



Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund

2026 Request for Proposal

General Information

Proposal ID: 2026-474

Proposal Title: City of Eveleth - Park and Trail System

Project Manager Information

Name: Jackie Monahan-Junek

Organization: City of Eveleth

Office Telephone: (218) 744-7563

Email: jackie@eveleth.gov

Project Basic Information

Project Summary: The City of Eveleth intends to construct a new park and trail system connecting to the City's 2.5 mile loop trail system and the Mesabi Regional Trail.

ENRTF Funds Requested: \$334,000

Proposed Project Completion: December 31, 2027

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): NE

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

Region(s): NE

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.

The Virginia, Eveleth, and Gilbert School Districts have merged into new educational facilities. The School District has vacated the existing buildings. The structures in Eveleth, some over 100 years old, comprised 500,000 square feet across 19 acres. The School District searched for a public or private user for these facilities for two years, but none expressed interest. As a result, the site provides no value to the city, lacks a tax base and economic activity, and offers no public use in its current state. The challenge or opportunity for the city lies in developing a community-supported plan to repurpose the site, allowing it to meet the needs of the community once again.

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.

Starting in 2022, the city launched a community planning process to decide how to repurpose the site. This process concluded in 2025, and the city now has a community-supported plan for repurposing the site. This 19-acre site will be transformed into a vibrant mixed-use residential neighborhood linked to the Mesabi Regional Trail, the city's park system, and downtown. This project will feature 28 single-family homes and up to 150 multi-family housing units, all centered around a 7.3-acre community park that includes a preserved community building, existing tennis courts, and a playground. A key feature of this new neighborhood is the 7.3-acre linear community park, which extends .40 miles through the area, fostering connectivity within the neighborhood and to nearby locations via 1.1 miles of trails. This neighborhood trail system serves as a vital connection in a 2.5-mile loop that links the new neighborhood to the Mesabi Regional Trail, situated just 0.43 miles away, as well as the city's two main parks and downtown.

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 significantly enhances the amount of green space in the city's center that serves the community. A key feature of this new neighborhood is the 7.3-acre linear community park, which extends .40 miles through the area, fostering connectivity within the neighborhood and to nearby locations via 1.1 miles of trails. This neighborhood trail system serves as a vital connection in a 2.5-mile loop that links the new neighborhood to the Mesabi Regional Trail, situated just 0.43 miles away, as well as the city's two main parks and downtown.

Activities and Milestones

Activity 1: Trail Construction

Activity Budget: \$334,000

Activity Description:

The activity consists of constructing 1.1 miles of trails within the 7.3-acre park that is situated within the larger 19-acre project site. (Objective of the activity): Complete the construction of the community park trail system. (Tasks Involved): Prepare detailed trail construction plans, bid the project, construct the project, and close the project. (Specific Outcomes): A new community 1.1-mile-long park trail system with connections to the broader community and the Mesabi Regional Trail. (Impact): Residents of the new neighborhood will have the opportunity to bike, walk, and run within their area, throughout the city, and along the Mesabi Regional Trail system.

Activity Milestones:

Description	Approximate Completion Date
Design	March 31, 2026
Pre-Construction	July 31, 2026
Construction	September 30, 2027
Close Out	October 31, 2027

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 city will fund and provide ongoing maintenance of the park and trail system, as well program park recreational activities.

Project Manager and Organization Qualifications

Project Manager Name: Jackie Monahan-Junek

Job Title: City Administrator

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

City Administrator with over 21 years of experience managing complicated and a diverse set of city projects.

Organization: City of Eveleth

Organization Description:

City of Eveleth, Municipal Corporation

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	Constructing Trail System				3		\$334,000
							Sub Total	\$334,000
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	\$334,000

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 Regional Trails & Housing Development Grant	Trail Construction	Potential	\$112,000
			State Sub Total	\$112,000
Non-State				
			Non State Sub Total	-
			Funds Total	\$112,000

Total Project Cost: \$446,000

This amount accurately reflects total project cost?

Yes

Attachments

Required Attachments

Visual Component

File: [aa61e597-790.docx](#)

Alternate Text for Visual Component

The first graphic describes the 7.3 acre park and 1.1 mile trail system. The second graphic describes how the park trail system connects the park to the other parts of the city and the Mesabi Regional Trail....

Financial Capacity

Title	File
2023AnnualAuditReport	e7096b13-b43.pdf

Board Resolution or Letter

Title	File
Resolution	714be647-823.pdf

Supplemental Attachments

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

Title	File
Capital Construction Project Questionnaire	1611918e-b66.pdf
Capital Construction Budget Addendum	a43fd7f4-4f6.xlsx

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:

Robert Streetar, Streetar Consulting

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