



Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund

M.L. 2023 Approved Work Plan

General Information

ID Number: 2023-110

Staff Lead: Corrie Layfield

Date this document submitted to LCCMR: June 20, 2023

Project Title: Scandia Gateway Trail to William O'Brien State Park

Project Budget: \$2,689,000

Project Manager Information

Name: Kyle Morell

Organization: City of Scandia

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Email: k.morell@ci.scandia.mn.us

Web Address: <https://www.cityofscandia.com/>

Project Reporting

Date Work Plan Approved by LCCMR: June 22, 2023

Reporting Schedule: April 1 / October 1 of each year.

Project Completion: December 31, 2026

Final Report Due Date: February 14, 2027

Legal Information

Legal Citation: M.L. 2023, Chp. 60, Art. 2, Sec. 2, Subd. 09g

Appropriation Language: \$2,689,000 the first year is from the trust fund to the commissioner of natural resources for an agreement with the city of Scandia to engineer and construct a segment of the Gateway State Trail between the city of Scandia and William O'Brien State Park that will be maintained by the Department of Natural Resources. The segment to be constructed includes a pedestrian tunnel and trailhead parking area. This project must be designed and constructed in accordance with Department of Natural Resources state trail standards. Engineering and construction plans must be approved by the commissioner of natural resources before construction may commence. This appropriation is available until June 30, 2027, by which time the project must be completed and final products delivered.

Appropriation End Date: June 30, 2027

Narrative

Project Summary: Complete construction-ready Gateway State Trail segment between Scandia Village Center and William O'Brien State Park with highway tunnel and trailhead parking lot on ROW already acquired by DNR.

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

This project takes significant step towards fulfilling Minn. Stat. §85.015 Subd. 14, by financing the final engineering and construction of the Gateway State Trail on an already acquired easement between the Scandia Village Center and William O'Brien State Park. William O'Brien is one of the State's most accessible and heavily used parks due to its location and amenities, particularly its very heavily used campgrounds. This link will serve the long-term statutory goal of establishing a recreational trail connection between the City of Taylors Falls and the State Capital and connecting two State Parks via the Gateway Trail. In the short-term this trail will connect the State Park and the City of Marine on St. Croix with the City of Scandia's Community Center Park, which will offer a variety of new recreational opportunities to the State Park users, including several playgrounds, tennis/pickleball courts, ice rinks, a skatepark, a t-ball field and year-around park restroom facilities. The trail, which will pass through natural and agricultural areas, will also serve as a trail connection to Scandia's Gammelgården Museum—a statewide resource honoring Swedish immigrant history-- and the much-anticipated Scandia Regional Arts and Heritage Center.

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.

This project proposes the construction of the segment of the Gateway Trail between William O'Brien State Park and the Scandia Village Center. This construction ready project includes the addition of a trailhead parking lot in Scandia Village Center on a city-owned property, an approximately 1-mile trail segment from the trailhead to Washington County Highway 52 where a trail tunnel under the Highway 52 road grade will be added to facilitate safe highway crossing. The final 0.8-mile connection from the Highway 52 tunnel crossing will be completed at a later time when the Minnesota DNR completes internal park trail improvements, which is anticipated in the next two years or so. Acquisition of necessary easements has been accomplished and in 2019-2020 the DNR funded trail engineering work on this segment, so it is shovel ready. A City legislative initiative from several years ago was successful in encouraging the passage of legislation to allow immediate use of recreational trail easements on land in Metro Agricultural Preserves in anticipation of an early start on this segment.

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?

Protection of natural resources will be achieved by avoiding or minimizing adverse impacts to water, wildlife and wetlands along the trail corridor. Conservation and Preservation will be achieved by complying with all state environmental laws including the Minnesota Environmental Protection Act (MEPA) and the Minnesota Wetland Conservation Act (WCA) through a consultant accredited by the Board of Water and Soil Resources (BWSR). Enhancement of the state's natural resources will be achieved by providing greater access for Minnesotans to appreciate the natural beauty along the trail route.

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?

Statewide

When will the work impact occur?

During the Project

Activities and Milestones

Activity 1: Environmental, final engineering, Construction of highway Realignment, Ped. Tunnel, and 2,000ft of trail on north side of CR52

Activity Budget: \$2,148,000

Activity Description:

All environmental research work, including environmental assessments and a cultural survey, will be prepared to comply with MEPA environmental review, WCA requirements, and any other applicable laws in accordance with requirements by DNR Parks and Trails Division staff. The city will coordinate with DNR staff to obtain any and all applicable permitting, including the US Army Corps of Engineers. This work is in-kind and will not require using the project budget. Any permit requiring additional engineering will be done simultaneously.

Construction to re-align Washington County Road 52 (Oakhill Road) will be completed for 2,000 feet to accommodate approx. 2,000 feet of trail on the north side of the highway, pursuant to the trail plan. The 2,000 feet trail segment will be constructed along to reach the underground tunnel necessary for safe crossing of the County highway as required by DNR trail standards.

Preliminary engineering was completed by the Washington County Public Works Department and the City's Engineering firm, Bolton and Menk. Final engineering and design specifications will need to be prepared. Services will be acquired through the City's contract and bidding process. Construction will not commence until approval of engineering and construction plans by the DNR.

Activity Milestones:

Description	Approximate Completion Date
Completion of any applicable wetland delineation and applicable survey work	December 31, 2023
Completion of Environmental and Cultural Assessments	December 31, 2023
DNR approval of engineering and construction plans	September 30, 2025
Completion of Final Plans and Specifications	January 31, 2026
Project Bidding	February 28, 2026
Completion of remaining reports for receipt of permit approvals and survey updates	March 31, 2026
Construction of Hwy 52 realignment, tunnel and parallel trail begins	May 31, 2026
Project Completion	December 31, 2026

Activity 2: Environmental, final engineering, Construction Trailhead parking lot and connecting trail to northern edge of CR52 right-of-way

Activity Budget: \$541,000

Activity Description:

All environmental research work, including environmental assessments and a cultural survey, will be prepared to comply with MEPA environmental review, WCA requirements, and any other applicable laws in accordance with requirements by DNR Parks and Trails Division staff. The city will coordinate with DNR staff to obtain any and all applicable permitting, including the US Army Corps of Engineers. This work is in-kind and will not require use of the project budget. Any permit required additional engineering will be done simultaneously.

A trailhead parking lot will be constructed at the Scandia Village Center terminus located at 14800 Oakhill Rd, along with a 0.8-long recreational trail segment to the northern edge of CR 52.

Preliminary engineering was completed by the Washington County Public Works Department and the City’s Engineering firm, Bolton and Menk. Final engineering and design specifications will need to be prepared. Services will be acquired through the City's contract and bidding process. Construction will not commence until approval of engineering and construction plans by the DNR.

Activity Milestones:

Description	Approximate Completion Date
Completion of any applicable wetland delineation and applicable survey work	December 31, 2023
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Completion of final Plans and Specifications	January 31, 2026
Project Bidding	February 28, 2026
Completion of remaining reports for receipt of permit approvals and survey updates	March 31, 2026
Construction begins on Trailhead Parking Lot at 14800 Oakhill Rod (CR52)	May 31, 2026
Project completion	December 31, 2026

Project Partners and Collaborators

Name	Organization	Role	Receiving Funds
Wayne Sandberg	Washington County Public Works	Project Partner and Fiscal Agent	Yes
Ryan Goodman, P.E.	Bolton & Menk	Scandia City Engineer (preliminary engineer of project)	No
Kent Skaar	DNR Parks And Trails Division	Project Partner	No
Project Administrator and Engineer	TBD	To be contracted to complete final engineering and to carryout project administration. Funds to be paid during the course of the project. Selection through City contracting and bidding process.	Yes

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.

Acknowledgement of ENRTF's funding of this project will be denoted on signage at the trailhead location. The City of Scandia will also prepare a press release for newspaper, city website, City Facebook page, and Next Door account recognizing ENRTF's significant role in making this project possible. This notice will be done in accordance with ENRTF Acknowledgement Guidelines. Our Fall newsletter includes full acknowledgement to ENRTF and LCCMR. The press release will also attempt to include additional optional language and the fund logo.

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?

This project will result in the construction of a state trail which will be under the maintenance and stewardship of the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources (DNR). No results, findings or other unanswered questions are anticipated to result from this project. Additional construction of future trail segments may be obtained through state appropriation and/or other grant opportunities available to the City of Scandia and/or the DNR based on their respective budgets and priorities. We will work to close the 12% project funding gap with our project partners and anticipate full completion of this project.

Budget Summary

Category / Name	Subcategory or Type	Description	Purpose	Gen. Ineligible	% Benefits	# FTE	Classified Staff?	\$ Amount
Personnel								
							Sub Total	-
Contracts and Services								
Project Engineer and Project Administration	Professional or Technical Service Contract	The Consultant will complete final engineering, design, and specifications for the project and carryout project administration responsibilities including prevailing wage, compliance under the supervision of the City.				4		\$30,000
Project Engineer and Project Administrator	Professional or Technical Service Contract	The Consultant will complete final engineering, design, and specifications for the project and carryout project administration responsibilities including prevailing wage, compliance under the supervision of the City.				4		\$30,000
TBD	Professional or Technical Service Contract	Construction of state trailhead parking lot at Scandia Village Center and connecting trail to County Road 52				2.41		\$511,000
TBD	Professional or Technical Service Contract	Construction of County Road 52 realignment, pedestrian tunnel and 2,000 feet of state trail on north side of County Road 52				11.48		\$2,118,000
							Sub Total	\$2,689,000
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	\$2,689,000

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				
Cash	Minnesota DNR Parks and Trails	For the design, wetland delineation, environmental cultural, and land surveying, engineering, permitting, and construction.	Secured	\$100,000
			State Sub Total	\$100,000
Non-State				
Cash	City with secure these funds with the potential help of project partners.	For use for Project construction and preparation. Project can be down scaled.	Potential	\$281,000
In-Kind	City of Scandia dedicated property	Property dedicated to hosting a trailhead parking site.	Secured	\$100,000
			Non State Sub Total	\$381,000
			Funds Total	\$481,000

Attachments

Required Attachments

Visual Component

File: [4f9b8f63-9d7.pdf](#)

Alternate Text for Visual Component

Gateway to Scandia Presentation...

Board Resolution or Letter

Title	File
City Authorizing Resolution	beddf2ea-c6e.pdf

Optional Attachments

Support Letter, Photos, Media, Other

Title	File
DNR Parks and Trails Letter of Support & Authorization	5bb4c37d-3b1.pdf
Preliminary engineered plans	fc896076-554.pdf
Background Check Certification Form_2022-08-31.pdf	7ad5059c-2a8.pdf
Work Plan 2023-110: Scandia Gateway Trail to William O'Brien State Park	ef9ff280-468.pdf

Difference between Proposal and Work Plan

Describe changes from Proposal to Work Plan Stage

Project Schedule amended and Budget amended, \$281000 removed from project budget but to be obtained prior to construction.

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?

Yes, Washington County