

Additional Allocation Options Submitted for 23 September, 2021 LCCMR Meeting

Commissioner Peichel Option:

Fund projects from the spreadsheet titled “Member 2022 LCCMR Proposal Scores: Overall High to Low” down to an overall score of 56, which is project line O-90 2022-273, *BioBlitzes Engaging Community in Scientific Efforts*, with four tiers:

1. Since support of 12 out of 17 (70.5%) Commissioners is required, all projects with an average score of 70 or higher receive full funding. That fully funds all projects to O-37, 2022-279 *Diversity and Access to Wildlife Related Opportunities*.
2. To extend the funding to the most projects that still receive a majority of Commission support, all projects receiving a score of 56 to 69 will receive funding. This extends the funding list to project O-90 (2022-273 *BioBlitzes Engaging Community in Scientific Efforts*) as listed in the main motion with two key conditions:
 - a. Projects in this tier are all reduced to 54% of their project request.
 - b. Projects whose adjusted total request falls under \$310,000 are fully funded or provided up to \$310,000.
3. Projects with supportive scores from 9 out of 17 Commissioners (average score 53 to 55) could be eligible for any additional available, returned, or rejected funds, but do not receive planned allocation under this proposal. This third tier extends contingent recommendation for funding up to 6 additional projects to O-96, 2022-253 *City of Biwabik Recreation Area*.
4. Projects with a score lower than 53 are not recommended for funding as they failed to receive supportive scores from a majority of commissioners.

Summary

In total, this option funds 86 projects with a total allocation of \$70,703,000 with contingent funding recommendation for several additional projects. This results in a small increase to the staff requested buffer by \$6,000 (to \$256,000) to ensure full allocation of available trust funds.

Key Data Points

- \$70 million in conservation dollars are focused on the most supported, highest return, highest quality projects presented to the Commission.
- 23 of the 24 projects presented under \$200,000 are fully funded.
- Statewide impact projects are the largest share with 23 of the 33 fully funded top projects having impacts in every corner of the state.

For projects with non-statewide impacts:

- Every project presented with impacts in NW or SE receives funds.
- Seventy percent of projects presented impacting NE MN receives funding with another thirteen percent conditionally recommended for funding.
- For Central MN, Metro, and SW MN, eighty-seven percent of projects presented receive funding.

Commissioner Young Option:

Fund projects from the spreadsheet titled "Members 2022 LCCMR Proposal Scores: Overall High to Low" as follows:

1. Fund all projects scored 89 and higher at 11 percent less than requested.
2. Fund all other projects scored 49 and above by the requested amount multiplied by the percent of the average score, except:
 - Provide full funding or \$200,000, whichever is less, for all projects in this range where the adjusted total would fall to \$200,000 or less.
 - Fund 2022-067 *Minnesota Invasive Terrestrial Plants and Pest Center* (line O-9) at \$4.5 million.
 - Fund 2022-047 *Conservation Cooperative for Working Lands* (line O-93) at \$1.5 million.
 - Reduce 2022-135 *Minnesota State Trails Development* (line O-16) by an additional \$369,000.
 - Fully fund 2022-121 *ML 2022 Contract Agreement Reimbursement* (line O-7).