

# GATEWAY STATE TRAIL EXTENSION 2020 CAPITAL BUDGET REQUEST CITY OF SCANDIA

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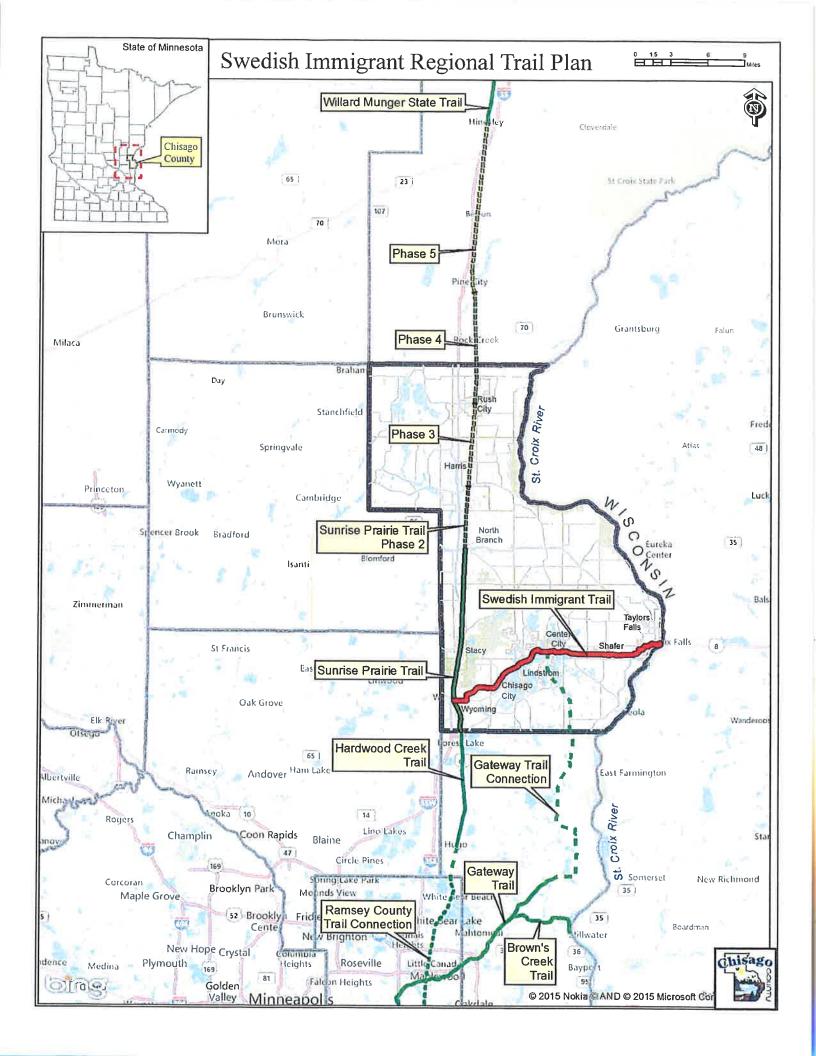


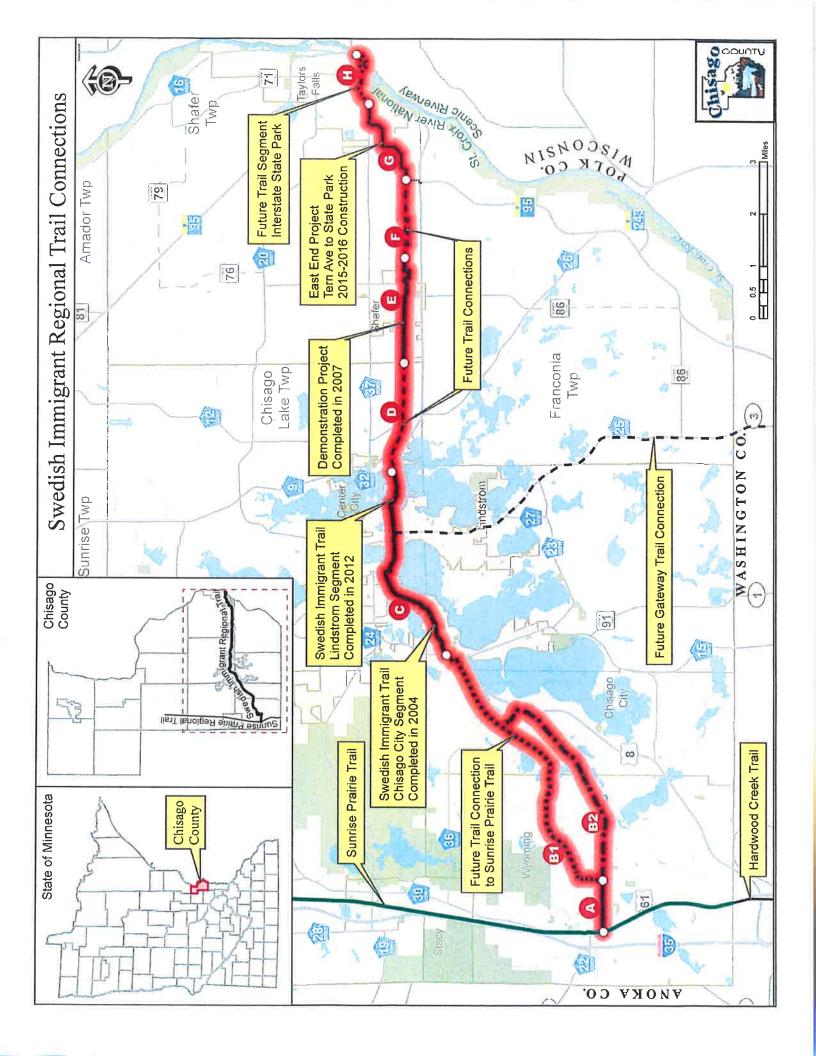
# **Gateway Extension-Scandia**





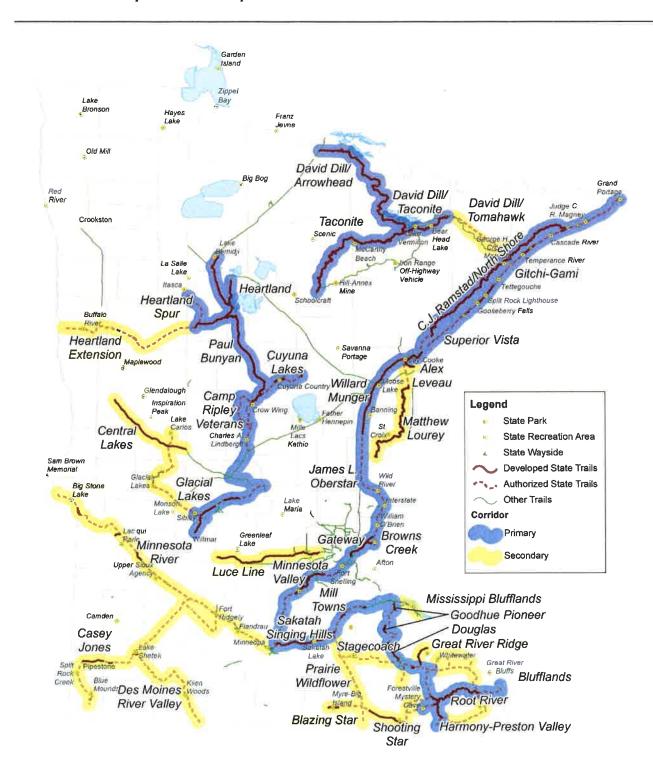








### **State Trail Primary and Secondary Corridors**



#### **2020 State Capital Investment Project Request**

Submitting Department: City of

City of Scandia

Project Title:

Gateway State Trail Extension

Submitting Staff:

Christine Maefsky, Mayor

Lead Staff:

Ken Cammilleri, City Administrator

At a Glance

2020 Request Amount

\$4.6 million

**Priority Ranking** 

1

# **Project Summary:**

\$4.6 million in state funds is requested to complete design, construction and furnishing of the Gateway Trail from a terminus within William O'Brien State Park around the Interpretive Center/campground complex to the Scandia Village Center, and for further design and land acquisition for the Gateway Trail extension south of William O'Brien and north of Scandia.

# **Project Description:**

The work will be completed in multiple phases (request is based on design work completed in 2017-18); all land assembly for the William O'Brien to Scandia segment is complete:

	Project Phase description	Cost
•	Final engineering, design and tunnel construction under Washington County road 52, Oakhill Rd N .	\$ 1,000,000
:•:	Final engineering and design from Oakhill Rd N to a terminus within the park determined by Minnesota Department of Natural Resources-Parks and Trails Division (MNDNR PAT),	\$ 250,000
•	Construction of the trail from the Scandia Village Center to William O'Brien State Park's northern boundary— Approximately 2 miles; design for this segment is partially complete	\$ 1,000,000
•	Construction of the trail from the northern border of William O'Brien State Park to a terminus within the park determined by MNDNR PATR—2 miles	\$ 2,000,000
•	Land acquisition and preliminary engineering from Pine Point Park to William O'Brien	\$ 250,000

 Preliminary exploration, feasibility assessment, and conceptual engineering for the route of the Gateway Trail north of Scandia toward Chisago County and the Swedish Immigrant Regional Trail

Total Requested. \$4,600,000

#### **Project Rationale:**

In 2017 the state completed acquisition of the final linkage for connecting the Gateway State Trail from Marine on St. Croix, through William O'Brien State Park to Scandia. In 2018 the legislature removed an Agricultural Preserve restriction to allow the final link of the Gateway between William O'Brien and Scandia to be developed now. Predesign work on a portion of the trail was completed in 2018 using previously appropriated funds. This project is now ready to move ahead with the final design and construction.

This project will result in the extension of the state's most popular bike trail the additional 3 miles from the William O'Brien State Park to the Scandia Village Center. There is an existing paved trail in the Highway 95 road right-of-way from the Park to Marine on St. Croix. This will allow access from the Park to two tot-lots, tennis courts, a skating rink, multiple sports fields, restaurants and other commercial facilities and the Gammelgarden Museum in Scandia, and complete a trail segment anticipated to have very heavy use by families and children. This segment will also make possible on-road linkage to points south to Pine Point Park and points north to the Swedish Immigrant Trail in Chisago County. Design and engineering work for the north and south linkages is also proposed to be funded to accelerate completion of the linkage to the Immigrant Trail and Interstate Park and ultimately links to the Munger Trails to connect to Duluth.

While Scandia is a highly popular on-road bicycling destination, there is strong community and state need for the off-road trails funded in this request to provide greater appeal and safety for families and children that use the State Park and for the Scandia elementary school population.

#### **Project Timeline:**

2020 - 2021

 Final engineering, design and tunnel construction under Washington County road 52, Oakhill Rd N.

#### 2021-2022

 Final engineering and design from Oakhill Rd N to a terminus within the park determined by Minnesota Department of Natural Resources-Parks and Trails Division (MNDNR PAT),2021

#### 2021-2023

 Construction of the trail from the Scandia Village Center to William O'Brien State Park's northern boundary—Approximately 2 miles; design for this segment is partially complete

#### 2023-2024

 Construction of the trail from the northern border of William O'Brien State Park to a terminus within the park determined by MNDNR PATR—2 miles

#### 2020 - 2024

- Land acquisition and preliminary engineering from Pine Point Park to William O'Brien
- Preliminary exploration, feasibility assessment, and conceptual engineering for the route of the Gateway Trail north of Scandia toward Chisago County and the Swedish Immigrant Regional Trail

Scandia will cooperate with the DNR, Washington County, Chisago County, the cities of Marine on St. Croix and Lindstrom and May Township in the various aspects of the design and engineering to assure coordination and connection. Multiple local planning and community groups will also be engaged, including Friends of Scandia Parks and Trails, Cycling Scandia, the Gateway Trail Association, the Scandia Heritage Alliance and Gammelgarden Museum.

Scandia is currently one of the most popular on-road biking communities in the state due to its 30.6 miles of arterial roadways with full shoulders, it's beautiful terrain, and its relatively low traffic density.

Washington County in its 2010 Comprehensive Plan identified three routes as critical on-road connections for cycling: Highway 97, County 15 (Manning Avenue) and County 3 (Olinda Trail). All have full width shoulders. The County has supported this trail extension as bringing the State trail to a location that accesses these three on-road routes and completing a connection with high use. These on-road connections link Scandia to multiple county and state parks and other trails including William O'Brien State Park, Big Marine Park Reserve, and the Hardwood Creek State Trail and the Swedish Immigrant Regional Trail. See attachments.

#### Who will own the facility?:

The DNR will own the trails via easements across private property and on already owned public land within the State Park.

#### Who will operate the facility?:

This is a State Trail and will be operated by the DNR.

#### Who will use or occupy the facility?:

The trails are open and accessible to all of the public for hiking, bicycling and horse riding.

#### **Public Purpose:**

Assuring a proper design is critical to advancement of the Trail, as is providing connections to existing and proposed trails to provide the public with a well-designed and thoughtful system for enjoying the state via walking, bicycling and horse riding. Moving forward with design and construction of the Gateway Trail through this section of Scandia is a highly desirable addition to recreational use of the State Park and will advance multiple longer term trail connection goals in the region and toward the goal of an off road connection to Duluth from the Metro area

# Impact on Operating Budget or Impact on State Operating Subsidies:

It is not expected these segments will materially increase state operating costs because the State Park and Trail are already in existence and the State Park has staff and resources to manage and maintain the new portions proposed.

# **Description of Previous Appropriations:**

Multiple, including recent allocations for design and engineering within William O'Brien, for final engineering between the Park and Scandia Village Center, for purchase of the easements connecting the Park to the Scandia Village Center, and for easements between Pine Point Park and William O'Brien, as well as multiple prior appropriations for the construction Gateway and Browns Creek Trails. This appropriation would maximize the value of prior expenditures.

# **Project Contact Person:**

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