



Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund

2026 Request for Proposal

General Information

Proposal ID: 2026-135

Proposal Title: North Creek Greenway Trails and Trailhead Construction Project

Project Manager Information

Name: Kellee Omlid

Organization: City of Farmington

Office Telephone: (651) 280-6851

Email: komlid@farmingtonmn.gov

Project Basic Information

Project Summary: Constructing trailhead facilities and nearly 13,000 linear feet of bituminous multi-use trail in Rambling River Park to serve the North Creek Regional Greenway.

ENRTF Funds Requested: \$2,384,000

Proposed Project Completion: December 31, 2029

LCCMR Funding Category: Education and Outdoor Recreation (C)

Project Location

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

Region(s): Metro

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

Region(s): Metro

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.

Rambling River is a 78-acre community park located in Farmington that was built in the 1960s and has not seen major reinvestment for a number of years. As part of its collaboration with Dakota County, the park includes a segment of the County's 14-mile North Creek Greenway (NCG). The NCG provides opportunities for people to walk, bike, and roll between Farmington and regional destinations such as the Minnesota Zoo and Lebanon Hills Regional Park in Eagan.

Trails within the park are in need of replacement to address deterioration and to meet regional greenway standards, including ADA accessibility. In addition, some trails located near the Vermillion River have been frequently flooded and the bank eroded so reconsideration of trail routes are needed to improve trail resilience and allow for streambank restoration. While the park has existing parking, to serve as a trailhead for the NCG additional facilities like restrooms, water, benches, and a bike fix-it station are needed.

In addition to serving regional needs, improvements in Rambling River Park will address needs identified by residents in the 2023 Rambling River Park Plan. Community engagement conducted in that process identified trails and restrooms as the two most desired improvements to the park.

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.

The project will construct nearly 13,000 LF of trails and trailhead facilities, including a two-stall restroom building, bike fix it station, water, a greenway information kiosk, trash and recycling receptacles, and a monument sign. The park has existing vehicle and bike parking, picnic facilities, and other recreational opportunities which will complement the proposed trailhead amenities. According to the NCG Plan, trailheads are intended to occur every 3-5 miles on the greenway and are planned to capitalize on opportunities to share facilities, providing both regional and local access. The existing trail segment within the park is proposed to be constructed to meet Dakota County's regional trail standards and to move portions of the trail out of the floodway of the Vermillion River.

The trailhead will provide a place for trail users to start or end their ride, and offer opportunities for respite for those passing through the area on their way to other local and regional destinations. Some of the trailhead features will also enhance the park experience for non-trail users such as the additional restrooms and water fountain; and the trail signage and kiosk will raise increased awareness about the NCG and other trails in Dakota County's Greenway network.

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?

Sections of the existing trail have sustained damage from recent major flood events. In addition, the current location of some trail segments are affected by on-going erosion and deterioration due to their proximity to the Vermillion River. New / replacement trails will be routed to reduce erosion and allow for restoration along the river while still enabling users to see and experience the river. This will include stabilization of slopes, invasive species removal, and native planting establishment.

Activities and Milestones

Activity 1: Finalize trailhead and trail design in Rambling River Park

Activity Budget: \$331,000

Activity Description:

In coordination with Dakota County, the City of Farmington will finalize designs and construction plans for the trailhead facilities and trails within Rambling River Park in preparation for construction. Dakota County is currently working to plan the alignment for the trails within the park as part of the North Creek Greenway planning process. Once this process is complete, the City and County will finalize design and construction plans for the identified trail alignment within the park. Farmington will then use the finalized greenway alignment information along with the Rambling River Park Master Plan to complete design and construction documents for trailhead facilities. This includes the restroom, greenway kiosk, and monument sign; and site plans for the location of the bike fix-it station, water fill station, benches, and trash and recycling receptacles.

Activity Milestones:

Description	Approximate Completion Date
Design review processes including consultation with SHPO, predesign review with the Dept. of Administration	December 31, 2026
Enrollment in the Minnesota B3 Guidelines Tracking Tool	December 31, 2026
Development and approval of final designs (DD-CDs)	March 31, 2027
All construction funds legally secured	April 30, 2027
Preparation and advertisement of bid	May 31, 2027

Activity 2: Construction of Greenway Trail and Placement of Trailhead Site Furniture

Activity Budget: \$2,053,000

Activity Description:

Once the design and construction documents are complete, the second main activity of this project is trail construction and construction or placement of the trailhead amenities. Existing areas of trail will be removed and restoration work will take place to replant those areas (primarily alongside the Vermillion River), and areas where new trail segments are planned will be prepared and paved following regional trail standards. Trailhead amenities including the bike fit-it station, greenway kiosk, trash and recycling receptacles, and benches will need concrete pads laid and to be installed. Other trailhead features such as the restroom, water fill station, and monument sign will require connection to utilities and construction as part of the installation process.

Activity Milestones:

Description	Approximate Completion Date
Construction, Oversight, & Administration Begins	October 31, 2027
Construction, Oversight, & Administration Ends	April 30, 2029
Project close-out with notice of funding restriction recorded, and certificate of occupancy obtained	May 31, 2029
Signage installed with ENRTF logo	May 31, 2029
Trail and trailhead facilities open for public use	July 31, 2029

Project Partners and Collaborators

Name	Organization	Role	Receiving Funds
Rita Trapp	HKGi	Grant Writing Support	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?

The results proposed in the grant will be implemented through the full construction of the trails and trailhead facilities proposed. Additional capital improvements proposed in the NCG Plan and the Rambling River Plan will be funded through Farmington's annual capital improvement budgeting process. Farmington, in partnership with Dakota County, has received an Active Transportation Grant to construct 1.7 miles of the NCG north of the proposed project area. This project and park have received strong support from both the City Council and the Parks and Recreation Commission of Farmington as a priority investment in the community's recreational infrastructure.

Project Manager and Organization Qualifications

Project Manager Name: Kellee Omlid

Job Title: Parks and Recreation Director

Provide description of the project manager's qualifications to manage the proposed project.

Kellee Omlid, Farmington's Park and Recreation Director, has extensive experience in parks and recreation management, grant administration, and facility development. With over two decades in the field, she has demonstrated her ability to oversee complex projects, manage city-owned recreational assets, and secure funding for major initiatives. Her leadership in overseeing a \$2 million facility renovation—with a significant portion funded by a federal grant—shows her ability to successfully manage large-scale projects, ensuring compliance with grant requirements, budgeting, and construction oversight. Additionally, her collaborative approach was instrumental in securing a \$1.58 million Active Transportation Grant for a greenway trail project for the City of Farmington. By working closely with the application writers and Dakota County, she provided critical insights, strategic planning, and expertise in infrastructure development, highlighting her ability to build partnerships and leverage external resources for community improvements.

Kellee's educational background includes a master's degree in public administration and a bachelor's degree in Recreation and Leisure Services. Given her track record of managing parks, trails, and recreational facilities, along with her ability to secure funding and oversee construction projects, Kellee Omlid is well-equipped to lead the planning, funding, and development of this project.

Organization: City of Farmington

Organization Description:

The City of Farmington is located in Dakota County and is bisected by the Vermillion River. Farmington is demographically the youngest community in Dakota County, with a growing population of over 23,000 residents. Farmington is a welcoming and desirable community for families. Boasting innovative schools and a wide variety of parks and open spaces. The Parks and Recreation Department at the City provides diverse services, programs, and facilities resulting in a high quality of life for Farmington residents.

Budget Summary

Category / Name	Subcategory or Type	Description	Purpose	Gen. Ineligible	% Benefits	# FTE	Classified Staff?	\$ Amount
Personnel								
							Sub Total	-
Contracts and Services								
TBD	Service Contract	Planning/engineering contractor will be selected by competitive bid and will develop the site design, engineering, and construction specifications.				0		\$331,000
TBD	Service Contract	Contractor will be selected by competitive bid and will prepare the site and construct all recreation and access features according to the construction plans and specifications. Contractor will provide site preparation, construction, erosion control, and other construction tasks.				-		\$2,053,000
							Sub Total	\$2,384,000
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	\$2,384,000

Classified Staff or Generally Ineligible Expenses

Category/Name	Subcategory or Type	Description	Justification Ineligible Expense or Classified Staff Request
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Non ENRTF Funds

Category	Specific Source	Use	Status	Amount
State				
			State Sub Total	-
Non-State				
Cash	Dakota County	Construction costs	Secured	\$483,000
Cash	City of Farmington	Construction costs	Secured	\$315,000
			Non State Sub Total	\$798,000
			Funds Total	\$798,000

Total Project Cost: \$3,182,000

This amount accurately reflects total project cost?

Yes

Attachments

Required Attachments

Visual Component

File: [3627541e-b2e.pdf](#)

Alternate Text for Visual Component

1:24,000 ft USGS Map of the City of Farmington with Rambling River Park marked in Red overlaying a graphic aerial park map zoomed into Rambling River Park with key surrounding destinations and features identified....

Financial Capacity

Title	File
City of Farmington 2023 Annual Comprehensive Financial Report	ec7ad384-25c.pdf

Board Resolution or Letter

Title	File
City of Farmington Resolution 2025-018 Funding from Environmental and Natural Resources Trust Fund	cb093da5-b5b.pdf

Supplemental Attachments

Capital Project Questionnaire, Budget Supplements, Support Letter, Photos, Media, Other

Title	File
Grant Summary Page	ab62983d-da0.pdf
Capital Construction Budget Addendum	058cf877-a3e.pdf
Capital Project Questionnaire	f984a8d8-e4f.pdf
SHPO Request for Review Response	b4b7e516-deb.pdf

Administrative Use

Does your project include restoration or acquisition of land rights?

No

Do you understand that travel expenses are only approved if they follow the "Commissioner's Plan" promulgated by the Commissioner of Management of Budget or, for University of Minnesota projects, the University of Minnesota plan?

N/A

Does your project have potential for royalties, copyrights, patents, sale of products and assets, or revenue generation?

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

Does your project include the pre-design, design, construction, or renovation of a building, trail, campground, or other fixed capital asset costing \$10,000 or more or large-scale stream or wetland restoration?

Yes

Do you propose using an appropriation from the Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund to conduct a project that provides children's services (as defined in Minnesota Statutes section 299C.61 Subd.7 as "the provision of care, treatment, education, training, instruction, or recreation to children")?

No

Provide the name(s) and organization(s) of additional individuals assisting in the completion of this proposal:

Rita Trapp, HKGi; Natalie Strait, HKGi; John Mertens, Dakota County; Kari Kubicek, City of Farmington; Kellee Omlid, City of Farmington

Do you understand that a named service contract does not constitute a funder-designated subrecipient or approval of a sole-source contract? In other words, a service contract entity is only approved if it has been selected according to the contracting rules identified in state law and policy for organizations that receive ENRTF funds through direct appropriations, or in the DNR's reimbursement manual for non-state organizations. These rules may include competitive bidding and prevailing wage requirements

Yes, I understand