

**Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund
2019 Request for Proposals (RFP)**

Project Title:

ENRTF ID: 121-C

Environmental Learning by Bicycle for Ages 8-80

Category: C. Environmental Education

Sub-Category:

Total Project Budget: \$ 393,000

Proposed Project Time Period for the Funding Requested: June 30, 2021 (2 yrs)

Summary:

Environmental Learning by Bicycle will teach 5,000 children and adults to safely bicycle in their communities while exploring local trails, learning about natural resources, and appreciating nearby parks.

Name: Dorian Grilley

Sponsoring Organization: Bicycle Alliance of Minnesota

Title: Executive Director

Department: _____

Address: 3745 Minnehaha Avenue

Minneapolis MN 55406

Telephone Number: (612) 387-2445

Email dorian@bikemn.org

Web Address www.bikemn.org

Location

Region: Statewide

County Name: Statewide

City / Township: Statewide

Alternate Text for Visual:

State map showing key trails, 21 nationally ranked Bicycle Friendly Communities, 50+ Mayoral Active Transportation Caucus Members and locations of 550 bike safety trained teachers statewide

_____ Funding Priorities	_____ Multiple Benefits	_____ Outcomes	_____ Knowledge Base
_____ Extent of Impact	_____ Innovation	_____ Scientific/Tech Basis	_____ Urgency
_____ Capacity Readiness	_____ Leverage	_____ TOTAL	_____ %
_____ If under \$200,000, waive presentation?			



PROJECT TITLE: Environmental Learning by Bicycle for Ages 8-80

I. PROJECT STATEMENT

This project will teach 5,000 children and adults over years using existing curricula and interpretive materials to better understand and appreciate the outdoor recreation near their communities. Many can easily and safely be accessed by bicycle. Minnesota has many state, regional, and local trails and bicycle routes that connect communities to environmental learning opportunities presented by our prairies, forests, wetlands, lakes, and rivers. On the whole, these resources are underutilized and underappreciated, especially by minorities, senior citizens, and youth. Our goal is to provide adults and children skills and knowledge to explore the outdoors safely and confidently, leading to a deeper reverence for Minnesota's natural environment.

The project will do this by:

- Leveraging the investments Minnesota and its communities have made in trails, parks, nature centers, and environmental learning centers (and related interpretive materials)
- Utilizing bike safety curricula already developed by the Bicycle Alliance of Minnesota (BikeMN), BlueCross BlueShield of MN, and MnDOT, as well as an adaptive bike curriculum developed by BikeMN and the Minnesota Department of Health.
- Building on strong partnerships BikeMN has developed with hundreds of teachers, schools, and community education programs; dozens of public health agencies, park and trail managers, naturalists, and community leaders; as well as effective organizations like AARP, YMCA and YWCA, small businesses and large corporations, nonprofits, and BikeMN chapters.

II. PROJECT ACTIVITIES AND OUTCOMES

Activity 1: Integrate the *Walk! Bike! Fun!* and *Smart Cycling and Adaptive Bike* curricula with existing environmental education curricula for youth and adults with site specific components.

BikeMN has been working with partners for nearly a decade to develop bike safety curricula that suit a variety of needs and bring them to children and adults of all ages and abilities. There are also many environmental education resources already available and thousands of miles of trails that connect communities with parks, and nature and environmental learning centers. By utilizing BikeMN's fully-developed skill- and confidence-building curricula and equipment in conjunction with existing environmental learning materials and naturalists, we will engage people from ages 8 to 80 with Minnesota's amazing outdoor recreation facilities and natural resources. BikeMN has the capacity to make resources available and deliver these programs in English and Spanish and with our public health partners in 3 additional languages.

ENRTF BUDGET: \$57,000

Activity 2: Rolling Outdoor Youth Explorers (Pilot) and Rolling Adult Environmental Observers (Pilot)

Conduct separate adult and youth classroom bicycle safety and natural resource interpretive education that includes skills drills and on-bike education followed by a trip to explore a local trail with a naturalist and/or teacher. This program will be offered to a minimum of 500 adults in at least 10 locations and 2,000 youth per year in at least 20 locations throughout the state. The adult target audience will be senior citizens and new immigrants. Youth programming will be done in partnership with school districts, community centers, YMCAs and YWCAs.



**Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund (ENRTF)
2019 Main Proposal Template**

Locations of trails and communities will likely include: Albert Lea, Alexandria, Battle Lake, Bemidji, Brainerd/Baxter, Brooklyn Center, Chaska/Shakopee, Fergus Falls, Glenwood - Starbuck, Grand, Grand Rapids Houston, Luverne, Maplewood, Marshall, Minneapolis, Rochester, Silver Bay, St. Cloud, St. Paul, Tower, and Walker.

ENRTF BUDGET: \$320,000

Activity 3: Project Evaluation

As part of this project BikeMN would contract with an outside evaluation firm to review and refine the program and its implementation for the second season. We anticipate that the evaluation, interim report, and final report will cost about 7 percent of the total budget.

ENRTF BUDGET: \$16,000

Outcomes	Completion Date
<i>Activity 1.</i> : Develop Supplemental Environmental Education Curricula Modules for Youth and Adults with site specific components, conduct outreach and schedule programs and pilot in 3 locations.	<i>March 2020</i>
<i>Activity 2.</i> Implement the program by teaching 4,000 youth and 1,000 adults with the bike safety and environmental education curriculum developed with the final lesson being a field trip on a local trail in at least 17 more locations.	<i>June 30, 2021</i>
<i>Activity 3.</i> Evaluate and refine the program.	<i>March 2021 and June 30, 2021</i>

III. PROJECT PARTNERS:

A. Partners receiving ENRTF funding

Name	Title	Affiliation	Role
Schools	Teachers	School District	Local project coordinator
Varies	Varies	School/city/nonprofit	Room rental

B. Partners NOT receiving ENRTF funding

Name	Title	Affiliation	Role
Parks & Nature Centers	Naturalists	Varies	Local project presenter
Free Bikes 4 Kids	Bike collection & repair	MN Nonprofit Corp.	Bike/Helmet donations
Erik's Bike Shop	Erik Saltvold	Private business	Donate one bike fleet

IV. LONG-TERM- IMPLEMENTATION AND FUNDING: This project is a pilot and will be, evaluated, refined and reported upon. If successful the Bicycle Alliance will plan to expand to more communities and reapply to LCCMR. The eventual goal is to train schools, communities and local nonprofits to do this on their own.

V. TIME LINE REQUIREMENTS: This project will be developed and implemented from July 1, 2019 to June 30, 2021. The final report and evaluation will be delivered by August 15, 2021.

2019 Proposal Budget Spreadsheet

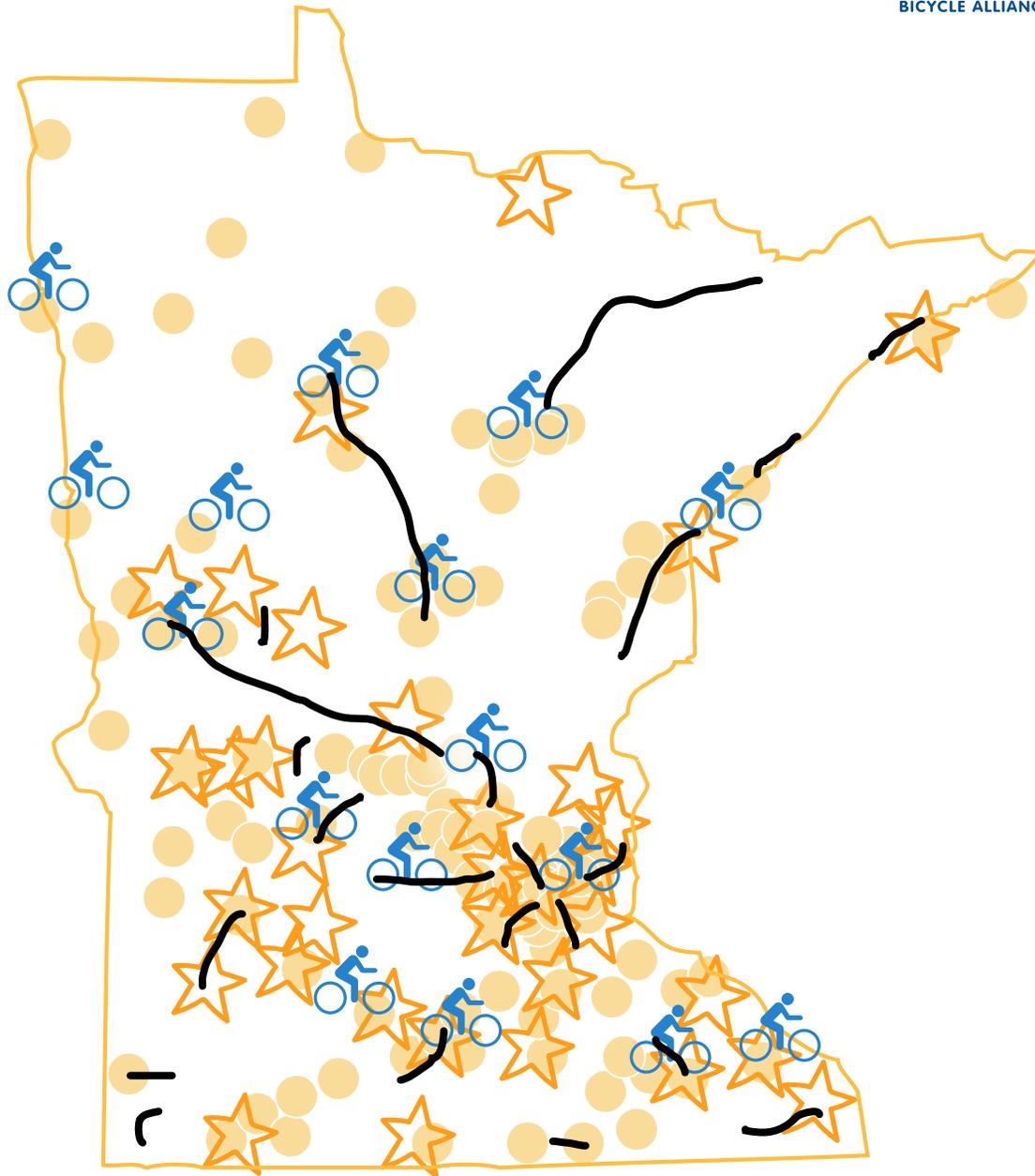
Project Title:

IV. TOTAL ENRTF REQUEST BUDGET *[Insert # of years for project] years*

BUDGET ITEM (See "Guidance on Allowable Expenses")	AMOUNT
Personnel:40% of Program Director 100% of new Project Manager 8% of Program Supervisor 15% of Education Director (curriculum development, review and evaluation) 5% of Communications Director/Graphic Designer = \$6,000 2 summer interns = \$12,000	\$ 241,000
Professional/Technical/Service Contracts: Teacher contracts	\$ 16,000
Equipment/Tools/Supplies: Lease for a large van, room rental, food for training participants	\$ 40,000
Acquisition (Fee Title or Permanent Easements):	\$ -
Travel: to approximately 50 - 60 sites throughout Minnesota at state plan rates	\$ 24,000
Additional Budget Items: Additional liability insurance (\$20,000), evaluation contract (\$16,000)	\$ 72,000
TOTAL ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES TRUST FUND \$ REQUEST =	\$ 393,000

V. OTHER FUNDS *(This entire section must be filled out. Do not delete rows. Indicate "N/A" if row is not applicable.)*

SOURCE OF FUNDS	AMOUNT	Status
Other Non-State \$ To Be Applied To Project During Project Period: HealthPartners contract with BikeMN to deliver bike safety programming in the Metro Area.	\$ 40,000	<i>Under contract</i>
Other State \$ To Be Applied To Project During Project Period:	\$ -	
In-kind Services To Be Applied To Project During Project Period: A 5th bike fleet including 40 bikes and a trailer from Erik's Bike Shop (\$30,000), 800 - 1,000 bikes and helmets to be given to participants (\$20,000), use of existing 160 bicycles, trailers and van currently owned by BikeMN (\$60,000).	\$ 110,000	<i>Agreed to</i>
Past and Current ENRTF Appropriation: (none)	\$ -	
Other Funding History: None for this project but about \$500,000 from MnDOT for development and implementation of the <i>Walk! Bike! Fun!</i> curriculum	\$ 500,000	<i>Development completed - Implement - under contract</i>



-  Trails connecting communities to nature centers, parks, and other natural resources.
-  City Mayor is a member of the MN Mayoral Active Transportation Caucus. Complete list at www.bikemn.org/Caucus
-  City is a nationally recognized “Bicycle Friendly Community.” Complete list at www.bikemn.org/BFC
-  Trained educator who can teach safe walking and biking to elementary students

The Bicycle Alliance of Minnesota (BikeMN)

The Bicycle Alliance of Minnesota was created in late 2008. In January 2018 BikeMN passed its first \$1+ million budget. Support comes from individual and corporate donors, foundation grants, event proceeds, and fee for service contracts with the Department of Health, MnDOT, and several local units of government. The BikeMN mission and vision are to *Unite and strengthen bicycle advocacy, provide education, and work for a more bicycle friendly Minnesota* and that *Minnesota is a place where bicycling is easy, safe, and fun for everyone*. BikeMN works to implement this vision and mission by with education, advocacy, and promotion. Specific programs in our first ten years include development and implementation of the *Walk! Bike! Fun!* Elementary school safety curriculum, adapting the national adult Smart Cycling program for use in Minnesota, development of an adaptive curriculum in partnership with MDH and CDC, and the training of nearly 1,000 teachers and volunteers to use these curricula. We also have worked with more than one-hundred communities and businesses throughout the state that have applied or are interested in applying for national recognition as a Bicycle Friendly Community or Bicycle Friendly Business. BikeMN also manages 3 large community bicycling events, including Minnesota's largest one-day event, the Saint Paul Classic Bike Tour which includes a rest stop hosted by the Mississippi National River Recreation Area naturalists. We have produced several other events in partnership with AARP that have included naturalist programming.

Applicable to this proposal BikeMN has developed several curricula and currently has 160 bicycles that will be used to teach target populations how to safely connect to and use our trails and parks. BikeMN's many existing partners statewide (*see enclosed map*) will provide local assistance and additional resources, including bicycles and helmets to be given to economically disadvantaged youth that complete the program. Environmental Learning by Bicycle will specifically target regional centers throughout the state, many of which have aging populations and significant populations of new immigrant families (or, of course, both), in addition to the Metro Area.

Dorian Grilley:

Dorian will provide strategic oversight and manage BikeMN project staff and budget. He will also assist with promoting and marketing the curriculum, enlisting partners, and assist with all other areas of the project including technical assistance and assisting with trainings as needed (at no charge to the project). He has been involved with development and implementation of the *Walk! Bike! Fun!* safety curriculum from the initial phases. Dorian co-chaired the steering committee that developed the vision and mission and launched BikeMN in 2008 and has been its executive director since start-up. He has worked with nonprofits as a volunteer or staff for more than thirty years. He was the Executive Director of the Parks & Trails Council of Minnesota (PTC) from 1996 to 2008. Before that, he worked for the Minnesota DNR for 17 years. He graduated from the U of M with a Bachelors of Landscape Architecture and did his graduate work in natural resource policy and worked as a research and teaching assistant at the University of Wisconsin, Madison. He enjoys bicycling, cross-country skiing, canoeing, fishing, and hunting. He has lived in Mahtomedi with his family for 25 years.