



Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund

M.L. 2022 Approved Work Plan

General Information

ID Number: 2022-065

Staff Lead: Mike Campana

Date this document submitted to LCCMR: August 25, 2022

Project Title: Hastings Lake Rebecca Park Area

Project Budget: \$1,000,000

Project Manager Information

Name: Chris Jenkins

Organization: City of Hastings - Parks & Recreation

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Project Reporting

Date Work Plan Approved by LCCMR: September 6, 2022

Reporting Schedule: March 1 / September 1 of each year.

Project Completion: June 30, 2025

Final Report Due Date: August 14, 2025

Legal Information

Legal Citation: M.L. 2022, Chp. 94, Sec. 2, Subd. 08d

Appropriation Language: \$1,000,000 the second year is from the trust fund to the commissioner of natural resources for an agreement with the city of Hastings to develop an ecological-based master plan for Lake Rebecca Park and to enhance habitat quality and construct passive recreational facilities consistent with the master plan. No funds for implementation may be spent until the master plan is complete.

Appropriation End Date: June 30, 2025

Narrative

Project Summary: Lake Rebecca Park Area Redevelopment & Restoration

Describe the opportunity or problem your proposal seeks to address. Include any relevant background information.

This park area sits between the Mississippi River to the north and west, and Lake Rebecca to the south and is targeted to remain as natural and open space for the community and visitors. Major issues observed include: consistent high water events leaves much of this park unusable for any type of recreation, boat launch parking lot for the lake unusable during high water events, and in poor condition, much of the park area is also very thick with brush inhibiting passive recreation/exploration in the area, lack of access, habitat types are also degraded, and would benefit from enhancement.

This area needs an ecological master plan to be completed, as well as the investigative/research processes to gather current ecological information. Without this vision the area has an uncertain future. There are however some important elements/outcomes that are currently known, and those have been included in this proposal.

The City of Hastings Comprehensive Plan outlines the city's philosophy which includes 1) Enhancing the health of the ecosystem in Hastings, 2) Preserve and enhance biological diversity of native habitats, 3) Provide an appropriate balance between resource preservation, recreational use, and development.

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.

Development of a vision, planning documents, and project implementation that meet the city's philosophy as outlined in the Comprehensive Plan. Some known outcomes to currently known issues follow below.

Propose to raise and reconstruct the boat launch at Lake Rebecca so that it is useable during most high water events, this is a safe boating area during high water and is an excellent, well managed fishery. Propose to identify select areas for leisure recreation opportunities and raise those areas so they can be used during high water for years to come. Propose to remove brush and some canopy trees and install walking trails and interpretive trails that introduce users to the unique habitats in the area. Propose to enhance habitat, install native grasses, flowers, etc. to increase wildlife/pollinator habitat.

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?

First and foremost, a well constructed ecological based park master plan including recreational uses and purpose. Increased native plant and animal habitat and populations, increased habitat for pollinators, protecting shore land and wetland areas from repeated high water intrusion, increased passive recreation and interpretation opportunities, encourage user engagement with the natural resources of this area. Blend these enhancements into enhancements being completed by the USACOE, City of Hastings and our partners.

Project Location

What is the best scale for describing where your work will take place?

Region(s): Metro

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

Region(s): Metro

When will the work impact occur?

During the Project and In the Future

Activities and Milestones

Activity 1: Master Planning

Activity Budget: \$149,999

Activity Description:

Conduct a master planning effort which balances ecological diversity and health with intended recreational and educational uses. This will include researching current conditions, development of planned outcomes and public engagement efforts that ultimately guide the future of this park area.

Activity Milestones:

Description	Approximate Completion Date
Kickoff	January 31, 2023
Ecological survey and research	July 31, 2023
Public Engagement	August 31, 2023
Plan completion and adoption	September 30, 2023

Activity 2: Lake Rebecca Park Area Enhancements

Activity Budget: \$850,000

Activity Description:

Implementation of master plan and work plan priorities. Removal of undesirable shrubs, grasses, trees, etc. Planting of desirable, beneficial shrubs, trees, plants, grasses, etc. to enhance the habitat. Implementation of passive/developed recreation facility enhancements to include parking, boat launch, trails and perhaps an outdoor classroom to encourage engagement with the habitat restoration phases.

Activity Milestones:

Description	Approximate Completion Date
Develop working plan consistent with Master Plan	January 31, 2024
Removal of undesirable shrubs, grasses, trees, etc.	November 30, 2024
Planting of desirable, beneficial shrubs, grasses, trees.	June 30, 2025
Implement passive/developed recreation facility enhancements	June 30, 2025

Activity 3: Acquire adjacent private parcel

Activity Budget: \$1

Activity Description:

The City of Hastings has been working to acquire a private parcel of land adjacent to Lake Rebecca. The parcel is currently owned by Flint Hills Resources. Acquisition is in progress, and the closing on this property is scheduled for August 25th, 2022. This parcel will be in public ownership prior to any planning or work phases of this project.

Activity Milestones:

Description	Approximate Completion Date
Real Estate Closing	August 31, 2022

Dissemination

Describe your plans for dissemination, presentation, documentation, or sharing of data, results, samples, physical collections, and other products and how they will follow ENRTF Acknowledgement Requirements and Guidelines.

Developed planning documents will be hosted on the City of Hastings website. Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund will be acknowledged through use of the trust fund logo or attribution language on project print and electronic media, publications, signage, and other communications per the ENRTF Acknowledgment Guidelines. Public outreach about planning phase(s) will occur through City social media, local news paper, local media, etc. Public participation with the planning phase(s) will be solicited as necessary for the plan development and review processes.

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?

Implementation through thoughtful planning processes, project design, construction and implementation. Master planning and full scale project design will be completed as a part of this grant funded effort. Continued efforts to maintain and enhance habitat and recreation opportunities will continue beyond project completion through inclusion in the City of Hastings Comprehensive Plan, Capital Improvement Project Plan, and through continued partnerships with partners like Hastings Environmental Protectors, Friends of The Mississippi River, USACOE, DNR Fisheries and others.

Budget Summary

Category / Name	Subcategory or Type	Description	Purpose	Gen. Ineligible	% Benefits	# FTE	Classified Staff?	\$ Amount
Personnel								
							Sub Total	-
Contracts and Services								
Master Planning & Engineer Consulting Team (unknown)	Professional or Technical Service Contract	Develop overall master plan for park areas identified.				0		\$150,000
Work Contractors	Professional or Technical Service Contract	Habitat enhancement, passive/developed rec facility enhancements				-		\$850,000
							Sub Total	\$1,000,000
Equipment, Tools, and Supplies								
							Sub Total	-
Capital Expenditures								
							Sub Total	-
Acquisitions and Stewardship								
							Sub Total	-
Travel In Minnesota								
							Sub Total	-

Travel Outside Minnesota								
							Sub Total	-
Printing and Publication								
							Sub Total	-
Other Expenses								
							Sub Total	-
							Grand Total	\$1,000,000

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
State				
			State Sub Total	-
Non-State				
In-Kind	Land donation from Flint Hills Resources 14 acres	Donated land will be included in the plan and park area as natural and open space lands to be used and enjoyed by residents and visitors.	Pending	\$100,000
			Non State Sub Total	\$100,000
			Funds Total	\$100,000

Acquisition and Restoration

Parcel List

Name	County	Site Significance	Activity	Acres	Miles	Estimated Cost	Type of Landowner	Easement or Title Holder	Status of Work
190210060010	Dakota	Wetlands, river bottom forest, lake	Restoration	146	-	\$750,000	Public	USACOE and City of Hastings	Has Not Begun
190210070011	Dakota	Lowlands adjacent to wetlands.	Restoration	14.13	-	\$100,000	Private	City of Hastings	Has Not Begun
Totals				160.13	0	\$850,000			

Restoration

1. Provide a statement confirming that all restoration activities completed with these funds will occur on land permanently protected by a conservation easement or public ownership.

The land addressed in this proposal is either a current City of Hastings owned park, park lands on long term lease with the US Army Corps of Engineers and one parcel that is currently being considered for donation to the City by Flint Hills Resources. All lands within the project area will remain public lands.

2. Summarize the components and expected outcomes of restoration and management plans for the parcels to be restored by your organization, how these plans are kept on file by your organization, and overall strategies for long-term plan implementation.

Lands restored would be identified through the proposed master planning and ecological master planning process. As a part of those plans, prescriptive restorations would be identified and ultimately adopted by the City of Hastings as part of the project. Those long term plans would be carried out through partnerships the City has annually with organizations like Friends of The Mississippi River, and will be documented in the City's Capital Improvement Plans.

3. Describe how restoration efforts will utilize and follow the Board of Soil and Water Resources "Native Vegetation Establishment and Enhancement Guidelines" in order to ensure ecological integrity and pollinator enhancement.

The City will direct the ecological planning firm to ensure all requirements are met, and will require a report from the planning firm to ensure all requirements are met or exceeded. Pre and post project evaluations will be completed.

4. Describe how the long-term maintenance and management needs of the parcel being restored with these funds will be met and financed into the future.

Hastings partners annually with Friends of The Mississippi River for ecological restoration and enhancement services, and has continually been very successful. This area will have a Natural Resource Management Plan as part of the overall planning process, and together with FMR the City will ensure prescriptive maintenance is completed as scheduled. The City contributes funds annually through our budget process to support FMR and FMR often leverages those funds for grant opportunities, increasing the amount of work that can be completed. This is a very successful model.

5. Describe how consideration will be given to contracting with Conservation Corps of Minnesota for any restoration activities.

CCM will certainly be included when contractors are sought to provide bids on work to be performed.

6. Provide a statement indicating that evaluations will be completed on parcels where activities were implemented both 1) initially after activity completion and 2) three years later as a follow-up. Evaluations should analyze improvements to the parcel and whether goals have been met, identify any problems with the implementation, and identify any findings that can be used to improve implementation of future restoration efforts at the site or elsewhere.

Evaluations will be completed pre project, post project and intermittently for years to follow after project completion to ensure the project has long term benefit and the landscapes are retaining their desired outcomes.

Attachments

Required Attachments

Map

File: [c7239978-afa.pdf](#)

Alternate Text for Map

Aerial view of Lake Rebecca Park and surrounding areas....

Board Resolution or Letter

Title	File
Authorization to submit proposal	b99c06cc-e50.pdf

Optional Attachments

Support Letter or Other

Title	File
2019 Aerial_High Water	97150dd5-8e4.pdf
2016 Aerial_Normal Water	179a9cf7-4d5.pdf
2040 Comp Plan_Natural and Open Spaces	d144df10-2b2.pdf
May 2022 Boat Launch	2181cb61-fb0.pdf
May 2022 Bridge, Pier and Day Use	8f58dbd4-011.pdf
May 2022 Day Use	0c5c20b7-7e0.pdf
Background Check Certification Form	202e9e19-71a.pdf

Difference between Proposal and Work Plan

Describe changes from Proposal to Work Plan Stage

Revised total project budget to meet appropriation amount, added a parcel to the project that is in the process of being donated to the City of Hastings from Flint Hills Resources, adjusted activities based on appropriation and need to complete a full planning process first.

Additional Acknowledgements and Conditions:

The following are acknowledgements and conditions beyond those already included in the above workplan:

Do you understand and acknowledge the ENRTF repayment requirements if the use of capital equipment changes?

N/A

Do you agree travel expenses must follow the "Commissioner's Plan" promulgated by the Commissioner of Management of Budget or, for University of Minnesota projects, the University of Minnesota plan?

N/A

Does your project have potential for royalties, copyrights, patents, or sale of products and assets?

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

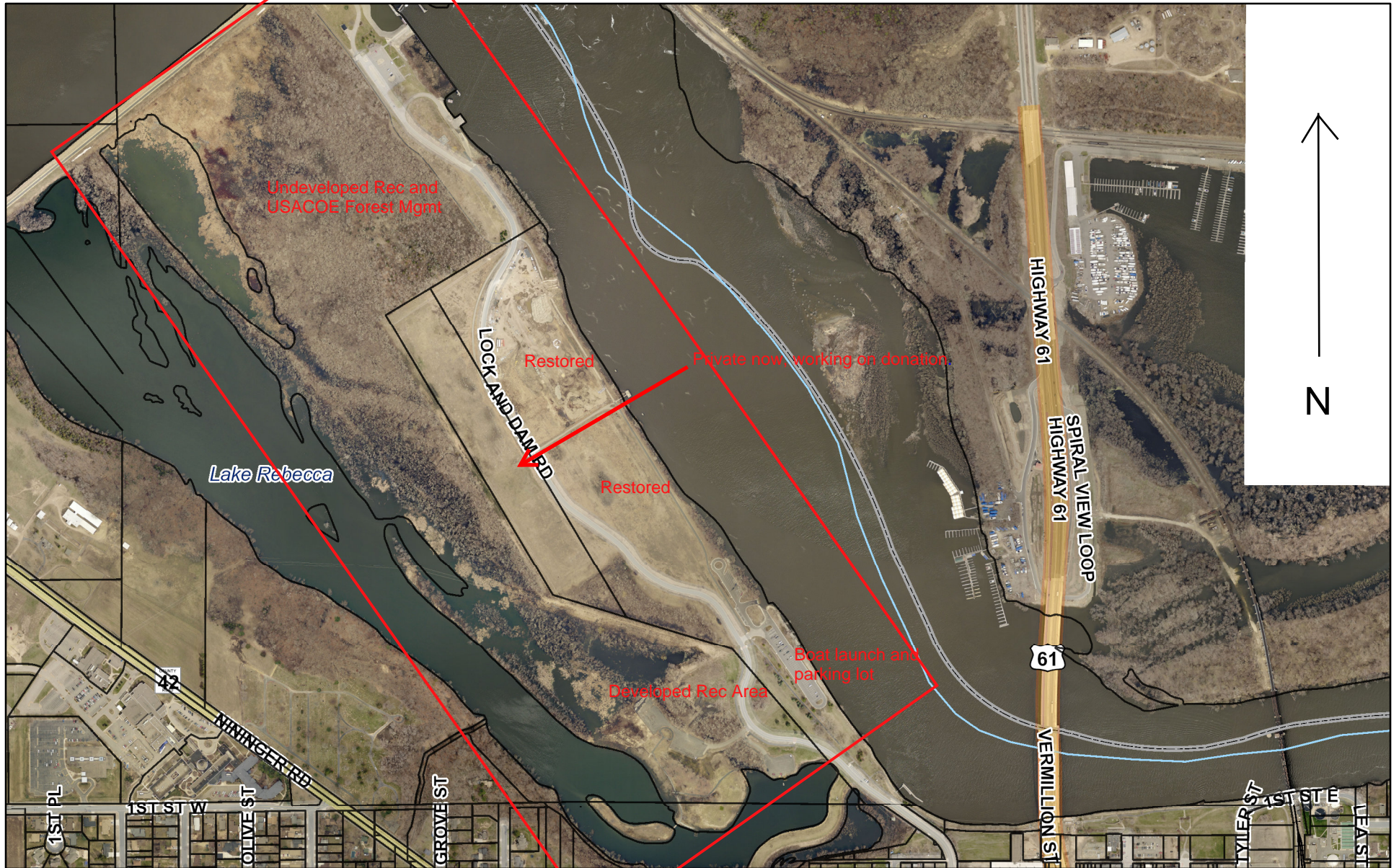
Does your project include original, hypothesis-driven research?

No

Does the organization have a fiscal agent for this project?

No

Dakota County, MN



January 26, 2021

