



Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund (ENRTF) M.L. 2017 LCCMR Work Plan

Date of Submission: December 7, 2016
Date of Next Status Update Report: December 31, 2017
Date of Work Plan Approval:
Project Completion Date: December 31, 2019
Does this submission include an amendment request? N__

PROJECT TITLE: Tower Trailhead and Habitat Improvement

Project Manager: Linda Keith
Organization: City of Tower
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Location: The project will be completed within the corporate City Limits of Tower, Minnesota located in north eastern Saint Louis County, Minnesota.

Total ENRTF Project Budget:	ENRTF Appropriation:	\$600,000
	Amount Spent:	\$0
	Balance:	\$600,000

Legal Citation: M.L. 2017, Chp. xx, Sec. xx, Subd. xx

Appropriation Language:

[To be inserted following the MN Legislative Session in Spring 2017. This will be blank for the initial submission and will be provided to you at a later date.]

I. PROJECT TITLE: Tower Trailhead and Habitat Improvement

II. PROJECT STATEMENT: *Last year the LCCMR provide a grant to the City of Tower to construct a pedestrian and biking trail around the recently developed harbor and along the East Two Rivers to connect with the existing Mesabi Trail. This year's request by the City of Tower is to expand on last year's project constructing a trailhead facility, boat landing and parking lot. This year's project will also include the development of a habitat area near the trail along the East Two Rivers.*

The trailhead/boat landing area will consist of a parking area for biking, hiking, snowmobiling, boating and nature viewing visitors. The trailhead will also include an informational kiosk that will provide maps of the existing pedestrian trails, snowmobile trails, Lake Vermilion and area attractions including Hoodoo Point, McKinley Park, Sudan Underground Mine, Vermilion State Park, Wolf Center, Bear Center and the Boundary Waters Canoe Area.

There was a small gravel boat landing on the East Two River in this area prior to the reconstruction of Trunk Highway 169. The highway project eliminated the access to the boat launch due to its location and grade difference from the new bridge. As part of the Federal Environmental Assessment review of the highway project, the US Department of Interior requested the City of Tower and Minnesota Department of Natural Resources (MN DNR) work cooperatively to re-establish a boat launch and river access in this location. In fall of 2009, the City and MN DNR agreed in principal to working together to replace the East Two River access and boat launch in this area. With the past support from the LCCMR, the boat launch will now also be able to serve as a trail head for biking, hiking, paddling, and snowmobiling as well. This development will also serve the upcoming residential and commercial development around the new Harbor.

The new habitat area will be developed adjacent to the new trail connection to the Mesabi Trail and the East Two Rivers. In the process of dredging the East Two Rivers for the new harbor, there was existing vegetative habitat in the river that had to be removed. As part of the dredging permit from the MN DNR, they required the City of Tower to establish a new habitat area in the East Two River. The habitat area will include creating a natural buffer between the newly construction trail and the East Two River. Construction activities will include soil excavation, shaping, fill culvert removal, stabilization, runoff control and revegetation. Plantings will be done in accordance of all DNR requirements and will consist native species recommended by the DNR and native plant vendors.

The recently funded trail and completion of this project will be key components of the city's overall development of the Historic Harbor. The city has currently signed a development agreement with a private entity that will be constructing townhomes and condos around the harbor. The city is working with another private developer who is proposing to build a new restaurant near the harbor. The City of Tower has currently raised \$7,137,249 in outside funds for the harbor development and has invested \$800,000 in city funds.

III. OVERALL PROJECT STATUS UPDATES:

Project Status as of : December 1, 2017

Project Status as of: June 1, 2018

Project Status as of: December 1, 2018

Project Status as of: June 1, 2019

Overall Project Outcomes and Results:

IV. PROJECT ACTIVITIES AND OUTCOMES:

ACTIVITY 1:

Description: Construction of Trailhead and Informational Kiosks

Activity 1 consists of the grading, constructing, landscaping, and design of a trailhead and boat launch access area. All vegetation used in the activity will be done in accordance with all Local BWSR and DNR plant guidelines. Informational Kiosks will be designed and constructed. The Kiosk will be stocked with all local maps, historical information, and sightseeing information available.

Summary Budget Information for Activity 1:

ENRTF Budget: \$495,200
Amount Spent: \$ 0
Balance: \$ 495,200

Outcome	Completion Date
1. Design, Engineer, construct, and complete a 102,856 square foot trail head parking area.	June 2020
2.	
3.	

Activity 1 Status as of: December 1, 2017

Activity 1 Status as of: June 1, 2018

Activity 1 Status as of: December 1, 2018

Activity 1 Status as of: June 1, 2019

ACTIVITY 2:

Description: Construct 20,000 Sq foot habitat area

Summary Budget Information for Activity 2:

ENRTF Budget: \$104,800
Amount Spent: \$ 0
Balance: \$ 104,800

Outcome	Completion Date
1. Design and Engineer a 20,000 square foot aquatic habitat area	June 2018
2. Construct and landscape a 20,000 square foot aquatic habitat area designed using all DNR and BWSR approved vegetation.	June 2020
3.	

Activity 1 Status as of: December 1, 2017

Activity 1 Status as of: March 1, 2018

Activity 1 Status as of: June 1, 2018

Activity 1 Status as of: September 1, 2019

Final Report Summary:

V. DISSEMINATION:

Description:

Status as of: December 1, 2017

Status as of: June 1, 2018

Status as of: December 1, 2018

Status as of: June 1, 2019

Final Report Summary:

VI. PROJECT BUDGET SUMMARY:

A. Preliminary ENRTF Budget Overview:

***This section represents an overview of the preliminary budget at the start of the project. It will be reconciled with actual expenditures at the time of the final report.**

Budget Category	\$ Amount	Overview Explanation
Professional Services for the Construction of the Trail Head	\$ 110,915	Project Management, Design surveys, geotechnical, construction plans and specifications, construction administration, legal and administration
Professional Services for the for the construction of the habitat area:	\$25,800	Project Management, Design surveys, geotechnical, construction plans, and specifications, construction administration, legal, and administration
Construction by Competitive Bid of the trail head area	\$384,185	Construction of trail head
Construction by competitive bid of the habitat area	\$79,000	Construction of habitat area using DNR & BWSR approved vegetation
Printing and publications	\$100	
	\$	
	\$	
	\$	
	\$	
	\$	
TOTAL ENRTF BUDGET:	\$600,000	

Explanation of Use of Classified Staff:

Explanation of Capital Expenditures Greater Than \$5,000:

Total Number of Full-time Equivalent (FTE) Directly Funded with this ENRTF Appropriation:

Total Number of Full-time Equivalents (FTE) Estimated to Be Funded through Contracts with this ENRTF Appropriation:

B. Other Funds:

Source of Funds	\$ Amount Proposed	\$ Amount Spent	Use of Other Funds
Non-state			
In Kind Trail Administration by the City	\$10,000	\$	Administration of Grant documents, payments, receipts, payroll reports, grant monitorings and reports
IN Kind Maintenance by the City	\$25,000.00		Maintenance, Grooming, Cleaning, and construction assistance
In Kind research by the City of Tower for the informational Kiosk	\$5,000	\$	Mapping of trails and local area attractions
TOTAL OTHER FUNDS:	\$ 40,000	\$	

VII. PROJECT STRATEGY:

A. Project Partners:

Partners receiving ENRTF funding

- *Name, Title, Affiliation, \$ Amount, Role*

Partners NOT receiving ENRTF funding

- *Name, Title, Affiliation, Role*

B. Project Impact and Long-term Strategy:

C. Funding History:

Funding Source and Use of Funds	Funding Timeframe	\$ Amount
IRRRB – 2 Mile Rerouting of Trunk Highway 135 and the relocation of all utility infrastructure	Complete	\$3,200,000
HPP Federal Highway Funding – The relocation and reconstruction of the bridge allowing for the restoration of the Tower Harbor back to its original size and use	Complete	\$1,538,249
DEED HDPI Relocation of all public utilities to environmentally safe distances from the Lake and River	Complete	\$249,980
DEED Redevelopment Grant Construction of local streets and utility infrastructure to the developable area of the Tower Harbor	Complete	724,450
IRRRB Grant – Dredging of the East Two River and the Tower Harbor to remove materials that been continually dumped into the river and harbor from a mill and factory.	Complete	\$1,120,000
LCCMR Grant – Construction of walking trail, trail connection to the Mesabi trail, Kayak route, and interpretive signage	In Progress	\$679,000

VIII. REPORTING REQUIREMENTS:

- **The project is for 3 years, will begin on July 1, 2017, and end on June 30, 2019.**
- **Periodic project status update reports will be submitted *December 1st* and *June 1st* of each year.**

- A final report and associated products will be submitted between June 30 and August 15, 2019.

IX. VISUAL COMPONENT or MAP(S):

Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund
M.L. 2017 Project Budget



Project Title: Tower Trailhead and Habitat Improvement

Legal Citation: *Fill in your project's legal citation from the appropriation language - this will occur after the 2017 legislative session.*

Project Manager: Linda Keith

Organization: City of Tower

M.L. 2017 ENRTF Appropriation: \$600,000

Project Length and Completion Date: June 30, 2016

Date of Report: September 14, 2016

ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES TRUST FUND BUDGET	Activity 1 Budget	Amount Spent	Activity 1 Balance	Activity 2 Budget	Amount Spent	Activity 2 Balance	TOTAL BUDGET	TOTAL BALANCE
BUDGET ITEM	<i>Trailhead Construction</i>			<i>Habitat Area Construction</i>				
Professional/Technical/Service Contracts								
<i>SEH, Inc. Project management, Topographical surveys, preliminary and final design, construction plans, and specifications, and construction administration</i>	\$110,915	\$0	\$110,915	\$25,800	\$0	\$25,800	\$136,715	\$136,715
<i>TBD: Competitive Bid Construction Contractor</i>	\$381,000	\$0	\$381,000	\$79,000		\$79,000	\$460,000	\$460,000
<i>Signage</i>	\$3,000	\$0	\$3,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$3,000	\$3,000
Printing								
<i>Public Postings, Public Announcements, and Public Bidding</i>	\$285	\$0	\$285	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$285	\$285
COLUMN TOTAL	\$495,200	\$0	\$495,200	\$104,800	\$0	\$104,800	\$600,000	\$600,000

