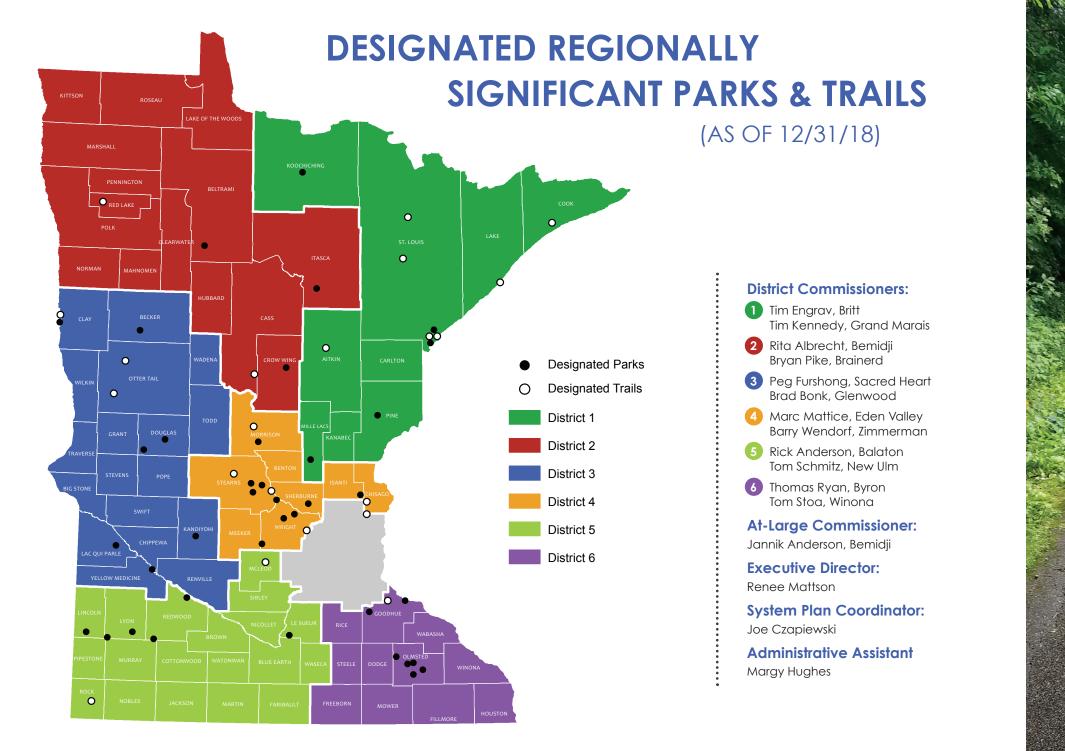
# Greater Minnesota REGIONAL PARKS & TRAILS COMMISSION

POLICY & PLANNING REPORT FOR 2018

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PROJ

Duluth Hartley F

Red Lake River

Lake Shore Gul

Granite Falls Mo

Wright County I

Morrison Count Prairie Park

Lincoln County

Mountain Park

Redwood Coun Creek Park

Rochester Gam Park

Cannon Valley

To

## LEGACY GRANT OUTCOMES 2016-2019: COMPLETE OR IN PROGRESS

LEGACY DOLLARS AT WORK IN GREATER MINNESOTA

PROJECT 3

A

683.87

ACRES

ACQUIRED FOR PARKS



## 39 PROGRAMMING CONNECTING PEOPLE TO THE OUTDOORS

10.25 TRAIL MILES ACQUIRED







Photo Caption: Cannon Valley Trail – District 6

## FY20 FUNDING RECOMMENDATIONS

ECT	AWARD	DIST.	
Park	\$1,293,975	1	
•	\$889,198	1	
Corridor	\$1,491,881	2	
ll Lake Trail	\$1,206,319	2	and a second
emorial Park	\$150,000	3	
Bertram Park	\$2,297,600	4	- Contraction
y Belle	\$65,000	4	
Hole in the	\$53,000	5	
nty Plum	\$27,000	5	
nehaven	\$1,076,410	6	*
Trail	\$88,875	6	
al	\$8,639,258		
State State State	1. A.	the states	



# 2018 MILESTONES

The Greater Minnesota Regional Parks and Trails Commission is comprised of 13 members appointed by the governor, two members from each of the regional parks and trails districts and one at large member.

The Greater Minnesota Regional Parks and Trails Commission was created to undertake system planning and provide recommendations to the legislature for grants funded to regionally designated facilities outside the seven-county metropolitan area.

 The Greater Minnesota Regional Parks and Trails Commission was a partner, along with the DNR and Metropolitan Council, in a Parks and Trails 10-Year Legacy Celebration. Bringing a message of "Listen, Educate and Celebrate", the three agencies hosted eight celebrations throughout Minnesota, culminating in an exhibit at the Minnesota State Fair in the DNR building. The celebrations drew thousands of Minnesotans who were engaged in learning more about the work of their legacy dollars in parks and trails across the three systems. The agencies asked for feedback and thoughts about where future dollars might be directed across the four pillars. A report on the 10-Year Legacy Celebration will be available in early January 2019.

- and search improvements.
- and missions.
- Minnesota system.
- they're received.
- trails in the system.

 A statewide joint District Planning Committee (DPC) meeting was held in February and drew participants from across the six districts. Work was done to establish vision statements and priorities in each district and discuss statewide themes and trends. The direction provided at the DPC meeting set the stage for 2018 district work and provided a framework for designation application priorities in the districts.

• With a growing park and trail system, Commissioners recognized the need for administrative support in each of the districts to better serve our constituents. Five contractors now provide guidance and collaboration to the Six District Planning Committees.

 The Commission's Data Management System improvements/enhancements continued with Phase II work throughout winter and spring of 2018. Always striving to provide the best experience for our constituents, Phase II included upgrades to the funding application as well as more robust back-end reporting. Phase III will commence in January and will focus on reporting

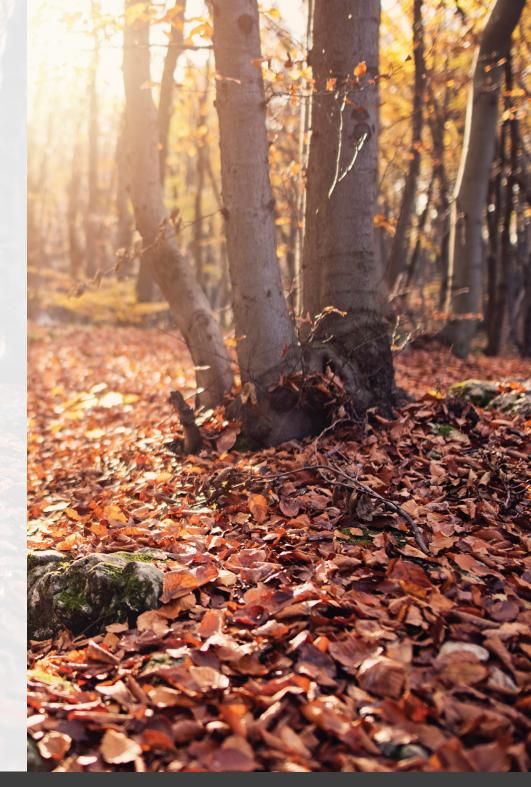
 The Commission unveiled a logo during 2018. Recognizing the need to create a "brand", the Commission worked with a designer to establish an identity and help alleviate some of the confusion around agencies with similar names



• A contractor has been hired to identify and map all existing, planned and proposed mountain bike trails/systems in Districts 1 and 2. This project is comprehensive of all the trails, not just those within the Greater

• A Regional Trail Standards document to assist those building mountain bike trails is being created by a contractor with vast experience in trail building. This design and best practices document will be available to any organization building trails, not just those in the Greater Minnesota system. Along with this document will be a companion Construction Standards manual that will provide help in preparing RFPs and comparing bids once

• Greater Minnesota has a total of 58 regionally designated parks and



## **DISTRICT** 1

PILLAR

### Acquire Land, Create Opportunities

#### Big Falls Campground and Horse Camp

The Big Falls Campground and Horse Camp is the only facility of its kind on the Bigfork River. Situated beside the rapids and falls, in a setting of lofty pines and surrounding woods, it is a pristine, natural setting that changes with the seasons. With Legacy funding, the city acquired a property adjacent to the existing campground, adding 9.8 acres of scenic riverfront land and 770 feet of Big Fork River shoreline to the park. The acquisition enables formal access to the Big Fork River State Water Trail directly from the campgrounds.

### **Connect People and the Outdoors**

#### Hermantown/Proctor Munger Trail Spur

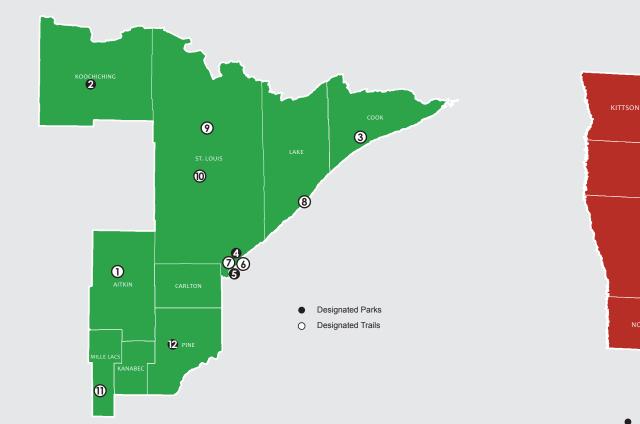
A regional trail connection between Proctor/Hermantown and the Munger State Trail is a vital link for the two communities and will provide high quality access to existing regional trails. Additionally, this regional trail provides the opportunity to connect to Duluth's Lakewalk, Cross City Trail, and Duluth Traverse (mountain bike trail), as well as the Superior Hiking Trail (a 300-mile trail along the Lake Superior ridgeline). The connection to schools, community centers and housing will create access that is currently lacking, for residents and visitors.

#### TOTAL FUNDING AWARDED TO DISTRICT 1 (FY16-FY19)

This notes the total number of applications for funding submitted from FY16-FY19 and the total amount of grants made to this District over time.







	DESIGNATED PARK/TRAIL	CLASSIFICATION
1	Aitkin County Northwoods ATV Trail	Т
2	Big Falls Campground and Horse Camp	S
3	Cook County Mountain Bike Trail System	S
4	Duluth Hartley Park	N
5	Duluth Spirit Mountain Recreation Area	S
6	Duluth Traverse	S
7	Hermantown/Proctor Munger Trail Spur	Т
8	Lake County Mountain Bike Trails	Т
9	Lake Vermilion Trail	Т
10	Mesabi Trail	Т
11	Mille Lacs County Plains to Port Trail	Т
12	Sandstone Robinson Park	S

N=Natural Resource Based Park | S=Special Recreation Feature Park T=Regional Trail, motorized, non-motorized, mixed use, water

# DESIGN1Beltrami C2Cohasset3Crow Win<br/>Memorial

MARSHAL

4 Lake Shor 5 Red Lake

N=Natural Resource Based Park | S=Special Recreation Feature Park T=Regional Trail, motorized, non-motorized, mixed use, water



#### PILLAR

#### Coordinate Among Partners Red Lake River Corridor

The Red Lake River Corridor established a Joint Powers Board (JPB) in 2003 to encourage residential use of the river, increase tourism and establish an avenue for long-term planning and enhancement of the river corridor. The JPB applied for, and was awarded, an initial grant to improve access to the river through new construction and upgrades to landings and ramps. Included in the JPB are the communities of Crookston, Red Lake Falls, St. Hilaire and Thief River Falls, East Grand Forks, Fisher and the Counties of Red Lake Falls, Pennington County, Polk County and the Red Lake Watershed District.

#### Connect People and the Outdoors

#### Beltrami County Northland Regional Sports Park

Shooting sports have become a popular youth activity across the nation and Minnesota is no exception. Trap shooting is Minnesota's second most popular High School sport. NRSP is a partnership between Beltrami County, owners of the 360-acre site, and the Headwaters Shooting Sports Association which built and manages the one of a kind facility. With a variety of ranges available for pistol, shot gun, trap and skeet, the facility has been a magnet for competitions. A critical component of the facility is the ability for novices to learn skills in a safe and welcoming environment.

#### TOTAL FUNDING AWARDED TO DISTRICT 2 (FY16-FY19)

This notes the total number of applications for funding submitted from FY16-FY19 and the total amount of grants made to this District over time.

6 Projects Funded 11 Applications

# \$1,758,734

PENNINGTON BELTRAMI POLK POLK ULEARWATER NORMAN MAHNOMEN HUBBARD CASS CROW WING 3 CROW WING 3

LAKE OF THE WOODS

ATED PARK/TRAIL	CLASSIFICATION
County Northland Sports Park	S
Tioga Recreation Area	N
ng County Milford Mine Park	S
re Gull Lake Trail	Т
River Corridor	Т

## **DISTRICT 3**

PILLAR

#### Acquire Land, Create Opportunities

#### Douglas County Kensington Rune Stone Park

Douglas County has owned and operated the 388-acre Kensington Rune Stone Park since 1972. The parkland is the former homestead farm of Olof Ohman and the discovery site of the remarkable Kensington Rune Stone. The park hosts visitors from 21 countries and 50 states annually. Douglas County built a visitor center that provides interpretation of the park and is a dynamic site for the public to gather for meetings, reunions and events.

#### Take Care of What We Have

#### Granite Falls Memorial Park

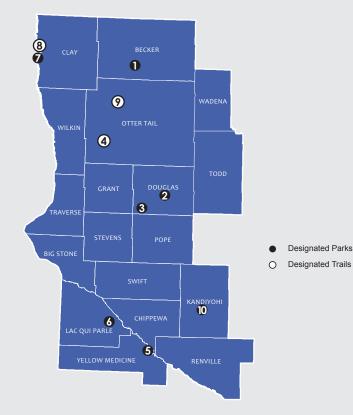
Memorial Park is located on the southern edge of Granite Falls adjacent to the Minnesota River. The park encompasses 141 acres, owned and maintained by the City. Memorial Park offers access to the Minnesota River for fishing, canoeing or kayaking, swimming and other natural resource based recreation. In addition, it contains many other unique natural features, such as a pond and granite outcroppings which are unique to this area of Minnesota. Improvements to the park included infrastructure, accessibility, road configuration and safety.

#### TOTAL FUNDING AWARDED TO DISTRICT 3 (FY16-FY19)

This notes the total number of applications for funding submitted from FY16-FY19 and the total amount of arants made to this District over time.





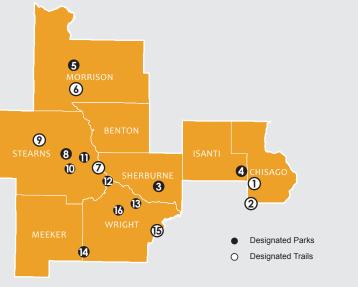


	DESIGNATED PARK/TRAIL	CLASSIFICATION
1	Detroit Lakes Detroit Mountain	S
2	Douglas County Lake Brophy Park	Ν
3	Douglas County Kensington Park	Ν
4	Fergus Falls Glacial Edge Trail	Т
5	Granite Falls Memorial Park	Ν
6	Lac qui Parle County Park	Ν
7	Moorhead MB Johnson Park	Ν
8	Moorhead River Corridor Trail	Т
9	Otter Tail County Perham to Pelican Rapids Trail	Т
10	Willmar Robbins Island Park	Ν

N=Natural Resource Based Park	S=Special Recreation Feature Park
T=Regional Trail, motorized	d, non-motorized, mixed use, water

	DESIGNATED PARK/TRAIL	CLASSIFICATION
1	Chisago County Sunrise Prairie Trail	Т
2	Chisago County Swedish Immigrant Trail	Т
3	Elk River Woodland Trails Park	Ν
4	Isanti County Irving & John Anderson Park	N
5	Morrison County Belle Prairie Park	N
6	Morrison County Soo Line Trail	Т
7	St. Cloud Beaver Island Trail	Т
8	Stearns County Kraemer Lake Park	N
9	Stearns County Lake Wobegon Trail	Т
10	Stearns County Rockville Park	Ν
11	Stearns County Quarry Park	Ν
12	Stearns County Warner Lake Park	N
13	Wright County Bertram Park	Ν
14	Wright County Collinwood Park	Ν
15	Wright County Crow River Trail	Т
16	Wright County Robert Ney Park	Ν





N=Natural Resource Based Park | S=Special Recreation Feature Park T=Regional Trail, motorized, non-motorized, mixed use, water

#### PILLAR

#### Connect People and the Outdoors -**Coordinate Among Partners**

#### Wright and Stearns County

Wright and Stearns County developed a creative joint program to bring fifth and sixth grade students from local school districts out to their parks for one-day camp experiences. The counties joined forces with Prairie Woods Environmental Learning Center who provided the equipment, staffing and programming structure. Camps offered students a chance to explore the wonder of the parks while learning important teamwork, communication, outdoor survival skills and more. The programs developed through this cooperative partnership will serve as models for other facilities seeking ways to foster an appreciation for the outdoors in youth in their areas of the state.

#### Take Care of What We Have

#### Chisago County Sunrise Prairie Trail

Chisago County undertook a significant rehabilitation project on the popular Sunrise Prairie Trail, a project that consisted of repaving 15.5 miles of bituminous trail. The project reclaimed the existing paved surface incorporating the material into the base and provided new pavement surface. This regional trail serves as a non-motorized transportation corridor for numerous communities.

#### TOTAL FUNDING AWARDED TO DISTRICT 4 (FY16-FY19)

This notes the total number of applications for funding submitted from FY16-FY19 and the total amount of arants made to this District over time.

**4** Projects **20** Applications

# \$9,534,748

## DISTRICT 5

PILLAR

#### Take Care of What We Have

#### Redwood Falls Ramsey Park

Ramsey Park, named after the first Territorial Governor, is the largest municipal park in Minnesota. Unique structures in the park were erected by the W.P. A.; the Lower Shelter and Restroom along with the Swayback Bridge (National Historic Register) all constructed out of local hand cut granite which remain prominent park structures to this day. The features of the falls themselves, Scenic Ramsey Falls, the overlook and the Redwood Falls with aerial walk bridge are the unique natural features that cannot be witnessed anywhere within a two-hour drive. Improvements in the park included replacing walking trails and improving access, a new restroom facility and a renovated restroom facility.

#### Acquire Land, Create Opportunities Lyon County Twin Lakes Park

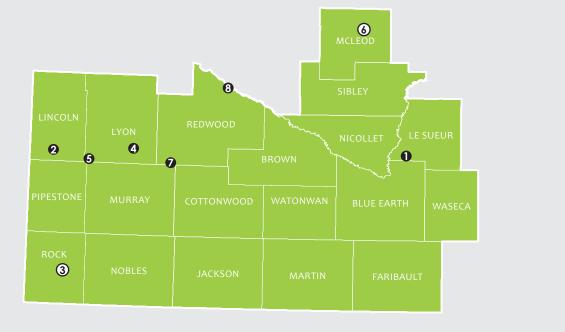
Twin Lakes Park is located between two lakes, East Twin and West Twin in the extreme southwest part of Lyon County. Both lakes draw visitors from the neighboring counties of Lincoln, Pipestone, and Murray, as both lakes are considered to have good fishing and are unique to southwest Minnesota. The park improvements included a new campground loop with 17 sites, all with standard camping infrastructure, a new shower building and a new gathering site. These enhancements brought additional campers and visitors to the park.

#### TOTAL FUNDING AWARDED TO DISTRICT 5 (FY16-FY19)

This notes the total number of applications for funding submitted from FY16-FY19 and the total amount of grants made to this District over time.







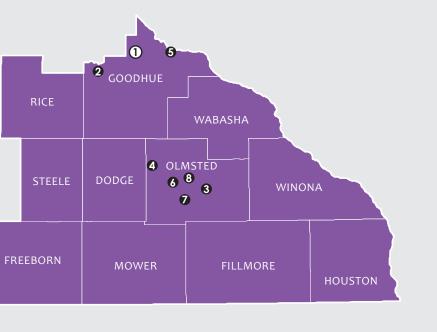


	DESIGNATED PARK/TRAIL	CLASSIFICATION
1	Le Sueur County Lake Washington Park	Ν
2	Lincoln County Hole in the Mountain Park	Ν
3	Luverne Loop & Blue Mounds Trail	Т
4	Lyon County Garvin Park	Ν
5	Lyon County Twin Lakes Park	Ν
6	McLeod County Dakota Rail Trail	Т
7	Redwood County Plum Creek Park	Ν
8	Redwood Falls Ramsey Park	Ν

	DESIGNATED PARK/TRAIL	CLASSIFICATION
1	Cannon Valley Trail	T
2	Goodhue County Byllesby Park	S
3	Olmsted County Chester Woods Park	Ν
4	Olmsted County Oxbow Park/Zollman Zoo	S
5	Red Wing He Mni Can – Barn Bluff Park	S
6	Rochester Cascade Lake Park	Ν
7	Rochester Gamehaven Park	Ν
8	Rochester Quarry Hill Park	Ν

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#### PILLAR

#### Take Care of What We Have Cannon Valley Trail

The Cannon Valley Trail is 20-miles of paved winding trail along the banks of the Cannon River in Goodhue County. Along with biking, inline skating and hiking the trail is four-seasons, offering cross country skiing in the winter months. The Cannon Valley Trail is constructed on an abandoned railway and has three main access points in Cannon Falls, Welch and Red Wing. Heavily used and scenic, the trail is an important connection to other regional destinations. With aging infrastructure in the form of three 100+ year old railroad era timber trestle trail bridges, CVT was successful in securing grant funds to replace the bridges and repair one flood damaged bridge abutment.

## Acquire Land, Create Opportunities

#### Rochester Gamehaven Park

Gamehaven Park is a premier property of 364 acres, just east of the southern boundary of Rochester's city limits. When fully built out, the park will provide high quality outdoor recreation activities for a burgeoning metropolitan area. Though large in size, additional acres were available and necessary to accommodate all the planned uses as the park is developed. 95 acres of adjacent land were acquired in what is accurately described as a critical acquisition.

#### TOTAL FUNDING AWARDED TO DISTRICT 6 (FY16-FY19)

This notes the total number of applications for funding submitted from FY16-FY19 and the total amount of grants made to this District over time.

# 8 Projects 18 Applications

# \$6,880,068









Photo Credits:

- 1. Douglas County Lake Brophy Park District 3
- Olmsted County Oxbow Park/Zollman Zoo – District 6
- Crow Wing County Milford Mine Memorial Park – District 2
- 10-Year Legacy Celebration at the Minnesota State Fair

