

(\$ in thousands)

Project Title	Priority Ranking	Funding Source	Project Requests for State Funds		
			2020	2022	2024
New Nordic Golf Facility	1	GO	\$ 11,844	\$ 0	\$ 0
Water Line Replacement	2	GO	\$ 8,646	\$ 0	\$ 0
New Aerial Chair Lift - Calgary	3	GO	\$ 3,188	\$ 0	\$ 0
Total Project Requests			\$ 23,678	\$ 0	\$ 0
General Obligation Bonds (GO) Total			\$ 23,678	\$ 0	\$ 0

New Nordic Golf Facility**AT A GLANCE****2020 Request Amount:** \$11,844**Priority Ranking:** 1**Project Summary:** \$11.8 million in state funds is requested to design, construct, furnish and equip two new buildings for Iron Range Resources and Rehabilitation at Giants Ridge in Biwabik.**Project Description**

Construct a new Nordic Center/Golf Facility and Maintenance Facility including:

- 8,000 sf. building with a 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 and hosts the largest high school Nordic event – Mesabi East - in the county. Additionally, the facility hosts the Pepsi Challenge Nordic event and many High School sectional golf events.
- 6,000 sf. maintenance facility to provide a safe and efficient work and storage space for the golf course facility.

Project Rationale

This project will provide adequate and safe spaces for Nordic skiers, golfers, bikers, and 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. The project:

- 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 and provides additional space
- 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 an updated maintenance facility that will be energy efficient and secure

Project Timeline

This project will occur over multiple years to accommodate business operations – seasonal impacts.

Funding Approved: 2020

Construction Start: 2021

Final Construction 2024

Other Considerations

Giants Ridge currently generates \$43 million annually to the local economy. The facility is located in an economically distressed region of the state. The project attracts tourism dollars into the local economy and diversifies employment opportunities for the regional workforce. It also supports healthy communities within the region and the state.

Impact on Agency Operating Budgets

The construction will provide for energy efficient buildings that will help to reduce the carbon footprints of the buildings. New energy systems enhance efficiencies to the current buildings, which reduce expenses associated with the physical plant operations. 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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Water Line Replacement**AT A GLANCE****2020 Request Amount:** \$8,646**Priority Ranking:** 2**Project Summary:** \$8.6 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
- Increase pipe capacity for efficient operations
- Enhance safety on the hill during snow making operations

Project Rationale

The project will provide adequate stability and capacity for the snow making lines and system for the next 30 years. Other impacts of the project include:

- Increased revenue based on having beginner runs open early and for Christmas break
- Having 75 percent of the winter operations open 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 of snow guns on other runs
- Reduced labor costs due to the automation of the snow guns
- Potential to save \$30,000 to \$40,000 a year on labor and energy savings
- Ability to maximize the pump station to capacity reducing overall energy consumption and costs

Project Timeline

This project will occur over multiple years to accommodate business operations – seasonal impacts.

Funding Approved: 2020

Construction Start: 2021

Final Construction: 2023

Other Considerations

The current pipe line for the hill resides on the main runs. The piping was installed 30 years ago. A total 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. Giant's Ridge has a \$43 million impact to local and surrounding communities.

Impact on Agency Operating Budgets

This project will increase the capacity of the water lines for the snowmaking system for winter ski operations; and, with more snow product earlier in season, increase visitors and revenue.

Description of Previous Appropriations

N/A

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New Aerial Chair Lift - Calgary**AT A GLANCE****2020 Request Amount:** \$3,188**Priority Ranking:** 3**Project Summary:** \$3.2 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. Additionally, impacts include:

- 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

This project will occur over multiple years to accommodate business operations – seasonal impacts.

Funding Approved: 2020

Construction Start: 2021

Final Construction: 2021

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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