

**Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund
2014 Request for Proposals (RFP)**

Project Title:

ENRTF ID: 093-C

Community Green Space Mapping Project

Category: C. Environmental Education

Total Project Budget: \$ 15,000

Proposed Project Time Period for the Funding Requested: 1.5 Years, July 2014 to December 201

Summary:

Youth participants will explore local nature areas and create inter-active, on-line maps of their community green spaces. Maps will be linked to local school, city and community organization websites.

Name: Kipp Hanson

Sponsoring Organization: Project Get Outdoors, Inc.

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Location

Region: Statewide

County Name: Statewide

City / Township:

_____ Funding Priorities	_____ Multiple Benefits	_____ Outcomes	_____ Knowledge Base
_____ Extent of Impact	_____ Innovation	_____ Scientific/Tech Basis	_____ Urgency
_____ Capacity Readiness	_____ Leverage	_____ Employment	_____ TOTAL _____%



PROJECT TITLE: Community Green Space Mapping Project

I. PROJECT STATEMENT

Since September of 2005, Project GO has been working to connect Minnesota children to nature in the neighborhoods and communities where they live. We have seven years of experience piloting programs in Southern Minnesota and we have developed a free toolkit, funded in part by the ENRTF, that guides communities through the processes of creating and sustaining their own unique Project GO after school and summer programs. Participant surveys and parent testimonials reflect Project GO’s success at helping communities provide low-cost programs that have positive impacts on children’s knowledge, attitudes, and behaviors related to the outdoors and stewardship.

Funding through this request will allow us to develop inter-active, on-line maps for 20 GO communities around the state. The maps will be created by the kids as a way for them to share their experiences and explorations of local green spaces. Each map will be enhanced with local history trivia, natural history facts and outdoor challenges. (See an example at <http://websites.greeninfo.org/vizhoods/#>) A packet of classroom activities that can be incorporated using these on-line maps will be made available to all local schools and information will be shared with local government officials as a way to enhance the impact of this project. Maps will be able to be linked to school, city, community action and health organization websites.

The inter-active on-line maps will allow the entire community to learn from the experiences of the children. Cities, schools and even public health officials will be able to link their websites to the on-line maps and incorporate the information into their work of promoting local communities (tourism), educating children and increasing prevention activities that help families and individuals to live healthier lifestyles. Families will be able to refer to the maps to learn about nature and outdoor opportunities near to where they live. Project GO has partnered with the Conservation Corps of Minnesota/Iowa to bring on a Community Mapping & Outreach Corpsmember who is currently working with students from the University of Minnesota, staff from the Union Park District Commission in St. Paul, and a network of computer programming, graphic design and GIS professionals volunteering to assist with development of the on-line mapping tool. The Corpsmember will develop a training guide and tutorial video that will be used to train interns how to utilize the Community Mapping Tool. We plan to continue our partnership with the Conservation Corps and we hope to have another Community Mapping Corpsmember and two to three additional Corpsmembers who will be cost-shared with partner organizations for 2014.

II. DESCRIPTION OF PROJECT ACTIVITIES

Activity 1: *Collect community green space photos and information.*

Budget: \$5,000

GO volunteers and interns will work with youth participants during after school programs to explore local green spaces and document outdoor exploration and experiences and share through the on-line map.

Outcome	Completion Date
1. <i>GO Clubs will use the geo-tagging cameras to document outdoor exploration</i>	<i>July 2015</i>
2. <i>GO interns will upload information into on-line maps</i>	<i>July 2015</i>
3.	
4.	



Activity 1: *Develop on-line application for kids to map local green spaces.* **Budget: \$10,000**
 Develop an easy-to-use tool on GO website where kids can upload photos, videos, audio, artwork and journal stories about their explorations and observations at local green spaces.

Outcome	Completion Date
<i>1. Mapping tool will allow kids to share their experiences at local green spaces</i>	<i>July 2015</i>
<i>2. Inter-active maps will continue to expand with new information over the years</i>	<i>On-going</i>
<i>3. Families, educators and community groups will be able to utilize information from maps</i>	<i>On-going</i>

III. PROJECT STRATEGY

A. Project Team/Partners

Our Project Team includes Program Coordinator Kipp Hanson, Board Members Larry Gates and Sara Grover, 20 interns from around Minnesota, a Community Mapping & Outreach Corpsmember through the Conservation Corps of MN/IA, and more than 200 volunteers. Some of our many partnering organizations include: Parks and Trails Council of Minnesota – work space. Conservation Corps of Minnesota/Iowa – Community Mapping & Outreach Corpsmember. USFWS, Eagle Bluff ELC, National Eagle Center, Wabasha Izaak Walton League, Cascade Meadow Wetland Science Center, Whitewater State Park, MinnAqua, Boy Scouts, 4-H, MN Master Naturalists – programming staff and volunteers assist with field trips and site visits. U of MN Twin Cities, Rochester and Crookston, Winona State University, – intern work space, internship oversight. Local governments, businesses and community action groups in each community we serve. The in-kind value of volunteer hours and resources shared with Project GO is expected to exceed \$100,000 in 2014.

B. Timeline Requirements

This project will begin immediately in July 2014 with the purchasing of geo-tagging cameras. Kids will begin acquiring data as they explore nature areas in their neighborhoods and communities. A Contracted website developer will be brought on by Fall 2014 and will create inter-active maps for each GO community by January 2015. Photos, videos, artwork and other formats developed by the kids will be added to the maps to reflect the outdoor opportunities and observations of the children.

C. Long-Term Strategy and Future Funding Needs

Project GO is working to identify Minnesota-based businesses and organizations to sponsor our work. We are also working to implement sustainable funding strategies such as employer matching for charitable deductions and establishing exclusive fundraising partnerships with Minnesota-based outdoor/nature companies.

2014 Detailed Project Budget

Project Title: Community Green Space Mapping Project

IV. TOTAL ENRTF REQUEST BUDGET 1.5 years

<u>BUDGET ITEM</u> (See "Guidance on Allowable Expenses", p. 13)	<u>AMOUNT</u>	
Contracts: Contracted website programmer to build maps/apps into website	\$	5,000
Equipment/Tools/Supplies: 25 geo-tagging cameras	\$	5,000
Additional Budget Items: Website development costs	\$	5,000
TOTAL ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES TRUST FUND \$ REQUEST =	\$	15,000

V. OTHER FUNDS

<u>SOURCE OF FUNDS</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>	<u>Status</u>
Other Non-State \$ Being Applied to Project During Project Period: Sheltering Arms Foundation, Mayo Clinic	\$ 10,000	<i>Pending</i>
Other State \$ Being Applied to Project During Project Period:	\$ -	
Remaining \$ from Current ENRTF Appropriation (if applicable):	\$ -	
Funding History: MN ENRTF 2010 GO Toolkit Funding (15,000), Mayo Clinic 2011 (10,000), USFWS 2010 Connecting Kids to Nature (10,000), Outdoor Nation 2012 (2,500), North Face Explore Fund	\$ 46,500	

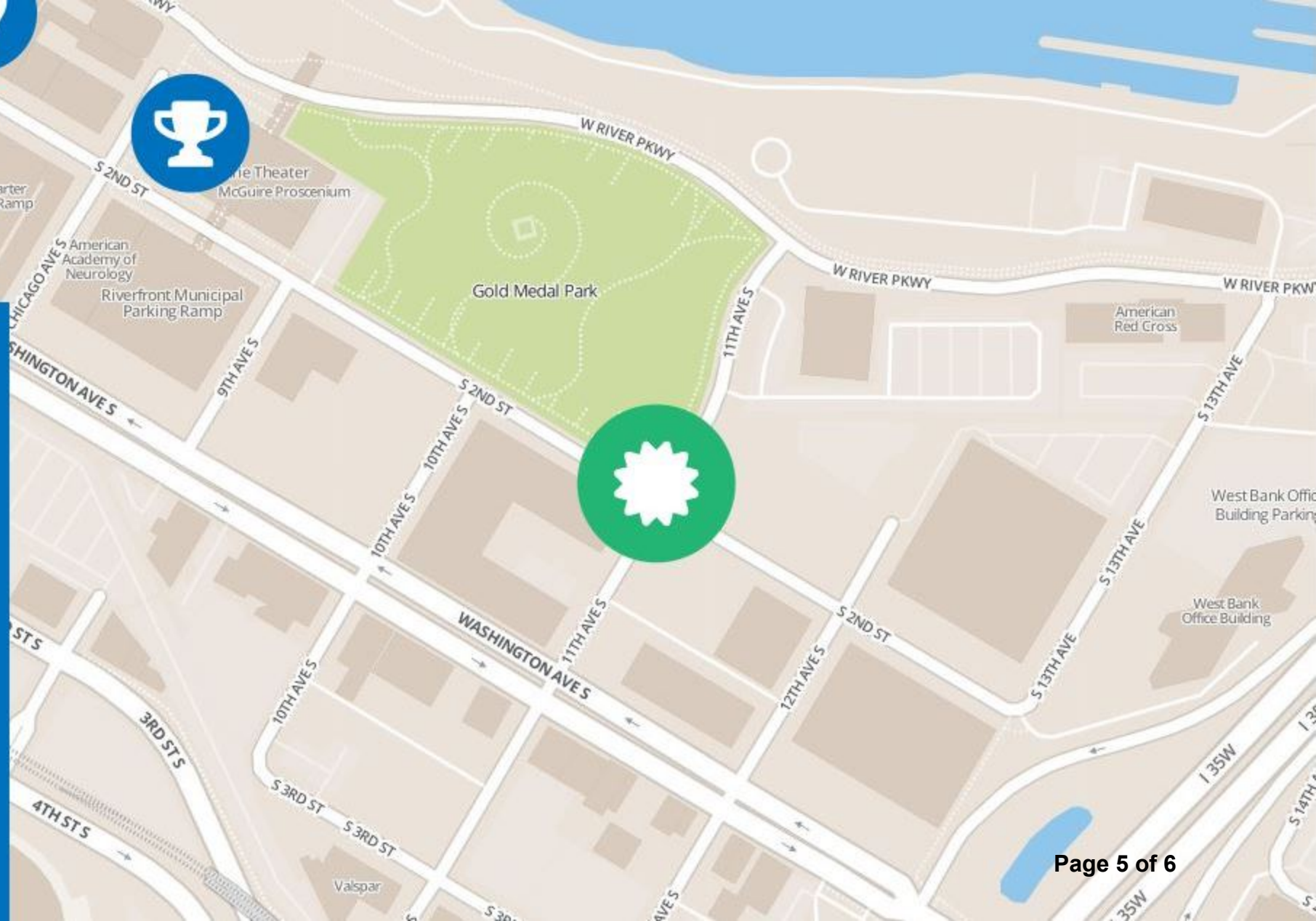
Mill City Walk

by Stacy Enzmann, Nick Rosencrans,
Allan Tokuda, Jennifer Strahan, Andrew
Ulven, Adam Ness, Allison Link, Cody
Mastel

Gold Medal Park

Gold Medal Park is a 7.5-acre (3.0 ha) park next to the Guthrie Theater in Minneapolis, Minnesota, USA. Designed by landscape architect Tom Oslund, the park is owned by the city of Minneapolis and opened in May 2007. It takes its inspiration from the Dakota Indians burial mounds that are found through Minnesota. It consists of a 32-foot-high (9.8 m) mound, reached by a spiral walkway rising out of a green lawn with 300 trees. The park, just east of the Guthrie Theater, provides the Mill District neighborhood with some rare green space

07/25/2013



Project Manager Qualifications & Organization Description

Kipp Hanson is a 2010 graduate of Luther College. He holds a major in History and a minor in Africana Studies. Kipp has worked closely with diverse populations throughout Minnesota, especially during his time as an intern with the International Institute in St. Paul where he assisted new immigrant and refugee individuals in completing the necessary paperwork for citizenship. He has worked with youth of various ages throughout his time as a ski instructor at Highland Hills/Three Rivers Park District and as a YMCA volunteer soccer coach. Kipp served as an AmeriCorps member with the Conservation Corps of Minnesota and Iowa where he worked to engage teen audiences through the Youth Outdoors program. Kipp also served as an AmeriCorps VISTA at the Rochester Children's Museum where he spent time recruiting, training and supervising volunteers. Kipp is certified in Project WET and Project WILD. He brings enthusiasm and creativity to the organization and he enjoys getting to work closely with local volunteers in each Project GO community.

Project Get Outdoors is a non-profit organization working to connect Minnesota children to nature exploration during the out-of-school hours. Project GO is partnered with a number of local, state and national organizations to bring accessible after-school nature experiences to under-served children in Minnesota. Since 2005, we have been working in southeast Minnesota to pilot the program in a variety of community settings and design a toolkit we can provide for free to communities and organizations that wish to implement outdoor programs to connect children to nearby nature experiences. Our programs are highly flexible and can be created from scratch in communities or specific neighborhoods that lack opportunities for at-risk and low-income children in grades K-8. We can also work with already-established organizations such as Boys and Girls Clubs, YMCA's, 4-H, and School Age Child Care sites to train their staff to incorporate outdoor nature experiences for children. Our goal is to provide opportunities for under-served children who do not have access to traditional outdoor programs such as Scouting, 4-H, Park and Recreation activities, or Community Education Programming.