



# Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund

## 2025 Request for Proposal

### General Information

**Proposal ID:** 2025-291

**Proposal Title:** TH 210 / Lum Park Trail and Pedestrian Bridge

### Project Manager Information

**Name:** Jessie Dehn

**Organization:** City of Brainerd

**Office Telephone:** (218) 454-3411

**Email:** jdehn@ci.brainerd.mn.us

### Project Basic Information

**Project Summary:** The Project will construct a new pedestrian overpass bridge and grade-separated multi-use trail access to Lum Park at TH 210 in Brainerd.

**ENRTF Funds Requested:** \$3,750,000

**Proposed Project Completion:** October 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): Central

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

Region(s): Central

**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 lack of adequate marked crossings in the project area has led to dangerous conditions for non-motorists trying to access trails within Lum Park where city and state-maintained trails are popular recreational destinations for residents and visitors alike. In July 2023, a juvenile bicyclist was involved in a serious injury crash as he was attempting to cross Trunk Highway (TH) 210 from the south to the north at 10th Avenue NE in Brainerd. The bicyclist was hit by a vehicle in the presence of a large amount of other eastbound TH 210 traffic and then thrown over that vehicle's top before landing on the roadway. A second vehicle travelling right behind the first then drove over the bicyclist leading to several serious injuries. This crash highlighted growing concerns by residents and city officials about the lack of pedestrian facilities south of TH 210, a 50-mph principal east-west arterial, which is estimated to carry between 12,200 to 29,100 vehicles per day. This project will provide both a multi-use trail along the highway as well as a pedestrian bridge over the arterial to create a safer environment for all transportation users.

### **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 project will provide safe and comfortable two-way connections for non-motorized users to existing local and state trails along TH 210 and 10th Ave NE, and to Lum Park and other recreational facilities. As part of the proposed project, a multi-use trail bridge with approach ramps that parallel TH 210 consisting of short abutments, precast beam spans, and cast-in-place concrete slabs will be constructed. The bridge's main span is a 210-foot-long prefabricated steel truss which can be assembled on site then erected during a brief closure of the highway with minimal disruption to traffic. The 10-foot-wide bituminous at-grade trail segments occur along NE 10th Avenue from TH 25 to TH 210 and then along eastbound TH 210 from NE 10th Avenue to the south bridge approach. Further, a short trail section will then connect the north bridge approach ramp to the Lum Park trail facility.

The expansion of active transportation infrastructure will increase the current number of regional and local bike and pedestrian users as more communities, destinations, and resources are connected. This will eliminate pedestrian and bicycle traffic using grass or ditch and non-marked crossing points along TH 210 for travel along this 50-mph corridor.

### **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?**

The project will provide enhancement of the state's natural resources by providing safer access to Lum Park, a 38-acre recreational area in Brainerd. The park is a popular destination and has 18 RV campsites, two large pavilions, two sand volleyball courts, two small shelters, and a beach and boat landing. Numerous hiking and walking trails extend throughout the park, allowing access to these amenities. By enhancing access to the trails near the park, this project will encourage the further use and development of the area's trails.

## Activities and Milestones

### Activity 1: Acquisition

**Activity Budget:** \$3,000

**Activity Description:**

This activity will include the negotiation and acquisition of private land needed for Right-of-Way for the project. During this phase, purchase agreements will be drafted and finalized and any land surveys that need to be completed will be done. Title review and appraisals of land will be made prior to the offering of any funds for the purchase / acquisition of ROW land.

**Activity Milestones:**

Description	Approximate Completion Date
Negotiations	August 31, 2025
Title Review / Appraisal	September 30, 2025
Survey / ESA	October 31, 2025
Purchase Agreement	November 30, 2025
Sale or Transfer of Ownership	December 31, 2025
Notice of Funding Restriction Recorded	December 31, 2025

### Activity 2: Community Engagement

**Activity Budget:** \$10,000

**Activity Description:**

During the community engagement phase of the project, efforts will be made to foster meaningful dialogue and collaboration between project stakeholders and local residents affected by the project. This phase will involve reaching out to various community groups, including residents, businesses, local organizations, and government entities, to gather input, share information, and address concerns. Community meetings will be organized to facilitate open communication and gather feedback on project plans, potential impacts, and desired outcomes. During these meetings and open houses, stakeholders will be provided with opportunities to voice their opinions, ask questions, and participate in the decision-making process.

**Activity Milestones:**

Description	Approximate Completion Date
Open Houses	September 30, 2025
Public Meetings	November 30, 2025

### Activity 3: Pre-Design / Design

**Activity Budget:** \$327,000

**Activity Description:**

During the pre-design and design phase of the project, meticulous planning and creative brainstorming will shape the blueprint for the bridge and multi-use trail. Extensive research and analysis will be conducted to understand project requirements, the City's objectives, site conditions, and regulatory constraints. Design professionals will then collaborate closely with stakeholders to outline project goals, establish design criteria, and develop a comprehensive program. Conceptual sketches, architectural renderings, and 3D models will be crafted to visualize the project and to refine ideas

and these ideas will be refined through an iterative process. Design options for the project will consider factors such as functionality, aesthetics, sustainability, and budgetary constraints. Detailed drawings, specifications, and technical documents will then be produced to communicate design intent and guide construction efforts. Throughout this phase, effective communication, coordination, and feedback mechanisms will be crucial to ensure alignment with project objectives and to pave the way for the construction phase.

**Activity Milestones:**

Description	Approximate Completion Date
Survey or Delineation Work	September 30, 2025
Selection of Consultant	November 30, 2025
Dept. of Administration Pre-Design Review	December 31, 2025
Coordination with SHPO	January 31, 2026
Other Permitting / Agency Review	February 28, 2026
Approval of Draft Plans	March 31, 2026
Approval of Final Plans	April 30, 2026
Advertisement for Bid	May 31, 2026

**Activity 4: Pre-Construction**

**Activity Budget:** \$10,000

**Activity Description:**

During the pre-construction phase of the project, crucial groundwork and planning will take place to set the stage for the project’s successful execution. This phase will involve comprehensive assessments of the project's feasibility, including site evaluations, environmental impact studies, and regulatory compliance checks. Additionally, key stakeholders will collaborate to define project objectives, establish a budget, and outline a timeline. Detailed architectural and engineering designs will be developed, incorporating input from various disciplines to ensure functionality, safety, and efficiency. Furthermore, procurement strategies for materials and labor will be devised, along with risk management plans to mitigate potential setbacks. Clear communication channels will be established among project team members and stakeholders to maintain alignment and address any challenges that may arise. Finally, all construction funds will be secured legally prior to the mobilization of workers and equipment.

**Activity Milestones:**

Description	Approximate Completion Date
Construction Contractor Selected	June 30, 2026
Permits Secured	June 30, 2026
Pre-Construction Meetings	July 31, 2026
Staking	August 31, 2026
Mobilization	August 31, 2026
Site Preparation	September 30, 2026
All Construction Funds Legally Secured	September 30, 2026

**Activity 5: Construction**

**Activity Budget:** \$3,390,000

**Activity Description:**

This activity will include the construction of the project including a grade separated multiuse public trail and overpass bridge facility with the purpose of creating new recreational space and making safer connections. It will create a total of

41,000 sq ft in new infrastructure consisting of 27,950 sq ft of multiuse trail and 13,050 sq ft of pedestrian bridge. The city has applied for \$1,200,000 in non-ENRTF funds through MnDOT’s Active Transportation (AT) and Transportation Alternatives (TA) grants, the results of which are pending. Additionally, the city has also secured \$750,000 in non-ENRTF funds through its Municipal State Aid funds, towards contingency and inflation costs.

**Activity Milestones:**

Description	Approximate Completion Date
Construction, Oversight, and Administration Begins	October 31, 2026
Change Orders	October 31, 2026
Final Grading	July 31, 2027
Substantial Completion	August 31, 2027
Construction, Oversight, and Administration Ends	September 30, 2027

**Activity 6: Project Close-Out**

**Activity Budget:** \$10,000

**Activity Description:**

During the project closeout phase final steps will be taken to conclude the project in an organized and systematic manner. This phase will involve completing any remaining tasks, resolving outstanding issues, and verifying that all project objectives have been met. Comprehensive inspections and quality assurance checks will be conducted to ensure that deliverables align with specifications and meet the City’s expectations for the project. Documentation, including project reports, will be finalized, and archived for future reference. Financial matters, such as finalizing payments and reconciling budgets, will be resolved, and all contracts will be closed out. Additionally, any remaining resources will be reallocated, and project personnel demobilized. Formal project closure meetings will also be held to review the work and lessons learned during the implementation of the project.

**Activity Milestones:**

Description	Approximate Completion Date
Stabilization	September 30, 2027
Punch List Items	September 30, 2027
As-Builts Approved	September 30, 2027
Notice of Funding Restriction Recorded	September 30, 2027
Certificate of Occupancy or Equivalent Obtained	September 30, 2027
Signage Installed with ENRTF Language or Logo	September 30, 2027
Open for Intended Use	October 31, 2027
Ongoing Reporting	October 31, 2027

## 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?**

The project, once completed, will be operated and maintained using the City's General funds for project components that are not under the maintenance responsibilities of Minnesota Department of Natural Resources (MnDNR). These include snow clearing along the trail and on the overpass bridge, painting of rails, and other similar activities. The Minnesota Department of Transportation (MnDOT) will be involved in regular inspections which the City may have to report, as per standard policy and guidance.

## Other ENRTF Appropriations Awarded in the Last Six Years

Name	Appropriation	Amount Awarded
City Of Brainerd - Mississippi Landing Trailhead	M.L. 2021, First Special Session, Chp. 6, Art. 6, Sec. 2, Subd. 09g	\$2,850,000

## Project Manager and Organization Qualifications

**Project Manager Name:** Jessie Dehn

**Job Title:** City Engineer / Public Works Director

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

As the City Engineer / Public Works Director, Mr. Dehn's responsibilities are crucial to the efficient functioning and development of Brainerd's infrastructure. At the core of his duties is the oversight and management of the city's public works projects, ranging from road construction and maintenance to water and wastewater systems. Mr. Dehn leads city staff in the development of comprehensive infrastructure plans, ensures compliance with relevant regulations and standards, and manages project budgets and timelines. In his role, Mr. Dehn also coordinates with other city departments, government agencies, and external stakeholders to address the community's needs and priorities. He also oversees the maintenance of existing infrastructure, including bridges, buildings, and parks, to uphold safety standards and enhance the quality of life for residents. As a certified Professional Engineer, Mr. Dehn must maintain and improve his skills through annual professional development opportunities and courses while upholding the high standards and values required of professional engineers. With past experience in city government, county government, and a toll road authority, Mr. Dehn has the knowledge and skills needed to oversee and successfully implement projects such as the one proposed by this application.

**Organization:** City of Brainerd

**Organization Description:**

The City of Brainerd, MN is located roughly 60 miles north of St. Cloud, MN on Highways 10 and 371; roughly 120 miles north of the Twin Cities. Brainerd is the largest city and the county seat of Crow Wing County. According to the 2020 U.S. Census, the city has a population of 14,395 residents. The city government is headed by a city administrator and is supported by a variety of department heads and supervisors. The city seeks to provide high-quality, year-round recreation, a strong workforce, and a variety of life experiences that support a welcoming place to live, work, play, stay, and learn for all.

## Budget Summary

Category / Name	Subcategory or Type	Description	Purpose	Gen. Ineligible	% Benefits	# FTE	Classified Staff?	\$ Amount
<b>Personnel</b>								
							<b>Sub Total</b>	-
<b>Contracts and Services</b>								
TBD	Professional or Technical Service Contract	Site Design and Engineering. The project will be utilizing a professional service contract to develop the final site design, engineering, and construction specifications for the trail and the overpass bridge. So far, a feasibility study has been completed that includes a planning level cost estimate for the project.				9		\$700,000
TBD	Professional or Technical Service Contract	Construction – The project will also utilize a professional service contract for construction services. The project let/bid as per standard city policies and State Statutes.				10		\$3,050,000
							<b>Sub Total</b>	<b>\$3,750,000</b>
<b>Equipment, Tools, and Supplies</b>								
							<b>Sub Total</b>	-
<b>Capital Expenditures</b>								
							<b>Sub Total</b>	-
<b>Acquisitions and Stewardship</b>								
							<b>Sub Total</b>	-
<b>Travel In Minnesota</b>								
							<b>Sub Total</b>	-

<b>Travel Outside Minnesota</b>								
							<b>Sub Total</b>	-
<b>Printing and Publication</b>								
							<b>Sub Total</b>	-
<b>Other Expenses</b>								
							<b>Sub Total</b>	-
							<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>\$3,750,000</b>



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
<b>State</b>				
Cash	MnDOT Active Transportation (AT) and Transportation Alternatives (TA) Grants	Construction	Pending	\$1,200,000
			<b>State Sub Total</b>	<b>\$1,200,000</b>
<b>Non-State</b>				
Cash	City - Municipal State Aid	Pre-Design / Design	Secured	\$150,000
Cash	City – Municipal State Aid	Contingency	Secured	\$250,000
Cash	City – Municipal State Aid	Inflation	Secured	\$500,000
Cash	City – Municipal State Aid	Project Management / Oversight	Secured	\$150,000
			<b>Non State Sub Total</b>	<b>\$1,050,000</b>
			<b>Funds Total</b>	<b>\$2,250,000</b>

**Total Project Cost: \$6,000,000**

**This amount accurately reflects total project cost?**

Yes

## Attachments

### Required Attachments

#### *Visual Component*

File: [417b7544-186.pdf](#)

#### *Alternate Text for Visual Component*

The attachment includes project maps which include connection to area trails and walks, main span and approach layouts, parcel/easement layouts, and a utility impact map. Design details are also included such as proposed bridge plan and proposed cross sections....

#### *Financial Capacity*

Title	File
Brainerd City Council Resolution Supporting the Expenditure	<a href="#">9ee0b1db-813.pdf</a>
City of Brainerd 2022 Audit Report	<a href="#">86da7bf8-5cd.pdf</a>

#### *Board Resolution or Letter*

Title	File
Brainerd City Council Resolution of Support	<a href="#">80d1bdc7-290.pdf</a>

### Supplemental Attachments

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

Title	File
Capital Construction Project Questionnaire	<a href="#">6bebb29a-47f.pdf</a>
Letters of Support for the Project	<a href="#">1cdfac6d-590.pdf</a>
Capital Construction Budget Addendum	<a href="#">2e33e859-1fa.xlsx</a>

## 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:**

Malachi Petersen, SRF Consulting Group

Casey Black, SRF Consulting Group