### Project Title:
Mesabi Trail; New Trail and Additional Funding

### ENRTF ID: 281-G

**Category:**  G. Land Acquisition for Habitat and Recreation

**Sub-Category:**

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### Total Project Budget:
$ 6,337,000

### Proposed Project Time Period for the Funding Requested:
June 30, 2024 (4 yrs)

**Summary:**
Constructing two new Mesabi Trail segments and one new trail head; and additional funding for trail segments currently in development.

**Name:**  Robert Manzoline

**Sponsoring Organization:**  St. Louis and Lake Counties Regional Railroad Authority

**Job Title:**  

**Department:**  

**Address:**  111 Station 44 Road
            Eveleth MN 55734

**Telephone Number:**  (218) 744-2653

**Email**  bmanzoline@rrauth.com

**Web Address:**  

**Location:**  

**Region:**  Northeast

**County Name:**  St. Louis

**City / Township:**  McKinley, Biwabik, Ely

**Alternate Text for Visual:**
Attached map is a general description of the proposed trail locations. Detailed maps are prepared and will be submitted upon request.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Funding Priorities</th>
<th>Multiple Benefits</th>
<th>Outcomes</th>
<th>Knowledge Base</th>
<th>Extent of Impact</th>
<th>Innovation</th>
<th>Scientific/Tech Basis</th>
<th>Urgency</th>
<th>Capacity</th>
<th>Readiness</th>
<th>Leverage</th>
<th>TOTAL</th>
<th>%</th>
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</thead>
</table>

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Page 1 of 6  05/13/2019  ENRTF ID: 281-G
PROJECT TITLE: Mesabi Trail; New Trail & Trailhead Development and Additional Funding Request

I. PROJECT STATEMENT

Request funding for constructing two new Mesabi Trail segments and one new trailhead; and additional funding needed to complete five trail segments currently under development.

New funding will be used to construct trail segments: Wahlsten Road to City of Tower; and Palo Tia Road to Sauna Road; and a Trailhead at the Bruce Headframe Historic Site.

Additional funding request is for those trail segments previously approved/funded by the LCCMR and are in need of additional funds to complete construction including: Hwy 1/169 Underpass to Ely; and Wolf Creek to Hwy 1/169 Underpass; and Trygg Road to Eagles Nest; and Sauna Road to Wahlsten Road; and City of Biwabik to the City of McKinley.

II. PROJECT ACTIVITIES AND OUTCOMES

Activity 1 Title: New Trail - Wahlsten Road to the City of Tower

Description: Perform Environmental review, permitting, acquire r-o-w, design and construct a 10’ wide, bituminous surface trail from Wahlsten Road (intersection of CR 26 and State Hwy 135) to the existing Mesabi Trail located near Locomotive Park in the City of Tower. This segment will connect to the planned Sauna Road to Wahlsten Road project on the southerly end. This trail is approximately 6 miles in length planned to be located partly on the abandon DM& IR Railroad grade and through forested areas. The trail will pass through the City of Tower Memorial Forest.

ENRTF BUDGET: $ 1,962,000

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Outcome</th>
<th>Completion Date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Environmental review and permitting</td>
<td>June 2021</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Design, acquire right-of-way</td>
<td>October 2021</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Construction</td>
<td>June 2023</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Activity 2 Title: New Trail - Palo Tia Road to Sauna Road

Description: Perform Environmental review, permitting, acquire r-o-w, design and construct a 10’ wide, bituminous surface trail from the existing Mesabi Trail at Palo Tia Road to Sauna Road (intersection of Sauna Road and CH 21). This segment will connect to the planned Sauna Road to Wahlsten Road project on the northerly end. This trail is approximately 2 miles in length planned to be located alongside of Palo Tia Road and CH 21 for the entire length.
ENRTF BUDGET: $825,000

<table>
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<tr>
<td>2. Design, acquire right-of-way</td>
<td>October 2020</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Construction</td>
<td>November 2021</td>
</tr>
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</table>

Activity 3 Title: New Trailhead – Bruce Head Frame Historic Site

Description: Perform Environmental review, permitting, design and construction of a trailhead at the site of the Bruce Headframe located at the easterly entrance to the City of Chisholm. The Trailhead will include an access road, parking, restrooms, landscaping, overlook and interpretation of the function of the Bruce Mine Headframe Historic site.

ENRTF BUDGET: $1,550,000

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Outcome</th>
<th>Completion Date</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Environmental review and permitting</td>
<td>June 2021</td>
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<tr>
<td>2. Design, acquire right-of-way</td>
<td>December 2021</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Construction</td>
<td>June 2023</td>
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</table>

Activity 4 Title: Additional Funding Request

Description: Requesting additional construction funds to build the trail segments listed within “Outcomes”. The attached project map identifies the location and current funding for each segment.

For the most part, environmental work, planning, design and right-of-way have been completed or current funding is being used to complete these tasks.

Additional funds will be used for increased construction costs, wetland mitigations, and environmental permitting primarily for realigned trail segments.

Each of these segments has been reviewed by LCCMR and further described within year 2015, 2017, 2018 & 2019 Workplans.

ENRTF BUDGET: $2,000,000

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Outcome</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Hwy 1/169 Underpass to City of Ely, length approximately 6 miles</td>
<td>November 2020</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wolf Creek to Hwy 1/169 underpass, length approximately 3 miles</td>
<td>October 2021</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Trygg Road to Eagles Nest Town Hall, length approximately 2 miles</td>
<td>June 2023</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sauna Road to Wahlsen Road, length approximately 6.5 miles</td>
<td>November 2021</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>City of Biwabik to City of McKinley, length approximately 5.5 miles</td>
<td>November 2022</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
**Attachment A: Project Budget Spreadsheet**

**Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund**

**M.L. 2020 Budget Spreadsheet**

**Legal Citation:**

**Project Manager:** Robert Manzoline

**Project Title:** Mesabi Trail; New Trail, Trailhead and Additional Funding Request

**Organization:** St. Louis & Lake Counties Regional Railroad Authority

**Project Budget:** 6,337,000

**Project Length and Completion Date:** various with latest completion date June 2023

**Today’s Date:** April 12, 2019

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**ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES TRUST FUND BUDGET**

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**SOURCE AND USE OF OTHER FUNDS CONTRIBUTED TO THE PROJECT**

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<th>Sources</th>
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<th>Budget</th>
<th>Spent</th>
<th>Balance</th>
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<tr>
<td>In kind: Administrative &amp; Legal</td>
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<td>$</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>$</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
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<td>$6,069,000</td>
<td>$4,800,000</td>
<td>$1,269,000</td>
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**Recent LCCMR Funding**

- **2019**: $3,000,000 (Requested)
- **2018**: $600,000
- **2017**: $2,269,000
- **2016**: $1,200,000
- **2015**: $1,000,000
- **2014**: $1,000,000

**2020 LCCMR Requests**

- **New Trails & Trailhead**
  - Palo Tia Road to Sauna Road: $150,000
  - Bruce Head Frame Historic Site: $1,550,000
  - Wahlstein Road to Tower: $2,000,000

- **Additional Funding Request**
  - Sauna Road to County Road 26: $200,000
  - Trygg Road to Eagles Nest Town Hall: $750,000
  - Biwabik to McKinley: $700,000
  - Highway 169 Underpass to Ely: $800,000

**Total**: $6,150,000

**Legend**

- New Trails & Trailhead
- Additional Funding Request
- 2019 Construction
- 2020 LCCMR Request
- 2021 Construction
- Possible 2022 Construction

**Recent Projects**

- **2020 Construction**
  - Highway 169 Underpass to Ely - 6 miles
    - 2015 LCCMR $1,000,000
    - 2018 LCCMR $600,000
    - 2020 LCCMR Request $800,000
    - 2020 Federal $300,000
    - Total = $2,700,000

- **2020 Construction**
  - Wolf Creek to Hwy 169 Underpass - 2.5 miles
    - 2019 LCCMR Request $600,000

- **2018 Construction**
  - Biwabik to McKinley - 5.5 miles
    - 2017 LCCMR $1,400,000
    - Federal TAP $1,000,000
    - 2020 LCCMR Request $700,000

- **2021 Construction**
  - Trygg Road to Eagles Nest Town Hall - 2.0 miles
    - 2020 LCCMR Application $750,000
  - Sauna Road to County Road 26 - 6.0 miles
    - 2019 Legacy $1,800,000
    - 2019 LCCMR Request $200,000
    - 2020 LCCMR Request $750,000

- **2019 Construction**
  - Palo Tia Road to Sauna Road - 3 miles
    - 2019 LCCMR Request $700,000
    - 2020 LCCMR Request $150,000
  - Highway 169 Relocation - 3 miles
    - 2017 Legacy $750,000
  - Highway 135 North to Palo Tia Road - 3.0 miles
  - Palo Tia Road to Sauna Road - 3 miles
  - Wolf Creek to Hwy 169 Underpass - 3.0 miles
  - County Road 26 to Tower - 6 miles
  - Existing Mesabi Trail
  - Roads

**2020 LCCMR Application**

- **Wolf Creek to Hwy 169 Underpass - 2.5 miles**
  - 2019 LCCMR Request $600,000

- **Eagles Nest Town Hall to Existing Trail Connection**
  - 2019 LCCMR Application $750,000

- **County Road 26 To Tower - 6 miles**
  - 2020 LCCMR Request $2,000,000
  - 2021 State Bond $1,138,000

- **Bruce Head Frame Historic Site**
  - 2020 LCCMR Request $1,550,000

- **Wahlstein Road to Tower**
  - 2020 LCCMR Request $2,000,000

- **Possible 2022 Construction**
  - County Road 26 To Tower - 6 miles
    - 2020 LCCMR Request $2,000,000
    - 2021 State Bond $1,138,000

- **New Trails & Trailhead**
  - Palo Tia Road to Sauna Road: $150,000
  - Bruce Head Frame Historic Site: $1,550,000
  - Wahlstein Road to Tower: $2,000,000

- **Additional Funding Request**
  - Sauna Road to County Road 26: $200,000
  - Trygg Road to Eagles Nest Town Hall: $750,000
  - Biwabik to McKinley: $700,000
  - Highway 169 Underpass to Ely: $800,000

- **Total**: $6,150,000
Project Manager Qualifications for ENRTF 2020 Proposal

Project manager is Robert Manzoline, Executive Director of the St. Louis & Lake Counties Regional Railroad Authority, hereafter referred to as the “Rail Authority”.

The Rail Authority is a local government unit of Minnesota organizes and operating under MN Laws M.S. 398A.

Rail Authority has been working on the development of the Mesabi Trail since year 1995 and has constructed 128 miles of the trail thus far.

The 2020 proposal includes several new segments of the Mesabi Trail similar to most other trail segments constructed to date. The Rail Authority is experienced with all aspects of this project including public involvement, agency contacts, environmental, engineering, construction, budgets and funding.

The Rail Authority has worked with many granting agencies over the years including LCCMR, MN State Bond, MN Legacy, MN DEED, MN IRRB and Federal Enhancement, TAP and Recreational Trails grants. Mesabi Trail grants have totaled in excess of $28 million dollars.