

**Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund**

# 2023 Request for Proposal

## **General Information**

**Proposal ID:** 2023-249

**Proposal Title:** Maplewood State Park Trail Segment

## **Project Manager Information**

**Name:** Nicholas Leonard

**Organization:** Otter Tail County

**Office Telephone:** (218) 998-8057

**Email:** nleonard@co.ottertail.mn.us

## **Project Basic Information**

**Project Summary:** Construction of the Maplewood State Park Segment (4.2 miles) of the 32-mile Perham to Pelican Rapids Regional Trail that will connect the City of Pelican Rapids to Maplewood State.

**Funds Requested:** $2,514,000

**Proposed Project Completion:** December 31, 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?** During the Project and In the Future

## **Narrative**

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

In partnership with the MN DNR, this proposal specifically aims to expand outdoor recreational opportunities by connecting the communities of Pelican Rapids, Perham and surrounding areas to Maplewood State Park via a recreational trail. It will also expand existing state trail systems by connecting the Central Lakes and Heartland Trails in the future. Otter Tail County is in a beautiful part of Minnesota with an abundance of lakes, wetlands, rolling hills and agricultural areas. Outdoor recreation is an important part of the quality of life and the tourism economy in Otter Tail County.

This proposal also improves access to outdoor recreational opportunities to diverse and changing populations. Racial and ethnic minority populations tend to participate less in most nature-based outdoor recreation activities, including visiting state parks and trails. In fact, according to a DNR report, only 2.8 percent of state park visitors identified themselves as non-white. Pelican Rapids is the most diverse community in Otter Tail County and one of the most diverse rural communities in Minnesota. This project will afford outdoor recreational opportunities to members of racially and ethnically diverse cultures who have not traditionally benefited from the park’s facilities and resources.

**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.**

LCCMR funding will be used to construct the Maplewood State Park Segment of the Perham to Pelican Rapids Regional Trail - a 10-foot wide, 4.2-mile bituminous multi-use trail entirely within Maplewood State Park. This project will complete the Perham to Pelican Rapids Regional Trail by connecting an existing trail segment at the west boundary of Maplewood State Park on CSAH 3 to an existing trail segment on the north boundary of Maplewood state Park on State Highway 108.

There has been considerable collaboration and coordination with the MN DNR to establish an acceptable trail route, with an emphasis on protecting the natural, cultural and archeological resources. Nearly 75% of the corridor design is complete and over 50% of the environmental review and permitting is complete. We anticipate being shovel ready by August 2022.

There is considerable momentum for the Perham to Pelican Rapids Regional Trail. The East Segment was constructed last year. The West Segment is under construction with anticipated completion July 2022. The Silent Lake and McDonald Segments are also underway with anticipated completion by September 2022.

**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?**

This project will expand outdoor recreational opportunities through additions and connections to state, regional, or local parks and trails to members of racially and ethnically diverse cultures who have not traditionally benefited from the park’s facilities and resources.

This project will also fill a critical gap in the state and regional trail system by eventually connecting the Central Lakes Trail to the Heartland Trail. Both existing state trails are located within or adjacent to Otter Tail County. Their connection will create one of the most impressive trail systems in the country.

## **Activities and Milestones**

### **Activity 1: Construction of the Perham to Pelican Rapids Regional Trail (Maplewood Segment)**

**Activity Budget:** $2,514,000

**Activity Description:**LCCMR funding will be used to competitively bid and construct a 10-foot wide, 4.2-mile bituminous multi-use trail entirely within Maplewood State Park. This project will complete the Perham to Pelican Rapids Regional Trail by connecting an existing trail segment at the west boundary of Maplewood State Park on CSAH 3 to an existing trail segment on the north boundary of Maplewood state Park on State Highway 108.

**Activity Milestones:**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Description** | **Completion Date** |
| Completion of Final Design and Specifications | August 31, 2022 |
| Construction Bidding | July 31, 2023 |
| Initiate Construction | September 30, 2023 |
| Complete Construction | September 30, 2024 |

## **Project Partners and Collaborators**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Name** | **Organization** | **Role** | **Receiving Funds** |
| PartnerSHIP4Health | PartnerSHIP4Health | Helped to develop the Perham to Pelican Rapids Regional Trail Master Plan. | No |
| West Central Initiative | West Central Initiative | Helped to develop the Perham to Pelican Rapids Regional Trail Master Plan. | No |
| Minnesota Department of Natural Resource | State Agency | Helped to develop the Perham to Pelican Rapids Regional Trail Master Plan. | No |
| City of Pelican Rapids | Municipal City | Helped to develop the Perham to Pelican Rapids Regional Trail Master Plan. | No |
| City of Perham | Municipal City | Helped to develop the Perham to Pelican Rapids Regional Trail Master Plan. | 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?**Despite being in a state park, this will be a regional trail through an easement granted by the MN DNR. Once the project is completed, Otter Tail County will assume financial responsibility for the ongoing maintenance and enhancement of the trail. The trail will be maintained to the DNR's standards. The ability to complete and maintain the project long-term is of upmost importance. Per the attached resolution, the Otter Tail County Board of Commissioners have approved this grant application for the Maplewood Segment.

## **Other ENRTF Appropriations Awarded in the Last Six Years**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Name** | **Appropriation** | **Amount Awarded** |
| Perham To Pelican Rapids Regional Trail (McDonald Segment) | M.L. 2021, First Special Session, Chp. 6, Art. 6, Sec. 2, Subd. 09a | $2,245,000 |
| Perham to Pelican Rapids Regional Trail (West Segment) | M.L. 2021, First Special Session, Chp. 6, Art. 5, Sec. 2, Subd. 09n | $2,600,000 |

## **Project Manager and Organization Qualifications**

**Project Manager Name:** Nicholas Leonard

**Job Title:** Deputy Administrator

**Provide description of the project manager’s qualifications to manage the proposed project.**Kevin Fellbaum and Nicholas Leonard, Ph.D. will serve as the project managers for the Maplewood State Park Trail Project. Kevin is the Otter Tail County Parks and Trails Director, responsible for implementing the county's long-range strategic plan, ensuring access to recreational opportunities for all county residents. Nicholas is the Deputy County Administrator for Economic Growth and Community Investment. In this capacity, he will facilitate the necessary county departments and state agencies to implement the project.

**Organization:** Otter Tail County

**Organization Description:**Otter Tail is a county located in West Central Minnesota. It has over 10% of Minnesota’s beautiful lakes and boasts many miles of scenic highways, rolling hills, and is home to two Minnesota State Parks (Glendalough and Maplewood) as well as historic Phelps Mill County Park. Otter Tail County's mission is to enrich lives, innovate services and enhance resources so people can live their best life here. You can find our long-range strategic plan here: https://ottertailcountymn.us/wp-content/uploads/2021/05/Otter-Tail-County-Long-Range-Strategic-Plan\_FINAL.pdf.

Otter Tail County is dedicated to developing a robust park and trail network to expand outdoor recreational opportunities and enhance the quality of life as well as economic opportunities. A detailed master plan for the Perham to Pelican Rapids Regional Trail (which includes the Maplewood State Park Trail Segment) is available online: https://ottertailcountymn.us/wp-content/uploads/2018/08/Perham-to-Pelican-Rapids-Regional-Trail-Master-Plan\_final\_201409231151227452.pdf.

## **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** |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  | **Sub Total** | **-** |
| **Equipment, Tools, and Supplies** |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  | **Sub Total** | **-** |
| **Capital Expenditures** |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  | Construction Costs - Contractor selected through competitive bid process | Construct a 10-foot wide; 4.2-mile bituminous trail |  |  |  |  | $2,514,000 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  | **Sub Total** | **$2,514,000** |
| **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** | **$2,514,000** |

### **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 | 2020 Capital Bonding Bill | Pre-design and design for engineering and all environmental review and permitting costs | Secured | $375,000 |
|  |  |  | **State Sub Total** | **$375,000** |
| **Non-State** |  |  |  |  |
| Cash | Otter Tail County | Design Engineering and all Environmental Review and Permitting Costs | Secured | $75,000 |
| Cash | Otter Tail County | Construction engineering, materials testing, and administration | Secured | $120,000 |
| Cash | Otter Tail County | Wetland mitigation costs | Secured | $100,000 |
|  |  |  | **Non State Sub Total** | **$295,000** |
|  |  |  | **Funds Total** | **$670,000** |

## **Attachments**

### **Required Attachments**

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

File: [79d7acfa-e1b.pdf](https://lccmrprojectmgmt.leg.mn/media/map/79d7acfa-e1b.pdf)

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

Exhibit details the segments of the Perham to Pelican Rapids Regional Trail, highlighting the proposed Maplewood Segment....

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

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Title** | **File** |
| Board of Commissioner Resolution | [fceb9dd4-332.pdf](https://lccmrprojectmgmt.leg.mn/media/attachments/fceb9dd4-332.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