

MEEKER COUNTY, MINNESOTA
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
Regular Session Agenda
May 21, 2019

8:30 Meeting Called to Order With Pledge of Allegiance

Public Comment Period*

- Amendments to the Agenda
- Approval of May 7, 2019 Minutes

Employee Years of Service Awards & Special Achievement Awards

- Rob Oster, Network Administrator, 5 Years
- Loann Shepard, Human Services Supervisor, 5 Years
- Tom Dale, Deputy Sheriff, 10 Years

Jesse Hudec, Meeker Safe Roads Coalition

- Commissioner Appointment to Toward Zero Death Coalition

8:50 Sharon Euerle, County Treasurer

- Maximus Contract

8:55 Kristin Cote, Land Use Director

- Approve Hire of Part-time Aquatic Invasive Species Coordinator Ariana Richardson, Level B25 Step 1, \$24.10 per Hour, Effective June 3, 2019
- Conditional Use Permits:
 - o Brett Dameron, Litchfield
 - o Backyard Reflections, Annandale
- Interim Use Permits:
 - o Reiner Contracting Inc., Hutchinson (3 Applications)
 - o Geoffrey Mark Canoyer, Darwin
- Rezoning Application: Jay Asplin, Dassel

9:10 Brian Cruze, County Sheriff

- Approve Hire of:
 - o Administrative Coordinator Julie Wendroth, Level B31 Step 1, \$22.31 per Hour, Effective May 27, 2019, Pending Successful Exams
 - o Full-time Deputy Sheriff Christopher Schnable, Level 9Ds Step A, \$23.91 per Hour, Effective June 10, 2019, Pending Successful Exams
- Approve Status Change of Seasonal Water Patrol Deputies Taylor Stockmann and Tate Marschall to Part-time Dispatchers, Level B22 Step 1, \$19.64 per Hour, Effective May 20, 2019

- 9:15 Paul Bukovich, Social Services Director
- Children's Mental Health Report
 - Approve Social Services Accounts Payable
- 9:30 Matt Johnson, Mid-MN Development Commission
- Trails Plan Presentation
- 10:10 Barb Loch, County Auditor
- Sauk River Watershed Director Appointment
 - **Resolution 2019-06:** Premises Permit Application: Hutch Hockey/Bonfire Bar & Grille
 - Approve County and Hospital Accounts Payable
- 10:10 Phil Schmalz, Public Works Director
- Consider Award 2019 Paving Contract for CSAH 2, CSAH 17 & 163rd St.
- 10:15 Paul Virnig, County Administrator
- Appoint Classification/Compensation Committee

Board of Commissioners Committee Update

Miscellaneous Correspondence

- Housing Redevelopment Authority Board Vacancy July 10, 2019

***Board agendas and "Meeker County Board Protocol and Public Participation Policies" are available in the board room**

The Meeker County Board of Commissioners met on May 7, 2019, at the Meeker County Courthouse in the City of Litchfield, Minnesota. Call to order was at 8:30 a.m. by Chair Mike Housman.

Present: Commissioners – Beth Oberg, Joe Tacheney, Mike Housman, Steve Schmitt and Bryan Larson, County Attorney Brandi Schiefelbein, County Administrator Paul Virnig and Administrative Coordinator Cori Heacock.

Meeting opened with Pledge of Allegiance.

Board Chair Housman called for public comments. Virgil and Joyce Selix appeared before the board and Joyce Selix stated they believed a cow was neglected and died due to insufficient food and water and expressed concerns that Meeker County was not pursuing enforcement.

Motion by Schmitt, second by Tacheney to approve the May 7, 2019 agenda printed.
Motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Larson, second by Schmitt to approve County Board minutes for April 16, 2019 as printed.
Motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Tacheney, second by Schmitt to approve the reappointments of Park Board members Roger Eckert of District 4 for a second 3-year term, and Robert Pederson of District 5 for a third 3-year term, with said terms expiring May 1, 2022.
Motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Larson, second by Tacheney to award the Building Maintenance Softener Project to Culligan for a total cost of \$18,204.
Motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Oberg, second by Tacheney to approve the Public Health Hispanic Outreach Worker Contract with Carmen Patino for the term of May 7, 2019 – December 31, 2019.
Motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Oberg, second by Schmitt to approve the recommendation from the Compensation and Classification Steering Committee to classify the newly created Courthouse Security Checkpoint Officer position at a DBM rating of B23.
Motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Larson, second by Schmitt to approve the Sentencing to Service Program Income Contract with the State of Minnesota for the term of July 1, 2019 – June 30, 2021.
Motion carried unanimously.

Central Minnesota Jobs and Training Services Executive Director Barb Chaffee, and staff members Eric Day, Jim Mueller and Tricia Bigaouette, provided an annual update to the Board.

Motion by Oberg, second by Schmitt to approve an after-the-fact Conditional Use Permit, as recommended by the Planning Commission, for Mike Wichman to move more than ten (10) cubic yards in the Shore Impact Zone and more than fifty (50) cubic yards of material in the Shoreland District with stated conditions.
Motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Oberg, second by Tacheny to approve a Conditional Use Permit, as recommended by the Planning Commission, for Sparboe Companies for the construction of two (2) new barns to and for an increase of total animal units to 6,142.5 (2,047,500 layer hens less than 5 lbs.) with stated conditions. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Oberg, second by Schmitt to approve the final plat of Beckman Estates. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Oberg, second by Larson to approve the Addendum to the Professional Services Contract Between Meeker County and Bishop AIS Service. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Schmitt, second by Tacheny to approve the hire of Administrative Clerk Kelly Nelson, Level A12 Step 1, \$16.05 per hour, effective May 28, 2019. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Larson, second by Oberg to approve Social Services accounts payable as follows:

Human Services Fund	\$78,516.74
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Motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Oberg, second by Schmitt to approve transfers from Revenue Fund to Parks \$100,883 and Public Health \$331,600.50.

Motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Larson, second by Tacheny to approve an amendment to Meeker County Transfer Station Operating Agreement, effective July 1, 2019.

Motion carried unanimously.

The Board took a 5 minute break.

Motion by Larson, second by Schmitt to approve the hire of Seasonal Highway & GIS Aide Jake Reuben, Level A Highway Aide, \$12.24 per hour, effective May 8, 2019.

Motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Oberg, second by Tacheny to approve the hire of Seasonal Highway Aide Derek Fruetel, Level C Highway Aide, \$13.24 per hour, effective May 20, 2019.

Motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Schmitt, second by Larson to approve the 2019 Seasonal Mower Operator pay scale.

Motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Oberg, second by Tacheny to approve the hire of Seasonal Mower Operator Larry Moser, Level F Seasonal Mower Operator, \$18.60 per hour, effective June 3, 2019.

Motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Oberg, second by Schmitt to award the 2019 Bulk Fuel Contract to Litchfield Oil for \$80,965.18.

Motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Tacheny, second by Schmitt to award the 2019 Pump Fuel Requirements for Litchfield to Litchfield Oil, at a discount of \$3,712.50.

Motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Oberg, second by Larson to award the 2019 Seal Coat Contract to Astech Corp of St. Cloud, MN, in the amount of \$562,308.66.

Motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Schmitt, second by Larson to reappoint James Wuertz to the North Fork Watershed District Board for a 3-year term with said term expiring May 9, 2022.

Motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Oberg, second by Tacheny to approve County and hospital accounts payable as follows:

General Revenue Fund	\$ 79,719.87
Road & Bridge Fund	35,131.64
County Parks Fund	5,752.60
Solid Waste Fund	45,952.24
Regional Library Fund	60,271.00
County Nurse Fund	1,243.53
Family Services Bldg. Fund	7,163.92
Capital Projects Fund	28,850.00
Ditch Fund	479.51
State Collections Fund	396.80
County Hospital Fund	507,250.48

Credit Cards:

General Revenue Fund	616.11
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Motion carried unanimously.

It being 10:35 a.m., Chair Housman recessed the County Board meeting and convened the County Ditch Authority.

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The County Board convened as the County Ditch Authority.

Present: County Auditor Barb Loch, Ditch Inspector Ed Hoekstra, Public Works Director Phil Schmalz, Commissioners Oberg, Tacheny, Housman, Schmitt, and Larson, County Attorney Brandi Schiefelbein, County Administrator Paul Virnig, and Administrative Coordinator Cori Heacock.

Motion by Oberg, second by Tacheny to set the County Ditch 8 Redetermination of Benefits informational meeting for June 4, 2019 at 8:30 a.m. and the acceptance public hearing for June 4, 2019 at 11 a.m. at the Meeker County Courthouse.

Motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Schmitt, second by Larson to approve the request for continued services of Joe Lewis of Houston Engineering to assist with developing a work plan and scheduling future work for County Ditch 15.

Motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Schmitt, second by Tacheny to acknowledge needed signatures on the Findings of Fact and Order Transferring the portion of County Ditch 19 from West Fifth Street to CSAH 1 to the City of Litchfield for future management.

Motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Oberg, second by Schmitt to acknowledge Jeff Peterson’s request for tile location on County Ditch 35, table request to locate the tile and request that more research be completed regarding options to identify the tile locations and possible maintenance costs.

Motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Schmitt, second by Tacheny to acknowledge the Petition for Abandonment of County Ditch 42 and set a public hearing for June 18, 2019 at 10 a.m. at the Meeker County Courthouse.

Motion carried unanimously.

County Ditch Inspector Ed Hoekstra provided updates to the board regarding various ditch projects.

With no further business, Board Chair Housman adjourned the County Ditch Authority at 11:20 a.m. and reconvened as County Board.



Board Chair Housman reconvened the County Board meeting.

Motion by Tacheny, second by Oberg to appoint Marlys Bjur to the Regional Library Board for a 3-year term with said term expiring December 31, 2022.

Motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Oberg, second by Tacheny to reappoint Mark Smith to the Economic Development Authority for a 6-year term with said term expiring June 3, 2025.

Motion carried unanimously.

On motion by Tacheny, second by Schmitt, Board Chair Housman adjourned the Board Meeting at 11:40 a.m. The next meeting of the County Board of Commissioners will be May 21, 2019 in the County Board of Meeting Room, Meeker County Courthouse.

Respectfully submitted: Cori Heacock, Executive Secretary.

Chair of County Board

Attest: _____
Clerk of County Board

AGREEMENT TO PROVIDE PROFESSIONAL CONSULTING SERVICES

THIS AGREEMENT (“Agreement”) is entered into by and between MAXIMUS Consulting Services, Inc. (“Consultant”) and Meeker County, Minnesota (“Client”), individually a “party” and collectively the “parties.” In consideration of mutual promises and covenants, the sufficiency of which is hereby acknowledged, the parties agree as follows:

1. Scope of Services. Consultant shall perform the services detailed in Exhibit A, attached and incorporated by reference as if fully set forth herein (the “Services”), in a professional and workmanlike manner consistent with the typical standards of the industry.
2. Term. This Agreement shall commence on May 20, 2019 (“Effective Date”) and shall remain in effect until March 31, 2022, or until completion of, and payment in full for, the Services specified in Exhibit A, whichever occurs last. The parties may mutually agree to extend this Agreement for two additional one year periods, pursuant to an amendment duly signed by both parties.
3. Compensation. Client shall pay Consultant a fee for services rendered as set forth in Exhibit B, attached and incorporated by reference as if fully set forth herein.
4. Termination.
 - a. Termination for Cause. Upon material breach of the terms of this Agreement, the non-breaching party shall provide written notice to the breaching party specifying the nature of the default. The breaching party shall have a minimum of 30 days from the date of receipt to cure any such default prior to the effective date of termination.
 - b. Termination for Convenience. Either party may terminate this Agreement without cause upon 60 days’ prior written notice to the other.
 - c. Rights Upon Termination. Upon termination for whatever reason and regardless of the nature of the default (if any), Client agrees to pay Consultant in full for all Services provided to Client under this Agreement, or any amendment thereto, as of the effective date of termination of the Agreement.
5. Data Accuracy. Consultant shall provide guidance to the Client in determining the data required. The Client represents that all financial and statistical information provided to Consultant by Client, its employees and/or agents is accurate and complete to the best of Client’s knowledge. The Client further acknowledges and agrees that Consultant shall be entitled to rely upon the accuracy and completeness of the data to perform the Services. Client shall provide all such data in a timely manner sufficient to allow Consultant to provide the Services. Consultant shall have no liability to Client whatsoever if Client provides incomplete or inaccurate data or provides data in an untimely manner.
6. Records and Inspections. Consultant shall maintain full and accurate records with respect to all matters covered under this Agreement for 6 years after the completion of the Services. During such period, Client shall have the right to examine and audit the records and to make transcripts therefrom. Client shall provide 30 days’ prior written notice of its intent to inspect or audit any such records and shall conduct such inspection or audit only during Consultant’s normal business hours and no more than once every six months. Any employee, consultant, subcontractor or agent of Client granted access to such records shall execute a non-disclosure agreement prior to being granted access.

7. Copyright for Consultant's Proprietary Software. To the extent that the Services provided by Consultant are generated by Consultant's proprietary software, nothing contained herein is intended nor shall it be construed to require Consultant to provide such software to Client. Client agrees that it has no claims of ownership, including copyright, patents or other intellectual property rights to Consultant's software. Nothing in this Agreement shall be construed to grant Client any rights to Consultant's materials created prior to the execution of this Agreement. All of the deliverables under this Agreement are specifically set out in Exhibit A.
8. Insurance. Consultant shall maintain customary general liability insurance in the amounts of \$1,500,000 per occurrence / \$3,000,000 annual aggregate, workers' compensation insurance including employer's liability in the amount of \$1,000,000, automobile liability insurance in the amount of \$1,500,000, and professional liability insurance in the amount of \$2,000,000. A combination of primary and umbrella/excess insurance may be used in order to meet the required limits.
9. Limitation of Liability. Client agrees that Consultant's total liability to Client for any and all damages whatsoever arising out of, or in any way related to, this Agreement from any cause, including but not limited to negligence, errors, omissions, strict liability, breach of contract or breach of warranty shall not, in the aggregate, exceed \$10,500.

In no event shall Consultant be liable for indirect, special, incidental, economic, consequential or punitive damages, including but not limited to lost revenue, lost profits, replacement goods, loss of technology rights or services, loss of data, or interruption or loss of use of software or any portion thereof regardless of the legal theory under which such damages are sought even if Consultant has been advised of the likelihood of such damages, and notwithstanding any failure of essential purpose of any limited remedy.

To the extent allowed by law, any claim by Client against Consultant relating to this Agreement must be made in writing and presented to Consultant within one (1) year after the date on which Consultant completes performance of the Services specified in this Agreement.

10. Consultant Liability if Audited. Consultant shall, upon notice of audit, make work papers and other records available to the auditors. Consultant's sole responsibility under an audit shall be to provide reasonable assistance to Client through the audit and to make changes to the work product required as a result of the audit. Consultant shall not be liable for any audit disallowances or any missed or lost revenue associated with, or related to, the Services, regardless of cause.
11. Notices. Any notice of default, in accordance with section 4(a) of this Agreement, shall be delivered by certified mail or overnight courier. Any other notices, bills, invoices, or reports required by this Agreement shall be sufficient if sent by the parties via email or in the United States mail, postage paid, to the address noted below:

Agency: Meeker County, Minnesota
Address: 325 N. Sibley Avenue
Litchfield, MN 55355
Phone: 320.693.5345
Email: Sharon.Euerle@co.meeker.mn.us

MAXIMUS Consulting Services, Inc.
808 Moorefield Park Drive, Suite 205
Richmond, VA 23236
804-323-3535
fsc-operations@maximus.com

Such notice shall be deemed delivered same day if sent via email or 5 days after deposit in the U.S. mailbox.

12. Changes. The terms and conditions of this Agreement, including all attached and incorporated Exhibits, may be changed only by written agreement signed by both parties.
13. Miscellaneous.
 - a. If Consultant is requested by Client to produce Consultant deliverables, documents, records, working papers, or personnel for testimony or interviews with respect to this Agreement or any services provided hereunder for any third party matter, litigation or otherwise, then Client and Consultant shall execute a change order or new services agreement for the sole purpose of setting forth any payment and the terms associated with Consultant's response and related to the reasonable fees of Consultant in responding. The foregoing does not: (1) diminish or negate Consultant's obligation to negotiate and defend all cost allocation plans and State mandated cost claims as specifically provided for under this Agreement; or (2) apply in the event Consultant is compelled by subpoena from a third party to provide Consultant deliverables, documents, records, working papers, or personnel for testimony or interviews.
 - b. Consultant specifically disclaims all warranties, express or implied, including, but not limited to, the warranties of merchantability and fitness for a particular purpose.
 - c. Consultant reserves the right to subcontract the Services. Consultant agrees to notify Client in writing of any such subcontracts.
 - d. There are no third-party beneficiaries to this Agreement and nothing in this Agreement shall be construed to provide any rights or benefits to any third-party.
 - e. The parties intend that Consultant, in performing the Services specified in this Agreement shall act as an independent contractor and shall have full control of the work and the manner in which it is performed. Consultant and its employees are not to be considered agents or employees of Client for any purpose.
 - f. In the event that any provision of this Agreement is held to be invalid, illegal or unenforceable for any reason, this Agreement will continue in full force and effect without said provision, the validity, legality and enforceability of the remaining provisions shall not in any way be affected or impaired thereby, and this Agreement will be interpreted to reflect the original intent of the parties insofar as possible.
 - g. The titles of the sections, subsections, and paragraphs set forth in this Agreement are inserted for convenience of reference only and shall be disregarded in construing or interpreting any of the provisions of this Agreement.
 - h. This Agreement and any additional or supplementary document or documents incorporated by specific reference contain all the terms and conditions agreed upon by the parties hereto, and no other agreements, oral or otherwise, regarding the subject matter of this Agreement or any part thereof shall have any validity or bind any of the parties hereto.
 - i. Neither party shall be liable by reason of any failure or delay in the performance of its obligations on account of strikes, shortages, riots, insurrection, fires, flood, storm, explosions, earthquakes, acts of God, war, governmental action, labor conditions, material shortages or any other cause which is beyond the reasonable control of such party.

- j. Each individual signing this Agreement certifies that (i) he or she is authorized to sign this Agreement on behalf of his or her respective organization, (ii) such organization has obtained all necessary approvals to enter into this Agreement, including but not limited to the approval of its governing board, and (iii) when executed, this Agreement is a valid and enforceable obligation of such organization.
- k. Waiver by either party of a breach of any provision of this Agreement or the failure by either party to exercise any right will not operate or be construed as a waiver of any subsequent breach of that provision or as a waiver of that right.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, Client and the Consultant have executed this Agreement as of the date last written below.

Meeker County, Minnesota

By: _____

Name: _____

Title: _____

Date: _____

MAXIMUS Consulting Services, Inc.

By: _____

Name: _____

Title: _____

Date: _____

EXHIBIT A
Scope of Services
MN CO Meeker CAP 18-20

Description of Services:

- (1) Development of a Central Services Cost Allocation Plan. The Consultant shall prepare on behalf of the Client a central services cost allocation plan which identifies the various cost incurred by the Client to support and administer federal programs. The plan will contain a determination of allowable cost of providing each supporting service, such as accounting, legal counsel data processing, etc. The cost allocation plan will be based on the Client's actual year-end financial data for the year 2018, 2019 and 2020 and will be prepared in 2019, 2020 and 2021.
- (2) Plan Contents, Consulting Staffing and Client Participation. Each plan will contain a determination of the allowable costs of providing each supporting service, such as: purchasing, personnel, disbursement processing etc. Consultant staff will analyze all data required, perform all cost allocation calculations and complete the cost allocation plan in a form ready for submission for Federal and State approval. Client personnel involvement will be limited to locating and providing access to accounting and payroll records, answering questions to enable the Consultant to appropriately interpret Client records, and participation in brief interviews by selected personnel to enable Consultant to determine appropriate allocation of costs across Client programs.
- (3) Negotiation. Negotiation of the completed cost allocation plan with the appropriate Federal and State representatives that may be required.
- (4) Instruction and Monitoring. Consultant shall instruct Client personnel in preparing the claims to the State and other appropriate sources for recovery of funds due the Client. Consultant will monitor the progress of Client claims to insure the Client receives recoveries due it.
- (5) Consultant agrees to present annual cost allocation plan results to the County Board if requested by Client.

EXHIBIT B
Compensation
MN CO Meeker CAP 18-20

For Services provided as set forth in Exhibit A, Client agrees to pay Consultant compensation in the amount of Ten Thousand Five Hundred Dollars (\$10,500). Consultant will render to Client one or more invoices for the fees specified herein, with payment due thirty (30) days after the invoice date.

The fee breakdown is as follows:

Fiscal Year 2018	\$3,500
Fiscal Year 2019	\$3,500
Fiscal Year 2020	\$3,500

Mission

To create a culture in which traffic fatalities and serious injuries are no longer acceptable through the integrated application of education, engineering, enforcement and emergency medical and trauma services. These efforts will be driven by data, best practices and research.

Values

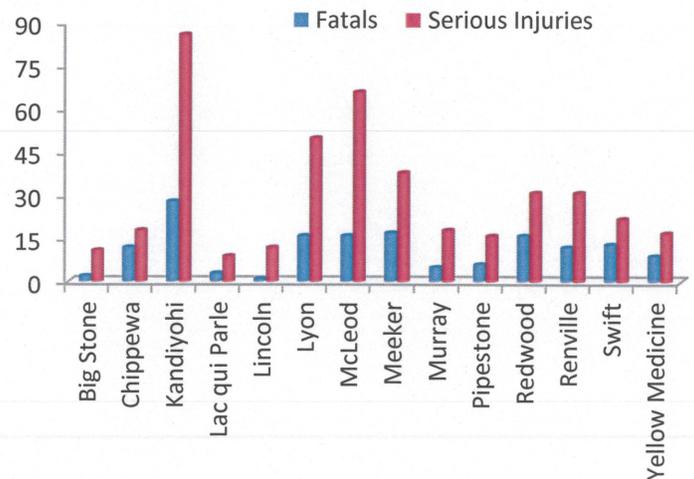
- ❖ Continuous improvements,
- ❖ Engage partners and
- ❖ Evidence-based approaches



The leading cause of deaths and severe injuries in southwest Minnesota include:

- ❖ **Lack of Seatbelt Use**
- ❖ **Impaired Driving**
- ❖ **Speed and Aggressive Driving**
- ❖ **Inattentive Driving**

Southwest Minnesota Fatals and Serious Injuries
by County (2014-2018*)



The leading type of crash resulting in deaths and severe injuries include:

- ❖ **Run-off-Road**
- ❖ **Intersection-Related**

The southwest Minnesota Toward Zero Deaths program is led by a Steering Committee comprised of the "4 Es:"

- ❖ Enforcement
- ❖ Engineering
- ❖ Education
- ❖ Emergency Medical and Trauma Services

The Southwest Minnesota Toward Zero Deaths (TZD) program began in 2007. The counties involved include: Big Stone, Chippewa, Kandiyohi, Lac qui Parle, Lincoln, Lyon, McLeod, Meeker, Murray, Pipestone, Redwood, Renville, Swift and Yellow Medicine.

Southwest Minnesota TZD Leadership Contacts

Engineering

Jon Huseby
MnDOT District Engineer
320-231-5497
jon.huseby@state.mn.us

Enforcement

Captain Casey Meagher
Minnesota State Patrol
507-476-4023
casey.meagher@state.mn.us

Education/EMS

Annette Larson
Southwest Minnesota TZD
Regional Coordinator
507-720-2101
annette.l.larson@state.mn.us



Southwest Minnesota Toward Zero Deaths Regional Strategic Plan

Mission

To move southwest Minnesota toward zero deaths on our roads, using education, enforcement, engineering and emergency medical and trauma services.

Goal 1 – Reduce TZD Fatality and Serious Injuries

To continuously decrease traffic-related fatalities and serious injuries in southwest Minnesota from the past **5-year average** (2014-2018*) of 31 fatalities and 85 serious injuries. Note: New injury definitions were introduced in 2016 and may have contributed to a higher reported number of serious injuries.

Objectives

A. To continuously increase regional seatbelt use rates

The statewide average **was 92.4 percent in 2018**. The preliminary regional seat belt rate is 80.8 percent in April 2018. This rate is down 2.8 percent from the 2017 rate of 83.6 percent. This was a significant change in seat belt rate usage.

B. To examine the characteristics of the unbelted fatalities and serious injuries

Calculation of seat belt use in fatal and serious crashes is possible with existing data.

C. To continuously decrease the following:

5-year average (2014-2018*) in Southwest Region

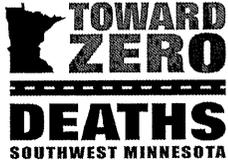
Contributing Factors:

	Alcohol	Speed	Distraction	Total
Fatalities	11	6	4	31
Fatal Crashes	9	5	4	27
Severe Injuries	22	18	15	85
Severe Injury Crashes	18	15	12	67

Average Annual number of:

Note: a crash may have more than one of the above listed or additional contributing factors

*2018 data are preliminary.



Total Southwest Region (2018*)

Years	Fatalities	Fatal Crashes	Severe Injuries	Severe Injury Crashes
2018* Total	25	21	86	68
2014-2018* Total	156	134	425	337

Region Goal 2 – TZD Partnership Goals

To continuously increase TZD awareness and partnerships across southwest Minnesota for both the general public and traffic safety professionals.

1. Establish the vision of TZD as a priority for all region, county and city (government agencies)

- A. Engage local government involvement in TZD steering committee and workshops
- B. Educate/promote traffic safety awareness of city/county officials
- C. Promote city/county employee education/policies that facilitate the TZD vision

(Activities: Recruitment of city and county to attend TZD events, giving TZD presentations to boards/councils, mailings/connections to Network of Employers for Traffic Safety (NETS))

2. Create and strengthen partnerships in the region

- A. Engage stakeholders
- B. Develop networking relationships
- C. Recruit membership of the TZD partnership

(Activities: EMS Conference booth/presentation, regional workshop, web, calendar, statistics, workshop, orientation)

3. Promote and implement effective traffic safety initiatives in the region

- A. Develop and distribute resource materials
- B. Provide enforcement wave support in community
- C. Promote evidence based countermeasures
- D. Collect data and statistics within region
- E. Implement best practices within region

(Activities: web, brochure, one-pagers, presentations, news advisories, workshop, seatbelt observational survey and omnibus survey, media messaging and media events, news releases re: activities woven into existing messages, worksite education and policy development, parent component to drivers education, sober cab development, youth enforcement and education activities)

*2018 data are preliminary.

TOWARD ZERO DEATHS MINNESOTA **TOWARD ZERO DEATHS**

Southwest Minnesota Toward Zero Deaths Local Government Presentation

May , 2019

   Minnesotatzd.org

Mission

To move Minnesota toward zero deaths on our roads using education, enforcement, engineering and emergency medical & trauma services.



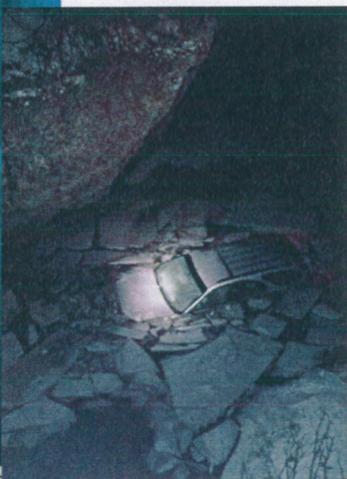
TOWARD ZERO DEATHS   

Vision

To reduce fatalities and serious injuries
on Minnesota's roads to zero

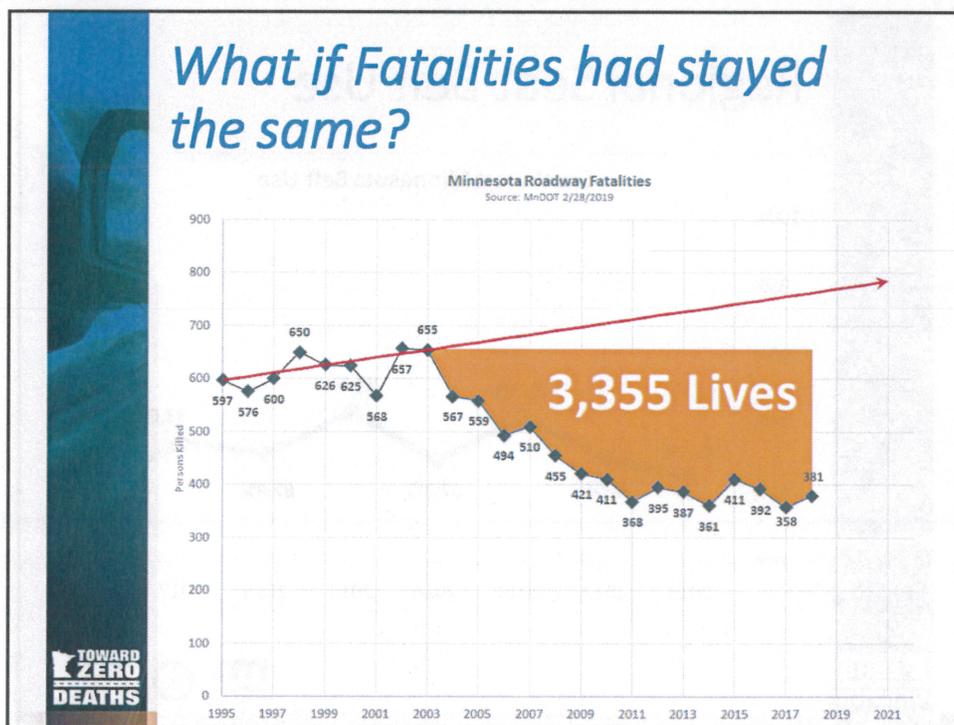
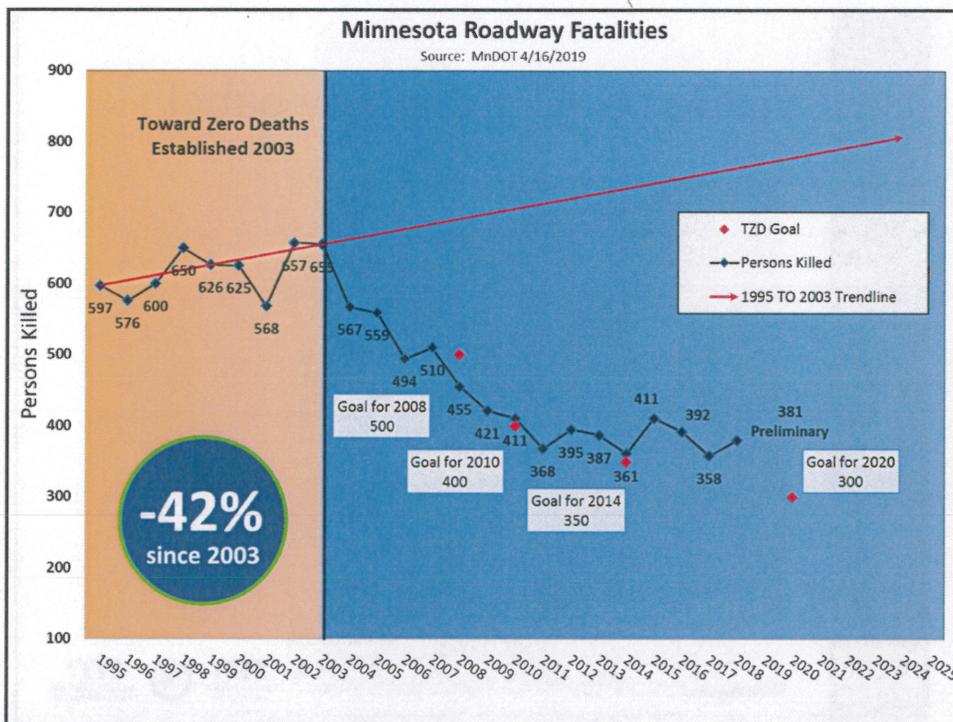


TZD Cornerstone



- ^{Five} Four "E" approach:
 - Enforcement
 - Engineering
 - Education & Outreach
 - Emergency Medical & Trauma Services
 - **Everyone Else!**





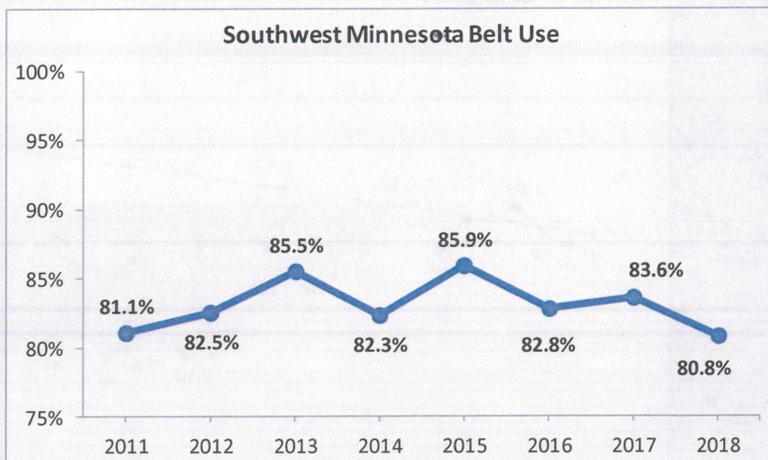
We've come a long way baby!



TOWARD ZERO DEATHS



Regional Seat Belt Use



TOWARD ZERO DEATHS



Year-to-Date Traffic-Related Deaths

As of April 29, 2019, there were **84** traffic-related deaths on

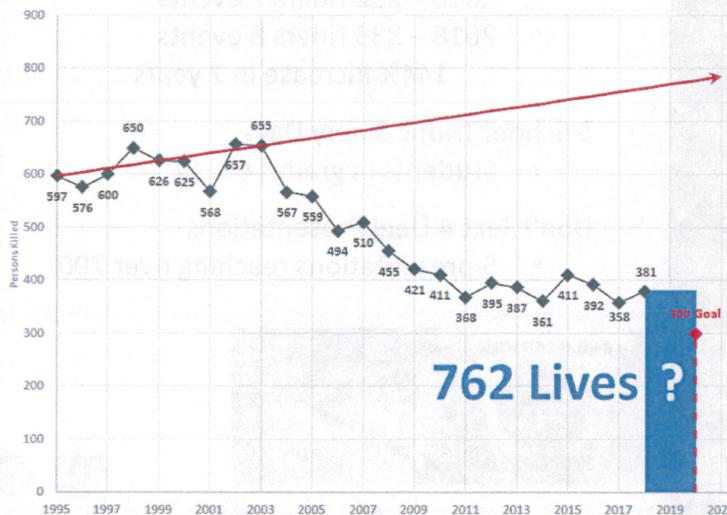


Minnesota roads, compared to **82** deaths at this time last year.



What if Fatalities stay the same now?

Minnesota Roadway Fatalities
Source: MnDOT 2/28/2019



TZD Goal for 2020:

- 300 or fewer traffic-related deaths
- 850 or fewer traffic-related serious injuries



**TOWARD
ZERO
DEATHS**

Meeker Safe Roads Coalition:

- Joyride
 - 2016 – 232 riders 2 events
 - 2018 – 333 riders 8 events
 - 144% increase in 2 years
- 5 School Traffic Safety Days
 - Students in grades 6 – 12
- Don't Text 4 Deej Presentations
 - 5 presentations reaching over 700



**TOWARD
ZERO
DEATHS**

mi DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH  **mi** DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Toward Zero Deaths Statewide Conference



October 23-24, 2019 – St. Cloud

www.minnesotatzd.org



Thank you!



OFFICE OF PLANNING AND ZONING
MEEKER COUNTY
325 SIBLEY AVE NORTH
LITCHFIELD, MN 55355
320-693-5290

CARRIED 6-0

APPLICATION APPLIED FOR: X CONDITIONAL USE PERMIT

 INTERIM USE PERMIT

Parcel # 14-0545-20 Fee \$496 Number 15039 Date 4/19/19

Applicant Phone Number (320) 583-5004

Site Address: 58001 226th Ave, Litchfield

Applicant Name: Brett Dameron

Address: 725 W. 8th Litchfield MN 55355

Owner Name: Brett Dameron

Address: _____

Legal Description of Property:

Lot 1, Block 3, Hidden View Woods 3rd Addition
Star Lake

Detailed Description of the Application: Use up to 95 yards of dirt to lessen slope

Attach a detailed site plan as required in the Meeker County Zoning Ordinance.

Reason for requesting the proposed application: Lessen slope on hillside to combat

erosion

Signatures:

Brett Dameron
Applicant

Brett Dameron
Property Owner

Mineral Rights Owner

Monica Mankrum
Notary Public



PUBLIC HEARING Township Litchfield Location Meeker Co. Ctouse

Date 5-14-19 Notice Published 5-1-19 Property Owners 26

Municipalities Notified Mn DNR, Litchfield Twp., Greenleaf Twp.,
Acton Twp., Danielson Twp., Star Lake Assoc,
Commissioner Tachony.

Planning Commission Recommendation:

Approve a Conditional Use Permit Application to move more than fifty (50) cubic yards of material in the Shoreland District and in the A-1 Agricultural Preservation District with the conditions that:

1. The total cubic yardage moved and/or brought onto this site shall be a maximum of 150 cubic yards of material.
2. The project shall be completed as per the plans submitted with this application.
3. Erosion control shall be implemented and maintained on-site until permanent vegetative cover is established to prevent erosion of material into sensitive areas.

X Date 5/14/19

Chair Greg Jones

APPLICATION RECOMMENDED TO COUNTY COMMISSIONERS:

X CONDITIONAL USE PERMIT _____ INTERIM USE PERMIT

Application submitted to the County Board of Commissioners on May 21, 2019

County Board Action:

_____ The findings and recommendation of the Planning Commission are hereby adopted and the application is:

_____ approved _____ denied

_____ The findings and recommendation of the Planning Commission are hereby overruled and the application is:

_____ approved _____ denied _____

The Board makes its finding as indicated on the attached Exhibit A.

_____ The Board makes specific findings as indicated on the attached Exhibit A; hereby adopts the recommendation of the Planning Commission; and the application is:

_____ approved _____ denied _____

Vote: For _____ Against _____

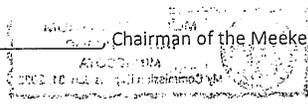
Action taken this _____ day of _____, 20_____.

By: _____
Chair, Meeker County Board of Commissioners

STATE OF MINNESOTA)
COUNTY OF MEEKER)

The foregoing instrument was acknowledged before me this _____ day of _____, 20_____

by _____, Chairman of the Meeker County Board of Commissioners on
behalf of Meeker County.



Notary Public

IMPORTANT:

Unless a land use or building permit is issued and significant work has been completed within twelve (12) months from the date of permit approval, then such permit shall become null and void, unless a petition for extension of time in which to complete the work has been granted by the County Board. Said extension petition shall be requested in writing and filed with the Zoning Administrator at least thirty (30) days before the conditional use or interim use permit is due to become null and void.

OFFICE OF PLANNING AND ZONING
MEEKER COUNTY
325 SIBLEY AVE NORTH
LITCHFIELD, MN 55355
320-693-5290

CARRIED 6-0

APPLICATION APPLIED FOR: X CONDITIONAL USE PERMIT _____ INTERIM USE PERMIT
Parcel # 08-0580000 08-0817000
Application: Fee \$496 Number 15012 Date 2-19-2019 4-15-19 Comput - KRC

Backyard Reflections 940 Elm St. E Annandale, MN 55302
Name of Applicant Address City/State/Zip Code

Daniel & Shawn Duval Trust 21310 654th AVE Darwin, MN 55324
Name of Property Owner Address City/State/Zip Code

Name of Mineral Rights Owner Address City/State/Zip Code

Legal Description of Property:
Manuella Beach 2nd addition Lot 58

Detailed Description of the Application: Request permission to clean up shore line/Rip Rap
and use Boulder walls to create more of a level yard

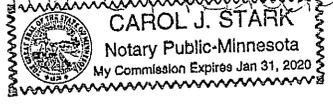
Attach a detailed site plan as required in the Meeker County Zoning Ordinance.

Reason for requesting the proposed application: to make yard space between house
& lake useable - for access to lake also

Signatures:
[Signature] [Signature] [Signature]
Applicant Property Owner Mineral Rights Owner

acknowledged before me on January 19, 2019.

[Signature]
Notary Public



PUBLIC HEARING Township Litchfield Location Meeker Co. Ctngse

Date 5-14-19 Notice Published 5-1-19 Property Owners 24

Municipalities Notified MN DNR, Lake Manuella, Lake Stella,
Ellsworth Twp., Darwin Twp., Commissioner Dawson

Planning Commission Recommendation:

See Attached

Date 5/14/19

Chair Greg Jona

APPLICATION RECOMMENDED TO COUNTY COMMISSIONERS:

CONDITIONAL USE PERMIT INTERIM USE PERMIT

Application submitted to the County Board of Commissioners on May 21, 2019.

County Board Action:

The findings and recommendation of the Planning Commission are hereby adopted and the application is:

approved denied

The findings and recommendation of the Planning Commission are hereby overruled and the application is:

approved denied

The Board makes its finding as indicated on the attached Exhibit A.

The Board makes specific findings as indicated on the attached Exhibit A; hereby adopts the recommendation of the Planning Commission; and the application is:

approved denied

Vote: For Against

Action taken this _____ day of _____, 20_____.

By: _____
Chair, Meeker County Board of Commissioners

STATE OF MINNESOTA)
COUNTY OF MEEKER)

The foregoing instrument was acknowledged before me this _____ day of _____, 20_____

by _____, Chairman of the Meeker County Board of Commissioners on

behalf of Meeker County.

Notary Public

IMPORTANT:

Unless a land use or building permit is issued and significant work has been completed within twelve (12) months from the date of permit approval, then such permit shall become null and void, unless a petition for extension of time in which to complete the work has been granted by the County Board. Said extension petition shall be requested in writing and filed with the Zoning Administrator at least thirty (30) days before the conditional use or interim use permit is due to become null and void.

EXHIBIT A

Approve a Conditional Use Permit Application to move more than fifty (50) cubic yards of material in the Shoreland District and in the A-1 Agricultural Preservation District with the conditions that:

1. The total cubic yardage moved and/or brought onto this site shall be a maximum of 200 cubic yards of material.
2. The project shall be completed as per the plans submitted with this application.
3. Construction must meet all setback requirements.
4. A passing septic compliance or a design for a new compliant SSTS system must be submitted prior to commencing this project.
5. Erosion control shall be implemented and maintained on-site until permanent vegetative cover is established to prevent erosion of material into sensitive areas.

OFFICE OF PLANNING AND ZONING
MEEKER COUNTY
325 SIBLEY AVE NORTH
LITCHFIELD, MN 55355
320-693-5290

CARRIED 6-0

APPLICATION APPLIED FOR: _____ CONDITIONAL USE PERMIT

X INTERIM USE PERMIT

Parcel # 08-0107000 Fee \$546- Number 15034 Date 4/12/19

Applicant Phone Number 320-587-9886

Site Address: NE. Corner 640th & 205st

Applicant Name: Reiner Contracting Inc.

Address: 21541 Hwy 7 W. Hutchinson

Owner Name: Ronald Hansen

Address: 1325 So. Grade Rd.

Legal Description of Property: sec 1 Twp / Rng. 7-118-30
* See Attached survey

Detailed Description of the Application: Crushing-Recycle Material
Briminous⁺ Concrete - 25000 mixed tons

Attach a detailed site plan as required in the Meeker County Zoning Ordinance:

Reason for requesting the proposed application: _____
Groundwater elevation 1106 - Placement 1110

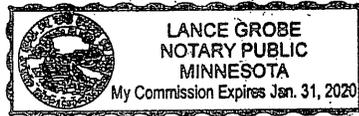
Signatures:

[Signature]
Applicant

[Signature]
Property Owner

[Signature]
Mineral Rights Owner

[Signature]
Notary Public



PUBLIC HEARING Township Litchfield Location Meeker Co. Ctng

Date 5-14-19 Notice Published 5-1-19 Property Owners 29

Municipalities Notified MN DNR, Ellsworth Twp., Greenleaf Twp., Darwin Twp, Lake Manvelka Assoc, Commissioners Hanson, Phil Schmalz, Hwy Engineer.

Planning Commission Recommendation:

See Attached

X Date 5/14/19

Chair Greg Janz

APPLICATION RECOMMENDED TO COUNTY COMMISSIONERS:

CONDITIONAL USE PERMIT INTERIM USE PERMIT

Application submitted to the County Board of Commissioners on May 21, 2019

County Board Action:

The findings and recommendation of the Planning Commission are hereby adopted and the application is:

approved denied

The findings and recommendation of the Planning Commission are hereby overruled and the application is:

approved denied

The Board makes its finding as indicated on the attached Exhibit A.

The Board makes specific findings as indicated on the attached Exhibit A; hereby adopts the recommendation of the Planning Commission; and the application is:

approved denied

Vote: For Against

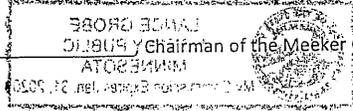
Action taken this day of 20

By: Chair, Meeker County Board of Commissioners

STATE OF MINNESOTA)
COUNTY OF MEEKER)

The foregoing instrument was acknowledged before me this day of 20

by Chairman of the Meeker County Board of Commissioners on behalf of Meeker County.



Notary Public

IMPORTANT:

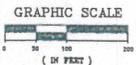
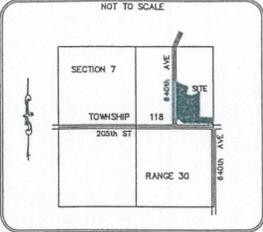
Unless a land use or building permit is issued and significant work has been completed within twelve (12) months from the date of permit approval, then such permit shall become null and void, unless a petition for extension of time in which to complete the work has been granted by the County Board. Said extension petition shall be requested in writing and filed with the Zoning Administrator at least thirty (30) days before the conditional use or interim use permit is due to become null and void.

SECTION 7

EXISTING CONDITIONS



VICINITY MAP



- NOTES:
- GRAVEL PILES TO BE PLACED IN EXCAVATED AREAS WITH THE EXCAVATION TO BEGIN IN THE CENTER OF THE PIT.
 - SPOIL DIRT FILL WILL BE USED FOR RECLAMATION AND WILL BE RELOCATED SO THAT THE AREAS CAN BE FILLED.
 - THE PROPERTY IS PRESENTLY ZONED A-1 AGRICULTURAL.
 - INDICATES DRAINAGE

CLIENT NAME:

Craig Reiner



(202)643-3710
310 East Depot Street
Litchfield, MN 55355
ns_drew@northstaroffice.net
ns_chuck@northstaroffice.net

PROJECT ADDRESS

NE 1/4, Section 7,
Township 118, Range 30

DATE OF FIELD WORK: March 20, 2019	JOB NO. 19040	HORIZONTAL DATUM: NAD83 2011m
DATE OF MAP: March 20, 2019	DRAFTED BY: CRM	Meeker County
REVISION: DATE 30	CHECKED BY: DSH	VERTICAL DATUM: N/A
REVISION: DATE 20		

Surveyed Description

That part of the Northeast Quarter, Section 7, Township 118, Range 30, Meeker County, Minnesota, described as follows: Commencing at the Southeast corner of said Northeast Quarter, thence on an assumed bearing of North 01 degrees 05 minutes 30 seconds West along the east line of said Northeast Quarter, 53.00 feet more or less to the point of beginning; thence North 88 degrees 58 minutes 24 seconds West, parallel with the south line of said Northeast Quarter, a distance of 1232.21 feet; thence North 01 degrees 05 minutes 30 seconds West, concave to the southwest having a radius of 500.00 feet, a central angle of 28 degrees 20 minutes 10 seconds, a chord distance of 248.18 feet and a chord bearing of North 54 degrees 28 minutes 58 seconds West; thence North 00 degrees 18 minutes 23 seconds West, 1112.30 feet; thence North 01 degrees 45 minutes 55 seconds West, 208.48 feet; thence North 07 degrees 18 minutes 57 seconds West, 72.22 feet; thence South 07 degrees 40 minutes 31 seconds East, 450.47 feet; thence South 12 degrees 35 minutes 49 minutes West, 312.00 feet; thence South 82 degrees 20 minutes 12 seconds East, 230.00 feet; thence North 83 degrees 20 minutes 54 seconds East, 327.00 feet to the west line of the East 580.00 feet; thence South 01 degrees 05 minutes 30 seconds West along last said line, 899.71 feet to the north line of the south 280.00 feet; thence South 88 degrees 58 minutes 24 seconds East along last said line, 580.00 feet to the said east line of the Northeast Quarter; thence South 01 degrees 05 minutes 30 seconds West along last said line, 217.00 feet to the point of beginning.

Containing 27.58 Acres, more or less.

CERTIFICATION: I hereby certify that this survey was prepared by me or under my direct supervision and that I am a Professional Licensed Surveyor under the Laws of the State of Minnesota.

Doug Huhn

Doug Huhn
Registration No. 43808 - In the State of Minnesota

EXHIBIT A

Approve an Interim Use Permit Application for concrete/bituminous recycling in an A-1 Agricultural Preservation District with the conditions that:

1. The hours of operation on this site are 6 a.m. to 9 p.m., Monday through Friday and 6 a.m. to 6 p.m. on Saturdays, and no operation on Sunday and holidays.
2. This permit shall expire in six (6) years from the date of the County Commissioners final approval of this Interim Use Permit with an inspection occurring at approximately three (3) years or mid-point of the duration of the permit, whichever is least.
3. Dust control measures must be implemented on haul roads.
4. The applicant must participate in road maintenance on the haul roads.
5. The preferred haul route for this pit shall be 205th Street west to Minnesota Highway 22.
6. Noise levels must not exceed state decibel requirements.
7. All concrete/bituminous recycling equipment and stockpiles shall meet all setbacks as required in Article 22.29 of the Meeker County Zoning Ordinance.

OFFICE OF PLANNING AND ZONING
MEEKER COUNTY
325 SIBLEY AVE NORTH
LITCHFIELD, MN 55355
320-693-5290

CARRIED 6-0

APPLICATION APPLIED FOR: _____ CONDITIONAL USE PERMIT

X INTERIM USE PERMIT

Parcel # #08-0107000 Fee \$546 Number 15234 Date 4-15-19

Applicant Phone Number 320-587-9886

Site Address: NE Corner 640th Ave. & 205 St.

Applicant Name: Reiner Contracting, Inc.

Address: 21541 Hwy 7 W. Hutchinson

Owner Name: Ronald Hansen

Address: 1325 South Grade Rd. Hutchinson

Legal Description of Property: sec. 1 / Twp / Rng 7-118-30

Detailed Description of the Application: Excavation of Sand & Gravel for crushing and washing, crushing recycle material

Attach a detailed site plan as required in the Meeker County Zoning Ordinance.

Reason for requesting the proposed application: Sand & Gravel operation

Signatures:

[Signature]
Applicant

[Signature]
Property Owner

[Signature]
Mineral Rights Owner

[Signature]
Notary Public



PUBLIC HEARING Township Litchfield Location Meeker Co. Ctngl.

Date 5-14-19 Notice Published 5-1-19 Property Owners 29

Municipalities Notified MN DNR, Ellsworth Twp, Greenleaf Twp, Darwin Twp, Lake Manuella Assoc, Commissioner Larson, Phil Schmatz, Hwy Engineer.

Planning Commission Recommendation:

See Attached

X Date 5/14/19

Chair Greg Jans

APPLICATION RECOMMENDED TO COUNTY COMMISSIONERS:

_____ CONDITIONAL USE PERMIT

X INTERIM USE PERMIT

Application submitted to the County Board of Commissioners on May 21, 2019.

County Board Action:

_____ The findings and recommendation of the Planning Commission are hereby adopted and the application is:

_____ approved _____ denied

_____ The findings and recommendation of the Planning Commission are hereby overruled and the application is:

_____ approved _____ denied

The Board makes its finding as indicated on the attached Exhibit A.

_____ The Board makes specific findings as indicated on the attached Exhibit A; hereby adopts the recommendation of the Planning Commission; and the application is:

_____ approved _____ denied

Vote: For _____ Against _____

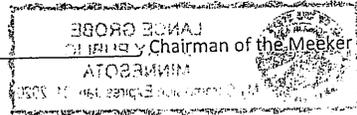
Action taken this _____ day of _____, 20_____.

By: _____
Chair, Meeker County Board of Commissioners

STATE OF MINNESOTA)
COUNTY OF MEEKER)

The foregoing instrument was acknowledged before me this _____ day of _____, 20_____

by _____
Chairman of the Meeker County Board of Commissioners on
behalf of Meeker County.



Notary Public

IMPORTANT:

Unless a land use or building permit is issued and significant work has been completed within twelve (12) months from the date of permit approval, then such permit shall become null and void, unless a petition for extension of time in which to complete the work has been granted by the County Board. Said extension petition shall be requested in writing and filed with the Zoning Administrator at least thirty (30) days before the conditional use or interim use permit is due to become null and void.

EXHIBIT A

Approve an Interim Use Application to mine and process aggregate material in an A-1 Agricultural Preservation District with the conditions that:

1. This Interim Use Permit shall expire six (6) years from the date of approval by the Meeker County Board of Commissioners with a mid-term inspection completed by the Zoning Administrator or her designee and one member of the Planning Commission three (3) years from the date of final approval of this application.
2. The hours of operation on this site are 6 a.m. to 9 p.m., Monday through Friday and 6 a.m. to 6 p.m. on Saturdays, and no operation on Sunday and holidays.
3. Dust control measures must be implemented on all gravel haul roads and shall be implemented on haul roads inside of the pit
4. The preferred haul route for this pit shall be 205th Street west to Minnesota Highway 22.
5. The applicant shall work with the township in regards to road maintenance.
6. Noise levels must not exceed state decibel requirements.
7. The applicant must complete their mining and reclamation according to the maps submitted with the application and follow the regulations set forth in Article 22.15.E. of the Meeker County Zoning Ordinance for reclamation of this site. The site shall be reclaimed one (1) year after the mining operation ceases as stated in the Meeker County Zoning Ordinance.
8. The applicant must comply with all other local, state, or federal requirements or regulations and receive all required local, state and federal permits for the operation of an aggregate pit.

OFFICE OF PLANNING AND ZONING
MEEKER COUNTY
325 SIBLEY AVE NORTH
LITCHFIELD, MN 55355
320-693-5290

CARRIED 6-0

APPLICATION APPLIED FOR: _____ CONDITIONAL USE PERMIT

X INTERIM USE PERMIT

Parcel # 11-0002000 Fee \$546- Number 15033 Date 4/12/19

Applicant Phone Number 320-587-9886

Site Address: Hwy 22

Applicant Name: Reiner Contracting - Wagon Site

Address: 21541 Hwy 7 W. Hutchinson

Owner Name: Craig ^{Dedra} Reiner

Address: 67472 CSAH 33

Legal Description of Property: sec./Twp/Rng 1-118-31

Detailed Description of the Application: (Crushing)* recycle material
Concrete & Bituminous

Attach a detailed site plan as required in the Meeker County Zoning Ordinance.

Reason for requesting the proposed application: _____

Signatures:
Dedra Reiner Applicant
Dedra Reiner Property Owner
Dedra Reiner Mineral Rights Owner

Lance Grobe Notary Public
My Commission Expires Jan. 31, 2020

PUBLIC HEARING Township Litchfield Location Meeker Co. CtHse.

Date 5-14-19 Notice Published 5-1-19 Property Owners 32

Municipalities Notified mn DNR, Ellsworth Twp, Greenleaf Twp,
Darwin Twp, Litchfield Twp, mn DOT, Commissioners Larson,
Phil Schmalz; Hwy Engineers.

Planning Commission Recommendation:

See Attached

Date 5/14/19

Chair *Greg Davis*

APPLICATION RECOMMENDED TO COUNTY COMMISSIONERS:

CONDITIONAL USE PERMIT

INTERIM USE PERMIT

Application submitted to the County Board of Commissioners on May 21, 2019.

County Board Action:

The findings and recommendation of the Planning Commission are hereby adopted and the application is:

approved denied

The findings and recommendation of the Planning Commission are hereby overruled and the application is:

approved denied

The Board makes its finding as indicated on the attached Exhibit A.

The Board makes specific findings as indicated on the attached Exhibit A; hereby adopts the recommendation of the Planning Commission; and the application is:

approved denied

Vote: For Against

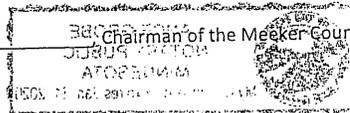
Action taken this _____ day of _____, 20_____.

By: _____
Chair, Meeker County Board of Commissioners

STATE OF MINNESOTA)
COUNTY OF MEEKER)

The foregoing instrument was acknowledged before me this _____ day of _____, 20_____

by _____
Chairman of the Meeker County Board of Commissioners on
behalf of Meeker County.



Notary Public

IMPORTANT:

Unless a land use or building permit is issued and significant work has been completed within twelve (12) months from the date of permit approval, then such permit shall become null and void, unless a petition for extension of time in which to complete the work has been granted by the County Board. Said extension petition shall be requested in writing and filed with the Zoning Administrator at least thirty (30) days before the conditional use or interim use permit is due to become null and void.

EXISTING CONDITIONS

SURVEY FOR *Craig Reiner*

SURVEYED 10/15/2010

DRAFTED 10/26/2010

EXISTING LEGAL DESCRIPTION:

The Northeast Quarter (NE 1/4) of Section One (1), Township 118, Range 31, EXCEPTING THEREFROM the following described tracts:
 Beginning at the southeast corner of said Northeast Quarter (NE 1/4), thence on an assumed bearing of West, along the South line of said Northeast Quarter (NE 1/4), a distance of 692.33 feet, thence North 08 degrees 06 minutes 34 seconds West parallel with the East line of said Northeast Quarter (NE 1/4), a distance of 624.00 feet, thence on a bearing of East, parallel with the South line of said Northeast Quarter (NE 1/4), a distance of 692.33 feet to the East line of the said Northeast Quarter (NE 1/4), thence South 08 degrees 06 minutes 34 seconds East, along the East line, a distance of 624.00 feet to the point of beginning.
 Beginning at the southwest corner of said Northeast Quarter (NE 1/4), thence on an assumed bearing East, along the South line of said Northeast Quarter (NE 1/4), a distance of 411.00 feet, thence North 0 degrees 06 minutes 40 seconds East, parallel with the West line of said Northeast Quarter (NE 1/4), a distance of 324.00 feet, thence on a bearing of West a distance of 411.00 feet to the West line of said Northeast Quarter (NE 1/4), thence South 0 degrees 06 minutes 40 seconds West, along said west line 324.00 feet to the point of beginning.
 The East 110.36 feet of the West 321.36 feet of the South 294.00 feet, with all measurements along sidelines thereof, of the Northeast Quarter (NE 1/4) of Section One (1), Township 118, Range 31.
 The North 344.80 feet of the South 1239.47 feet of the West 1271.20 feet of the Northeast Quarter (NE 1/4) of Section One (1), Township 118, Range 31.
 Containing 120.75 acre more or less.

PROPOSED AREA FOR GRAVEL PERMIT:

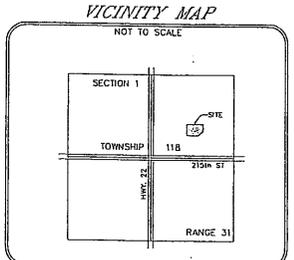
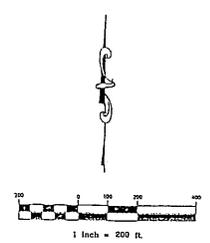
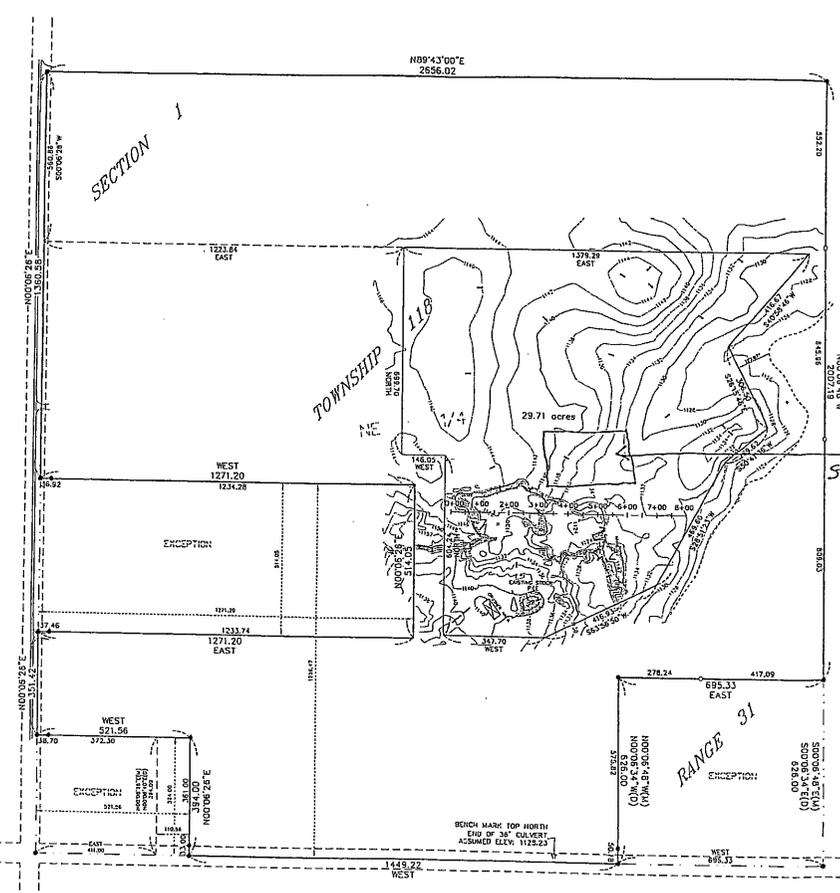
That part of the Northeast Quarter, Section 1, Township 118, Range 31, Meeker County, Minnesota, described as follows: commencing at the northern corner of said Northeast Quarter, thence on an assumed bearing of South 09 degrees 06 minutes 26 seconds West along the west line of said Northeast Quarter, 540.86 feet; thence on a bearing of EAST, 1223.84 feet to the point of beginning; thence continuing on a bearing of EAST, 1379.29 feet; thence South 40 degrees 58 minutes 46 seconds West, 416.47 feet; thence South 26 degrees 15 minutes 46 seconds East, 396.29 feet; thence South 30 degrees 41 minutes 34 seconds West, 109.02 feet; thence South 28 degrees 31 minutes 23 seconds West, 469.40 feet; thence South 03 degrees 54 minutes 50 seconds West, 416.92 feet; thence on a bearing of WEST, 347.70 feet; thence on a bearing of NORTH, 601.24 feet; thence on a bearing of WEST, 148.63 feet; thence on a bearing of NORTH, 629.70 feet to the point of beginning. Containing 29.71 acre more or less.

STANDARD SYMBOLS & CONVENTIONS:

*" denotes 1/2" ID pipe with plastic plug bearing State License Number 24322 and/or 43008, set.
 ** Denotes Round Iron monument.

CERTIFICATION: I hereby certify that this survey was prepared by me or under my direct supervision and that I am a Professional Licensed Surveyor under the Laws of the State of Minnesota.

Larry Hahn PLS 24322
 Doug Hahn PLS 43008



NOTES:
 SITE BENCH MARK IS THE TOP NORTH END OF A 36" CULVERT IT IS ASSUMED TO HAVE A ELEVATION OF 1128.23 SEE DRAWING FOR LOCATION OF CULVERT.
 GRAVEL PILES TO BE PLACED IN EXCAVATED AREAS WITH THE EXCAVATION TO BEGIN IN THE CENTER OF THE PIT.
 SPOIL DIRT PILE WILL BE USED FOR RECLAMATION AND WILL BE RELOCATED SO THAT THE AREAS CAN BE FILLED.
 THE PROPERTY IS PRESENTLY ZONED A-1 AGRICULTURAL.
 --- INDICATES DRAINAGE.

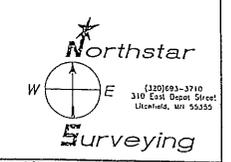
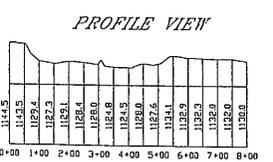


EXHIBIT A

Approve an Interim Use Permit Application for concrete/bituminous recycling in an A-1 Agricultural Preservation District with the conditions that:

1. The hours of operation on this site are 6 a.m. to 9 p.m., Monday through Friday and 6 a.m. to 6 p.m. on Saturdays, and no operation on Sunday and holidays.
2. This permit shall expire in six (6) years from the date of the County Commissioners final approval of this Interim Use Permit with an inspection occurring at approximately three (3) years or mid-point of the duration of the permit, whichever is least.
3. The applicant shall enter and exit this site via the access on to Minnesota Highway 22.
4. Dust control measures must be implemented on haul roads on-site.
6. Noise levels must not exceed state decibel requirements.
7. All concrete/bituminous recycling equipment and stockpiles shall meet all setbacks as required in Article 22.29 of the Meeker County Zoning Ordinance.

OFFICE OF PLANNING AND ZONING
MEEKER COUNTY
325 SIBLEY AVE NORTH
LITCHFIELD, MN 55355
320-693-5290

CARRIED 6-0

APPLICATION APPLIED FOR: _____ CONDITIONAL USE PERMIT

INTERIM USE PERMIT

Parcel # 06-020000 Fee \$496 Number 15040 Date 4/19/19

Applicant Phone Number 320-310-8567

Site Address: 24926 660th AVE Darwin MN 55324

Applicant Name: Geoffrey Mark Canoyer

Address: 24926 660th AVE Darwin MN 55324

Owner Name: Geoffrey Mark Canoyer

Address: 24926 660th AVE Darwin MN 55324

Legal Description of Property: That part of the Northwest Quarter of the Northwest Quarter, Section 22, Township 119, Range 30, Meeker County, Minnesota, described as follows: Commencing at the northwest corner of said Northwest Quarter of the Northwest Quarter; thence on an assumed bearing of North 89 degrees 10 minutes 02 seconds East along the north line of said Northwest Quarter of the Northwest Quarter, 33.01 feet to it's intersection with a line being 33.0 feet easterly and parallel to the westerly line of said Northwest Quarter of the Northwest Quarter, said point being the point of beginning of the tract herein described; thence continuing North 89 degrees 10 minutes 02 seconds East along said north line 431.91 feet; thence South 01 degrees 23 minutes 17 seconds East, 718.19 feet to the northerly right of way of Trunk Highway No. 12 as shown on MNDOT right of way plat 47-13, as of public record Meeker County, Minnesota, thence North 74 degrees 41 minutes 28 seconds West along said northerly right of way line, 444.89 feet to its intersection with a line being 33.00 feet easterly and parallel to the westerly line of said Northwest Quarter of the Northwest Quarter; thence North 01 degrees 56 minutes 36 seconds West along said parallel line, 594.58 feet to the point of beginning.

Detailed Description of the Application: Addition of a second home on the property for blood relative

Attach a detailed site plan as required in the Meeker County Zoning Ordinance.

Reason for requesting the proposed application: Placement of a second home on the property

Signatures: _____
Applicant Property Owner Mineral Rights Owner



Debora A Kuharski's
Notary Public

PUBLIC HEARING Township Litchfield Location Meeker Co. CtHse

Date 5-14-19 Notice Published 5-1-19 Property Owners 13

Municipalities Notified mn DNR, Darwin TWP., City of Darwin,
Commissioner Obeng, mn DOT

Planning Commission Recommendation:

Approve an Interim Use Permit Application to move in a temporary second dwelling on a site for a blood relative in the A-1 Agricultural Preservation District with the conditions that this dwelling be served by a conforming SSTS system; the property owners must cease using the existing RV for dwelling purposes and the septic, water and electrical connections must be removed from said RV; that the applicant obtain all required building permits and SSTS permits; the property owners must follow the building code; an annual certification must be submitted yearly to the Meeker County Planning and Zoning Department as per Section 11.04.A.4 of the Meeker County Zoning Ordinance to ensure compliance with these conditions; and this interim use permit shall expire seven (7) years from the date of final approval of this application by the Meeker County Commissioners and at that time one of the existing homes on this site must be removed. If another blood relative intends to occupy said dwelling, a new interim use permit must be obtained.

X Date 5/14/19

Chair Greg Jones

APPLICATION RECOMMENDED TO COUNTY COMMISSIONERS:

_____ CONDITIONAL USE PERMIT X INTERIM USE PERMIT

Application submitted to the County Board of Commissioners on May 21, 2019

County Board Action:

_____ The findings and recommendation of the Planning Commission are hereby adopted and the application is:

_____ approved _____ denied

_____ The findings and recommendation of the Planning Commission are hereby overruled and the application is:

_____ approved _____ denied

The Board makes its finding as indicated on the attached Exhibit A.

_____ The Board makes specific findings as indicated on the attached Exhibit A; hereby adopts the recommendation of the Planning Commission; and the application is:

_____ approved _____ denied

Vote: For _____ Against _____

Action taken this _____ day of _____, 20_____.

By: _____
Chair, Meeker County Board of Commissioners

STATE OF MINNESOTA)
COUNTY OF MEEKER)

The foregoing instrument was acknowledged before me this _____ day of _____, 20_____

by _____, Chairman of the Meeker County Board of Commissioners on behalf of Meeker County.



Notary Public

IMPORTANT:

Unless a land use or building permit is issued and significant work has been completed within twelve (12) months from the date of permit approval, then such permit shall become null and void, unless a petition for extension of time in which to complete the work has been granted by the County Board. Said extension petition shall be requested in writing and filed with the Zoning Administrator at least thirty (30) days before the conditional use or interim use permit is due to become null and void.

CARRIED 6-0

APPLICATION FOR REZONING A PARCEL OF LAND

Date: 4/22/19 Number: 15041 Fee: \$600-
Parcel # 07-0341010 Phone # 612-747-0975
Name of Petitioner/s (owner) Address City/State/Zip Code
Jay C. Asplin 24164 726th Dassel, Mn 55325

Legal Description of the Property Proposed to be Rezoned: Survey - Preliminary Plat
Attached

Present District Classification of Property: A-1
Proposed District Classification of Property: R-1
Proposed Use of the Property: 10 Residential Lots

List all owners of property within the area to be rezoned:
Name of Petitioner/s Address City/State/Zip Code
Jay C Asplin 24164 726th Ave. Dassel, Mn 55325

The following must be completed:

1. Stated reason for requested rezoning: Create 10 Residential Lots
to build Residential Homes
2. State why applicant believes the proposed change is compatible with the Meeker County Comprehensive Land Use Plan: Similar Residential Homes within the
Area
3. Statement of what conditions within the County have changed making the rezoning necessary: Nothing changed it's similar to Area
4. Statement of the effect on surrounding property values and compatibility with existing land uses: possibly increase value because of New Homes

Attach a boundary survey by a Registered Land Surveyor of the property to be rezoned showing dimensions, present zoning of adjacent properties and existing uses, buildings and ownership within five hundred (500) feet in incorporated areas and one half (1/2) mile in unincorporated areas.

Attach a detailed site plan as required in the Meeker County Zoning Ordinance if application will result in development.

[Signature]
Signature of Petitioner

Signature of Petitioner

Signature of Petitioner

Signature of Petitioner

PUBLIC HEARING

Township: Litchfield Location: Meeker Co. Citnse

Date: 5-14-19 Notice Published: 5-1-19 Notice Posted: _____

Property Owners Notified: 114

Municipalities Notified: mn DNR, Dassel Twp, Dassel City,
Commissioner Housman, Long Lake Assoc, David Broll

Planning Commission Recommendation: _____

Approve an application for rezoning a parcel of land from A-1 Agricultural Preservation District to the R-1 Suburban Residential District.

X Date: 5/14/19 Chairman: Greg Jans

Application submitted to the County Board of Commissioners on May 21, 2019.

County Board Action:

_____ The findings and recommendation of the Planning Commission are hereby adopted and the application is:
Approved or Denied

_____ The findings and recommendation of the Planning Commission are hereby overruled and the application is:
Approved or Denied

_____ The Board makes specific findings as indicated on the attached Exhibit A; hereby adopts the recommendation of the Planning Commission; and the application is:
Approved or Denied

Vote: _____ In favor _____ Against

Action taken this _____ day of _____, 20_____.

By: _____
Chair, Meeker County Board of Commissioners

STATE OF MINNESOTA)
COUNTY OF MEEKER)

The foregoing instrument was acknowledged before me this _____ day of _____, 20_____,
by _____, Chairman of the Meeker County Board of Commissioners on behalf of
Meeker County.

Notary Public

ADDITION AT

DESCRIPTION

The Northwest Quarter of the Northeast Quarter in Section 22, Township 119 North, Range 29 West, EXCEPTING THEREFROM the following 3 described tracts; to-wit:

1. That part of the Northwest Quarter of the Northeast Quarter in Section 22, Township 119 North, Range 29 West, lying easterly of old T.H. No. 15 described as follows: Beginning at the southeast corner of said Northwest Quarter of the Northeast Quarter (said corner being 1354.30 feet North and 1320.00 feet east of the center of Section 22); thence west along the south line of said Northwest Quarter of the Northeast Quarter, a distance of 167.20 feet to the east right of way line of said public highway; thence Northeasterly along said right of way line to the intersection with the east line of said Northwest Quarter of the Northeast Quarter; thence south and along said east line of said Northwest Quarter of the Northeast Quarter to the place of beginning.
2. The North 466.70 feet of the West 466.70 feet of said Northwest Quarter of the Northeast Quarter in Section 22, Township 119 North, Range 29 West.
3. That part of the Northwest Quarter of the Northeast Quarter in Section 22, Township 119 North, Range 29 West, described as follows: Commencing at the northeast corner of said Northwest Quarter of the Northeast Quarter; thence South 01 degree 44 minutes 37 seconds East (assumed bearing) along the east line thereof a distance of 493.49 feet to the actual point of beginning; thence continue South 01 degree 44 minutes 37 seconds East along said east line a distance of 238.11 feet; thence North 74 degrees 26 minutes 37 seconds West a distance of 372.87 feet; thence North 09 degrees 53 minutes 23 seconds East a distance of 167.79 feet to a line bearing North 85 degrees 10 minutes 17 seconds West from the point of beginning; thence South 85 degrees 10 minutes 17 seconds East, a distance of 324.30 feet to the point of beginning.

AND
That part of Government Lot 2 in Section 22, Township 119 North, Range 29 West, described as bounded by a line beginning at the center of Section 22 which is also the same as the southwest corner of said Government Lot 2; running thence north on the west line of said Government Lot 2 a distance of 1354.30 feet to the north line of said Government Lot 2; thence east on the north line of said Government Lot 2, a distance of 1118.50 feet to the centerline of T.H. No. 15; thence along the centerline of said highway South 24°35' West a distance of 201.5 feet; thence South 30°37' West a distance of 1400.00 feet to a point on the south line of said Government Lot 2; thence west along the south line of said Government Lot 2 a distance of 337.30 feet to the point of beginning.

EXCEPTING THEREFROM the following 3 described tracts, to-wit:

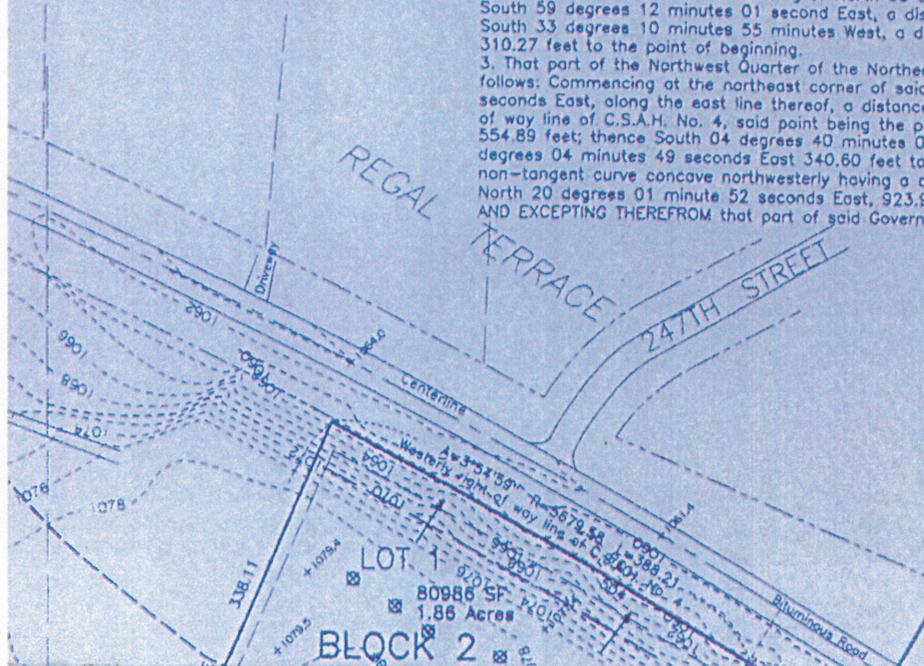
1. That part of said Government Lot 2 of Section 22, Township 119 North, Range 29 West, lying northwesterly of the centerline of County Road No. 4 described as follows: Commencing at the northwest corner of the Northwest Quarter of the Northeast Quarter of said Section 22; thence on an assumed bearing of South 0 degrees 29 minutes 31 seconds East along the west line of said Northwest Quarter of the Northeast Quarter and along the west line of said Government Lot 2, a distance of 1590.06 feet; thence on a bearing of South 85 degrees 28 minutes 05 seconds East 150.35 feet to the point of beginning of the tract herein described; thence continuing on a bearing of South 85 degrees 28 minutes 05 seconds East 228.58 feet; thence on a bearing of South 77 degrees 57 minutes 18 seconds East 212.53 feet; thence on a bearing of South 15 degrees 49 minutes 04 seconds West 242.37 feet; thence on a bearing of South 29 degrees 53 minutes 30 seconds East 278.16 feet to the centerline of County Road No. 4; thence on a bearing of South 29 degrees 53 minutes 30 seconds East 46.32 feet; thence on a bearing of North 29 degrees 53 minutes 30 seconds West 304.75 feet; thence on a bearing of North 71 degrees 13 minutes 27 seconds West 350.27 feet; thence on a bearing of North 0 degrees 29 minutes 31 seconds West 200.00 feet to the point of beginning.
2. That part of said Government Lot 2 of Section 22, Township 119 North, Range 29 West, described as follows: Beginning at the southwest corner of said Government Lot 2; thence on an assumed bearing of North 03 degrees 19 minutes 24 seconds East, along the west line of said Government Lot, a distance of 66.00 feet; thence South 59 degrees 12 minutes 01 second East, a distance of 32.53 feet; thence South 88 degrees 36 minutes 19 seconds East, a distance of 310.70 feet; thence South 33 degrees 10 minutes 55 minutes West, a distance of 58.82 feet to the south line of said Government Lot; thence westerly, along said south line, a distance of 310.27 feet to the point of beginning.
3. That part of the Northwest Quarter of the Northeast Quarter and said Government Lot 2, all in Section 22, Township 119 North, Range 29 West, described as follows: Commencing at the northeast corner of said Northwest Quarter of the Northeast Quarter; thence on an assumed bearing of South 01 degrees 44 minutes 37 seconds East, along the east line thereof, a distance of 731.60 feet; thence North 74 degrees 26 minutes 37 seconds West 51.96 feet to a point on the westerly right of way line of C.S.A.H. No. 4, said point being the point of beginning of the parcel herein described; thence continuing North 74 degrees 26 minutes 37 seconds West 554.89 feet; thence South 04 degrees 40 minutes 03 seconds West 469.96 feet; thence South 08 degrees 14 minutes 30 seconds West 431.32 feet; thence South 69 degrees 04 minutes 49 seconds East 340.60 feet to the said westerly right of way line of C.S.A.H. No. 4; thence northeasterly 924.98 feet along last said line being a non-tangent curve concave northwesterly having a central angle of 9 degrees 19 minutes 53 seconds, a radius of 5679.57 feet and a chord bearing and distance of North 20 degrees 01 minute 52 seconds East, 923.97 feet to the point of beginning.

AND EXCEPTING THEREFROM that part of said Government Lot 2 lying Easterly of the westerly right of way line of C.S.A.H. No. 4.

S: Jay C. Asplin and Maria Asplin
24164 726th Avenue
Dassel, MN 55325

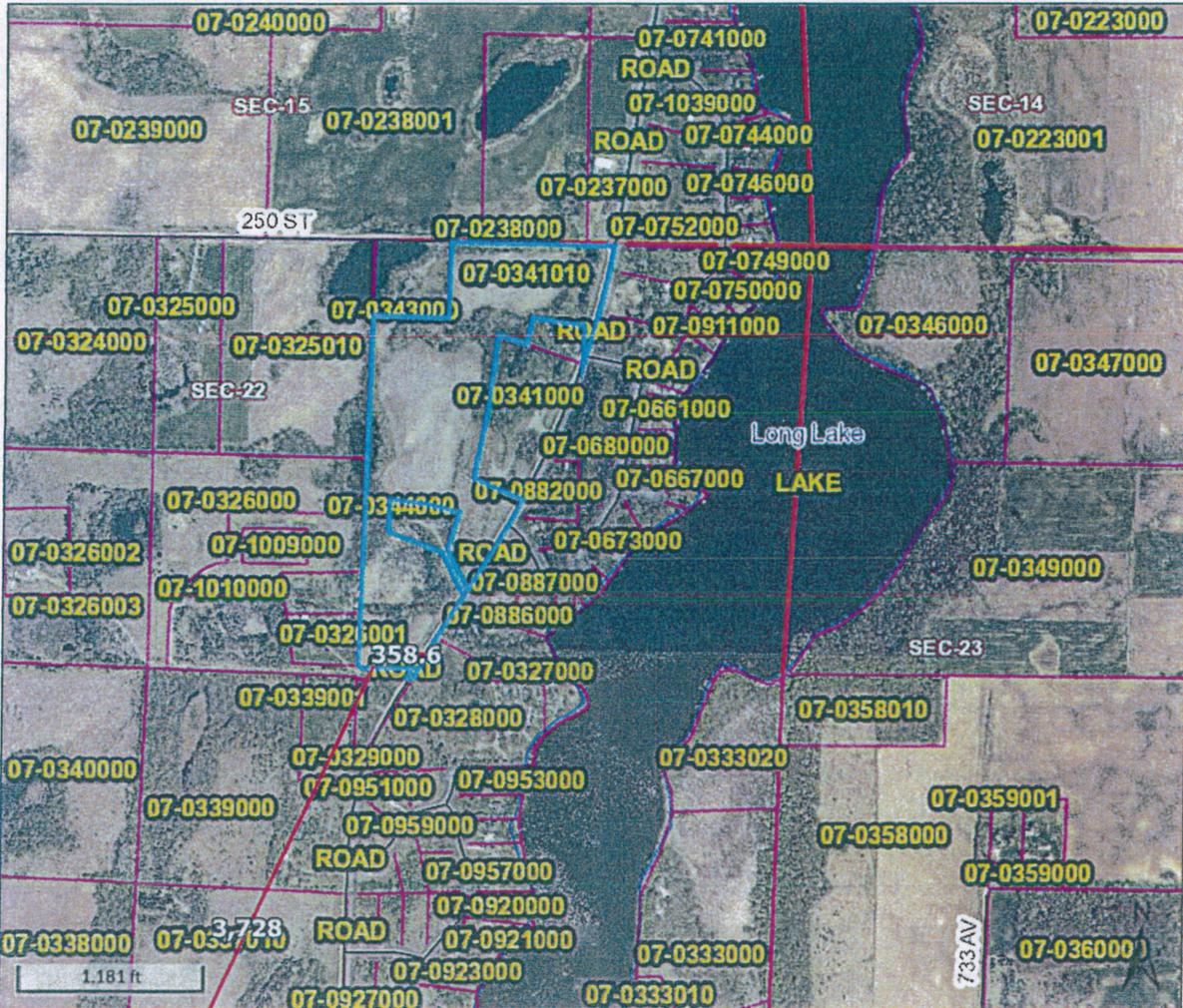
R: Jeff Rausch
Pellinen Land Surveying, Inc
18486 202nd Circle, PO Box 35
Hutchinson, MN 55350

SE corner of the NW 1/4 of the NE 1/4 of Section 22, T.119 N. R.29 W. per plat of REGAL TERRACE



TOTAL AREA=42.5 Acres

24" CMP
W inv=1055.9
E inv=1039.8



Overview



Legend

- Parcels
- <all other values>
 - DITCH
 - GAP
 - LAKE
 - OVERLAP
 - RAILROAD
 - ROAD
 - Sections
 - Lakes
 - Local Roads

Parcel ID	07-0341010	Alternate ID	n/a	Owner Address	ASPLIN/JAY C & MARIAL
Sec/Twp/Rng	22-119-29	Class	AGRICULTURE		24164 726TH AVE
Property Address		Acreage	43.37		DASSEL MN 55325
District	n/a				
Brief Tax Description	NW 1/4 NE 1/4 EX PTE OLD HWY 15 & EX 6.6 AC; 23.42 AC LT 2 EX 2.51 AC & EX .38 AC & EX 9.40 AC				
	(Note: Not to be used on legal documents)				

Date created: 4/24/2019
 Last Data Uploaded: 4/23/2019 9:49:51 PM



Meeker County Sheriff's Office

Brian Cruze, Sheriff ★ Becky Howell, Chief Deputy

May 15, 2019

Paul Virnig, County Administrator
Meeker County Courthouse
325 N Sibley Ave
Litchfield MN 55355

Re: Taylor Stockmann status change

Dear Paul Virnig,

I am requesting Taylor Stockmann's status be changed from Seasonal Water Patrol Deputy to part time Dispatcher effective May 20, 2019. As a part-time Dispatcher she should be placed on the 2019 Wage Schedule at Level B22, Step 1, \$19.64.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Brian Cruze'.

Brian Cruze
Meeker County Sheriff



Meeker County Sheriff's Office

Brian Cruze, Sheriff ★ Becky Howell, Chief Deputy

May 15, 2019

Paul Virnig, County Administrator
Meeker County Courthouse
325 N Sibley Ave
Litchfield MN 55355

Re: Tate Marschall status change

Dear Paul Virnig,

I am requesting Tate Marschall's status be changed from Seasonal Water Patrol Deputy to part-time Dispatcher effective May 20, 2019. As a part-time Dispatcher he should be placed on the 2019 Wage Schedule at Level B22, Step 1, \$19.64.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Brian Cruze'.

Brian Cruze
Meeker County Sheriff

Meeker County Draft Trails Plan



*A plan to guide future trail
and bicycle routes in Meeker County ...*

May 2019

Prepared by the Mid-Minnesota Development Commission

**Meeker County
Draft Trails Plan
~ Table of Contents ~**

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Chapter One:

Introduction to the Meeker County Trails Plan

A. Chapter Highlights

Chapter One provides an introduction to the Meeker County Trails Plan, including a brief description of Meeker County and sections on the purpose of the plan, the benefits of having trails, and a description of the planning process. **Overall, the Meeker County Trails Plan will help guide trail decisions in the County over the next 20 years.**

Chapter Two provides an overview of Meeker County, including information on demographics and the existing transportation network. The demographic information contained in Section B includes both current data and future population and household estimates. The area's existing transportation network is profiled in Section C.

Chapter Three provides an overview of Meeker County's existing parks and trails. The area's existing trails network is profiled in Section B and includes information on all types of trails (i.e., local, county and state) located in Meeker County and the nearby surrounding areas. Map 3A shows the location of the existing parks and trails in Meeker County.

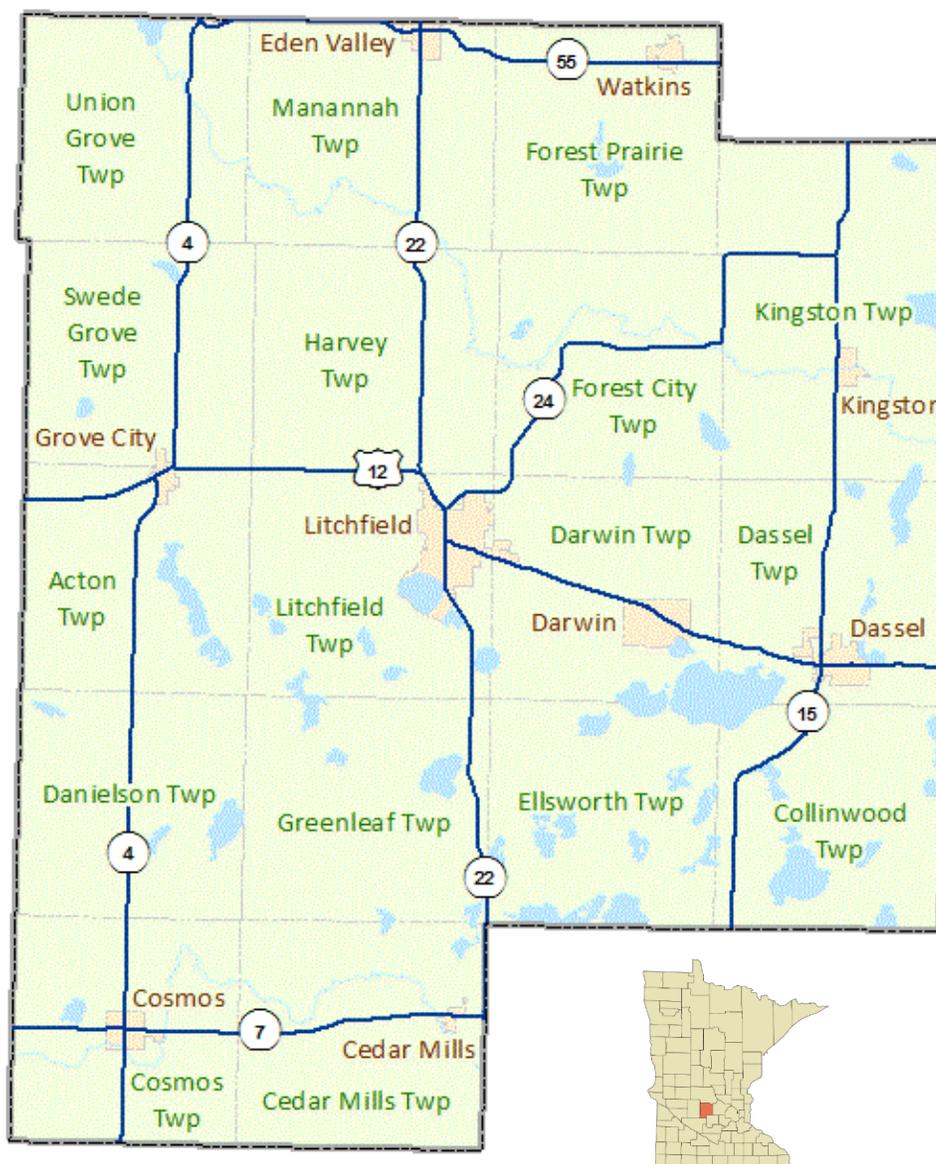
Chapter Four focuses on the online survey that was provided to residents of Meeker County and the surrounding areas. Links to the survey was provided through email, newspaper, social media, and radio. People who attended the Meeker County trails meetings were also encouraged to fill out the survey.

Chapter Five establishes an implementation section for the Meeker County Trails Plan. Section B outlines the potential trail projects that will be pursued by the County and the various trail stakeholders when the time is right. It should be noted that not all of the priority projects identified in Chapter Five are likely to be implemented over the next 10 to 20 years. It is the intent of this plan, however, to be ready to proceed when funding and maintenance agreements have been made. Section C identifies a few of the key non-infrastructure implementation steps that are needed. Section D identifies several potential funding sources. Finally, Section E profiles the key stakeholders who will be involved with implementing the Trails Plan.

B. Brief Description of Meeker County

Meeker County is situated in south-central Minnesota, approximately 40 miles west of the Minneapolis-St. Paul Metropolitan Area. The County shares borders with Renville and McLeod Counties to the south, Wright County to the east, Stearns County to the south, and Kandiyohi County to the west. The County has 9 cities and 17 townships. The City of Litchfield serves as the county seat. Other cities include Ceder Mills, Cosmos, Darwin, Dassel, Eden Valley, Grove City, Kingston, and Watkins. Figure 1A shows the location of Meeker County within Minnesota.

**Map 1A:
Meeker County, Minnesota**



C. Purpose of the Trails Plan

The Meeker County Trails Plan represents a commitment on behalf of the County and its various stakeholders to collectively develop and implement a plan to guide trail decisions. The plan has been written to cover approximately 20 years (2019-2039), however, it has been designed so the implementation section (Chapter Four) can easily be updated when needed. This will become important as items are implemented and new priorities develop in the future.



Photo by UMN Extension

The primary purpose of the Meeker County Trails Plan is to guide development and maintenance of a county-wide network of trails to serve the needs of residents and visitors. In addition, this trails plan accomplishes the following:

1. Create a planning process that is open to all stakeholders to assist with identifying issues and ranking trail and bicycle route priorities.
2. Profile the existing network of trails in or near Meeker County.
3. Identify key destinations and points of interest.
4. Identify and discuss trail needs, safety features, trail amenities (i.e. parking, benches, etc.), maintenance, and future trail extensions.
5. Recognize the importance of promoting the use of trails through advertising, tourism, and economic development.
6. Understand potential funding sources, including grants, stakeholder agreements, and creative funding opportunities.
7. Facilitate a positive environment for Meeker County and all stakeholders to successfully work together to implement projects.

D. The Benefits of Trails

Trail development and use have become increasingly popular as communities embrace the multiple benefits of having a quality trail network. The following sections highlight some of the main benefits of having trails.

Recreational Opportunities and Healthy Lifestyles

Trails provide excellent opportunities for recreation and healthy lifestyles. Increased physical activity has long been associated with numerous health benefits, including preventing heart disease, diabetes, cancer and depression. Furthermore, overweight and obesity problems have infinite additional negative health impacts. A variety of sources indicate that approximately 35-40% of Americans are considered obese (*World Health Organization, Global Status Report, 2014*). Providing opportunities for individuals and families to use trails are cited as one part of the solution towards addressing this dilemma (*refer to the text-box below*).

***Walking, Biking...and National Security:
America's military needs healthier recruits from Minnesota***
www.missionreadiness.org

Mission: Readiness is a nonprofit, nonpartisan national security organization of more than 500 retired generals, admirals and other senior retired military leaders who work to ensure continued American security and prosperity into the 21st century by calling for smart investments in the upcoming generation of American children. They have authored a number of publications, including three in Minnesota, targeting the need for children to tackle obesity through routine exercise. Following are some of their concerns and recommendations:

- ***The problem?*** 69% of Minnesota's young adults are unable to join the military, with being overweight the #1 reason. Obesity rates among children have more than tripled within three decades.
- ***The Research?*** Sidewalks and safe street crossings, bike paths, traffic-calming devices, and similar infrastructure is linked to increased levels of walking and biking and greater overall physical activity.
- ***The Solution?*** Increased funding for safe routes to schools; support testing the effectiveness of different walking/biking programs; and, use long-term community planning to engineer safe options for walking/biking.

Transportation Options

Access to trails can be a viable option for many people to use as a mode of transportation. Although walking, biking, or riding a snowmobile to or from work or school are not viable options for many people, the ones who want to do this simply need access to trails. Developing a ‘safe trails network’ is usually the key component when commuters make the decision to use it rather than driving. In addition, having adequate trail access offers an economical option for some low-income families.

Tourism and Economic Benefits

A well-established trail network increases opportunity for residents and visitors to spend money locally while they are using trails. During Minnesota’s warm weather months, nearly 1.5 million cyclists, inline skaters, and walkers use the State’s nationally recognized city, county, and regional trails (*Parks & Trails Council of MN* www.parksandtrails.org).

According to *American Trails* (www.americantrails.org), 90% of trail users will be local, spending approximately \$17 per day per user on the local economy (i.e., gas, water, snacks, etc.). The remaining 10% of trail users will be non-local, spending up to \$104 a day. The additional expenditures can be accounted for with increased travel expenses (i.e., hotels, restaurants, etc.). Trails also feed the local economy by supporting the retail establishments who are targeted to trail users, such as those selling bicycles, snowmobiles, ATVs, and even hiking shoes. The rental of trail use equipment can also have a large economic impact to local retailers.

The Economic Impact of Recreational Trail Use In Different Regions of Minnesota (2009)

The Minnesota Recreational Trail Users Association (MRTUA) embarked on a survey of its members in 2008 to create a profile of trail users, their expenditures and their economic impact on local economies. The results showed that Minnesotans spend approximately \$2.5 billion annually on trail use (*U of MN Tourism Center*). This number would be much higher in 2019.

*Consumer Spending at Minnesota Trails**

Walking/hiking	\$1,425,613,000
Bicycling	\$427,478,000
Snowmobiling	\$172,816,000
ATV/OHV	\$154,139,000
Running	\$120,745,000
Horseback riding	\$49,853,000
Cross-country skiing	\$41,083,000
In-line skating	\$30,115,000
Total	\$2,421,842,000

*Does not include equipment expenditures, which totaled an additional \$839 million in 2008. Trail use and equipment expenditures generated approximately \$206 million in state and local taxes. An estimated 42,906 full- and part-time jobs were supported by these trail use expenditures.

What are the Economic Benefits of Trails?

Research-Based findings...

The Pennsylvania Land Trust Association, a nonprofit organization, was created in 1991 by land trust volunteers and staff who recognized the need for an association that could focus on the broad needs of the conservation and take on activities that no one organization could effectively handle or wish to handle on its own. Today, the Association is made up of 75 organizations with 100,000 members and contributors.

The Association has help fund the creation of the ConservationTool.org website, which has a large collection of conservation-related studies, reports and resources. The following economic benefits of trails have been documented through a variety of economic impact studies:



- Trails increase the value of nearby properties.
- Trails boost spending at local businesses. Communities along trails, often called trail towns, benefit from the influx of visitors going to restaurants, snack shops and other retail establishments. On longer trails, hotels, bed and breakfasts, and outdoor outfitters benefit.
- Trails make communities more attractive places to live. When considering where to move, homebuyers rank walking and biking paths as one of the most important features of a new community.
- Trails influence business location and relocation decisions. Companies often choose to locate in communities that offer a high level of amenities to employees as a means of attracting and retaining top-level workers. Trails can make communities attractive to businesses looking to expand or relocate both because of the amenities they offer to employees and the opportunities they offer to cater to trail visitors.
- Trails reduce medical costs by encouraging exercise and other healthy outdoor activities.
- Trails revitalize depressed areas, creating a demand for space in what were once vacant buildings.
- Trails provide transportation options and cut fuel expenses, offering reliable means of transportation for short distance trips. Nearly half of all car trips are less than 3 miles and more than a quarter are one mile or less.
- Trails provide low or no-cost recreation to families with low costs relative to other recreational services that could be provided by government.
- Trails increase tax revenues in the communities in which they are located.
- These benefits represent a huge economic return on the money invested into trail projects. The costs of land acquisition for trails, trail construction and maintenance are far outweighed by the economic benefits generated by trails.

Quality of Life

Combining all of the benefits together, trail plans can help residents build a strong *sense of community*. Having a quality trail network helps people take pride in their community, which often leads to people wanting to help take part in ensuring its success. Regular trail users are often the people who are trying to resolve local issues. They also are the ones who help to form user-groups, not only for social reasons, but also to establish a stronger collective voice.



Business leaders have admitted that quality-of-life indicators have become increasingly important where businesses are located. The eBay Company “is very concerned with retention of its employees and wants them to have the quality of life that they want in terms of housing costs, educational opportunity, access to the environment - a space where they can live, work, and play” (*Marty Weil, Area Development, Dec/Jan 09*). The traditional model of locating businesses primarily examined access to transportation, skilled labor, and adequate housing. Although these considerations are still very important, increasingly businesses are examining quality-of-life indicators, such as having nice trail amenities, prior to making important business decisions.

Stakeholder Cooperation

Trails plans are great opportunities for stakeholders to cooperate on identifying local trail needs and issues. Most importantly, trail plans help establish a framework for how stakeholders can get involved in properly implementing the plan. These activities can include grant writing, raising funds, finding sponsors for trail amenities, and assisting with trail maintenance. Stakeholders can also play a large role in organizing and providing education on trail safety.

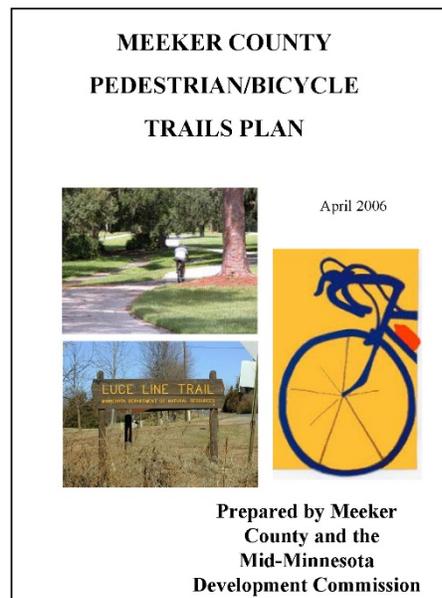


Individuals, couples, families, businesses, civic groups, and a variety of other stakeholders have been increasingly donating time and money to assist with trail maintenance and paying for needed trail amenities.

E. The Planning Process

The Meeker County Board made the decision in April 2018 to update the existing Meeker County Trails Plan, which was adopted in 2006. One month later, a contract was signed to hire the Mid-Minnesota Development Commission to facilitate the planning process and develop the plan.

MMDC hosted a Meeker County Trails Plan kickoff meeting on August 1, 2018 (refer to the flyer below). The meeting was well attended by approximately 25 citizens and numerous stakeholder groups. Participants included representatives from some of the municipalities located in Meeker County, two Meeker County Commissioners, the Meeker County Highway Engineer, the Meeker County Administrator, and the Meeker County Parks Superintendent. MMDC collected the participant’s contact information and created an email group.





Meeker County Trails Plan Kickoff Meeting... You're Invited!

When? August 1, 2018, 10:30 a.m. - noon

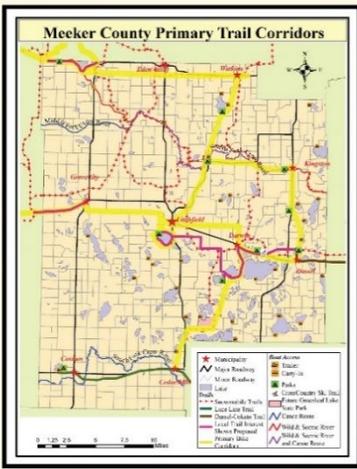
Where? Meeker County Courthouse,
Community Room A (lower level)

Why?

Meeker County is beginning the process of updating its Trails Plan. The purpose of the plan will be to identify trail priorities over the next 10-20 years. Your input is welcomed!

For more information on the meeting or the trails plan, please contact Matthew Johnson, Community Development Director at the Mid-Minnesota Development Commission

*Email: communityplanning@mmrdc.org
Phone: (320) 235-8504 Ext. 231*



Primary Trail Corridors as Identified in 2006 Meeker Trails Plan

The email group was referred to as ‘The Meeker County Trails Stakeholder Group’ throughout the planning process. Individuals were encouraged to forward emails to other interested people and stakeholders to help grow the group. The trails stakeholder group eventually doubled in size by the end of the planning process. The stakeholder group helped define the following

In addition to gathering information and feedback from the various planning meetings, a Meeker County Trails Survey was administered online. The survey was designed to measure the public’s interest in trail projects in Meeker County. 180 people participated in the survey. The survey results are summarized in Chapter Four of this Plan.

Chapter One: Introduction

Flyers were created (shown below) and emailed to the Meeker County Trails Stakeholder Group throughout the planning process. The flyers were created to encourage people to get involved and to communicate their preferences on potential trail projects. The meetings were well attended and the initial stages of collaboration on future trail projects was established.

**Meeker County
Trails Plan Meeting #2
You're Invited!**

When? September 19, 2018, 10:30 a.m. - noon

Where? Meeker County Courthouse,
Community Room A (lower level)

Why?
Meeker County is in the early stages of updating its Trails Plan. The purpose of the plan will be to identify trail priorities over the next 10-20 years. Your input is welcomed!



For more information on the meeting or the trails plan, please contact
Matthew Johnson, Community Development
Director at the Mid-Minnesota Development
Commission
Email: communityplanning@mmrdc.org
Phone: (520) 233-8504 Ext. 231

Lake Karolis Recreational Trail

**Meeker County
Trails Plan Meeting
And Online Trails Survey**



Darselin-Dussel Park

When? Wednesday,
December 5, 2018,
10:00 a.m.

Where? Meeker County
Courthouse,
Community Room A (lower level)

Why? Meeker County is currently updating its Trails Plan. The purpose of the plan will be to identify trail priorities over the next 10-20 years. Your input is welcomed!

Survey! The Meeker County Trails Survey is available online until November 30, 2018, at:
www.surveymonkey.com/r/MeekerTrailsSurvey

For more information on the meeting, survey, or trails plan, please contact
Matthew Johnson, Community Development
Director at the Mid-Minnesota Development Commission
Email: communityplanning@mmrdc.org

**Meeker County
Trails Plan Meeting
You're Invited!**



When? Monday, October 15, 2018, 10:30 a.m.

Where? Meeker County Courthouse,
Community Room A (lower level)

Why? Meeker County is currently updating its Trails Plan. The purpose of the plan will be to identify trail priorities over the next 10-20 years. Your input is welcomed!

**The Meeker County Trails Survey
is available online until November 15, 2018, at:
www.surveymonkey.com/r/MeekerTrailsSurvey**

For more information on the meeting or the trails plan, please contact
Matthew Johnson, Community Development
Director at the Mid-Minnesota Development Commission
Email: communityplanning@mmrdc.org
Phone: (520) 233-8504 Ext. 231

During the second planning meeting (September 19, 2018), the stakeholder group helped to create the following Meeker County Trails Plan Vision Statement:

“Meeker County will help facilitate the development of quality trails and bicycle routes that are safe, accessible, and have wide citizen and stakeholder support.”

Chapter One: Introduction

A Public Open House was held on Wednesday, April 17, 2019, to review the draft Meeker County Trails Plan. Changes to the plan were discussed and incorporated into the final version of the Meeker County Draft Trails Plan (2019).

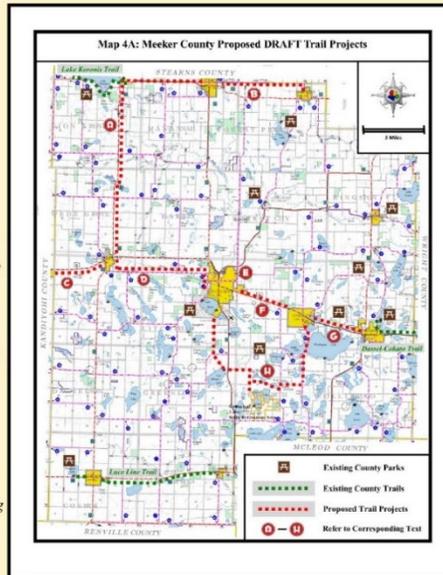
Meeker County Trails Plan Task Force Meeting & Public Open House

When? Wednesday, April 17, 2019
2:30 - 3:30 Plan Task Force
4:00 - 6:00 Public Open House

Location?

Meeker County
Courthouse,
Community
Room A
(lower level)

*For more information on
the meeting or draft trails
plan, please contact
Matthew Johnson,
Community Development
Director at the
Mid-Minnesota
Development
Commission by email at
communityplanning@mnrdc.org
or by phone at
(320) 235-8504 Ext. 231*



Chapter Two: Meeker County Profile

A. Chapter Highlights

Chapter Two provides an overview of Meeker County, including information on demographics and the existing transportation network. The demographic information contained in Section B includes both current and anticipated future population data. The area's existing transportation network is profiled in Section C and includes information on local roads.

B. Demographics

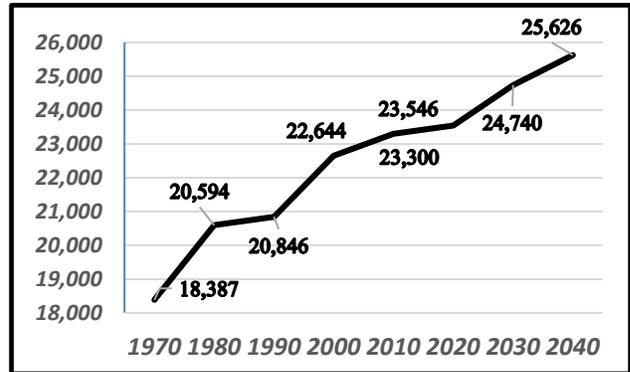
Meeker County population is estimated annually by the Minnesota State Demographer's Office (www.mn.gov/admin/demography). For 2017, the State Demographer estimated that Meeker County's population was 23,131 people. Table 2A shows the County's official population numbers as provided by the U.S. Census. Notice that overall Meeker County has grown at a steady pace, increasing its population by 12 % since 1980.

**Table 2A: Meeker County's
Population since 1970 (U.S. Census)**

Area	U.S. Census Year					Change since 1980	
	1980	1990	2000	2010	2017*	Number	Percent
Cedar Mills	73	80	53	45	43	-30	-41%
Cosmos	571	601	582	473	456	-115	-20%
Darwin	282	252	276	350	358	76	27%
Dassel	1,066	1,082	1,233	1,469	1,459	393	37%
Eden Valley	763	732	866	1,042	1,034	271	36%
Grove City	596	547	608	635	623	27	5%
Kingston	141	131	120	161	159	18	13%
Litchfield	5,904	6,041	6,562	6,574	6,736	832	14%
Watkins	757	849	880	962	961	204	27%
<i>Meeker Townships</i>	10,441	10,531	11,464	11,589	11,302	861	8%
Meeker County	20,594	20,846	22,644	23,300	23,131	2,537	12%
State of Minnesota	4.1 M	4.4 M	4.9 M	5.3 M	5.6 M	1.5M	36%

**Figure 2A:
Meeker County’s Historic Population and
Future Growth Estimates**

Meeker County’s historic growth rates are used to help estimate the county’s future population. Table 2B provides population growth estimates for the years 2020, 2030, and 2040 (also shown in Figure 2A). The results indicate the County’s population should reach 26,198 by the year 2040. The table also shows how the majority of the communities would gain population, along with all of the townships collectively. Any one of the communities could experience rapid population growth due to a variety of unpredictable circumstances.



Note: population projections are estimates of an area’s potential growth based on historical growth levels. A number of variables could accelerate or impede the actual growth experienced.

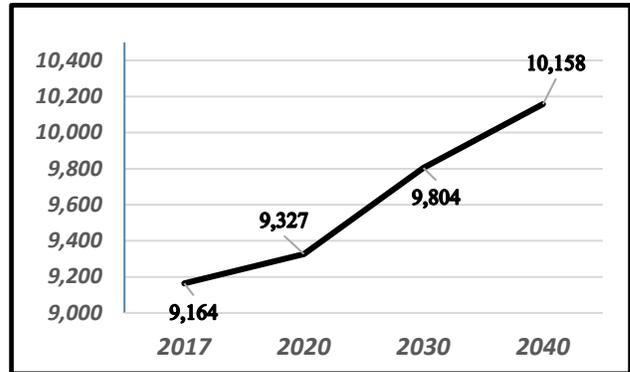
**Table 2B: Meeker County’s 2020, 2030, and 2040
Population Projections (based upon growth since 1980)**

Area	U.S. Census Year				Projected Change	
	2017	2020	2030	2040	Number	Percent
Cedar Mills	43	43	41	43	0	0%
Cosmos	456	460	468	472	16	4%
Darwin	358	360	380	406	48	13%
Dassel	1,459	1,482	1,632	1,754	295	20%
Eden Valley	1,034	1,058	1,162	1,252	218	21%
Grove City	623	638	656	674	51	8%
Kingston	159	159	162	169	10	6%
Litchfield	6,736	6,786	7,063	7,292	556	8%
Watkins	961	966	1,042	1,095	134	14%
<i>Meeker Townships</i>	11,302	11,594	12,133	12,469	1,167	10%
Meeker County	23,131	23,546	24,740	25,626	2,495	11%

Households

Meeker County’s historic growth rates are used to help estimate the county’s future household growth. Table 2B provides household growth estimates for the years 2020, 2030, and 2040 (also shown in Figure 2B). The results indicate the County’s household quantity should grow to approximately 10,158 by the year 2040. The Table also shows how most of the communities would gain households, along with all of the townships collectively. Any one of the communities or townships could experience rapid population and household growth due to a variety of unpredictable circumstances.

**Figure 2B:
Meeker County’s Household
Growth Estimates**



Note: household projections are estimates of an area’s potential growth based on historical growth levels. Several variables could accelerate or impede the estimated growth.

**Table 2B: Meeker County’s 2020, 2030, and 2040
Household Projections (based upon growth since 1980)**

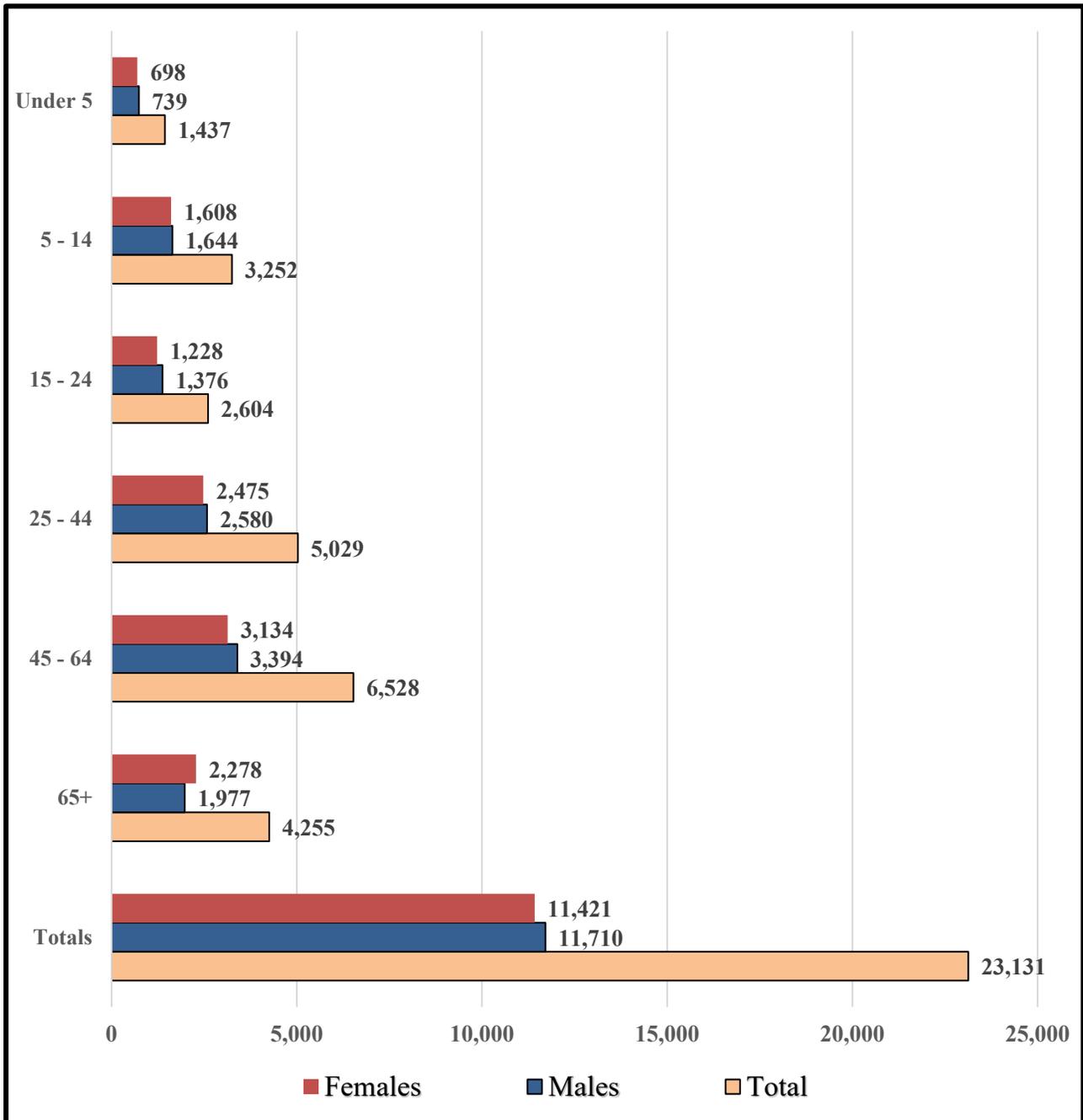
Area	U.S. Census Year				Projected Change	
	2017	2020	2030	2040	Number	Percent
Cedar Mills	24	24	24	24	0	0.0%
Cosmos	256	258	262	264	8	3.1%
Darwin	117	118	124	132	15	12.8%
Dassel	567	576	636	685	118	20.8%
Eden Valley	451	461	506	545	94	20.8%
Grove City	236	242	249	256	20	8.5%
Kingston	60	60	61	64	4	6.7%
Litchfield	2,752	2,773	2,888	2,983	231	8.4%
Watkins	397	399	431	453	56	14.1%
<i>Meeker Townships</i>	4,304	4,416	4,623	4,752	448	10.4%
Meeker County	9,164	9,327	9,804	10,158	994	10.8%

Age Categories

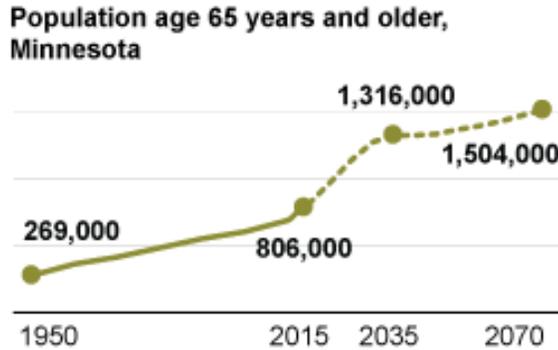
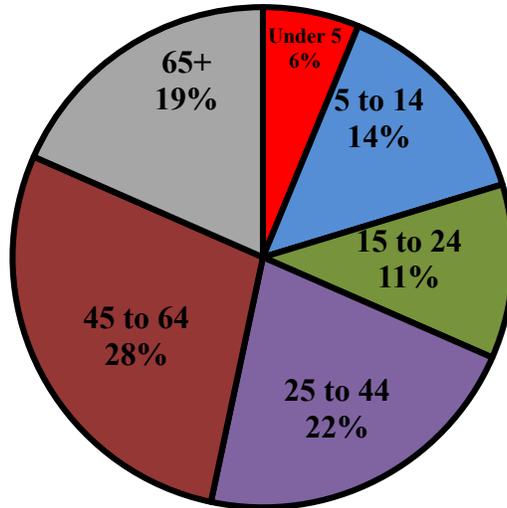
Meeker County’s population by age category for the year 2017 is shown in Table 2C (data provided by the Minnesota State Demographer’s Office) and Figure 2B.

Notice the County’s largest age category is people ages 45 to 64, followed by ages 25 to 44. These age groups typically contain people who are working and raising families.

Table 2C: Meeker County’s Population by Age Category in 2017



**Figure 2B: Meeker County's
2017 Population by Age Category**



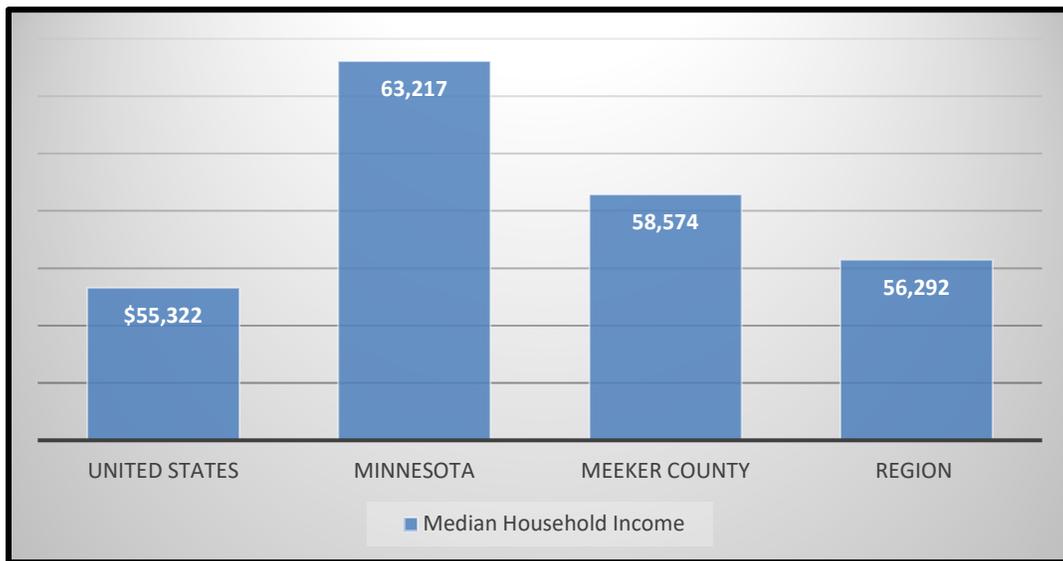
There are currently about 806,000 adults age 65 and older in Minnesota, making up about 15 percent of the population. Two decades from now, that population is projected to top 1.3 million, and more than one out of every five Minnesotans will be an older adult. Twenty years from now is also when Minnesota is expected to hit the peak “retirement- to working-age ratio,” with nearly two retirement-age adults for every five working-age Minnesotans, compared to the current 1-to-5. This huge demographic shift will have widespread impact on Minnesota’s economy, health care system, and social services.

Source: www.mncompass.org

Median Household Income

Households in Meeker County, MN have a median annual income of \$58,574, which is more than the median annual income in the United States. Table 2D shows how the median household income in Meeker County compares to Minnesota, the Region, and the U.S.

**Table 2D:
Meeker County Median Household Income**



C. Transportation Infrastructure

Section C profiles Meeker County's existing transportation network, including County Roads, Minnesota State Highways, and U.S. Highways. Meeker County's roadway network is displayed in Map 2A.

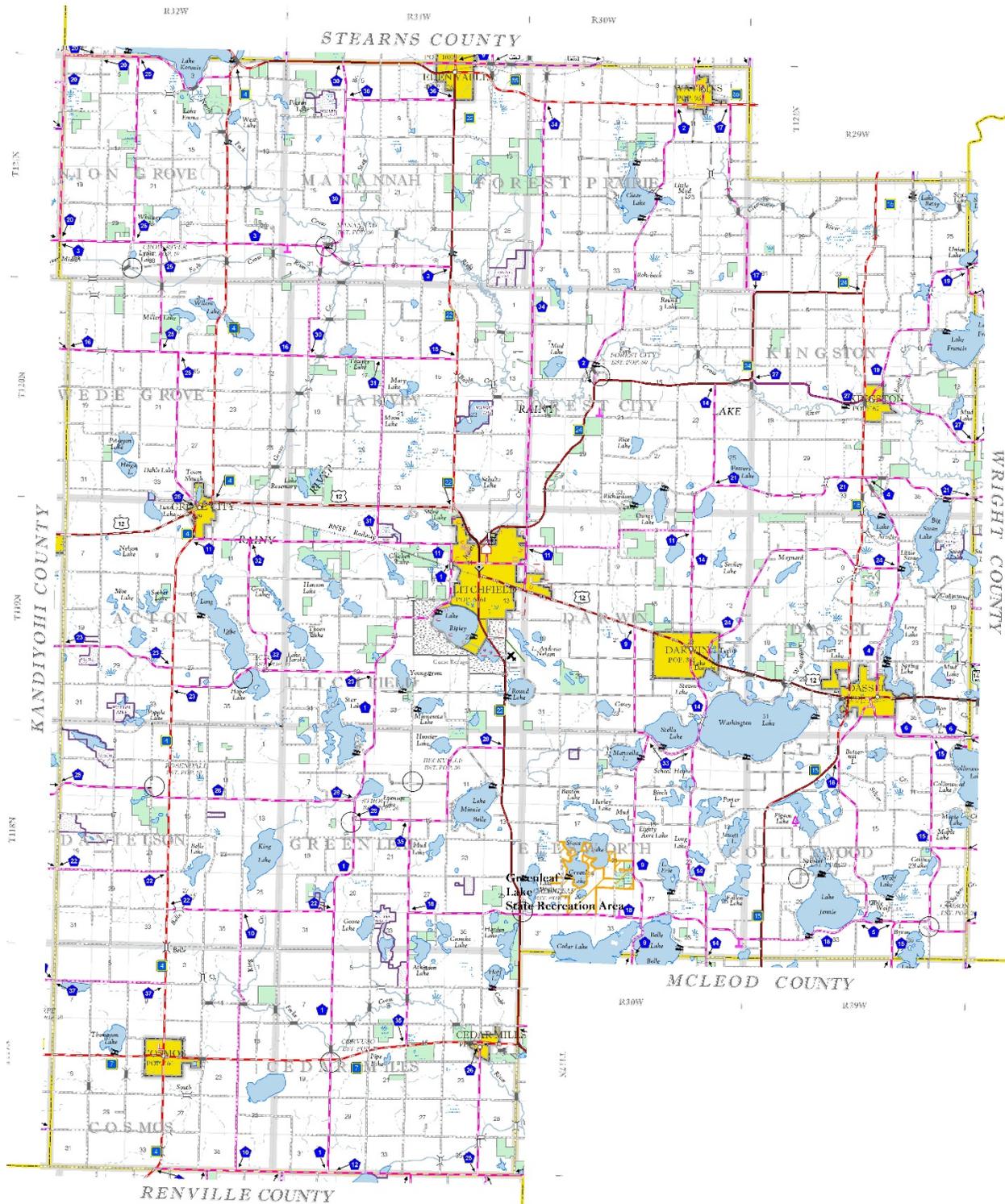
Roadway Functional Classification

Functional classification is the grouping of streets and highways into classes or systems according to the character of service they are intended to provide. Basic to this process is the recognition that most travel involves movement through a network of roads. Functional classification defines the role that any particular road or street plays in serving the flow of trips through an entire network. Table 2E shows the different types of road classification and how they are classified based on rural or urban settings.

Map 2B shows that Meeker county contains two principle arterials, which are U.S. Highway 12 and State Highway 15. As for the minor arterials, Meeker county has four, including State Highways 4, 7, 22, and 15. Other than principle and minor arterials, the remaining roads are a mixture of major collectors, minor collectors, and local roads. The classification of Meeker County roads should be considered when choosing on or off-road routes.

Chapter Two: Meeker County Profile

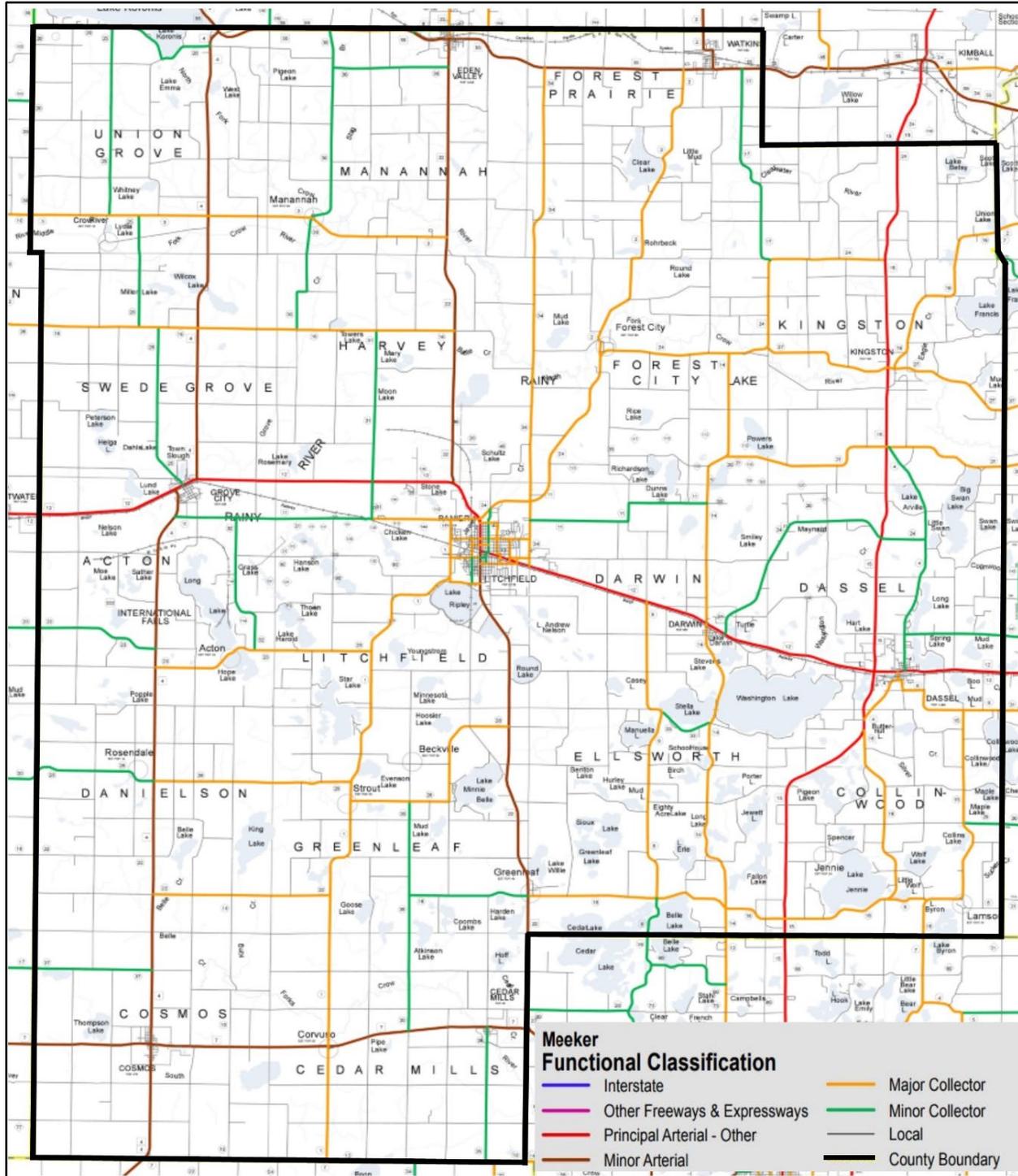
Map 2A;
Meeker County Highway Map
~ To view online, visit: <https://www.co.meeker.mn.us/538/Maps>



**Table 2E:
Meeker County Roadway Functional Classification**

Classification	Location	Characteristics
Principle Arterial	<i>Rural</i>	Trip lengths for statewide or interstate travel. Integrated movement generally without stub connections. Accommodates movement between (virtually) all urban areas. Two design types: freeways and other principal arterials.
	<i>Urban</i>	Serves major centers of activity with the highest traffic volumes and longest trip lengths. Integrated internally and between major rural connections. Service to abutting lands is subordinate to travel service to major traffic movements. Design types are interstate, other freeways and other principal arterials.
Minor Arterial	<i>Rural</i>	Links cities, large towns and other traffic generators attracting traffic over long distances. Integrated interstate and intercounty service. Designs should be expected to provide for relatively high speeds and minimum interference to through movements.
	<i>Urban</i>	Trips of moderate length at a lower level of mobility than principal arterials. Some emphasis on land access. May carry local bus routes and provide intracommunity continuity but does not penetrate neighborhoods.
Collector	<i>Rural</i>	Serve intracounty travel with travel distances shorter than on arterial system. More moderate speeds. Divided into major and minor system.
	<i>Urban</i>	Provides both land access and traffic circulation within all areas. Penetrates neighborhoods and communities collecting and distributing traffic between neighborhoods and the arterial streets.
Local	<i>Rural</i>	Local roads primarily provide access to adjacent land and the collector network. Travel is over short distances.
	<i>Urban</i>	Primarily permits direct land access and connections to the higher order streets. Lowest level of mobility. Through traffic is usually deliberately discouraged.

Map 2A:
Meeker County's Roadway Functional Classification



Chapter Three:

Existing Parks & Trails

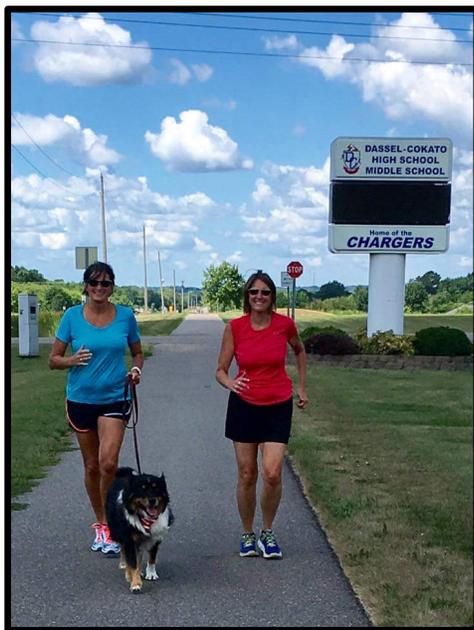
A. Chapter Highlights

Chapter Three provides an overview of Meeker County’s existing parks and trails. The area’s existing trails network is profiled in Section B and includes information on all types of trails (i.e., local, county and state) located in Meeker County and the nearby surrounding areas. Map 3A shows the location of the existing parks and trails in Meeker County.

B. Existing Trails

Section B profiles the existing bicycle and pedestrian trails located throughout Meeker County. Although the focus of the county’s Bicycle & Pedestrian Plan is to help identify future county bicycle and pedestrian priorities, being familiar with the entire ‘trail network’ is an important step in helping to define the county’s priorities.

Dassel-Cokato Trail

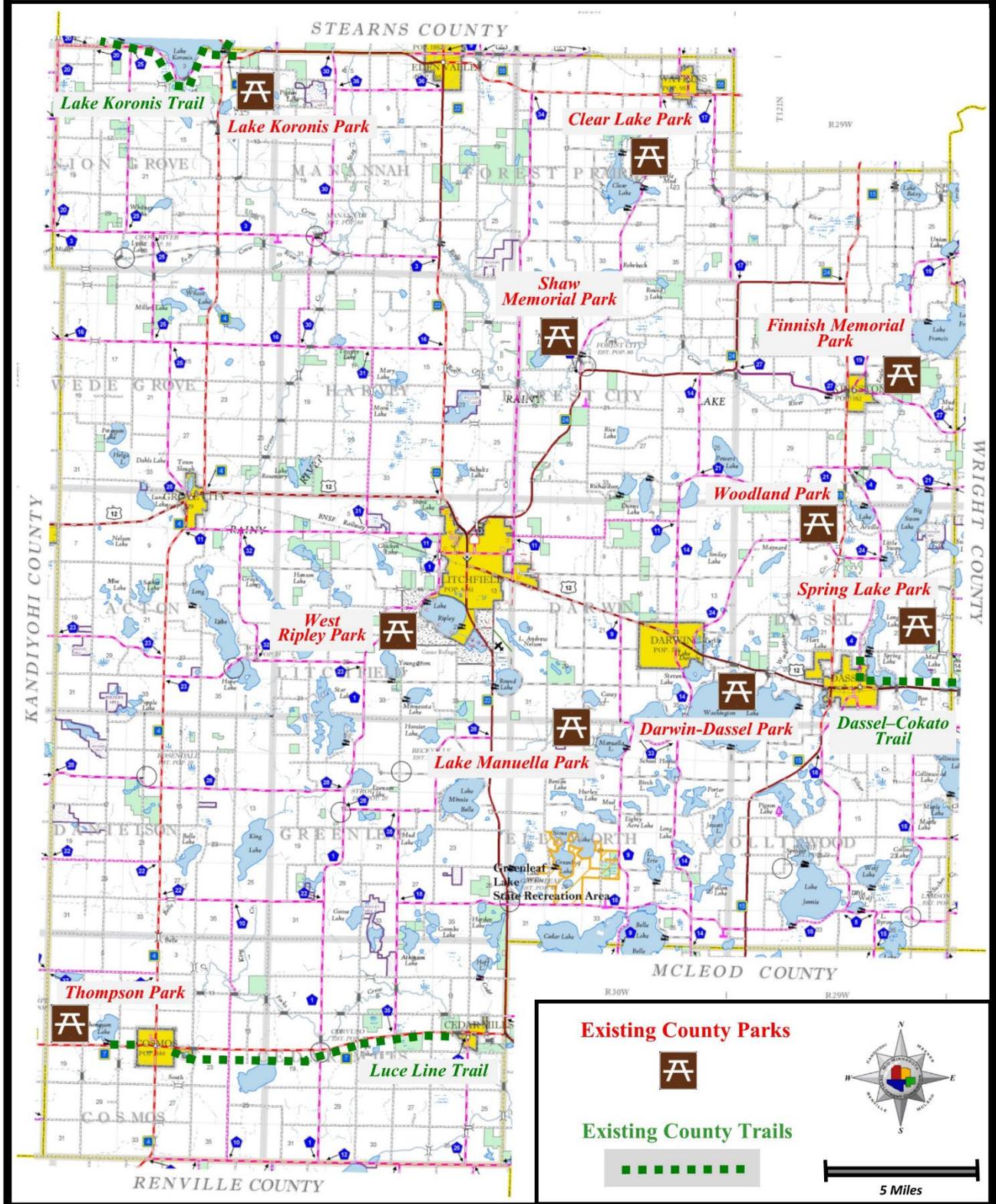


The Dassel-Cokato trail, which runs between Dassel and Cokato adjacent to Highway 12, has been a successful addition to the area since it was installed in 1994. This trail was designed for multipurpose uses including walking and biking. In recent years, the City of Dassel, the City of Cokato, Dassel Township, and the Dassel-Cokato School District have each committed funding for trail maintenance. Fundraisers and donations from local organizations have also supported maintenance needs of the trail. For more information on the Dassel-Cokato Trail, visit the following Facebook link:



<https://www.facebook.com/PaveTheWayDCTrail/>

Map 3A: Meeker County Parks and Trails



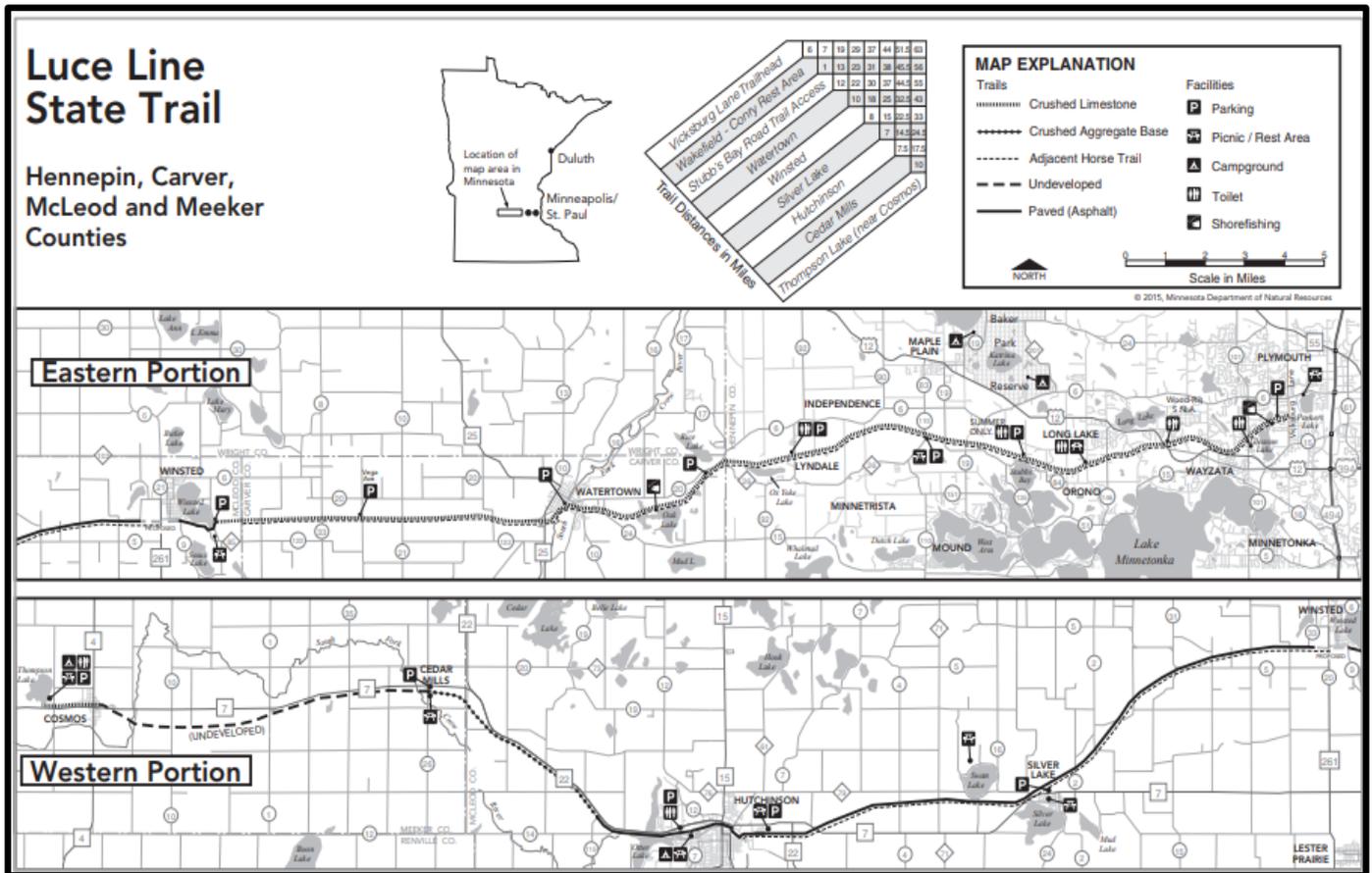
Luce Line Trail

The Luce Line State Trail is a 63-mile-long former railroad grade which is developed for biking, hiking, horseback riding, mountain biking, snowmobiling, and cross-country skiing. The limestone surfaced trail runs from Plymouth 30 miles west to Winsted, with a parallel treadway for horseback riding.

The trail from Winsted to Hutchinson was developed as a paved trail with a parallel, natural surface treadway for horseback riding. The aggregate base is of a larger size than the crushed granite but is bikeable. The trail from Hutchinson to Cedar Mills was developed with a base of crushed granite, which is of a larger size than the crushed limestone but is bikeable.

Stretching across the varied landscapes of metropolitan and rural Minnesota, the Luce Line is a preserved strip of countryside alive with many varieties of plants and animals. In the east the influence is woodland, a carry-over from the Big Woods that once occupied the area.

**Map 3B:
Luce Line State Trail Map**





Lake Koronis Trail

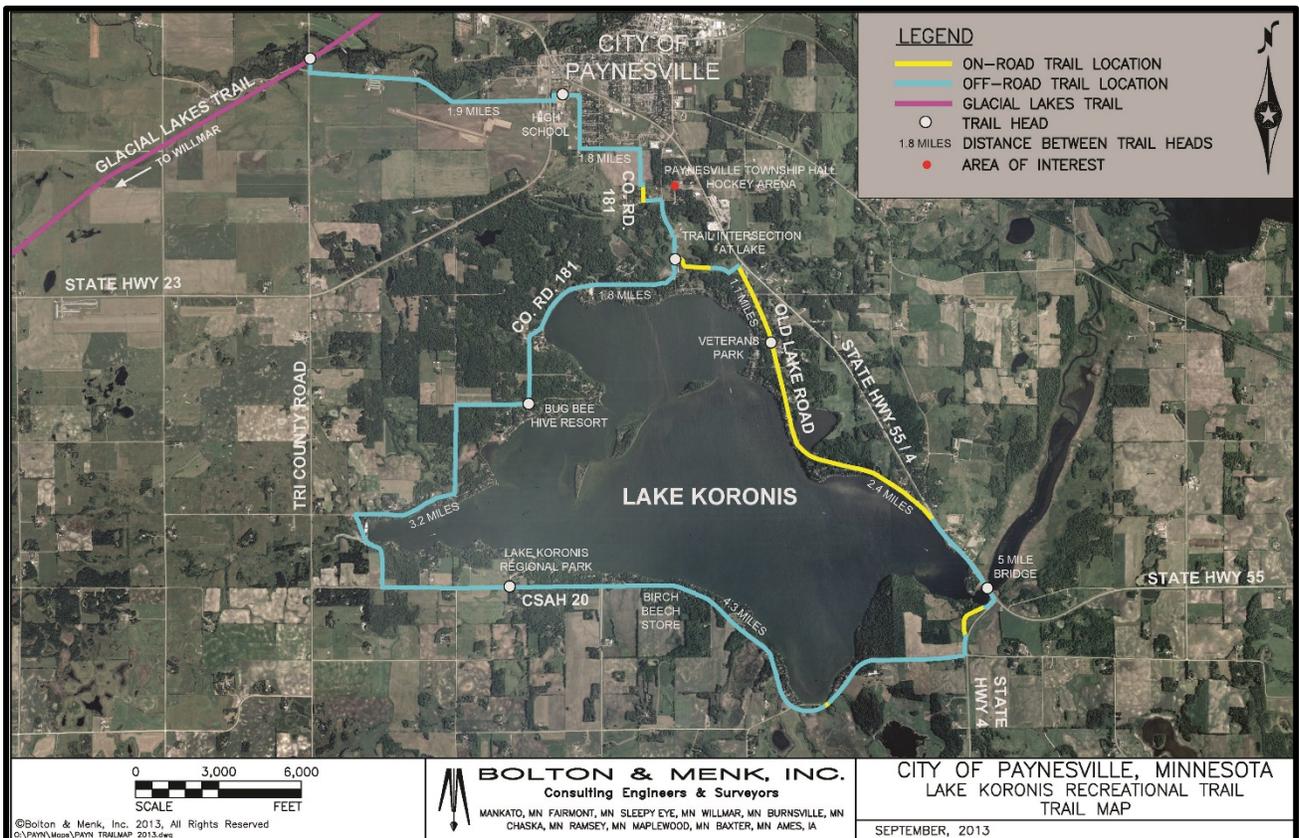
One of the more popular trails located adjacent to Meeker County is the 25-mile Lake Koronis Recreational Trail. Completing the trail was divided into eight phases, which began with developing an on-road trail along Old Lake Road in 2002 (refer to Map 3C). The final leg was completed in 2012. Map 3C shows how the trail can be accessed off the Glacial Lake State Trail.

Lake Koronis Trail consists of both on and off-road trail segments around Lake Koronis in Paynesville, Minnesota, just north of Meeker County.

www.paynesvillearea.com/lktrail/koronistrail.htm

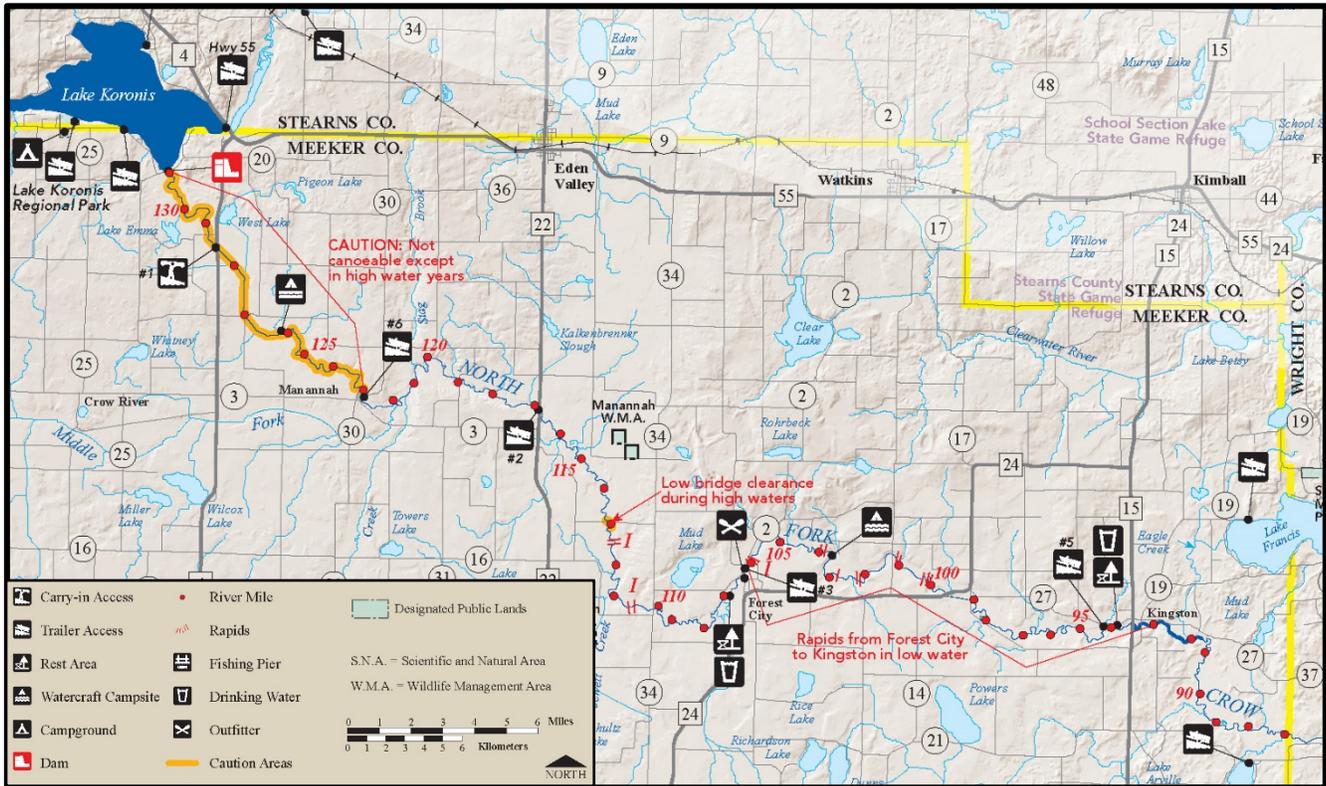


Map 3C: Lake Koronis Recreational Trail



Crow River Water Trail

Map 3D: Crow River Water Trail Map



The North Fork Crow River, 157.5 miles (253.4 km) long, flows from Grove Lake in eastern Pope County and follows a generally east-southeastward course through southwestern Stearns, northeastern Kandiyohi, northern Meeker and central Wright counties, through Rice Lake and Lake Koronis and past the towns of Regal, Paynesville and Kingston. Residents of the area use the river south of Manannah for kayak/canoeing and continue to Forest City and Kingston.



Meeker County Snowmobile Trails

The Meeker County Snowmobile Trails system was established in the 1970's as a volunteer organization intent upon managing the county snowmobile trails. There are currently more than 125 miles of groomed trails. These trails are groomed and managed by the 2 existing Meeker County snowmobile clubs (The Darwin Drifters, The Manannah Sno-Blazers).

- Easements for trails are from December 1st to March 31st when there is adequate snow.
- Trail easements are for snowmobiling only. (No ATVs)
- Snowmobile trails were made possible with the generosity of landowners.

Please follow the links below for more information on Meeker county snowmobile trails:

https://www.dnr.state.mn.us/snowmobiling/interactive_map/index.html

<https://www.facebook.com/darwindrifters>

C. Meeker County Parks

Section C profiles each of the 10 Meeker County Parks. Meeker County is proud of its parks and encourages all citizens and visitors to enjoy the wide range of facilities offered by them. Each park is beautifully maintained and offers a variety of amenities for the public to enjoy. All are somewhat unique in character.

The County Park Department is responsible for maintaining the 10 county parks. Any questions, requests for special uses, or reservations for events such as weddings, reunions, class picnics, etc., can be arranged by contacting the Meeker County Parks Superintendent at:

Meeker County Parks Department

114 North Holcombe Avenue, Suite 260

Litchfield, MN 55355

Phone: (320) 693-5450

Darwin-Dassel Park

Location

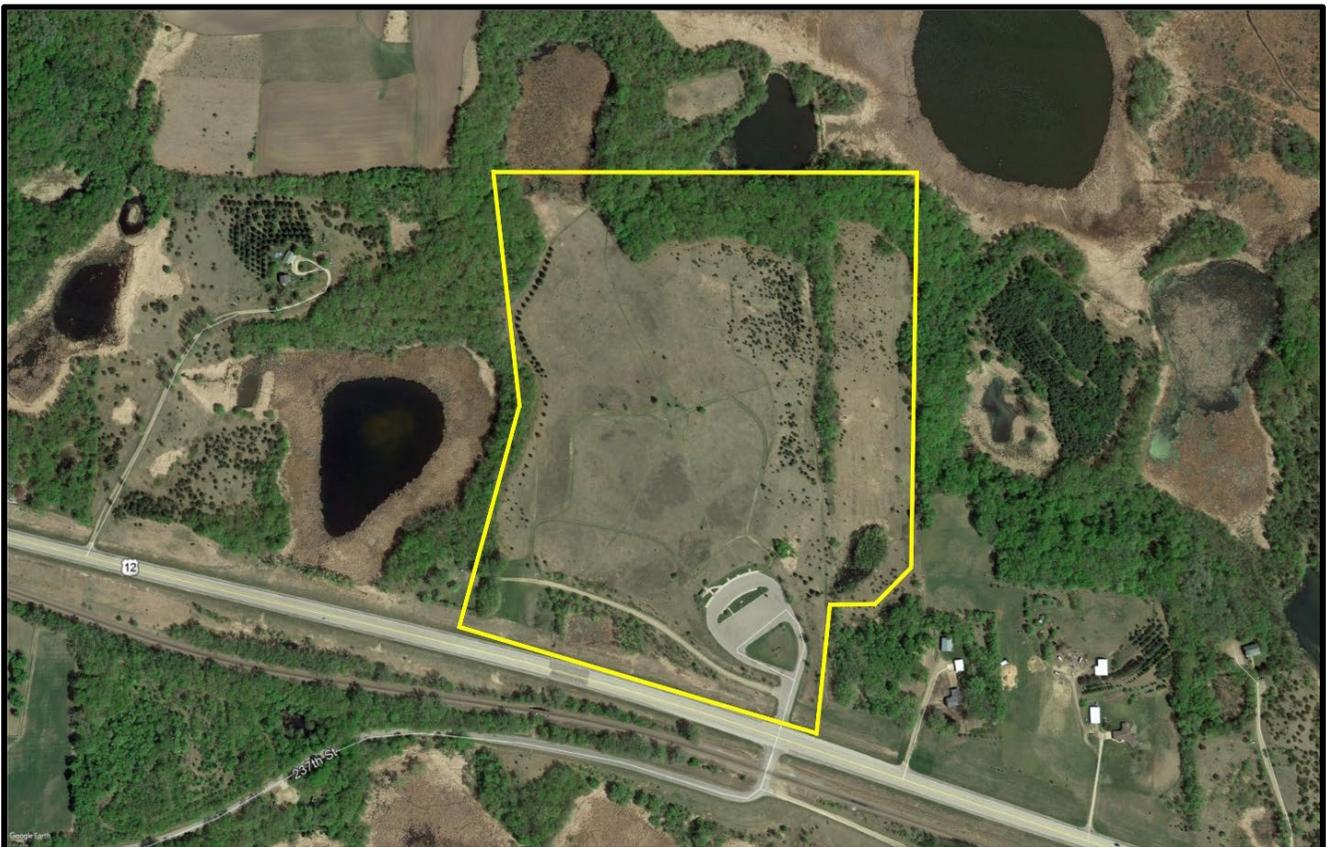
North Side: 69002 US Highway 12, Darwin

South Side: 68825 237th Street, Darwin

This is the largest park in Meeker County, located 2 ½ miles west of Dassel on Highway 12. The park has a sliding hill which provides a beautiful lookout over the area, restrooms, 6 ½ miles of trails for hiking, cross country skiing, and horseback riding.

Shelters: One open air shelter.

Park Size: 160 acres.



Clear Lake Park

Location

35775 CSAH 2, Watkins

Located three miles south of Watkins on County Road 2. The park includes a fishing pier, boat landing, hiking trails, restroom, and water.

Shelters: One open air shelter and one semi-enclosed shelter.

Park Size: 34.4 acres.



Finnish Memorial Park

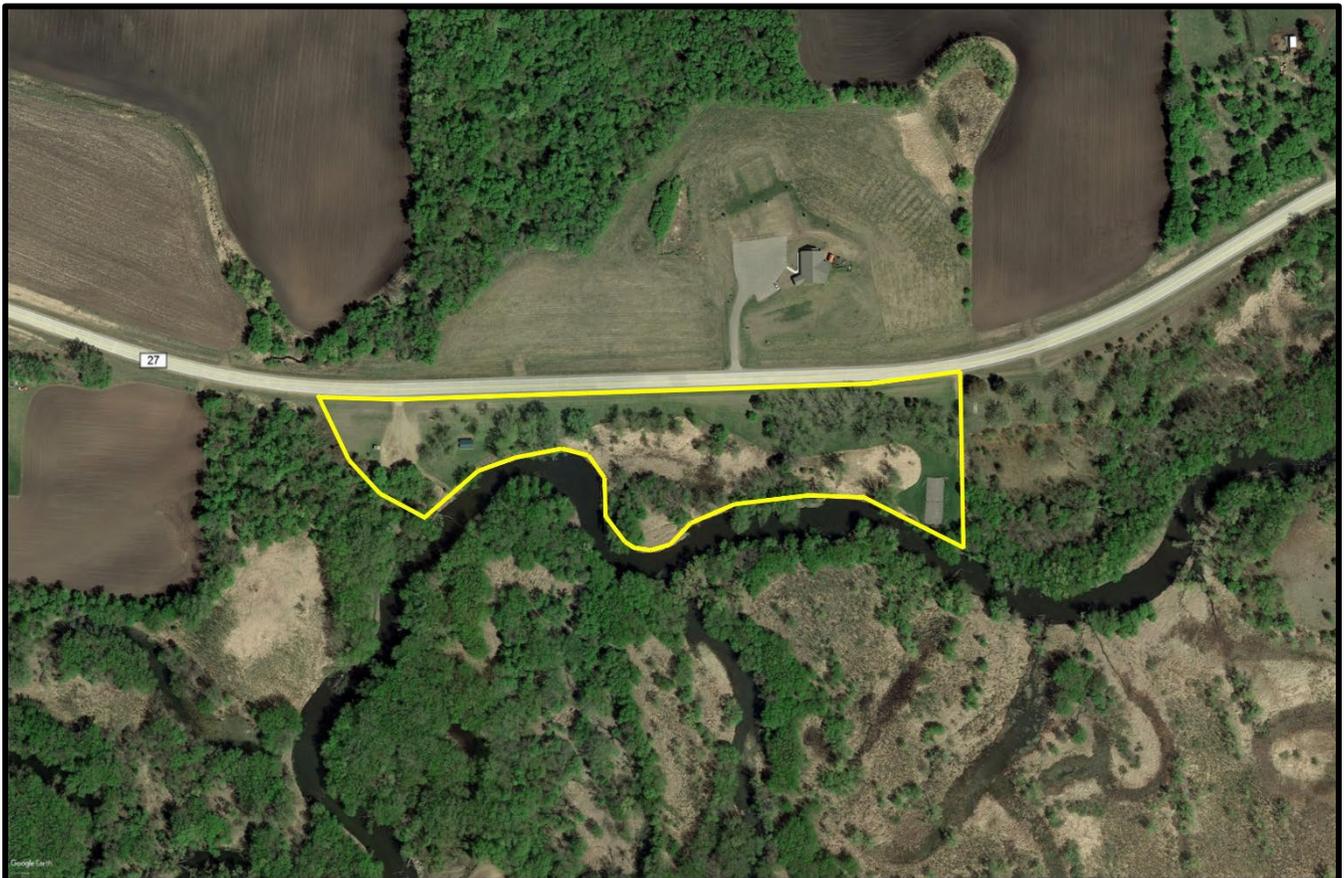
Location

71501 CASH 27, Kingston

Just west of Kingston on County Road 27 along the Crow River. This park has a tennis court, water, playground equipment, restrooms, and a canoe landing.

Shelters: One open air shelter.

Park Size: 17 acres



Koronis Regional Park

Location

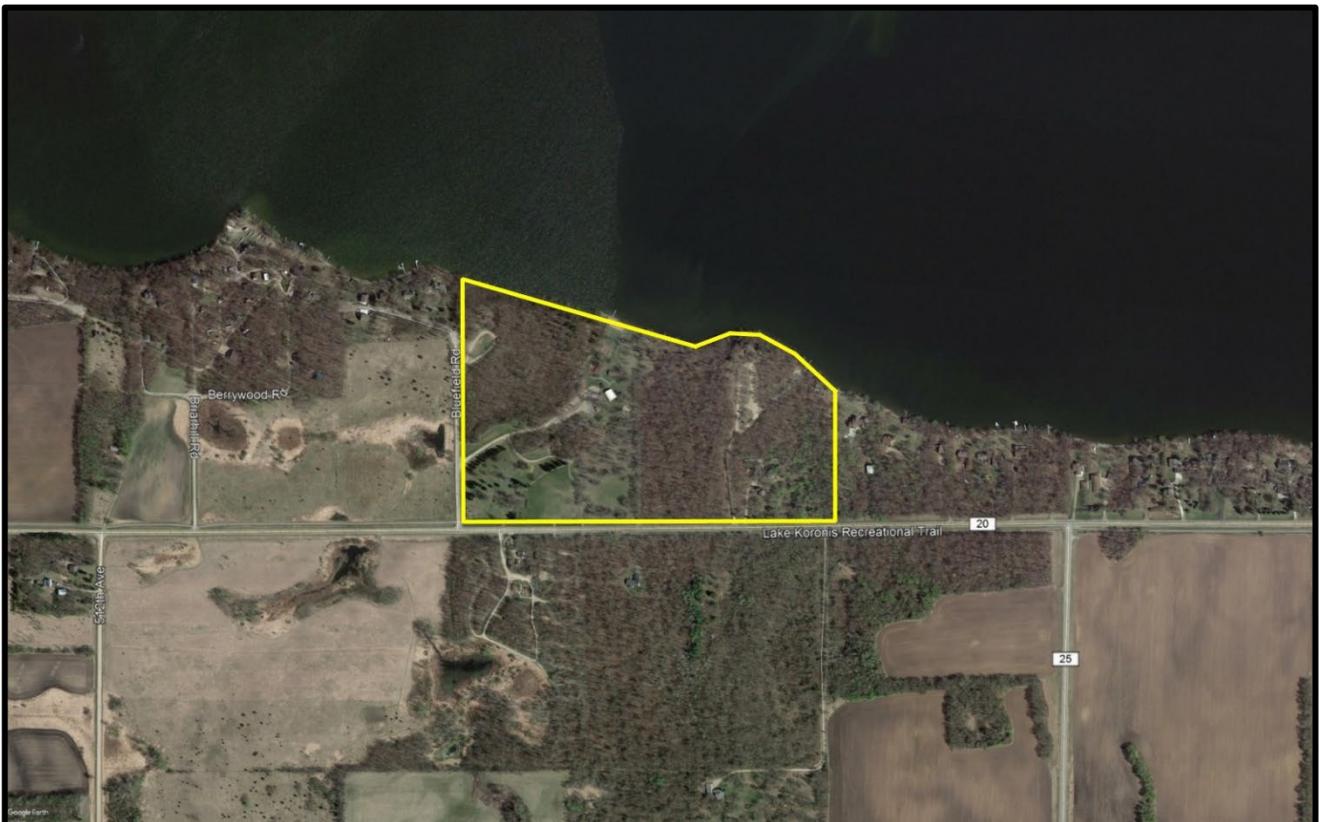
51625 CSAH 20, Paynesville

Located on the southwest shore of Lake Koronis, this park provides overnight camping with electricity and water, camper cabins available for rental, and restroom facilities with showers. The park has playground equipment, swimming beach, boat landing, lookout tower, baseball field, volleyball, shuffleboard, horseshoe court, marked hiking trails, and paved bike path.



Shelters: Large main shelter with serving area and 2 additional open-air shelters.

Park Size: 62 acres.



West Ripley Park

Location

Main Park: 25288 CSAH 1,
Litchfield

Boat Landing: 25020 608th Avenue,
Litchfield

Located on the west shore of Lake Ripley and the south side of the City of Litchfield, this park has a boat landing, playground equipment, sand volleyball court, horseshoe courts, fishing pier, bike path, water, and restrooms.



Shelters: Main large open-air shelter and one small open-air shelter.

Park Size: 5.6 acres.



Lake Manuella Park

Location

21239 CSAH 9, Darwin

Located five miles south of Highway 12 on County Road 9 on the east side of Lake Manuella. This park has a swimming beach, restrooms, and changing house.

Shelters: Small open-air picnic shelter.

Park Size: 2 acres.



Spring Lake Park

Location

Main Park: 72599 240th Street,
Dassel

North Side: 72738 240th Street,
Dassel

Located one mile north of Dassel, just east of County Road 4. Includes a baseball/softball field, playground equipment, a paved bike trail, restrooms, and water. There are also boat landings and docks for Spring Lake and Long Lake.



Shelters: Four open air shelters, one near the playground and water access.

Park Size: 13 acres.



Woodland Park

Location

27299 MN Hwy 15, Dassel

Located 4.3 miles north of Dassel, most of the park is wooded, with rolling terrain, and two ponds. It has three miles of trails for hiking and horseback riding and 1 ½ mile of cross-country ski trails.

Shelters: N/A

Park Size: 80 acres.



Thompson Park

Main Park: 13099 525th Avenue,
Cosmos

North Parking: 13105 525th Avenue,
Cosmos

One mile north of Cosmos on Lake Thompson. Park includes a 9-hole disc golf course, playground equipment, sand volleyball court, fishing dock, water, and restrooms.

Shelters: Two open air shelters and one semi enclosed shelter.

Park Size: 22 acres.



Chapter Four:

Public Outreach & Trails Survey Results

A. Chapter Highlights

Chapter Four provides a summary of the public input received throughout the planning process. Section B highlights the information collected from the Meeker County Trail Survey, which was administered online and had 180 participants. Section C summarizes the comments received during the Public Open House held on April 17, 2019, to review the draft Meeker County Trails Plan.

Based upon the information gathered in the Meeker County Trails Survey and feedback from the stakeholders who attended the various planning meetings, the list of potential trail projects identified in this Chapter were narrowed down to the priority trail projects identified in Chapter Five.

Meeker County Trails Survey

Trail Use

Meeker County is currently updating its Trails Plan and would like your input! Please answer the following questions regarding trails in Meeker County. The survey should only take a few minutes and your answers will remain confidential. **Thank you for your participation!**

1. Which types of trails would you or someone in your household use in Meeker County? Please check all that apply ...

- Walking or Hiking Trails
- Biking Trails
- Mountain Biking/Fat Tire Bikes (off-road paths)
- Snowmobile Trails
- Horseback Riding Trails
- Cross-Country Skiing/Snowshoeing Trails
- Canoeing/Kayaking/Water Trails
- ATV/OHV Trails

Other (please specify):

Refer to Appendix A for a full copy of the Meeker County Trails Survey.

B. Meeker County Trails Survey

The Meeker County Trails Stakeholder Group decided early in the planning process that it would be a good idea to generate feedback from the public through the use of a trails survey. As a result, an online survey was designed and administered through Survey Monkey. The survey included nine questions that were designed to take approximately five minutes in total. All of the responses were anonymous and only one survey response was allowed per Internet Protocol (IP) address.

The survey was officially called the “Meeker County Trails Survey.” A press release was used in the local media, including newspapers and radio stations in the Meeker County and surrounding areas. The survey was open from March 28 through May 25, 2016, online at the following link:

www.surveymonkey.com/r/Meekertrails

180 people completed the online survey. The highlights of the survey results are summarized on the following pages.

SURVEY QUESTION 1

*Which types of trails would you or someone in your household use in Meeker County?
Please check all that apply ...*

176 people provided an answer to Question 1 on the survey. The aggregate responses are shown in Figure 3A, while Table 3A shows each category's response rate (percentage of the total) and actual number of responses (count).

Figure 3A: Which types of trails would you or someone in your household use in Meeker County?

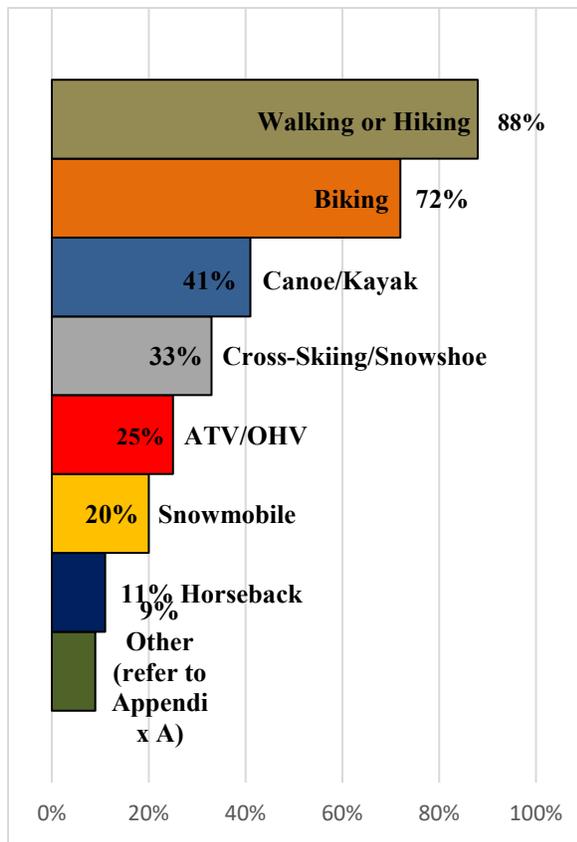


Table 3A: Which types of trails would you or someone in your household use in Meeker County?

<i>Response</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Count</i>
Walking or Hiking Trails	88%	154
Biking Trails	72%	127
Canoeing/Kayaking Water Trails	41%	73
Cross-Country Skiing/Snowshoeing Trails	33%	58
ATV/OHV Trails	25%	44
Snowmobile Trails	20%	36
Mountain Biking/Fat Tire Bikes (off-road paths)	11%	20
Horseback Riding Trails	9%	16
Other (please specify)	4%	7
Total Responses		176

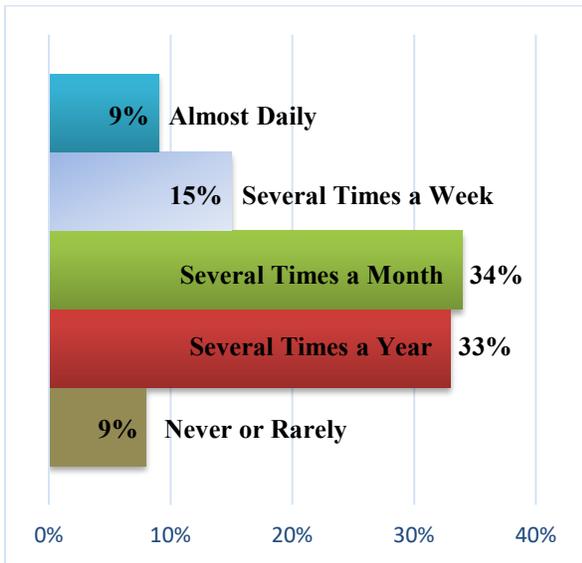
The survey results revealed that Walking or Hiking Trails (88%), Biking Trails (72%), and Canoe/Kayak Water Trails were the three most popular responses. It should be noted that many of the responses overlapped into two or more of the categories since participants could check multiple categories. It should also be noted that many of the people who would've voted for the lowest categories may have not participated in the survey if they thought it only pertained to walking or biking. All of the written responses to the 'other' category can be found in Appendix A.

SURVEY QUESTION 2

*On average, how often do people in your household use trails?
Please select the best answer ...*

177 people provided an answer to Question 2 on the survey. The aggregate responses are shown in Figure 3A, while Table 3A shows each category's response rate (percentage of the total) and actual number of responses (count).

Figure 3B:
On average, how often do people in your household use trails?

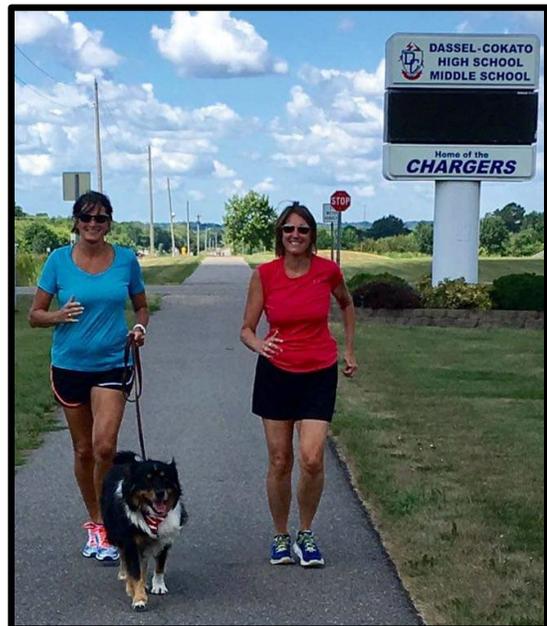


The survey results revealed that approximately 39% of the respondents use trails either several times a week (15%) or several times a month (34%). Nine percent of the respondents use trails daily (9% also indicated they never or rarely use trails).

Table 3B:

*On average, how often do people in your household use trails?
Please select the best answer ...*

<i>Response</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Count</i>
Almost Daily (weather permitting)	9%	16
Several Times a Week	15%	27
Several Times a Month	34%	61
Several Times a Year	33%	58
Never or Rarely	8%	15
Other (refer to Appendix A)	9%	16
Total Responses		177



The Dassel-Cokato Trail is heavily used by pedestrians, cyclists, and rollerbladers in Meeker County.



SURVEY QUESTION 3

When developing trails in Meeker County, how important are the following considerations?

175 people provided an answer to Question 3 on the survey. Table 3C shows the results. According to the participants, the three most important considerations in developing trails is Respect for Landowners (89%), Safety (87%), and Maintenance (82%).

**Table 3C:
When developing trails in Meeker County, how important are the following considerations?**

<i>Category</i>	<i>Very Important</i>	<i>Neutral</i>	<i>Not Important</i>
Stakeholder/Partner Cooperation	49%	39%	13%
Respect for Landowners	89%	11%	0%
Safety	87%	11%	2%
Accessibility	80%	19%	1%
Health & Wellness	71%	25%	4%
Environmental Impact	0%	0%	0%
Tourism & Economic Development	53%	38%	9%
Trails should be multi-use if possible	60%	36%	3%
Maintenance	82%	17%	1%
Overall Cost	47%	47%	6%
Proper Amenities (parking, toilets, benches, signage, garbage, etc.)	64%	32%	4%



SURVEY QUESTION 4

*In general, who should help pay for trail costs?
Please check all that apply ...*

174 people provided an answer to Question 4 on the survey. The aggregate responses are shown in Figure 3C, while Table 3D shows each category's response rate (percentage of the total) and actual number of responses (count).

Figure 3C:
In general, who should help pay for trail costs?

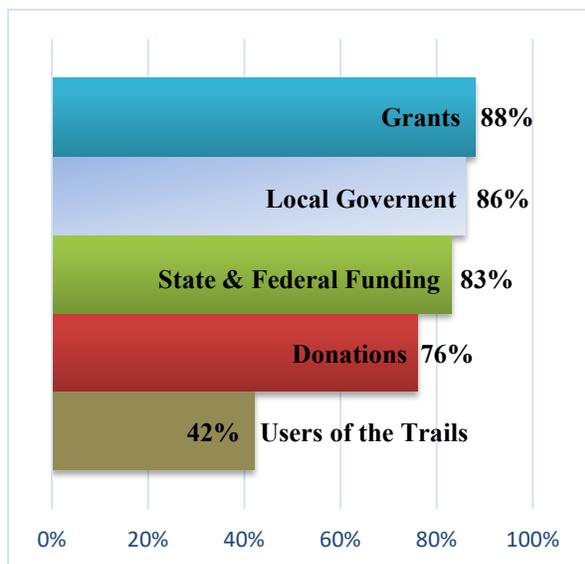


Table 3D:
*In general, who should help pay for trail costs?
Please check all that apply ...*

<i>Response</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Count</i>
Grants	88%	153
Local Government (cities and counties)	86%	149
State and Federal Funding	83%	144
Donations (families, groups, businesses, etc.)	76%	132
Users of the Trails	42%	73
Other (refer to Appendix A)	4%	7
Total Responses		174

The survey results revealed that most participants would like to see the use of Grants (88%), Local Government (86%), and State/Federal Funding (83%) to pay for trail costs (note: these categories are interconnected). 76% of the respondents thought that Donations should help pay for trail costs. Only 42% of the survey respondents thought that trail users should help pay for trail costs.



SURVEY QUESTION 5

What trail projects would you like to see developed in Meeker County? For example, new trails, new types of trails, parking areas, toilets, etc.? Please provide a brief answer ...

119 people provided a written response to Question 5. The following answers are unedited (placed in alphabetical order):

- A 4-Wheel drive park
- A designated walking/biking trail around Lake Ripley....a bike trail to Youngstrom Park. Groomed CC skiing trails are Darwin hill.
- A north/south trail and an east/west trail that intersect.
- a paved multi-use trail in Litchfield connecting to the current trail on Lake Ripley a trail connecting the city of Litchfield to the Litchfield Nature Center (Youngstrom Woods) groomed cross country ski trails anywhere! the golf course would be a great place to groom trails too
- A small project to begin with would be a trail out to Walmart. People are always walking or biking in the ditch and side of Hwy 12. I would like to see a connection of a bike/walking trail from Litchfield to Darwin Ski hill and then eventually hook into the Dassel trail. It would be nice to have miles of ATV trails that could run from park to park and possibly create a campground at one of the parks for that.
- A trail for rollerblading
- Additional hiking trails. We use woodland park, and it would be nice if the buckthorn and poison ivy was removed from the park.
- Additional hiking/snowshoeing trails. Better signage/maps of existing trails
- Advertising available trails in concise pamphlet or online.
- An adjacent trail along Highway 12 and around lakes. Something connecting to the Lake Koronis Trail.
- Anywhere that I can ride without being afraid of being hit by cars.
- ATV
- ATV
- ATV trails
- Atv trails
- Atv trails
- Bathrooms along the trails. When going on a long run / walk, these are very important, especially for women.
- Better trail around lake Ripley, longer trail system possibly to Grove City or Darwin. Paved would be ideal. Benches and garbages would be nice but necessity. Maps would be nice if trail system we're longer and connect to other signs...it's nice to have parking dedicated to trails...small trail heads are nice and appreciated, some have picnic table and a bathroom. Water is nice to have as well for water bottle filling. Some have air and tool stations for bike repair... I would love to see a paved trail that would loop or extend more than 10 miles.
- Bike and walking trails around the lakes!!it would be great if we could become well known for adequate bike and walking trails!

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- Bike and water trails.
- Bike path from Dassel to high school, trails that would allow horses
- Biking trails
- biking trails that connect and are safe to ride on
- biking trails to lakes and around lakes
- Connect the DC trail to Darwin Hill.
- Connect to major trails like Glacial Ridge system and Luce Line system, connect parks and safe passage through cities.
- Continuing the Dassel to Cokato trail to Litchfield
- Cross country trails and hiking paths that loop around. Similar to Collinwood park.
- DC Trail continued to Darwin
- Disc golf/hiking trails
- Extended walking/biking trail from Dassel. Garbage cans in areas along trail along with restrooms. More walking/bike trails
- hiking trails, cross country ski trails
- Hiking, biking, connecting trails to existing trails
- hiking, biking, snowmobile
- Horse back trails
- I think ATV and OHV trails would be a big hit and would bring people from out of town in and they would bring more money into our smaller communities
- I think the main priority for Meeker County needs to be connecting the City of Litchfield to one of the nearby systems (Dassel-Cokato or Hwy 7). This both brings people to the community and allows people in the community to have options. While these could obviously be used for walking, I think the primary user would be bicyclists.
- I would like to see a dog park like the city of Hutchinson has. Spring Lake park in Dassel has space and flat ground on the west side/top of hill.
- I would like to see a pedestrian bridge or tunnel to traverse Hwy 12 somewhere between Sibley and Davis Avenues in Litchfield.
- I would like to see restroom facilities near all trailheads (port-a-potties are fine!) and proper garbage disposal places along each trail. I can't STAND visiting a park and seeing that people carelessly disposed of trash because a can wasn't nearby.
- I would love to see more communities connected like between Dassel and Cokato
- I would love to see new trails! I would also love to see a trail map so people know where the trails are. I have lived here for many years and have no idea where I can find this information or even if it exists.
- I would love to see new walking/biking trails near me with parking areas available and toilets would be a plus.
- I would love to see paved trails around the perimeter of Litchfield. Along 260th for a walking/biking route out to Walmart, along county rd. 11, county rd. 1 for starters. Not just on the shoulder, but a separate path, similar to the one between Dassel and Cokato. At least then there would be a way to get from one area to another. I think for all communities in Meeker county, that would be a good place to start. Having longer connecting trails is a longer-term goal.
- I would welcome new trails in interesting natural settings.
- Increased connectivity to what we already have. New trail connecting the DC trail further west into Meeker County along north side of Hwy 12 (ideally, all the way

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- to Litchfield). Pave the trail further west along the Luce Line. Ideally, pave all the way to Cosmos, but possibly pave to Cedar Mills and then crushed granite to Cosmos.
- Maintained cross country ski trails in wooded areas that can be used for hiking and/or mountain biking in the summer.
 - More hiking trails similar to Darwin Hill. I wouldn't be picky but it would be really nice to have something closer to Litchfield.
 - More paved bike trails-town to town especially.
 - More safe biking trails. The roads are just plain dangerous
 - More single-track mountain bike trails. Inter-community paved trails such as a continuous trail from here to Dassel would be nice! Groomed X-country ski trails with skating lanes would also be nice to have.
 - More trails
 - More walking/biking trails
 - Multi use trails. I'd like to see trails for mtn bikes-fat tire bikes to enjoy
 - New trails
 - New Trails along the northern part of the county
 - new trails at the north end of the county, walking. biking.
 - New trails connected to existing ones near communities
 - New Trails connecting various cities
 - New trails Dassel to Litch!!
 - new trails for hiking/biking
 - New trails for walking/hiking, ATV, signage
 - New trails in areas of small towns and lakes
 - New trails in the Northern part of Meeker Co.. Multi use, walking and biking.
 - New trails sound like a great idea! Meeker County has so much to offer in this area.
 - New trails that connect to Eden Valley
 - New trails! I would love that! Toilet helpful, but not necessity.
 - New trails, toilets
 - New trails,parking and toilets.
 - New walk/bike trails. Ours are well used.
 - new walking trails that are pet friendly
 - New walking/biking trails
 - new walking/biking trails
 - no trails
 - None.
 - None. Disseminate information on what is currently available.
 - Overnight camping for horses at the Darwin Dassel Park and at Woodlands. Funds are available, check with Renville County, they have a really good working relationship with their horse trail users.
 - pave the luce line
 - Paved bike trails.
 - Paved walk/bike: Litchfield to Grove City along highway 11. Litchfield to Minnebelle boat landing. Litchfield to Eden valley. Eden Valley to Watkins and Koronis Trail. Litch to Dassel. Darwin to Washington/Stella. Stella to Manuella to Minnebelle. Minnebelle to Highway 7. We can use existing parking and bathrooms are not necessary at this time. We should enhance existing recreational areas by making horse, walking, biking, canoe trails in these areas.
 - Pedestrian path all around Lake Ripley
 - Projects that connect to existing trails to the east, south, northwest.
 - Routes connecting communities and parks

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- Rural trails with safety being #1. Example, Eden Valley has no trails I'm aware of. I just bike on the sidewalks in town with my son. We aren't comfortable on the road.
- Safe trails not having to share road/path with cars/trucks
- Side by side trails
- Snowmobile
- something done with Luce Line from Cedar Mills to Cosmos
- Something like Luce line. Youngstrum
- Something around the Watkins area
- Trail all the way around Lake Ripley in Litchfield
- Trail connecting Darwin and Dassel
- Trail from Dassel to Darwin hill. Unpaved for minimal upkeep and for hiking/mountain biking.
- Trails
- Trails beyond the Litchfield/Dassel area
- Trails closer to Eden Valley
- Trails linking towns such as Grove City to Litchfield and trails around lakes would be nice. Designated parking is nice, and mini-biffs!
- Trails that serve more than the Litchfield and Dassel area
- Trails through nature preserves are peaceful. Benches along the way to rest. Make sure recycle bins and garbage bins available.
- Trails through quality prairie land.
- Trails to all parks in counties, including paved shoulders on state and county roads with signage to warn vehicle drivers.
- Trails with interesting features like water, bridges, overlooks, etc.
- Try to connect parks and recreation areas to each other and with other trail systems
- walk & bike path along East Highway 12 in Litchfield more trails around the lakes
- Walking and biking trails from city to city or lake to lake
- Walking and biking trails with toilets and rest areas.
- Walking trails in the Eden Valley area
- Walking, Biking trail between cities of Watkins and Eden Valley
- water refill stations
- We are very fortunate for our access to nature!
- We have no walking trails in our area by Watkins. That would get used a ton and if it could be multi use with bikes somewhere close people would really enjoy and use that a lot. Maybe connected to Eden valley? More access along the Crow River for kayaks would be great also. The places to get in and out and park are very far between. Kayaking is becoming very popular.
- We live by Dassel and use the trail from Dassel to Cokato. Might be nice to extend to Woodland park trail. Not very long for biking - so need to bike on main road
- Would like to see trails from Litchfield to Eden Valley and Eden Valley to Watkins
- Year round restrooms that aren't locked during daylight and early evening hours.
- Youngstrom Woods cleanup Facilities added



SURVEY QUESTION 6

*Do you have any additional comments regarding trails in Meeker County?
Please provide a brief answer ...*

26 people provided a written response to Question 6. The following answers are unedited (placed in alphabetical order):

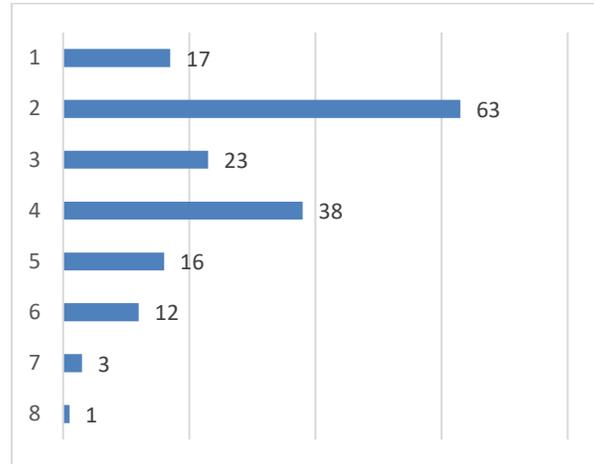
- Do not create trails where quality deer hunting occurs, as the stakeholders will conflict too much. Or make some only accessible for winter use after Jan. 1.
- Have some that are in or near towns.
- I think that trails are important for every community.
- If added to our already growing taxes we will consider moving out of Meeker county.
- It would be great if the Greenleaf rec area trail made a loop. At this point, after going in a half mile or more, one simply has to come back on the trail just traversed. / One of the most interesting Crow River canoe runs lies between Hwy 34 and Forest City. Much of it is quite wild. It's been some time since I've made that run because the last time I went through almost every bend had downed trees, etc., making for very hard going. It would be great if the worst of this could be cleared out.
- Litchfield needs safe trails
- Look at the whole county and not just the Litchfield, Darwin & Dassel area
- More trails need to be developed by ppl who actually use them for cross country skiing and horse back riding.
- More useful trails would help get people out and about and also provide more safety when walking or biking
- Need more trails
- need safe non-motorized way to get to East Highway 12 businesses in Litchfield
- no trails
- Pathway does not need to be paved. But if there is ample funds the hard surface is better for bicycling.
- Please start eradicating noxious weeds. IE buckthorn, and wild parsnip. It would be cool if the parks started implementing rotational grazing of goats or cattle to maintain forest and prairie health. I would love to help. Josh Pommier 320 292 5860
- Snowmobile trails are maintained very well, just need snow
- Stop looking at taking land from property owners for trails they do not want! Example: Greenleaf and Cedar Lake
- Thanks
- There's nothing around Litchfield for us oldersters. Only Luceline 10 miles South. Dassel, Cokato 10miles East and Spicer, Willmar, Paynesville 15 miles West and North. Have to haul bikes wherever you go. No wonder no one want to move to Lfd. Lots of people from Lfd moving to Hutchinson, better health care, more Drs., better choice of housing for retirees.
- They are great for everyone and provide economic development.
- They should be spread out through the entire county, not just localized in the larger towns.
- Water stations
- We have some great trails but it would be nice if there were some more.

- We love to use the county parks and trails when nice weather hits. The spring/summer trail maintenance seems to be on par, but when I've been snowshoeing in Darwin, particularly, the trails are almost inaccessible. My 60-year-old mother has been modifying her snowshoeing routine due to overgrowth of the trails she frequents, and that's such a shame! I'd love to be able to take our kids out, as well, without having to worry about them tripping in their snowshoes or having to fight their way through brambles and overgrowth.
- We NEED them.
- We travel 30 to 60 minutes away to bike on trails because we do not have much on a regular basis. Sometimes we go 200 miles or more to bike.
- We would love a trail system in our area instead of having to go the Wobegon Trail etc.



SURVEY QUESTION 7

How many people are in your household?



SURVEY QUESTION 8

Please enter your zip code.

City	Number
<i>Litchfield</i>	72
<i>Dassel</i>	28
<i>Eden Valley</i>	20
<i>Watkins</i>	10
<i>Cokato</i>	7
<i>Darwin</i>	7
<i>Grove City</i>	4
<i>Other</i>	6

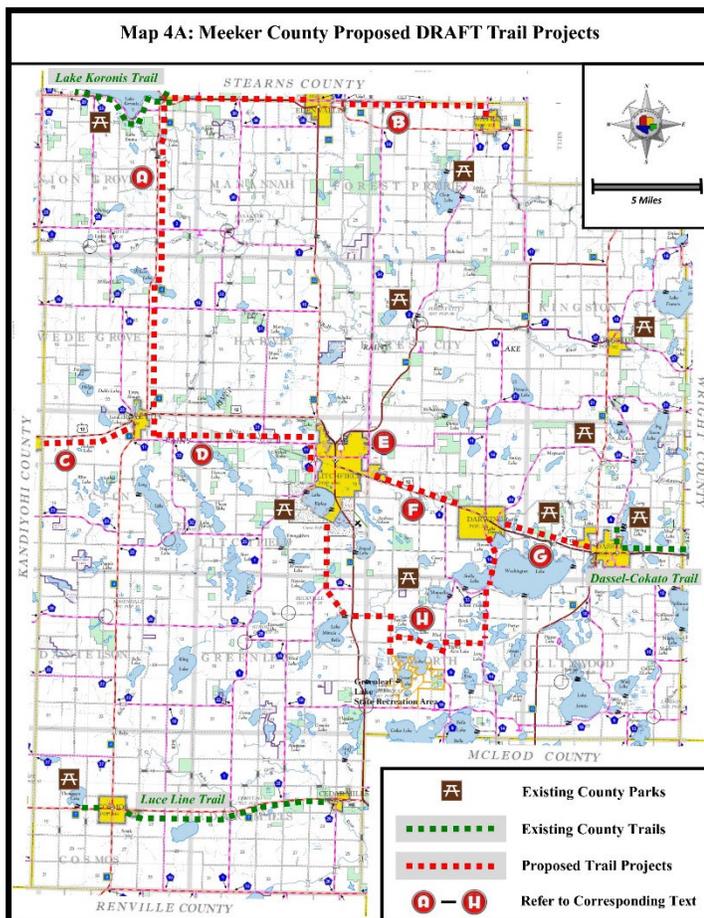
C. Public Open House

A Public Open House was held on April 17, 2019, to review and solicit comments on the Meeker County Draft Trails Plan Implementation Map. Although numerous comments were made on the draft, most of them could be summarized into the following four highlight areas:

Highlights of the Public Open House:

1. Many wanted to see the Draft Meeker County Trail Projects Map distinguish between proposed ‘trails’ and ‘bicycle routes.’

2. Due to this being a 10 to 20-year trails plan, the additional bicycle routes along the various County Roads should be added to the final implementation Map.
3. Make sure to add a bicycle route to connect with the numerous trails in the Hutchinson area.
4. There is a need for the Meeker County Trails Stakeholder Group to continue meeting in the future. The MMDC will initially help facilitate this effort until the local committee can become better established.



A Draft Map 4A was circulated prior to the Meeker County Trails Plan Public Open House held on April 17, 2019, at the Meeker County Courthouse. A few revisions were made to the final implementation map shown in Chapter Five.

Chapter Five: Implementation

A. Chapter Highlights

Chapter Five establishes an implementation section for the Meeker County Trails Plan. Section B outlines the potential trail projects that will be pursued by the County and the various trail stakeholders when the time is right. It should be noted that not all of the priority projects identified in Chapter Five are likely to be implemented over the next 10 to 20 years. It is the intent of this plan, however, to be ready to proceed when funding and maintenance agreements have been made. Section C identifies a few of the key non-infrastructure implementation steps that are needed. Section D identifies several potential funding sources. Finally, Section E profiles the key stakeholders who will be involved with implementing the Trails Plan.

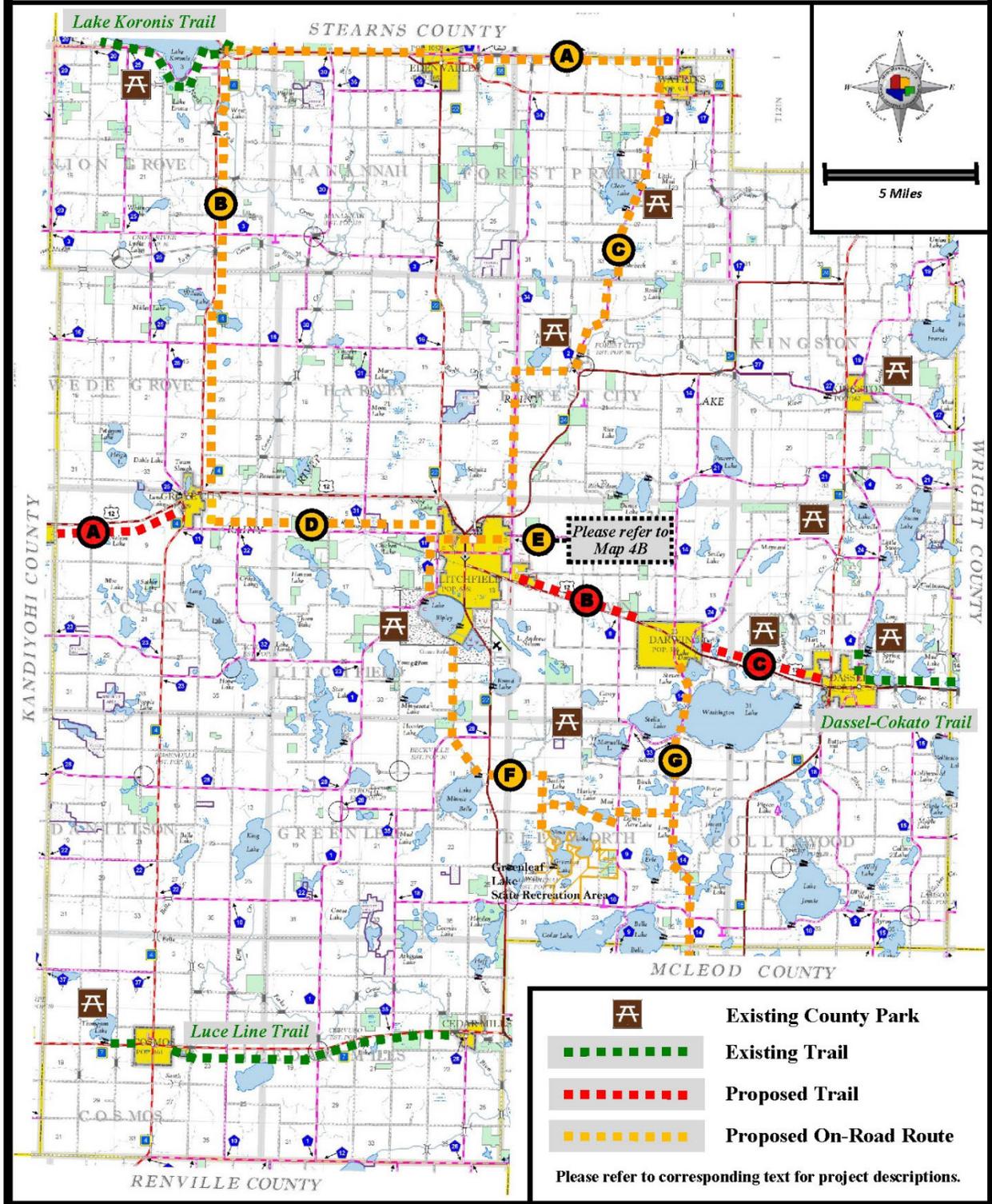
B. Meeker County Trail & Bicycle Route Projects

A number of potential trail projects were identified from a variety of sources throughout the planning process. The sources include comments received from the Meeker County Trails Survey, comments made during the various planning meetings, and comments made at the Public Open House. Maps 5A and 5B display the priority projects. Each project is briefly described following the maps. Please keep in mind the identified trails and bicycle routes are not a list of projects Meeker County is committing to pay for, but rather a list of potential projects the County is likely to endorse as the various stakeholders work out the various details (i.e., type of trail, funding sources, maintenance agreements, etc.). Due to the unknown timing of the projects, cost estimates are not provided. Maps 5A and 5B are divided into potential ‘trails’ and potential ‘bicycle routes.’ Each is briefly described below:

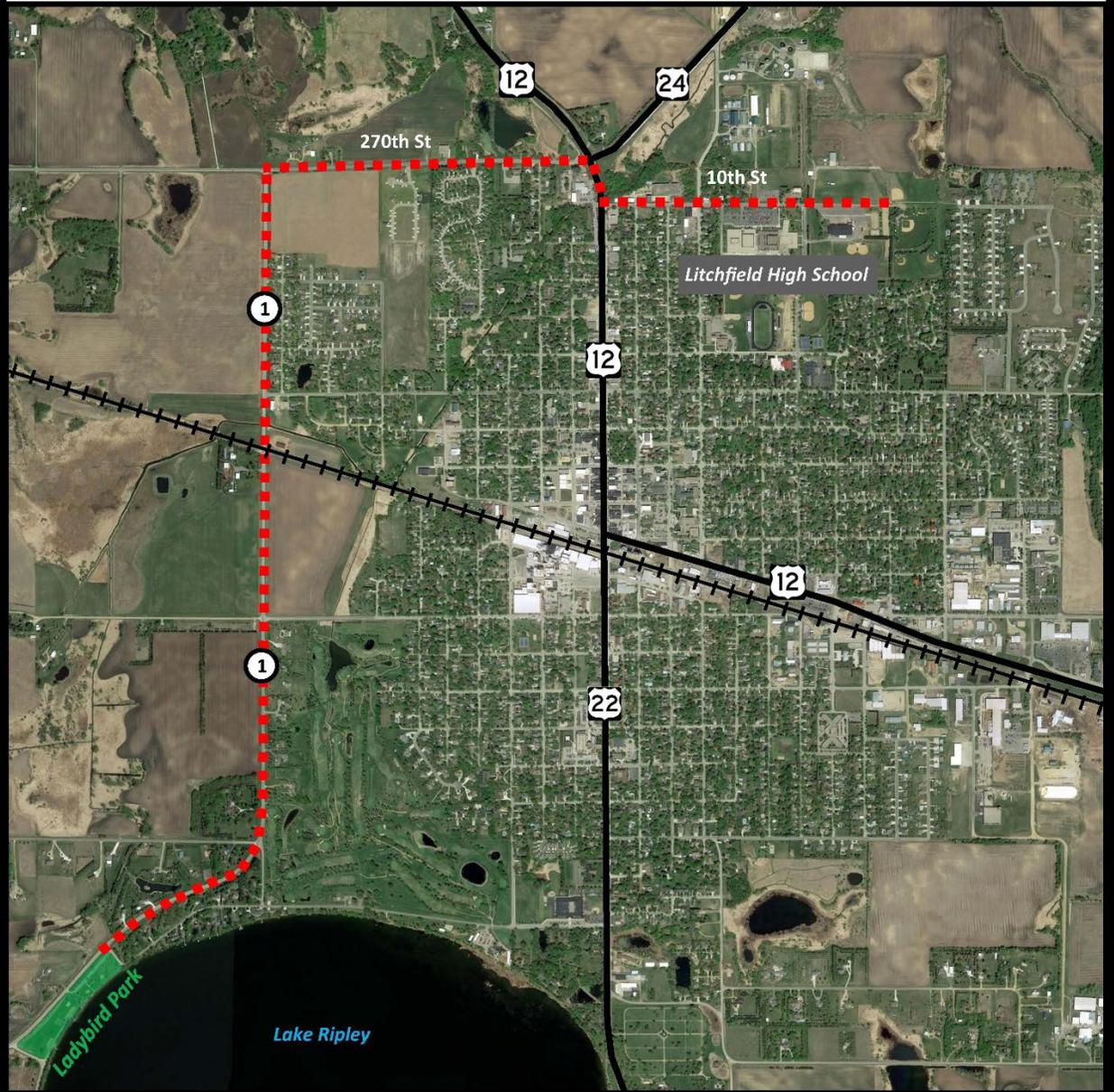
Trail – A linear corridor, on land or water, which provides recreation or transportation as well as related outdoor education or sport activities. It may be single purpose or multi-use; non-motorized and/or motorized; single season or year-round; urban and/or rural; and comprised of various types of surfaces. For the purposes of this Trails Plan, a trail will be thought of and referred to as something separate from a roadway (i.e., not a paved shoulder).

Bicycle Route/Lane - A bike lane/route is a portion of the roadway or shoulder designated for exclusive or preferential use by people using bicycles. Bicycle lanes/routes are distinguished from the portion of the roadway or shoulder used for motor vehicle traffic by striping, marking, or other similar techniques.

Map 5A: Meeker County Proposed Trail & On-Road Bicycle Routes



Map 5B: Litchfield Proposed Trail Map*



*Landowners and other key stakeholders will have the opportunity to provide input into the proposed trail location and design. This map is intended to assist with the needed conversations.

- ■ ■ ■ Proposed Trail
- State/U.S. Highway
- ||||** BNSF Railroad



Map 5A and 5B Project Descriptions

- A** The cities of Eden Valley and Watkins recently identified working towards a trail connecting the two communities as part of the EVW Safe Routes to School Plan (2018) and connecting to the Lake Koronis Recreational Trail. The need for a trail has clearly been communicated by the communities. The two main roadways are either State Highway 55 or the Meeker-Stearns Street. The various options will need to be explored by the County Highway Departments, MnDOT and both communities.
- B** This on-road bicycle route would connect the City of Grove City to the Lake Koronis Recreational Trail. The route would travel along MN State Highway 4 and would connect U.S. Highway 12 and MN State Highway 55. The goal is for the bicycle route to have paved shoulders and proper bicycle route signage. The bicycle route would be approximately 12.6 miles in length.
- C** This on-road bicycle route would connect the cities of Litchfield and Watkins to Clear Lake and Shaw Memorial County Parks.
- D** This on-road bicycle route would connect the cities of Litchfield and Grove City. The trail would travel approximately 7 miles along County Road 11 from the intersection of County Road 1 in Litchfield and 545th Avenue in Grove City.
- E** Please also refer to Map 5B. This trail/bicycle route would run through the City of Litchfield starting near the Litchfield Middle/High School. The suggested route would travel along 10th Street. The need for pedestrian/bicycle infrastructure has been documented in the Litchfield Safe Routes to School Plan (2019). After 10th street, the trail/bicycle route would cross U.S. Highway 12, connect to County Road 1, and then continue to Ladybird Park (located on the northwest shores of Lake Ripley). The trail will be paved and dedicated for non-motorized, multipurpose use. The total distance for this trail would be approximately 3.5 miles. Specific details need to be identified and discussed with stakeholders and affected landowners.
- F** Bicycle Route F, in combination with project G, would establish as a long scenic loop traveling between the communities of Litchfield and Darwin. The route would begin near Lake Ripley, travel south towards the Greenleaf Lake Recreation Area, and then back north towards the City of Darwin. Project G would establish an on-road bicycle route along County Road 14 to connect to the City of Hutchinson and its extensive trails network.
- G**

Chapter Five: Implementation

- A** This 4.5-mile off-road multipurpose trail would connect the cities of Grove City and Atwater. This trail would create a safe recreational trail between the ACGC Elementary School in Atwater and the ACGC Middle/High School in Grove City. For this reason, the trail would ideally be located on the south side of Highway 12. The trail should be surfaced and dedicated for non-motorized, multipurpose use.
- B** This 6-mile off-road multipurpose trail would connect the cities of Litchfield and Darwin. This could alleviate some pedestrian and bicycle concerns/issues in eastern Litchfield along U.S. Highway 12. The trail should be surfaced and dedicated for non-motorized, multipurpose use.
- C** This project would be a 4-mile multipurpose non-motorized extension of the Dassel-Cokato trail. It would travel between the western boarder of Dassel and the eastern border of Darwin. The trail would be a paved, off-road trail that would run adjacent to U.S. Highway 12. The trail will be made for non-motorized, multipurpose use.

Note: it has been expressed by multiple planning participants to keep the Luce Line Trail unpaved at this time, but to make it a priority to work with the DNR to maintain the trail better on an ongoing basis.



Luce Line Trail near Cosmos

C. Implementation Steps

The future success of the Meeker County Trails Plan rests on how successful stakeholders are in being organized, securing funding, and agreeing to stand behind the projects they are promoting. The Meeker County Highway Department will also play a large role in helping to facilitate projects, including budgeting for the needed improvements. Finally, the County Board will ultimately need to support trail projects by appropriating funds and/or agreeing to the terms of the various grants and funding mechanisms.

In addition to these items, the following list of implementation steps should be completed in order to properly implement the Meeker County Trails Plan:

1. Keep the *Meeker County Trails Stakeholder Group* active. Having an ongoing group of stakeholders meet regularly would greatly help to ensure projects are implemented properly. The group could help to address issues, apply for funding, identify needs, and determine short-term priorities. The Mid-Minnesota Development Commission has agreed to assist with scheduling future meetings on a quarterly or as needed basis.
2. **Trail Signage** – Many of the trail projects identified only require designated trail route signage to be posted along the roadways. Although installing the signage would be the responsibility of the Meeker County Highway Department, the Task Force could help with identifying where signage is needed.

Standardized county trail signs help both motorists and cyclists identify trail routes.



In addition to ensuring that trail routes have the proper signage, this implementation step also refers to ensuring that directional and other bicycle-friendly signs are posted where needed. Examples include mile markers along trails, business directional markers, mileage to restrooms, etc. The goal is to help make trails user-friendly.

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3. **Develop an Adopt-A-Trail Program** – These types of programs are similar to Minnesota’s Adopt-A-Highway Program. This would allow volunteers and/or sponsors to actively participate in performing maintenance on a specific trail segment. The highway program focuses entirely on picking up litter, however, a customized local trails program could also cover items such as mowing, tree trimming, replacing signage, and ensuring the trail has the proper amenities.



4. **Trail Amenities** – One of the main messages conveyed by the public throughout the planning process was the need to make it a priority to ensure that all trails have the proper amenities. Examples include signage, mile markers, trailheads, parking, bike racks, lighting, benches, and toilets. Many of the amenities could be donated through an Adopt-A-Trail program (refer to #3 above) and/or through a dedicated Trails Fund (refer to #5 below).
5. **Establish a Trails Fund** – The County should explore the possibility of establishing a ‘trails fund’ that would receive an annual allocation in the county budget. With funds collected over time, a trails fund could provide the local match for grants and help fund new trail development, maintenance needs and/or the purchase of trail amenities. The fund could also serve as a collection place for donations and/or funds raised through trails events. Donations could be targeted for a specific project or be available for general trail needs.



Rochester resident Gelene Pigott recently donated a bench for the Leticia Road Trailhead

Chapter Five: Implementation

6. **Trail Condition Report** – Related to maintenance, the county should work with stakeholders to develop a Trails Condition Report. These reports could be completed by stakeholders and/or volunteers and collected by whoever is responsible for each trail segment. The completed reports could then be submitted to the Meeker County Highway Department. A small sign posted periodically along the routes asking for the public to report problems to the department is also needed.

7. **Trail Use & Enforcement** – Trail users should be informed of rules and regulations in a variety of ways. Kiosks and signs should be strategically located to provide specific information about allowable trail uses, permitted and prohibited activities, directions, and required fees or permits. Printed and web-based materials and maps could also provide similar information. The Meeker County Sheriff’s Office would also be responsible for enforcement, responding to emergencies, and dealing with criminal activities.

8. **Make Safety a Priority** – As future trail decisions are made, ensure that safety remains at the forefront of the discussion. This includes ensuring that trails have the proper width depending on where they are located, and that trail crossings have both the proper lighting and signage notifying motorists.

9. **Keep Map 4A Current** – This Plan was created with the intent of being able to periodically update the implementation priorities identified in Map 5A. Future updates could be reviewed by the Trails Stakeholder group and/or county staff prior to be voted on by the County Board. This will allow the map to be updated periodically without having to revise the entire Meeker County Trails Plan.

D. Potential Funding Sources

In order to be properly implemented, trail projects in Meeker County will ultimately need to rely on a variety of stakeholders and funding sources. From securing grants, to developing maintenance agreements, the success of projects will be an ongoing effort. This section of the plan identifies some potential funding sources for trail projects.

Donations (time and money)

Individuals, families, businesses and user groups have increasingly been willing to donate time and/or money towards trail projects. From paying for trail benches and volunteering to pick up garbage, to sponsoring rest areas and raising money to build trail segments, volunteers have made a number of trail projects become a reality.



One way to help offset some of the ongoing expense of maintaining trails is to develop a Meeker County Adopt-A-Trail Program. This would allow volunteers, families, businesses and user groups to assist with a variety of trail needs, including picking up garbage and reporting back to the county when trail signs need to be replaced. Another way to help reduce costs would be to develop a Meeker County Trails Fund where interested parties could provide donations. The donations could be trail and/or project specific or could simply help with ongoing trail expenses.

Local Government Match

Most trail projects are not completely covered by grants. To be competitive on securing grant assistance, local governmental units commonly are required to match grant dollars, usually ranging from 25% to 50% of the total project costs. In addition, having a long-term maintenance plan is normally a funding prerequisite.

Identifying stakeholders who are willing to share costs and/or perform maintenance responsibilities has become an increasingly popular way for local governmental units to justify funding and their overall commitment to trail projects. Fortunately, user groups who are promoting local projects usually have the capacity to help out when and where it is needed.

Grants

According to the Parks and Trails Council of Minnesota, over \$7 million was granted to communities and organizations across Minnesota in 2014 to acquire, develop, construct, and renovate parks and trails (*2015 Resource Guide: Grants for your Park or Trail*). Although securing grant money has become increasingly competitive, one of the main benefits of developing the Meeker County Trails Plan was because many funding sources require projects to be identified in a locally adopted plan. Furthermore, having a project identified in an official plan usually allows the project to objectively score higher in the grant review process. This section of the plan highlights some of the main sources of grants that fund trail projects. It should be noted that grant funding details periodically change, and that new funding sources occasionally become available.

Federal Recreational Trail Program

www.fhwa.dot.gov/environment/recreational_trails

Program Goals & Priorities? To provide funds for trail activities and facilities that support a wide variety of motorized and non-motorized trail activities. Special consideration is given to projects involving urban youth worker programs, such as the Minnesota Conservation Corp.

Who can apply? All projects must be sponsored by a unit of government. Preference is given to projects that have a local trail partner organization.

Eligible projects? Acquisition and development for new trails; contracted maintenance on existing trails; development of permanent trailside facilities; and purchases of equipment. Priority projects for 2015 included trail linkages, trail rehabilitation, trail signs to increase safety, trail grooming equipment, and single-track mountain biking trails.

Level of assistance? The maximum grant is \$150,000, with the average grant ranging from \$30,000 to \$85,000. Costs must be incurred and paid for before reimbursement. The grantee must cover at least 25% of the total project cost (50% for equipment purchases over \$75,000). Funding for 2015 was approximately \$1.7 million.

Source of funds? Grants are funded by a portion of federal excise taxes on off-highway recreation fuel, which is deposited into the Federal Highway Trust Fund and appropriated to each state. States are required to use 40% for diverse recreational trail use, 30% for motorized use, and 30% for non-motorized use.

The review process? The Minnesota Recreation Trail Users Association reviews grant priorities, applications, and recommends projects to be funded. Selected projects are then reviewed and approved by the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources.

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Local Trails Connection Program

www.dnr.state.mn.us/grants/recreation/trails_local.html

Program Goals & Priorities? To accelerate the acquisition and development of local trail connections between where people live and significant public resources (e.g., historical areas, parks, other trails). This program is not intended to create significant new trails.

Who can apply? All local units of government. Trail organizations and/or user groups may apply, but only in coordination with a local unit of government.

Eligible projects? Land acquisition from willing sellers; trail construction and/or restoration; permanent trailside improvements (e.g., drainage, parking, bathrooms); ADA compliance projects; contracted maintenance; bridge construction and restoration. Projects within state park boundaries or wilderness areas are not eligible for funding.

Level of assistance? Grants range from \$5,000 to \$150,000. Costs must be incurred and paid for before reimbursement. The grantee must cover at least 25% of the total project cost.

Source of funds? Grants are funded primarily by the Minnesota State Lottery. Every year, the State Lottery returns 6.5% of gross sales to the state as a payment “in lieu of” sales tax. From these proceeds, state law dictates 2.2% is spent on local trail grants. These dollars are divided between the Local Trails Connection Program and the Regional Trail Program. In recent years, state bond sales and the Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund have also been used to fund local trail grant programs.

The review process? The Minnesota Department of Natural Resources reviews all applications and makes final funding decisions. Priority is given to projects that provide significant connectivity, with consideration also given to trail length, amount of use, and quality of natural and cultural resources.

Regional Trail Grant Program

www.dnr.state.mn.us/grants/recreation/trails_regional.html

Program Goals & Priorities? To accelerate the acquisition and development of long-distance, regionally significant trails outside of the seven-county metropolitan area (Anoka, Carver, Dakota, Hennepin, Ramsey, Scott, and Washington).

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Who can apply? All local units of government (e.g., cities, counties, townships) outside of the seven-county metropolitan area are eligible to apply. Trail organizations and/or user groups may apply, but only in coordination with a local unit of government.

Eligible projects? Land acquisition from willing sellers; trail construction and/or restoration; permanent trailside improvements (e.g., drainage, parking, bathrooms); ADA compliance projects; contracted maintenance; bridge construction and restoration. Projects within state park boundaries or in state trail corridors are not eligible for funding.

Level of assistance? Grants range from \$5,000 to \$250,000, with the average grant ranging from \$100,000 to \$170,000. Costs must be incurred and paid for before reimbursement. The grantee must cover at least 25% of the total project cost.

Source of funds? Grants are funded primarily by the Minnesota State Lottery. Every year, the State Lottery returns 6.5% of gross sales to the state as a payment “in lieu of” sales tax. From these proceeds, state law dictates 2.2% is spent on local trail grants. These dollars are divided between the Local Trails Connection Program and the Regional Trail Program. In some past years, state bond sales and the Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund have also been used to fund local trail grant programs.

The review process? The Minnesota Department of Natural Resources reviews all applications and makes final funding decisions. Priority is given to projects that develop trails of significant length, projects that are expected to have high usage, and projects that provide a unique and interesting connection to the outdoors.

Outdoor Recreational Grant Program

[www.dnr.state.mn.us/grants/recreation/
outdoor_rec.html](http://www.dnr.state.mn.us/grants/recreation/outdoor_rec.html)

Program Goals & Priorities? To provide funds to local governments for acquiring parkland and developing, or redeveloping, outdoor recreation facilities.

Who can apply? All cities, counties, townships, and recognized tribal governments are eligible. The applicant must be the current or intended owner and manager of the property to be acquired and/or developed.

Eligible projects? Acquisition, development, redevelopment, and/or rehabilitation of outdoor recreation facilities, including but not limited to: boat/canoe access sites, campgrounds, fishing areas, skating rinks, nature areas, picnic shelters, playgrounds, sports fields and courts, swimming areas, splash parks, and non-motorized trails within a park boundary.

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Level of assistance? Grants range from \$5,000 to \$100,000, with the average ranging from \$35,000 to \$65,000. Costs must be incurred and paid for before reimbursement. The grantee must cover at least 50% of the total project cost.

Source of funds? Grants are funded with federal dollars from the Land and Water Conservation Fund (LAWCON). Since 1965, LAWCON has provided matching grants to federal, state, and local governments for outdoor recreation projects. Income for LAWCON is primarily from fees paid by companies drilling for oil and gas in the Outer Continental Shelf.

The review process? The Minnesota Department of Natural Resources reviews all applications and, if necessary, conducts site visits. Applications are judged based upon consistency with the strategic directions identified in the 2014-2018 State

Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan, including connecting people to the outdoors, acquiring land, taking care of what we have, and coordinating among partners. Additionally, proposed projects are judged based upon the local match, project readiness, site quality, and facility design.

Greater Minnesota Legacy Grants www.legacy.leg.mn/funds/parks-trails-fund

Program Goals & Priorities? To assist in the acquisition, development, improvement, or restoration of regionally significant parks and trails outside the seven-county metropolitan area.

Who can apply? All local units of government outside the seven-county metropolitan area are eligible to apply.

Eligible projects? Land acquisition for development of trails or outdoor recreation

facilities; development, redevelopment or rehabilitation of existing trails or outdoor recreation facilities; and protection or restoration of natural resources within parks and trails. Projects must be within a designated regional park or trail in Greater Minnesota.

Level of assistance? There is no minimum or maximum request. Applicants are not required to provide a match, but projects with non-state cash contributions will receive additional consideration. Past grants have ranged from \$20,000 to \$1.5 million.

Source of funds? Grants are funded by the Clean Water, Land, and Legacy Amendment, which was passed by voters in 2008. The Legacy Amendment increased the state sales tax 3/8 of one percent and dedicated 14% of new revenues to a Parks & Trails Fund. A portion of the Parks & Trails Legacy Fund supports regional parks and trails in Greater Minnesota.

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The review process? The Greater Minnesota Regional Parks & Trails Commission receives, reviews, and evaluates all applications. Projects are selected based upon criteria in the Parks & Trails Legacy Plan, the Greater Minnesota Regional Parks & Trails Strategic Plan and Funding Program, the availability of a non-state cash match, and the project's overall quality, readiness, and design.

Transportation Alternatives (TA) Funding

www.t4america.org

Program Goals & Priorities? To support alternatives to automobile transit, including pedestrian and bicycle facilities, access to public transportation and enhanced mobility, community improvement activities, environmental mitigation, and safe routes to schools.

Who can apply? Local governments; regional transportation authorities; transit agencies; natural resource and public land agencies; school districts, local education agencies, or schools; and tribal governments are all eligible to apply.

Eligible projects? Construction, planning, and design of on-road and off-road trail facilities for non-motorized forms of transportation, including: sidewalks, bicycle infrastructure, pedestrian and bicycle signals, traffic calming techniques, light and other safety-related infrastructure, ADA compliance, and conversion of abandoned railroad corridors into trails. Per Minnesota rules, engineering activities and the purchase of right-of-ways are not eligible.

Level of assistance? Grants are recommended to range from \$100,000 to \$1 million. The grantee must cover at least 20% of the projects total cost.

Source of funds? Grants are funded by the Highway Account of the Highway Trust Fund for Federal-Aid highways, of which 2% is reserved for transportation alternatives and appropriated to each state. The Minnesota Department of Transportation allocates Minnesota's share of these federal funds to each of the eight Area Transportation Partnerships based upon population.

The review process? Applicants must first submit a Letter of Intent to their regional Area Transportation Partnership. For Meeker County, interested parties should contact the Mid-Minnesota Development Commission (www.mmrhc.org). The letter of intent process coaches the applicant through the grant process, helps the applicant balance effort with the likelihood of receiving funds, and ensures the full requirements of federal funding are understood. Following the Letter of Intent, full applications are received, evaluated, and selected by each Area Transportation Partnership's committee. Projects are evaluated on their connection to statewide and regional plans, their connection to safe routes to school, their transportation purpose, and the feasibility of being completed on schedule.

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State Park Road Account Program [www.dnr.state.mn.us/grants/recreation/ parkroads.html](http://www.dnr.state.mn.us/grants/recreation/parkroads.html)

Program Goals & Priorities? This program exists to help local governments improve access to public recreation facilities. It provides financial assistance to improve county state-aid, county, township, and city roads which provide access to state parks and other outdoor recreation.

Who can apply? County, Township, and City Governments.

Eligible projects? The establishment, location, relocation, construction, reconstruction, and improvement of County State Aid Highways that provide access to state parks, state trails, state scientific and natural areas, state wilderness areas, state forests, state wildlife management areas and state water access sites. The reconstruction, improvement, repair and maintenance of county, township and city roads provide access to public lakes, rivers, state parks and state campgrounds.

Level of assistance? Costs for construction and right-of-way acquisition are reimbursable for up to 100% of eligible costs. Preliminary and construction engineering costs are not reimbursable and are the responsibility of the local unit of government. Requests are not subject to a minimum or maximum amount of dollars. Approximately \$4,000,000 will be available statewide for calendar year 2018.



The review process? For 2018 funds, the application deadline is November 1, 2017. The DNR will review and rank applications.

Mini-Grants

There are a number of smaller grants regularly offered through various stakeholders, each with a unique focus. The following ‘mini-grants’ could assist with implementing the Meeker County Trails Plan:



MRPF New Initiative Grant Program www.mnrpa.org/mrpf

Synopsis: Up to \$2,000 is awarded to spur innovation in parks and recreation services at a local, regional, or

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state-wide level that ultimately could have statewide impact. The program is intended to allow agencies to try new programs and services that demonstrate innovation in parks and recreation services and have future applicability for other agencies at a local, regional, or statewide level. Ineligible projects include capital improvements, funding for existing programs and services, full-time personnel, and on-going expenses. Grants are funded by charitable contributions to the Minnesota Recreation and Park Foundation.

Explore Minnesota Grants

www.exploreminnesota.com/industry-minnesota/ways-to-get-involved/grants

Synopsis: Grants are offered to Minnesota non-profit organizations formed for the primary purpose of tourism promotion and to scenic byway groups incorporated as a non-profit organization. Grants are to be used for marketing and promotional projects or to conduct research to help in this endeavor. Grants range from \$250 to \$8,000. Applicants with organizational budgets less than \$100,000 are required to match grant funds 1:1 or 2:1 if greater.

Minnesota Historical and Cultural Heritage Grants

<http://legacy.mnhs.org/grants>

The program supports history programs and projects to preserve significant historic and cultural resources. While not specifically intended for park and trail projects, the Minnesota Historical & Cultural Heritage Grants Program is applicable to parks and trails that preserve and/or promote historic and cultural resources. The average grant ranges from \$5,000 to \$30,000 with no local match.



PeopleForBikes Community Grants

www.peopleforbikes.org/pages/community-grants

The PeopleForBikes Community Grant Program provides funding for important and influential projects that leverage federal funding and build momentum for bicycling in communities across the U.S. These projects include bike paths and rail trails, as well as mountain bike trails, bike parks, BMX facilities, and large-scale bicycle advocacy initiatives. Average grants range from \$4,500 to \$8,000 with 50% local match required.

National Trails Fund

www.americanhiking.org/national-trails-fund

American Hiking trail organizations of Members have the and \$5,000) in particular trail. No



Society’s National Trails Fund (NTF) offers “hiking improvement” grants to active member our Hiking Alliance. Once a year, Alliance opportunity to apply for a grant (value between \$500 order to improve hiking access or hiker safety on a local match is required.

Advocacy Advance Grants

www.advocacyadvance.org/grants



Advocacy Advance is a dynamic partnership of the Alliance for Biking & Walking and the League of American Bicyclists to boost local and state bicycle and pedestrian advocacy efforts. Rapid Response Grants help state and local organizations take advantage of unexpected opportunities to win, increase, or preserve funding for biking and walking. Thanks to support from REI, these grants are for short-term campaigns that will increase or preserve investments in active transportation in communities where program choices are being made on how to spend federal, state, and local funding. Average grants range from \$1,000 to \$10,000 with no local match required.

Rails-to-Trails

www.railstotrails.org

Since 1986, Rails-to-country convert RTC launched a new governments implement trail projects. They are currently offering \$85,000 per year for five years to qualifying projects.



Trails (RTC) has helped communities across the abandoned railroads to multi-use trails. In 2015, grant program to support organizations and local

State Programs

There are a couple of key programs in Minnesota that have been successful in working with local groups to make trail and pedestrian improvements. Trail advocate groups should determine if local projects can benefit from these programs.



Minnesota Statewide Health Improvement Partnership (SHIP)

In 2008, Minnesota lawmakers recognized that controlling health care costs would require more than just changes in medical care - additional investments in prevention were needed. With bipartisan support in the legislature, Minnesota passed a groundbreaking health reform law. A key component of that reform was to create SHIP.

SHIP is designed to improve health by reducing risk factors that contribute to chronic disease, resulting in reduced health care costs. To help achieve this, SHIP has paid for the development of Active Living Transportation (ALT) plans for communities. These plans help identify needed improvements to community's bicycle and pedestrian network. For more information on SHIP, visit:

www.health.state.mn.us/ship

Minnesota Safe Routes to School (SRTS)

Safe Routes to School is a comprehensive program to help children safely walk and bicycle to school through infrastructure improvements, education and promotional activities. The program follows the 6 "E's" of active transportation planning, which include Evaluation, Engineering, Education, Encouragement, Enforcement and Equity.

Since 2005, MnDOT has awarded more than \$22 million to Minnesota communities for SRTS projects. The SRTS projects have included infrastructure improvements (i.e., redesigned roads, crosswalks, and access points); mini-grants to help fund miscellaneous school equipment (i.e., bike racks, bicycle fleets, crossing guard equipment, etc.); and funds to create SRTS plans. To help promote SRTS activities, Minnesota developed an online Minnesota Safe Routes to School Resource Center, which can be accessed at:

www.dot.state.mn.us/mnsaferoutes

E. Meeker County Trails Key Stakeholders

In order to have a successful Meeker County Trails Plan, there are numerous stakeholders who need to be involved with developing and implementing the Plan. This section provides a brief description of the key stakeholders who directly play a role.

Meeker County Board

The Meeker County Board acts as the executive of the local government, levies local taxes, administers county governmental services such as prisons, courts, public health oversight, property registration, building code enforcement, and public works such as road maintenance. The county board will have to approve any future projects relating to trails, so working with the Meeker county board will be a key element to an effective trails plan.

Meeker County Highway Department

The Meeker County Highway Department has a large role in the success of the Litchfield School District SRTS Plan. Ultimately the County Board will need to support any of the proposed infrastructure changes along the county roads. For more information on the Meeker County Highway Department, visit the following website:



Meeker County Public Works Website:

www.co.meeker.mn.us/181/Highway

Meeker County Municipalities

It is common for trails and bicycle routes to lead to, from, and through communities. As a result, working with the municipalities located in Meeker County will improve connectivity and consistency within the counties trail system. Municipalities have approximately half of the county's population, so their interests will be considered throughout the planning and implementation process.

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Collectively the nine cities located in McLeod County are key stakeholders in successfully developing and implementing the McLeod County Trails Plan. Although technically they only have jurisdiction within their respective corporate boundaries, the decisions they make largely impact the trail decisions being made countywide. Furthermore, when communities join together with other stakeholders to lobby for specific trail enhancements, they increase their odds of being successful.

Local School Districts

Meeker County contains three separate school districts that include Atwater-Cosmos-Grove City (ACGC) School District, Eden Valley-Watkins (EVW) School District, and the Litchfield School District. Collaborating with the school districts is beneficial because students and families frequently use trails. Also, when families are looking to re-locate, they will be drawn to areas with high-quality trail systems.

Meeker Memorial Hospital

The Meeker Memorial Hospital has been providing medical care to Litchfield and the surrounding area since 1952. In 2007 the hospital underwent a major expansion/renovation project that expanded the surgery, radiology and emergency branches. The hospital now has a 35-bed facility and is at the forefront of medical technology, service, and care. The Meeker Memorial Hospital is county owned and is staffed with expertly trained professionals with knowledge in the areas of nursing, technical specialties, support, and admission. MMH is committed to, “care as it should be” with a mission to serve you.



Statewide Health Improvement Program (SHIP) – The Minnesota Department of Health houses the Statewide Health Improvement Program. One of the many objectives of SHIP is to help create active communities by increasing opportunities for walking and biking. They are also involved in promoting education on a number of other health-related topics, such as healthy eating, drugs and alcohol prevention, and reducing TV and other screen time. Meeker-McLeod-Sibley is the local SHIP program. For more information, visit the following websites:



Statewide SHIP website: www.health.state.mn.us/ship

Local SHIP Website:

www.health.state.mn.us/divs/oshii/ship/communities/meeker-mcleod-sibley.html

Minnesota Department of Transportation (MnDOT)



The **Minnesota Department of Transportation (MnDOT)** is the State's main agency dedicated to supporting a multimodal transportation system that maximizes the health of people, the environment, and Minnesota's economy. This includes not only planning for roads and bridges, but also facilitating the discussion on numerous trail issues as they directly or indirectly relate to transportation. Bicycle and pedestrian safety are two key areas that MnDOT focuses on in its day-to-day activities. For more information on MnDOT, please visit the following website:

www.dot.state.mn.us

MnDOT's Safe Routes to School Program

To increase opportunities for children to walk and bicycle to school safely, the 2005 federal transportation bill, SAFETEA-LU, provided funding for Safe Routes to School programs in all 50 states. SRTS was created to help reverse the alarming nationwide increase in childhood obesity and inactivity. The program has been successful in Minnesota in delivering numerous benefits to local communities. SRTS projects have assisted with reducing traffic congestion, enhancing crosswalks, and helping pay for some trail improvements if it is shown they will help get students to/from school safely. For more information on Safe Routes to School, visit:

www.dot.state.mn.us/mnsaferoutes/resources

Minnesota Department of Natural Resources (DNR)

The DNR is charged with a number of responsibilities surrounding trails, including maintaining one of the finest systems of state parks and trails in the country. They also help fund trail projects and play a role enforcing safety regulations.



State Water Trails

Water trails are recreational routes on waterways such as rivers and lakes that have public access points and campsites for canoeists, kayakers and other boaters. Minnesota has the first and largest water trails system in the nation. The DNR and its partners manage more than 4,500 miles of mapped paddling routes on 32 rivers and Lake Superior. The South Fork of the Crow River, which flows through McLeod County, is one of the State's Water Trails (profiled in Chapter Two). For more information on the State's Water Trails, visit:

www.dnr.state.mn.us/watertrails

Minnesota Department of Health (MDH)



MDH is also a key stakeholder as it plays a large role in promoting physical activity. The department's mission is "To protect, maintain and improve health of all Minnesotans." To accomplish this, they partner with MnDOT and other agencies to develop and implement a number of health-related initiatives. These include partnering on the development of the State's Pedestrian Plan and the State's Bicycle System Plan (refer to the text box on the next page), among numerous other collaborations.

MDH also oversees the Statewide Health Improvement Program (SHIP), aimed at decreasing the percentage of Minnesotans who are overweight or use tobacco. Meeker McLeod Sibley Healthy Communities is the local SHIP collaborative (refer to page 1-10 of this chapter). SHIP works upstream to prevent these conditions by partnering with hundreds of schools, communities, clinics, and employers. The goal is to increase access to healthy choices by implementing smoke-free policies and other structural changes that make it easy for people to be physically active and eat right. To learn more about SHIP and/or the Minnesota Department of Health, visit:

www.health.state.mn.us

State Bicycle and Pedestrian Plans

MDH and MnDOT are co-leading the development of the State’s first Pedestrian System Plan. For more information on State’s Pedestrian Plan, visit:

www.dot.state.mn.us/peds/plan/index.html

In addition, MDH also provided assistance with the development of the State’s Bicycle System Plan. For more information on State’s Bicycle System Plan, visit:

www.dot.state.mn.us/bike/system-plan/index.html



Explore Minnesota Tourism

Minnesota’s vast amount of trails provides a great destination for residents and people visiting the state. Explore Minnesota Tourism helps connect people to where they want to be and what they want to experience. Not only do they provide links to trails and facilities, they also importantly provide information about hotels, restaurants, and local events. Explore Minnesota should be contacted to help promote all future trail events in McLeod County. For more information on Explore Minnesota, visit:

www.exploreminnesota.com

Pedal Minnesota

Launched in 2012, Pedal Minnesota aims to get more people on bikes in Minnesota because bicycling has a positive impact on the state, including benefits to individuals, communities, the environment and the economy.



Parks and Trails Council of Minnesota

The Parks & Trails Council is a grassroots organization working on behalf of Minnesota's parks and trails since 1954. Fueled by contributions, the Parks & Trails Council has helped add more than 10,000 acres of land to key areas within the state's network of parks and trails. The organization has become one of the state's most powerful voice for parks and trails due to relationships with community groups, legislators and local governments throughout the state. For more information on the Parks and Trails Council, visit:



www.parksandtrails.org

Statewide User Groups

There are a vast amount of statewide user groups who are organized on behalf of their sport and/or hobby. The following groups are likely to directly benefit from McLeod County's trail network.

Bicycle Alliance of Minnesota

The Bicycle Alliance of Minnesota with major contributions from five industry including Quality Bicycle Shop, Park Tool, and Dero Bike Racks. 1,000 with 130 communities represented identified the following four program areas:



(BikeMN) was launched in 2008 members of the Minnesota bicycle Products, Penn Cycle, Erik's Bike Membership has grown to over throughout Minnesota. BikeMN has

1. **Advocacy** for bicycle friendly laws, policies, projects and programs.
2. **Education** of drivers and bicyclists using a national curriculum.
3. **Encouragement** of biking through events and promotions.
4. **Technical Assistance** to businesses and communities to be more bicycle friendly.

For more information on the Minnesota Bike Alliance, visit:

www.bikemn.org

Minnesota United Snowmobilers Association



Minnesota United Snowmobilers Association (MnUSA) was organized in 1978 to protect, preserve and promote the sport of snowmobiling throughout Minnesota through favorable legislation and programs. Through the years, MnUSA has become a state and national leader in recreational support. Minnesota today enjoys over 22,000 miles of snowmobile trails because of combined efforts of local snowmobile clubs, state and federal leaders, Department of Natural Resources and snowmobile volunteers. For more information, visit:

www.mnsnowmobiler.org



Minnesota Horse Council

The Minnesota Horse Council, a non-profit corporation, encourages and supports equine-related activities, concerns and education. Founded in 1935, the Council began as a vehicle for horse owners and exhibitors to coordinate horse activities with the Minnesota State Fair Board. Since then, the Minnesota Horse Council has evolved into an umbrella organization uniting and supporting equine activities throughout the state. One key function they perform is to fund and improve horse trails throughout Minnesota through their Trail Blazers group. For more information, visit:

www.mnhorsecouncil.org



Minnesota Nordic Ski Association



The Minnesota Nordic Ski Association (MNSA) works closely with Minnesota cross country ski trail administrators, the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources (DNR), and the legislature on all issues and funding associated with cross country ski trails in Minnesota. MNSA also promotes education, recognition, involvement, and competition of cross country skiing. For more information on MNSA, visit:

www.mnnordicski.org



The Mid-Minnesota Development Commission (MMDC) – The local Regional Development Commission, serving Meeker, Meeker, McLeod, and Renville Counties, is involved with taking the lead in the development of the Meeker County trails plan. MMDC staff also works with MnDOT on transportation planning activities and helps local governmental units with technical and grant writing assistance. For more information on MMDC or the Meeker County Trails Plan, visit the following website:

www.mmrhc.org

MEEKER COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
Resolution #2019-06

On motion of Commissioner _____, seconded by Commissioner _____, the following resolution was passed and adopted by the Meeker County Board of Commissioners at a meeting held May 21, 2019, at the Courthouse in Litchfield, Minnesota.

WHEREAS, on May 14, 2019, a Minnesota Lawful Gambling Premises Permit Application was presented to Barbara Loch, Meeker County Auditor, on behalf of the Hutchinson Hockey Association, Inc..

WHEREAS, the Hutchinson Hockey Association, Inc., would like to engage in lawful gambling at Bonfire Bar & Grille, 16818 MN Hwy 22, Litchfield, Minnesota, Meeker County, Minnesota; and

WHEREAS, the Meeker County Board of Commissioners are the local governing body having jurisdiction over the proposed gambling activity; and

WHEREAS, the Meeker County Board of Commissioners acknowledges receipt of said Application.

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Meeker County Board of Commissioners hereby approves the applicant's request to engage in lawful gambling activities at Bonfire Bar & Grille, 16818 MN Hwy 22, Litchfield, Minnesota, Meeker County, Minnesota

WHEREUPON, the above resolution was passed and adopted by the Meeker County Board of Commissioners on this 21st of May, 2019.

By: _____
Mike Housman, Meeker County Board Chair

Attest: _____
Paul J. Virnig, County Board Clerk

STATE OF MINNESOTA

MEEKER COUNTY

I, Paul J. Virnig, do hereby certify that I am the custodian of the minutes of all proceedings had and held by the Board of Commissioners of said Meeker County, that I have compared the above resolution with the original passed and adopted by the Board of Commissioners of said Meeker County at a regular meeting thereof held on the 21st of May, 2019, at 8:30 AM, that the above constitutes a true and correct copy thereof, that the same has not been amended or rescinded and is in full force and effect.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto placed my hand and signature this 21st of May, 2019, and have hereunto affixed the seal of the County.

(SEAL)

County Board Clerk

ACKNOWLEDGMENT BY LOCAL UNIT OF GOVERNMENT: APPROVAL BY RESOLUTION

CITY APPROVAL for a gambling premises located within city limits	COUNTY APPROVAL for a gambling premises located in a township
City Name: _____	County Name: _____
Date Approved by City Council: _____	Date Approved by County Board: _____
Resolution Number: _____ (If none, attach meeting minutes.)	Resolution Number: _____ (If none, attach meeting minutes.)
Signature of City Personnel: _____	Signature of County Personnel: _____
Title: _____ Date Signed: _____	Title: _____ Date Signed: _____
<p>Local unit of government must sign.</p>	<p>Complete below only if required by the county. On behalf of the township, I acknowledge that the organization is applying to conduct gambling activity within the township limits. (A township has no statutory authority to approve or deny an application, per Minnesota Statutes 349.213, Subd. 2.)</p>
	TOWNSHIP NAME: _____
	Print Township Name: _____
	Signature of Township Officer: _____
	Title: _____ Date Signed: _____

ACKNOWLEDGMENT AND OATH

- | | |
|--|---|
| <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. I hereby consent that local law enforcement officers, the Board or its agents, and the commissioners of revenue or public safety and their agents may enter and inspect the premises. 2. The Board and its agents, and the commissioners of revenue and public safety and their agents, are authorized to inspect the bank records of the gambling account whenever necessary to fulfill requirements of current gambling rules and law. 3. I have read this application and all information submitted to the Board is true, accurate, and complete. 4. All required information has been fully disclosed. 5. I am the chief executive officer of the organization. | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 6. I assume full responsibility for the fair and lawful operation of all activities to be conducted. 7. I will familiarize myself with the laws of Minnesota governing lawful gambling and rules of the Board and agree, if licensed, to abide by those laws and rules, including amendments to them. 8. Any changes in application information will be submitted to the Board no later than ten days after the change has taken effect. 9. I understand that failure to provide required information or providing false or misleading information may result in the denial or revocation of the license. 10. I understand the fee is non-refundable regardless of license approval/denial. |
|--|---|

Signature of Chief Executive Officer (designee may not sign) _____ Date 5/18/19

<p>Data privacy notice: The information requested on this form (and any attachments) will be used by the Gambling Control Board (Board) to determine your organization's qualifications to be involved in lawful gambling activities in Minnesota. Your organization has the right to refuse to supply the information; however, if your organization refuses to supply this information, the Board may not be able to determine your organization's qualifications and, as a consequence, may refuse to issue a permit. If your organization supplies the information requested, the Board will be able to process your organization's application. Your organization's name and address will be public</p>	<p>information when received by the Board. All other information provided will be private data about your organization until the Board issues the permit. When the Board issues the permit, all information provided will become public. If the Board does not issue a permit, all information provided remains private, with the exception of your organization's name and address which will remain public. Private data about your organization are available to: Board members, Board staff whose work requires access to the information;</p>	<p>Minnesota's Department of Public Safety, Attorney General, Commissioners of Administration, Minnesota Management & Budget, and Revenue; Legislative Auditor, national and international gambling regulatory agencies; anyone pursuant to court order; other individuals and agencies specifically authorized by state or federal law to have access to the information; individuals and agencies for which law or legal order authorizes a new use or sharing of information after this notice was given; and anyone with your written consent.</p>
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This form will be made available in alternative format, i.e. large print, braille, upon request.

MEEKER COUNTY PUBLIC WORKS

422 S. Johnson Drive
Litchfield Minnesota 55355-2155
Ph. (320) 693-5360
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Phil Schmalz
County Engineer

Mark A. Spies
Assistant Engineer

May 21, 2019

Meeker County Board of Commissioners

Subject: SAP 047-602-013, SAP 047-617-009, & SAP 047-600-011 Contract Award

The Meeker County Highway Department has opened bids for the above Contract and the results are summarized below:

Road	Project	Engineers Estimate	Duininck	Knife River	Central Specialties
CSAH 2	SAP 047-602-013	\$479,457.00	\$529,294.97	\$522,377.87	\$619,959.45
CSAH 17	SAP 047-617-009	\$2,226,779.50	\$2,140,110.39	\$2,162,492.45	\$2,517,964.65
163 rd Street	SAP 047-600-011	\$148,091.70	\$119,579.52	\$122,811.27	\$112,506.80
	Contract Total	\$2,845,328.20	\$2,788,984.88	\$2,807,681.59	\$3,250,430.90
	Deviation from Estimate	-	-2.0%	-1.3%	+14.2%

SAP 047-602-013 is a 3.3 mile bituminous overlay project on CSAH 2 from approximately 360th Street to Trunk Highway 55. The project includes widening of the existing pavement onto a portion of the aggregate shoulder as well as a new pavement surface. The project will be funded using State Aid funds.

SAP 047-617-009 is a 5.4 mile bituminous paving project on CSAH 17 from Trunk Highway 24 to Trunk Highway 55. This section of road was reconstructed to a gravel surface in 2018 with some reconstruction work remaining for spring of 2019. The project will be funded using State Aid funds.

SAP 047-600-011 is a 0.7 mile bituminous overlay project on 163rd Street from CSAH 14 to the Belle Lake Boat Access. This project includes a new pavement surface as well as aggregate shouldering. The project will be funded using State Park Road Account (SPRA) funds.

I recommend that Meeker county award the paving contract for SAP 047-602-013, SAP 047-617-009, & SAP 047-600-011 to Duinick Inc. of Prinsburg, MN.

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Phil Schmalz". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized "P" and "S".

Phil Schmalz
County Engineer/Public Works Director
Meeker County Highway Department