



Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund

2025 Request for Proposal

General Information

Proposal ID: 2025-201

Proposal Title: Scandia Gateway Trail Connection: Recreation, Wetlands, Environmental Education

Project Manager Information

Name: Kyle Morell

Organization: City of Scandia

Office Telephone: (651) 433-2274

Email: k.morell@ci.scandia.mn.us

Project Basic Information

Project Summary: Bike/pedestrian connection via a wetland trail connecting the state Gateway Trail to recreational/cultural/environmental resources in Scandia -- Gammelgården Museum, playgrounds, athletic facilities, amphitheater, splash pad, and

ENRTF Funds Requested: \$998,000

Proposed Project Completion: December 31, 2026

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): Metro

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

Region(s): Metro

When will the work impact occur?

In the Future

Narrative

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

Scandia is located at the north terminus of the Gateway Trail, which will pass through William O'Brien State Park before landing at a trailhead in the Scandia Village Center. In close proximity to the trailhead, Scandia offers multiple current and under-development resources to greatly enhance Trail users' environmental education and recreation experiences. The project opportunity is to make these resources far more accessible and integrated for users while simultaneously providing access to natural resources and education about the value of wetlands and rain gardens.

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.

This proposal will create a destination and trail network between the Gateway Trails terminus and multiple Scandia facilities. A new bike/pedestrian trail around and across the Community Center wetland will connect recreational amenities at the Scandia Community Center, the future Water Tower Barn Scandia (Water Tower Barn) arts and heritage center, and the Gammelgården Museum. This new trail and Gateway connection will greatly enhance outdoor recreational options for trail users and those visiting William O'Brien State Park by providing access to the following amenities.

- Gammelgården Museum, internationally known for preserving Swedish pioneer buildings;
- Scandia's playgrounds, recently upgraded, along with tennis courts, baseball and t-ball fields, and ice-skating rinks;
- Water Tower Barn, including a new Museum/ /Cultural center, a splash pad, and the only large-scale amphitheater in the St. Croix Valley. Water Tower Barn programming will include a focus on water quality, wetland protection, and historical interpretation of early windmill engineering for public water distribution.

The LCCMR request includes interpretive signage about the wetlands and rain gardens. This signage will complement the water engineering/water quality/ education component of the Water Tower Barn project and enhance the water-oriented environmental programming proposed with Scandia Elementary School.

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?

- A wetland boardwalk across the publicly owned wetland that is the centerpiece of the Community Center Commons;
- A circular pedestrian and bicycle trail around the wetland and across the boardwalk connecting to the Water Tower Barn;
- A trail connection to adjacent t-ball fields;
- Creation of two safe road crossings for access from the Gateway Trail to the Community Center Commons, from the Commons to Gammelgården Museum, and the adjacent Barton Johnson Park with playground and baseball field. See Figure ___.
- Interpretive signage about the wetlands and rain gardens for environmental education.

Activities and Milestones

Activity 1: Completion of Design Process

Activity Budget: \$72,000

Activity Description:

A consulting engineer has completed the preliminary design of the wetland trail system. Before finalizing the design, the final topography survey work will be completed. The final design and specifications will be completed after the City's engineer, Bolton & Menk, reviews and approves them.

Activity Milestones:

Description	Approximate Completion Date
Completion of any application topographical and survey work	July 31, 2025
Authorization of Design and Specifications	July 31, 2025
Approval of Design and Specifications	December 31, 2025

Activity 2: Bidding and Construction

Activity Budget: \$926,000

Activity Description:

Once final engineering is completed, construction services will be acquired through the City's contract and bidding services. The project will be constructed in 2026

Activity Milestones:

Description	Approximate Completion Date
Authorize Preparation of Bids for Construction	January 31, 2026
Approve Bids and Award Project	March 31, 2026
Complete Construction of Wetland Trails and Interpretive Signs	December 31, 2026

Project Partners and Collaborators

Name	Organization	Role	Receiving Funds
Susan Rodsjo	Scandia Heritage Alliance	Scandia Heritage Alliance Board Chair and Marketing Communications Manager	No
Ryan Goodman	Bolton & Menk	Scandia City Engineer	No
Peter Hilger	University of Minnesota	Consulting architect on the Scandia Heritage Alliance Water Tower Barn Arts and Heritage Center	No
Adam Thiele	Anderson Consulting	Consulting engineer on the wetland trail project	Yes
John Hermna	Scandia Heritage Alliance	Scandia Heritage Alliance Board member, retired real estate attorney, and former LCCMR citizen board member	No
Greg Amundson	Scandia Heritage Alliance	Scandia Heritage Alliance Board member and SHA construction manager	No
Ann Rinkenberger	Gammelgården Museum	Executive Director of Gammelgården Museum	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 project will result in the construction of a wetland trail system connecting Scandia's Gateway Trail terminus to recreational, cultural, and environmental educational resources in the Scandia City Center. No results, findings or other unanswered questions are anticipated to result from this project. Additional construction of future trail segments may be obtained through state appropriation and/or other grant opportunities available to the City of Scandia. The short-term goal, which is encompassed in this project, is to connect the Gateway Trail to the Scandia City Center and its various amenities.

Other ENRTF Appropriations Awarded in the Last Six Years

Name	Appropriation	Amount Awarded
Scandia Gateway Trail to William O'Brien State Park	M.L. 2023, , Chp. 60, Art. 2, Sec. 2, Subd. 09g	\$2,689,000

Project Manager and Organization Qualifications

Project Manager Name: Kyle Morell

Job Title: City Administrator

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

The listed project manager is experienced in the administrative oversight of projects, including road projects and stormwater management projects with prevailing wage and other applicable reporting requirements in order to meet state and federal financial requirements. However, this project proposes that contract administration also utilize a qualified engineering firm for project administration to assure that the project will be completed in conformance with any and all grant agreement requirements. Contracting will be conducted through the City of Scandia's public

contracting and bidding procedures. The Project Administrator will oversee all work conducted over the project with the contractor's assistance.

Organization: City of Scandia

Organization Description:

The City of Scandia is a Statutory City located in Northeastern Washington County. Scandia is a community that is committed to maintaining and enhancing its environmental and recreational assets for the greater benefit of its residents, region, and the state at large. The agency has partnered with several governmental entities to carry out projects dedicated to the enhancement of water quality, the preservation of natural areas and habitats, and the advancement of recreational opportunities that offer the opportunity to appreciate the natural environment. Scandia seeks to continue this effort going forward.

Budget Summary

Category / Name	Subcategory or Type	Description	Purpose	Gen. Ineligible	% Benefits	# FTE	Classified Staff?	\$ Amount
Personnel								
							Sub Total	-
Contracts and Services								
Project Engineer and Consulting Architect	Professional or Technical Service Contract	The Consultant will complete the final design, engineering, and specifications for the project and carry out project administration responsibilities under the supervision of the City				1.5		\$72,000
TBD	Professional or Technical Service Contract	Construction of Wetland Trails				10		\$926,000
							Sub Total	\$998,000
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	\$998,000

Classified Staff or Generally Ineligible Expenses

Category/Name	Subcategory or Type	Description	Justification Ineligible Expense or Classified Staff Request
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Non ENRTF Funds

Category	Specific Source	Use	Status	Amount
State				
			State Sub Total	-
Non-State				
Cash	Scandia Heritage Alliance	Pre-Design of Wetland Trail System	Secured	\$10,680
Cash	Scandia Heritage Alliance	Designs of a wetland overlook and walkway through the Water Tower Barn property	Secured	\$78,000
Cash	City of Scandia	Design and construction contribution	Secured	\$175,000
			Non State Sub Total	\$263,680
			Funds Total	\$263,680

Total Project Cost: \$1,261,680

This amount accurately reflects total project cost?

Yes

Attachments

Required Attachments

Visual Component

File: [db02dc7b-257.pdf](#)

Alternate Text for Visual Component

The Visual Component maps the wetland trail system on the Water Tower Barn and Community Center properties. As well as an overhead picture of the project location in Scandia...

Financial Capacity

Title	File
2022 Audited Financial Statements	c5bcd0a6-736.pdf

Board Resolution or Letter

Title	File
Authorizing Resolution	66bef1a9-404.pdf

Supplemental Attachments

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

Title	File
Capital Construction Project Questionnaire	4e53d0f6-dcb.pdf
Scandia Elementary School Letter of Support	3a7de1db-b96.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:

John Herman, Scandia Heritage Alliance

