

**Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund  
2011-2012 Request for Proposals (RFP)**

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**Subd: 04c**

**Project Title:** Metropolitan Regional Park System Acquisition

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**Category:** D. Land Acquisition for Habitat and Recreation

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**Total Project Budget: \$** 2,250,000

**Proposed Project Time Period for the Funding Requested:** 3 yrs, July 2011 - June 2014

**Other Non-State Funds (secured): \$** 2,750,000

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**Summary:**

Award subgrants to Regional Park Agencies under the Metropolitan Council's Park Acquisition Opportunity Fund program to acquire about 210 acres for the Metropolitan Regional Park System.

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**Sponsoring Organization:** Metropolitan Council

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**Location:**

**Region:** Metro

**Ecological Section:** Paleozoic Plateau (222L), Minnesota and NE Iowa Morainal (222M)

**County Name:** Washington

**City / Township:**

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# 2011-2012 MAIN PROPOSAL

## PROJECT TITLE: Metropolitan Regional Park System Land Acquisition

### I. PROJECT STATEMENT

The Metropolitan Council's 2030 *Regional Parks Policy Plan* adopted in 2005 calls for the acquisition of about 17,000 acres to meet the outdoor recreation needs of an expanding population in the seven-county Twin Cities Metropolitan Region. About 14,800 acres remain to be acquired. As of April 2010, grants from the Metropolitan Council's Park Acquisition Opportunity Fund, which has been funded in part with \$5.29 million of Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund appropriations in 2007, 2008 and 2009 has partially financed the acquisition of 556 acres of high quality natural resource lands for the Metropolitan Regional Park System towards this goal. A request of \$2.25 million for 2011-14 would be matched with \$1.5 million of Metropolitan Council bonds and \$1.25 million of regional park agency funds to acquire about 210 acres.

### II. DESCRIPTION OF PROJECT ACTIVITIES

Award subgrants to Regional Park Agencies under the Metropolitan Council's Park Acquisition Opportunity Fund program to acquire about 210 acres for the Metropolitan Regional Park System.

**Activity 1:** Acquisition Opportunity Grants **Budget:** \$ 2,250,000

Outcome	Completion Date
1. Acquire about 210 acres of high quality natural resource lands within Metropolitan Council approved master plan boundaries of regional parks and trails	June 30, 2014

When the Metropolitan Council authorizes subgrants to regional park agencies to acquire high quality natural resource lands under this proposal, a description of that land will be included as a "Deliverable" along with the date it was acquired as the "Completion Date". The amount of the appropriation spent on the land will be listed under "Budget" and the balance of the appropriation remaining to be used to acquire more land will be listed under "Status". More detail on each acquisition, including the expenditure of the non-State match and related expenditures such as legal fees and property tax equivalency payments required to be paid on each acquisition will be shown in the Project Budget.

The amount budgeted for these fee title acquisitions must include sufficient funds for a baseline assessment and high quality site restoration appropriate to designation (SNA, WMA, parks, etc.) 10% of the budget should be designated for restoration and long-term management needs of acquired parcels, or work program must address why a portion of the funds are not necessary to achieve a high quality restoration (e.g., other funds are currently available and will be allocated toward a parcel's restoration and long-term management).

### III. PROJECT STRATEGY

#### A. Project Team/Partners

The following regional park agencies are eligible to receive Park Acquisition Opportunity Fund grant(s) from this proposal. The amount each agency actually receives is dependent on the amount needed for a particular subgrant and will be reported in future status reports in the Project Budget.

<b>Regional Park Agency Contact</b>	<b>Regional Park Agency Name</b>
John VondeLinde	Anoka County Parks Dept.
Randy Quale	City of Bloomington Parks Dept.
Marty Walsh	Carver County Parks Dept.
Steve Sullivan	Dakota County Parks Dept.
Mike Kimble	Minneapolis Park & Recreation Board
Greg Mack	Ramsey County Parks Dept.
Jody Martinez	City of St. Paul Parks Dept.
Mark Themig	Scott County Parks Dept.
Boe Carlson	Three Rivers Park District
John Elholm	Washington County Parks Dept.

**B. Timeline Requirements**

Acquisition of parcels from willing sellers requires the appropriation to be available for 36 months since park agencies cannot predict when sellers will come forward. Consequently, the timeline for this proposal is July 1, 2011 to June 30, 2014.

**C. Long-Term Strategy and Future Funding Needs**

This proposal is a component of the long-range goal in the Metropolitan Council’s 2030 *Regional Parks Policy Plan* to acquire about 14,800 acres of land within Metropolitan Council-approved master plan boundaries for regional parks and trails. Two dollars of Metropolitan Council bonds match every three dollars of the Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund appropriation. Regional park agencies must finance 25% of each acquisition with their own funds. Consequently, the share from each funding source for land acquisitions is:

<b>Funding Source</b>	<b>Percent of Acquisition Cost</b>
Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund	45%
Metropolitan Council bonds	30%
Regional Park Agency funds	25%

The Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund appropriations have been restricted by law to acquire only land containing high quality natural resources with no residential structures on them. Other funding sources such as the Parks and Trails Fund and Metropolitan Council bonds have been used to acquire land that had low quality natural resources and/or included structures—both residential and non-residential. Long-term strategies for ongoing financial

support include continued public sector investment of State, regional and local sources and private sector donations through the Regional Parks Foundation of the Twin Cities that the Legislature authorized in 2007 (2007 Laws of Minnesota, Chap. 113).

## 2011-2012 Detailed Project Budget

### IV. TOTAL TRUST FUND REQUEST BUDGET 3 years -July 1, 2011 to June 30, 2014

<u>BUDGET ITEM</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>
<b>Contracts:</b> Subgrant agreements up to \$1.7 million per agency to finance up to 75% of acquisition costs of high quality natural resource lands within Metropolitan Council approved regional park or trail master plan boundaries. See "Acquisition" line below.	\$ -
<b>Acquisition (Fee Title or Permanent Easements):</b> About 210 acres to be acquired in fee title and held by the Regional Park Agency acquiring the land.	\$ 2,250,000
<b>TOTAL ENVIRONMENT &amp; NATURAL RESOURCES TRUST FUND \$ REQUEST</b>	<b>\$ 2,250,000</b>

### V. OTHER FUNDS

<u>SOURCE OF FUNDS</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>	<u>Status</u>
<b>Other Non-State \$ Being Applied to Project During Project Period:</b> Metropolitan Council bonds	\$ 1,500,000	Pending
<b>Other Non-State \$ Being Applied to Project During Project Period:</b> Regional Park Agency funds	\$ 1,250,000	Pending
<b>Other State \$ Being Applied to Project During Project Period:</b>	NA	NA
<b>In-kind Services During Project Period:</b>	NA	NA
<b>Remaining \$ from 2008 and 2009 ENRTF Appropriation</b>	\$ 1,800,278	Not Legally Obligated as of 4-8-2010
<b>Remaining \$ from Metro Council bond match to 2008 and 2009 ENRTF Appropriation</b>	\$ 1,200,185	Not Legally Obligated as of 4-8-2010
<b>Funding History:</b> 2007 ENRTF appropriation	\$ 2,500,000	Spent by Oct. 2008
<b>Funding History:</b> Metro Council bond match to 2007 ENRTF appropriation	\$ 1,666,000	Spent by Oct. 2008

## 2011-2012 Acquisition List for Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund Proposal

**Project Title:** Metropolitan Regional Park System Land Acquisition

**Project Manager Name:** Arne Stefferud

**Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund \$ Request:** \$2,250,000

**Final Title Holder(s):** See "Title Holder" below

#	Park or Trail Name Where Parcel is located	Acquisition Type (Fee-Title OR Conservation Easement)	"Title Holder" Regional Park Agency	Estimated # of Acres	Property Tax ID#	Geographical Coordinates (Provide Latitude/Longitude OR UTM-X/UTM-Y)			
						Latitude	Longitude	UTM-X	UTM-Y
1	Rice Creek Chain of Lakes Park Reserve	Fee Title	Anoka County	40	353222130001				
2	Rice Creek Chain of Lakes Park Reserve	Fee Title	Anoka County	40	353222120001				
3	Rice Creek Chain of Lakes Park Reserve	Fee Title	Anoka County	40	263222240001				
4	Rice Creek Chain of Lakes Park Reserve	Fee Title	Anoka County	80	233222310001, 233222340001				
5	Rice Creek Chain of Lakes Park Reserve	Fee Title	Anoka County	40	233222130001				
6	Rice Creek Chain of Lakes Park Reserve	Fee Title	Anoka County	36	233222140001				
7	Baylor Regional Park	Fee Title	Carver County	20	20340600				
8	Baylor Regional Park	Fee Title	Carver County	40	20270900 This site is 40 acres of an 89 acre parcel				
9	Miesville Ravine PR	Fee Title	Dakota County	79	09-02200-010-75				
10	Miesville Ravine PR	Fee Title	Dakota County	77	09-03600-010-76 09-03600-010-77 46031000 (Goodhue Cty.)				
11	Lebanon Hills Regional Park	Fee Title	Dakota County	1.62	10-02600-010-54				
12	Spring Lake Park Reserve	Fee Title	Dakota County	35.71	30-02200-010-27, 010-00, 020-00 030-00, 040-00, 050-00, 060-00				
13	Mississippi River Regional Trail	Fee Title	Dakota County	28.8	8.8 miles involving numerous property owners				
14	Above The Falls Regional Park	Fee Title	Mpls. Park Bd.	0.20	15-029-24-11-0047				
15	Above The Falls Regional Park	Fee Title	Mpls. Park Bd.	0.44	15-029-24-11-0048				
16	Above The Falls Regional Park	Fee Title	Mpls. Park Bd.	0.15	15-029-24-11-0049				
17	Above The Falls Regional Park	Fee Title	Mpls. Park Bd.	0.47	15-029-24-11-0050				
18	Above The Falls Regional Park	Fee Title	Mpls. Park Bd.	0.42	15-029-24-13-0014				
19	Above The Falls Regional Park	Fee Title	Mpls. Park Bd.	0.08	15-029-24-13-0005				
20	Doyle-Kennefick RP	Fee Title	Scott County	76.96	39020020				

#	Park or Trail Name Where Parcel is located	Acquisition Type (Fee-Title OR Conservation Easement)	"Title Holder" Regional Park Agency	Estimated # of Acres	Property Tax ID#	Geographical Coordinates (Provide Latitude/Longitude OR UTM-X/UTM-Y)			
						Latitude	Longitude	UTM-X	UTM-Y
21	Rush Creek Regional Trail	Fee Title	Three Rivers Park Dist.	12.75	Brockton Lane, Dayton (Nelson)				
22	Rush Creek Regional Trail	Fee Title	Three Rivers Park Dist.	4.03	16855 106th Place, Maple Grove				
23	St.Croix Regional Trail	Fee Title	Washington Co.	0.23	Portion of parcel 0902620240004				
24	Cottage Grove Ravine Regional Park	Fee Title	Washington Co.	2.1	Portion of parcel 2202721430001				
25	Cottage Grove Ravine Regional Park	Fee Title	Washington Co.	31.72	Portion of parcel 1402721120001				
26	Cottage Grove Ravine Regional Park	Fee Title	Washington Co.	9.02	Portion of parcel 1402721130001				
27	Cottage Grove Ravine Regional Park	Fee Title	Washington Co.	40.19	Portion of parcel 1402721240001				
28	Cottage Grove Ravine Regional Park	Fee Title	Washington Co.	40.21	Portion of parcel 1402721230001				
29	Big Marine Park Reserve	Fee Title	Washington Co.	2.67	3203220440011				
30	Big Marine Park Reserve	Fee Title	Washington Co.	1.88	3203220440012				
31	Big Marine Park Reserve	Fee Title	Washington Co.	4.99	3303220330002				
32	Big Marine Park Reserve	Fee Title	Washington Co.	2.72	3303220330003				
33	Big Marine Park Reserve	Fee Title	Washington Co.	79.79	603120110001				
34	Big Marine Park Reserve	Fee Title	Washington Co.	2.72	503120110009				
35	Big Marine Park Reserve	Fee Title	Washington Co.	39.54	503120330001				
36	Big Marine Park Reserve	Fee Title	Washington Co.	39.47	603120440001				
37	Big Marine Park Reserve	Fee Title	Washington Co.	2.94	3203220440007				
38	Big Marine Park Reserve	Fee Title	Washington Co.	1.41	3203220440009				
39	Big Marine Park Reserve	Fee Title	Washington Co.	2.27	503120430002				
40	Big Marine Park Reserve	Fee Title	Washington Co.	18.54	503120430001				
41	Big Marine Park Reserve	Fee Title	Washington Co.	3.94	503120110007				
42	Big Marine Park Reserve	Fee Title	Washington Co.	39.57	703120110001				
43	Big Marine Park Reserve	Fee Title	Washington Co.	78.95	Portion of parcel 703120130001				
44	Big Marine Park Reserve	Fee Title	Washington Co.	25.83	Portion of parcel 703120440001				
45	Big Marine Park Reserve	Fee Title	Washington Co.	32.45	803120120001				
46	Big Marine Park Reserve	Fee Title	Washington Co.	78.69	803120210001				
47	Big Marine Park Reserve	Fee Title	Washington Co.	39.34	803120220001				
48	Big Marine Park Reserve	Fee Title	Washington Co.	39.17	803120230001				
49	Big Marine Park Reserve	Fee Title	Washington Co.	39.53	803120310001				
50	Big Marine Park Reserve	Fee Title	Washington Co.	43.24	803120320001				
51	Big Marine Park Reserve	Fee Title	Washington Co.	35.24	803120340001				
52	Big Marine Park Reserve	Fee Title	Washington Co.	40.02	803120430001				
53	Big Marine Park Reserve	Fee Title	Washington Co.	19.62	1703120110001				
54	Big Marine Park Reserve	Fee Title	Washington Co.	22.81	1703120120001				

#	Park or Trail Name Where Parcel is located	Acquisition Type (Fee-Title OR Conservation Easement)	"Title Holder" Regional Park Agency	Estimated # of Acres	Property Tax ID#	Geographical Coordinates (Provide Latitude/Longitude OR UTM-X/UTM-Y)			
						Latitude	Longitude	UTM-X	UTM-Y
55	Big Marine Park Reserve	Fee Title	Washington Co.	34.09	1703120130001				
56	Big Marine Park Reserve	Fee Title	Washington Co.	17.69	1703120210001				
57	Big Marine Park Reserve	Fee Title	Washington Co.	19.71	1703120220001				
58	Big Marine Park Reserve	Fee Title	Washington Co.	38.53	Portion of parcel 1703120230001				
59	Big Marine Park Reserve	Fee Title	Washington Co.	28.9	1703120240001				
60	Big Marine Park Reserve	Fee Title	Washington Co.	38.69	Portion of parcel 1803120110001				
61	Big Marine Park Reserve	Fee Title	Washington Co.	22.78	803120110001				
62	Grey Cloud Island Regional Park	Fee Title	Washington Co.	19.96	2502722310004				
63	Grey Cloud Island Regional Park	Fee Title	Washington Co.	39.96	2502722320001				
64	Grey Cloud Island Regional Park	Fee Title	Washington Co.	10.23	3202721310001				
65	Grey Cloud Island Regional Park	Fee Title	Washington Co.	19.53	502621110001				
66	Grey Cloud Island Regional Park	Fee Title	Washington Co.	39.46	502621210001				
67	Grey Cloud Island Regional Park	Fee Title	Washington Co.	18.82	602621110001				
68	Grey Cloud Island Regional Park	Fee Title	Washington Co.	15.52	602621120001				
69	Grey Cloud Island Regional Park	Fee Title	Washington Co.	11.93	602621210001				
70	Grey Cloud Island Regional Park	Fee Title	Washington Co.	20	2502722330001				
71	Grey Cloud Island Regional Park	Fee Title	Washington Co.	39.97	2502722340001				
72	Grey Cloud Island Regional Park	Fee Title	Washington Co.	40.09	2602722440001				
73	Grey Cloud Island Regional Park	Fee Title	Washington Co.	81.57	3102721120001				
74	Grey Cloud Island Regional Park	Fee Title	Washington Co.	3.1	3102721140001				
75	Grey Cloud Island Regional Park	Fee Title	Washington Co.	34.8	3102721410003				
76	Lake Elmo Park Reserve	Fee Title	Washington Co.	6.91	260292140003				
77	St. Croix Bluffs Regional Park	Fee Title	Washington Co.	0.15	2202720130002				
78	St. Croix Bluffs Regional Park	Fee Title	Washington Co.	41.7	2202720310001				
79	St. Croix Bluffs Regional Park	Fee Title	Washington Co.	36.41	2202720420001				
			<b>Total Acres</b>	<b>2,194.95</b>					

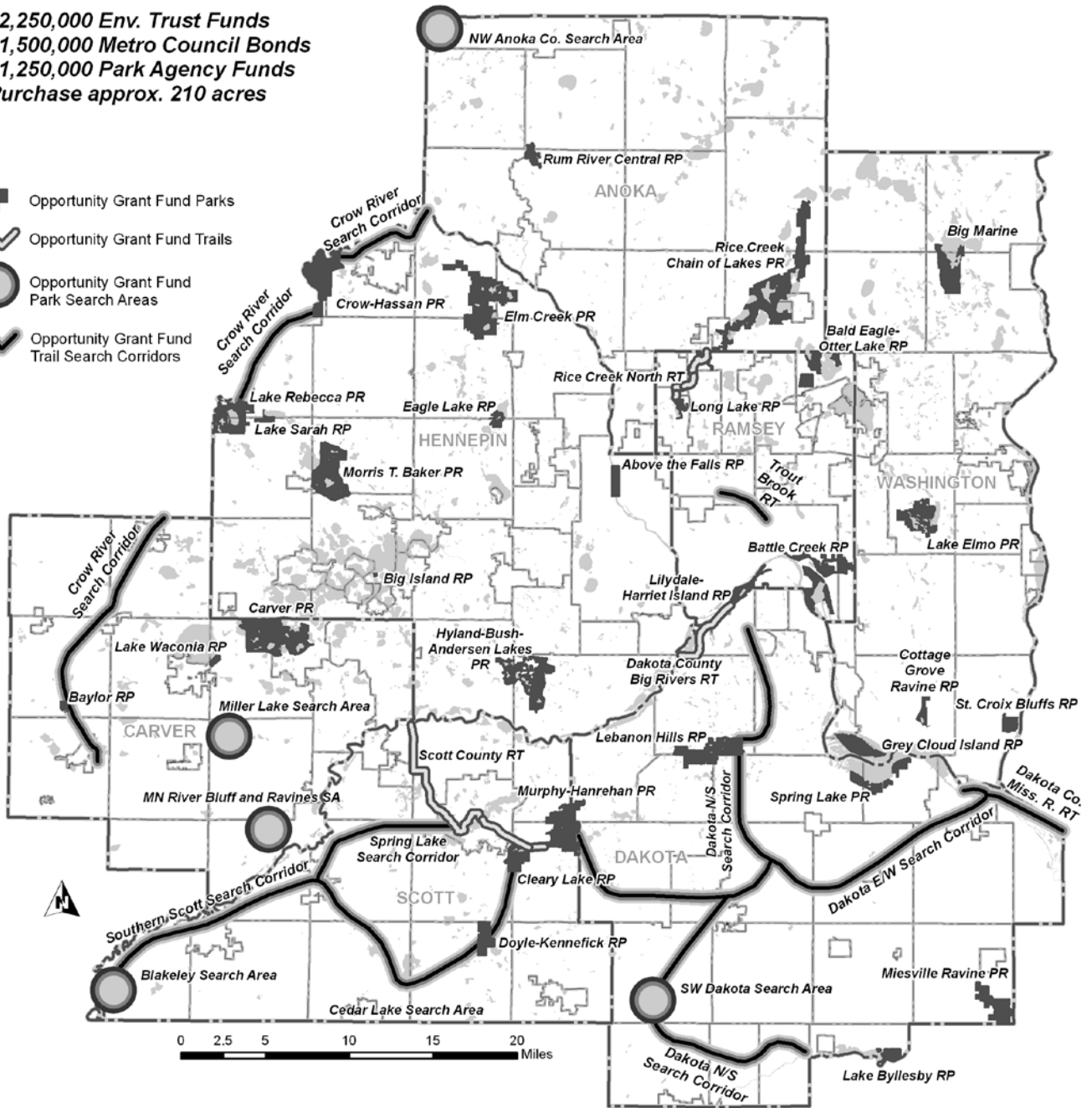
**NOTES:** Parcels listed are those that have high quality natural resources on them such as wetlands, river or lake shoreline, significant forest or prairie vegetation. In some instances a structure is on the parcel but it has little value (under \$20,000).



# Land Acquisition Areas That Would Be Eligible for Acquisition Opportunity Grant Fund

**\$2,250,000 Env. Trust Funds**  
**\$1,500,000 Metro Council Bonds**  
**\$1,250,000 Park Agency Funds**  
 Purchase approx. 210 acres

-  Opportunity Grant Fund Parks
-  Opportunity Grant Fund Trails
-  Opportunity Grant Fund Park Search Areas
-  Opportunity Grant Fund Trail Search Corridors



RP = Regional Park  
 PR = Park Reserve  
 RT = Regional Trail  
 Search Area = Proposed park location;  
 boundary determined by master plan  
 Search Corridor = Proposed trail alignment;  
 location determined by master plan



## **PROJECT MANAGER QUALIFICATIONS**

Arne Stefferud, the project manager for this proposal is responsible for managing the Metropolitan Council's Acquisition Opportunity Fund Grant program that has been in place since 2001. A 2007 appropriation of \$2.5 million Environment and Natural Resources Trust Funds matched with \$1.66 million of Metropolitan Council bonds along with \$14.6 million of other funds has been spent to help finance the acquisition of 575 acres in five regional parks. A 2008 appropriation of \$1.5 million Environment and Natural Resources Trust Funds matched with \$1 million of Metropolitan Council bonds and \$833,000 of funds provided by regional park implementing agencies has as of April 2010 financed the acquisition of 28 acres in one regional trail, three regional parks and one park reserve. A 2009 appropriation of \$1.5 million Environment and Natural Resources Trust Funds matched with \$1 million of Metropolitan Council bonds and \$833,000 of funds provided by regional park implementing agencies is projected to help acquire about 195 acres.

Mr. Stefferud will present testimony to the LCCMR regarding the 2011-12 proposal of \$2.25 million, plus coordinate communications and grant agreement authorizations between the State of Minnesota and 10 regional park agencies who would use the proposed \$ 2.25 million appropriation along with \$1.5 million of Metropolitan Council bonds and \$1.25 million of their own funds to carry out the LCCMR approved workprogram. Approximately 210 acres could be acquired with these funds.

Mr. Stefferud has prepared proposals, presented testimony and overseen grant authorizations and payments of Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund appropriations made in 1993, 1995, 1997, 1999, 2001, 2003, 2005, 2007, 2008 and 2009.

## **ORGANIZATION DESCRIPTION**

The Metropolitan Council prepares a regional parks capital improvement program that prioritizes the expenditure of public funds on projects in Council approved master plans for the acquisition, rehabilitation and development of regional recreation open space as authorized in MN Statutes 473.147. The Council authorizes and administers grants financed with State appropriations and Metro. Council bonds to implement the regional parks capital improvement program as authorized in MN Statutes 473.315 and 473.325.