

# Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund 2009 Phase 1 Request for Proposals (RFP)

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**LCCMR ID: B10**

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

**Total Project Budget:** \$ \$4,000,000

**Proposed Project Time Period for the Funding Requested:** July 2009 - June 2011 (2 yrs)

**Other Non-State Funds:** \$ 4,888,000

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**Last Name:** Stefferud

**Sponsoring Organization:** Metropolitan Council

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**Region:**

**County Name:**

**City / Township:**

Metro

Anoka, Carver, Dakota, Hennepin,  
Ramsey, Scott, Wa

**Summary:** Award subgrants to regional park agencies under the Metropolitan Councils Park Acquisition Opportunity Fund program to acquire about 370 acres for the Metropolitan Regional Park System.

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**Main Proposal:** 0808-1-020-proposal-2009 request Main Proposal 8-22-08.doc

**Project Budget:** 0808-1-020-budget-2009 Project Budget 8-22-08.doc

**Qualifications:** 0808-1-020-qualifications-2009 Project Manager Qualifications 8-22-08.doc

**Map:** 0808-1-020-maps-2009 Project Map 8-22-08.doc

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# MAIN PROPOSAL

**PROJECT TITLE:** Metropolitan Regional Park System Land Acquisition

## I. PROJECT STATEMENT

The Metropolitan Council's *2030 Regional Parks Policy Plan* 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 15,000 acres remains to be acquired. Grants from the Metropolitan Council's Park Acquisition Opportunity Fund, which has been financed in part with \$4 million of Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund appropriations in Fiscal Years 2008 and 2009 has partially financed the acquisition of 575 acres to-date with an additional 140 acres projected to be acquired towards this goal. A request of \$4 million for Fiscal Years 2010 and 2011 would be matched with \$4.8 million of Metropolitan Council funds and regional park agency funds to acquire about 370 acres.

## II. DESCRIPTION OF PROJECT RESULTS

Award subgrants to Regional Park Agencies under the Metropolitan Council's Park Acquisition Opportunity Fund program to acquire about 370 acres for the Metropolitan Regional Park System.

**Result 1:** Acquisition Opportunity Grants **Budget:** \$ 4,000,000

### Deliverable

1. Acquire about 370 acres

### Completion Date

June 30, 2011

When the Metropolitan Council authorizes subgrants to regional park agencies to acquire land under this proposal, a description of that land will 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.

## III. PROJECT STRATEGY AND TIMELINE

### A. Project Partners

The following regional park agencies are eligible to receive a 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. Project Impact**

Acquisition of land for new regional parks and trails and acquisition of inholding parcels at existing parks and trails helps protect natural resource features such as lake and river shoreline, wetlands and forests. This acquisition provides managed public access to those resources for environmental education and outdoor recreation activities that benefit the residents of the seven-county Twin Cities Metropolitan Region and visitors from Greater Minnesota and Out-of-State who use the Metropolitan Regional Park System. About 33.2 million visits to the park system occurred in 2007.

## **C. Time**

Acquisition of land would occur from July 1, 2009 to June 30, 2011. The \$4 million Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund appropriation would be matched with \$2.66 million of Metropolitan Council bonds and \$2.22 million of regional park agency funds to acquire about 370 acres based on projected acquisition cost data for this period.

## **D. Long-Term Strategy (if applicable)**

Since 1974, the Metropolitan Council has authorized about \$153 million in grants to regional park agencies to acquire about 24,000 acres of land for the Metropolitan Regional Park System. Those grants have been financed with State bonds, Environment and Natural Resources Trust Funds, and Metropolitan Council bonds. About 15,000 acres remains to be acquired for the Metropolitan Regional Park System to meet the outdoor recreation needs of the seven-county Twin Cities Metropolitan Region under the *2030 Regional Parks Policy Plan*. Long-term strategies for ongoing financial support include continued public sector investment of State, regional and local sources and private sector donations through a non-profit foundation that the Legislature authorized in 2007 (2007 Laws of Minnesota, Chap. 113).

## 2009 Project Budget

### IV. TOTAL PROJECT REQUEST BUDGET

<b>BUDGET ITEM</b>	<b>AMOUNT</b>	<b>% FTE</b>
<b>Personnel:</b> Not applicable	\$ -	
<b>Contracts:</b> Subgrant agreements up to \$1.7 million per agency to finance up to 75% of acquisition costs of land within Metropolitan Council approved regional park or trail master plan boundaries. See Acquisition line below	\$ -	
<b>Equipment/Tools:</b> Not applicable	\$ -	
<b>Acquisition (Including Easements):</b> About 370 acres to be acquired in fee title and held by the Regional Park Agency acquiring the land.	\$ 4,000,000	
<b>Restoration:</b> Not applicable	\$ -	
<b>Other:</b> Not applicable	\$ -	
	\$ -	
<b>TOTAL PROJECT BUDGET REQUEST TO LCCMR</b>	<b>\$ 4,000,000</b>	

### V. OTHER FUNDS

<b>SOURCE OF FUNDS</b>	<b>AMOUNT</b>	<b>Status</b>
<b>Remaining \$ From Previous Trust Fund Appropriation (if applicable):</b>	\$ -	NA
<b>Other Non-State \$ Being Leveraged During Project Period:</b> Metropolitan Council bonds	\$ 2,666,000	<i>Pending approval</i>
<b>Other Non-State \$ Being Leveraged During Project Period:</b> Regional Park Agency funds	\$ 2,222,000	<i>Pending approval</i>
<b>Other State \$ Being Spent During Project Period:</b>	NA	NA
<b>In-kind Services During Project Period:</b>	NA	NA
<b>Past Spending:</b> 2007 Env. Trust Fund appropriation	\$ 2,500,000	Spent
<b>Past Spending:</b> Metro Council bond match to 2007 Env. Trust Fund appropriation	\$ 1,666,000	Spent
<b>Past Spending:</b> 2008 Env. Trust Fund appropriation	\$ 1,500,000	Pending subgrant requests
<b>Past Spending:</b> Metro Council bond match to 2008 Env. Trust Fund appropriation	\$ 1,000,000	Pending subgrant requests

## **PROJECT MANAGER QUALIFICATIONS**

Arne Stefferud, the project manager for this proposal is responsible for developing 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 \$16.4 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 agencies is expected to acquire about 140 acres.

Mr. Stefferud will present testimony to the LCCMR regarding the 2009 proposal of \$4 million, plus coordinate communications and grant agreement authorizations between the State of Minnesota and 10 regional park implementing agencies who would use the proposed \$ 4million appropriation along with \$2.66 million of Metropolitan Council bonds and \$2.22 million of Regional Park Agency funds to carry out the LCCMR approved workprogram. Approximately 370 acres could be acquired.

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 and 2008.

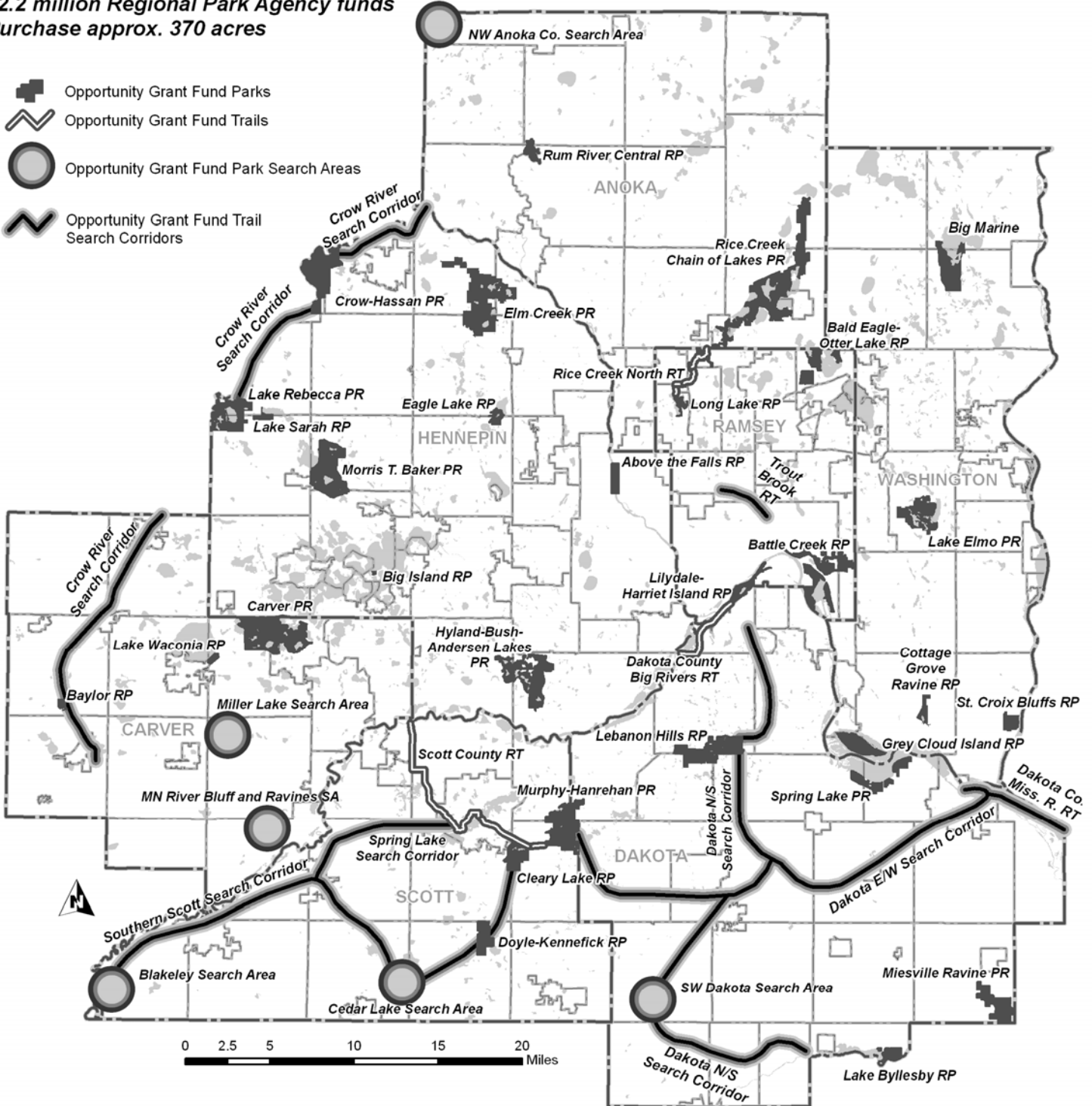
## **ORGANIZATION DESCRIPTION**

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 Metropolitan Council bonds to implement the regional parks capital improvement program as authorized in MN Statutes 473.315 and 473.325.

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

**\$4.0 million Trust Funds**  
**\$2.6 million Met Council Bonds**  
**\$2.2 million Regional Park Agency funds**  
**Purchase approx. 370 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