

FINAL REPORT

2001 Project Abstract

For the Period Ending June 30, 2004

TITLE: Metro Greenways

PROJECT MANAGER: Kate Drewry

ORGANIZATION: Minnesota Department of Natural Resources

ADDRESS: 1200 Warner Road St. Paul, MN 55106

WEB SITE ADDRESS: www.dnr.state.mn.us/greenprint/metro-green.html

FUND: Minnesota Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund

LEGAL CITATION: ML 2001, 1st Special Session, Ch. 2, Sec. 14, Subd.04(_g_)

APPROPRIATION AMOUNT: \$2,730,000

Overall Project Outcome and Results

The goal of Metro Greenways is to protect, connect and restore a metro-wide network of significant natural areas and open spaces. Though administered and coordinated by the DNR, Metro Greenways relies on partnerships with a wide range of nonprofit conservation organizations, government agencies, and private landowners to achieve this goal. Many local governments lack the staff, expertise, and resources to adequately assess and protect significant natural resources located within their boundaries. By focusing much of its effort on encouraging and assisting local conservation initiatives, Metro Greenways empowers communities to protect and improve the natural resources that are important to them. At the same time, the coordinated seven-county scope assures that individual projects contribute to a regional network of green spaces and natural areas.

The two primary components of this project were:

1) Natural Resource Planning Grants:

Metro Greenways awarded 11 planning grants to local governments to inventory and assess 241,474 acres of land for natural resource protection and restoration opportunities. LCMR funds totaling \$219,808 leveraged an additional \$335,148 in local and other state funds. The natural resources information, plans and partnerships developed through these planning grant projects engaged local citizens and government officials in natural resource planning and decision-making and built local support for the vision of a regional network of natural areas, parks, and other open space.

2) Land Protection and Restoration:

Metro Greenways also provided technical and financial assistance to augment other federal, state, regional and local efforts to protect and improve significant natural areas. Four parcels totaling 221 acres were acquired in fee, and six parcels totaling 178 acres were permanently protected with the acquisition of conservation easements. In addition, a 40-acre tract of rare sand prairie was restored. Metro Greenways funds of \$2,509,443 leveraged an additional \$6,954,294 of private, local, federal and other state funds to help complete these projects.

Date of Report: July 30, 2004

Date of Work Program Approval: June 13, 2001

Project Completion Date: June 30, 2004

LCMR 2001 Final Work Program Report

I. PROJECT TITLE: 04(g) Metro Greenways

Project Manager: Kate Drewry
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Total Biennial Project Budget: \$2,730,000

LCMR Appropriation Amount Spent: \$2,729,250 Balance: \$ 750

Legal Citation: ML 2001, 1st Special Session Chap. 2, Sec. 14, Subd. 04(g)

Appropriation Language:

\$1,365,000 the first year and \$1,365,000 the second year are from the trust fund to the commissioner of natural resources for the metro greenways program for planning, improving and protecting important natural areas in the metropolitan region through grants, contracted services, conservation easements and fee acquisition. Land acquired with this appropriation must be sufficiently improved to meet at least the minimum management standards as determined by the commissioner of natural resources. The appropriation is available until June 30, 2004, at which time the project must be completed and final products delivered, unless an earlier date is specified in the work program.

II. and III. FINAL PROJECT SUMMARY:

The goal of Metro Greenways is to protect, connect and restore a metro-wide network of significant natural areas and open spaces. Though administered and coordinated by the DNR, Metro Greenways relies on partnerships with a wide range of nonprofit conservation organizations, government agencies, and private landowners to achieve this goal.

Many local governments lack the staff, expertise, and resources to adequately assess and protect significant natural resources located within their boundaries. By focusing much of its effort on encouraging and assisting local conservation initiatives, Metro Greenways empowers communities to protect and improve the natural resources that are important to them. At the same time, the coordinated seven-county scope assures that individual projects contribute to existing park systems and other public lands as elements of a regional network of green spaces and natural areas.

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IV. OUTLINE OF PROJECT RESULTS

Result 1. Provide Metro Greenway Planning Grants to Local Implementing Agencies

See attached Table 1 for project and funding details.

Result 1: LCMR Budget: \$ 219,808

Balance: \$ 750

Personnel: \$ 0

Equipment: \$ 0

Development: \$ 0

Acquisition: \$ 0

Other -

Planning Grants: \$ 219,808

Completion Date: June 30, 2004

Result 2. Protection and Improvement of Significant Natural Areas

See attached Table 2 for project and funding details

Result 2: LCMR Budget: \$2,509,443

Balance: \$ 0

Personnel: \$ 0

Equipment: \$ 0

Development: \$ 51,562 – restoration grant and signage

Acquisition: \$2,385,298

Other -

Real Estate Transaction: \$ 72,583 – survey, appraisals, title, etc

Completion Date: June 30, 2004

V. TOTAL PROJECT BUDGET

All Results: Personnel:	\$	0
All Results: Equipment:	\$	0
All Results: Development:	\$	51,562
All Results: Acquisition:	\$	2,385,298
All Results: Other:	\$	292,390
TOTAL BUDGET:		\$2,729,250
Balance:	\$	750

VI. PAST, PRESENT AND FUTURE SPENDING:

A. Past and Current Spending:

Sine its inception, Metro Greenways has received the following legislative appropriations:

- 1998 Bonding: \$4,000,0000
- 2000 Bonding: \$1,500,000
- 2001 LCMR: \$2,730,000
- 2003 LCMR: \$1,089,000

In addition, the DNR has allocated about \$200,000 in general funds each year for Metro Greenways staff and operating costs. Also, approximately \$2 of non-state funds for every state dollar has been leveraged towards the projects being funded by these appropriations.

B. Future Spending: Metro Wildlife Corridors partners (including Metro Greenways) has projected a need for \$20,000,000 per biennium for 20 years (or \$200,000,000) to address the existing needs to acquire and restore significant natural areas in the Metro Region.

C. Project Partners:

Metro Greenways relies on high levels of partnerships with a wide range of non-profit organizations, institutions, government agencies, private businesses and private landowners in many different capacities. A total of 71 agencies, organizations and local units of government have been involved in planning grant projects. Site protection and restoration projects have partnered with over 30 agencies, organizations and local units of government are involved in collaborative activities ranging from developing project proposals, fundraising, ownership and natural resource management. A 13 member Work Group was instrumental in designing and implementing the program and a 12 member Advisory Committee provided overall guidance and decision-making. The same types and level of partnerships are expected for future projects.

VII. DISSEMINATION

Metro Greenways has a comprehensive communications plan to inform the public about the program. Promotion of this program takes place through brochures, information packets, displays, DNR web page and media coverage to highlight key events that inform the public about program achievements. Community outreach through staff and partners takes place on a regular basis. Planning grants require both written and electronic versions of the final report which are distributed to DNR staff and other interested parties. Signage will be placed on sites protected or restored through this program.

VIII. LOCATION

This project encompasses the seven county Twin Cities Metropolitan Region.

IX. REPORTING REQUIREMENTS

Periodic work program progress reports were submitted as required.

Table 2 - Result 2 - Metro Greenways Land Protection/Restoration Accomplishments

Overall Project Name	Parcel Name	Location	Date Completed	Fee Acquisition Acres	Easement Acquisition Acres	Restoration Acres	Project Description	LCMR \$\$	Other State \$\$		Other Local, Federal and Private \$\$		Combined Funding
									Source	\$\$	Source	\$\$	
Beaver Creek	Shrier	Maplewood - Ramsey Co	12/1/2003		9		Project is City fee acquisition and DNR CE to provide continuous corridor & public access along creek that connects Beaver Lk in Maplewood w/ 100+ ac. complex of prairie, forest, & wetlands in Oakdale	\$ 150,000			City of Maplewood	\$ 270,000	\$ 420,000
Central Corridor 2	[3M, McHattie, Bloomquist, & SWWD]	Woodbury - Washington Co	6/30/2004		51		This is the second phase of a project of fee acquisition by So Washington WD of land for multi-purpose storm water infiltration, habitat and recreation corridor between Lake Elmo and Cottage Grove Ravine Regional Park with DNR CE over most of the land.	\$ 85,000	MG Bonding	\$ 165,000	So Washington Watershed District	\$ 1,735,000	\$ 1,935,000
Pine Bend Bluffs 2	Malcolm	Inver Grove Heights - Dakota Co	12/30/2002	50			Projects are fee acquisition of two parcels for creation of Pine Bend Bluffs SNA, which is part of 1300 acre area along the Mississippi targeted for protection with many other partners.	\$ 623,000			Trust for Public Land	\$ 50,000	\$ 673,000
Pine Bend Bluffs 3	McGill	Inver Grove Heights - Dakota Co	11/6/2003	17				\$ 133,706	DNR Eco Services SNA	\$ 132,000	Private donation	\$ 284,294	\$ 550,000
Little Long Lake	Camp Kingswood	Minnetrista - Hennepin Co	4/4/2003		66		Project is DNR CE acquisition of wooded shoreline and wetlands adjoining Little Long Lake as well as most of the upland/forested area of the camp except the minimum needed for camp buildings, access, and facilities.	\$ 124,000	MG Bonding	\$ 376,000	Mn Conference of United Methodist Church	\$ 490,000	\$ 990,000
Trout Brook	Trillium (Frataloni)	St. Paul - Ramsey Co	6/2/2004		7		Project is city fee acquisition of 30 ac. site of a former rail yard (west of I-35E and south of Maryland Ave) - a critical link in the Lake Phalen-Swede Hollow-Bruce Vento N.S.- Mississippi River connection & DNR CE acquisition of 7 ac. where Trout Brook will be daylighted.	\$ 509,592			City of St. Paul	\$ 2,000,000	\$ 2,510,000
Priory	St. Paul Priory	Oakdale - Washington Co	12/4/2002		30		Project is city fee acquisition and DNR CE of wetlands and small wooded uplands that would have been sold for development w/o DNR CE funding. It is across Century Avenue from a large open space site owned by the City of Maplewood	\$ 45,000			City of Oakdale	\$ 213,000	\$ 258,000
Belwin Valley Creek Headwaters	Halligan	Afton - Washington Co	5/24/2004		15		Project is a grant for CE acquisition (to be held by MLT) of a Belwin Foundation parcel which will allow Belwin to reinvest the \$ in acquisition of another parcel. MLT also will have CE on adjacent 5 ac & will provide ongoing stewardship.	\$ 165,000			Belwin	\$ 80,000	\$ 245,000
Eagan Greenway 1	Anderson	Eagan - Dakota Co	6/4/2004	9			Project is a grant for city fee acquisition of largely wooded site to add to Patrick Eagan Park. It is part of the Eagan Core Greenway.	\$ 100,000	Scenic & Natural Area Grant	\$ 350,000	City of Eagan (180K) and Dakota Co (250K)	\$ 430,000	\$ 900,000
Mikkelson WMA Expansion	Erickson & Wangen	Linwood Twsp - Anoka Co	3/30/2004	145			Project is DNR fee acquisition of a 145 acres addition to Mikkelson WMA. Features islands of high quality oak forest surrounded by high quality wetland communities.	\$ 450,000			TPL (100K) and federal wildlife grant (275K)	\$375,000	\$ 825,000
Hastings Sand Coulee	4 landowners	Hastings-Dakota Co	6/30/2004			40	Project is a grant for prairie restoration of 4 adjoining privately owned sites with restrictive covenants and signed agreements aiding in ongoing land protection. The sites are important rare sand prairie native communities & are part of Dakota Co Sand Coulee	\$ 46,500			landowners	\$ 4,000	\$ 50,000
TOTAL				221	178	40		\$ 2,431,798		\$ 1,023,000		\$ 5,931,294	\$ 9,356,000

Table - Result 1. Metro Greenways PLANNING GRANTS - Project Accomplishments

Overall Project Name	Location	Date Completed	Project Acres	Project Description	LCMR \$\$	Other State \$\$		Other Local Govt \$\$		Combined Funding
						Source	\$\$	Source	\$\$	\$\$
City of Champlin	Champlin - Hennepin County	12/31/2003	3,000	Natural Resource Inventory utilizing MLCCS, and identification of management and restoration opportunities	\$ 1,750	Other DNR	\$4,000	City	\$ 4,750	\$ 10,500
Golden Valley Natural Resources Inventory	Golden Valley - Hennepin Co	4/1/2003	6,800	Natural Resource Inventory utilizing MLCCS, and identification of management and restoration opportunities	\$ 19,500			City	\$ 24,765	\$ 44,265
Minnetrista - Designing Green Infrastructure	Minnetrista - Hennepin Co	12/31/2003	20,480	Green infrastructure design for city using existing land cover inventory	\$ 15,000			City and HCD	\$ 15,000	\$ 30,000
Independence Land Cover Classification	Independence - Hennepin Co	12/31/2003	23,000	Natural Resource Inventory utilizing MLCCS, and identification of management and restoration opportunities	\$ 10,000			City and HCD	\$ 10,000	\$ 20,000
Minnetonka Land Cover Classification	Minnetonka - Hennepin Co	12/31/2003	17,920	Natural Resource Inventory utilizing MLCCS, and identification of management and restoration opportunities	\$ 19,500			City and HCD	\$ 19,500	\$ 39,000
Carnelian-Marine Watershed Resource Inventory & Management Plan	portions of Stillwater, May, Hugo, and New Scandia - Washington Co	11/1/2003	26,713	Natural Resource Inventory utilizing MLCCS, and identification of management and restoration opportunities	\$ 16,268			CMWD	\$ 16,426	\$ 32,694
Anoka Conservation District Land Cover Classification	Ham Lake, Rum & Mississippi River corridors - Anoka Co	6/30/2004	*24,504	Natural Resource Inventory utilizing MLCCS, and identification of management and restoration opportunities	\$ 17,500	Other DNR	\$52,917	Met Council	\$ 17,500	\$ 87,917
Carver Co Land Cover Classification	portions of Watertown, Waconia, & Laketown Twsp - Carver Co	6/30/2004	*23,000	Natural Resource Inventory utilizing MLCCS	\$ 22,940			Met Council	\$ 22,940	\$ 45,880
Hennepin Co Land Cover Classification	Greenfield, Dayton, Orono Lake area - Hennepin Co	6/30/2004	*44,000	Natural Resource Inventory utilizing MLCCS,	\$ 54,000			Met Council	\$ 54,000	\$ 108,000
Scott Co Land Cover Classification	Sand Ck, Cedar Lake, Helena, & Blakely Twsp - Scott Co	6/30/2004	*21,057	Natural Resource Inventory utilizing MLCCS	\$ 18,100	Other DNR	\$50,000	Met Council	\$ 18,100	\$ 86,200
Washington Co Land Cover Classification	Forest Lake, New Scandia, May, Marine, & Stillwater Twsp - Washington Co	6/30/2004	*31,000	Natural Resource Inventory utilizing MLCCS	\$ 25,250			Met Council	\$ 25,250	\$ 50,500
TOTAL			241,474		\$ 219,808		\$106,917		\$ 228,231	\$ 554,956

*Represents acreage completed with LCMR and DNR funds. Additional acreage will be completed over next 6 mos. with Met council funds

Project Title: Metro Greenways

Project Number: 04(g)

LCMR Recommended Funding: \$2,730,000

Attachment A Deliverable Products and Related Budget								
2001 LCMR Project Biennial Budget								
Budget Item (Title of Result)	Objective/ Result		Result 2 Budget:	Result 2 Balance:				
	Result 1 Budget:	Result 1 Balance:						
	Planning Grants		Protection and Improvement				TOTAL BUDGET:	BALANCE TOTAL:
Wages, salaries & benefits <input type="checkbox"/> Be specific on who is paid \$								
Contracts							219,808	750
Planning grants to LGUs /NGOs	219,808	750						
Other contracts								
Space rental: NOT ALLOWED								
Maintenance								
Utilities								
Other direct operating costs								
Printing								
Advertising								
Communications, telephone, mail, etc.								
Office Supplies (list specific categories)								
Other Supplies (list specific categories)								
Local automobile mileage paid								
Other travel expenses in Minnesota								
Travel outside Minnesota								
Tools and equipment (list categories)								
Office equipment & computers								
Other Capital equipment (list specific items)								
Land acquisition			2,385,298	0			2,385,298	0
Buildings								
Other land improvement (restoration and signage)			51,562	0			51,562	0
Legal fees (included below)								
Real estate tranaction costs			72,583	0			72,583	0
COLUMN TOTAL	219,808	750	2,509,443	0			2,729,250	750