

#### Master Plan Tutorial

Online Master Plan Portal April, 2017

All Tutorial Instruction is highlighted in RED.

# Why Master Plan? To Prove What, How, and Why!

- A master plan is required for a park or trail to receive formal regional designation.
- Having a Master Plan is vital to affirming that a park or trail is well-vetted, regionally significant and merits formal regional designation.
- Ensures that the applicant understands its own obligations and responsibilities, especially for funding, ongoing operations, maintenance and programming.

### Main Purpose

The main focus of a master plan should be on clearly describing the regional-level purpose and compelling features of the park or trail, along with what makes it a place that people will want to go to time and again.

Specifically describing unique features and how the park or trail will provide a high quality outdoor experience not otherwise available in the area is especially encouraged.

# Typical Planning Process

Define Goals

Evaluate Outcomes

Describe Situation

Select and Implement

Define Criteria

Evaluate Alternatives Develop Alternatives

# GMRPTC Requirements Page 61-62, Strategic Plan

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#### Master Plan Minimal Requirements - General

At a minimum, the master plan content must include:

- Introduction/overview general overview of the park or trail, including which classification it falls under
- Proposer/implementing agency(s) clearly defines implementing agency(s), including regional partnerships supporting the project, such as cities, townships, and counties within a given region; where operations, management, maintenance, programming, etc. is a shared responsibility, details of that partnership should be provided; include any joint power or other forms of agreement spelling out relationships
- Setting/regional context describe the location of the site, whether it is part of a city, township, or county system; also define proximity to, and interface with, other regional and state-level parks and trails, including how the park or trail would complement (not duplicate) facilities provided at those sites
- Site information such as boundaries for existing and proposed parcels; natural land forms and other site resources; site limitations; and other conditions affecting acquisition or development
- Vision, trends, and public values including a vision statement and statements related to: 1) demographic information influencing demand, 2) recreational trends information, 3) public health values, and 4) economic development/tourism opportunities

- Regional Significance Statement: define the classification that the
  park or trail falls under, and describe how it conforms to/addresses the
  evaluation criteria established for its classification
- Public input/participation <u>local citizen participation in the process</u>
   <u>is required</u>; provide a summary of findings from general public outreach
   and interest group input; define any areas of conflict, and how that is
   resolved
- Development master plan describe proposed features/development program, and support with site maps, site plans (detailed design and construction-levels drawings are not required), aerial images, site photos, graphics, and written text; address accessibility
- Ecological/land resources plan describe the natural and land resources found across the site, and strategy for protecting and managing land and water resource (at master plan level); as available, include mapping and other documentation about key natural, cultural and historic features (e.g., Minnesota Land Cover Classification System, Minnesota County Biological Survey, Natural Heritage Information System)
- Programming plan describe the type of programs that are envisioned, along with responsible agency
- Research plan provide a statement that implementing agencies will
  participate in Commission research initiatives (visitation counts, use
  profiles, recreation demands and trends surveys, etc.) as these programs
  are developed and implemented over time; describe any research
  initiatives and data management initiatives that the implementing agency
  is planning to use for its own purposes
- Implementation, management, and sustainability plan –
  describes the implementation strategy and development priorities;
  include implementation cost projections (acquisition, development,
  operations, and maintenance) and any phasing being considered; cost
  estimating should be based on a master plan-level evaluation (detailed
  construction-level cost estimates are not required); operations and
  management plan should include rules, regulations or ordinances
  affecting the site; local sources of funding and revenue to develop,
  operate and maintain facilities should e outlined

Master Plan References! The Commission's website has a variety of master plans available for review.

- Facility Inventory/Overview
- Regional Context/Significance
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Identify the overall responsible team leader and each team member who will be leading the development of each component for maximum efficiency.

### Public Engagement Process & Techniques

#### **Process**

- Design process with end in mind
- 2. Invite broad participation
  - 1. Transparent
  - 2. Listen
  - 3. Ground Rules/Neutral
  - 4. Solutions
- 3. Sharing results

#### **Sample Techniques**

- > Elected Officials
- Mass Media Stories
- Planning Committees
- Surveys
- > Open Houses
- User Group Outreach
- > Focus Groups
- Charrettes
- Social Media/Photo Surveys

Begin by visiting our website.

Minnesota Statute

### GMRPTCommission.org



application process. Regional Designation is

#### PARKS AND TRAILS COMMISSION WAR

OME ABOUT THE COMMISSION

MEETINGS AND AGENDAS

OHE WORK

APPLICATION

CONTACT US

#### **Applications**

#### 2016 Application For Designation Deadline is April 29, 2016

This is an online application for Request for Designation as a Regional Park or Trail in Greater
Minnesota. The application must be used for a park or trail in Greater Minnesota to be considered for
regional designation, which is required by the Commission before any project becomes eligible for
funding. This "Designation" application process gives all cities and counties in Greater Minnesota an
equal opportunity to request that "a park or trail of regional or statewide significance" (Constitutional
language) be formally designated as part of Greater Minnesota Regional Park and Trail System. In
submitting the application, it is presumed that all applicants are familiar with the pertinent provisions of
the Greater Minnesota Regional Parks and Trails Strategic Plan and related documents.

#### 2016 Statewide Application Workshop Announcement

Review the Full Announcement here

The Greater Minnesota Regional Parks and Trails Commission (GMRPTC) is announcing a series of application workshops to be held in each of the Commission's six districts in mid-March (see attached flyer). These workshops will provide information and training on the Commission's web-based Application Requesting Regional Designation as a Regional Park or Trail. A NEW web-based Master Planning fool will also be introduced at this workshop.

#### Application

Regional Designation Application

Regional Designation Criteria Tutorial

Application FAQ

SAMPLE Resolution for Public Agency Applicants Click on the "Applications" button to access the Master Plan portal, along with all other applications in our dat management system.

#### Sample Master Plans

Master Plan Regulrements FAQ

Strategic Plan - Detailed Master Plan Requirements



Delagoon Master Plan Report



Bertram Chain of Lakes Master Plan



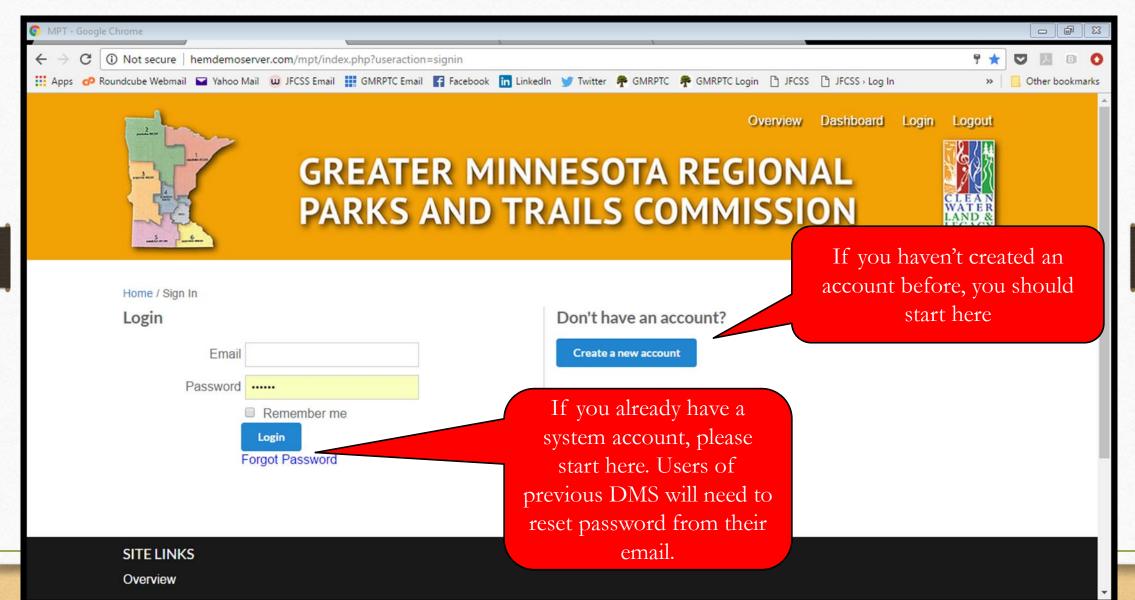
Anderson Park Master Plan



Rockville Park Master Plan

Additional tools to help you understand Master Planning, and GMRPTC requirements, can be found here.

### Create Account – one per organization!



### Start App or Master Plan Here



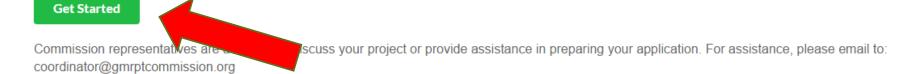
#### Overview

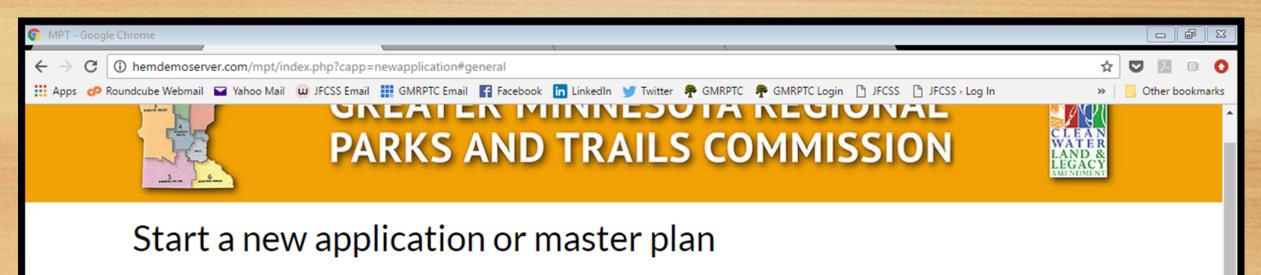
This online user portal is designed for parks and trails managers to apply for regional designation. By clicking the button below, users will be able to create an application for designation, develop a qualified Unit Master Plan for their park or trail, and if designated, apply for funding.

The "Designation" application provides all cities and counties in Greater Minnesota (80 counties, excluding the seven county metropolitan area) equal opportunity to apply for designation as regionally significant, based on the definitions and criteria as described in the Greater Minnesota Regional Parks and Trail Strategic Plan and related documents available on the Commission's website www.gmrptcommission.org.

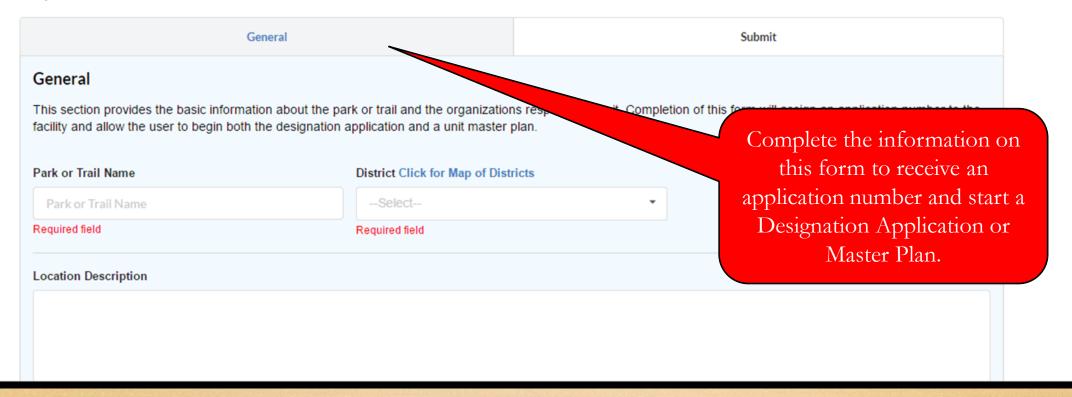
An online Master Plan is also required for designation, however the portal is open to the general public as a tool to improve planning across Greater Minnesota. Parks and trails achieving regionally significant designation and incorporated in the Greater Minnesota System Plan may then apply for funding in a separate funding application. The funding application applies to projects of regional significance included in an approved Master Plan.

Note: Only parks or trails that are formally designated as part of Greater Minnesota Regional Park and Trail System become eligible for funding, which involves a separate application and review process.

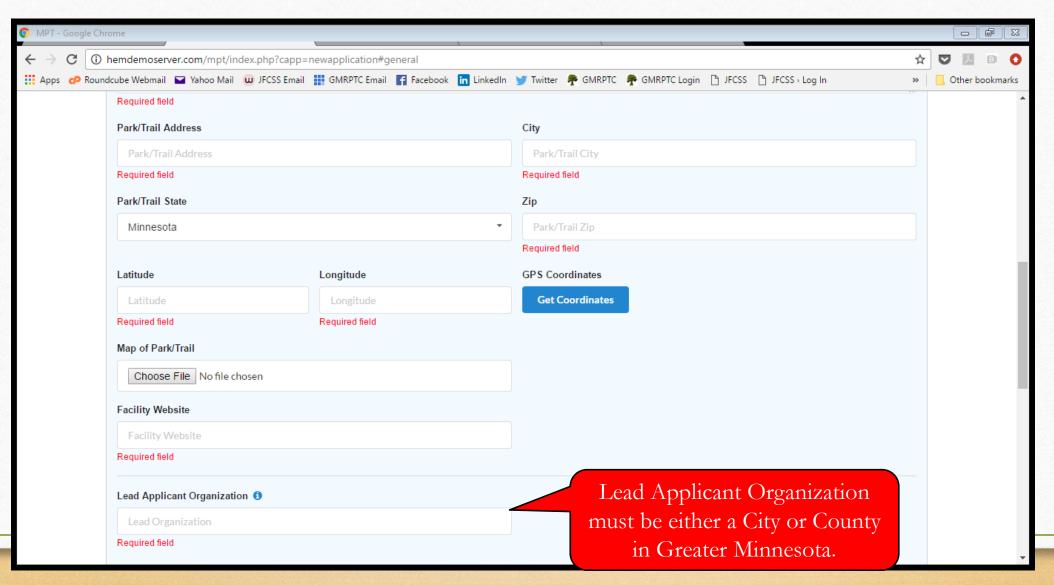




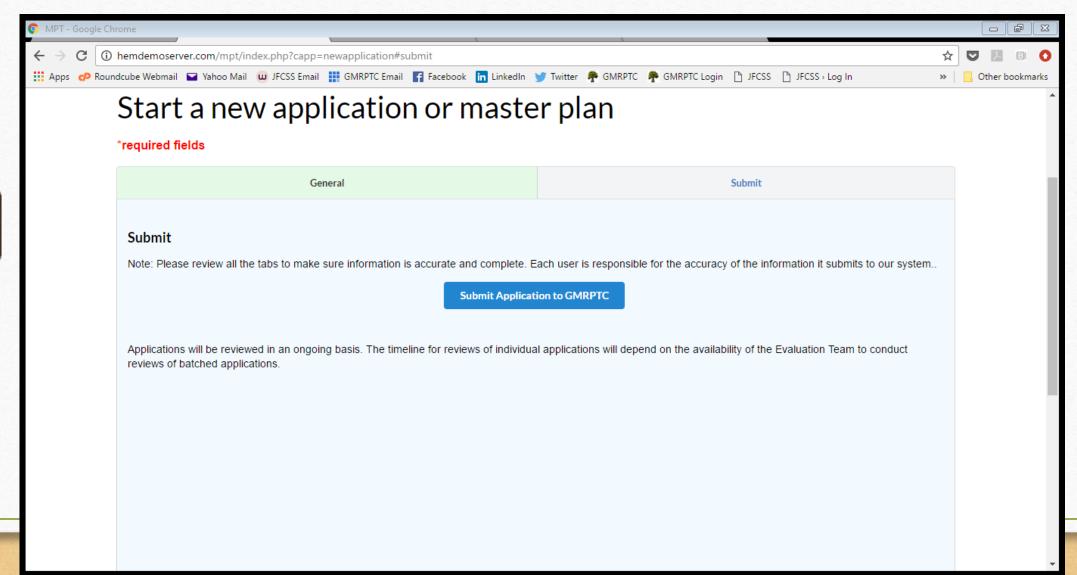
#### \*required fields



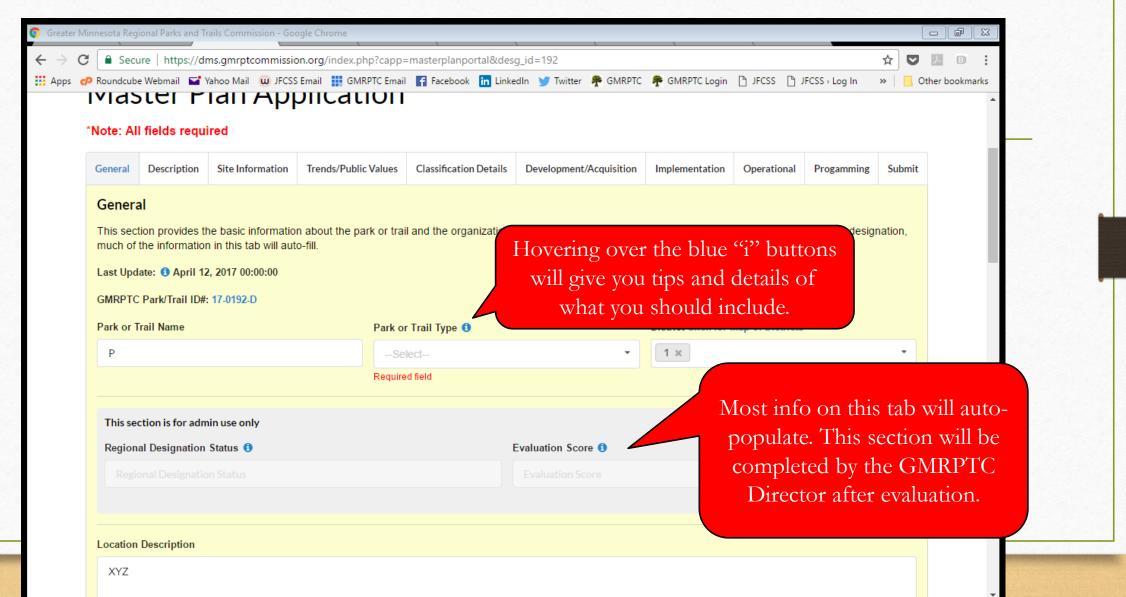
#### Basic Park and Staff Information



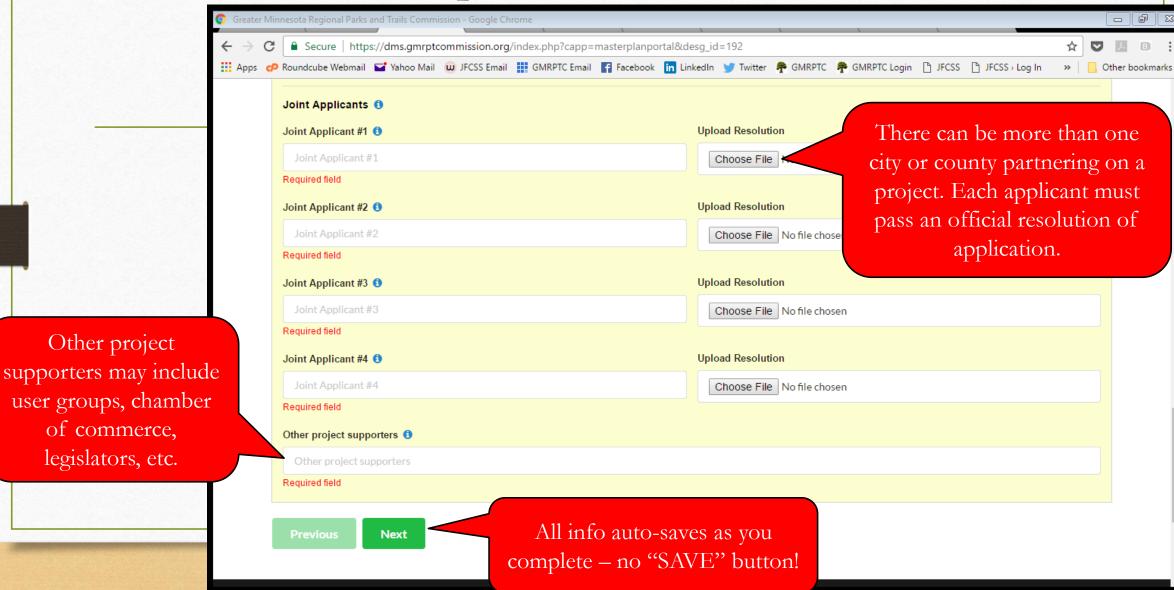
### Hit "SUBMIT" to begin App or Master Plan



#### General Tab



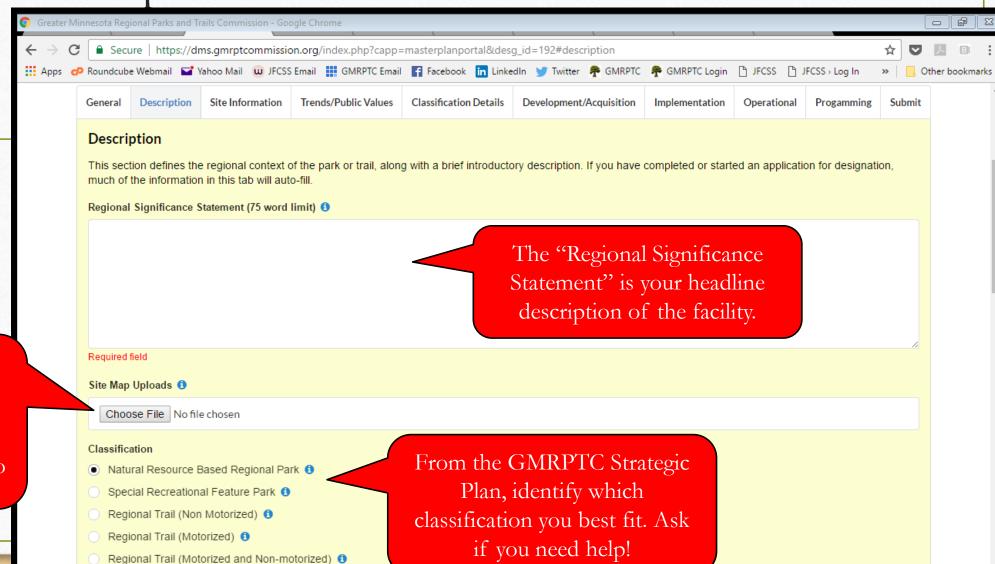
### Resolutions are required!



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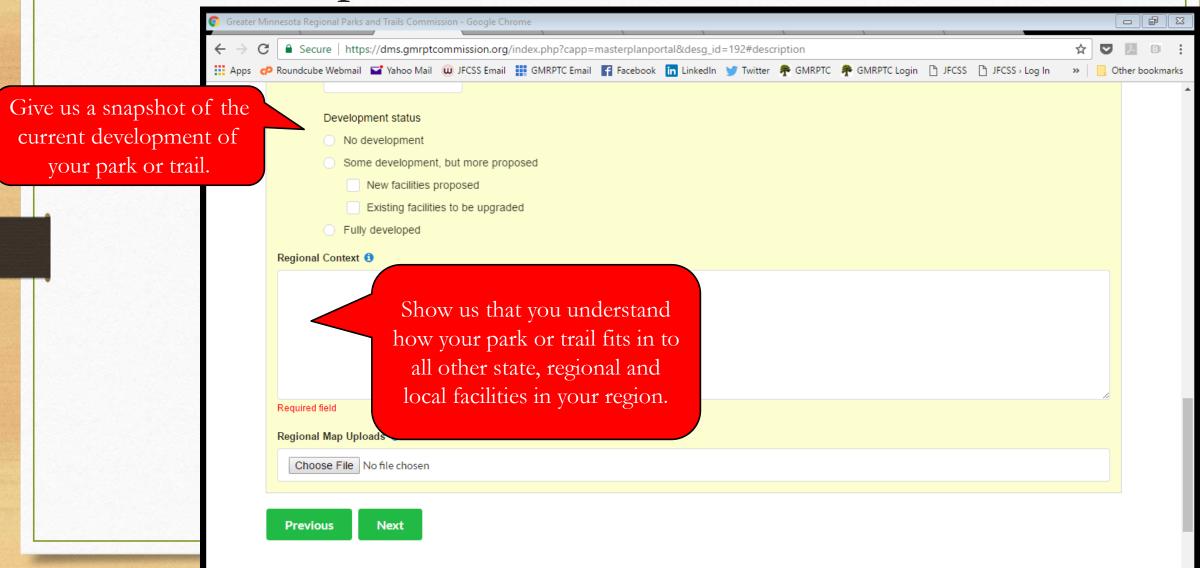
Overview/Description of Park or Trail (500 word limit) (5



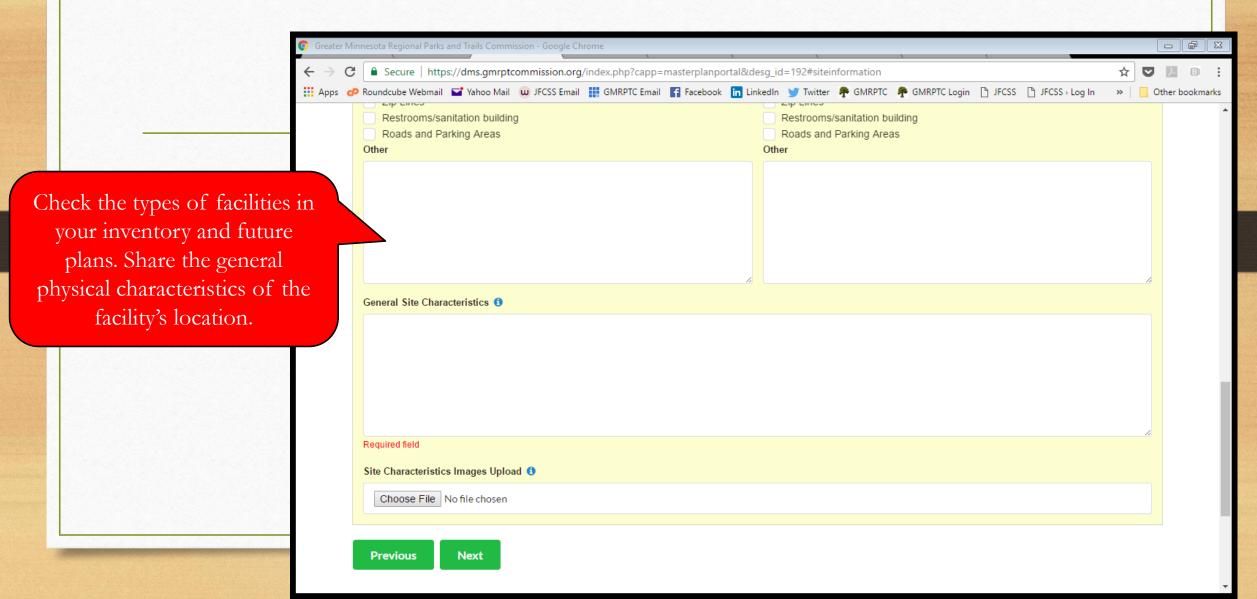
Click to upload pictures, drawings, graphs, pdf's, or other external documents/pages to help tell your story!

### Description Tab

**SITE LINKS** 

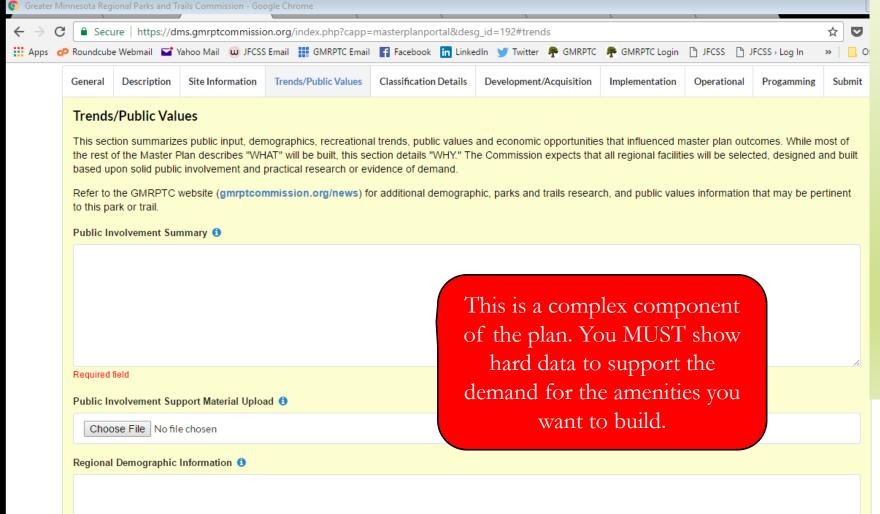






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#### Trends/Public Values Tab



- Public InvolvementSummary
- \*Regional Demographic Info
- Public Health Values
- EconomicDevelopment/TourismOpportunities
- \*Recreational Trends

### Public Engagement Process & Techniques

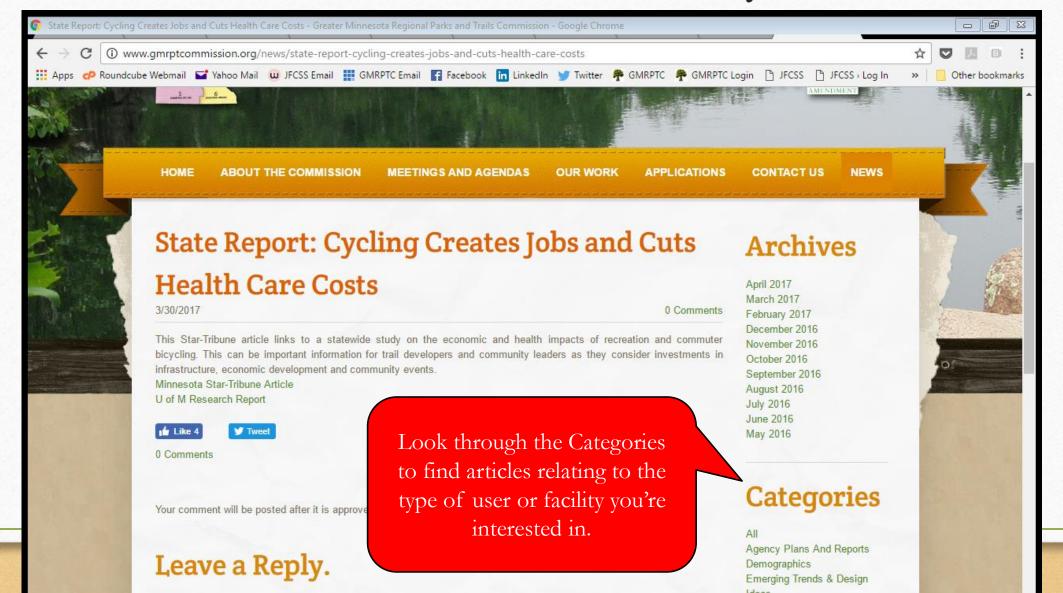
#### **Process**

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- 2. Invite broad participation
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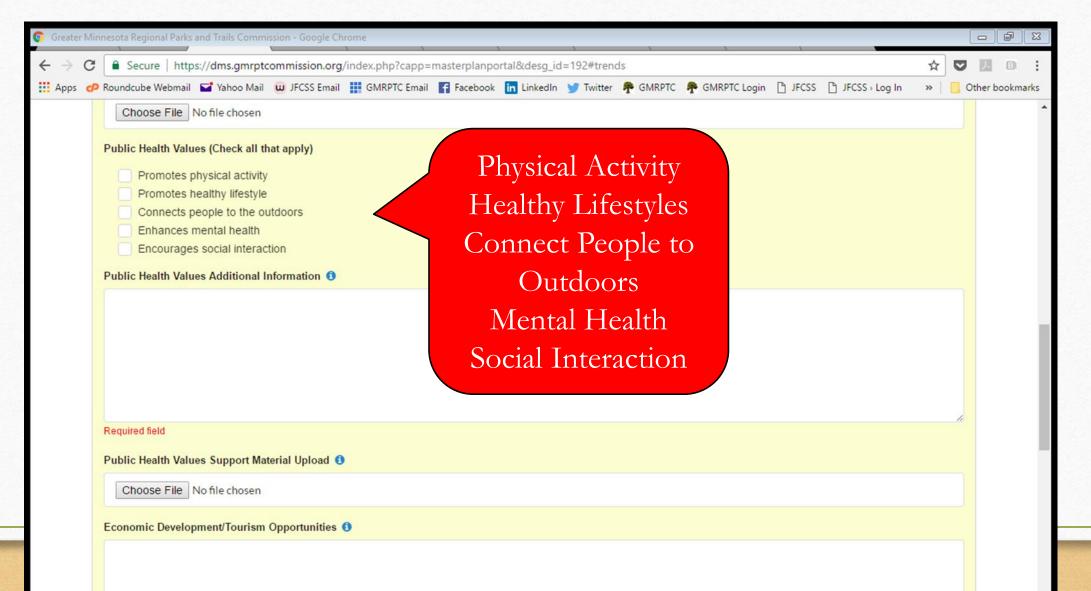
#### **Sample Techniques**

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- > Open Houses
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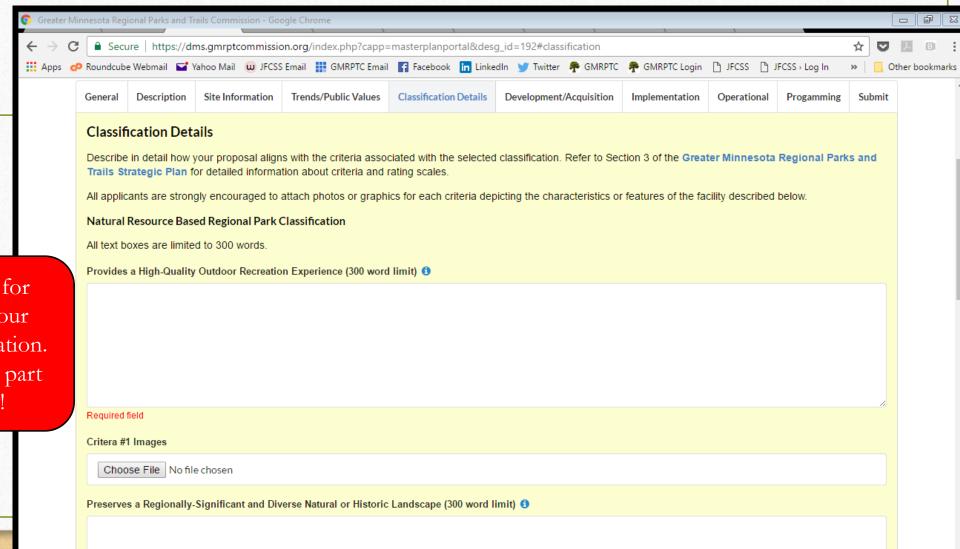
### GMRPTC Resource Library



#### Public Health Values



#### Classification Details Tab



Each plan is evaluated for regional potential on four criteria for their classification. This is a very important part of telling your story!

#### **Detailed Criteria**

#### Natural Resource-Based Regional Park Classification

#### Criteria #4 - Fills a Gap in Recreational Opportunity within the Region

Overview: Places a priority on areas in which a high quality outdoor recreational opportunity of a similar nature is not otherwise available within the region and/or within a reasonable distance. Fills a discernible and critical gap in an area with a recreation opportunity shortage. Complements (and does not duplicate) recreational opportunities otherwise available in the region, especially those provided by nearby state parks.

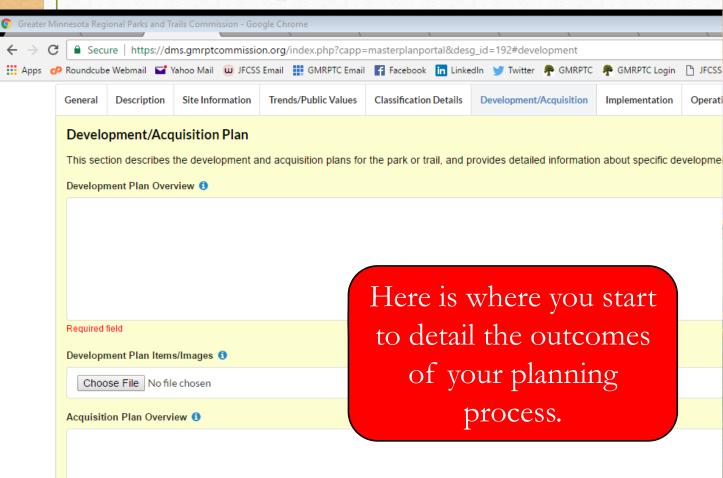
#### Rating Scale:

- User impression: "It's about time we got a regional park to go to close to home!"
- User impression: "This is great, now we can go to the regional park one day and the state park the next to do something new."
  - User impression: It's nice to have even more to do in the area."

- 5
- No regional or state-level parks offering regional-type recreational facilities exist near enough to the location of this park to meet the regional need, and a clear gap in service exists
- 3
- Recreational facilities being proposed complement those provided at other regional and state-level parks in the region to more fully address a gap in service
- 1
- Overall access to regional facilities would be enhanced, but there
  are other regional or state-level options available to help meet
  regional needs

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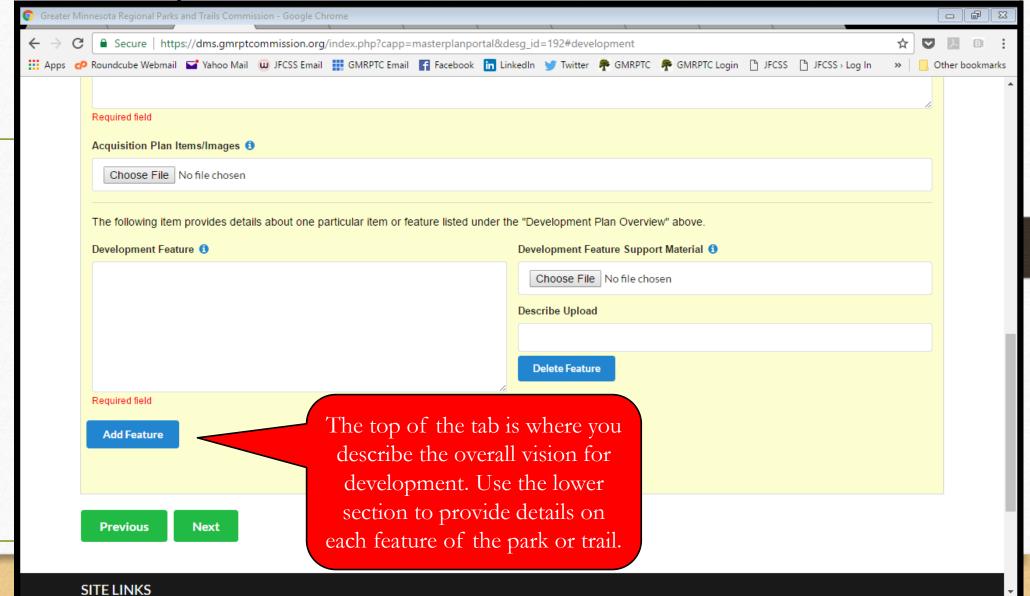
### Development Plan Tab



Required field

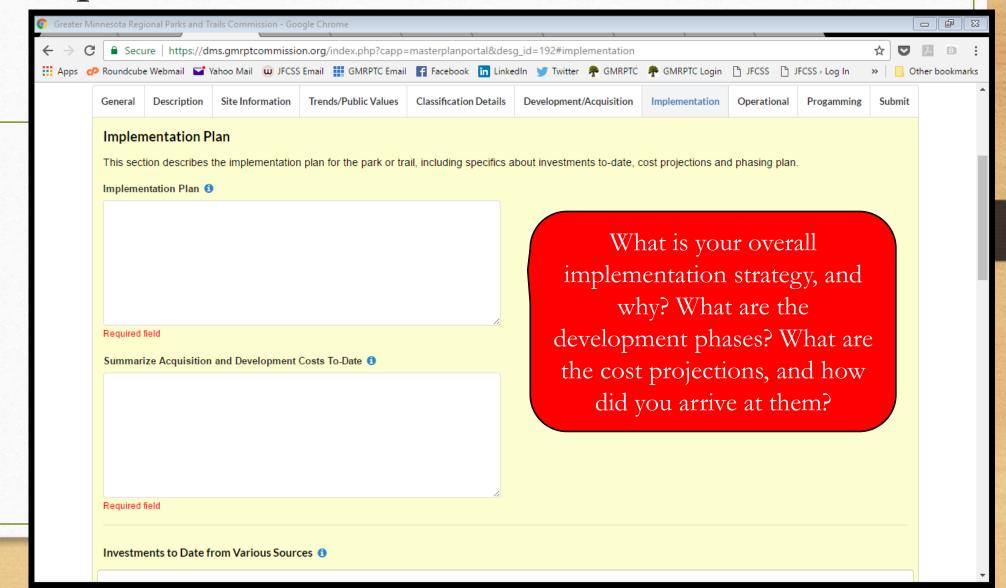


### Development Features Details

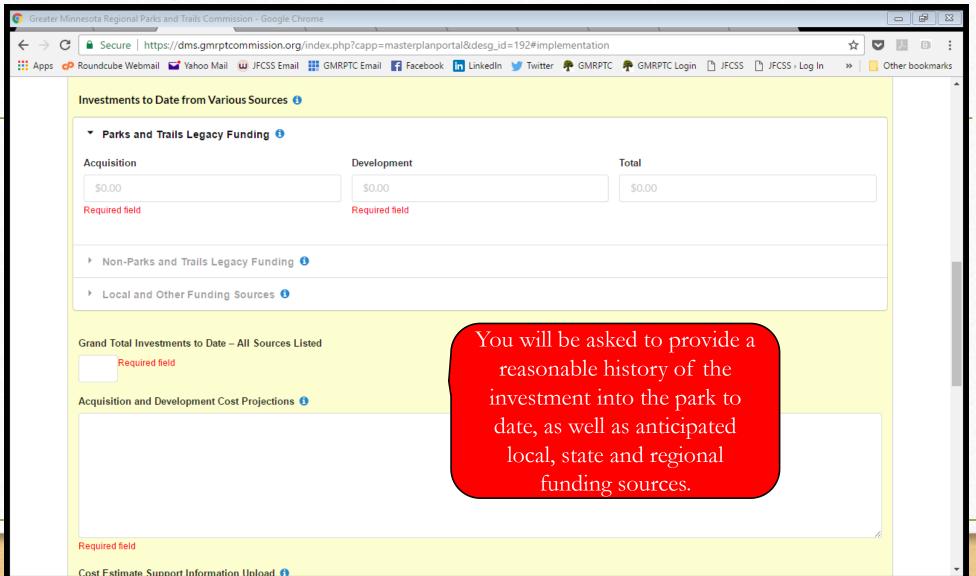


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#### Implementation Plan Tab

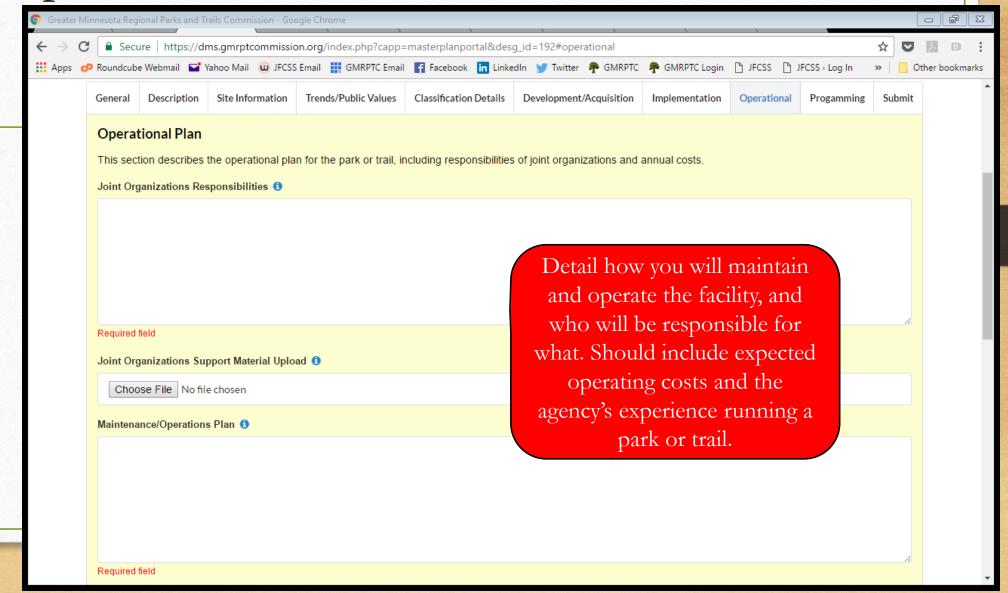


## Funding Details



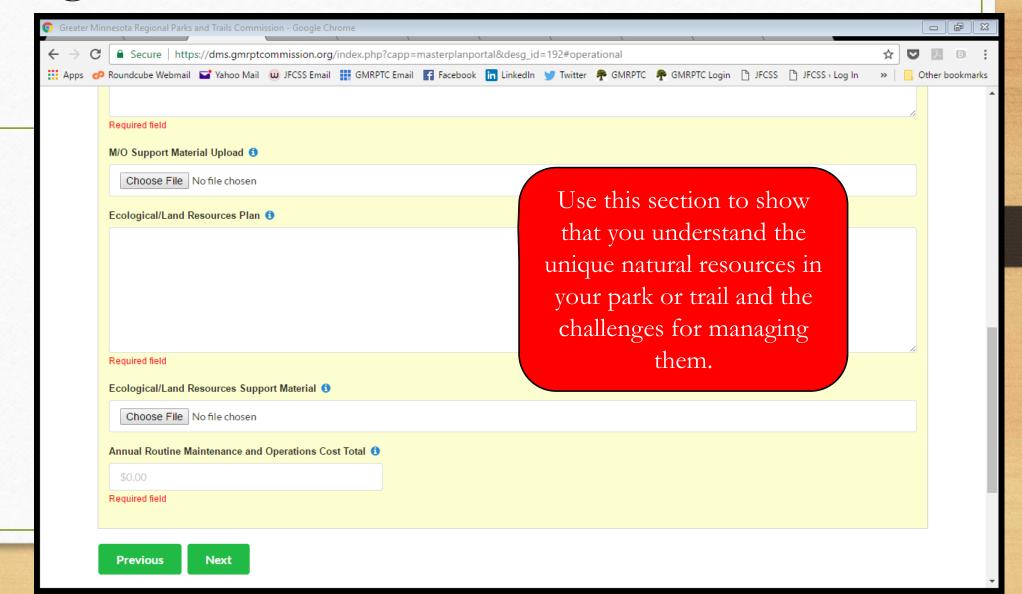
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### Operational Plan Tab



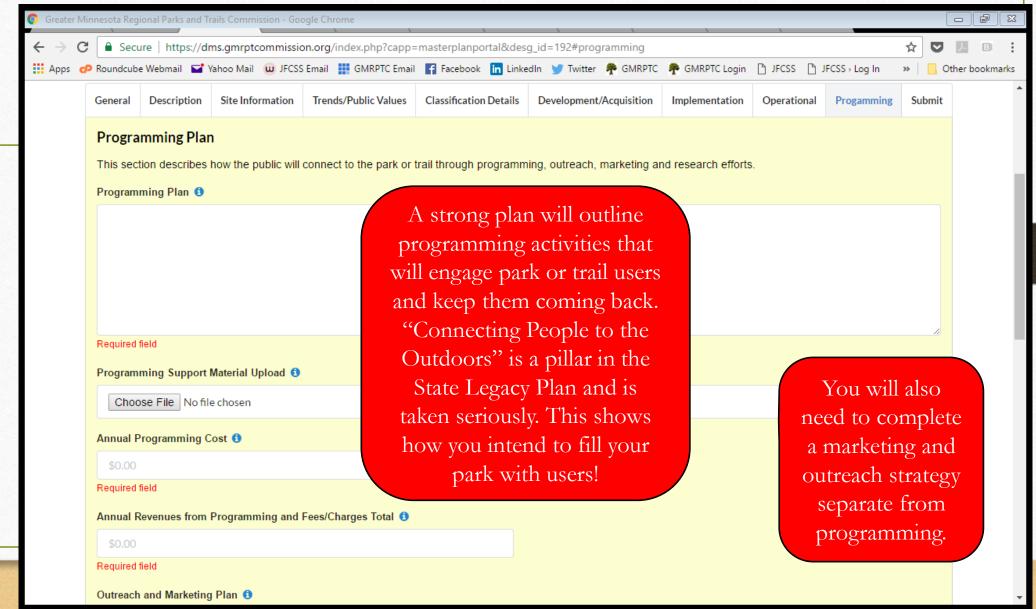
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### Ecological/Land Resources Plan



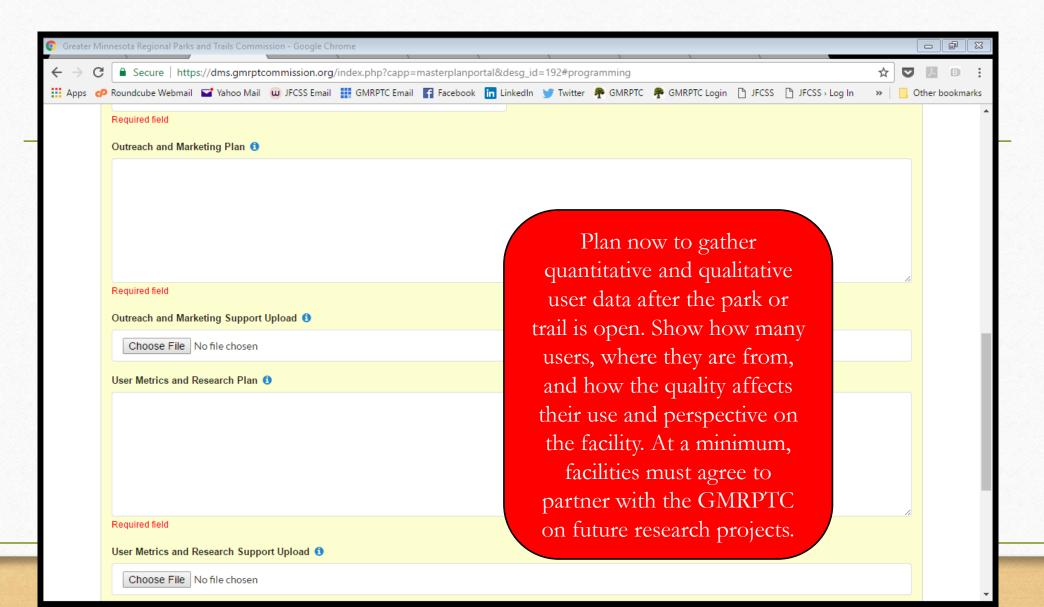
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### Programming Plan Tab

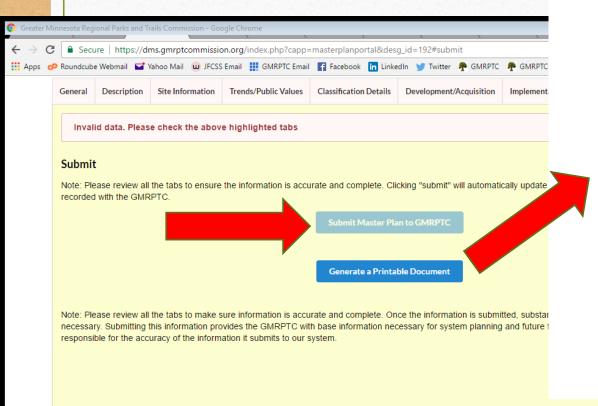


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#### User Metrics and Research Plan



#### Submit Tab





#### General

This section provides the basic information about the park or trail and the organizations responsible for it. If you have completed or started an application for designation, much of the information in this tab will auto-fill.

**Last Update** 

12 Apr 2017 12:00:00

Park or Trail Name **GMRPTC Park/Trail ID#** Park or Trail Type

17-0192-D

**Regional Designation Status Evaluation Score** 

District

**Location Description** XYZ

Address City 1 United Way Bemidji

Park/Trail State Zip 56601

Latitude Longitude 89.3

44.5

### Tips

- Any questions, please contact Joe Czapiewski, System Plan Coordinator, at coordinator@gmrptcommission.org
- This tool should produce a great plan for you at a more affordable price. However, don't expect that it will be easy, quick, or can be done by one individual.
- A team approach to plan development may still be needed, as some sections may require more technical development than you may have in-house. The plan must be professionally and technically sound.
- The term "Master Plan" gives off the idea of big, rigid, expensive documents. This new tool will start with the info you already have on hand. You can do a lot of it in-house, improving your cost effectiveness.
- Think of the resources you put into Master Planning as the investment that is going to guide future investments efficiently and attract others to your cause.
- When addressing GMRPTC criteria, be clear and concise. The more we have to try and figure it out, the lower your chances of success.
- Please give us feedback on how it worked for you!