



Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund

2026 Request for Proposal

General Information

Proposal ID: 2026-235

Proposal Title: Metropolitan Regional Parks System Land Acquisition Phase 9

Project Manager Information

Name: Jessica Lee

Organization: Metropolitan Council

Office Telephone: (651) 602-1621

Email: jessica.lee@metc.state.mn.us

Project Basic Information

Project Summary: Acquire properties with high-quality natural resources or natural resources restoration potential for the metropolitan Regional Parks System. This project will be matched over 100% with Council and local Agency funds.

ENRTF Funds Requested: \$3,000,000

Proposed Project Completion: June 30, 2030

LCCMR Funding Category: Land (F)

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?

During the Project and In the Future

Narrative

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

The Metropolitan Regional Parks and Trails System offers large-scale, natural-resource based recreation opportunities to all Minnesotans. This project proposes to acquire park and trail inholdings that have a broad range of ecological significance, from native prairies, wetlands, forests, and shoreline protection, to creating a brand new regional park that will protect a significant creek and lake. Many of these properties are at risk of being developed if they are not acquired for the Regional Parks and Trails System. Most of the trail inholdings and many of the park parcels are along water bodies and will provide shoreline protection. Acquiring these lands will contribute to the equitable use of the Regional Parks and Trails System by increasing access and protecting properties for public use in Carver, Dakota, Hennepin, Scott, and Washington Counties in perpetuity. This proposal seeks to address the opportunity of acquiring park and trail inholdings by providing funding for the agencies so they can act quickly when properties become available. This funding will be available through a grant process that provides acquisition funding on a first-come, first-served basis for eligible acquisitions. Council staff will assist with the acquisition process and bring each individual request to the Council for approval.

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 Metropolitan Regional Parks and Trails System is owned and operated by the ten Regional Parks Implementing Agencies (Agencies) identified in Minnesota Statutes, section 473.351. Working with the Agencies, the Council has compiled a list of 61 properties valued at \$90,000,000 that have the potential to be acquired between July 1, 2026 and June 30, 2030. The parcels range in size from one acre to over 200 acres, with the average size of 19 acres for trail parcels and 77 acres for park or park reserve properties. These properties have a combined total of nearly 16 miles of shoreline. Some of these properties are under active negotiation; for others, the sellers have expressed an interest in selling to the Agency or are aware of the Agency's interest. Because the timing is uncertain as to when properties will be available from willing sellers, this proposal builds a funding pool which allows Agencies to capitalize on opportunities as they arise. The Council will work with agencies to acquire properties as they become available through a first-come, first-served grant process. Individual grant requests will need approval from the Met Council.

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 acquire private lands from willing sellers for the Regional Parks System to provide public access to natural resource-based, high-quality recreational opportunities, while protecting and restoring prairies, forests, wetlands, and shoreline. Acquiring these inholdings will expand conservation corridors and help build out parks, trails, and park reserves for future generations of recreation and natural resources protection.

Activities and Milestones

Activity 1: Acquire properties for the Regional Parks System

Activity Budget: \$3,000,000

Activity Description:

The Agencies individually negotiate each acquisition. After they have obtained a signed purchase agreement, a certified appraisal, and a resolution of support from their elected boards, the Agencies submit a grant request to the Metropolitan Council. Agencies may close on the properties after the Council has approved the acquisition grant request. The Council serves as the fiscal agent and awards grants to the Agencies through its Park Acquisition Opportunity Fund (PAOF) program. The PAOF program has four funding sources: Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund (ENRTF), Parks and Trails Legacy Fund (Legacy), and matching dollars. The Council matches every \$3 in ENRTF and Legacy funds with \$2 in Council funds. Agencies make up the fourth funding source, providing at least 25% of acquisition costs from non-state funds. The Council is requesting \$3,000,000. These funds will be matched with \$2,000,000 in Council funds, and an additional \$1,666,667 million in Agency funds, for a total project budget of \$6,666,667 million. This work includes ensuring recipients are adhering to the ENRTF funded land acquisition requirements including recording NOFRs, valuation, cost, and transaction reporting, initial acquisition reporting, and ensuring annual reporting on lands acquired through program.

Activity Milestones:

Description	Approximate Completion Date
Staff accepts FY2027 applications, presents to Council for approval, creates grant agreements, agencies acquire properties	June 30, 2027
Staff accepts FY2028 applications, presents to Council for approval, creates grant agreements, agencies acquire properties	June 30, 2028
Staff accepts FY2029 applications, presents to Council for approval, creates grant agreements, agencies acquire properties	June 30, 2029
Staff accepts FY2030 applications, presents to Council for approval, creates grant agreements, agencies acquire properties	June 30, 2030
Final reporting requirements for the Agencies and the Council are met	June 30, 2030

Project Partners and Collaborators

Name	Organization	Role	Receiving Funds
Al Singer	Dakota County	Real Estate Manager	Yes
Kelly Grissman	Three Rivers Park District	Director of Planning	Yes
Sharon Price	Washington County	Acquisition Manager	Yes
Patty Freeman	Scott County Parks and Trails	General Manager	Yes
Marty Walsh	Carver County Parks	Director	Yes

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 project will provide funding for an existing program managed by the Metropolitan Council, the Park Acquisition Opportunity Fund (PAOF) program. As properties become available for purchase, Agencies will apply to the PAOF program to receive funding. These applications are presented to the Metropolitan Parks and Open Space Commission, then the Council's Community Development Committee, and then receive final approval from the full Metropolitan Council. After the project has been approved, the Agency enters into a grant agreement with the Council. Council staff then works with the Agency throughout the acquisition process, until final reimbursement and reporting is submitted.

Other ENRTF Appropriations Awarded in the Last Six Years

Name	Appropriation	Amount Awarded
Metropolitan Regional Parks System Land Acquisition-Phase 7	M.L. 2021, First Special Session, Chp. 6, Art. 6, Sec. 2, Subd. 09e	\$2,250,000
Metropolitan Regional Parks System Land Acquisition-Phase 6	M.L. 2021, First Special Session, Chp. 6, Art. 5, Sec. 2, Subd. 09h	\$1,000,000
Metropolitan Regional Parks System Land Acquisition - Phase 8	M.L. 2024, , Chp. 83, Art. , Sec. 2, Subd. 09e	\$3,000,000

Project Manager and Organization Qualifications

Project Manager Name: Jessica Lee

Job Title: Planning Analyst

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

Jessica has managed several ENRTF appropriations for land acquisitions through her work with the Metropolitan Council in the past 6 years. She also manages the pre-award side of all state funding passed through to the Regional Park Implementing Agencies. She previously worked at the DNR where she managed the Conservation Partners Legacy grant program for over 5 years.

Organization: Metropolitan Council

Organization Description:

The Metropolitan Council is the regional policy-making body, planning agency, and provider of essential services for the

Twin Cities metropolitan region, including Metro Transit's bus and rail system, Metro Mobility, Transit Link, wastewater treatment services, planning, affordable housing, and regional parks. The Twin Cities metropolitan area is home to a system of regional parks and trails that are nationally renowned for their beauty, size, and variety of features. The Regional Parks and Trails System attracted 69 million visits in 2023. With 58 regional parks and park reserves totaling near 55,000 acres, nearly 500 miles of interconnected trails, and 8 special recreation features, the system provides a wealth of opportunities for recreation and exercise while preserving significant natural resources and wildlife habitat. While operated by partnering cities, counties, and special districts, the Council is charged with overseeing the acquisition and development of regional parks and trails.

Budget Summary

Category / Name	Subcategory or Type	Description	Purpose	Gen. Ineligible	% Benefits	# FTE	Classified Staff?	\$ Amount
Personnel								
							Sub Total	-
Contracts and Services								
Regional Park Implementing Agencies	Subaward	The Met Council will make grant awards to the Regional Park Implementing Agencies to acquire land for the Regional Parks and Trails System. The total appropriation will be used for actual acquisition costs through grant agreements with the agencies. No staff time is included. Minimal stewardship may be included.				0		\$3,000,000
							Sub Total	\$3,000,000
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	\$3,000,000

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	Metropolitan Council	The Metropolitan Council matches every \$3 dollars in ENRTF with \$2 in council funds. Council funds will be used for ancillary costs (such as appraisals and legal fees) as well as stewardship and restoration costs. Council funds are also used toward the purchase of parcels. The Council funds all administrative support for the Park Acquisition Opportunity Fund program through its own budgeting process (no ENRTF/match funds are used for administrative costs).	Secured	\$2,000,000
Cash	Regional Parks Implementing Agencies	The Agencies must provide at least 25% of the total acquisition project cost. Agency funds will be used for ancillary costs (such as appraisals and legal fees) as well as stewardship and restoration costs. Agency funds are also used toward the purchase of parcels.	Secured	\$1,666,667
			Non State Sub Total	\$3,666,667
			Funds Total	\$3,666,667

Total Project Cost: \$6,666,667

This amount accurately reflects total project cost?

Yes

Acquisition and Restoration

Parcel List

Name	County	Site Significance	Activity	Acres	Miles	Estimated Cost	Type of Landowner	Easement or Title Holder	Status of Work
Baylor Regional Park Parcel 1	Carver	Site contains over 0.3 miles of lake shoreline	Fee Title	18.4	0.3	-	Private	Carver County	Negotiations In Progress
Baylor Regional Park Parcel 2	Carver	Site contains forests and wetlands	Fee Title	50	-	-	Private	Carver County	Negotiations In Progress
Big Marine Park Reserve Kelley Phase 2	Washington	Woodlands and emergent marshes together with shoreline preservation around Mud Lake and Turtle Lake	Fee Title	193	2.9	-	Private	Washington County	Negotiations In Progress
Big Marine Park Reserve Kelley Phase 3	Washington	Maplewood Basswood forests and emergent marshes together with shoreline preservation around Mud Lake	Fee Title	252	1	-	Private	Washington County	Negotiations In Progress
Blakeley Bluffs Park Reserve Parcel 1	Scott	Maple-basswood forest and ag land with potential for prairie and wetland restoration adjacent to ephemeral stream that drains to the MN River	Fee Title	104.2	-	-	Private	Scott County	Negotiations In Progress
Blakeley Bluffs Park Reserve Parcel 10	Scott	Maple-basswood forest and ag land with potential for prairie and wetland restoration adjacent to an ephemeral stream that drains to the MN River	Fee Title	40	-	-	Private	Scott County	Negotiations In Progress
Blakeley Bluffs Park Reserve Parcel 11	Scott	Maple-basswood and Aspen forest along ravine and stream that drains to the MN River, ag land with potential for prairie, forest, or wetland restoration	Fee Title	40.8	-	-	Private	Scott County	Negotiations In Progress
Blakeley Bluffs Park Reserve Parcel 12	Scott	Maple-basswood forest, Willow swamp, Silver Maple floodplain forest, ag land with drainage to significant shoreline on the MN River	Fee Title	215.5	1.6	-	Private	Scott County	Negotiations In Progress
Blakeley Bluffs Park Reserve Parcel 13	Scott	Silver Maple Floodplain Forest on the MN River	Fee Title	48.5	1.9	-	Private	Scott County	Negotiations In Progress
Blakeley Bluffs Park Reserve Parcel 14	Scott	Silver Maple Floodplain Forest and Maple-Basswood forest along multiple waterways that drain to the MN River shoreline	Fee Title	96	0.3	-	Private	Scott County	Negotiations In Progress

Blakeley Bluffs Park Reserve Parcel 15	Scott	Oak, Maple-basswood, and lowland hardwood forest along stream that drains to the MN River	Fee Title	40.7	0	-	Private	Scott County	Negotiations In Progress
Blakeley Bluffs Park Reserve Parcel 16	Scott	Maple-basswood, Oak, Lowland-hardwood, and Eastern Red Cedar forested ravines and ag land alongside a stream that drains to the MN River	Fee Title	123.6	0	-	Private	Scott County	Negotiations In Progress
Blakeley Bluffs Park Reserve Parcel 2	Scott	Eastern Red Cedar woodland and wetlands surrounding a stream that drains to the MN River	Fee Title	37.8	-	-	Private	Scott County	Negotiations In Progress
Blakeley Bluffs Park Reserve Parcel 3	Scott	Lowland-hardwood, oak and maple-basswood forest surrounding stream that drains to the MN River	Fee Title	80.5	-	-	Private	Scott County	Negotiations In Progress
Blakeley Bluffs Park Reserve Parcel 4	Scott	Maple-basswood forest and ag land with potential for prairie and wetland restoration adjacent to an ephemeral stream that drains to the MN River	Fee Title	62.1	-	-	Private	Scott County	Negotiations In Progress
Blakeley Bluffs Park Reserve Parcel 5	Scott	Maple-basswood and oak forest along with ag land with potential for prairie and wetland restoration adjacent to an ephemeral stream that drains to the MN River	Fee Title	21.7	-	-	Private	Scott County	Negotiations In Progress
Blakeley Bluffs Park Reserve Parcel 6	Scott	Maple-basswood forest and ag land with potential for reforestation, prairie and wetland restoration	Fee Title	29.8	-	-	Private	Scott County	Negotiations In Progress
Blakeley Bluffs Park Reserve Parcel 7	Scott	Maple-basswood forest and ag land with potential for prairie and wetland restoration adjacent to an ephemeral stream that drains to the MN River	Fee Title	75.6	-	-	Private	Scott County	Negotiations In Progress
Blakeley Bluffs Park Reserve Parcel 8	Scott	Maple-basswood forest and ag land with potential for prairie, forest, and wetland restoration	Fee Title	71.1	-	-	Private	Scott County	Negotiations In Progress
Blakeley Bluffs Park Reserve Parcel 9	Scott	Maple-basswood and oak forest along with ag land with potential for prairie, forest, and wetland restoration	Fee Title	13	-	-	Private	Scott County	Negotiations In Progress
Cedar Lake Farm Regional Park Parcel 1	Scott	Ag land with potential for prairie and wetland restoration	Fee Title	59.9	0	-	Private	Scott County	Negotiations In Progress
Diamond Lake Regional Trail Parcel 1	Hennepin	Parcel is on Diamond Lake	Fee Title	10.1	0.1	-	Private	Three Rivers Park District	Negotiations In Progress

Diamond Lake Regional Trail Parcel 10	Hennepin	Undeveloped wetlands and ag land for restoration	Fee Title	34.3	0	-	Private	Three Rivers Park District	Negotiations In Progress
Diamond Lake Regional Trail Parcel 2	Hennepin	Parcel is on Diamond Lake	Fee Title	66.2	0.5	-	Private	Three Rivers Park District	Negotiations In Progress
Diamond Lake Regional Trail Parcel 3	Hennepin	Parcel is on Grass Lake (wetland)	Fee Title	10	0.2	-	Private	Three Rivers Park District	Negotiations In Progress
Diamond Lake Regional Trail Parcel 4	Hennepin	Undeveloped parcel under threat of development, adjacent to land under conservation easement	Fee Title	9.5	0	-	Private	Three Rivers Park District	Negotiations In Progress
Diamond Lake Regional Trail Parcel 5	Hennepin	Undeveloped wetlands and woodlands along west shoreline of French Lake	Fee Title	16.4	0.6	-	Private	Three Rivers Park District	Negotiations In Progress
Diamond Lake Regional Trail Parcel 6	Hennepin	Undeveloped wetlands, woodlands, and ag land for restoration	Fee Title	77.9	0	-	Private	Three Rivers Park District	Negotiations In Progress
Diamond Lake Regional Trail Parcel 7	Hennepin	Undeveloped wetlands, woodlands, and ag land for restoration	Fee Title	9.2	0	-	Private	Three Rivers Park District	Negotiations In Progress
Diamond Lake Regional Trail Parcel 8	Hennepin	Undeveloped wetlands, woodlands, and ag land for restoration		57.3	0	-	Private	Three Rivers Park District	Negotiations In Progress
Diamond Lake Regional Trail Parcel 9	Hennepin	Undeveloped wetlands, woodlands, and ag land for restoration	Fee Title	60.9	0	-	Private	Three Rivers Park District	Negotiations In Progress
Doyle-Kennefick Regional Park Parcel 1	Scott	Ag and grassland with potential for restoration surrounding stream that drains to significant shoreland on St. Catherine Lake.	Fee Title	79	0.6	-	Private	Scott County	Negotiations In Progress
Doyle-Kennefick Regional Park Parcel 2	Scott	Wetland and lowland hardwood forest with ag land with potential for prairie, forest, or wetland restoration	Fee Title	28	-	-	Private	Scott County	Negotiations In Progress
Doyle-Kennefick Regional Park Parcel 3	Scott	Ag land adjacent to wetland and Lennon Lake with potential for prairie or wetland restoration	Fee Title	65.3	0.2	-	Private	Scott County	Negotiations In Progress
Lake Byllesby Regional Park Parcel 1	Dakota	Forest and woodlands, Cannon River and Chub Creek shoreline	Easement - Other	81	0.7	-	Private	Dakota County	Negotiations In Progress

Lake Marion Greenway Regional Trail Parcel 1	Dakota	Grasslands along South Creek	Fee Title	38	0.8	-	Private	Dakota County	Negotiations In Progress
Lake Marion Greenway Regional Trail Parcel 2	Dakota	Grasslands along South Creek	Fee Title	10	0.3	-	Private	Dakota County	Negotiations In Progress
Lake Marion Greenway Regional Trail Parcel 3	Dakota	Grasslands along South Creek	Fee Title	11	0.2	-	Private	Dakota County	Negotiations In Progress
Miesville Ravine Park Reserve Parcel 1	Dakota	Partially cultivated land for restoration, can provide sustainable water access to the Cannon River	Fee Title	9	0.1	-	Private	Dakota County	Negotiations In Progress
Miesville Ravine Park Reserve Parcel 2	Dakota	Forested hills and bluffs, cultivated land for restoration	Easement - Other	69	0	-	Private	Dakota County	Negotiations In Progress
Miller Lake Regional Park Parcel 1	Carver	Site contains forest, prairie/grassland, and a creek running into Miller Lake	Fee Title	160	-	-	Private	Carver County	Negotiations In Progress
Miller Lake Regional Park Parcel 2	Carver	Site contains a quarter mile of shoreline of Miller Lake	Fee Title	80	0.25	-	Private	Carver County	Negotiations In Progress
North Creek Greenway Regional Trail Parcel 1	Dakota	Grasslands, woodlands, and cultivated land for restoration along North Creek	Fee Title	50	0.6	-	Private	Dakota County	Negotiations In Progress
North Creek Greenway Regional Trail Parcel 2	Dakota	Grasslands, woodlands, and cultivated land for restoration along North Creek	Fee Title	37	0.5	-	Private	Dakota County	Negotiations In Progress
North Creek Greenway Regional Trail Parcel 3	Dakota	Grasslands, woodlands, and cultivated land for restoration with a small segment of North Creek	Fee Title	10	0.02	-	Private	Dakota County	Negotiations In Progress
North Creek Greenway Regional Trail Parcel 4	Dakota	Grasslands, woodlands, and cultivated land for restoration with tributary to North Creek	Fee Title	10	0.2	-	Private	Dakota County	Negotiations In Progress
North Creek Greenway Regional Trail Parcel 5	Dakota	Grasslands and cultivated land for restoration along South Creek	Fee Title	16	0	-	Private	Dakota County	Negotiations In Progress
North Creek Greenway Regional Trail Parcel 6	Dakota	Grasslands and wetlands along Vermillion River	Fee Title	26	0.7	-	Private	Dakota County	Negotiations In Progress
Rosemount Greenway Regional Trail Parcel 1	Dakota	Forested hillside and partially cultivated land for restoration	Easement - Other	18	-	-	Private	Dakota County	Negotiations In Progress
Rush Creek Regional Trail Parcel 1	Hennepin	Undeveloped wooded parcel adjacent to Rush Creek	Fee Title	3.6	0.1	-	Private	Three Rivers Park District	Negotiations In Progress

Rush Creek Regional Trail Parcel 2	Hennepin	Undeveloped wooded parcel adjacent to Rush Creek	Fee Title	3.6	0.1	-	Private	Three Rivers Park District	Negotiations In Progress
Rush Creek Regional Trail Parcel 3	Hennepin	Undeveloped wooded parcel on Rush Creek	Fee Title	2	0.1	-	Private	Three Rivers Park District	Negotiations In Progress
Rush Creek Regional Trail Parcel 4	Hennepin	Undeveloped wooded parcel adjacent to Rush Creek	Fee Title	5.7	0.1	-	Private	Three Rivers Park District	Negotiations In Progress
Rush Creek Regional Trail Parcel 5	Hennepin	Undeveloped wooded parcel on Rush Creek	Fee Title	2.4	0.2	-	Private	Three Rivers Park District	Negotiations In Progress
Rush Creek Regional Trail Parcel 6	Hennepin	Undeveloped wooded parcel on Rush Creek	Fee Title	0.7	0.1	-	Private	Three Rivers Park District	Negotiations In Progress
Rush Creek Regional Trail Parcel 7	Hennepin	Undeveloped wooded parcel on Rush Creek	Fee Title	1	0.1	-	Private	Three Rivers Park District	Negotiations In Progress
West Mississippi River Regional Trail Parcel 1	Hennepin	Parcel is on the Mississippi River	Fee Title	1.75	0.1	-	Private	Three Rivers Park District	Negotiations In Progress
West Mississippi River Regional Trail Parcel 2	Hennepin	Parcel is on the Mississippi River	Fee Title	4.8	0.1	-	Private	Three Rivers Park District	Negotiations In Progress
West Mississippi River Regional Trail Parcel 3	Hennepin	Very close to the Mississippi River-connected via other TRPD property	Fee Title	1.1	0	-	Private	Three Rivers Park District	Negotiations In Progress
West Mississippi River Regional Trail Parcel 4	Hennepin	Wooded parcel on the Mississippi River and adjacent to TRPD-owned property	Fee Title	0.8	0.1	-	Private	Three Rivers Park District	Negotiations In Progress
West Mississippi River Regional Trail Parcel 5	Hennepin	Wooded parcel on the Mississippi River	Fee Title	1	0.1	-	Private	Three Rivers Park District	Negotiations In Progress
Totals				2,851.75	15.77	-			

Fee Acquisition

1. Describe the selection process for identifying and including proposed parcels on the parcel list, including an explanation of the criteria and decision-making process used to rank and prioritize parcels.

The Regional Parks Implementing Agencies have identified parcels that are within their approved park or trail boundaries (or soon to be) and have high natural resource value or restoration potential. These inholdings are currently in private ownership but negotiations have begun in hopes of the Agencies acquiring these properties to protect or restore their natural resources and provide access to the public. The Agencies have identified all properties that meet this criteria and have potential to be acquired within the next few years. Because all of the parcels on this list are crucial to completing the Regional Parks System and they all have natural resources value, parcels will be funded as they become available by willing sellers, on a first-come-first-served basis.

2. List all adopted state, regional, or local natural resource plans in which the lands included in the parcel list are identified for the acquisition purposes you propose. Include the URL to the plan if one is available.

Each parcel on this list has been included in a regional park or trail long-range Plan. Each regional park or trail has its own long-range plan with a plan boundary that identifies all future acquisitions. These long-range plans are developed by the Agencies, and the Agency Boards have approved them. In addition, these long-range plans have been approved by the Metropolitan Council upon recommendation from the Metropolitan Parks and Open Space Commission and the Metropolitan Council's Community Development Committee. Each long-range plan should be available on the corresponding Agency's website. The only exceptions are Miller Lake, which is an approved Regional Park Search Area as noted in the Regional Parks Policy Plan, and Baylor Regional Park. The long-range plan for Miller Lake will be completed and approved before funding is available for this acquisition. The long-range plan for Baylor Regional Park will be amended to include these additional parcels as they provide a unique opportunity to expand natural resources protection.

3. For any parcels acquired in fee title, a restoration and management plan must be prepared. Summarize the components and expected outcomes of restoration and management plans for parcels acquired by your organization, how these plans are kept on file by your organization, and overall strategies for long-term plan implementation, including how long-term maintenance and management needs of the parcel will be financed into the future.

The Agencies will prepare their own restoration and management plan for each parcel acquired. These plans will identify activities and timelines for natural resource restoration work if needed. They will also identify the long-term maintenance and management needs, the time frame for those needs, and the sources of funding to meet those needs. The Agencies will keep these on file for reference.

4. For each parcel to be conveyed to a State of Minnesota entity (e.g., DNR) after purchase, provide a statement confirming that county board approval will be obtained.

These parcels will be purchased and held by the Agencies. They are all required to obtain county or park board approval before purchase and proof of approval is included in the Met Council business items awarding the acquisitions.

5. If applicable (see M.S. 116P.17), provide a statement confirming that written approval from the DNR Commissioner will be obtained 10 business days prior to any final acquisition transaction.

Not applicable

Easement (Other) Acquisition

1. Describe the selection process for identifying and including proposed parcels on the parcel list, including an explanation of the criteria and decision-making process used to rank and prioritize parcels.

The Regional Parks Implementing Agencies have identified parcels that are within their approved park or trail boundaries and have high natural resource value or restoration potential. These inholdings are currently in private ownership but negotiations have begun in hopes of the Agencies acquiring these properties to protect or restore their natural resources and provide access to the public. The ten Agencies have identified all properties that meet this criteria

that have potential to be acquired in the next three years. All of the parcels on this list are crucial to completing the Regional Parks System. Parcels will be funded as they become available, on a first-come-first-served basis. Most of the easements included in this proposal will help protect wetlands and/or shoreline of rivers, creeks, or lakes, along with providing recreation opportunities. Acquiring these easements will prevent private development along these water bodies, protecting water quality and habitat for fish and wildlife.

2. List all adopted state, regional, or local natural resource plans in which the lands included in the parcel list are identified for the acquisition purposes you propose. Include the URL to the plan if one is available.

Each parcel on this list has been included in a regional park or trail long-range plan. Each regional park or trail has its own long-range plan with a plan boundary that identifies all future acquisitions. These long-range plans are developed by the Agencies, and the locally-elected Agency Boards have approved them. In addition, these long-range plans have been approved by the Metropolitan Council upon recommendation from the Metropolitan Parks and Open Space Commission and the Metropolitan Council's Community Development Committee. Each long-range plan should be available on the corresponding Agency's website.

3. For any parcels acquired in fee title, a restoration and management plan must be prepared. Summarize the components and expected outcomes of restoration and management plans for parcels acquired by your organization, how these plans are kept on file by your organization, and overall strategies for long-term plan implementation, including how long-term maintenance and management needs of the parcel will be financed into the future.

The Agencies will prepare their own restoration and management plan for each parcel acquired. These plans will identify activities and timelines for natural resource restoration work if needed. They will also identify the long-term maintenance and management needs, the time frame for those needs, and the sources of funding to meet those needs. The Agencies will keep these plans on file for reference.

4. For each parcel to be conveyed to a State of Minnesota entity (e.g., DNR) after purchase, provide a statement confirming that county board approval will be obtained.

These parcels will be purchased and held by the Agencies. They are all required to obtain county or park board approval before purchase and proof of approval is included in the Met Council business items awarding the acquisitions.

5. If applicable (see M.S. 116P.17), provide a statement confirming that written approval from the DNR Commissioner will be obtained 10 business days prior to any final acquisition transaction.

Not applicable

Attachments

Required Attachments

Map

File: [ba6c9350-ad8.pdf](#)

Alternate Text for Map

Parcel maps organized by Agency and Regional Park or Trail unit...

Administrative Use

Does your project include restoration or acquisition of land rights?

Yes: Easement (Other) Acquisition, Fee Acquisition,

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?

No

Is the purpose of the acquisition for construction of a building(s), trail, campground, or other fixed capital asset costing \$10,000 or more or large-scale stream or wetland restoration, either now or in the future?

No

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:

Park agency staff provided parcel lists and maps

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

N/A