

**Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund**

# 2023 Request for Proposal

## **General Information**

**Proposal ID:** 2023-141

**Proposal Title:** Hull Rust Mine View Park

## **Project Manager Information**

**Name:** Nick Arola

**Organization:** City of Hibbing

**Office Telephone:** (218) 362-5951

**Email:** narola@ci.hibbing.mn.us

## **Project Basic Information**

**Project Summary:** The Hull Rust Mine View located within Hibbing, MN City limits, is an overlook park residing on top of a stockpile overlooking the massive Hull Rust Mine.

**Funds Requested:** $1,416,000

**Proposed Project Completion:** December 31, 2025

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

## **Project Location**

**What is the best scale for describing where your work will take place?** Statewide

**What is the best scale to describe the area impacted by your work?** Statewide

**When will the work impact occur?** During the Project and In the Future

## **Narrative**

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

In September of 2016, the original Hibbing Mineview site was closed for the season and needed to be relocated to a new location to accommodate future mining at a site adjacent to the Hull Rust Mine View. Since that time the City of Hibbing has worked to relocate the Mineview to a new home. Over the past 5 years, the city has provided the groundwork for a new overlook park. The new overlook site now provides a 360-degree viewing access of Hibbing Taconite's mine operations and the historic City of Hibbing. It is a beautiful setting and a great tourist attraction for the City of Hibbing. The one main thing that the new park is lacking that the old park provided is a visitor center. That is our main problem we seek to address. We need to provide basic amenities for the public such as a visitor center, restrooms, and a geological center to provide mining education to the thousands of visitors that visit Mineview each summer. The ground work is set, and we are nearing the finish line, but we just need a little bit more help to begin moving dirt and start the final construction.

**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.**

This project consists of a two phased approach to complete the park. Phase one included site prep, sidewalks, footings, overlook viewing station and truck displays. The total cost of Phase One was $1,200,000. These funds were provided by the IRRRB ($300,000), Cleveland Cliffs ($176,000) Mining Company and the City of Hibbing ($724,000). All of phase one work has been completed from 2019-2022. The Phase Two portion of the project which we are currently at, consists of a pair of two-season buildings overlooking the Hull Rust Mine in Hibbing, MN. These overlook buildings are to house a visitor's center, giftshop, restrooms, exhibition space, and a maps plus geology room. Also included in the park will be walking trails, interpretive signage, multiple viewing points, and a park where kids can climb on mining equipment artifacts.

**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?**

The mine view is an natural resource enhancement opportunity to educate local residents and tourists about the significant impact that mining has in our region of the state. Mining plays a huge role in how we live, work, and play in northeastern Minnesota, and the Hull Rust is one of the regions most popular tourist destinations averaging 40,000 visitors every summer. Guests get to see real-time equipment operations of Hibbing Taconite. There is no better way to actively see the states natural resources at work than the Hull Rust Mineview.

## **Activities and Milestones**

### **Activity 1: Park Design and Construction Administration**

**Activity Budget:** $200,000

**Activity Description:**Activities include site work, permitting, building design, construction administration, construction observation, environmental review and wetland review, structural inspections, equipment layout and technology installation.

**Activity Milestones:**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Description** | **Completion Date** |
| Engineer/Architect Selected through a competitive process | September 30, 2023 |
| Begin project oversight and construction administration | October 31, 2023 |
| All permits secured | March 31, 2024 |
| Begin site design, architectural/engineering plans and specifications | May 31, 2024 |
| Construction administration completed and work approved by the city | December 31, 2025 |

### **Activity 2: Park Construction**

**Activity Budget:** $1,216,000

**Activity Description:**Building construction, utilities (water, septic, electrical), site prep, traffic control, road restoration, hydrants, booster stations, valves, signage, trails and landscaping.

**Activity Milestones:**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Description** | **Completion Date** |
| Contractor selected and bid awarded to construct the project | September 30, 2023 |
| Begin construction of the park | October 31, 2023 |
| General contractor will be hired through a competitive bid process to construct the park | December 31, 2025 |
| Park completed and approved by the city | December 31, 2025 |
| Entire park is open to the public. | December 31, 2025 |

## **Project Partners and Collaborators**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Name** | **Organization** | **Role** | **Receiving Funds** |
| Mayor Canatta | City of Hibbing | Project Oversight | No |
| Council | City of Hibbing | Project Oversight | No |
| Melissa Versich | Hibbing Tourist Center | Facility Operator | No |
| Shelly Hanson | Chamber of Commerce | Public Relations | No |
| Greg Pruszinske | City Administrator | Project Oversight | No |
| Jesse Story | City Engineer | Project Oversight | 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?**This park will be owned and maintained by the City of Hibbing. Monies to operate and maintain will be budgeted through the annual city budget. The city is committed to perpetuity.

## **Project Manager and Organization Qualifications**

**Project Manager Name:** Nick Arola

**Job Title:** Director of City Services

**Provide description of the project manager’s qualifications to manage the proposed project.**In my current position as Director of City Services with the City of Hibbing, I am responsible for the management and operation of multiple city owned properties. Facilities for the City of Hibbing include Hibbing Memorial Building (Hockey Arena & Community Center), City Hall, Greyhound Bus Museum, 30 city parks, pavilions & sports complexes. I currently manage a department budget of roughly three million dollars and responsible for capital improvements and project management to existing and future facilities.   
  
In previous employment positions, I was apart of a $15 Million dollar hockey arena construction project where I was one of the lead City representatives on the project and worked hand in hand with Architects and General Contractors from the concept stage to completion of the project.  
  
Taking on the addition of the Hull Rust Mine View Park construction project is a welcomed opportunity for me. I look forward to seeing this project through to the end. This overlook park is a staple of pride and tradition of the Hibbing community and I take pride in providing quality oversite of all Hibbing facilities.

**Organization:** City of Hibbing

**Organization Description:**Hibbing is organized as a full service Statutory City in Northern MN, apart of St Louis County, MN with an estimated population of 16,230 residents.  
  
The Hibbing City Council and its Boards, Commissions and Staff are committed to provide a community environment that is managed in an effective, accountable and efficient manner.  
Further, we shall enhance that quality of life which characterizes our community by providing Hibbing’s residents with the amenities that make it a desirable place to live, work and play.  
We are the people-oriented organization that will reflect the highest standards of public services consistent with the trust and responsibilities given us. We strive to inform all residents of public issues and listen to their concerns for consideration in community policy. Because city government is its people, we are constantly striving for excellence and are committed to quality and professionalism in providing the best in public services to the citizens of Hibbing. Hibbing openly embraces growth and change. The people of Hibbing encourage enhancement of economic, educational and cultural opportunities by focusing their vision on: Character, Commitment, and Opportunity.

## **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** |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Engineer/Architect hired through a competitive process | Professional or Technical Service Contract | Park site design, utility design, building design, construction administration, observation and permitting |  |  |  | 4 |  | $200,000 |
| General contractor hired through a competitive bid process | Professional or Technical Service Contract | General Contractor will be responsible of a aspects of the project construction |  |  |  | 8 |  | $1,216,000 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  | **Sub Total** | **$1,416,000** |
| **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** | **$1,416,000** |

### **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 | IRRRB | Construction Phase Two | Secured | $92,000 |
| Cash | Bonding Bill | Construction Phase Two | Secured | $1,300,000 |
|  |  |  | **State Sub Total** | **$1,392,000** |
| **Non-State** |  |  |  |  |
| Cash | City of Hibbing | Construction and design Phase Two | Secured | $92,000 |
|  |  |  | **Non State Sub Total** | **$92,000** |
|  |  |  | **Funds Total** | **$1,484,000** |

## **Attachments**

### **Required Attachments**

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

File: [093454bf-111.pdf](https://lccmrprojectmgmt.leg.mn/media/map/093454bf-111.pdf)

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

Renderings of the two proposed buildings. Larger building is the visitors center and the smaller building is the geological center and maps building....

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

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Title** | **File** |
| City Council Resolution | [c139087b-2f0.pdf](https://lccmrprojectmgmt.leg.mn/media/attachments/c139087b-2f0.pdf) |

### **Optional Attachments**

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

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Title** | **File** |
| Hibbing Tourist Center Support Letter | [41f7143f-ccb.pdf](https://lccmrprojectmgmt.leg.mn/media/attachments/41f7143f-ccb.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