

M.L. 2005 Projects Completed 2011-2012

**MN Laws 2005, First Special Session, Chapter 1,
Article 2, Section 11**

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MN Laws 2005, First Special Session, Chapter 1, Article 2, Section 11 (beginning July 1, 2005)

NOTE: Below is a short abstract for a project funded during the 2005 Legislative Session ending during 2011-2012. The final date of completion for these projects is listed at the end of the abstract. Final Reports for all completed projects are available at <http://www.lccmr.leg.mn/projects/2005-index.html> or by contacting the LCCMR office.

Subd. 06 Recreation

06I Local and Regional Trail Grant Initiative Program

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Local and Regional Trail Grant Initiative Program

Subd. 06I \$700,000 Funding available through duration of matching Federal funding.

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Overall Project Outcomes and Results:

Every year the department solicits grant proposals from local governments for local trail connections, and regional trails outside the metro area. Project applications are usually due in the spring, with project selection completed by the end of May.

Two distinct grant programs provide matching grants to local governments for acquisition and development of trails:

- Local Trail Connections Grant Program - helps link communities to trails and parks through development of connecting trail segments. The maximum grant amount of \$100,000 has been established administratively and is not defined in statute. Historically, the maximum grant amount for this program was \$50,000. In October 2001, the amount was changed to reflect increased construction costs realized by prospective grantees.
- Regional Trail Grant Program - provides grants of up to \$250,000 to cities, counties, and townships for development of regionally significant trails funded with local or federal funding. Primary determinants of significance include length, expected use and resource quality and/or attractiveness. The 1999 LCMR appropriation language specifies that the funds be used for project outside the seven-county metropolitan area.

Project proposals for all of these programs are evaluated and ranked on a competitive basis, with grants being awarded to the highest-ranking projects.

The Local Trail Connections Program was able to provide 23.45 miles of new trail, 6 new bridges/culverts, 1 easement, 1.62 miles of bituminous surfacing of a gravel trail and provided

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rehabilitation on 1.65 miles of trail. The regional Trail Grant Program was able to provide 25.50 of new trail, 1 bridge, 2.70 miles of railroad bed acquisition, and 19.85 miles of bituminous surfacing of a gravel trail. Together, both programs provided 48.95 miles of new trail, 7 bridges/culverts, 1 easement, 2.70 miles of railroad bed acquisition, 21.47 miles of bituminous surfacing of a gravel trail, and 1.65 miles of trail rehabilitation. There were a total 29 projects to 25 different communities supported with this LCCMR funding.

Project completed: 06/30/2011