

**Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund
2011-2012 Request for Proposals (RFP)**

LCCMR ID: 062-B

Project Title: MPRB Loring Pond Management Plan

Category: B. Water Resources

Total Project Budget: \$ 50,000

Proposed Project Time Period for the Funding Requested: 1 yr, July 2011 - June 2012

Other Non-State Funds: \$ 0

Summary:

Loring Pond is beset with poor habitat characteristics. This project will create a management plan solution. The plan will develop a vision and goals and incorporate sustainable steps toward them.

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Sponsoring Organization: Minneapolis Park & Recreation Board

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Location

Region: Metro

Ecological Section: Minnesota and NE Iowa Morainal (222M)

County Name: Hennepin

City / Township:

<input type="checkbox"/> Funding Priorities	<input type="checkbox"/> Multiple Benefits	<input type="checkbox"/> Outcomes	<input type="checkbox"/> Knowledge Base
<input type="checkbox"/> Extent of Impact	<input type="checkbox"/> Innovation	<input type="checkbox"/> Scientific/Tech Basis	<input type="checkbox"/> Urgency
<input type="checkbox"/> Capacity Readiness	<input type="checkbox"/> Leverage	<input type="checkbox"/> Employment	<input type="checkbox"/> TOTAL <input type="checkbox"/> %

2011-2012 MAIN PROPOSAL

PROJECT TITLE: MPRB LORING POND MANAGEMENT PLAN

I. PROJECT STATEMENT

Loring Park was acquired in 1883 as the “Central Park” of Minneapolis. Loring Pond is the centerpiece of this iconic park. The pond’s current 8 acre configuration was created by connecting two small bodies of water; Jewett Lake and Johnson’s Pond. Loring Pond provides an important oasis of green for people living in the area and an island of bird and other animal habitat in the densely developed core of downtown Minneapolis.

Over the years many projects have been performed toward improving water and habitat quality in and around the Loring Pond. Stormwater diversion from the pond reduced the watershed of Loring Pond to the surrounding 24.1 acres of parkland. The pond bottom was sealed, lined, and vented. An aerator was installed to help prevent oxygen depletion during the summer months. Multiple vegetation restoration projects have been completed including a native shoreline restoration. A fishing/observation pier was also installed to increase recreational opportunities at the pond.

Despite these and other efforts, the pond continues to have problems with aggressive hybrid cattails and poor habitat characteristics. Toward addressing these issues the MPRB and the Friends of Loring Park are moving to develop the first ever Lake Management Plan for the Loring Pond.

This plan would develop a long term vision and goals for the lake and shoreline. It will examine the steps that are needed to reach those goals, identify obstacles that may exist, and produce an implementation plan. The plan’s primary focus will be habitat and water quality improvement, and shoreline vegetation management. The plan process will review standard and innovative approaches and incorporate sustainable management methods wherever possible.

Because of the degree of dominance of the cattails at Loring it will be important for the plan to provide a comprehensive vegetation management approach that can be sustained over the long haul. The plan will include a list of desirable plants, steps needed to change the plant community, and sustainable ongoing maintenance of the plant community. The water levels experienced by the pond probably have a large impact on plant distribution. Review of the pond’s water level and water budget, and a plan to stabilize water levels over time, may also be needed. The plan will also examine water quality in the pond and develop a program of water quality improvements.

A request for proposals from qualified technical consultants will be issued and a consultant selected. This plan development effort would be led by the MPRB with input and funding assistance from the Friends of Loring Park. Funding will provide the consulting contract and the MPRB will provide in-kind staff time for the project.

II. DESCRIPTION OF PROJECT ACTIVITIES

Activity 1: Background and Input Budget: \$ 12,000

Outcome	Completion Date
1. Collection of background and research	October 2011
2. Stakeholder and Commissioner input (2 meetings)	October 2011

Activity 2: Management Plan Development Budget: \$ 31,000

Outcome	Completion Date
1. Developed management goals	November 2011
2. Developed sustainability opportunities	December 2011
3. Developed management strategies	February 2012
4. Interagency and stakeholder feedback analysis	March 2012
5. Create final plan	March 2012

Activity 4: Management Plan Adoption Budget: \$ 7,000

Outcome	Completion Date
1. MPRB Environmental & Operations Committee approval	April 2012
2. MPRB adoption	May 2012
3. Plan distribution	May 2012

III. PROJECT STRATEGY

A. Project Team/Partners

The project manager will be the MPRB Environmental Operations Manager. The project manager will distribute a request for proposals and select a consultant. The project manager will coordinate the consultants work with the stakeholders input in the process. The total project cost is estimated to be \$60,000 including \$10,000 in MPRB staff in kind. The grant would cover the cost of consultant services estimated at \$50,000.

B. Timeline Requirements

The project is expected to be complete within the grant timeframe and additional time is not necessary.

C. Long-Term Strategy and Future Funding Needs

The MPRB will seek funding for implementation tasks and maintenance programs that arise from the management plan as appropriate and as opportunities arise. It is hoped that the plan will save money in the long run as coordinated efforts and better methods make operations more efficient.

2011-2012 Detailed Project Budget

IV. TOTAL TRUST FUND REQUEST BUDGET 1 years

BUDGET ITEM <i>(See list of Eligible & Non-Eligible Costs, p. 13)</i>	AMOUNT
Personnel: <i>In this column, list who is getting paid to do what and what is the % of full-time employment for each position. List out by position or position type - one row per position/position type. For each, provide details in this column on the inputs: i.e. % dollars toward salary, % dollars toward benefits, time period for position/position type, and number of people in the position/position type.</i>	\$ -
Contracts: <i>In this column, list out proposed contracts. Be clear about whom the contract is to be made with and what services will be provided. If a specific contractor is not yet determined, specify the type of contractor sought. List out by contract types/categories - one row per type/category.</i>	\$ 50,000
TOTAL ENVIRONMENT & NATURAL RESOURCES TRUST FUND \$ REQUEST	\$ 50,000

V. OTHER FUNDS

SOURCE OF FUNDS	AMOUNT	Status
In-kind Services During Project Period: <i>Indicate any in-kind services to be provided during the funding period. List type of service(s) and estimated value. In-kind services listed must be specific to the project.</i>	\$ 10,000	

PROJECT MANAGER QUALIFICATIONS:

Tim P. Brown, P.E., P.G.
MPRB Environmental Operations Manager

Licensure Registered Professional Engineer, State of Minnesota
 Registered Professional Geologist, State of Wisconsin

Experience

Tim Brown has 18 years of experience in a diverse range of municipal water resource engineering and hydro-geological work. Tim's work has included water quality monitoring, modeling, and management services. He has also created natural resource inventories and park planning for municipal and state government, including the cities of Minneapolis, Lakeville, Minnetonka, Golden Valley, Eden Prairie, Rosemount and the State of Nevada. His project work includes:

- Environmental Operations Manager, MPRB, 2008-present. Supervise, direct and lead planning efforts for the MPRB Environmental Operations Department including the water quality, natural resource and environmental education programs. Serve as the primary environmental liaison internally, with outside agencies, and with the public. Lead development and implementation of short and long term work plans and resource management plans.
- Project Manager, Barr Engineering Company, 2007-2008. Preparing and managing the development of comprehensive water resource management plans to help municipalities meet federal, state, and local watershed regulations. Designing and administering water quality and permanent erosion control capital projects. Developing and implementing a groundwater recharge model as part of a regional groundwater flow model.
- Environmental Engineer, City of Lakeville, 1998-2001. Project work included designing, managing, and implementing water quality improvement projects; developing and implementing city surface water management programs and budgets; managing the development of a trout stream management plan; and developing and implementing water quality monitoring programs and lake management strategies.

ORGANIZATION DESCRIPTION:

In 1883 the Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board (MPRB) was created by an act of the Minnesota State Legislature and a vote of Minneapolis residents. It serves as an independently elected, semi-autonomous body responsible for governing, maintaining, and developing the Minneapolis park system. Every four years, nine commissioners are elected to this Board – one from each of the six park districts within the city and three that serve at-large. In 2008 the Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board will celebrate 125 years of providing outstanding park and recreation services to residents and visitors of Minneapolis. The MPRB has a long and successful history of implementing projects of all sorts funded by public dollars.

