



General

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

Last Update

03 Apr 2020 12:58:50

Park or Trail Name

Great River Regional Trail

District

4

Location Description

The Great River Regional Trail is envisioned as a non-motorized regional destination trail that will connect the residents of Wright County to the Mississippi River and surrounding regional trail connections. Strategically located to fill a 35-mile gap in the regional and statewide trail system, the Great River Regional Trail will provide connections to and between existing and planned trails, including:

- Stearns County's Beaver Island Trail and Lake Wobegon Trail
- Three Rivers Park Districts and Wright County's Crow River Regional Trail
- Elk River's Great Northern Trail
- Three Rivers Park Districts West Mississippi Trail
- DNR's Luce Line State Trail which passes through Hennepin, Carver, McLeod, and Meeker counties

Park/Trail Address

2801 Broadway W

City

Monticello

Park/Trail State

Minnesota

Zip

55362

Latitude

45.323899

Longitude

-93.831037

Map of Park/Trail

Description: GRRT Overall Map

http://dms.gmrptcommission.org/uploads/applications/20-002D/Master_plan_Concept_Graphic_a009c7.pdf

Facility Website

<https://www.co.wright.mn.us/Facilities/Facility/Details/Great-River-Regional-Trail-44>

Organization

Wright County Parks & Recreation

Lead Contact Person

Title

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Joint Applicants

Joint Applicant #1

Wright County

Upload Resolution

http://dms.gmrptcommission.org/uploads/applications/20-002D/Wright County Resolution_fc151f.pdf

Joint Applicant #2

City of Monticello

Upload Resolution

[http://dms.gmrptcommission.org/uploads/applications/20-002D/MONTICELLO Resolution 2019-91 \(Great River Regional Trail\)_ea1dac.pdf](http://dms.gmrptcommission.org/uploads/applications/20-002D/MONTICELLO Resolution 2019-91 (Great River Regional Trail)_ea1dac.pdf)

Joint Applicant #3

City of Otesgo

Upload Resolution

http://dms.gmrptcommission.org/uploads/applications/20-002D/OTSEGO Resolution_d795df.pdf

Joint Applicant #4

City of Clearwater

Upload Resolution

http://dms.gmrptcommission.org/uploads/applications/20-002D/CLEARWATER 2019-51 Resolution signed_799c18.pdf

Other project supporters

Wright County

Description

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

Regional Significance Statement

The Great River Regional Trail corridor along northern Wright County is the missing link between the comprehensive Twin Cities metro area trail system and out-state trails in Minnesota. The trail corridor bridges the boundary of the historic Anoka sand plain and the Big Woods of Minnesota, two ecologically significant biological and geological regions.

Classification

Regional Trail (Non Motorized)

Overview/Description of Park or Trail

Wright County is located in central Minnesota, just outside the Twin Cities metropolitan area. The St. Cloud metropolitan area is located along the Mississippi River, eight miles northwest of the Wright County border. The proposed trail corridor will generally follow a path between I-94 and the Mississippi River. The trail may be within the County Roads 75 and 39 rights of way at times, while it will follow the twists and turns of the river at other times. The trail corridor may be directly on the rivers edge at some points and up to a mile or more off the river at other points.

Total Acreage or Mileage

35

Acquisition and Development Status

New Park or Trail (no land acquired or developed)

Development status

No development

Facility Listing

This section provides an overview of existing and proposed site facilities and general site characteristics .

Existing Facilities**Other camping-related facilities**

N/A

Proposed Facilities

- Tent only sites
- Picnicking and picnic shelters
- Walking Trails (paved)
- Biking Trails (paved)
- Canoeing Facilities
- Fishing Piers
- Nature Center/Interpretation Trails
- Restrooms/sanitation building
- Roads and Parking Areas

Existing Facilities Other Information

N/A

General Site Characteristics

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Site characteristics upload

Description: Site Characteristics

[http://dms.gmrptcommission.org/uploads/applications/20-002D/Site Characteristics image_e4e616.jpg](http://dms.gmrptcommission.org/uploads/applications/20-002D/Site%20Characteristics%20image_e4e616.jpg)

Master Plan

Master Plan Status:

Master Plan meeting requirements of strategic plan is available

Additional Supportive Information:

In January of 2020 Wright County Parks & Recreation and the cities of Monticello, Clearwater, and Otsego completed the master plan for the Great River Regional Trail. The plan has been broken into chapters and uploaded with this designation. You will find it in the attachments with a title starting with

"Master Plan" and then it lists the chapter.

Classification Details

Regional Trail (Non-Motorized) Classification

Provides a High-Quality "Destination" Trail Experience

Several compelling features, which should be preserved and interpreted, will make the Great River Regional Trail a unique destination and draw for the region:

-Many natural islands in the Mississippi River are owned and managed by the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources. These islands can be used for primitive camping accessed by water craft.

-Views and overlooks along the Mississippi River will offer opportunities for trail users to view wildlife, fish along the shoreline, stop and relax, and learn about the natural and cultural history of the river.

-The Mississippi River in this area is a State Water Trail and designated as a Wild and Scenic River, recreationally, which offers opportunities for paddling connections and loops.

-Xcel Energy has utilized its strategic location along the river to generate and provide electrical power for many area residents.

-Historic ox cart trails and early European settlements are located throughout the corridor.

Well-located (i.e., Convenience of Access/Adequate Length) to Serve Regional Population and/or Tourist Destination

The Hwy 25 bridge connection over the Mississippi River in Monticello is the only river crossing between Hwy 24 in Clearwater and Hwy 101 in Otsego. The trail will connect the population centers of Clearwater, Monticello, and Otsego, and provide connections to these river crossings and trails to the north. Trailheads will be located at easily accessible regional facilities: Warner Lake County Park (regionally designated by GMRPTC), Montissippi County Park, and Otsego County Park.

Enhances Connectivity to Regional Destinations

The Great River Regional Trail is envisioned as a non-motorized regional destination trail that will connect

the residents of Wright County to the Mississippi River and surrounding regional trail connections.

Strategically located to fill a 35-mile gap in the regional and statewide trail system, the Great River Regional Trail will provide connections to and between existing and planned trails, including:

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-Three Rivers Park Districts and Wright Countys Crow River Regional Trail

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Fills a Gap in Recreational Opportunity within a Region

When the Great River Regional Trail is constructed, it will facilitate portions of the Mississippi River Trail (MRT), which is a bike route that travels from the headwaters of the Mississippi through many communities in Minnesota and terminates at the Gulf of Mexico in Louisiana. The MRT in Minnesota is managed and operated by the Minnesota Department of Transportation (MNDOT).

In addition to providing access to regional trails, the Great River Regional Trail will provide greater bicycle commuting options for residents of Wright County. With proposed connections to the Beaver Island Trail and the West Mississippi Trail, residents will have the option to bike to St. Cloud and the Twin Cities metro area all on an off-road trail. The trail will help to promote recreational tourism in the county and increase awareness and access to the Mississippi River.

A significant opportunity for the Great River Regional Trail is to link with the Mississippi State Water Trail and provide a bike-paddle loop. A number of river access points are currently located in Clearwater, Monticello and Otsego. By strategically locating and providing wayfinding to bike trailheads, river accesses, and other facilities, including camping and lodging opportunities, the trail will serve as a unique overnight recreation destination in the state.

Criteria #4 Images

Regional context map

http://dms.gmrptcommission.org/uploads/applications/20-002D/Regional Context Map_b2a7a6.pdf

Attachments

Doc Name	Description	Url
Park Trail Map	GRRT Overall Map	http://dms.gmrptcommission.org/uploads/applications/20-002D/Master plan Concept Graphic_a009c7.pdf
Site Map Upload	Site Map	http://dms.gmrptcommission.org/uploads/applications/20-002D/site map_cf9377.pdf
Regional Map Uploads	Regional Context Map	http://dms.gmrptcommission.org/uploads/applications/20-002D/Regional Context Map_c38de7.pdf
Site Characteristics Upload	Site Characteristics	http://dms.gmrptcommission.org/uploads/applications/20-002D/Site Characteristics image_e4e616.jpg
Public Involvement Summ Upload	Public Engagement Results	http://dms.gmrptcommission.org/uploads/applications/20-002D/Public Involvement Support Material_cc9013.pdf
Regional Demographic Upload	Demographic Support Material	http://dms.gmrptcommission.org/uploads/applications/20-002D/demographic support material_45fab3.pdf
Economic Development Tourism Upload	Economic Support material	http://dms.gmrptcommission.org/uploads/applications/20-002D/Economic Development Material_ec94a0.pdf
Rgnl Trail Classification4 Upload	Regional context map	http://dms.gmrptcommission.org/uploads/applications/20-002D/Regional Context Map_b2a7a6.pdf
Development Acquisition Plan Upload	Development Concept Plan	http://dms.gmrptcommission.org/uploads/applications/20-002D/Development Plan Map_e72e6f.pdf
Acquisition Plan Overview Upload	Cost by Segment Map	http://dms.gmrptcommission.org/uploads/applications/20-002D/Cost by segment_c63243.pdf
Development Feature Upload		http://dms.gmrptcommission.org/uploads/applications/20-002D/Segment A Map_a2d6a1.pdf
Development Feature Upload		http://dms.gmrptcommission.org/uploads/applications/20-002D/Segment B Map_edec60.pdf
Development Feature Upload		http://dms.gmrptcommission.org/uploads/applications/20-002D/Segment C Map_1f9b6e.pdf
Development Feature Upload		http://dms.gmrptcommission.org/u

		ploads/applications/20-002D/Segment D Map_974faa.pdf
Development Feature Upload		http://dms.gmrptcommission.org/uploads/applications/20-002D/Segment E Map_50a3db.pdf
Development Feature Upload		http://dms.gmrptcommission.org/uploads/applications/20-002D/Segment F Map_ae1982.pdf
Development Feature Upload		http://dms.gmrptcommission.org/uploads/applications/20-002D/Segment G Map_1822a9.pdf
Development Feature Upload		http://dms.gmrptcommission.org/uploads/applications/20-002D/Segment H Map_26fbed.pdf
Development Feature Upload		http://dms.gmrptcommission.org/uploads/applications/20-002D/Segment I Map_ccf0c9.pdf
Development Feature Upload		http://dms.gmrptcommission.org/uploads/applications/20-002D/amenities_ce8aea.pdf
AcqDev Cost Projections Upload	Cost Estimates	http://dms.gmrptcommission.org/uploads/applications/20-002D/Cost Estimate Support_14485c.pdf
Ad Phasing Plan Upload	Phasing Plan	http://dms.gmrptcommission.org/uploads/applications/20-002D/Phasing Plan Support Material_a95a8c.pdf
Ecological Land ResPlan Upload	Ecological/Land Resource Plan	http://dms.gmrptcommission.org/uploads/applications/20-002D/Land Resource Plan Support_51eaa.pdf
Programming Plan Upload	Program Plan Support	http://dms.gmrptcommission.org/uploads/applications/20-002D/Program Plan Support_fe0570.pdf
Additional Attachment	Master Plan Cover & Acknowledgements	http://dms.gmrptcommission.org/uploads/applications/20-002D/GRR_T_CH 0_Cover and Acknowledgements_749e00.pdf
Additional Attachment	Master Plan Ch. 1-Introduction	http://dms.gmrptcommission.org/uploads/applications/20-002D/GRR_T_CH 1_Introduction_8f72a9.pdf
Additional Attachment	Master Plan Ch. 2- Vision & Trends	http://dms.gmrptcommission.org/uploads/applications/20-002D/GRR_T_CH 2_Vision and Trends_d110fa.pdf
Additional Attachment	Master Plan Ch. 3-Community	http://dms.gmrptcommission.org/u

	Engagement Summary	http://dms.gmrptcommission.org/uploads/applications/20-002D/GRR_T_CH3_Community_Engagement_Summary_0d4c1a.pdf
Additional Attachment	Master Plan Ch. 5-Implementation	http://dms.gmrptcommission.org/uploads/applications/20-002D/GRR_T_CH5_Implementation_49abca.pdf
Additional Attachment	Master Plan Ch. 6-Appendix	http://dms.gmrptcommission.org/uploads/applications/20-002D/GRR_T_CH6_Appendix_2dcfef.pdf
Additional Attachment	Master Plan Ch. 4-Master Plan	http://dms.gmrptcommission.org/uploads/applications/20-002D/GRR_T_CH4_Master_Plan_370496.pdf