

(\$ in thousands)

| Project Title | Priority Ranking | Funding Source | Project Requests for State Funds | | |
|--|------------------|----------------|----------------------------------|-------------|-------------|
| | | | 2018 | 2020 | 2022 |
| New Nordic Golf Center | 1 | GO | \$ 10,000 | \$ 0 | \$ 0 |
| New Water Line Infrastructure | 2 | GO | \$ 1,600 | \$ 0 | \$ 0 |
| Mountain Bike Trails | 3 | GO | \$ 1,000 | \$ 0 | \$ 0 |
| New Aerial Chair Lift | 4 | GO | \$ 1,700 | \$ 0 | \$ 0 |
| Total Project Requests | | | \$ 14,300 | \$ 0 | \$ 0 |
| General Obligation Bonds (GO) Total | | | \$ 14,300 | \$ 0 | \$ 0 |

New Nordic Golf Center**AT A GLANCE****2018 Request Amount:** \$10,000**Priority Ranking:** 1**Project Summary:** \$10 million in state funds is requested to design, construct, furnish and equip new buildings for the Iron Range Resources Rehabilitation Board at Giants Ridge in Biwabik.**Project Description**

Construct a new Nordic Center/Golf Facility and Maintenance Facility

- 8,000 sf. Building, includes locker room, changing room, restroom facilities, meeting space, office space and snack bar. The building will also house a new golf shop for a golf course in same location. The facility plays host to the MN State High School Nordic Championship, hosts the largest High School Nordic event – Mesabi East - in the county. Host to the Pepsi Challenge Nordic event. The location also plays host to the many High School sectional golf events.
- 6,000 sf. recreational maintenance facility to provide a safe and efficient work and storage space for the golf course facility.

Project Rationale

Project will provide adequate and safe spaces for Nordic skiers and golfers, bikers, as well as employees. It will provide for a much better overall experience and creates the potential to grow additional events within the recreation area and surrounding communities.

- Separates the customers from the current maintenance facility which is over 30 years old
- Provides a safer environment for the Nordic skiers who participate in events currently utilizing the maintenance facility
- Locates the Nordic skiers closer to the trails
- Maintenance facility is within the Nordic and golf campus and is a safety risk with heavy equipment and deliveries arriving at the same location
- Creates a better arrival into the property for guests
- Provides for a updated maintenance facility that will be energy efficient and secure

Project Timeline

- Pre-Design architects selected August 2017
- Design process begins August 2017 – Completion fall 2017
- Final Design – Engineering process begins December 2017 – Completion February 2018
- Construction bid process to begin spring of 2018

- Final completion November 2019

Other Considerations

The economic impact to the region currently generates \$43 million annually into the local economy.

The facility is located in an economically depressed region of the State. The project provides tourism dollars into the local economy and diversifies the employment opportunity for people of the region. It also supports healthy communities within the region and the State.

Impact on Agency Operating Budgets

The construction will provide for an energy efficient buildings that will help to reduce the carbon footprint of the building. New energy systems will enhance efficiencies to the current buildings, which will reduce expenses associated with the physical plant operation of the buildings. It will help to increase the opportunity to advance the region as a quality location for athletic competitions for both Nordic and golf events.

Description of Previous Appropriations

N/A

Project Contact Person

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(\$ in thousands)

New Water Line Infrastructure**AT A GLANCE****2018 Request Amount:** \$1,600**Priority Ranking:** 2

Project Summary: \$1.6 million in state funds is requested to upgrade, construct, and support a new infrastructure system for the snow making process at Giants Ridge. The project provides efficiencies and upgraded technologies for piping systems and snow gun enhancements.

Project Description

- Upgrade infrastructure for snow making capabilities
- Replace failing underground infrastructure
- Provide automation technology for operations
- Increases pipe capacity for efficient operations
- Enhances safety on the hill during snow making operations

Project Rationale

The project will provide adequate stability for the snow making lines and system for the next 30 years.

- Increased revenue based on having beginner runs open early and for Christmas break.
- Having 75 percent of the hill open this year for Christmas break has a large impact on early season revenue. Having this system in place will make that goal more attainable on a year to year basis.
- Ability to make more snow during marginal early season conditions. Important as weather has been trending warmer for the month of November and early December over the last 10 years making it harder to open.
- Ability to use existing fleet on other runs.
- Potentially save \$30,000 to \$40,000 dollars a year on labor and energy savings.
- Reduced labor costs due to the automation of the snow guns.
- Ability to maximize the pump station to capacity reducing overall energy consumption and costs.

Project Timeline

Bid Process: Spring 2018

Construction: Summer 2018

Final Completion: Spring 2019

Other Considerations

The current pipe line for the hill resides on the main runs. The piping was installed 30 years ago. A catastrophic failure of a water line(s) is likely in the next few years due to the age and current conditions of the pipes. This would have an effect on the economic impact for the region for

businesses that depend upon skier traffic for revenue for their local small businesses.

Impact on Agency Operating Budgets

This project will increase revenues with the ability to increase the capacity of the water lines for the snowmaking system for winter ski operations.

Description of Previous Appropriations

N/A

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Mountain Bike Trails**AT A GLANCE****2018 Request Amount:** \$1,000**Priority Ranking:** 3**Project Summary:** \$1 million in state funds is requested to construct 20 miles of purpose built and cross country mountain bike trails.**Project Description**

Construct 20 miles of purpose built and cross country mountain bike trails.

- 15 miles of cross country mountain bike flow trails ranging from beginner to advanced
- 5 miles of downhill/gravity mountain bike trails ranging from beginner to advanced

Project Rationale

The project would allow Giants Ridge to work towards its goal of becoming a regional mountain bike destination.

- Increased revenue by attracting a new market to Giants Ridge in the summer.
- Promotes tourism for the region.
- 2016 NSAA study that shows mountain bike visits were up 98% over previous years.
- Allows Giants Ridge to utilize existing chairlift infrastructure in the summer months.
- Provides both Giants Ridge operational jobs, as well as construction jobs.
- Enhances quality of life for regional residents by providing accessible recreation.
- Would tie the Iron Range into the mountain biking success of both Duluth and Cuyuna.
- Ties into 3 miles of gravity trails built in the fall of 2017.

Project Timeline

Bid Process: Spring 2018

Construction: Summer 2018 and Summer 2019

Final Completion: Fall 2019

Other Considerations

The Crosby Ironton Area has experienced an estimated \$2 million economic impact from their existing 25 miles of trails

Impact on Agency Operating Budgets

This project will increase summer revenues for the facility.

Description of Previous Appropriations

N/A

Project Contact Person

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New Aerial Chair Lift**AT A GLANCE****2018 Request Amount:** \$1,700**Priority Ranking:** 4**Project Summary:** \$1.7 million in state funds is requested to construct a new aerial chair lift.**Project Description**

The new infrastructure will replace an aging chair lift that provides transport to the top of the ski, bike and hiking areas.

Project Rationale

The project will provide reliable and safe transportation to the top of the ski/hiking/biking area.

- Project will add additional uphill capacity
- An aerial lift will provide a safe and dependable ride for customers
- Improved safety monitoring with new technologies
- Safety retention bars will be required
- Increased operator efficiencies
- Provides greater lift capacity (skier per hour)

Project Timeline

Bid Process: Spring 2018

Construction: Summer 2018

Final Completion: Late Fall 2018

Other Considerations

Economic impacts for Giants Ridge on the local economy are \$43 million. The project is located in an economically distressed area of the East Iron Range. The facility is the host site to 11 Alpine and multiple Nordic events annually serving 4,000 plus participants. Over 50% are alpine related.

Impact on Agency Operating Budgets

There is a potential for reduction in labor and spare parts spent on fixing old infrastructure.

Description of Previous Appropriations

N/A

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