Capacity

| Title | File |
|--|----------------------------------|
| Cloquet Comprehensive Financial Report | f53a57a9-e42.pdf |

Board Resolution or Letter

| Title | File |
|-------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| City Council Resolution 24-17 | 75226c23-c4b.pdf |

Supplemental Attachments

Capital Project Questionnaire, Budget Supplements, Support Letter, Photos, Media, Other

| Title | File |
|--------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Capital Construction Budget Addendum | aa9b488d-85c.xlsx |
| Capital Project Questionnaire | 6c2e1fe8-cac.pdf |
| Wood City Riders Letter of Support | b8c9a452-4c9.pdf |

Administrative Use

Does your project include restoration or acquisition of land rights?

No

Does your project have potential for royalties, copyrights, patents, sale of products and assets, or revenue generation?

No

Do you understand and acknowledge IP and revenue-return and sharing requirements in 116P.10?

N/A

Do you wish to request reinvestment of any revenues into your project instead of returning revenue to the ENRTF?

N/A

Does your project include original, hypothesis-driven research?

No

Does the organization have a fiscal agent for this project?

No

Does your project include the pre-design, design, construction, or renovation of a building, trail, campground, or other fixed capital asset costing \$10,000 or more or large-scale stream or wetland restoration?

Yes

Do you propose using an appropriation from the Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund to conduct a project that provides children's services (as defined in Minnesota Statutes section 299C.61 Subd.7 as "the provision of care,

treatment, education, training, instruction, or recreation to children")?

No

Provide the name(s) and organization(s) of additional individuals assisting in the completion of this proposal:

Mike Larson, Short Elliot Hendrickson Inc.

