

The St. Louis River Corridor: From Vision to Action





Presentation Summary

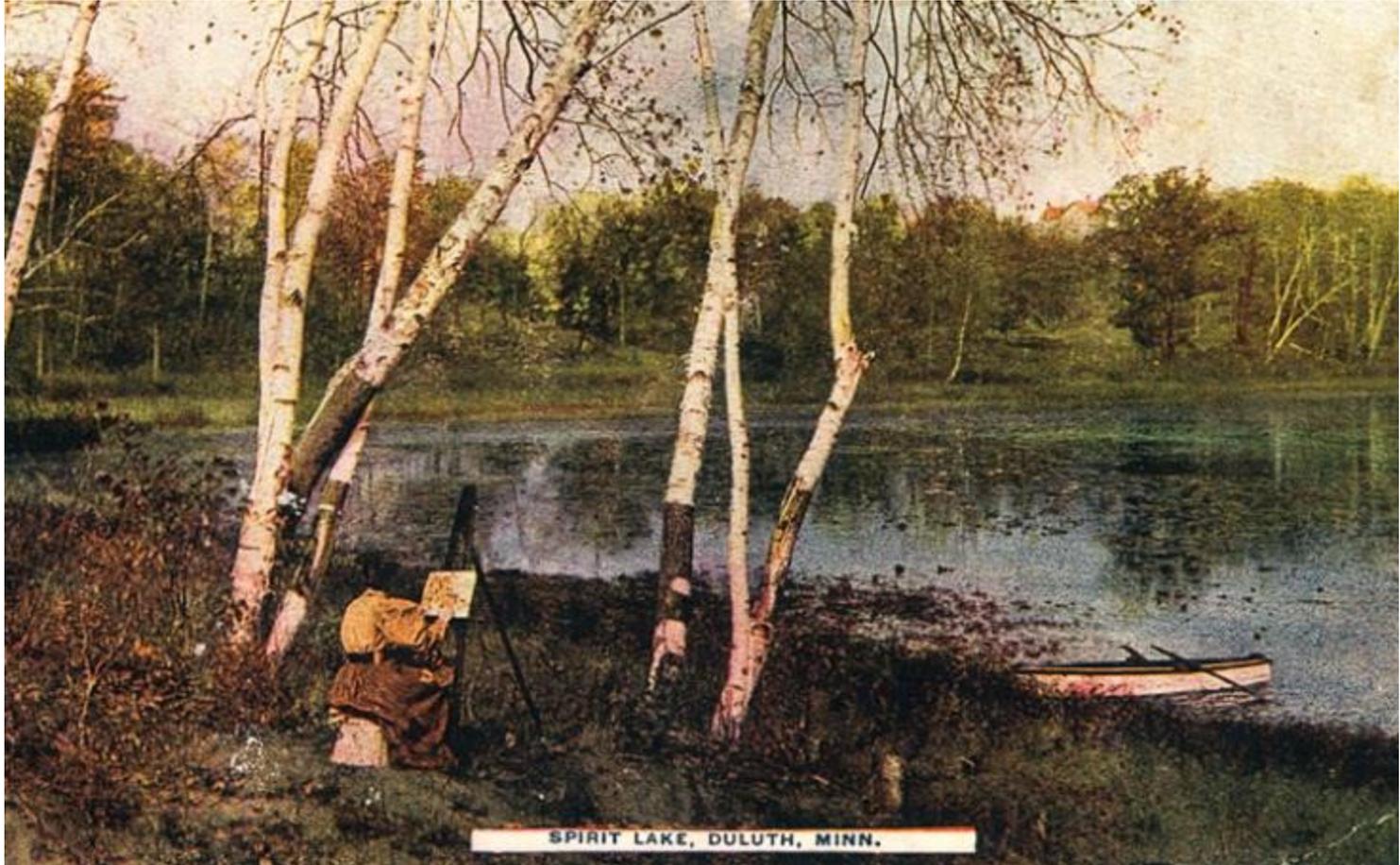
- I. The St. Louis River outdoor tradition
- II. Review of project identification and evaluation process
- III. Review of project proposals
- IV. Review of proposed next steps

Part I



The St. Louis River Outdoor Tradition

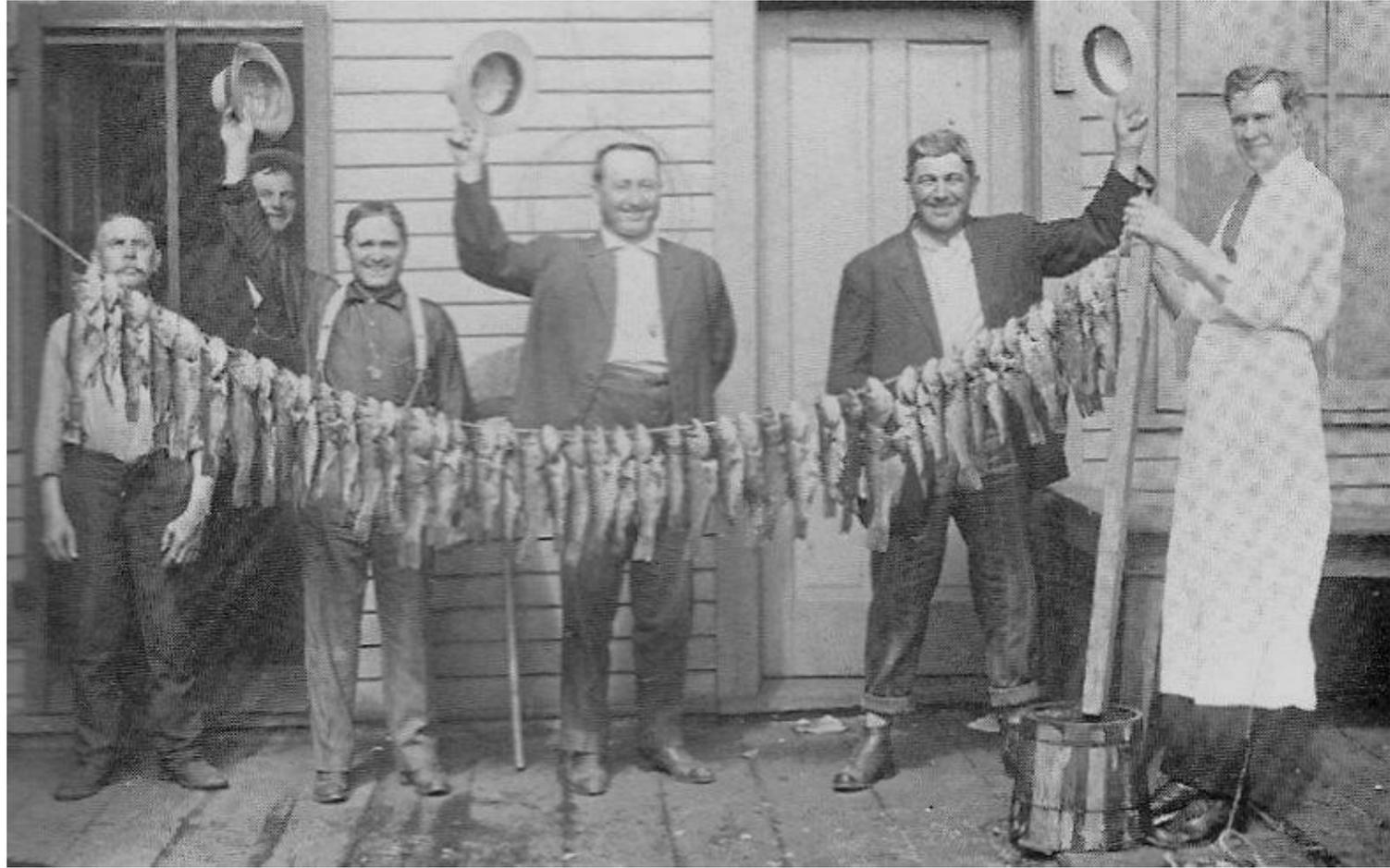
The St. Louis River Outdoor Tradition



The St. Louis River Outdoor Tradition



The St. Louis River Outdoor Tradition



Continuing the St. Louis River Outdoor Tradition

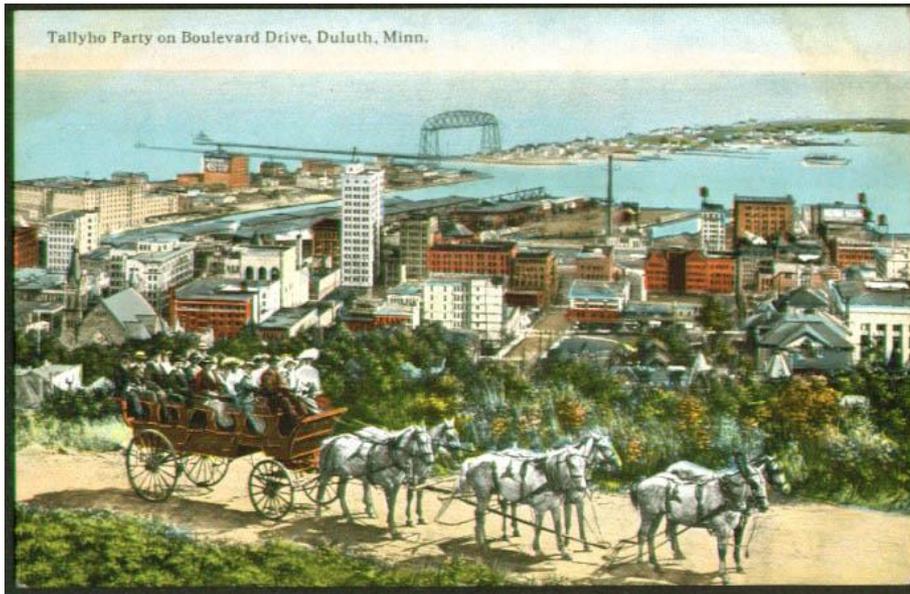


Fond du Lac Paddling Early 1900's



Fond du Lac Paddling 2014

Continuing the St. Louis River Outdoor Tradition



Observation Hill, 1910's

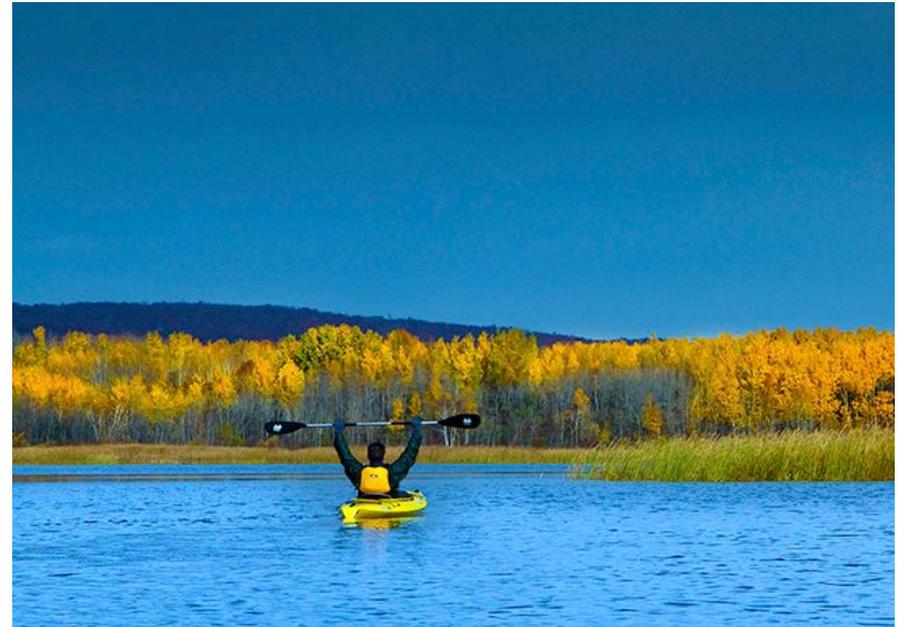


Brewer Park, 2012

Continuing the St. Louis River Outdoor Tradition



Spirit Lake, Pre-1890



Spirit Lake, 2014

Continuing the St. Louis River Outdoor Tradition



Lincoln Park, 1900?



Lincoln Park, 2012

Continuity Amidst Change



Fond du Lac Ski Jumping Exhibition, 1940's



Spirit Mountain, 2014

Restoring Lost Traditions



Tallas Island 1939



Tallas Island 2008



Tallas Island Today

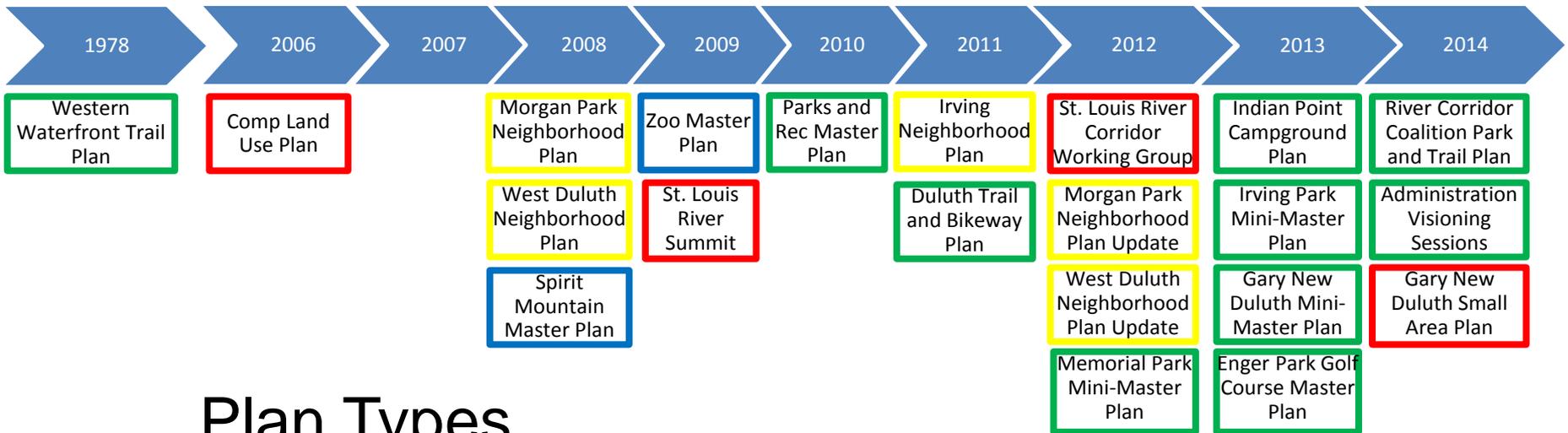


Part II

Review of project
identification and
evaluation process

St. Louis River Corridor

40 Years of Public Input on Corridor Parks and Trails



Plan Types

Comprehensive

Parks

Neighborhood

Organization



The Big $\frac{1}{2}$ and $\frac{1}{2}$ Tax Investment Question

Which of the many community-identified projects should we pursue now?



2014-2015 Staff Assignment: Identify Candidate Projects

Assemble all community-identified park, trail, and recreation projects in the ½-tax area

- Review all public plans
- Consult with user groups
- Consult with neighborhood residents

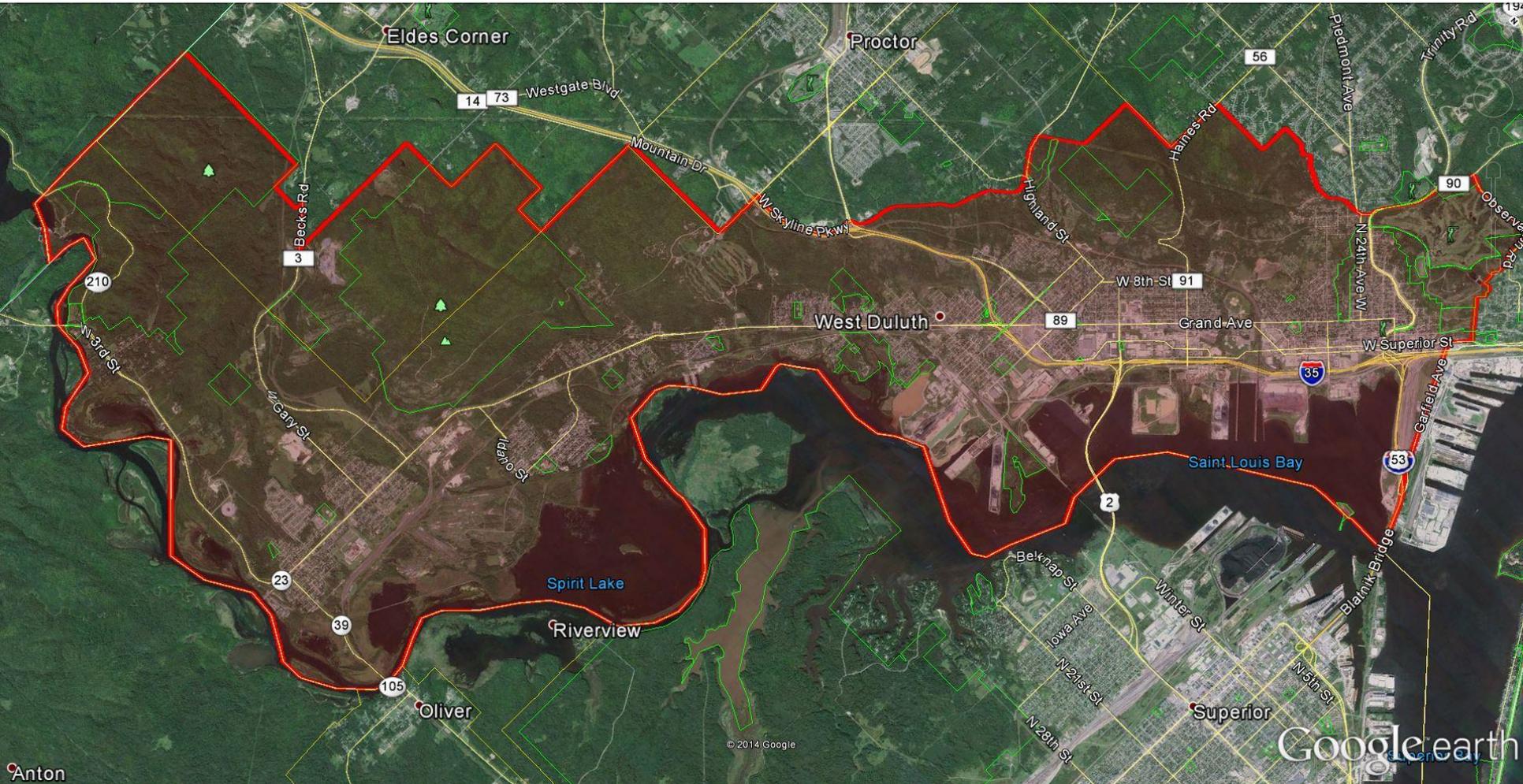
2014-2015 Staff Assignment: Evaluate Candidate Projects

Evaluate all community-identified projects by asking four project evaluation questions:

1. Is the project eligible to receive $\frac{1}{2}$ and $\frac{1}{2}$ tax support?
2. Is the project feasible?
3. Is there sufficient community support?
4. What is the likely benefit to the community?

The Revised ½ and ½ Area

State Legislation Pending



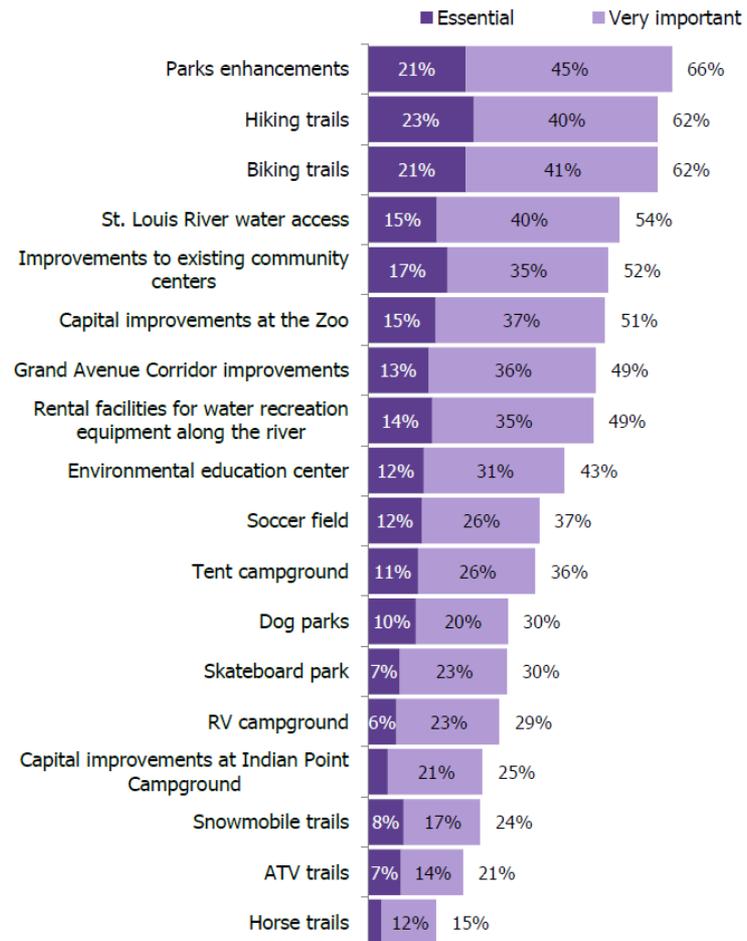
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Evaluate all community-identified projects by asking four project evaluation questions:

1. Is the project eligible to receive $\frac{1}{2}$ and $\frac{1}{2}$ tax support?
2. Is the project feasible?
3. Is there sufficient community support?
4. What is the likely benefit to the community?



Project Evaluation Question #3: *Is public support for the project sufficient?*





Project Evaluation Question #4:

How much will the community benefit as a result of the project?



St. Louis River Corridor Project Goals

1. Support environmental restoration
2. Enrich neighborhood quality of life
3. Attract new homebuyers
4. Establish new visitor destination
5. Stimulate appropriate development
6. Leverage additional funding



St. Louis River Corridor Investment Strategies

- 1. River first**
- 2. Aim high**
- 3. Connect neighborhoods**
- 4. Partner with users and residents**
- 5. Preserve and showcase the character of the Corridor**



Part III

Review of project proposals



St. Louis River Corridor Categories of Investment

- 1. Trails**
- 2. River Restoration & Access**
- 3. Grand Avenue Parks**
- 4. Other Projects**

Preliminary Budget

Project	Cost	1/2 Tax	Other Funding
Trails	\$12,450,150	\$4,010,500	\$8,439,650
River Restoration & Access	\$11,935,000	\$3,230,000	\$8,705,000
Grand Avenue Parks	\$4,300,000	\$2,000,000	\$2,300,000
Wade Stadium	\$4,660,000	\$2,360,000	\$2,300,000
Spirit Mountain	\$6,400,000	\$2,250,000	\$4,150,000
Fairmount Park/Zoo	\$8,000,000	\$2,300,000	\$5,700,000
Other	\$2,050,000	\$1,350,000	\$700,000
Contingency	\$500,000	\$500,000	\$0
Totals	\$50,295,150	\$18,000,500	\$32,294,650

A vertical photograph on the left side of the slide shows a person's legs from the knees down, wearing olive green shorts, white socks, and brown hiking boots. They are walking on a rocky and grassy trail. The background is blurred, showing more of the trail and some greenery.

Overview of Projects

1. Trails

- Cross City Trail
- West DWP (Spirit-to-Becks) Trail
- Lower Spirit Nordic Ski Center
- Superior Hiking Trail Improvements
- Duluth Traverse Trail
- Spirit all-weather mountain bike loop
- New Equestrian Trail
- Fairmount/Norton Park Snowmobile Trail Restoration

Overview of Projects (Cont'd)

2. River Restoration & Access

- Restoration from Morgan Park to Stryker Bay
- Western Waterfront Trail Renewal and Extension
- Kingsbury Creek River Connector
- Spirit Mountain River Connector
- Tallus Island Paddle Center
- Indian Point Campground



Overview of Projects (Cont'd)

3. Grand Avenue Parks

- Lincoln Park
- Wheeler Athletic Complex
- Memorial Park
- Gary New Duluth Recreation Area

4. Other Projects

- West Duluth Climbing Park
- Wade Stadium
- Spirit Mountain Water System
- Fairmount Park/Zoo
- Park and Trail System Infrastructure Upgrades
- Neighborhood Park Grant Fund



Trails



DWP Rail-to-Trail Conversion



Cross – City Trail – DWP Segment



Project -- 2.5 mile paved, multi-use accessible trail

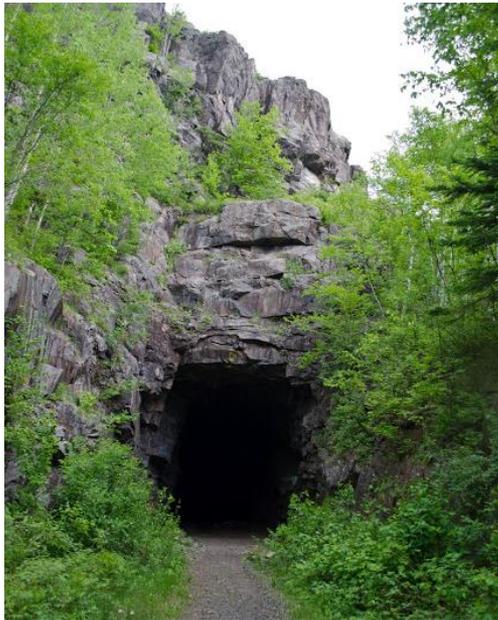
Cost -- \$3.9 million

½ and ½ Funding -- \$900,000

West DWP Multi-Use Trail

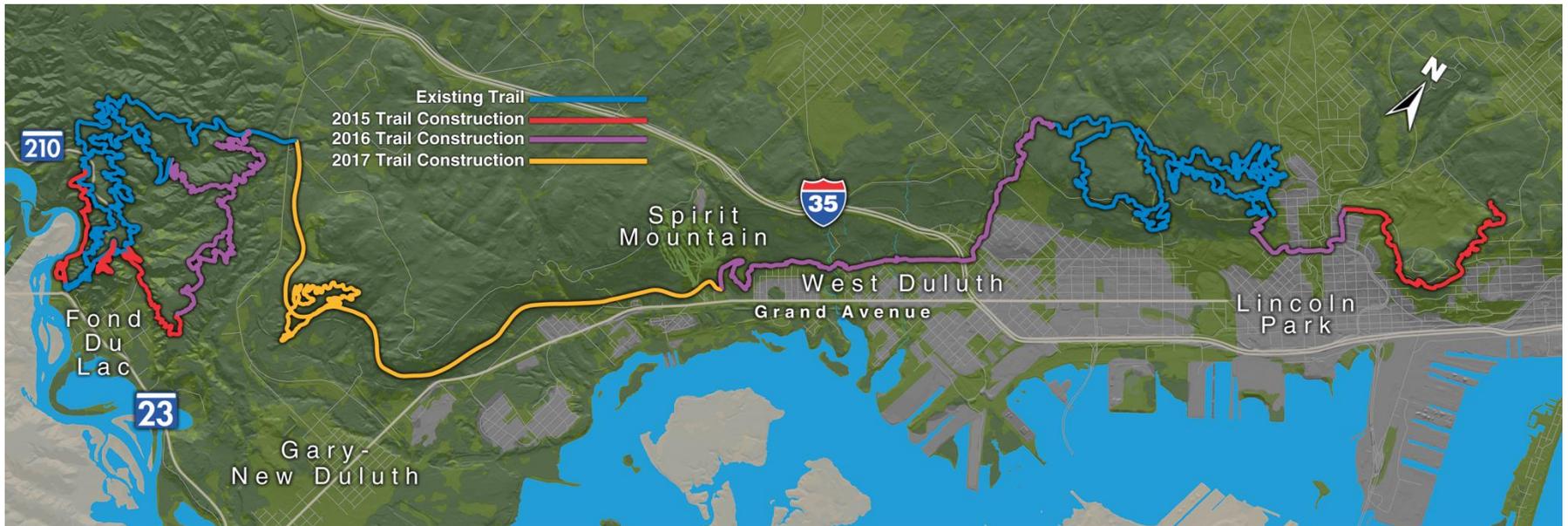


- *Project* -- 6-mile rail trail with mountain vistas, trestles, and tunnel
- *Cost* -- \$1,300,000
- *½ and ½ Funding* -- \$400,000
- *Other Potential Funding* -- State and federal grants tbd



- *Construction* -- 2016

Duluth Traverse Trail





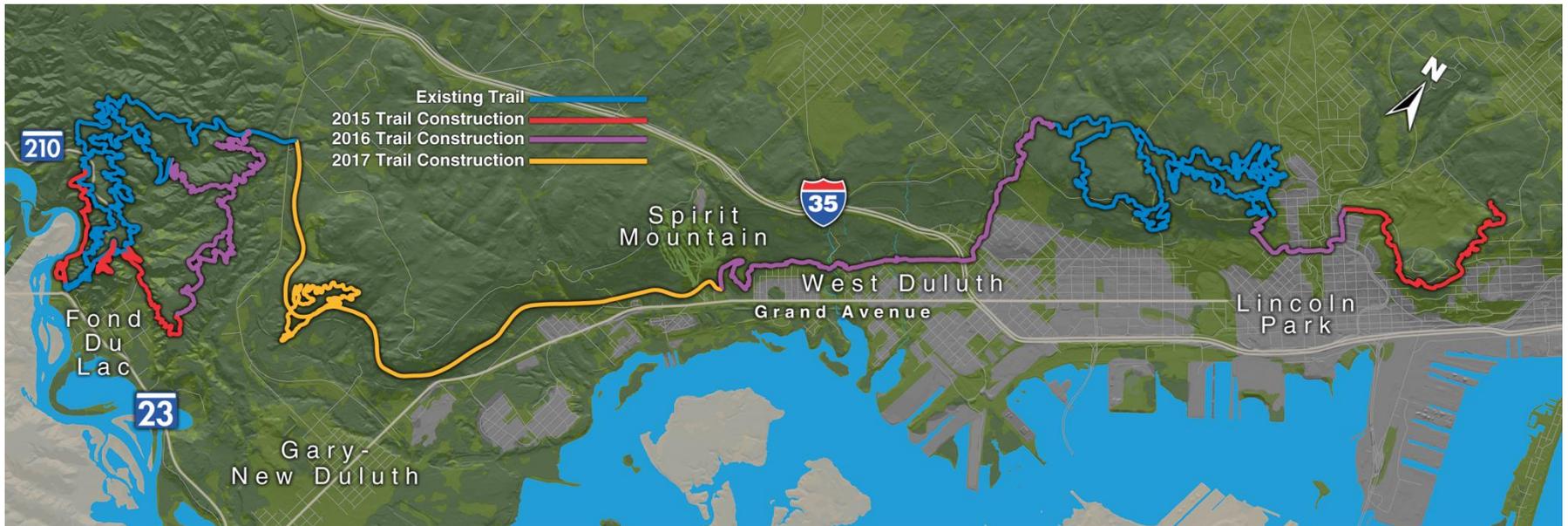
Duluth Traverse Trail System

- *Project* – Complete the 64-mile west half of world-class mountain bike trail system traversing Duluth
- *Cost* -- \$3.1 million
- *½ and ½ Funding* -- \$650,000

- *Funding for Already Completed Work* – FRTP, DNR, Parks Fund, COGGS

- *Phase II – 2015-2016 Complete Main Traverse Connector (17 additional miles)*
- *Phase III – 2017 Complete Mission Creek trail hub (16 additional miles)*

Duluth Traverse Trail



Lower Spirit Nordic Ski Center



Lower Spirit Nordic Ski Center



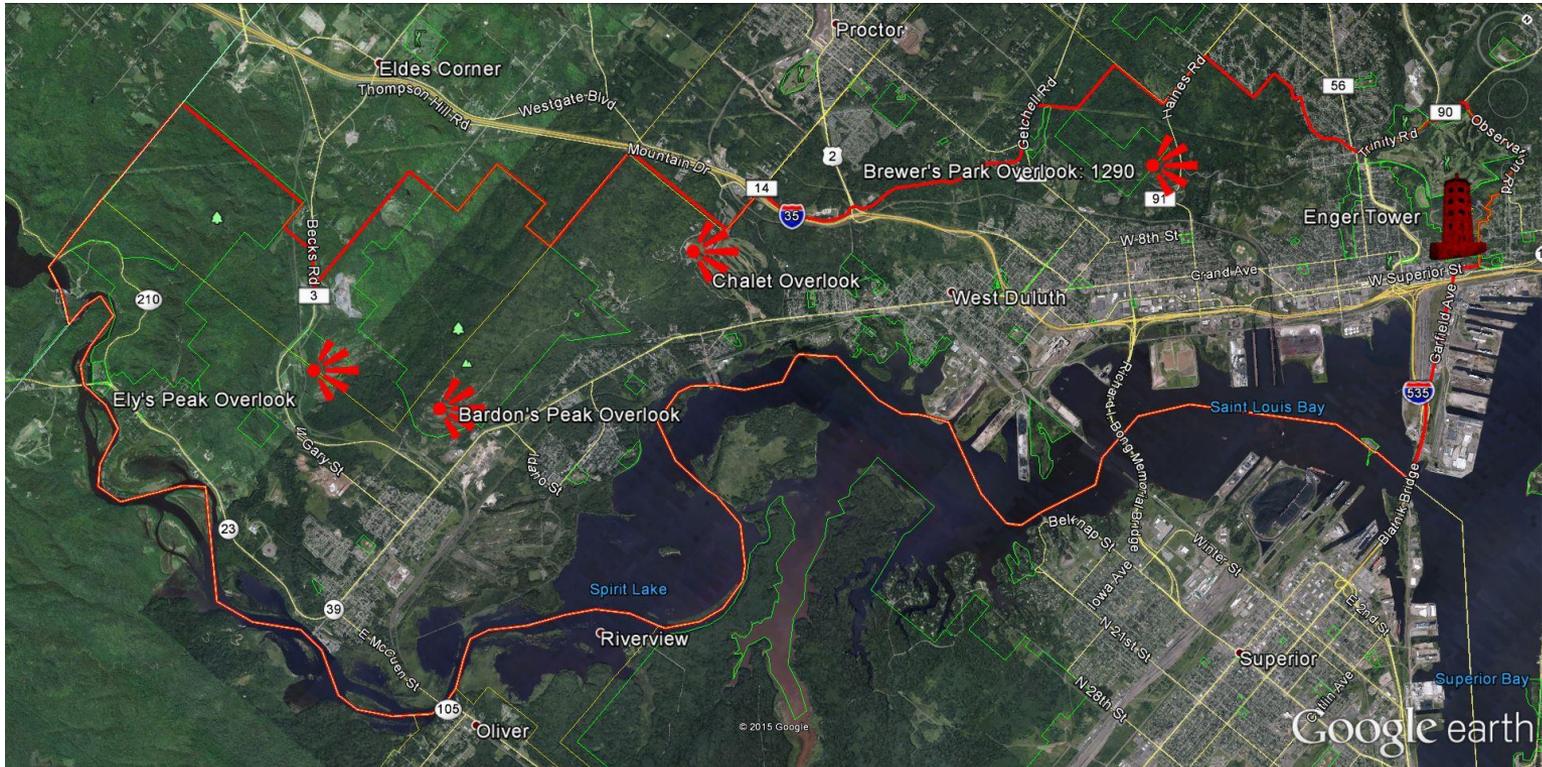
- *Project* -- 3 km lighted Nordic ski trails with snowmaking
- *Cost* -- \$1.5 million
- *½ and ½ Funding* -- \$1 million
- *Construction* – 2015-2016

Superior Hiking Trail Loops

- *Project* -- Five destination loop hikes to Duluth high points:
 - Bardon Peak
 - Ely Peak
 - Spirit Mountain
 - Brewers Park
 - Enger Tower
- *Cost* -- \$410,000
- ½ and ½ Funding -- \$205,000
- Construction 2016



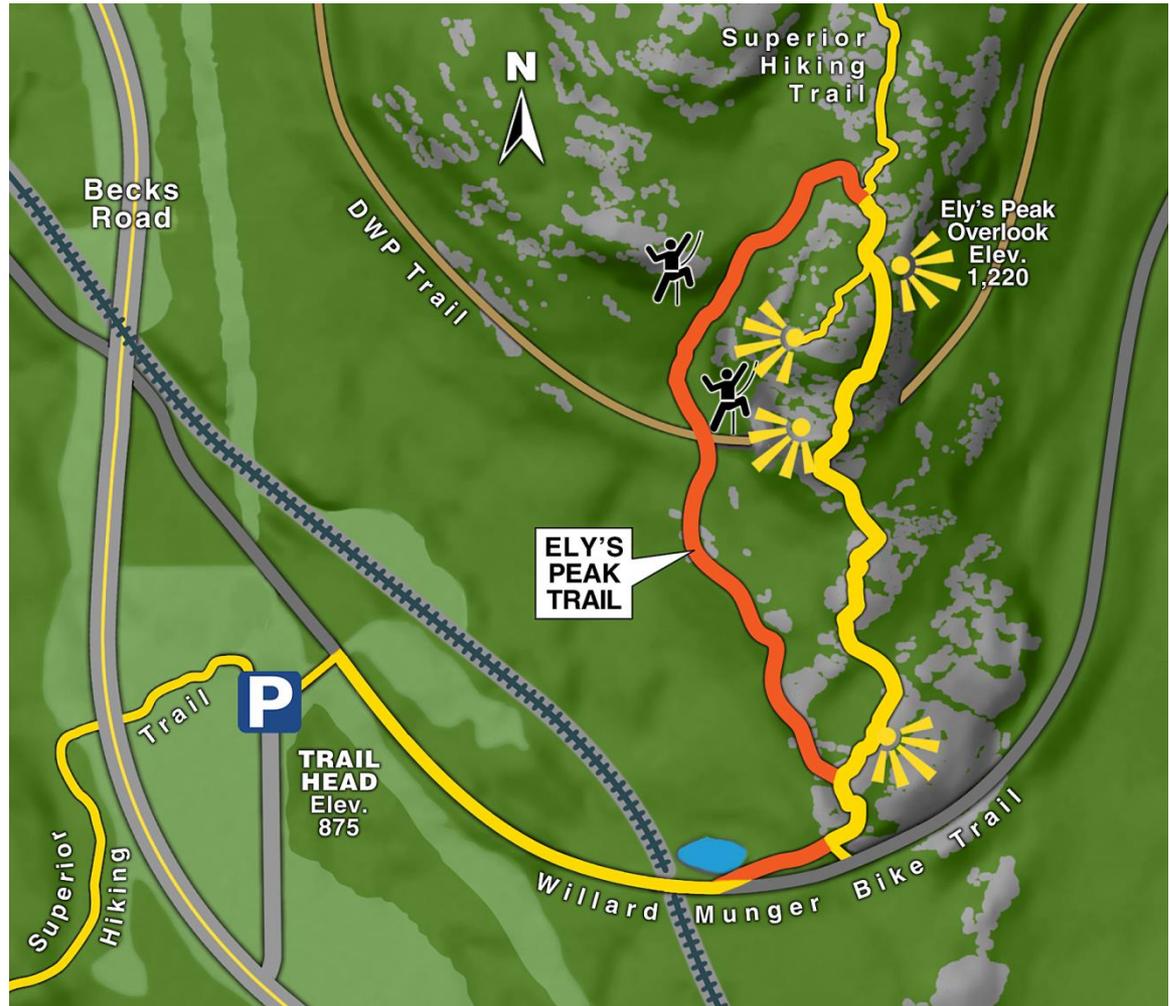
Destination Loop Hikes





Ely Peak Loop Hike

2.5 Miles, 400-Foot Climb





Enger Tower Loop Hike

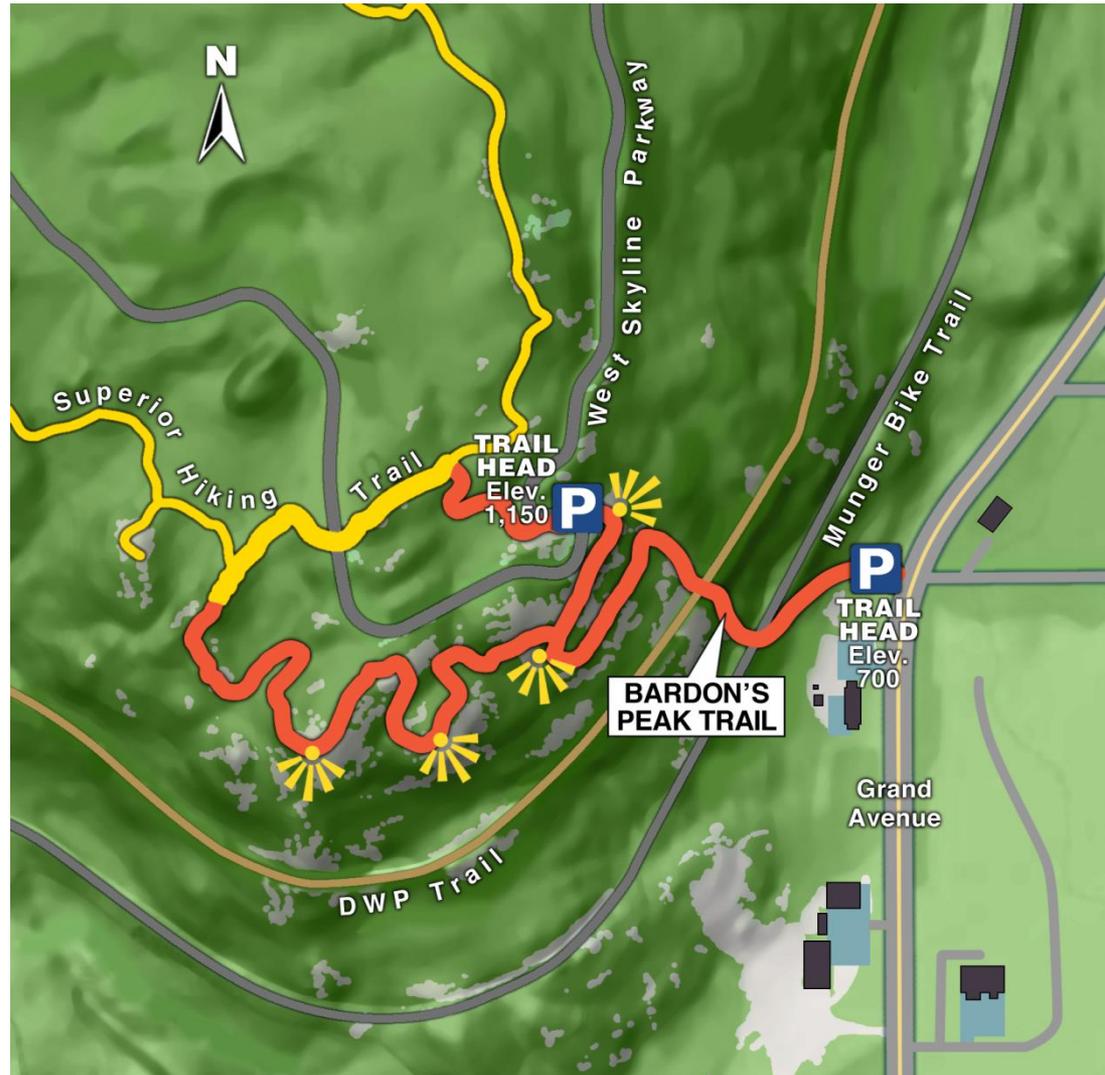
3/4 Mile, ADA Accessible





Bardon Peak Loop Hike

1.5 Miles, 516-Foot Climb

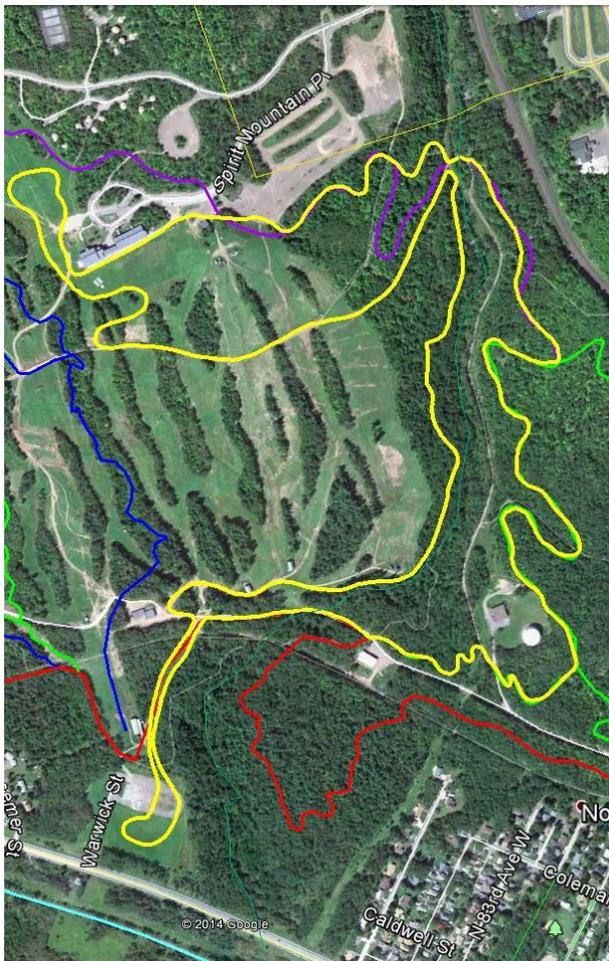


Spirit Mountain Loop Hike

4.6 Miles, 724-Foot Climb



Spirit Mountain All-Weather Mountain Bike Trail



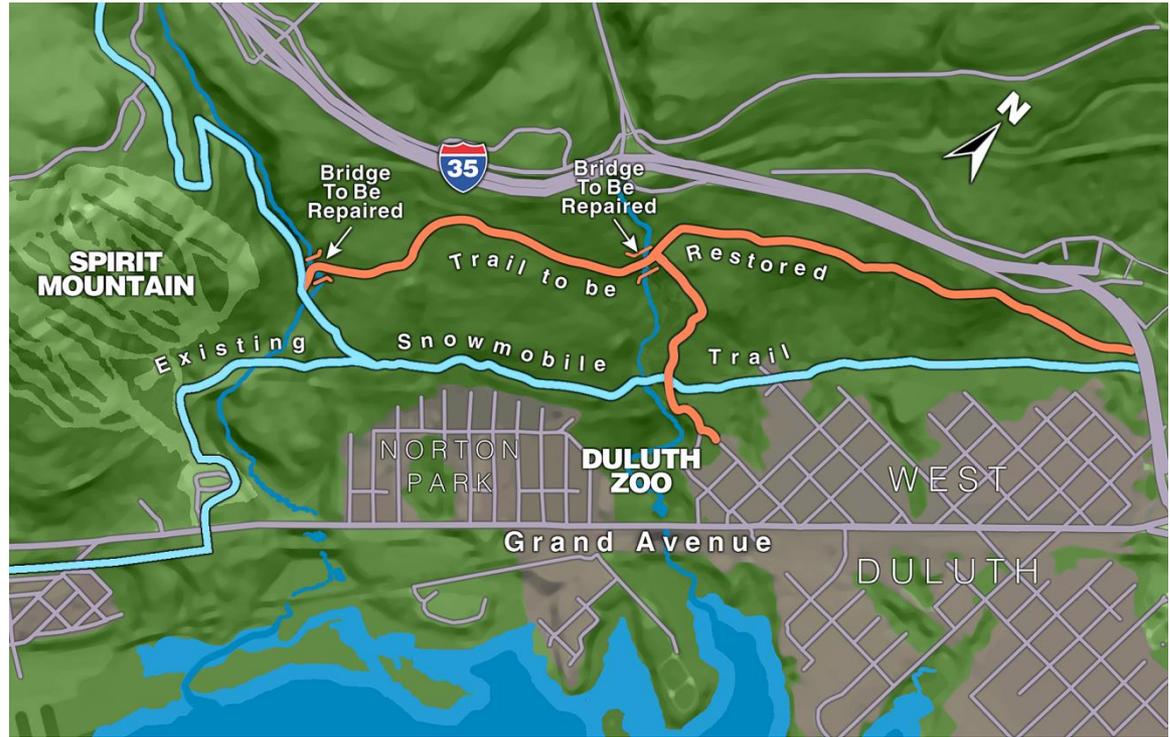
- *Project* – 4.6-mile mountain bike race course hardened to support high-volume all-weather riding.
- *Cost* -- \$310,000
- *½ and ½ Funding* -- \$155,000
- *Construction* – 2015-2016



Equestrian Trail Project TBD

- *Project* -- Establish new environmentally sustainable equestrian trail
- *Potential Locations:*
 - Magney
 - Jay Cooke Connector
 - DWP West of Spirit Mountain
- *Cost* -- \$500,000
- *½ & ½ Funding* -- \$250,000
- *Other Potential Funding* -- State and federal grants tbd, private contributions
- *Construction* -- 2015-2016

Fairmount/Norton Park Snowmobile Trails



Project -- Restore 4.5 miles of trail

Cost -- \$570,000

1/2 and 1/2 Funding -- \$250,000

ATV Trails TBD

- *Project* -- Pending Council decision on ATV ban, establish trails for ATV use within city limits
- *Cost* -- \$500,000
- *½ and ½ Funding* -- \$250,000

- *Next Steps* --
 - Summer 2015 completion of ATV feasibility study
 - Consultation with user groups

River Restoration & Access



River Restoration & Access Area



Spirit Mountain Trail Center & River Connector



Cost --

\$1.6 million

$\frac{1}{2}$ and $\frac{1}{2}$ Funding --

\$60,000

Tallus Island River Access & Paddle Center



Project – Paddle Center and paddle-in island facilities

Cost -- \$700,000

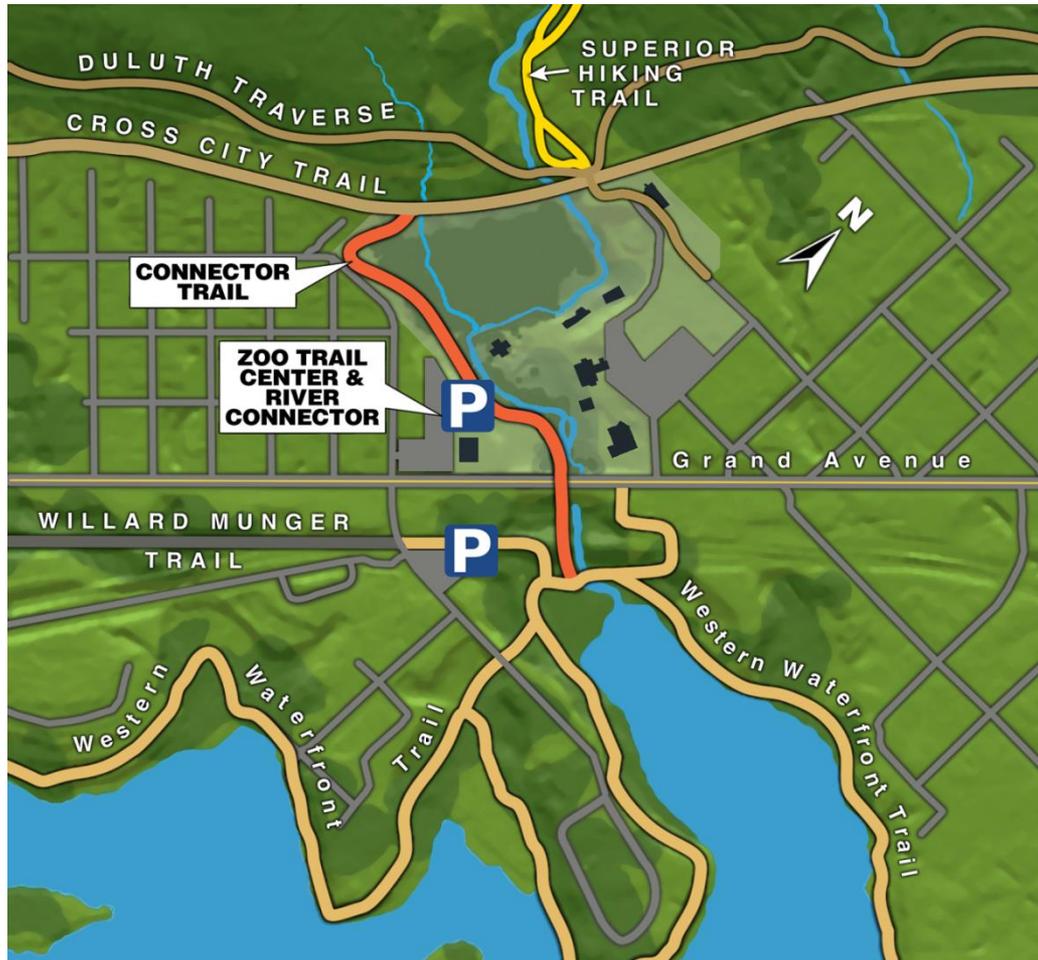
½ and ½ Funding -- \$350,000



National Water Trail Vision Development and Implementation

- *Project* -- Facilitated inter-agency process to create Master Plan which will:
 - Establish the lower St. Louis River as a National Water Trail
 - Identify and implement improvements to water trail experience
- *Cost* -- \$300,000 incl. capital improvements
- *½ and ½ Funding* – \$150,000
- *Construction* -- 2015 plan, 2016 construction

Kingsbury Creek River Connector



Cost --	\$830,000
<i>1/2 and 1/2 Funding --</i>	\$415,000

Western Waterfront Trail Restoration and Extension





Western Waterfront Trail Restoration and Extension

- *Project* -- Reconnect people to the river by restoring 3.3 mile waterfront trail and adding 1.3 mile extension
- *Cost* -- \$1,825,000
- *½ and ½ Funding* -- \$925,000

- 2015 -- Western Waterfront Restoration
- 2016 -- Western Waterfront Extension

Accessible River and Mountain Loops



Accessible River and Mountain Loops

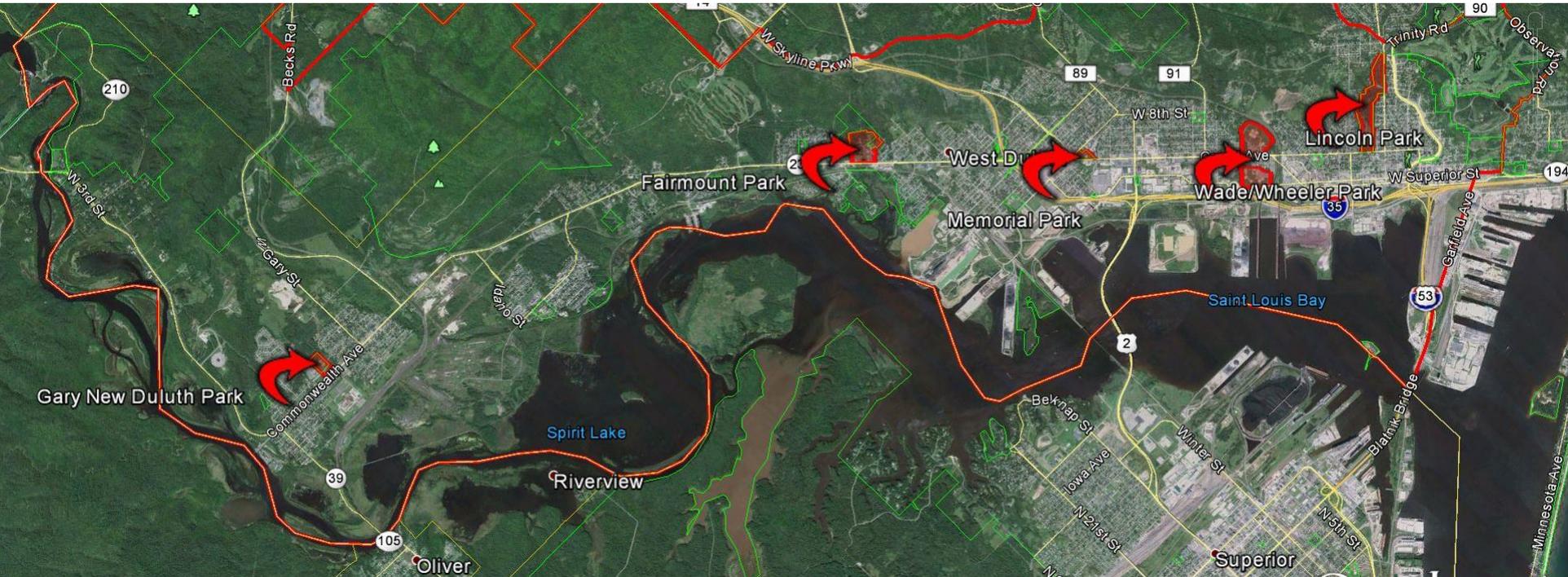




Indian Point Campground Renewal

- *Project* -- TBD
- *Cost* -- \$1.5 million
- *½ & ½ Funding* -- \$750,000
- Other Potential Funding: State and federal grants TBD
- *Construction* -- 2016-2017

Grand Avenue Parks



Project -- Lincoln Park, Wheeler Athletic Complex, Memorial Park, and Gary New Duluth Recreation Area

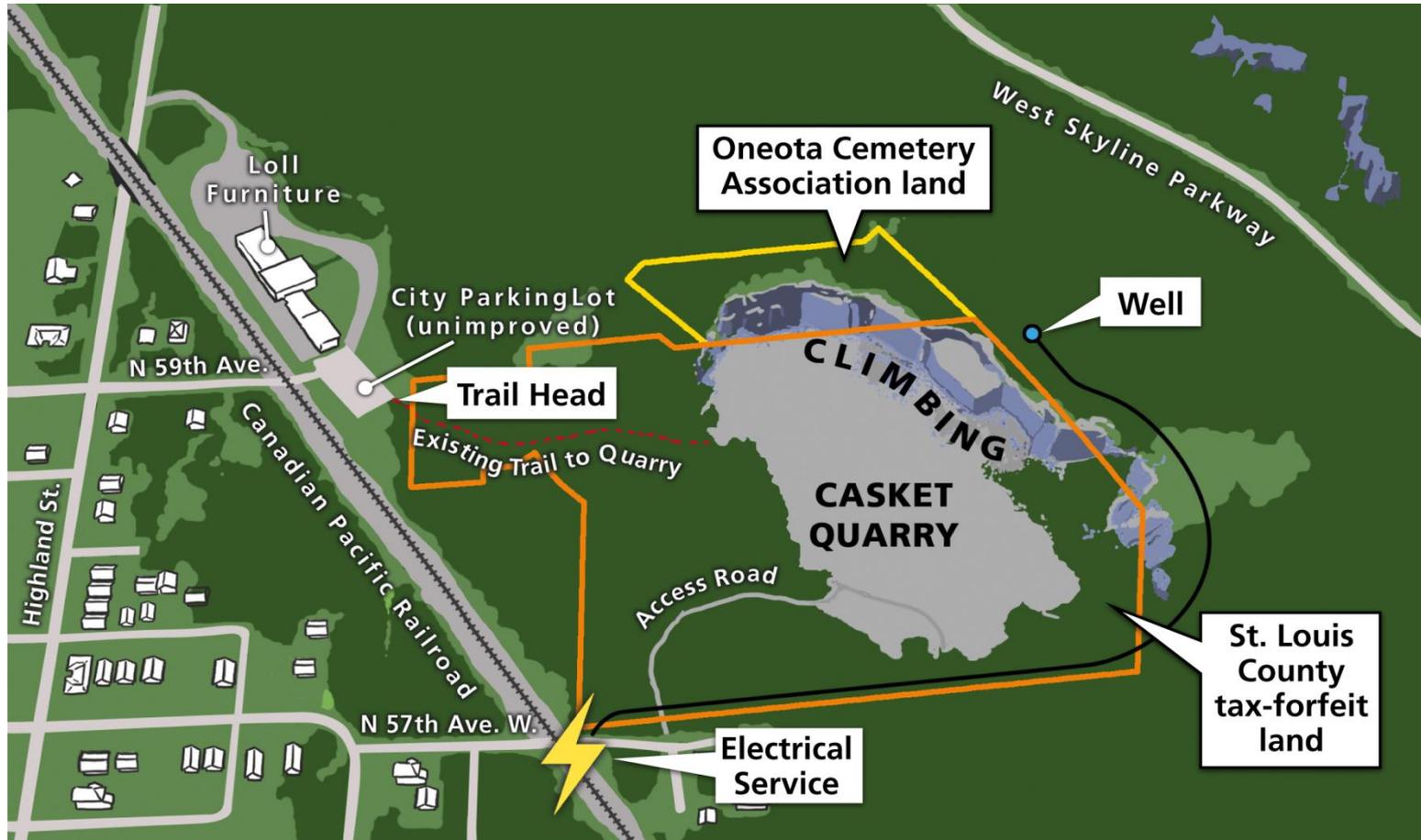
Cost -- \$4.3 million

½ and ½ Funding -- \$2 million

Other Projects



West Duluth Climbing Park



Cost --	\$400,000
<i>1/2 and 1/2 Funding</i> --	\$200,000
Construction --	2015-2016

Park and Trail System Infrastructure Upgrades

- *Project* – Uniform, durable, usable, appealing signs, gates, etc. throughout $\frac{1}{2}$ and $\frac{1}{2}$ area
- *Cost* -- \$400,000
- *$\frac{1}{2}$ & $\frac{1}{2}$ Funding* -- \$400,000
- *Construction* -- 2016-2017

Neighborhood Parks Grant Fund

- *Project* -- 1:1 matching grants up to \$50,000 for neighborhood-level investments.
- *Cost* -- \$1,000,000
- *½ and ½ Funding* -- \$500,000
- *Requirements* -- Projects must align with City plans. Match may be cash or in-kind.
- *Qualifying parks include* -- Piedmont, Midtowne, Harrison, Merritt, Irving, Grassy Point, Keene Creek, Norton, Riverside, Smithville, Morgan, Blackmer, Birchwood, Fond du Lac, and Jacob Astor.
- *Construction* -- 2015 until funds are depleted

Lake Superior Zoo/Fairmount Park

- *Project* – Renewal of facilities at the zoo/Fairmount Park
- *Cost* -- \$8-16 million
- *½ & ½ Funding* -- \$2.3 million

- *Construction* -- 2015-2017



Spirit Mountain Water System

- *Project* -- New water system utilizing untreated water from St. Louis River for snowmaking
- *Cost* -- \$6.5 million
- *½ and ½ Funding* -- \$2.3 million
- *Other Funding Sources* -- State bonding
- *Construction* -- 2015



Wade Stadium Completion

- *Project* -- Exterior renovation including artificial turf, concessions, bullpens, fencing, lighting, scoreboard, brick walls, entrance gates, etc.
- *Cost* -- \$4.6 million
- *½ and ½ Funding* -- \$2.3 million
- *Other Funding* -- State bonding
- *Construction* -- 2014-2015



Section III

Next Steps



Next Steps

- March 11 -- Parks and Recreation Commission resolution of intent
- March 23 -- City Council resolution of intent



St. Louis River Corridor Citizens Advisory Committee

Name	Relevant Affiliations
Bill Majewski	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Morgan Park Resident• President, St. Louis River Alliance• President, Morgan Park Community Club• Member, River Corridor Coalition
Tari Rayala	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Fond du Lac Resident• President, Fond du Lac Community Club• City Architect, City of Duluth
Carol Newkomet	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Riverside Resident• Member, River Corridor Coalition• Staff, St. Louis County
David Grandmaison	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Piedmont Resident• Owner, The Duluth Experience
Tony Cuneo	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Former At-Large City Councilor• Executive Director, Zeitgeist Center for Arts and Community



Public Process

- Launch individual project planning processes
- April 15 – Special Parks and Rec Annual meeting



Thank You

