



Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund

2026 Request for Proposal

General Information

Proposal ID: 2026-547

Proposal Title: Windermere Bluff Park

Project Manager Information

Name: Andrea Harrell

Organization: City of Shakopee

Office Telephone: (952) 233-9321

Email: aharrell@shakopeemn.gov

Project Basic Information

Project Summary: Acquisition of sensitive habitat area endangered by development encroachment.

ENRTF Funds Requested: \$2,200,000

Proposed Project Completion: June 30, 2027

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?

In the Future

Narrative

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

The bluff parcel on the west end of Shakopee was identified as a critical habitat and community asset in a 2015 study and was confirmed in an Alternative Urban Area Report that identified the bluff as a critical habitat especially for the Rusty Patched Bumble Bee and Northern Long-eared Bat. The area was proposed open space in the City of Shakopee's 2040 Comprehensive Plan. The current owners of the property are selling the proposed parcel and the parcels around it. The City of Shakopee has the opportunity to purchase the bluff area to ensure the land and its critical habitat.

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 funding requested would allow the City to purchase the bluff parcel. Additionally, the neighboring residential subdivisions have set aside their adjacent bluff areas as part of the development allowing the public access. This would allow the City to construct paved trails adjacent to the proposed Windermere Bluff Park property. The City would like to acquire the remaining bluff and adjacent forest to protect the habitat and remove invasive plant species. By allowing the City to purchase the property, designating it as restricted park land, LCCMR can ensure the bluff and its habitat will remain intact for decades to come.

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 project will preserve the entire bluff, adjacent forest, and its habitat in perpetuity including this unusual habitat. Residents and visitors would have the ability to walk, run, and bike along the area, observing the habitat and its inhabitants.

Activities and Milestones

Activity 1: Acquisition of property

Activity Budget: \$2,200,000

Activity Description:

Complete the appraisal process and acquire the property

Activity Milestones:

Description	Approximate Completion Date
Complete the Appraisal Process	December 31, 2026
Complete Purchase Negotiations	March 31, 2027
Finalize the Purchase of the Property and Designate as Restricted Park Land	June 30, 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 land to be purchased will be protected under public ownership, designated as restricted park land. All land will be maintained by the City of Shakopee's Engineering and Public Works departments, as needed, including the maintenance and removal of invasive plant species detected in the park and will be funded from local tax revenue.

Project Manager and Organization Qualifications

Project Manager Name: Andrea Harrell

Job Title: Grants & Special Projects Coordinator

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

Andrea Harrell has an Masters of Public Administration degree from St. Cloud State University and has over 10 years experience managing grant projects, including projects funded by Federal-level earmarks resulting in millions of dollars being invested in the Shakopee community. Andrea is supported in this project by Michael Kerski, Director of Planning & Development, who has 44 years of experience and holds degrees from University of Wisconsin, Madison including a Master's degree in Architecture, specializing in Urban Design.

Organization: City of Shakopee

Organization Description:

The City of Shakopee is a municipality located in Scott County, in the Southwest Metro Area.

Budget Summary

Category / Name	Subcategory or Type	Description	Purpose	Gen. Ineligible	% Benefits	# FTE	Classified Staff?	\$ Amount
Personnel								
							Sub Total	-
Contracts and Services								
							Sub Total	-
Equipment, Tools, and Supplies								
							Sub Total	-
Capital Expenditures								
		Property Acquisition	Acquisition of bluff area and adjacent woodland	X				\$2,200,000
							Sub Total	\$2,200,000
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	\$2,200,000

Classified Staff or Generally Ineligible Expenses

Category/Name	Subcategory or Type	Description	Justification Ineligible Expense or Classified Staff Request
Capital Expenditures		Property Acquisition	No ineligible expenses are being requested. Additional Explanation : The land will be designated as restricted park land.

Non ENRTF Funds

Category	Specific Source	Use	Status	Amount
State				
			State Sub Total	-
Non-State				
Cash	Funds are allocated from the City of Shakopee Open Space and Park Development Fund budget secured from local tax revenue.	Acquisition of Property	Secured	\$1,200,000
			Non State Sub Total	\$1,200,000
			Funds Total	\$1,200,000

Total Project Cost: \$3,400,000

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
Bluff Acquisition Zone	Scott	The site is primarily bluff with woods and some prairie areas, and is critical habitat of the Rusty Patched Bumble Bee and Northern Long-eared Bat.	Fee Title	40.35	0	\$2,200,000	Private	City of Shakopee	Has Not Begun
Totals				40.35	0	\$2,200,000			

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 property and it's neighboring parcels are being sold by the current property owner. An adjacent property is owned by the City and would allow the continuation of the current park land. Additionally, the bluff property in the west end of Shakopee was identified as critical habitat in 2015 and confirmed in an Alternative Urban Area Report.

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.

The land was identified in the City of Shakopee's 2040 Comprehensive Plan as a critical habitat. The Alternative Urban Area Report can be found here: <https://drive.google.com/file/d/1cYkB3TkexJZcyc-a-2GaMyw92WQ0zdT2/view?usp=sharing>

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 City will utilize the Board of Soil and Water Resources "Native Vegetation Establishment and Enhancement Guidelines" as a reference for any future vegetation maintenance occurring on the property and take into account their recommendations for forest restoration/enhancement. This may include recommendations for species diversity, tree planting, forest management, and climate change considerations among other applicable information that is provided within the Guidelines.

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.

The parcel will be purchased and remain the property of the City of Shakopee as restricted park land. Any required approval will be obtained, as needed.

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.

Written approval from the DNR Commissioner will be obtained prior to the final acquisition of the property.

Attachments

Required Attachments

Map

File: [4fb94a18-a9c.pdf](#)

Alternate Text for Map

Page 1 is the property outlines showing the land currently owned by the City and that to be acquired. Page 2 is the parcel map showing the bluff elevation in purple with the property to be purchased outlined in red....

Financial Capacity

Title	File
2023 City of Shakopee Audit	7d743f26-4fe.pdf

Board Resolution or Letter

Title	File
Shakopee City Council Resolution R2025-032	724f4e63-908.pdf

Administrative Use

Does your project include restoration or acquisition of land rights?

Yes: 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:

Michael Kerski, City of Shakopee

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