



Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund

2025 Request for Proposal

General Information

Proposal ID: 2025-182

Proposal Title: Lake Zumbro Park Water Access and Site Improvements

Project Manager Information

Name: Karlin Ziegler

Organization: Olmsted County

Office Telephone: (507) 328-7086

Email: karlin.ziegler@olmstedcounty.gov

Project Basic Information

Project Summary: Objectives of the project are to enhance the park's water access and ADA accessibility while creating new amenities that are more user-friendly and accessible to individuals and families.

ENRTF Funds Requested: \$2,500,000

Proposed Project Completion: July 31, 2027

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): SE

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

Region(s): SE

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.

Lake Zumbro Park is a 4-acre park situated along the banks of Lake Zumbro. Three of the four acres were acquired in 2019 along with buildings and a private launch. This is the only public boat launch for the lake in Olmsted County, making the Olmsted County launch a heavily used site. The launch is in need of rehabilitation and the parking lot needs grading and space improvements. Summer days are extremely busy with parking continually overflowing onto the road and ditches. The original one acre parcel transformed a dead end road into parking and fishing piers after the removal and relocation of a bridge. This peninsula area has only had modest improvements over the last 40 years. The fishing pier is a busy spot with avid fishermen, but the current docks are in need of updates. Several water recreation activities with competing intensity levels are happening in a small area, so placement of these activities need to be spread out and thoughtfully placed. Lake Zumbro recently had a major dredging project completed and the activity on the lake is continually increasing so the park needs improvements to meet the increasing demands.

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.

Maintaining the site's ADA accessibility while creating a more welcoming destination with additional facilities and amenities will help meet needs as usage of the park and lake continues to increase. Better use of the land could provide more parking, safer routes, and a more visually appealing park to visit. The basis of the new design improves on accessibility and the ease of circulation within the site while working to separate motorized and non-motorized lake activities. The existing dead-end road will be removed, and the parking lot will be moved inland out of the floodplain. The existing overlooks will be replaced with new docks or piers that will allow users to get out over the water for fishing and viewing lake activity. The public boat launch is a joint effort between Olmsted County and the Department of Natural Resources. The boat launch parking lot will be expanded and the slope of the parking lot will also be addressed to create safer parking and ADA dedicated sites near the launch and picnic areas. The basis of the new design improves on accessibility and the ease of circulation within the site while working to separate motorized and non-motorized lake activities.

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?

Some areas of riprap shoreline may be converted to a bioengineered option to provide wildlife habitat and a more natural setting. The new boat launch and parking lot design will address runoff issues and implement erosion and sediment control plans. All portions of the projects will have a thoughtful approach to flood mitigation, erosion control and habitat development wherever possible.

Activities and Milestones

Activity 1: Boat launch and parking lot updates

Activity Budget: \$400,000

Activity Description:

The public boat launch is a joint effort between Olmsted County and DNR. The boat launch parking lot will be expanded to accommodate the intense summer usage and provide additional truck and trailer spaces. The concrete launch is in need up updates to maintain a safe public launch by repairing broken concrete and extending concrete planking into the lake so boat trailers do not drop off the end when the lake is at low levels. The best time to rebuild the launch is in late fall when the lake is drawn down well below normal levels and less water barricades would be needed. A boat wash station will be installed to rinse off boats when exiting the water to aid in aquatic invasive species management efforts. The slope and grade of the parking lot will be addressed to provide safer parking and ADA dedicated sites near the launch and picnic shelter. Runoff from the parking lot will also be addressed by adding catch basins and rain gardens to slow the flow and collect sediment before going into the lake. Construction level design documents are already complete so work can be bid out shortly after the grant contract is executed.

Activity Milestones:

Description	Approximate Completion Date
Boat launch rehab	December 31, 2025
Sloping and grade work for parking runoff and erosion mitigation areas	July 31, 2026
Parking lot paving and striping	August 31, 2026
	October 31, 2026

Activity 2: Peninsula development

Activity Budget: \$2,100,000

Activity Description:

One of the main features of the park is the fishing on the peninsula. The existing overlooks will be replaced with new docks or piers that will allow the users to get out over the water for fishing and viewing lake activity. Both will provide better access and preferred fishing locations on the newly dredged lake. The piers will also provide overhead shade for the fish underwater. Some areas of riprap shoreline may be converted to a bioengineered option to provide wildlife habitat and more natural setting. The naturalized riparian shoreline will include a mixture of plants will help increase biodiversity, control edge erosion, and provide a method to biologically filter the runoff before it reaches the lake. An ADA kayak and canoe launch has already been installed but does not yet have an ADA path to it from the parking lot. The plan would remove the old dead-end road and move parking out of the floodplain. ADA pathways would connect all of the activities to each other and to the new parking lot. A picnic shelter and restrooms will be centrally located between the boat launch and peninsula, with a prime location overlooking the lake.

Activity Milestones:

Description	Approximate Completion Date
Riparian edge and fishing piers	July 31, 2026
New parking lot and removal of dead end road parking	September 30, 2026
ADA paths and parking lot paving	October 31, 2026
Picnic Shelter and restrooms	June 30, 2027

Project Partners and Collaborators

Name	Organization	Role	Receiving Funds
Kent Skaar	MN DNR	DNR coordinator for the boat launch portion of the project	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?

This funding request will complete the entire current master plan of the park. Future recreation or conservation needs will be addressed as they become apparent. These future projects will be funded by potential grant programs, DNR assistance with the boat launch, and Olmsted County capital improvement funds. Ongoing annual operational funds for the park will be provided by the Parks Department for the continued general maintenance of the park.

Project Manager and Organization Qualifications

Project Manager Name: Karlin Ziegler

Job Title: Parks Director

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

Karlin has secured funding for and managed several large grant funded projects in the Parks Department. The Parks Department also has several staff members with extensive history in building construction and landscaping for a variety of large capital improvements in Olmsted County Parks and will readily assist in the daily oversight of the projects. The county has good collaboration between departments which will provide necessary access to Planning, Public Works, Facilities, and Finance to also assist with expertise in the project. There is good understanding and experience with grant related requirements and deliverables similar to this request. The construction team implementing the project plan will go through a competitive Request For Proposal (RFP) process to ensure a professional and fiscally responsible outcome.

Organization: Olmsted County

Organization Description:

The Parks Department is a division of Olmsted County. The mission of Olmsted County Parks is to foster an appreciation of the natural world through environmental education, natural resource management, and public participation in the stewardship of our park lands.

Budget Summary

Category / Name	Subcategory or Type	Description	Purpose	Gen. Ineligible	% Benefits	# FTE	Classified Staff?	\$ Amount
Personnel								
							Sub Total	-
Contracts and Services								
WSB	Professional or Technical Service Contract	Design, community engagement, and project management				0		\$250,000
TBD	Professional or Technical Service Contract	Site grading, parking, paths, boat launch, and structures construction				0		\$2,100,000
TBD	Professional or Technical Service Contract	Docks/Piers and installation				0		\$125,000
							Sub Total	\$2,475,000
Equipment, Tools, and Supplies								
							Sub Total	-
Capital Expenditures								
		picnic tables and benches	visitor seating	X				\$15,000
		signage	wayfinding and informational signage	X				\$10,000
							Sub Total	\$25,000
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	\$2,500,000

Classified Staff or Generally Ineligible Expenses

Category/Name	Subcategory or Type	Description	Justification Ineligible Expense or Classified Staff Request
Capital Expenditures		picnic tables and benches	Picnic tables will be used for visitor picnicking and seating. Benches will provide seating along paths near points of interest. Additional Explanation : seating will remain at this park annually
Capital Expenditures		signage	Signage is needed for wayfinding, information and education. Signs will continue to be updated as necessary so information is accurate. Additional Explanation : Signage will remain for park wayfinding and visitor information and education

Non ENRTF Funds

Category	Specific Source	Use	Status	Amount
State				
Cash	MN Department of Natural Resources	Contribution to boat launch and parking updates to which the DNR has jurisdiction	Pending	\$800,000
			State Sub Total	\$800,000
Non-State				
Cash	Olmsted County CIP	Contingency Funds	Secured	\$250,000
			Non State Sub Total	\$250,000
			Funds Total	\$1,050,000

Total Project Cost: \$3,550,000

This amount accurately reflects total project cost?

Yes

Attachments

Required Attachments

Visual Component

File: [081d6449-6aa.docx](#)

Alternate Text for Visual Component

Site plan and aerial photo...

Financial Capacity

Title	File
Auditor report and financial statement	13ee590d-268.pdf

Board Resolution or Letter

Title	File
County Board Resolution	b90c435a-5bf.pdf

Supplemental Attachments

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

Title	File
Capital Construction Project Questionnaire	36dafbe3-ead.pdf
Capital Construction Budget Addendum	8a0ae7d7-753.xlsx
Archeology Report	ca990de4-327.pdf
SHPO letter with findings highlighted- (property was previously named White Bridge Pier)	125c7c3d-e33.pdf
Park boundaries map	95cfef00-fe0.pdf
map of 1200 scale location on the lake	e8400229-bba.pdf
Regional map	0390647d-3a0.docx

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?

Yes, Olmsted County Finance

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:

Camy Iverson, Olmsted County Finance

