

# BIENNIAL REPORT

Fiscal Years 2021-2022



IRON RANGE RESOURCES  
& REHABILITATION



## To the Governor and Legislature of the State of Minnesota



It is my privilege to present the 40th Department of Iron Range Resources & Rehabilitation biennial report to the Honorable Governor Tim Walz and members of the Minnesota Legislature.

While the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic over the past two years have been extremely challenging, I am proud of our agency's efforts to help our regional businesses and communities navigate through these difficult times. We provided special loan and grant funding to area businesses and communities that were negatively impacted by the pandemic. Both programs are featured in this report.

The agency also provided \$36.8 million in business loans with a total project investment of \$504.5 million. In our communities, the agency invested \$43.8 million, which leveraged a total project investment of \$374.55 million. A sampling of successful projects is highlighted: Heliene USA, Advanced Machine Guarding Solutions, Iron Trail Motors Event Center and Zup's Food Market. The region's growth as a recreational trails destination and the Minnesota North community college merger are spotlighted as well.

We are looking forward with a strong sense of optimism for the future of our region. Our business and community development programs have been receiving increasing numbers of funding requests for quality, innovative projects. We have significant financial support dedicated for business development as well as public works infrastructure and broadband. Community funding in a diverse array of programs and services helps set the stage for growth and improved quality of life. Working in collaboration with our public and private partners, tribal nations and stakeholders, Iron Range Resources & Rehabilitation is committed to creating a brighter future for northeastern Minnesota.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Mark Phillips". The signature is fluid and cursive, written over a white background.

Mark Phillips  
Commissioner





# TABLE OF CONTENTS

- 1 Letter from the Commissioner
- 3 Table of Contents
- 5 Mission and Vision
- 7 Funding and Service Area
- 8 Iron Range Resources & Rehabilitation Board
- 10 Remembering Senator David Tomassoni
- 12 Business Development
- 18 Community Development
- 24 Regional Initiatives
- 30 Agency Budget
- 31 Grants
- 43 Loans
- 45 Douglas J. Johnson Economic Protection Trust Fund
- 49 Taconite Economic Development Fund
- 50 Iron Range Higher Education Account
- 51 Iron Range School Collaboration





# MISSION AND VISION

The Department of Iron Range Resources & Rehabilitation is a state of Minnesota economic development agency that reinvests local taconite production taxes back into northeastern Minnesota businesses and communities in order to strengthen and diversify the economy.

## MISSION

Invest in resources to foster vibrant growth and economic prosperity in northeastern Minnesota.

- Enhance livable communities.
- Maximize collaborations and partnerships.
- Strengthen businesses and worker education.

## VISION

Long-term economic growth increases the well-being of all people in northeastern Minnesota.

## GUIDING PRINCIPLES

- **Servant Leadership:** We believe a servant-leader is servant first, and we focus on what we can do for others.
- **People:** We respect, value and celebrate the unique attributes, characteristics and perspectives that make each person who they are.
- **Commitment:** We are committed to providing great service that impacts lives.
- **Empowerment:** We encourage employees to take initiative, engage in continuous improvement and give their best.
- **Collaboration:** We seek out and promote diverse alliances because we value others’ knowledge, opinions and abilities, and together we can more effectively address the issues that face our region.
- **Equity:** We strive toward equity, and our intention is that our partners, strategies and investments reflect this.

## GOALS

- Communities invest in their foundational, business and social assets to ensure quality of life.
- Businesses invest in northeastern Minnesota.
- Workers have the education and training to meet business needs.
- Agency investments in Giants Ridge increase its economic impact and contribute to the quality of life in the region.





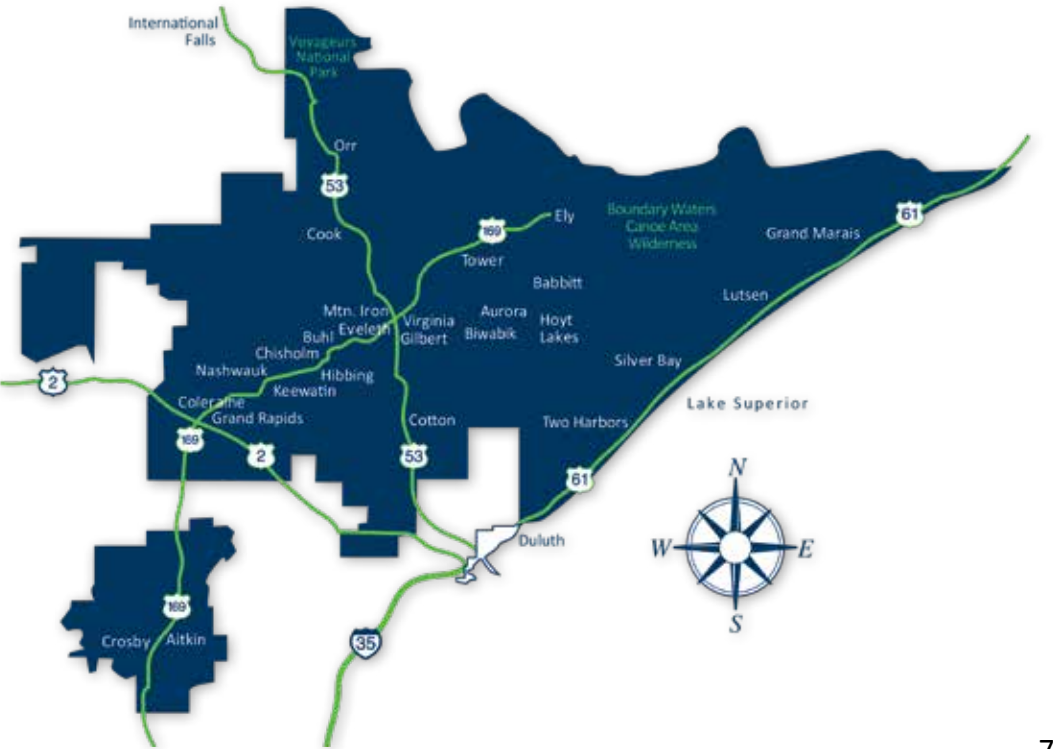
## FUNDING

The Department of Iron Range Resources & Rehabilitation is funded by a portion of a local taconite production tax paid by mining companies on each ton of iron ore pellets produced. The tax is paid by mining companies in lieu of property taxes. Prior to the agency receiving funding, dedicated amounts of the tax are legislatively distributed to local governments, schools and counties. The commissioner presents an annual budget for approval to the Iron Range Resources & Rehabilitation Board and governor.

## SERVICE AREA

Our service area is a 13,000 square-mile portion of northeastern Minnesota, including 53 cities, 134 townships, portions of four tribal nations and 14 school districts. The service area is defined by school district borders.

Minnesota Statutes Section 273.1341





# IRON RANGE RESOURCES & REHABILITATION BOARD

The Iron Range Resources & Rehabilitation Board is an advisory board composed of the state senators and state representatives elected from senatorial or legislative districts in which one-third or more of the residents live within the agency's service area. One additional state senator is appointed by the Majority Leader of the senate. The members are appointed in January of odd-numbered years and serve until January of the next odd-numbered year. All expenditures and projects made by the commissioner are submitted to the advisory board. The advisory board then recommends approval, disapproval or modification of expenditures and projects.



SENATOR  
Tom Bakk



REPRESENTATIVE  
Rob Ecklund



SENATOR  
Justin Eichorn



REPRESENTATIVE  
Spencer Igo



REPRESENTATIVE  
Dave Lislegard



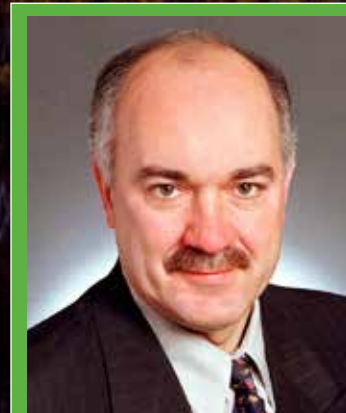
REPRESENTATIVE  
Dale Lueck



SENATOR  
Carrie Ruud



REPRESENTATIVE  
Julie Sandstede



SENATOR  
Dave Tomassoni





## Remembering Senator David Tomassoni

Senator David Tomassoni, a long-time member of the Iron Range Resources & Rehabilitation (IRRR) Board, passed away on Aug. 11, 2022, at age 69 from Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis (ALS) complications. Following his diagnosis in 2021, he openly shared his struggles and championed legislation that provided funding for those suffering from ALS and those caring for loved ones with the disease.

Raised in Chisholm, Tomassoni went on to attend the University of Denver and play professional hockey in Italy for 16 years. He played for Italy's national hockey team in the 1984 Winter Olympics. Tomassoni was elected to the Minnesota House of Representatives in 1992 and to the Minnesota Senate in 2000. He continued to serve as a senator until his passing.

Tomassoni served on the IRRR Board for 29 years, several of those as board chair. He served with great enthusiasm, commitment and seriousness coupled with his wry humor. The people, businesses and communities of the Iron Range were at the forefront of every decision he made and every vote he cast. He asked questions with sincerity, respect, genuine interest and curiosity. Tomassoni was quick to extend appreciation to all involved in the success of a project, whether it be related to education, infrastructure, community development or the expansion and relocation of a private business. He had a keen understanding that it is people who are responsible for the success of any project.

He will be remembered for his hard work and dedication to the people of northeastern Minnesota and the Iron Range.





# BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT

## Businesses invested in northeastern Minnesota

Iron Range Resources & Rehabilitation’s business development programs are designed to diversify the economy of northeastern Minnesota. Partnerships with economic development entities, financial institutions, businesses and other funding sources support and help create jobs in northeastern Minnesota.

During the biennium the agency provided 31 flexible custom low-interest loans to businesses relocating or expanding in the region. The loans totaled \$36.8 million and generated a total project investment of \$504.5 million.

Most of the businesses to which the agency provided loans were in the manufacturing segment of the economy. The loans were used for modernizing equipment, building and land acquisitions and growing or sustaining operations.





“We are elated with the result of the investment, bringing cleantech to the community for true economic diversification.” – *Martin Pochtaruk, Heliene USA president*

## **BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT: Heliene USA completes major expansion project**

Iron Range Resources & Rehabilitation provided a \$2.75 million loan to the Mountain Iron Economic Development Authority (EDA) to partially fund the construction of a 68,000-square-foot manufacturing facility, adjacent to an existing 25,000-square-foot facility. The new building was constructed and is owned by the EDA. The loan was used for Heliene USA’s expansion into the new building. Other funding partners included the Minnesota Department of Employment & Economic Development, St. Louis County and State of Minnesota Renewable Energy Account. Total building investment was approximately \$12 million, with Heliene’s capital expenditure in equipment for \$11 million.

The U.S. solar market grew from 1,500 megawatts (MW) in 2010 to nearly 19.5 gigawatts (GW) in 2020. Domestic production capacity, currently at 5 GW, continues to satisfy only a small portion of demand. Prior to the expansion, Heliene had a capacity to produce 150 MW annually. The expansion increased its capacity to 600 MW.

Heliene currently has 54 employees, with plans to add 60. The company is the state’s only solar PV module factory and one of the nation’s few American-made panel manufacturers.





“I’m happy to be back home in northeastern Minnesota and starting a business that can help diversify the region’s economy. The financial assistance from Iron Range Resources & Rehabilitation and the building made available by the city of Hibbing were key factors to the startup phase. We look forward to providing our clients with Made in the USA products and keeping their costs and lead times down.” — *Jason Wobbema, Advanced Machine Guarding Systems owner*

## **BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT:**

### **Advanced Machine Guarding Solutions diversifies Iron Range economy**

Advanced Machine Guarding Solutions (AMGS) opened a manufacturing facility in a city-owned building located within Hibbing’s North Industrial Park. AMGS designs and produces safety steel wire mesh guarding for the automation industry. The company was founded in 2021 by Eveleth native Jason Wobbema who has over 25 years of experience in the automation and robotics industry. Iron Range Resources & Rehabilitation provided a \$91,000 bank participation loan to AMGS to help purchase equipment, including an industrial saw, commercial drill and powder coating machine. Total project investment was \$425,000.

AMGS manufactures standard and custom doors, panels and posts that are used in almost all automated industries such as automobile and food packaging. The wire mesh guarding protects employee operators and equipment from hazards in machine areas and is mandated by OSHA’s safety standards. The guarding is often seen in conveyor areas and operator load stations. AMGS also provides safety electronics that may be added to the mesh guarding such as light indicators, area scanners and safety interlock switches. The electronics are preconfigured and assembled to make installation easy for customers. AMGS is a Made in the USA company and sources the steel for its products from America.

Detroit, Chicago and Ohio are currently AMGS’s largest markets. Their primary customers are Original Equipment Manufacturers (OEM) and Industrial Manufacturers. OEMs range from metal, plastic, packaging and custom automation equipment, as well as industrial robotic integrators. Industrial Manufacturers include fabricated metal, plastic, rubber, vehicle and other transportation, food and beverage, and wood products.

AMGS is unique in the marketplace because it merges two different technologies, mechanical guarding and electronic safety devices into one pre-designed package for the customer. All equipment can be customized to meet clients’ specific needs and operational layouts.





## COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

### Community development investments enhance quality of life

Iron Range Resources & Rehabilitation promotes and invests in community development through a selection of grants that strengthen northeastern Minnesota. During the biennium, Iron Range Resources & Rehabilitation provided 326 community development grants to cities, tribal governments, townships, counties and nonprofits that advanced community vitality and growth. The agency’s investment of \$43.8 million leveraged a total project investment in the region of \$374.55 million.

Communities invested in their foundational, business and social assets to ensure quality of life for all residents. Infrastructure funds were invested in water, sewer, electric, transportation, broadband and housing. Community development funds also assisted local businesses with energy savings and downtown building rehabilitation. In addition, community social assets were improved such as trails, parks, recreation, culture and the arts.



“Iron Trail Motors Event Center meets a great community and economic need in our city and region for venues that can host a variety of public and private events. The facility’s versatility creates spaces for everything from concerts, wedding receptions and trade expositions to community education classes, craft fairs and family reunions.” – *Brian Silber, Virginia’s Park & Recreation Director*



## COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT: Iron Trail Motors Event Center meets community and economic needs

Iron Trail Motors Event Center opened in Virginia in September 2021. The new 144,000-square-foot facility includes a convention center and community gathering spaces for meetings and events of up to 5,000 people. Two ice arenas are utilized for hockey, figure skating, trade shows, ice bumper cars and more.

Both arenas are capable of having year-round ice and are equipped with environmentally friendly ice plants. The main arena includes a state-of-the-art color video board, with fixed seating for over 2,000 attendees for on-ice events. In addition, the Toyota Arena is ringed by an indoor walking track that is open 12 months a year. Other amenities include a ballroom with 6,500 square feet of flexible event space, two meeting rooms and a boardroom. All rooms feature advanced audio and video capabilities.

The new event center replaced the aging Miners Memorial Building, a recreation structure owned by the city of Virginia. Built in the 1950s, the Miners complex included an ice arena and Virginia High School’s track, football and baseball fields. Failing and outdated infrastructure of the facility, coupled with growing demand for a variety of community events made new construction more viable than a renovation. Also, the consolidation of the Virginia and Eveleth-Gilbert school districts into one combined Rock Ridge school district resulted in Virginia no longer needing its own football field and track.

Total project investment was \$38 million which included \$12 million from a 2016 Minnesota Legislature bonding bill and \$20 million from a citizen-approved 1% sales tax that went into effect in January 2020. Iron Trail Motors of Virginia provided \$1.1 million for naming rights for the next 20 years. Iron Range Resources & Rehabilitation supported the project with Community Development grants totaling just over \$1 million across a number of fiscal years.





“The people and city of Ely benefited immensely from this business relocation and expansion. We’ve now got a great retail outlet with a large variety of products and services. Plus, both the Northland and former Zup’s buildings are now sold and under redevelopment which created new investment into the downtown area.” – *Harold Langowski, Ely’s clerk-treasurer*

## COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT: Zup’s Food Market completes major expansion in Ely

In October 2021, Zup’s Food Market in Ely completed a business expansion project that moved their operations from its existing building into a larger redeveloped building within the main street corridor. The project was supported by \$516,795 in Community Development grants from Iron Range Resources & Rehabilitation to the city of Ely that helped pay for sitework, foundation reinforcement and interior demolition. Total project investment was over \$9 million.

The expansion project entailed purchasing the vacant Shopko building and expanding its footprint. Zup’s transformed the property into a 36,000-square-foot store featuring groceries, dry goods, a fresh deli, catering service, butcher shop, apparel, a liquor store and pharmacy. In the new location, Zup’s popular Old-World sausage-making capacities more than doubled.

Zup’s also purchased the Northland Market building, the city’s only other grocery store, and sold it, along with the prior Zup’s site. Both buildings currently are under redevelopment. Former Northland Market owner Donna Richards and her employees are now part of Zup’s operations, with some of Northland Market’s specialty items available for sale at the new location.

Zup’s was established in Ely in 1916 by John Zupancich. “Grandpa John” operated the business with his seven sons, and it quickly became popular for its wide variety of products and Old-World sausages. Zup’s has four additional locations in Cook, Babbitt, Tower and Silver Bay. All are owned by Zupancich Brothers, Inc. and operated by the founder’s grandsons and great grandsons.

About 90 people are employed in the new facility. In addition to serving local residents year-round, the new store is a key shopping destination for visitors to Ely and those on their way to the Boundary Waters Canoe Area Wilderness.





“COVID-19 created extraordinary economic challenges in northeastern Minnesota. The business relief loans administered through The Entrepreneur Fund were designed to help area businesses and their employees through the economic recovery. Similarly, the communities utilized agency funding to customize their own businesses assistance programs to help alleviate the impacts and disruptions experienced during the pandemic.” – *Commissioner Mark Phillips, Iron Range Resources & Rehabilitation*

# REGIONAL INITIATIVES

## COVID-19 relief for regional businesses and communities

To address the significant challenges of the COVID-19 pandemic, Iron Range Resources & Rehabilitation in FY21 made \$7 million in loan and grant funding available to area businesses and communities that were negatively impacted by the pandemic.

### Taconite Area Business Relief Loan Program

The Taconite Area Business Relief Loan Program was funded at \$5 million. Businesses received a 2% interest loan of up to \$40,000 to help them through the economic recovery. No loan repayments were due for the first six months, followed by 60 payments of principal and interest.

The Entrepreneur Fund administered the program and issued 100 loans totaling \$3.3 million to businesses, which positively impacted 953 jobs. Remaining program funds were transferred to The Entrepreneur Fund’s Small Business Association micro loan program.

### Taconite Area Community Relief Grant Program

The Taconite Area Community Relief Grant Program was funded at \$2 million. Twelve communities across the region received grants ranging from \$50,000 to \$400,000. Each community leveraged their own funding with the grant to establish a lending program for businesses located within their community. Communities included: Babbitt, Chisholm, Cook County/Grand Marais, East Range, Ely, Eveleth, Grand Rapids, Hibbing, Greater Itasca County, Virginia, Silver Bay and Tower.

The Taconite Area Community Relief Grant Program collectively assisted 145 businesses and impacted 776 jobs through a total of over \$3.9 million in zero-interest loans administered by the 12 communities. The communities can retain the loan repayments for future economic development purposes.



“Trails can have important economic impacts to a rural region. They can attract new families and workers, retain retirees, draw tourists and increase recreational spending.”

— *Commissioner Mark Phillips, Iron Range Resources & Rehabilitation*



## REGIONAL INITIATIVES:

### Trails enhance quality of life and economy in northeastern Minnesota

Northeastern Minnesota is gaining attention as a trails destination. This recognition is largely in part to the region’s seven major mountain bike trail systems, including Cuyuna Lakes Recreation Area in Crosby, Giants Ridge in Biwabik, Hidden Valley in Ely, Redhead in Chisholm, Split Rock Wilds in Lake County, Tioga in Cohasset and Tofte/Lutsen/Grand Marais system in Cook County.

Iron Range Resources & Rehabilitation supports regional trail development through grants that assist with engineering and construction of snowmobile, bicycle, ski, hiking and ATV trails. During the biennium, the agency provided 34 grants to develop the region’s trail systems. The agency’s investment of \$5.4 million leveraged a total project investment in the region of over \$15 million.

Since the COVID pandemic, people have been opting for drive-to destinations, as opposed to flying. The region’s outdoor recreation and trails are in a great position to continue capitalizing on that recreation and travel trend. Local communities, counties and organizations responded with the continued development of new and expanded trails. Cities invested in non-motorized trails that connect amenities, services and businesses. The non-motorized trails within city limits complement communities’ other outdoor amenities such as parks, playgrounds, picnic areas, ballfields, tennis courts and skating rinks.

Project examples include:

- Blackberry Township, Eveleth, Itasca County, Mountain Iron and Virginia each constructed a new or enhanced an existing pedestrian trail that connects amenities situated amidst the residential and business districts.
- Breitung Township and Hibbing developed and improved the trails amidst campgrounds, improving the region’s tourist experience.
- Construction continued on three major ATV, mountain bike and snowmobile trail systems that traverse through large portions of the service area: Prospectors Loop, ATV; North Shore, mountain bike; Cuyuna, mountain bike; and Lutsen, snowmobile.
- City of Hoyt Lakes collaborated with a regional ATV and snowmobile club to construct a seven-mile segment of the Moose Trail which will connect Biwabik to the OHV park in Gilbert. Primary traffic will be snowmobiles and ATV.



“Operationally merging our colleges leverages the resources, talents, and marketability that comes with a larger, regional college yet maintains the cherished individual campus identities and community connections. Students will benefit from a seamless educational experience along with expanded access to courses, programs, support services, and the team of experts that serve our six campuses. Working regionally, Minnesota North College will be able to provide a comprehensive response to our business and industry partners, which aligns with our vision of being a catalyst for regional prosperity.” – *President Mike Raich, Minnesota North College*

## REGIONAL INITIATIVES:

### Minnesota North increases efficiencies and opportunities through merger

In May 2022, the colleges of the Northeast Higher Education District – Hibbing Community College, Itasca Community College, Mesabi Range College, Rainy River Community College and Vermilion Community College – officially merged into a single institution, Minnesota North College.

The merger became official after final approval from the Minnesota State Board of Trustees, which came on the heels of approval by the Higher Learning Commission, the system’s regional accrediting body.

This new structure will increase operational efficiencies, positioning Minnesota North for long-term financial sustainability. Services to students and stakeholders also will be improved. With the one-college model, students will have the ability to take courses across six campuses (instead of across colleges) with a single transcript and a single bill, as well as a simplified registration and financial aid process. Students will still benefit from local, on-campus services, while having increased access to a more robust selection of courses and career programs. A single college will lead to more clear and consistent collaborative efforts with regional K-12 and industry partners as well.

Iron Range Resources & Rehabilitation supported the consolidation with a \$765,000 Higher Education grant, as authorized under the provisions of the Iron Range Higher Education Committee and the Iron Range Higher Education Account.



APPENDICES  
AGENCY BUDGET

RESOURCES	FY 2021 BUDGET	FY 2022 BUDGET
Carryforward In	\$10,797,469	\$16,708,392
Current Resources		
Taconite Production Taxes	\$25,361,190	\$23,730,271
Investment Earnings	2,696,585	658,755
Loan Revenues	3,313,769	3,439,663
Facilities Revenues	5,312,143	5,509,542
Occupation Tax Region III	569,542	531,706
DJJ Corpus Trust	12,220,000	14,910,000
Subtotal Current Resources	\$49,473,129	\$48,779,937
Total Resources	\$60,270,598	\$65,488,329
ESTIMATED EXPENDITURES		
Projects		
Development Projects	5,500,000	5,000,000
Development Projects - DJJ Corpus Trust	0	2,500,000
Public Works	5,500,000	6,500,000
Public Works - DJJ Corpus Trust	2,000,000	7,650,000
Regional Trails Program - DJJ Corpus Trust	2,000,000	3,500,000
Taconite Area Business Relief Loan Program	5,000,000	0
Taconite Area Community Relief Grant Program	2,000,000	0
Total Projects	\$22,000,000	\$25,150,000
Programs		
Program Grants	7,422,500	9,370,000
Occupation Tax Region III	569,542	531,706
Total Programs	\$7,992,042	\$9,901,706
Giants Ridge	9,656,851	9,616,851
Giants Ridge Capital - DJJ Corpus Trust	1,220,000	1,260,000
Total Giants Ridge	\$10,876,851	\$10,876,851
Operations & Development Fixed Costs	\$7,537,658	\$7,328,034
Total Budget	\$48,406,551	\$53,256,591
Estimated Carryforward Out	\$11,864,047	\$12,231,738

GRANTS  
COMMERCIAL REDEVELOPMENT

FY21

	AGENCY INVESTMENT	TOTAL PROJECT INVESTMENT
Aitkin - demolish (internal and roof) for building expansion	\$19,700	\$240,300
Chisholm-Hibbing Airport Authority - demolish building for hangar	29,375	7,480,150
Crosby - demolish building for new development	95,000	636,000
Ely - demolish building for outlet store	24,580	55,206
Ely - demolish (internal) building for grocery store	128,900	0*
Hibbing - demolish (internal and external) for business expansion	24,135	185,000
Mountain Iron - demolish roof for replacement	10,000	100,000
Mountain Iron - demolish (internal and external) for business expansion	53,560	1,123,500
Silver Bay - demolish (internal) for senior center development	6,440	33,561
St. Louis County - demolish building for future redevelopment	49,400	68,800
Tower - demolish underground storage tank for business development	17,764	245,987
Virginia - demolish (rear exterior) for business expansion	11,200	79,282
Virginia - demolish arena for new development	398,089	0*
Total	\$868,143	\$10,347,786

FY22

Babbitt - demolish boiler at hotel	\$3,000	\$49,000
Ely - demolish (internal) building for new retail business	158,400	1,945,600
Eveleth - demolish (internal) building for new business	16,500	307,002
Eveleth - demolish (internal) building for apartment building renovation	72,782	2,139,228
Gilbert - demolish building for new dental office	70,000	1,822,711
Grand Rapids - demolish building for parking at new hotel and restaurant	48,000	11,953,900
Ironton - demolish (internal) building for apartments and retail	90,000	616,650
Keewatin - demolish gas station for new credit union	68,000	2,621,622
St. Louis County - demolish high school	100,000	331,762
Virginia - demolish (internal) building for office/industrial use	18,616	249,116
Virginia - demolish building after fire	110,511	613,790
Virginia - demolish retail space for new national retailers	240,000	8,000,000
Total	\$995,809	\$30,650,381

\* Total project investment included in another fiscal year or program.



COMMUNITY INFRASTRUCTURE

FY21	AGENCY INVESTMENT	TOTAL PROJECT INVESTMENT
Aitkin - upgrade infrastructure	\$225,000	\$1,148,151
Aurora - improve wastewater screen system	130,000	729,426
Bigfork - upgrade water meters	25,000	59,015
Biwabik - reconstruct main street - Phase III	250,000	1,350,000
Breitung - upgrade sanitary sewer lines	145,000	479,472
Buhl - upgrade infrastructure - Phase II	250,000	4,104,675
Calumet - construct public works building	15,500	59,291
Chisholm - upgrade infrastructure and street	250,000	2,030,000
Cook - improve lift station	28,031	78,203
Crosby - reconstruct Highway 210	185,000	7,000,000
Ely - upgrade infrastructure and streets	200,000	1,200,000
Finland Volunteer Fire & Rescue - expand fire and rescue facility	40,650	81,377
Gilbert - upgrade water treatment plant	120,000	343,710
Gilbert - improve water tower	125,000	386,133
Gilbert - upgrade infrastructure - Phase II	250,000	2,469,000
Grand Marais - upgrade infrastructure and highway - Phase II	250,000	10,200,480
Grand Rapids - upgrade site for solar energy project	230,000	4,176,760
Hoyt Lakes - upgrade wastewater treatment plant and water tower	250,000	10,149,387
Mountain Iron - upgrade water tank and filtration system	400,000	2,490,745
Nashwauk - upgrade water main	40,000	269,062
Nashwauk - upgrade storm sewer	100,000	201,319
Silver Bay - upgrade infrastructure and street for new childcare center	64,397	0*
Tower - restore exterior masonry wall on historic fire hall - Phase III	100,000	522,329
Tower - upgrade infrastructure and street	100,000	1,045,000
Virginia - upgrade infrastructure and streets - Phase I	250,000	5,935,431
Total	\$4,023,578	\$56,508,966

FY22 COMMUNITY INFRASTRUCTURE GRANTS

	AGENCY INVESTMENT	TOTAL PROJECT INVESTMENT
Bois Forte Band of Chippewa - expand child care facility	\$70,000	\$732,250
Breitung - reconstruct access road	40,000	126,000
Chisholm-Hibbing Airport Authority - improve airway drainage and runway safety	250,000	6,000,000
Cohasset - extend water and sanitary sewer	250,000	3,921,213
Ely - upgrade wastewater facility - Phase I	250,000	6,509,520
Eveleth - upgrade water and sewer lines and metering system	250,000	3,345,128
Grand Portage Band of Lake Superior - upgrade infrastructure at community center	146,925	293,851
Grand Rapids - extend water and sewer for multi-tenant industrial site	250,000	0*
Hibbing - upgrade sewer lines	116,386	616,386
Hibbing – replace lift station	150,000	773,000
Hoyt Lakes - upgrade emergency services center and campground facility	100,000	877,085
Keewatin - upgrade wastewater sewer connection	180,734	2,605,215
Lone Pine - conduct wastewater septic assessment	190,000	576,680
Nashwauk - construct wastewater treatment facility - Phase II	250,000	6,424,898
Orr - replace lift station	74,859	224,575
Silver Bay - expand infrastructure for new housing development	214,202	1,440,638
Tower Breitung Wastewater Board - replace manholes	250,000	1,425,000
Total	\$3,033,106	\$35,891,439

\*Total project investment included in another fiscal year or program



CULTURE AND TOURISM

	AGENCY INVESTMENT	TOTAL PROJECT INVESTMENT
FY21		
Bigfork Valley Community Foundation - construct baseball/softball field	\$8,600	\$17,219
Bovey Farmers Day Association - purchase playground equipment and materials	20,000	399,965
Chisholm Area Chamber of Commerce - upgrade campground	14,635	29,832
Deerwood Civic & Commerce - purchase electric sign	20,000	46,200
Dorothy Molter Museum - install new flooring in interpretive center	3,220	6,441
Finland Minnesota Historical Society - site improvements	7,500	17,500
Friends of Edna G - marketing campaign	1,919	19,377
Friends of the Finland Community - purchase electronic equipment and craft supplies	5,000	10,076
Friends of the Parks, Inc. - install fencing at park	16,500	62,000
Grand Rapids Area Community Foundation - purchase playground equipment	20,000	82,500
Grand Rapids Itasca Mountain Bicycling Association - marketing campaign	14,525	43,000
Greenhaven Parent Teacher Organization - sitework for inclusive community playground	20,000	258,396
Hibbing College Foundation - purchase lighting system for Paulucci Space Theatre	19,775	39,550
Hoyt Lakes Chamber of Commerce - trails mapping project	13,270	26,540
Iron Range Off-Road Cyclists - marketing campaign and website	19,449	38,998
Itasca County Historical Society - video mapping project	5,000	11,250
Itasca Curling Association, Inc. - construct walkways - Phase I	4,460	126,000
John Beargrease Sled Dog Marathon - marketing campaign	13,000	72,000
Knife River Heritage & Cultural Center - purchase outdoor interpretive displays	5,750	11,500
Knights of Kaleva - improve building	2,970	5,940
North House Folk School - improve entrance and site	20,000	110,520
Northern Lights Music Festival - marketing campaign	12,050	24,100
Pelican Lake Resort Association - marketing campaign	10,000	40,000
Revive Virginia - marketing campaign	4,710	16,000
Silver Bay Area Tourism Association - purchase outdoor movie equipment	5,000	9,999
Tower Soudan Historical Society - replace roof on historic fire hall	20,000	68,869
Visit Grand Rapids - videography for historic mine tour	20,000	40,000
Voyageurs National Park Association-Voyageurs Conservancy - purchase equipment for wolf project outreach - Phase II	20,000	50,712
Total	\$347,333	\$1,684,484

FY22 CULTURE AND TOURISM GRANTS

	AGENCY INVESTMENT	TOTAL PROJECT INVESTMENT
Aitkin County Friends of the Arts - purchase portable audio and lighting system	\$20,000	\$50,000
Aurora - upgrade ice skating rink boards at park - Phase I	25,436	105,000
Babbitt - construct campground signs	2,125	7,390
Breitung - improve ADA accessibility and safety and upgrade amenities at campground	23,000	46,000
Chisholm KIDS PLUS - install splash pad	30,000	187,250
Crane Lake - develop website and install reservation software at campground	2,707	3,105,415
Crosby - purchase Zamboni	30,000	99,500
Curl Mesabi Foundation - develop new website	2,500	10,540
Cuyuna Lakes Pickleball Association - sitework for new pickleball courts	25,800	319,870
Ely - install Pioneer Mine site memorial	15,000	45,000
Hibbing - upgrade Greyhound Bus Museum	6,328	12,657
Iron Range Tourism Bureau - produce Iron Range videos and photography	15,000	60,000
Itasca County Family YMCA - expand pickleball courts	27,960	187,462
Itasca Gun Club - install electricity to outdoor range	7,500	30,128
Itasca Ski and Outing, Inc. - upgrade website	2,440	12,350
Judy Garland Children’s Museum - marketing campaign and audio-visual upgrades	5,000	10,000
Kabetogama - install entrance and wayside signage	10,000	21,230
Lake Vermilion Cultural Center - improve exterior and ADA entrance	29,782	59,564
MacRostie Art Center - develop Maawanji’idiwag creative space	5,000	49,280
Nashwauk Township - purchase equipment and amenities for park - Phase II	10,750	77,500
Revive Virginia - promote art crawl events	3,400	12,000
Visit Grand Rapids - produce videography and signage for historic mine tour - Phase II	30,000	246,280
Voyageurs National Park Association d/b/a Voyageurs Conservancy - produce videos and purchase equipment for wolf project outreach - Phase III	14,858	29,716
Wolf Ridge Environmental Learning Center - construct adventure ropes course and purchase personal protective equipment	30,000	243,000
Total	\$374,586	\$5,027,132



DEVELOPMENT INFRASTRUCTURE

	AGENCY INVESTMENT	TOTAL PROJECT INVESTMENT
FY21		
Aurora - upgrade building structure and HVAC for grocery store	\$115,000	\$1,634,425
Ely - upgrade water main for brewpub expansion	73,449	335,583
Ely - upgrade infrastructure for veteran’s clinic	247,918	2,950,000
Eveleth - upgrade outdoor ADA accessibility at development achievement center	66,000	213,683
Fayal - extend sewer to Horseshoe Lake	92,233	1,011,755
Grand Rapids - upgrade building for manufacturing expansion	250,000	2,700,000
Hibbing - upgrade infrastructure for early childhood addition to elementary school	300,000	8,354,029
Virginia - construct new miniature golf course	175,000	880,947
Total	\$1,319,600	\$18,080,422
FY22		
Buhl - upgrade infrastructure for new residential lots	\$87,000	\$287,000
Cohasset - extend watermain for business expansion	80,000	316,000
Cook County/Grand Marais Joint Economic Development Authority - upgrade infrastructure for mixed-use development	500,000	3,424,378
Hibbing - upgrade water and electrical service at campground	250,000	1,073,000
Hibbing - upgrade site and construct new credit union	300,000	3,358,600
Lake County - stabilize shoreline for new resort	350,000	5,395,000
Silver Bay - upgrade infrastructure four housing development	700,000	10,220,240
Tower - upgrade infrastructure for RV park	250,000	1,488,656
Virginia - reconstruct intersection entrance for industrial company	176,894	469,404
Total	\$2,693,894	\$26,032,278
DEVELOPMENT PARTNERSHIP		
FY21		
Charles K. Blandin - Arrowhead Intelligent Region initiative - Phase I	\$50,000	\$284,730
Chisholm - site development to attract economic growth	5,340	15,000
Cohasset - pre-development due diligence at business site - Phase I	25,000	50,000
East Range Joint Powers Board - economic development services	50,000	110,000

	AGENCY INVESTMENT	TOTAL PROJECT INVESTMENT
FY21 DEVELOPMENT PARTNERSHIP GRANTS - CONTINUED		
Hibbing Schools - District 701 - group facilitation services for school collaboration	4,660	9,320
Northeast Entrepreneur Fund - capital campaign for small business growth	350,000	2,500,000
Northland Foundation - child care consultation services	10,000	21,175
Northland Foundation - small business development center	60,000	911,876
Northspan Group, Inc. - northlandconnection.com	20,000	95,500
Northspan Group, Inc. - NORTHFORCE.org	50,000	158,804
Total	\$625,000	\$4,156,405
FY22		
Charles K. Blandin Foundation - Arrowhead Intelligent Region initiative - Phase II	\$100,000	\$200,000
East Range Joint Powers Board - economic development services	48,109	101,472
Enterprise Minnesota Inc. - Manufacturing Growth program	50,000	50,000
Grand Rapids - downtown plan	20,000	80,000
Grand Rapids - Minnesota Autonomous Rural Transit initiative	300,000	3,717,575
Iron Range Tourism Bureau - sports/meeting market development	10,000	20,000
Itasca Economic Development Corporation - Thrive Up North	20,000	162,000
Northern Lights Music Festival - Northern Lights Music Festival	25,000	432,425
Northland Foundation - child care consultation services	10,000	20,000
Northland Foundation - small business assistance program - accelerate entrepreneurs	50,000	100,000
Northland Foundation - small business development center	100,000	850,260
Northspan Group Inc. - application facilitation for Build Back Better Regional challenge	4,500	13,000
Northspan Group Inc. - Northlandconnection.com	20,000	98,000
Northspan Group Inc. - value acceleration and succession planning services	20,000	150,000
Northspan Group Inc. - NORTHFORCE.org	50,000	185,881
Upper Midwest Film Office - operating budget	100,000	357,482
Zeitgeist Center for Arts and Community - North x North Film Festival - Phase I	50,000	212,000
Total	\$977,609	\$6,750,095



DOWNTOWN STREETSCAPES

	AGENCY INVESTMENT	TOTAL PROJECT INVESTMENT
FY21		
Babbitt - enhance shopping center	\$16,385	\$32,850
Cuyuna Lakes Chamber of Commerce - install outdoor speaker system and large planters	16,500	33,000
Grand Rapids - plan and deploy autonomous shuttle pilot program	50,000	134,000
Ironton - improve downtown lighting	50,000	287,770
Lutsen Township - install community welcome sign	6,491	12,983
Northern Lights Music Festival - upgrade exterior of historic Dahlin house	6,550	13,100
Old School Lives Incorporated - improve sidewalk accessibility and install pergola and garden planters	12,500	25,090
Tower - improve landscaping, sidewalk safety and main street signage	34,425	67,495
Total	\$192,851	\$606,288
FY22		
Bovey - install community bike racks and benches	\$11,500	\$23,000
Breitung - upgrade recreation facilities corridor	10,000	20,000
Coleraine - upgrade historic building exterior and ADA accessibility	16,000	32,000
Keewatin - replace welcome signage	20,000	48,500
Knife River Heritage & Cultural Center - construct commercial fishing exhibit	30,000	60,000
La Prairie - install welcome signage	26,128	52,255
Nashwauk - update downtown signage and install mural	8,320	16,640
Tower Soudan Historical Society - repair exterior masonry of historic fire hall	30,000	0*
White Township - install electronic welcome signage	29,000	60,000
Total	\$180,948	\$312,395
MINELAND RECLAMATION		
FY21		
Bovey - expand and improve sports complex	\$132,645	\$399,965
Coleraine - improve golf course paths located on reclaimed stockpiles	25,000	50,219
Gilbert - expand and improve campground	100,000	200,000
Hibbing - develop mine view - Phase II	92,355	184,710
Total	\$350,000	\$834,894

FY22 MINELAND RECLAMATION GRANTS

	AGENCY INVESTMENT	TOTAL PROJECT INVESTMENT
Keewatin - expand and improve recreation area - Phase I	\$150,000	\$311,415
Mountain Iron - expand and improve recreation area	150,000	355,000
Total	\$300,000	\$666,415
RESIDENTIAL REDEVELOPMENT		
FY21		
Aitkin - demolish one house	\$2,160	\$9,250
Biwabik - demolish one house	3,072	5,000
Carpenter - demolish one house	6,684	10,400
Chisholm - demolish three houses and three garages	19,212	30,042
Crosby - demolish three houses, two garages and three accessory structures	47,490	100,917
Ely - demolish one house	6,213	13,808
Hibbing - demolish five houses and three garages	21,426	30,354
Hibbing - demolish three houses, two garages and one accessory structure	22,536	31,926
Hibbing - demolish two houses and four garages	23,193	32,850
Keewatin - demolish three houses, two garages and one accessory structure	21,528	48,615
Lake County - demolish five houses, three garages and three accessory structures	31,179	122,250
Meadowlands - demolish one house	7,076	9,435
Nashwauk - demolish one house and one garage	7,368	11,429
St. Louis County - demolish one house	840	8,817
St. Louis County - demolish six houses, three garages and four accessory structures	36,144	71,769
Virginia - demolish one house and one accessory structure	4,113	24,887
Virginia - demolish one house, one garage and one accessory structure	5,595	12,843
Total	\$265,829	\$574,592
FY22		
Biwabik - demolish one house	\$5,586	\$10,760
Breitung - demolish one house & one accessory structure	3,075	4,100
Calumet - demolish three houses, two garages and one accessory structure	20,556	72,100
Chisholm - demolish two houses and one garage	17,802	31,081



	AGENCY INVESTMENT	TOTAL PROJECT INVESTMENT
<b>FY22 RESIDENTIAL DEVELOPMENT GRANTS - CONTINUED</b>		
Chisholm - demolish one house and four garages	18,303	38,075
Hibbing - demolish two houses	7,059	10,000
Hibbing - demolish two houses	8,760	12,410
Hibbing - demolish four houses and two garages	14,052	20,230
Hibbing - demolish three houses and three garages	25,482	36,210
Keewatin - demolish three houses and three garages	18,699	35,447
Lone Pine - demolish one house, one garage and one accessory structure	4,194	12,260
Mountain Iron - demolish one house and one garage	4,500	7,917

<b>Total</b>	<b>\$148,068</b>	<b>\$290,590</b>
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**WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT**

**FY21**

Northeast Higher Education District - film and TV production industry	\$48,990	\$97,980
Northeast Higher Education District - rural COVID-19 frontline worker	150,000	300,000
Northeast Higher Education District - Workforce Solutions for the trades - Phase II	151,000	302,000

<b>Total</b>	<b>\$349,990</b>	<b>\$699,980</b>
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**FY22**

Minnesota North College - film and TV production industry - Phase II	\$49,000	\$98,000
Northeast Higher Education District - ASV workforce expansion	70,000	338,000
Northeast Higher Education District - tribal nations training	150,000	300,000
Northeast Minnesota Office of Job Training - career exploration program	75,000	150,000
Zeitgeist Center for the Arts and Community - North X North Film school - Phase I	56,000	212,000

<b>Total</b>	<b>\$400,000</b>	<b>\$1,098,000</b>
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**OTHER**

**FY21**

Aitkin - repair business waterline in emergency	\$6,000	\$1,306,555
Arrowhead Economic Opportunity Agency (AEOA) - distribute Wolf Ridge Environmental Learning farm food	14,000	41,660
Arrowhead Economic Opportunity Agency (AEOA) - develop business training for farmers and marketing campaign for farmers markets	14,250	305,075
Arrowhead Economic Opportunity Agency (AEOA) - Downtown Building Rehabilitation (DBR)	250,000	2,446,225
Arrowhead Economic Opportunity Agency (AEOA) - Business Energy Retrofit (BER)	1,250,000	8,169,035
Chisholm - Redhead Trails Warranty	200,000	200,000
Ely - expand grocery store	110,625	0*
Ironworld Development Corporation - NSP - Line relocation easement project	300,000	300,000
Ironworld Development Corporation - operating expense and capital improvements	1,300,000	1,923,750
Lake Superior Community Education ISD 381 - purchase registration and daily logging software	15,000	438,460
Lutheran Social Services of Minnesota - upgrade ADA accessibility and safety features in emergency	20,000	45,531
Mesabi Family YMCA - repair roof in emergency	10,000	100,000
MN DNR Division of Lands and Minerals - mine pit studies and well installation	430,000	442,500
Tower Soudan Historical Society - restore fire hall	50,000	515,329
United Way of Northeastern Minnesota - purchase Range Honor Guard equipment	25,000	47,000
Virginia - reclaim mine stockpile - Phase II	300,000	329,324
Virginia - repair wall in emergency	22,680	105,100
Winton - repair watermain break in emergency	70,000	93,271

<b>Total</b>	<b>\$4,387,555</b>	<b>\$16,808,815</b>
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**FY22**

Arrowhead Economic Opportunity Agency (AEOA) - Business Energy Retrofit (BER)	\$1,250,000	\$5,969,949
Arrowhead Economic Opportunity Agency (AEOA) - Downtown Building Rehabilitation (DBR)	250,000	1,375,657
Babbitt - install emergency irrigation system and well at golf course	30,000	64,855
Biwabik Township - upgrade ADA accessibility to community center and reconstruct parking lot	15,000	30,000
Cohasset - Tioga Trails Warranty	124,000	124,000
Colvin Volunteer Fire Department - upgrade emergency equipment	15,000	23,792
Ely - EDA commercial corridor loan program	100,000	300,000
Gilbert – VFW - complete emergency building repairs	15,000	27,000



	AGENCY INVESTMENT	TOTAL PROJECT INVESTMENT
<b>FY22 OTHER GRANTS - CONTINUED</b>		
Grand Rapids - present on rural automated transportation at ITS World Congress	3,800	4,334
Ironworld Development Corporation - operating and capital improvements	1,500,000	2,239,750
Minnesota Dental Foundation - loan forgiveness program	240,000	240,000
MN DNR Division of Lands and Minerals - complete well extensions	50,000	2,442,500
Natural Resources Research Institute - Enterprise for Strategic Resources	250,000	500,000
Northshore Business Enterprise Center - construct lab at business enterprise center	8,200	8,723
Sand Lake Association - conduct lake and road access engineering study	13,000	13,000
Upper Midwest Film Office - regional production incentive	500,000	500,000
Vermillion Gold, Inc. - complete diamond core drilling	100,000	512,118
Virginia - complete environmental and engineering work - Phase III	450,000	500,000
Virginia Economic Development Authority - downtown redevelopment district commercial rehabilitation program	200,000	400,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$5,114,000</b>	<b>\$15,275,678</b>
<b>FY21 TOTAL</b>	<b>\$12,729,879</b>	<b>\$110,302,632</b>
<b>FY22 TOTAL</b>	<b>\$14,218,020</b>	<b>\$121,994,403</b>
<b>GRAND TOTAL</b>	<b>\$26,947,899</b>	<b>\$232,297,035</b>

LOANS

FY21

	TYPE	LOAN AMOUNT	TOTAL PROJECT INVESTMENT
Advanced Machine Guarding Solutions, LLC - purchase equipment	Participation	\$91,000	\$425,000
Airmark, Inc. (d/b/a Nelson Wood Shims) - purchase equipment	Participation	500,000	1,300,000
Rapids Technologies - purchase equipment	Participation	137,500	415,000
Cast Corporation - purchase equipment	Participation	131,000	262,000
Cuyuna Brewing Company, LLC	Loan Guaranty	75,000	516,000
Northeast Technical Services - purchase equipment	Participation	280,660	561,320
Overhead Door Company	Loan Guaranty	67,500	90,000
Power Play Products	Loan Guaranty	75,000	250,000
Precision Testing, LLC	Loan Guaranty	75,000	175,000
<b>Total</b>		<b>\$1,432,660</b>	<b>\$3,994,320</b>

FY22

525 West, LLC - purchase real estate	Participation	\$212,500	\$425,000
Arrowhead Center	Loan Guaranty	67,500	90,000
ASV Holdings, Inc. - expansion	Direct	1,000,000	9,409,500
Biwabik Mary Ellen Stone Company, LLC	Loan Guaranty	70,755	171,735
Dirty Dog Manufacturing	Loan Guaranty	75,000	100,000
DKN Enterprises, LLC Lens Autobody	Loan Guaranty	18,750	25,000
Frankels, LLC (d/b/a Hand-Done T-shirts) - purchase building	Participation	106,000	605,895
Furin & Shea Welding & Fabricators, Inc. - purchase equipment	Participation	300,000	600,000
Hibbing Fabricators, Inc. - purchase stock	Participation	150,000	597,610
Highland Holdings, LLC (d/b/a MNStar Group) - purchase equipment	Participation	230,592	461,185
KMDA, Inc. - expansion	Participation	130,000	335,000
Lamppa Manufacturing, Inc.	Loan Guaranty	75,000	200,000
Red Top Ready Mix, LLC	Loan Guaranty	37,500	50,000
Reynolds Enterprises, LLC - purchase real estate	Participation	560,000	1,720,000
Reynolds Manufacturing, Inc. (d/b/a Northland Machine, Inc.) - purchase assets	Participation	450,000	1,400,000



	TYPE	LOAN AMOUNT	TOTAL PROJECT INVESTMENT
FY22 LOANS - CONTINUED			
RSF Industries, Inc. - purchase equipment	Participation	100,000	200,000
Scranton Iron, Inc. (d/b/a Hibbing Salvage & Supply Inc.) - construct building	Participation	1,000,000	8,865,200
Virginia Plastics, LLC - purchase equipment	Participation	43,000	123,000
	Total	\$4,626,597	\$25,379,125
FY21 TOTAL		\$1,432,660	\$3,994,320
FY22 TOTAL		\$4,626,597	\$25,379,125
	GRAND TOTAL	\$6,059,257	\$29,373,445

Douglas J. Johnson Economic Protection Trust Fund

The Douglas J. Johnson Economic Protection Trust Fund is devoted to economic rehabilitation and diversification with priority for projects and programs designed to create and maintain productive permanent, skilled employment including employment in technologically innovative businesses; to encourage diversification of the economy; and, to promote the development of minerals, alternative energy sources utilizing indigenous fuels, forestry, small business and tourism; and, projects and programs for which technologies and economic feasibility have been demonstrated.

Minnesota Statutes Section 298.291-298.297

	AGENCY INVESTMENT	TOTAL PROJECT INVESTMENT
	\$15,000,000	\$439,300,000
Huber Engineered Woods, LLC (HEW) - Loan - Construct manufacturing facility	600,000	0*
Huber Engineered Woods, LLC (HEW) - Workforce development/training grant	1,220,000	1,220,000
Giants Ridge - capital projects	1,836,045	35,623,983
Public Works	1,952,481	8,388,650
Regional Trails	7,000,000	8,958,221
Taconite Area COVID Relief		
Total	\$27,608,526	\$493,490,854
PUBLIC WORKS		
Babbitt - construct wastewater treatment facility - Phase I	\$250,000	\$7,352,000
Chisholm-Hibbing Airport Authority - place new infrastructure for corporate hangar	350,000	5,440,200
Crosby - upgrade infrastructure for grocery store	350,000	8,609,521
Ely - upgrade infrastructure for grocery store	277,270	9,675,000
Gilbert - upgrade infrastructure for RV park and campground	33,775	116,275
Hibbing - place new infrastructure for eye clinic	300,000	2,830,987
Two Harbors - place new infrastructure for new dental office	275,000	1,600,000
Total	\$1,836,045	\$35,623,983
REGIONAL TRAILS		
Ely - complete trail and construct ADA path	\$81,046	\$437,182
Ely - complete ATV trail segments	300,000	600,000
Hoyt Lakes - construct ATV and snowmobile trail segment	500,000	1,620,000
Iron Range Tourism Bureau - fund trails task force small projects	50,000	100,000
Lake County - construct mountain bike trail - Phase II	450,000	1,887,180

\* Total project investment was included in another fiscal year or another program



<b>FY21 REGIONAL TRAILS GRANTS - CONTINUED</b>	<b>AGENCY INVESTMENT</b>	<b>TOTAL PROJECT INVESTMENT</b>
Morse - construct ATV trail	68,000	136,893
Riverton - construct adaptive mountain bike trail	303,700	2,118,795
St. Louis County Public Works - construct ATV trail	154,300	308,600
Tower - develop community trails plan	5,000	10,000
Virginia - construct pedestrian trail - Phase I	40,435	1,170,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$1,952,481</b>	<b>\$8,388,650</b>

### TACONITE AREA COVID RELIEF PROGRAMS

#### BUSINESS LOANS

Assists businesses negatively impacted by COVID-19.

Entrepreneur Fund	\$5,000,000	\$5,000,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$5,000,000</b>	<b>\$5,000,000</b>

#### COMMUNITY GRANTS

Assists communities through a grant to establish a community lending program that provided loans to businesses negatively impacted by COVID-19.

Babbitt	\$50,000	\$70,000
Chisholm	125,000	155,000
Cook County/Grand Marais EDA	250,000	862,000
East Range Joint Powers Board	150,000	190,000
Ely	125,000	155,000
Eveleth	200,000	250,000
Grand Rapids	200,000	556,000
Hibbing	400,000	850,000
Itasca Economic Development Corporation (IEDC)	200,000	260,000
Silver Bay	50,000	62,500
Tower	50,000	62,500
Virginia	200,000	485,221
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$2,000,000</b>	<b>\$3,958,221</b>

<b>FY22</b>	<b>AGENCY INVESTMENT</b>	<b>TOTAL PROJECT INVESTMENT</b>
Chisholm-Hibbing Airport Authority - Detroit Diesel Remanufacturing - Loan - Expansion	\$10,500,000	\$17,500,000
Chisholm-Hibbing Airport Authority - Detroit Diesel Remanufacturing - Other - Expansion	2,500,000	6,349,139
Giants Ridge - capital projects	1,260,000	1,260,000
Mountain Iron EDA - Expansion - Heliene USA	2,750,000	12,000,000
Public Works	7,649,850	90,722,129
Regional Trails	3,500,000	7,521,613
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$28,159,850</b>	<b>\$135,352,881</b>

#### PUBLIC WORKS

Babbitt - construct wastewater treatment facility - Phase II	\$250,000	\$10,350,000
Bigfork - construct locker rooms, wellness room and restrooms at school campus and arts center	250,000	2,872,735
Breitung - upgrade infrastructure and streets	200,000	1,010,000
Chisholm - upgrade infrastructure, street, utilities and community buildings	400,000	2,457,025
Chisholm - construct public safety building - Phase I	400,000	4,000,000
Consolidated Telecommunications Company - extend fiber optic network	742,850	5,786,490
Crane Lake - reconstruct road and improve lake access	250,000	3,837,000
Ely - reconstruct street and extend utilities	150,000	1,304,892
Ely - upgrade water main and extend fire lines at school campus	250,000	869,038
Goodland - replace HVAC system	20,000	68,880
Grand Rapids - improve site for mixed-use development	150,000	12,022,460
Grand Rapids - improve site and construct warehouse for business expansion	350,000	0*
Greenway - upgrade ADA accessibility and renovate country club and community center	70,000	140,000
Housing & Redevelopment Authority of Chisholm - renovate apartments	210,000	710,500
Itasca County Land Department - upgrade infrastructure at campground	100,000	644,597
Keewatin - upgrade infrastructure for new credit union	279,000	2,617,472
La Prairie - upgrade infrastructure for campground and RV park	312,000	1,947,303
Lake Vermilion Fire Brigade - develop helipad landing site and docks	165,000	205,000
Marble - replace water tower	325,000	1,594,711
Mountain Iron - modify wastewater treatment facilities to utilize portable belt press	360,000	1,297,000
Paul Bunyan Rural Telephone Cooperative - develop fiber-to-the-premises broadband internet and telephone	101,000	270,000
Silver Bay - upgrade access road	250,000	2,400,000
Virginia - upgrade infrastructure and streets - Phase II	500,000	4,103,919



	AGENCY INVESTMENT	TOTAL PROJECT INVESTMENT
<b>FY22 PUBLIC WORKS - CONTINUED</b>		
Virginia - upgrade infrastructure for hotel and loft development	1,500,000	30,032,942
White - install and extend broadband infrastructure	65,000	180,165
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$7,649,850</b>	<b>\$90,722,129</b>
<b>REGIONAL TRAILS</b>		
Blackberry - construct walking trails and amenities	\$29,737	\$59,475
Breitung - upgrade paved trail and construct new segment	162,500	350,000
Cook County/Grand Marais Joint Economic Development Authority - upgrade existing and construct new trails	25,000	100,000
Crow Wing County Land Services - conduct master planning for ATV safe route	15,000	30,000
Crow Wing County Land Services - construct emergency road access and develop signage and aerial photography	29,000	58,185
Ely - construct trail loop and develop signage and map	50,000	100,000
Ely - construct trail connector	130,755	280,755
Ely - construct bridge and complete environmental and permitting work	1,100,000	2,205,000
Eveleth - relocate section of trail	21,378	42,757
Grand Rapids - construct roadway and trail connector	139,500	279,000
Hibbing - construct new trail at campground	95,361	190,722
Iron Range Tourism Bureau - fund trails task force small projects grant	100,000	200,000
Itasca County - facilitate planning for development of mountain bike recreation area	16,000	32,000
Itasca County - construct non-motorized trail connector	80,000	200,000
Itasca County Land Department - construct ATV trail	50,000	200,000
Lawron Trail Riders - construct parking lot at trailhead	40,000	139,080
Lawron Trail Riders - replace trail bridge	70,000	225,000
Lutsen Trailbreakers Snowmobile Club - rebuild trail segments	12,500	25,000
Mountain Iron - construct trail connector	310,000	620,000
Northeast Regional ATV Trail Joint Powers Board - develop ATV master plan	50,000	100,000
St. Louis County Public Works - improve trail segments	315,000	630,000
Superior Hiking Trail Association - reconnect hiking trail - Phase II	53,500	107,000
Tower - construct trail connections, trailhead and parking area	461,900	1,061,900
Virginia - repair pedestrian trail - Phase II	142,869	285,739
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$3,500,000</b>	<b>\$7,521,613</b>

Taconite Economic Development Fund

The Taconite Economic Development Fund was established by the 1992 Minnesota Legislature. Currently in years when total industry production exceeds 30 million tons, up to 25.1 cents-per-ton of the taconite production tax may be rebated to northeastern Minnesota iron ore mining operations. The rebate must be used for:

- Workforce development and associated public facility improvement.
- Acquisition of plant and stationary mining equipment and facilities.
- Research and development in Minnesota on new mining or production technology.

Minnesota Statutes Section 298.227

	AGENCY INVESTMENT
<b>FY21</b>	
Hibbing Taconite Company - mill #6 half-shelf, gear and pinion replacement	\$1,850,602
Minorca Mine, Inc. - F filter cake bin, L1 roughers, cobber area structural replacement - phase II, tailings launder replacement	725,599
Northshore Mining Company - filter capacity increase - filter 12	1,502,815
United Taconite, LLC - line #2 furnace grate replacement	1,463,652
USS-Keetac - tailings basin decant replacement	1,332,568
USS-Minntac - dark river seeps collection, mine 7 indurating grate replacement	3,272,392
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$10,147,628</b>
<b>FY22</b>	
Hibbing Taconite Company - tailings basin spillway	\$1,667,043
Minorca Mine, Inc. - ball mill replacement	650,958
Northshore Mining Company - pellet yard reclaim conveyor	1,223,159
United Taconite, LLC - mill lines 1, 2 & 4 finisher upgrade and concentrate bin flow improvements	1,260,702
USS-Keetac - tailings basin decant replacement, vehicle lift and mine extension	1,016,301
USS-Minntac - lines 5 & 6 pre-classification, mine extension, new track scale and indurating line 6 grate	3,122,007
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$8,940,170</b>



Iron Range Higher Education Account

Created by the 2008 Minnesota Legislature, the Iron Range Higher Education Committee advises the commissioner on providing higher education programs to the service area. Programs are funded by five cents of the Taconite Production Tax that are placed in the Iron Range Higher Education Account. Upon recommendation of the commissioner and the Iron Range Higher Education Committee, the Iron Range Resources & Rehabilitation Board approves expenditures from the account.

Minnesota Statutes Section 298.28 Subd. 9d

	AGENCY INVESTMENT
FY22	
Northeast Higher Education District - purchase and renovate housing for Iron Range Engineering Bell program	\$675,000
Northeast Higher Education District - VisionNE merger	765,000
Northeast Higher Education District - Iron Range Engineering program	795,000
Total	\$2,235,000

Iron Range School Collaboration

The Iron Range School Collaboration grant program supports multi-collaborative initiatives that result in increased availability and access to high quality education and training for students, teachers and communities within the service area.

1. Bricks and Mortar Projects:

- Partnership with one additional school district.
- Bricks and mortar projects are capped at \$2 million annual contributions based upon approval of voter referendum.
- Evidence of new and increased curriculum opportunities for students.

2. Innovative Academic Programming:

- Partnership with one additional school district or NHED member college.
- Programming examples include but are not limited to: ALI, EIP, STEM initiatives and early childhood.
- Evidence of new and increased curriculum opportunities for students.

Minnesota Statutes Section 298.28 Subd. 7a

	AGENCY INVESTMENT
Bricks and Mortar Projects	
FY22	
Nashwauk-Keewatin Schools - ISD 319 - Nashwauk-Keewatin and Grand Rapids collaboration	\$18,000,000
Total	\$18,000,000



The 2021-2022 Biennial Report recaps  
the Department of Iron Range Resources & Rehabilitation  
activities from July 1, 2020 through June 30, 2022.

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