

FINAL REPORT

1999 Project Abstract

For the Period Ending June 30, 2001

JUL 23 2002

TITLE: M11 Luce Line Connection through Wirth Park

PROJECT MANAGER: Tim P. Brown

ORGANIZATION: Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board

ADDRESS: 400 South Fourth Suite 200, Grain Exchange, Minneapolis, MN. 55415

WEB SITE ADDRESS: www.minneapolisparcs.org

FUND: Minnesota Future Resources Fund

LEGAL CITATION: ML 1999, Chap.231, Sec. 16, Subd. 4(n).

APPROPRIATION AMOUNT: \$300,000

Overall Project Outcome And Results

5,010 feet of bicycle and pedestrian trail was completed through Wirth Park to connect the Minneapolis Regional Trail system with the Luce Line State Trail. The completed Luce Line segment links with the Basset's Creek Trail, to connect the Cedar Lake Trail with the Wirth Parkway Trail and a future Luce Line segment in Golden Valley.

This connection is part of one of the longest trails in the state extending from Hutchinson to Minneapolis. The new trail enables pedestrians and cyclists to access the 45-mile regional trail systems of the Minneapolis Park Board with its connections to other trail systems in Hennepin, Anoka and Dakota Counties and the City of St. Paul. Along with providing a first rate recreational facility the trail completes an important bicycle commuter route from the western metro area to downtown Minneapolis.

Built to MNDOT Bike Trail specifications, the new bituminous trail has a minimum width of 10 feet. The trail is striped and has signage to provide maximum safety and navigation. Restoration of disturbed areas was also completed including grading, seeding and the planting of 40 small trees to replace trees lost during the trail construction.

July 1, 2002
LCMR Final Work Program Report

I. PROJECT TITLE: M11 Luce Line Connection through Wirth Park

Project Manager: Tim P. Brown, P.E.
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Total Biennial Project Budget: \$994,581

| | | |
|-------------------------------|---------------------|---|
| \$ LCMR: | \$300,000 | \$Match: \$555,665(Federal)+\$138,916 |
| | | (MPRB Maintenance & Operations Fund) |
| -\$ LCMR Amount Spent: | | - \$ Match Amount Spent: |
| | \$150,623.64 | \$85,841.17 |
| <hr/> | | |
| = \$ LCMR Balance: | \$149,376.36 | = \$ Match Balance: \$64,782.47 |

A. Legal Citation: ML 1999, Chap.231, Sec. 16, Subd. 4(n).
M11 Luce Line Connection through Wirth Park

Appropriation Language:

004n Luce Line Trail Connection through Wirth Park

(n) Luce Line Trail Connection Through Wirth Park
\$300,000 the first year is from the future resources fund to the metropolitan council for an agreement with the Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board to complete the construction of a bicycle and pedestrian trail link through Wirth Park to connect the Minneapolis Regional Trail System with the Luce Line State Trail. This appropriation must be matched by at least \$300,000 of non-state money. This appropriation is available until June 30, 2002, at which time the project must be completed and final products delivered, unless an earlier date is specified in the work program.

B. Status of Match Requirement: ISTEA 2002-3 + MPRB funds 2001-2 to match \$150,623.64:

To date \$85,841.17 has been spent by the MPRB towards matching the \$150,623.64 total LCMR expenditures. The balance of \$64,782.47 match for the LCMR eligible Luce Trail segment will be provided by Park Board funding along with a component of ISTEA dollars approved for the north-south segment of the Wirth Bike Trail portion of this project. Construction of the Wirth Bike Trail portion is scheduled to begin September 15.

With the May 13, 2002 Workplan approval for this project the LCMR agreed that:

1. Expenditures for Wirth will be eligible as match contingent on Wirth receiving MNDOT approval before the sunset date of the LCMR funding availability (this was received and acknowledged).
2. The reimbursements for the Luce portion may be made for work completed by June 30, 2002 up to \$300,000.
3. For the purpose of this work program, the expenditures on the Wirth portion will create eligible match for the Luce portion, and will largely occur after June 30, 2002.
4. To remain eligible as the match, the Wirth portion expenditures will occur before June 30, 2004 and will be documented to the LCMR and the Metropolitan Council as fiscal agent for the appropriation. However if the match requirement is not met, the Park Board will reimburse the Future Resources Fund.

II and III. FINAL PROJECT SUMMARY:

5,010 feet of bicycle and pedestrian trail was completed through Wirth Park to connect the Minneapolis Regional Trail system with the Luce Line State Trail. The completed Luce Line segment links with the Basset's Creek Trail, to connect the Cedar Lake Trail with the Wirth Parkway Trail and a future Luce Line segment in Golden Valley. This connection is part of one of the longest trails in the state extending from Hutchinson to Minneapolis. The new trail enables pedestrians and cyclists to access the 45-mile regional trail systems of the Minneapolis Park Board with its connections to other trail systems in Hennepin, Anoka and Dakota Counties and the City of St. Paul. Along with providing a first rate recreational facility the trail completes an important bicycle commuter route from the western metro area to downtown Minneapolis.

Built to MNDOT Bike Trail specifications, the new bituminous trail has a minimum width of 10 feet. The trail is striped and has signage to provide maximum safety and navigation. Restoration of disturbed areas was also completed including grading, seeding and the planting of 40 small trees to replace trees lost during the trail construction.

IV. OUTLINE OF PROJECT RESULTS:

Result 1 and Result 2: : Design and Engineering, Testing and Survey.

This provided for consultant services for design, engineering and survey for the project.

| | | |
|-----------------------------------|------------------|--------------------|
| LCMR Budget: \$59,000 | Match: \$ | \$40,316.62 |
| Expenditure as of June 30: | | |
| \$40,316.62 | | \$83,162.24 |

| | | | |
|-----------------|--------------------|-----------------------|------------|
| Balance: | \$18,683.38 | Match Balance: | -0- |
|-----------------|--------------------|-----------------------|------------|

Completed

Result 3: Trail Construction. this includes the actual cost of constructing the trails including grading, drainage, bituminous and concrete paving, fencing and landscaping.

| | | |
|-----------------------------------|---------------|---------------------|
| LCMR Budget: \$241,000 | Match: | \$110,307.02 |
| Expenditure as of June 30: | | |
| \$110,307.02 | | \$2,678.93 |

| | | |
|-----------------|----------------------|--|
| | Match Balance | |
| Balance: | \$130,692.98 | (with excess from 1 & 2): 64,782.47 |

Discussion

The Luce Line Trail is completed. As per the approved May 13 Workplan the match balance will be spent before June 30, 2004 and a follow-up report will be submitted.

Even though the project met its goals and all aspects of the trail were completed, the project used about half of the original appropriation. This was due to several factors. The original grant application assumed that a CP Rail corridor would be available for trail use. In the end that alignment was not available. That forced us to seek an alternative alignment that would still provide the needed linkage. An alternative was found that resulted in a shorter trail alignment than originally planned while still linking east to west, and led to the trail being constructed almost entirely on MPRB property. Reducing the trail length cut the construction costs and using our property greatly reduced property costs. Largely due to efficiencies of scale and the experience level of the consultant, the engineering for the project also came in well under budget.

V. DISSEMINATION: Not applicable.

VI. CONTEXT:

- A. Significance:** Wirth Park is the largest regional park in the Minneapolis system and is well-known for the Eloise Butler Wildflower Garden, the Quaking Bog and its many recreational opportunities such as swimming, hiking, skiing, picnicking, fishing and biking. Wirth Park is poised to become a main trail conduit between downtown Minneapolis and the western and northern suburbs. With the continuation of the Luce Line State Trail to the western border of Wirth Park (constructed by Hennepin County) and the construction of the Bassett's Creek Trail to the eastern boundary of Wirth Park (City of Minneapolis), the connection of these two trails through the park creates one of the longest trails in the state. The trail connection also enables pedestrians and cyclists to access the 45-mile regional trail systems of the Minneapolis Park Board with its connections to other trail system in St. Paul, Anoka, and Dakota Counties. The project is a significant contribution to the development of a network of trails throughout the metropolitan region.
- B. Time:** The project was completed within the grant time frame.
- C. Budget Context:** The following sources and funds are being utilized to build the trails associated with this project:

| <u>Source</u> | <u>Amount</u> |
|--------------------------|---------------|
| Hennepin County Bonds | \$ 600,000 |
| ISTEA (FHWA) | \$1,106,000 |
| City of Minneapolis/MPRB | \$ 551,000 |
| Harrison Ngbhd NRP | \$ 20,000 |
| Bryn Mawr Ngbhd NRP | \$ 75,000 |

VII. COOPERATION: MN Department of Transportation and the City of Minneapolis.

VIII. LOCATION: Theodore Wirth Regional Park, Hennepin County, Golden Valley, MN.

IX. REPORTING REQUIREMENTS: This is the final report for the project. A follow-up notification will be given when the match expenditures have been made.

X. RESEARCH PROJECTS: Not Applicable