

**Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund**

# 2023 Request for Proposal

## **General Information**

**Proposal ID:** 2023-091

**Proposal Title:** East Park

## **Project Manager Information**

**Name:** Nate Keller

**Organization:** City of St. Joseph

**Office Telephone:** (320) 363-7201

**Email:** nkeller@cityofstjoseph.com

## **Project Basic Information**

**Project Summary:** Complete the first phase of East Park along the Sauk River in St. Joseph, including a canoe/kayak access, floating dock, paved and mowed trails, and parking/entrance enhancements.

**Funds Requested:** $700,000

**Proposed Project Completion:** November 30, 2024

**LCCMR Funding Category:** Land Acquisition, Habitat, and Recreation (G)

## **Project Location**

**What is the best scale for describing where your work will take place?** Region(s): Central

**What is the best scale to describe the area impacted by your work?** Region(s): Central

**When will the work impact occur?** In the Future

## **Narrative**

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

East Park presents a wonderful opportunity to continue the preservation and restoration of 95 acres of land along the Sauk River and to create an opportunity for students, residents, and visitors of all ages and abilities to connect with the natural world in multiple ways. The land is owned by the City of St. Joseph, but is currently not utilized because it's undeveloped and inaccessible, which severely limits current use for all people. The City has a vision for creating a park that serves the broader community and region, including those who are interested in canoeing/kayaking, fishing, trails, and picnicking. Development of East Park will provide the city with the ability to host educational classes centered around the river and the prairie restoration area through Community Education and for the adjacent Kennedy Community School, the College of St. Benedict, and St. John's University. Those using the park will also have an opportunity to learn about the natural world through plaques (through partnership with St. Benedict's and St. John's) and placed throughout the park, which will be completed in multiple languages including those most commonly used by non-native English speaking residents of the region.

**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.**

Construction of paved and mowed trails, an ADA accessible canoe/kayak access, floating dock, parking, and entrance area provides recreational and educational amenities for the community and region. Accessibility is a priority for the City so that people of all ages, abilities, and income levels can enjoy the park amenities. All paved trails and amenities will be ADA accessible. The City is working closely with groups to ensure that everyone in the community is aware of and feels welcomed at East Park. Specifically, the City has partnered with a senior living facility and three schools to discuss educational programming and recreational opportunities for residents and students and is working with a local organization called Cultural Bridges to help foster connections between park access/amenities and immigrant groups in the region.   
  
Use of the Sauk River as a regional water trail is a great asset to the entire Central Minnesota region and expands opportunities for residents to enjoy the river and East Park. The City is collaborating with other communities in the region on a canoe/kayak share system for residents or visitors who may not have access to their own personal canoe/kayak.

**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?**

East Park will preserve and enhance 95 acres of land along the Sauk River. This includes approximately 20 acres of prairie restoration area and 10 acres of woodland re-establishment area. The trails, canoe/kayak launch, and floating dock will allow residents and visitors access to the park and river for educational and recreational opportunities, providing current and future generations an enjoyment and better understanding of our natural world.

## **Activities and Milestones**

### **Activity 1: Project Engineering**

**Activity Budget:** $92,000

**Activity Description:**Design, Construction Materials Testing, Staking, Inspection, and Construction Administration of Phase I

**Activity Milestones:**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Description** | **Completion Date** |
| Completion of Plans and Specifications | August 31, 2023 |
| Final Design Review | September 30, 2023 |
| Completion of Bidding Documents | November 30, 2023 |
| Construction Administration | October 31, 2024 |

### **Activity 2: Project Construction**

**Activity Budget:** $608,000

**Activity Description:**Construction of East Park Phase I

**Activity Milestones:**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Description** | **Completion Date** |
| Project Bid | January 31, 2024 |
| Construction Start | May 31, 2024 |
| Construction Completed | November 30, 2024 |

## **Project Partners and Collaborators**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Name** | **Organization** | **Role** | **Receiving Funds** |
| Kennedy Community School Staff and Students | Kennedy Community School | Utilize park for outdoor education and recreational opportunities for pre-Kindergarten to 8th grade students | No |
| Cultural Bridges Leadership Team and Participants | Cultural Bridges | Connecting diverse communities to recreational amenities and outdoor learning opportunities at East Park. | No |
| College of Saint Benedict and Saint John's University Faculty, Staff, and Students | College of Saint Benedict and Saint John's University | Utilize park for outdoor education and recreation opportunities for students, alumni, faculty, and staff. | No |
| Woodcrest Senior Living Facility Staff and Residents | Woodcrest Senior Living Facility | Utilize East Park for recreation and educational opportunities. | No |

## **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?**If grant funds are awarded, engineering/designs will be finalized and construction will begin and be completed in 2024. The ongoing effort of maintaining East Park will be completed and paid for by the City of St. Joseph. Additional park phases are anticipated in the future and will be funded through grants and the City of St. Joseph.

## **Project Manager and Organization Qualifications**

**Project Manager Name:** Nate Keller

**Job Title:** Community Development Director

**Provide description of the project manager’s qualifications to manage the proposed project.**Community Development Director Nate Keller has vast and diverse experience with multiple kinds of grants, including both grant writing and administration, and specifically with a past successful project through the DNR Outdoor Recreation Grant program. Additional project management and oversight will come from the consulting engineering team, which has extensive experience in project management and construction oversight. The City of St. Joseph and their engineering team have successfully worked together to complete numerous projects in the community.

**Organization:** City of St. Joseph

**Organization Description:**Local Unit of Government.

## **Budget Summary**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Category / Name** | **Subcategory or Type** | **Description** | **Purpose** | **Gen. Ineli gible** | **% Bene fits** | **# FTE** | **Class ified Staff?** | **$ Amount** |
| **Personnel** |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  | **Sub Total** | **-** |
| **Contracts and Services** |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Engineering firm selected through qualifications process | Professional or Technical Service Contract | Engineering and construction administration |  |  |  | 0.5 |  | $92,000 |
| General contractor hired through a competitive bidding process | Professional or Technical Service Contract | Construction of East Park |  |  |  | 0.75 |  | $608,000 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  | **Sub Total** | **$700,000** |
| **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** | **$700,000** |

### **Classified Staff or Generally Ineligible Expenses**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Category/Name** | **Subcategory or Type** | **Description** | **Justification Ineligible Expense or Classified Staff Request** |

### **Non ENRTF Funds**

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Category** | **Specific Source** | **Use** | **Status** | **Amount** |
| **State** |  |  |  |  |
| Cash | DNR Outdoor Recreation Grant Program | Construct East Park | Potential | $250,384 |
|  |  |  | **State Sub Total** | **$250,384** |
| **Non-State** |  |  |  |  |
| In-Kind | City of St. Joseph | City staff will mark, clear and mow 4,775 feet of mowed trails at East Park | Secured | $6,720 |
|  |  |  | **Non State Sub Total** | **$6,720** |
|  |  |  | **Funds Total** | **$257,104** |

## **Attachments**

### **Required Attachments**

#### ***Visual Component***

File: [3440e333-2b6.pdf](https://lccmrprojectmgmt.leg.mn/media/map/3440e333-2b6.pdf)

#### ***Alternate Text for Visual Component***

Site Plan for the first phase of East Park....

#### ***Board Resolution or Letter***

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Title** | **File** |
| Resolution - City of St. Joseph | [d110c88b-75f.pdf](https://lccmrprojectmgmt.leg.mn/media/attachments/d110c88b-75f.pdf) |

### **Optional Attachments**

#### ***Support Letter or Other***

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Title** | **File** |
| East Park Photos | [4b3fad53-d5f.pdf](https://lccmrprojectmgmt.leg.mn/media/attachments/4b3fad53-d5f.pdf) |
| East Park Phase 1 Amenities | [e83819cc-20f.pdf](https://lccmrprojectmgmt.leg.mn/media/attachments/e83819cc-20f.pdf) |
| Kennedy Community School Letter of Support | [2c0063f2-842.pdf](https://lccmrprojectmgmt.leg.mn/media/attachments/2c0063f2-842.pdf) |
| Cultural Bridges Letter of Support | [182db1e0-b18.pdf](https://lccmrprojectmgmt.leg.mn/media/attachments/182db1e0-b18.pdf) |
| College of St. Benedict and St. John's University Letter of Support | [72e74808-03a.pdf](https://lccmrprojectmgmt.leg.mn/media/attachments/72e74808-03a.pdf) |
| Woodcrest Senior Living Facility Letter of Support | [15a44440-fbc.pdf](https://lccmrprojectmgmt.leg.mn/media/attachments/15a44440-fbc.pdf) |

## **Administrative Use**

**Does your project include restoration or acquisition of land rights?**   
 No

**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?**   
 No