



General

This section provides the basic information about the park or trail and the organizations responsible for it.

Park/Trail ID # 16-037D	Funding Application 18-019F	Park/Trail Name Hartley Park
Last Update July 14, 2018		
Project Name Increasing Opportunities and Access at Hartley Park and Nature Center	District 1	Existing Acres or Miles 690

Project Description

Hartley Park and Hartley Nature Center (Center) offer unique, immersive nature experiences within the greater northern Minnesota region. Hartley Park is endowed with an extensive 17-mile trail system serving hikers, mountain bikers, bicyclists, runners, dog walkers, cross country skiers, snowshoers, photographers, neighborhood residents, birders, anglers, and bow-hunters. The Center is an environmental education hub for visitors as well as program participants of all ages. Programs include adult, family, and school-age outreach education, early childhood programs, field trips, youth camps, nature-based play, special events, and more. The Nature Center's amenities include restroom facilities, park information, equipment rentals, gathering and conference rooms, and encourages passive learning via a green building and natural history exhibits. Nature Center Capacity More than thirty years ago, a group of area environmental visionaries dreamed of creating a nature center in Hartley Park that would instill a love and appreciation of the outdoors by educating kids about nature. Since 1987, Hartley Nature Center has been working to understand, interpret, and improve Hartley Park's ecological health. The Center has conducted large scale plant surveys, monitored the water quality of Tischer Creek, and worked to identify and combat the spread of invasive species, among many other projects. When the Nature Center building was completed in 2003, the City and the Center set a goal of 18,000 contact hours of environmental education programming annually. During the 2016-17 school year, the Center provided over 69,000 contact hours of programming through camps, field trips, Hartley Nature Preschool and other public programs,. The Center has four classrooms, interpretive exhibits, equipment rental, and a natural play area. Facility rentals serve over 600 patrons annually. Even with the addition of a yurt classroom in 2013, and a timbered pavilion and composting outhouse facility in 2017, the Center has been forced to cap, and even cancel, some programs due to insufficient space. Hartley Nature Center's core programs have been successful beyond the dreams of its founders. Last year, field trip and summer camp programs served over 6,400 and 1,100 children respectively. Hartley Nature Preschool opened in 2013 with 62 children enrolled across four class sessions. The school now has 92 children enrolled across six class sessions, with growing wait lists for half and full-day offerings. With program growth over the years, coupled with new program initiatives, the Nature Center building has become too small to meet current and future needs. The incredible success and growth of the Center is a testament to the quality of the Center staff and programming: the Center is bursting at the seams – and that is a good thing! Over the next 30 years, the mission of Hartley Nature Center will become increasingly important to the well-being of society. The

founders of the Center couldn't have known the extent to which technology would further separate children from nature – or how continued urbanization would see more people living in urban than rural areas and needing access to natural areas. To meet the challenges of the future, to continue to serve the ever-increasing need to connect children and adults with nature, the Center must have adequate facilities. It is critical for the Center to expand and improve the existing building. The Center governance conducted a feasibility study to explore how a campus addition (Attachment A - Campus Expansion) will add to the environmental education, restoration, and recreation programming at the Nature Center and position the Center for growth to meet current and future demand. Additional program and service space as well as a yurt and pavilion will allow the Center to expand school field trips, camps, preschool, as well as host public meetings and develop new programs. Building and site improvement plans include a 5,200-square-foot addition to the original 7,500-square-foot building that adds two new classrooms, a second restroom, an updated exhibit hall, a parent/family gathering area, an expanded office, and a public meeting room for organizational partners and the broader community. Hartley completed a yurt and pavilion last year and upcoming improvements to the outdoor campus include an amphitheater and stage. This request supports the two classrooms, community meeting and gathering spaces, and a restroom as well as the redesign of the existing exhibit hall to better orient, educate and inform visitors of recreational opportunities and the cultural and natural history of the Park. Trail capacity and accessibility improvements Hartley's 17-mile trail system serves hikers, mountain bikers, trail runners, dog walkers, cross country skiers, snowshoers, climbers, photographers, neighborhood residents, birders, anglers, bow-hunters and Hartley Nature Center program participants. The Superior Hiking Trail, a segment of the national North Country Scenic Trail, and a segment of the 100+-mile Duluth Traverse multipurpose trail run through the park. Trail counters recorded 90,000 trail uses for 2018 at a collection date of mid-July. Likely numbers at the Hartley pond are expected to near 200,000 trail uses this year. Most of Hartley's trails were difficult or impossible to access for those in wheelchairs, with strollers or otherwise needing wide, hard surface trails. Recent trail upgrades have increased accessibility for the most popular core trails and provide an improved experience for a broader spectrum of users. However, lack of wayfinding continues to present a significant barrier. Trail users can get lost in the Park because of its sheer size and the complexity of its trail system. Frequent and unmarked trail intersections are confusing. This was exacerbated by the July 2016 storms that leveled significant portions of Hartley and destroyed or closed many trails. Duluth completed a wayfinding and signage plan (Attachment B - Wayfinding Design) that will be implemented across Duluth parks and trails. The full plan is available at <http://www.duluthmn.gov/parks/parks-planning/city-wide-gate-and-wayfinding-master-plan/>. Hartley will be the first major park facility of its size and complexity to benefit from the plan. Wayfinding improvements will include: ? Comprehensive trail map with 'you are here' locations at all major trail intersections, ? Trail distances on wayfinding signage for the all trails, ? Accessible routes ? Names for trail segments that make them easy to identify and access, ? Degree of difficulty of each trail segment, ? Identification of each trail segment's intended user group(s), ? Kiosk maps at all entrances to the trail system, ? Identification of key 'Points of Interest.' Parking and pedestrian access improvements An expanded Center and trail system with improved access and wayfinding happily means additional visitors. Planning for the future will ensure adequate parking for trail users during Center programming and vice versa, as well as create a safe pedestrian access route for the first time. The main entrance to the park is off Woodland Ave (Attachment C Main Entrance Parking). The parking lot serves as a primary trailhead and Nature Center parking. This parking lot is at its maximum size as it is bounded on all sides by streams, wetlands, the Nature Center or a steep slope. Widening the road to accommodate parking on one side will create 68 additional spaces with minimal disruption to the adjacent environment and at a significantly reduced cost than a traditional parking lot. A sidewalk will border the roadway connecting Woodland Ave, adjoining neighborhoods, and the bus stop to the trail head and Nature Center. Other connecting sidewalks to the Nature Center will prevent social trails.

Project Area Maps

Hartley Boundary Map

http://dms.gmrptcommission.org/uploads/funding/18-019F/Hartley_Legacy_Boundary_efeb9e.pdf

Hartley Location Map

http://dms.gmrptcommission.org/uploads/funding/18-019F/DWP_Location_Map_b0574b.pdf

Organization

City of Duluth

Lead Contact**Full Name**

Will Roche

Lead Contact**Title**

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Mailing Address

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55802

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Funding

Development Type

Development

Acres of Park Land to be Acquired

0

New Trail Miles to be Acquired

0

Types**New Trail Miles Developed**

0

Miles of Trail Restored or Improved

0

Trail head facilities developed

0

Number of trail bridges/culverts to be developed/restored

0

Number of Connecting People to the Outdoors**Programs created/administered**

323

Project Outcomes

Evaluation of Impact

Nature Center metrics

Expanded program capacity. Field trip: Increase from 45 to 60 children per day. Preschool: From 92 students to between 105 and 144 students (depending on structure of offerings, half-day, full day, etc.) Summer camp: From roughly 1,200 to 1,600.

Deliverable: Number of people served and programs offered over base.

Performance measures: The Nature Center tracks educational programming and events at the center and has the ability to document increased programming opportunities provided by additional space. Data will include numbers served, number of programs, number of rentals pre and post expansion.

Trail metrics

The City of Duluth serves 3.5 million visitors annually; how many of those visitors are on Hartley's trails has not been quantified. Solid data is necessary to inform future planning and programming decisions.

Deliverable: Number of users of Hartley Park facilities, annually and over the life of the project period. Parks will engage volunteers at the main parking lot to solicit place of residence and report on numbers of resident and out-of-town visitors.

Performance measure: Data will be gathered with The TRAFx Infrared Trail Counter. TRAFx counts people walkers, hikers, joggers, inline skaters, horseback riders, cyclists, etc. on trails, paths and sidewalks. It senses and detects the infrared wavelength that people emit. Unlike other trail counters, it does not require a receiving unit or reflector to operate. This results in a very compact, unobtrusive design that reduces risk of vandalism. The TRAFx Infrared Trail Counter also works well in winter conditions on snowshoe, ski and snowmobile trails. This versatile counter has proven itself from Alaska to Australia, from mountains to

deserts, and from wilderness areas to urban areas. (Attachment D - TRAFx Counters)

Legacy Pillars:

- Connect People and the Outdoors
- Acquire Land and Create Opportunities
- Take Care of What We Have
- Coordinate Among Providers

Connection to Pillars

Connect People and the Outdoors

Scale and magnitude is sufficient to affect a significant number of active and potential program participants, park visitors and/or trail users

Scale: Hartley Nature Center and Hartley Park provide a venue for public environmental education through core programs field trips, nature preschool, summer camps, special events, and public programs that connect more than 25,000 park visitors and 10,000 school-aged children annually to the outdoors. The Center has interpretive exhibits, equipment rental, a natural play area, and is open daily to provide advice and information about the park and Center programming.

Hartley Park itself has an extensive 17-mile trail system serving hikers, mountain bikers, bicyclists, runners, dog walkers, cross country skiers, snowshoers, photographers, neighborhood residents, birders, anglers, and bow-hunters throughout 690 acres of diverse habitats.

Has attainable goals and objectives accompanied by a well-developed outreach and marketing plan

Hartley's Master Plan establishes a framework for implementing improvements and managing resources over the next 5-10 years. The goals include expanded programming opportunities to inspire lifelong connections with nature through education, play, and exploration, as well as to preserve and enhance the distinctive character of Hartley Park as a regionally and locally unique place. As noted above, the Center has significantly surpassed its contact goals to such a significant degree that expansion is critical to continued growth and service to the public. The building expansion is well on its way to reality.

Expansion will enable the Center to serve 60 field trip students at a time, up from the 45 now served. Hartley Nature Preschool would expand into an additional classroom that could serve up to 64 half-day students across four different class offerings. In the summer months and during school breaks, camp programs will use the new classrooms, allowing Hartley to offer up to four additional camps per week, serving up to 480 additional campers per summer. Building expansion will create space for expanded public programs by the Center and its many organizational partners. Last year, the Center offered programs on orienteering, geology, wildflowers, frogs and salamanders, Hartley Park history, fat-biking, snowshoeing, and kick-sledding.

Expanded parking and sidewalk: Adequate parking will ensure that visitors traveling to Hartley Nature Center and Park to connect with the outdoors have access. The new safe pedestrian route will allow bus commuters and nearby residents to safely access the park on foot.

Utilizes existing program models with a proven record of effectiveness and best practices, or melds successful models into new, innovative, or unique approaches with reasoned justification

Education models and expertise: The Park is a laboratory, classroom and regional showcase that engages volunteers, citizen scientists, college students and recreational users to learn about, create and advocate for ecological restoration and preservation. The Playscape connects families to the natural world through unstructured free play in a beautiful and creative outdoor environment.

The Center boasts high-quality program staff, the majority of whom possess Masters degrees in Education, Biology, Environmental Education and even Experiential Education with a focus on educational innovation. Other staff hold Bachelors degrees in Parks and Recreation Management, Early Childhood Education, Wildlife Management, Biology, and English. In the Centers early childhood programming only one teacher is required by law to have a Minnesota teaching license but again, more than half have earned teaching certification. Post-program surveys are a testament to the positive impact the Centers programming

One early childhood family wrote an open letter thanking and praising the gifted teachers at the Nature Center. In the Outside in Duluth blog post, parents Kristina and Tim expressed all valuable lessons bestowed on their daughter and all of the children in the program. They described a long list of how the Nature Centers mission was delivered in a deep, transformational way. The letter touched on everything from how the Centers teachers help children learn to honor and reconcile their emotions of frustration and anxiety, to building physical confidence through nature play where they learn things like risk assessment and balance. They also talked about instilling tools for early literacy, and ultimately, a reverence of, and love for, nature that will go with their daughter into adulthood. You can read more at: <https://www.outsideinduluth.com/an-open-letter-to-our-daughters-nature-preschool-teachers/>

Is deliberate and intentional in inviting, welcoming, and engaging diverse populations, and has a well-developed plan to do so

Identifies barriers to visitation/participation and has specific strategies to address Diversity and barriers:

Hartley Nature Center partners with school districts throughout the region to provide nature-based field trip opportunities. Rentals enable environmental education, school and civic groups to host nature-based events. For example, Hartley partnered with Valley Youth Center to provide free monthly nature and recreation experiences for low-income youth. The Center provides scholarship support for field trip, camp, and preschool programs. Last year the Center hosted free school field trips for 1,730 students from throughout the region, including free bussing for 1,552 students. Sixty children received camp scholarships and three received preschool scholarships. Collectively, the Nature Center provided over \$20,000 worth of scholarships to schools and families in 2016-17. The Center's leadership is charged with ensuring that these quality experiences are there for all to enjoy and for future generations through value-added programs and services.

Enlists partners among community groups and recreation industry sectors for mutual benefit, to advance delivery strategies, and to maximize return on public investments

Partners with schools and community based organizations, as noted above, are central to the Centers programming and mission. The Center also hosts interns from University of MN Duluth (UMD) and the College of St. Scholastica. The Center partnered with UMD to install, test and monitor a new solar storage battery in the building, the first of its kind in Minnesota. UMD graduate students worked with nature center staff to develop the educational displays for the re-vamped public exhibit hall.

Able to provide trained and effective leadership with the proven ability to deliver high-quality outdoor recreation experiences

Center staff are part of a community collaborative called Youth Outdoors Duluth, which works to connect underrepresented youth to nature-based experiences. The Centers preschool leadership are founding members of the Duluth Nature Play collaborative, whose focus is to educate and enhance opportunities for nature play in Duluth. Through the collaborative, the Center has been a host site for professional development workshops for area educators about value of incorporating nature play into more traditional academic settings, as well as workshops that share practical tips on how to facilitate outdoor learning. In light of the recent Duluth Public Schools report, Kids Outside in 709, this is more relevant than ever. The report indicated that 82% of parents indicated time outside as extremely or very important.

Additional capacity will provide meeting space for community partners and allow development of new

program offerings for a wide range of audiences. Ongoing program partners include, but are not limited to, the McCabe Chapter of the Izaak Walton League, the Lake Superior Steelhead Association, Trout Unlimited, Boulder Lake Environmental Learning Center, Wolf Ridge Environmental Learning Center, Hawk Ridge Bird Observatory, Runa Yoga, and the Arrowhead Chapter of Wild Ones. Partners provide a wealth of information on myriad topics both fun and functional. For example, the city of Duluth hosted an Emerald Ash Borer awareness event that included a walk to view the borer in situ and learn to identify the pest, how to report sightings, and what mitigation options there are.

Restoration partners include Community Action Duluth, which led the effort to plant 3,500 native trees in the Park. MN Power volunteers planted hundreds of white pines through its Rajala Woods Initiative. Rotary Club 25 partnered with the Center to plant 500 trees. Wild Ones partnered with the Center and City to plant 192 milkweed plugs. Cyclists of Gitchee Gumees Shores, Duluth Cross Country Ski, and the Superior Hiking Association all host youth, adult, and family programs and events that build skills and get people out on the trails.

The Center also incorporates the arts in its programming. Duluth Poet Laureates and national poets have performed free, public poetry readings in the Centers yurt and building. Nature poems, in conjunction with wildflower gardens, have been placed throughout the Centers outdoor campus, creating a poetry and wildflower trail loop. Recently, the Duluth Art Institute and the Nature Center have partnered to offer seasonal, affordable painting, felting, and nature sketching classes, beginning with summer painting instruction in the yurt and a plein air by full moon in the fall.

Demonstrates an enduring impact through short-term, intensive interventions, or has a plan for ongoing implementation outside of Legacy funding

Enduring impact: Many of the experiences encountered at the Park or Center are short-term, intensive interventions but because of the Center's extensive partnerships and urban location many visitors are able to return again and again. The Park's 17-mile trail system links to residential neighborhoods around the perimeter of the Park as well as to the University of Minnesota and College of St. Scholastica. Hartley is within easy biking distance from the Lakewalk and connects to the recreational assets of the St. Louis River Corridor. The Lakewalk and the St. Louis River corridors link to state and national trails. Programs and events highlight these connections, and wayfinding will improve the public's experience. Trail connections make the Park eminently accessible as do recently upgraded trails.

Acquisition and Opportunities

Acquisition: The City of Duluth recently applied for and received funds to acquire 16 acres adjoining Hartley Nature Preserve owned by ISD 709-Duluth Public Schools that were platted and marketed for development. An unnamed coldwater tributary, designated by DNR as Tributary 6.5, flows through these parcels. This coldwater tributary has significant flow, with a defined bed and banks, and is fed by small groundwater seeps as well as surface water runoff. Tributary 6.5 enters Tischer Creek approximately 200 yards south of an artificial impoundment and significantly improves the water quality downstream. Tributary 6.5 is consistently colder than the main stem of Tischer. The DNR indicated that this is a critical coldwater base flow source to Tischer and habitat downstream.

Terrestrial restoration will control and/or remove glossy and common buckthorn, reed canary grass, and tansy, opening space and canopy for existing natives. An existing utility right-of-way will be replanted with native forbs and grasses. Connectivity and fish passage will be restored to the original channel that connects the downstream end of Tributary 6.5 to Tischer Creek.

This a significant opportunity not only to restore vital cold water habitat and improve downstream water quality, but to provide interpretive opportunities to the public about the critical need for habitat preservation and restoration.

Opportunities: Unique urban experience: Hartley Park and the Nature Center are located within the urban core of Duluth, providing an opportunity to address the nature deficit experienced by all children but especially those of low income and communities of color. Immersion into a nature-based setting is critical for the young to develop empathy for, and interest in, the natural world, a primary goal of the Minnesota State Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan.

The Parks wild but urban setting provides important proximal access to nature and green space for those with limited free time and mobility all within three hours of Duluth and/or within Duluth's city limits. The Centers presence in the park provides active and affordable programming opportunities for a host of groups and individuals, including area Headstart programs, daycares, schools, and other youth-serving agencies. Hartley appeals to area families because it is really nice on cold days. Its one of the few natural places in Duluth that also has an indoor area so its easy enough to play outside for a while then go into the nature center to warm up, look at the educational displays, have a snack, then go back out to play. Recent improvements to Hartley Park trails and parking has improved accessibility for those in wheelchairs, families with strollers, or others needing a wide, firm-surface trail. The Centers exhibits passive and active opportunities for play and engagement are free and open to the general public. Equipment rental fees are modest, allowing families to engage in varied recreational activities without the usual entry costs and commitment.

Takes Care of What We Have:

Hartley Parks history dates back to the late 1800s and has gone through several transformations. By the middle of the 20th century, people were using the land for a variety of recreational activities though the city did not have the resources to develop Hartley Park. By the 1970s the park was showing the effects of this lack of management through eroded social trails, invasive species, and the collapse of the dam that formed Hartley Pond. Formation of the non-profit Hartley Nature Center in 1987 enabled educational programming and ecological restoration which continues to this day. Numerous user groups (see Coordination below) banded together to restore or develop sustainable trails, upgrade parking and access, remove invasive species and plant native trees and pollinator meadows. The Center continues to facilitate many volunteer events to remove invasives and/or plant natives and core programs promote stewardship of Hartley Park and the region's natural resources.

Coordinate Among Partners

Duluth has successfully implemented a public/private stewardship model that draws upon multi-sector collaboration and resources. Hartley Nature Center was the vision of community organizers, founded as a non-profit in 1987 with the nature center building opening in 2003. The Center has a lease with the City of Duluth to co-manage the park and operate and occupy the nature center building until 2052. User groups have brought tens of thousands of dollars to facility development and provide ongoing maintenance for trails and facilities. Non-profit community-based organizations provide youth and family programming and support local parks through business development and infrastructure upgrades. The nonprofit Superior Hiking Trail Association (SHTA) built and maintains a hiking trail; similarly, the nonprofit Cyclists of Gitchee Gumees Shores (COGGS) is building and maintaining multi-use trails. . For example, COGGS expended over \$97,000 in cash and contributed over 730 volunteer hours on trail building and maintenance programs in Hartley Park since 2016. Duluth Cross-country Ski Club contributed 51 volunteer hours in the same period and raised over \$450,000 for the proposed Nordic Ski Center at Spirit Mountain. The SHTA contributed 104 volunteer hours in the same period. The Center, the City of Duluth, and Community Action Duluth coordinate hundreds of thousands of dollars of restoration activities that provide job training for unemployed and underemployed residents.

Connection to a Regionally Substantial Component of the Master Plan

Hartley Master Plan: The comprehensive Hartley Master Plan was completed and approved in 2014. Key recommendations stressed increased accessibility and programming via a building expansion, improved trails, and better wayfinding: improvements that are especially important with increasing demand for programs. In recent years the Nature Center added a yurt with a nearby composting restroom facility, an

open-sided pavilion and a nature playscape. The Center Board worked tremendously hard to plan for Hartleys future through value-added programs and services. The building expansion ensures the Center has the capacity to leverage additional financial resources to meet the educational and stewardship goals, now and into the future.

City-wide Gate and Wayfinding Master Plan: Increased accessibility includes wayfinding. New signage reflects public concerns and are listed specifically as actions in the Hartley Master Plan. Indeed these concerns reflected public input for park upgrades throughout Duluth: the need for upgraded and consistent signage and wayfinding. The Gate, Wayfinding, and Trailhead/Orientation Master Plan completed in 2017 guides upgrades of signage and wayfinding on all trail systems, and includes implementation design/planning, and recommendations for informational signage at trail access points. The completed plan will present clear and consistent signage throughout the system.

Project Readiness

Project Lead

Wayfinding design is complete and construction ready. Parking concept designs are complete (Attachment C) The trails and amenities needing signage at Hartley are fully mapped (Attachment E - Wayfinding Locations). The Nature Center architects have donated their time to thoughtfully create, edit and redesign the building addition drawings and 3D modeling for the past four years. The concept design for the building expansion is complete (Attachment F Center Expansion) as are the concept designs for the interiors. The Center launched the capital campaign in the beginning of 2018 and has \$403,000 in and \$123,000 in pledges. The Lloyd K. Johnson Foundation awarded a \$20,000 grant to the Center, enabling the hire of a part-time Development Officer with 18 years of nonprofit fundraising and development experience, including the recent completion of a \$9.1M project for the Duluth areas homeless youth. The Center will fully finance the balance to construct the building and contribute to the match.

Project Lead

Wayfinding: Jim Shoberg, BLA with emphasis on Landscape Construction and Technology, BS, Environmental Design. Mr. Shoberg is a Senior Parks Planner and Registered Landscape Architect with the City of Duluth Parks and Recreation Department. He has extensive experience in project management including planning, design, budget management, contract document preparation, coordination of interdisciplinary teams and working knowledge of construction practices. Planning and designing experience on a diversity of habitat restoration projects includes mineland reclamation, pit lake shoreland restoration, creek restoration, grassland restoration, wetland mitigation and delineation, as well as experience in stormwater management.

Building expansion: Erik Birkeland, Property and Facilities manager for the City of Duluth, is responsible for the overall operation, maintenance, and capital improvement of all municipal facilities, parks and green space; which comprises 148 buildings (1,200,000 square feet) and more than 8,000 acres of city park land. Additionally, he is responsible for the management of all city real estate transactions and use agreements, city-wide energy efficiency planning and programs, and natural resource management efforts.

Prior to working for the City of Duluth, Birkeland spent five years as the Business Improvement Manager and Capital Planning Manager (respectively) for St. Louis County, and 10 years in the private sector leading pre-construction and organizational planning efforts for over 60 public school district construction projects throughout the State of Minnesota. He holds a Masters degree in education from the University of Minnesota, and an English degree from Concordia College in Moorhead, Minnesota.

Implementation Timeline

Spring 2018 Fall 2020 Phase 1 Building Capital Campaign
July 2019 Grant agreements in place
Aug 2019 Purchase & install upgraded trail counter units
Aug 2019 Advertise wayfinding & signage project for bid

Aug/Sept 2019 Schematic Design of Building Project
Sept 2019 Award wayfinding & signage contracts
Sept/Oct 2019 Design parking/sidewalk improvements
Sept-Oct 2019 Signage & wayfinding panel fabrication
Oct 2019 Installation of sign & wayfinding bases & foundations
Nov 2019 Sign panel installation complete
Nov 2019 Advertise parking/sidewalk projects for bid
Dec 2019 Award parking/sidewalk improvements
Winter 2020 Phase 2 Building Capital Campaign
Spring 2020 Construction parking/sidewalk begins
July 2020 Parking/sidewalk completed
July/Sept 2020 Design Development of Building Project
Oct/Dec 2020 Construction Document Preparation of Building Project
Dec 2020 Advertise Building Project
January 2021 Building project open for bid
February 2021 Award building contract
Spring 2021 Construction building begins
Winter 2021 Building opening celebration

Availability for Public Use

Nature Center:

Sept-May: Building and outdoor campus open Monday through Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Saturday from 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., and Sundays (winter only) from noon-5:00 p.m.

Summer hours: Monday through Friday 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m., Saturday 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Sunday - Noon to 5 p.m.

Public restroom, exhibit hall, rental equipment, outdoor campus available during programming.

Preschool:

Morning session: 8:30--11:30 a.m.

Afternoon session: 12:30--3:30 p.m.

All day session: 8:30 a.m.--4:30 p.m.

Field trips: Offered daily between 8:30 a.m. and 2:30 p.m.

Summer camps:

Morning session 9 a.m.--noon

Afternoon session: 1:00 p.m.-- 4:00 p.m.

Aside from program fees, no fees to use public facilities or the park.

Hartley Park:

Open regular park hours 6 am. - 10 pm. Trails occasionally close due to weather to preserve the trail bed from damage. Trail closings are posted on the Duluth Parks website and volunteers post signs at trailheads.

Design Standards

Development at Hartley Park embraces sustainable design across all areas from the building to the trails.

Hartley Nature Center is fully ADA accessible from the parking lot, to restrooms, exhibit space, and the class/meeting rooms. The Nature Center was conceived as a green building that could demonstrate sustainable design. Green building means minimizing the environmental effects of building and requires integrating environmental values into the decision making process during design and construction.

Sustainable practices implemented at the Nature Center include renewable energy, energy conservation, use of recycled and non-toxic materials and construction using Forest Stewardship Council certified wood.

Accessibility and sustainable building practices will extend into the new building sections.

Wayfinding utilizes design excellence to support wayfinding goals and system elements. Signs for bicycle wayfinding follow the Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices. Signs must be large enough to be read and contain helpful information, without causing visual problems such as sign clutter, or overly large signs, especially in historic districts. Standardized symbols are utilized for quick and easy identification, e.g. commonly used graphics that depict a bicycle or pedestrian. Bicycle signs must be easy to read at speed, especially at intersections and so contain simple, easily identifiable information like a bike graphic, directional arrow, and mileage indicator.

The nature of being a pedestrian in contrast to a bicyclist means that the pedestrian can approach the sign more closely, and take as much time as they want to read it. Pedestrian or trail head signs provide more detail and include maps, educational, and/or regulatory information. These signs display an area within a reasonable walking distance, important buildings, streets, parks, and intersections or connections. The needs of the disabled are also considered: multiuse trails designed to accommodate the disabled or families with strollers are of a height to allow reading and provide information pertinent to their needs. All signs are uniform in design and color, and fabricated of low maintenance materials.

Parking and sidewalk: The road will be widened five feet and will include a two-foot curb reaction distance on the side with no parking, two ten-foot traffic lanes with speed bumps and an eight-foot parking lane. The sidewalk will border the parking lane and will be five feet wide. There will be a pedestrian pad where the sidewalk meets Woodland Ave and the bus stop with dimensions that follow MNDOT specifications.

Project Cost Breakdown

Parking/sidewalk - \$294,707 - Widening the road to add parking accommodates increasing numbers of users. The sidewalk provides safe access from roadside parking as well as pedestrian access from Woodland neighborhood and bus route. The dropoff zone provides a safe area away from the busy main parking lot for Center visitors.

Wayfinding - \$41,607 - Signs address user concerns and provide wayfinding at all intersections and entries to the parks.

Building expansion - \$1,403,000 - funds additional program, interpretive, gathering, and community meeting space, and expanded restroom facilities.

Funding Request Breakdown

Grant Funding Request

\$1,294,707

Local Match #1	Funder #1
\$403,000	0
Local Match #2	Funder #2
\$20,000	0
Local Match #3	Funder #3
0	0
Local Match #4	Funder #4
0	0
Local Match #4	Funder #5
0	0

Non-Eligible Local Match

126274

Non-Eligible Item Description

Pledges 122000
Volunteer In-Kind Labor DXC 1406
Volunteer In-Kind Labor SHTA 2868
Volunteer In-Kind Labor COGGS20133
COGGS Paid Labor Trail Construction 97000

Total Funding

\$1,717,707

Percentage of local match

0.25

Completion Timeframe

3 year for building; 1 year for parking, wayfinding

Funder #1

City of Duluth

Funder #1 Resolutions

Duluth Resolution

http://dms.gmrptcommission.org/uploads/funding/18-019F/City of Duluth Resolution Hartley_841587.pdf

Funder #2

Hartley Nature Center

Funder #2 Resolutions

Hartley Resolution

http://dms.gmrptcommission.org/uploads/funding/18-019F/Hartley resolution_36ef99.pdf

Funder #3

None

Funder #4

None

Funder #5

None

Budget Worksheet

Hartley Budget Worksheet

http://dms.gmrptcommission.org/uploads/funding/18-019F/2018 Hartley Budget_623ab1.xlsx

Attachments

Doc Name	Description	Url
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Project Area Map	Hartley Boundary Map	http://dms.gmrptcommission.org/uploads/funding/18-019F/Hartley Legacy Boundry_ efeb9e.pdf
Funder Resolution One	Duluth Resolution	http://dms.gmrptcommission.org/uploads/funding/18-019F/City of Duluth Resolution Hartley_ 841587.pdf
Additional Attachment	Attachment G Visitor Center	http://dms.gmrptcommission.org/uploads/funding/18-019F/Attachment G VisitorCenter_ 7d0f8b.pdf
Additional Attachment	Attachment B Wayfinding Design	http://dms.gmrptcommission.org/uploads/funding/18-019F/Attachment B Wayfinding Design_ 9e9cbf.pdf
Additional Attachment	Attachment A Hartley Campus Expansion	http://dms.gmrptcommission.org/uploads/funding/18-019F/Attachment A Hartley Campus Expansion_ 72326e.pdf
Additional Attachment	Attachment C Main Entrance Parking	http://dms.gmrptcommission.org/uploads/funding/18-019F/Attachment C Main Entrance Parking_ ff8c0d.pdf
Additional Attachment	Attachment F Center Expansion	http://dms.gmrptcommission.org/uploads/funding/18-019F/Attachment F Center Expansion_ 615a84.pdf
Additional Attachment	Attachment D TRAFx Counters	http://dms.gmrptcommission.org/uploads/funding/18-019F/Attachment D TRAFx Counters_ 28932f.pdf
Additional Attachment	Attachment E Wayfinding Locations	http://dms.gmrptcommission.org/uploads/funding/18-019F/Attachment E Wayfinding Locations_ 4e8e64.pdf
Project Area Map	Hartley Location Map	http://dms.gmrptcommission.org/uploads/funding/18-019F/DWP Location Map_ b0574b.pdf
Additional Attachment	Budget Detail	http://dms.gmrptcommission.org/uploads/funding/18-019F/Hartley Budget Detail Narrative_ f7be96.pdf
Budget Worksheet	Hartley Budget Worksheet	http://dms.gmrptcommission.org/uploads/funding/18-019F/2018 Hartley Budget_ 623ab1.xlsx
Funder Resolution Two	Hartley Resolution	http://dms.gmrptcommission.org/uploads/funding/18-019F/Hartley resolution_ 36ef99.pdf
