



Greater Minnesota Regional Parks and Trails Commission Announces Legacy Grant Recommendations for FY22

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The Greater Minnesota Regional Parks and Trails Commission has announced grant recommendations for the FY22 funding cycle.

As a result of the Clean Water, Land and Legacy Amendment, the Greater Minnesota Regional Parks and Trails Commission was established in 2013. Their role is to conduct system planning and designate regionally significant parks and trails in the 80 counties that make up Greater Minnesota. Grant recommendations to the legislature are made through the Parks and Trails Legacy Fund. These funds may only be spent to support parks and trails of regional or statewide significance.

From the 64 regionally designated parks and trails in the Greater Minnesota system (at the time of application), the Commission received 14 applications and selected 11 projects totaling \$7,755,429 to recommend for legislative approval. Due to lower than anticipated tax collections resulting from COVID-19, reductions to FY21 awards were made to meet the reduced Legacy apportionment. With the cooperation of three FY21 funding recipients, GMRPTC was able to balance the loss of funding out of the FY22 apportionment.

Successful applicants submitted projects that met the 25-Year Legacy Plan Strategic Directions:

- Connect People to the Outdoors
- Acquire Land, Create Opportunities
- Take Care of What We Have
- Coordinate Among Partners

“The wisdom of Minnesotans to tax themselves and bring to fruition the Clean Water, Land and Legacy Amendment is never more welcome than in this year, when use of our natural resources provided calm and peace in turbulent times,” said Tom Ryan, Commission Chair.

In addition to helping create and maintain recreation resources, Parks and Trails Legacy grants contribute to the state’s economy through job creation and visitor spending. Furthermore, it is important to recognize the public health value outdoor recreation brings to a community.



The complete list of grant recommendations for Fiscal Year 2022

Project	Award
Olmsted County Oxbow Park and Zollman Zoo	\$350,000
Goodhue County Byllesby Park	\$180,000
Otter Tail County Perham to Pelican Rapids Regional Trail	\$781,000
Mesabi Trail	\$300,000
Lake County Mountain Bike Trails	\$400,000
Gull Lake Trail	\$2,434,922
Moorhead River Corridor Trail	\$660,925
Chisago County Sunrise Prairie Trail	\$1,182,282
Wright County Connecting People with the Outdoors	\$67,000
Luverne Loop & Blue Mounds Trail	\$839,300
Winona Bluffs Traverse	\$560,000
TOTAL AWARDED	\$7,755,429
<p>These projects are recommended for FY22 funding if Minnesota Management and Budget forecasts are better than anticipated.</p>	
Sandstone Robinson Park	\$321,750
Olmsted County Oxbow Park and Zollman Zoo	\$192,000
Total	\$513,750