

FINAL REPORT

SEP 13 2001

1999 Project Abstract

For the Period Ending June 30, 2001

TITLE:

BLUFFLANDS IMPLEMENTATION

PROJECT MANAGER:

Todd Bram

ORGANIZATION:

Winona County Planning

ADDRESS:

177 Main,

Winona, MN 55987

Phone: (507) 457-6335

FAX: (507) 454-9377

FUND:

Minnesota Future Resources Fund

LEGAL CITATION: ML 1999, Ch. 231, Sec. 16, Subd. 008(g)

APPROPRIATION AMOUNT: \$33,000

Overall Project Outcome and Results:

The Blufflands Region is rich in natural, cultural, historical, scenic, and biological resources. Population increases and incompatible growth and development patterns, however, increasingly threaten these resources. The Minnesota Legislature funded Blufflands Landscape Project, identified in its Blufflands Design Manual specific growth-trend threats, as well as creative ways to guide growth and development in a positive manner. Dakota Minnesota was specifically identified as a once thriving river community that has experienced a severe deterioration of its historic town center.

This Blufflands Implementation Project, was designed to develop a small community incentive project to act as a framework to provide opportunity for threatened communities to integrate implementation options listed in the Blufflands Design Manual. This project had three targeted results.

1. Dakota Town Square Park Development:
 - Provided assistance for process and development of a park master plan on a vacant centrally located city lot for the construction of a city parks.
2. Landscaping and Maintenance Improvements on Dakota City Property
 - Provided assistance to make enhancements to a scenic overlook platform, "Welcome Home to Dakota" entrance sign, and Dakota Community Center.
3. Exterior Renovation of a Historic Commercial Building.

Project Results Use and Dissemination

The City of Dakota's enthusiasm supports the fact that a solution to promote the rebirth of small towns can be to initiate quality design into the heart of the community. The implementation of sensitive historic renovation, well designed public green space, and capitalizing on its scenic attributes all stimulate certain types of quality investment activity important to the communities vitality. Small community incentive projects like this act as a model/pilot/avenue for encouraging similar communities to implement the Common Vision Goals adopted by the entire community.

WORK PROGRAM OUTLINE

Date of Report: July 1, 2001

LCMR Final Work Program Report

Date of Next Status Report: August 10, 2001

Date of Work Program Approval:

Project Completion Date: June 30, 2001

LCMR Work Program 1999:

I. PROJECT TITLE: Chapter 231, Section 16, Subdivision 8 (g) Blufflands Implementation

<i>Project Manager</i>	Todd H. Bram
<i>Affiliation</i>	Winona County Planning
<i>Mailing Address</i>	177 Main Street, Winona, Minnesota 55987
<i>Telephone Number and FAX Number</i>	PH. (507) 457-6335 FAX (507) 454-9377
<i>E-Mail Address</i>	tbram@nt1.co.winona.mn.us
<i>Web Page Address (if applicable)</i>	NA

Total Biennial Project Budget

\$ LCMR	\$33,000.00	\$ Match	0
- \$ LCMR Amount Spent	\$29,163.11	- \$ Match Amount Spent	0
= \$ LCMR Balance	\$ 3,836.89	= \$ Match Balance	0

A. Legal Citation: ML 1999, [Chap. 231], Sec. [16], Subd. 008 (g)

Appropriation Language:

Blufflands Implementation \$33,000 the first year is from the future resources fund to the commissioner of natural resources for an agreement with Winona County to implement land protection recommendations in the blufflands design manual.

NOTES: Reallocation from 1995, MFRF

B. Status of Match Requirement: No match required

II & III FINAL PROJECT SUMMARY:

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IV. OUTLINE OF PROJECT RESULTS:

Result 1:

Dakota Town Square Park Development

Winona County provided the City of Dakota grant funds to develop a Dakota Town Square Park located on a City owned, vacant 50' X 100' lot in the heart of the community. The City of Dakota held a number of council meetings to gather input on potential uses, design concepts and expected outcomes. The community however also had concerns associated the city's obligations and with the county's expectations. As a result of the city's initial reluctance to engage in the project, the project suffered months of delay. However after several meetings providing awareness raising and increased understanding of the intent and concepts of community revitalization projects and the anticipated benefits to the city and the county as a whole, design drawings were eventually approval by the community, and a final master plan was developed. Based upon the master plan, the City obtained bids for construction and landscaping work, and then proceeded with the final construction of a high quality and community accepted Dakota Town Square Park. The county strongly feels that the project was a success at encouraging citizen involvement towards on going community redevelopment. The county knows of no other way to instill these values than through on the ground financial assistance technical advisement. The city of Dakota has since held several community events at the park location. Owners of historic commercial building along River Street were either unable, or unwilling to participate in the exterior renovation project identified in "Result 3", therefore the amount spent on project "Result I", were allowed to exceeded the Budgeted amount for this Result (see attached photos).

Budget:	LCMR Budget:	\$22,000.00	Match:	\$0
	LCMR Amount Spent	\$25,161.76	Match Amount Spent	\$0
	Balance:	[\$3,161.76]	Match Balance:	\$0

Completion Date: June 30, 2001

Result 2:

Landscaping and Maintenance Improvements at Dakota Properties

Winona County provided the City of Dakota grant funds to make landscaping improvements at the city owned scenic overlook platform, the "Welcome Home to Dakota" entrance sign, and the Dakota Community Center. These on the ground improvements made at key locations in the community provided a positive first step result towards community acceptance of state and county support for implementation of community revitalization projects identified in the Bluffland Design Manual.

Budget:	LCMR Budget:	\$ <u>5,500.00</u>	Match:	\$0
	LCMR Amount Spent	\$ 4,001.35	Match Amount Spent	\$0
	Balance:	\$ <u>1,498.65</u>	Match Balance:	\$0

Completion Date: June 30, 2001

Result 3:

Exterior Renovation of an Historic Commercial Buildings along River Street

After numerous attempts, Winona County and City of Dakota officials were unable to provide a 50% matching grant to assist in the renovation of the exterior of one of the community's historic commercial buildings along River Street. Property owners remained skeptical of county and state expectations and did not wish to take advantage of this opportunity. However Winona County is encouraged by the positive outcome of the town square development and therefore anticipates ongoing revitalization efforts within this historic river community. A small portion of the budgeted funds for this project activity were utilized to enhance the town square development project under Result 1.

Budget:	LCMR Budget:	\$ <u>5,500.00</u>	Match:	\$0
	LCMR Amount Spent	\$ 0.00	Match Amount Spent	\$0
	Balance:	\$ <u>5,500.00</u>	Match Balance:	\$0

Completion Date: November 1, 1999

V. DISSEMINATION:

Developments through this project will continue to act as a model for other communities to develop a framework for providing similar opportunity to integrate the implementation options listed in the Blufflands Design Manual, thereby implementing the Common Visions Goals adopted by the entire community.

VI. CONTEXT:

- A. Significance:** As cited in the Blufflands Design Manual, well-designed and thoughtfully maintained traditional communities with attractive downtown's, an interesting mix of shaded parks, corner stores, front porches, backyard gardens, sidewalk cafes, etc., make for a pleasant living environment. These congenial town settings encourage people to continue living in town... rather than promote the desire to move to outlying-unplanned areas of sprawl.

A proven solution to promote the rebirth of small towns is to initiate quality design into the heart of the community. The implementation of sensitive historic renovation, well designed public green space, and capitalizing on its scenic attributes all encourage and stimulate certain types of

quality investment activity important to the communities vitality.

These on-the-ground, small community revitalization and incentive projects will act as a framework to provide the opportunity and means to integrate and organize the implementation options listed in the Blufflands Design Manual, thereby implementing the Common Visions Goals adopted by the entire community.

B. Time:

Budget Context:

See Attachment A, *All expenditures that may be incurred above the authorized grant amount (overhead, office supplies, development assistance) will be absorbed by the Winona County Planning Department's normal operating expense budget throughout the grant period.*

VII. COOPERATION:

This project has full support of the Winona Area Joint Coordination Committee (WAJCC), Winona County Planning Commission, Winona County Board, City of Dakota, Department of Natural Resources Blufflands Coordinator, Department of Transportation, Winona County Historical Society

VIII. LOCATION:

The project will take place in Winona County, in the City of Dakota.

REPORTING REQUIREMENTS:

IX. RESEARCH PROJECTS:

Blufflands Implementation is not designated as being research or having research components.

Attachment A Deliverable Products and Related Budget	Blufflands Implementation NOTES: Reallocated from 1995, FRF			
	Objective/Result			
LCMR Project Biennial Budget	Result 1	Result 2	Result 3	
Budget Item	Dakota Town Park Development	Landscaping Maintenance Improvements	Commercial Building Renovation	ROW TOTAL
Wages, salaries & benefits -				
Space rental, maintenance & utilities				
Printing and advertising				
Communications, telephone, mail, etc.				
Contracts				
Professional/technical				
Other contracts				
Local automobile mileage paid				
Other travel expenses in Minnesota				
Travel outside Minnesota				
Office Supplies				
Other Supplies				
Tools and equipment				
Office equipment and computers				
Other capital equipment				
Other direct operating costs				
Land acquisition				
Land rights acquisition				
Buildings or other land improvement	\$25,161.76	\$4,001.35	\$0.00	\$29,163.11
Legal fees				
COLUMN TOTAL	\$25,161.76	\$4,001.35	\$0.00	\$29,163.11

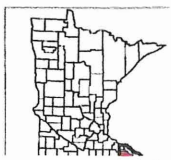
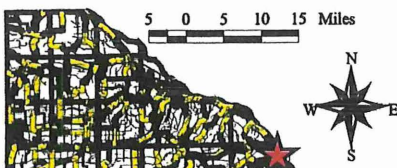
**All expenditures that may be incurred above the authorized grant amount (overhead, office supplies, development assistance) will be absorbed by the Winona County Planning Department's normal operating expense budget throughout the grant period.*

LCMR WORK PROGRAM FINAL REPORT

PROJECT TITLE:

Chapter 231, Section 16, Subdivision 8 (g) Blufflands Implementation

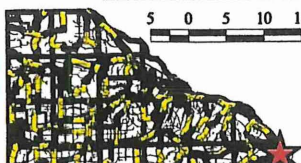
RESULT # 1 Dakota Town Square Park Development



LCMR WORK PROGRAM FINAL REPORT

PROJECT TITLE: Chapter 231, Section 16, Subdivision 8 (g) Blufflands Implementation

RESULT # 2 Landscaping and Maintenance Improvements at Dakota Properties



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