

**Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund
2016 Request for Proposals (RFP)**

Project Title:

ENRTF ID: 183-G

Tower Historic Harbor Nature Trail/Kayak Route

Category: G. Land Acquisition for Habitat and Recreation

Total Project Budget: \$ 1,430,000

Proposed Project Time Period for the Funding Requested: 3 years, July 2016 to June 2019

Summary:

This project consists of the construction of a nature trail, layout of a kayak route and construction of a boat/kayak/canoe landing along the shores of the East Two Rivers.

Name: Linda Keith

Sponsoring Organization: City of Tower

Address: PO Box 576

Tower MN 55790

Telephone Number: (218) 753-4070

Email linda@cityoftower.com

Web Address www.cityoftower.com

Location

Region: NE

County Name: St. Louis

City / Township: Tower

Alternate Text for Visual:

Map shows the trail, boat landing and kayak route.

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



PROJECT TITLE: Tower Historic Harbor Nature Trail/Kayak Route

I. PROJECT STATEMENT

This is a multi-faceted project that consists of the construction of a pedestrian (hiking/biking) trail, development of a kayaking route and the construction of a boat/canoe/kayak landing along the banks of the East Two Rivers located in Tower Minnesota. The trail will be constructed around the newly redeveloped Tower Historic Harbor, continue under the new Highway 169 bridge, pass by the new boat landing on an abandoned rail grade and connect to the existing Mesabi Trail. The segment around the historic harbor will have interpretative signage that identifies the unique history of the harbor as it relates to the mining, logging and tourism industries. The segment of the trail that passes by the boat landing and connects to the Mesabi Trail will follow along the East Two Rivers and will include interpretative signage that identify unique characteristics of the area's geology, plants and wildlife. The trail will be built with a bituminous surface, in the most environmentally sensitive manner, to provide access to nature enthusiasts of all ages. The users will be able to enjoy the variety of wetlands and bogs, unique geological features and wildlife that will include otters, muskrats, eagles, ospreys and wide assortment of other wildlife.

The kayak route will be mapped along the East Two Rivers, West Two Rivers and portions of Lake Vermilion. Interpretative signage will be incorporated along the shores of this route to highlight the large variety of the unique environmental characteristics of the river, lakes and shoreline.

The boat landing, parking areas and access road will be constructed in cooperation with MN DNR and will built to accommodate the users of the trail and kayak route. Construction will be completed in the most environmentally sensitive manner to avoid impacts on the pristine natural resources of this area.

The total estimated cost for this project is estimated to be \$1,440,000. Tower is requesting \$1,430,000 from the LCCMR to complete this work.

The City of Tower is developing the land around the harbor in order try to keep commercial development off of Lake Vermilion and in areas of the city where public infrastructure is available. The City has invested over \$800,000 into this project to date and has received over \$5,000,000 in local, state and federal dollars to reroute portions of State Highway 135, construct a new bridge on State Highway 169 and to dredge portions of the harbor and East Two Rivers. The city has a signed development agreement with a developer to construct a 36 unit hotel along the harbor at a cost of approximately \$4,000,000. The City of Tower also has applications pending with the IRRRB and DEED to further extend infrastructure in the harbor area.

II. PROJECT ACTIVITIES AND OUTCOMES

Activity 1: *Project Engineering, Design and Construction Administration for Trail Construction, Boat Landing, Parking and access road*

Budget: \$296,000

Outcome	Completion Date
<i>1. Completion of Plans and Specifications</i>	<i>April 2017</i>
<i>2. Final Design Review and Completion</i>	<i>May 2017</i>
<i>3. Bidding Documents Complete</i>	<i>December 2017</i>



Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund (ENRTF)
2016 Main Proposal
Project Title: *[Insert "Project Title" here in document header]*

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PROJECT TITLE: Tower Historic Harbor Nature Trail/Kayak Route

Activity 2: Project Construction

Budget: \$1,104,000

Outcome	Completion Date
1. Project Bid	January 2018
2. Construction Commencement	June 2018
3. Construction Completion	June 2019
Etc.	

Activity 3: Development and Placement of Interpretative Signage for the Trail and Kayak Route Budget \$40,000

Outcome	Completion Date
1. Design Development of Interpretative Signage	September 2016
2. Development of Kayak Route	September 2016
3. Construction and Placement of Signage and Kayak Route Map	May 2019
Etc.	

III. PROJECT STRATEGY

A. Project Team/Partners

City of Tower – Project Owners and Construction Managers

MN DNR – Boat Landing Construction

Tower Historical Society – Signage Development

Funding Agencies/Contributors

Consultants as needed for the design, construction administration and project management.

B. Project Impact and Long-Term Strategy

The long term strategy for this project is to provide a high quality nature and recreational opportunity for people of all ages. Many thousands of people travel to Lake Vermilion on an annual basis to take advantage of one of the most popular and pristine lakes in the state. The completion of this project will complement all of the many recreational and environmental education attractions that currently exist in this region.

C. Timeline Requirements

The project will be completed as proposed in the project activities.

2016 Detailed Project Budget

Project Title: Tower Historic Harbor Nature Trail/Kayak Route

IV. TOTAL ENRTF REQUEST BUDGET 3 years

<u>BUDGET ITEM</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>
Personnel:	\$ -
Professional/Technical/Service Contracts: <i>Contractor to be selected for the development and preparation of all interpretative signage</i>	\$40,000
Professional/Technical/Service Contracts: Project Engineering Design/Construction Administration- Work will be performed by alicensed, professional engineering firm.	\$286,000
Construction: General Contractor to be hired through a competitive bidding process.	\$1,104,000
Travel:	\$ -
Additional Budget Items:	\$ -
TOTAL ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES TRUST FUND \$ REQUEST =	\$ 1,430,000

V. OTHER FUNDS

<u>SOURCE OF FUNDS</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>	<u>Status</u>
Other Non-State \$ To Be Applied To Project During Project Period: <i>N/A</i>	\$ -	
Other State \$ To Be Applied To Project During Project Period: <i>N/A</i>	\$ -	
In-kind Services To Be Applied To Project During Project Period: <i>MN DNR - Boat Landing</i>	\$10,000	<i>Secured</i>
Funding History: <i>N/A</i>	\$ -	
Remaining \$ From Current ENRTF Appropriation: <i>N/A</i>	\$ -	



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DRAWN BY: _____				
DESIGNER: _____				
CHECKED BY: _____				
DESIGN TEAM	NO.	BY	DATE	REVISIONS

07/15/2015



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TOWER,
MINNESOTA

TOWER HARBOR PROPOSED
PUBLIC IMPROVEMENTS

ENRTF ID: 183-G

FILE NO.
TOWER 125068

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Project Manager Qualifications and Organization Description

Project Manager Qualifications

The overall manager for this project will be the City of Tower under the direction of the City Council and City Staff. Additional project oversight will come from the Tower Historic Harbor Restoration Committee which was formed through the City Council and additional project management and oversight will come from the consulting engineer. Mayor Josh Carlson and City Clerk/Treasurer Linda Keith have been overseeing the development of this project since its initial inception and have many years of experience in overseeing large city construction projects.

Organization Description

Incorporated in 1889, Tower is the oldest city north of Duluth and the eastern gateway to beautiful Lake Vermilion.

Tower is located 24 miles north of Virginia. Here, visitors and residents alike can experience some of the most captivating scenery in Northeastern Minnesota- the vivid color extravaganza accompanying each season, the natural beauty of Lake Vermilion, the breathtaking sunsets...along with the area's scenery comes a great variety of recreational activities, making each season enjoyable. From excellent fishing, exhilarating water-skiing, boating, hiking, biking, touring the Soudan State park to snowmobiling, ice-fishing and cross-country skiing...Tower and Lake Vermilion have it all.

As exciting as our four-season offerings are, we're also proud of a well-rounded business community to take care of your every need...from fishing tackle to excellent dining facilities. Services are here for every vacationer...resorts, campgrounds, marinas - with accommodations ranging from deluxe plans to budget camping.