

**Capitol Region Watershed District
PARTNER GRANT AGREEMENT**

This Grant Agreement (Agreement) is entered into between Capitol Region Watershed District (CRWD), a political subdivision of the State of Minnesota; and Saint Paul Natural Resources (Grantee), this 28th day of December, 2016.

WHEREAS, the CRWD has established a grant program to provide financial assistance to various individuals or organizations to protect and improve water resources within CRWD; and

WHEREAS, the mission of CRWD is to protect, manage and improve water resources of the CRWD by encouraging water resource stewardship in the watershed district; and

WHEREAS, the Grantee has presented a proposal (Project) that CRWD believes will further its mission;

IT IS THEREFORE AGREED BETWEEN THE PARTIES AS FOLLOWS:

1. SCOPE OF PROJECT

The Grantee will perform the Project as described in the Grant Proposal, which is attached as Exhibit A and incorporated as part of this Agreement. The grant funding will be used for Tasks 1, 2, 3 and 4 with a total not to exceed \$16,000.00, Other work and costs not directly associated with this project are not eligible for reimbursement.

2. GENERAL CONDITIONS

A. Non Assignment

The Grantee shall not assign any part or all of this Agreement to any other person without the prior written consent of the CRWD.

B. Independent Contractor

The Grantee is an independent contractor and neither the Grantee, its agent, employees, assigns nor other persons while engaged in the performance of the Project shall be considered employees of the CRWD. Nothing contained in the Agreement shall be construed to create the relationship of co-partners, joint ventures or a partnership or association between the CRWD and the Grantee.

C. Indemnification

The Grantee agrees to defend, indemnify and hold the CRWD, its officials, agents and employees harmless from any claims, demands, actions or causes of action, including attorneys' fees, arising out of any act or omission of the Grantee, its agents or employees in the performance of the Project and Agreement.

D. Alteration

No alteration, variation, modification or waiver of the provision of the Agreement is valid until it is in writing and signed by both parties.

E. Insurance

Grantee shall purchase and/or maintain the insurance necessary to protect the CRWD from claims, which may arise out of, or result from, the Grantee's performance of the Project. Grantee shall provide a copy of all certificates of insurance to the CRWD upon request. It is the sole responsibility of the Grantee to purchase and maintain insurance that may be necessary for performance of the Project and Agreement.

F. Setoff

If damages are sustained by the CRWD as a direct or indirect result of the Grantee's performance of the Project or Agreement, the CRWD may withhold payments (not to exceed the amount of the damages) to the Grantee until the exact amount of damages is determined.

G. Termination

The CRWD may suspend or terminate the Agreement for failure of the Grantee to meet the terms of the Project and Agreement. In such case, the CRWD shall provide written notice to the Grantee specifying the extent of the suspension or nature of the termination and the reasons for it, and the effective date. Upon receipt of such notice the Grantee shall discontinue further performance or expenditure of funds as related to the Project and Agreement.

H. Compliance With Applicable Law

The Grantee shall comply with all applicable federal, state and local laws and regulations, and apply, pay for and obtain all permits or licenses necessary for the performance of the Project and Agreement. The Grantee is responsible for locating utilities for this project.

I. Documents

The CRWD, its authorized representative or the State Auditor shall have full access to all documents relating to the performance of the Agreement. The Grantee shall maintain records for all services provided under the Agreement and retain those records for seven (7) years following the termination of the Agreement.

J. Data Practices

The Grantee's performance of this Agreement and all documents related thereto are governed by the Minnesota Government Data Practices Act, Minn. Stat. Ch. 13 and applicable federal law.

K. Interpretation/Venue

This Agreement shall be interpreted and construed according to the laws of the State of Minnesota. Any litigation involving this Agreement shall be conducted in the State of Minnesota.

L. Term

This Agreement shall be effective as of the date it is signed by both parties and continue until **December 31, 2017** or until terminated pursuant to the Agreement.

M. Ownership

All work products, including but not limited to concepts, ideas, layouts, drawing, maps, models, computer programs or simulations, photography, scripts, graphics, reports and recommendations become the property of the CRWD upon completion of the Project. The Grantee shall be entitled to retain copies of all work products.

N. Entire Agreement

This Agreement and Exhibit shall constitute the entire Agreement between the CRWD and the Grantee and shall supercede all prior oral and written Agreements or negotiations.

O. Final Report

Upon completion of the Project, the Grantee is required to prepare a Final Report of the Project's implementation and benefit and submit it to the CRWD within 30 days of completion of the Project. The Final Report should include details about the audience reached (total # and demographics, if available), a detailed description of each funded task, receipts for approved supplies and an invoice for staff time, high resolution photos/video and a brief quote about your experience working with the CRWD for program promotion.

3. PAYMENT

CRWD shall reimburse the Grantee a total not to exceed \$16,000.00 of actual documented costs upon completion of the Project and receipt and review of a Final Report (Condition O).

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, the Parties hereto have caused this Agreement to be executed by the respective duly authorized representatives as of the day and year written:

FOR CAPITOL REGION WATERSHED DISTRICT:

By: Mars Doney
(Title): Administrator
Date: 3/14/17

FOR THE GRANTEE:

By: [Signature]
(Title): Environmental Education Coord.
Date: 3/8/2017

Signatures

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties have executed this Agreement on the date(s) hereinafter set forth.

City of Saint Paul

Signature

Printed Name

Title Finance & Planning Manager

Date

Signature

Printed Name

Title City Attorney

Date

Signature

Printed Name

Title Financial Services Director

Date



Capitol Region Watershed District

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2016 Partner Grant Application Form

Submission Timestamp: 2016-10-31 11:15:43

Project Information

Project Name: Connecting underrepresented groups to urban waterways

Application Information

Organization or Agency: Saint Paul Natural Resources
Address: 1100 Hamline Ave N
Saint Paul, Minnesota 55108
Contact Person: Faith Krogstad
Phone: (651) 632-2455
Email Address: faith.krogstad@ci.stpaul.mn.us

What geographic and/or demographic area do you serve?
The City of Saint Paul

How much are you requesting?
\$16,000

How did you hear about our grants?
Past recipient

Project Description

Describe the mission and goals of your organization and how your project helps meet them.

The mission of Saint Paul Natural Resources (SPNR) is to create lifelong connections to a healthy environment for all. SPNR is composed of Environmental Education, Environmental Services, Volunteer Resources, Arts & Gardens, and Forestry and is a section of Saint Paul Parks and Recreation. This proposal would be implemented by Environmental Education staff.

Research suggests that contact with nature is linked to many benefits including improved physical and emotional health [1]. Unfortunately, environmental benefits are not enjoyed equally in Saint Paul. For example, people of color use regional parkland at markedly lower rates than the white population [2] due to a variety of reasons including a lack of awareness of park resources, safety and security concerns, and

lack of transportation [3].

This proposal connects underrepresented audiences to parks and water resources in the Capitol Region Watershed District such as Como Lake, Trout Brook, Lower Phalen Creek, and the Mississippi River, facilitating positive experiences to instill a value for environmental conservation and sustainability. Focusing on regional parks allows SPNR to allocate additional staff time to support the programs, as Faith Krogstad's time is funded by Metropolitan Council Legacy funds.

This proposal comprises two projects:

The first project continues the sPARK program, supported in 2015 and 2016 by CRWD, which brings youth from affordable housing and nonprofit community centers on regularly occurring trips to a park in their community for experiential education on water quality, ecology, conservation, and stewardship. Over the course of the program, youth learn how our natural resources take care of people and how people take care of natural resources. They become more comfortable outdoors and invested in the park as they play an active role in its restoration. Youth will study water quality and how it relates to the health of plant life, wildlife, and humans. Hands-on experiences will include inquiry into mammals, pollinators (including an in-hive bee class), and macroinvertebrates. This program will serve approximately 60 unduplicated youth.

In 2017, components of sPARK will also be incorporated into a new summer day camp pilot at Hidden Falls Regional Park carried out at Hidden Falls Creek and the Mississippi River. The YMCA, Saint Paul Parks and Recreation, Wilderness Inquiry, and other partners will establish the camp to primarily serve children of color and children from low-income families as part of the Saint Paul Cities Connecting Children to Nature (CCCN) initiative, which is supported by the National League of Cities and Children and Nature Network. Faith Krogstad leads the Saint Paul CCCN initiative and CCCN grant funds will complement Partner Grant funds. The sPARK activities in the day camp pilot will serve approximately 100 unduplicated youth.

The second project continues and expands the Parks Ambassadors program. Piloted in 2016 with CRWD Partner Grant funds, the Parks Ambassador program builds relationships between Saint Paul Natural Resources (SPNR) staff and underrepresented groups in regional parks to break down barriers to park use and nature access. In 2016, SPNR staff met with the Skyline Tower Elders group to introduce them to park amenities and learn about their interests in and barriers to visiting parkland. SPNR staff provided van transportation and accompanied the group to answer questions about park rules, environment, and assets. Despite living only a few miles from Como Park and residing in Saint Paul for 15-20 years, many of the predominantly East African immigrant participants had never visited Como Lake or Como Zoo and were pleased to experience these nearby amenities and expressed interest in further exploration.

For 2017, Partner Grant funds would enable SPNR staff to continue to introduce the Skyline Elders group to more park destinations and expand the Parks Ambassador program to meet demand from other groups, serving approximately 100 people. For example, Women's Advocates, a women's shelter in Saint Paul has expressed interest in the program for mothers and their children. Partner Grant funds will support outreach and relationship-building with underrepresented groups as well as excursions to parks. The Parks Ambassadors program is driven by the interests of the participants. While participants may choose to visit park sites across the city, Partner Grant funds would only be used for outings within the watershed district, introducing residents to natural resources and sparking inquiries and discussions about them.

REFERENCES

[1] Keniger et al (2013). "What are the benefits of interacting with nature?" International Journal of

Environmental Research and Public Health, 10(3), 913-935.

[2] Metropolitan Council (2009). "Metropolitan Council regional parks and trails survey 2008." <http://bit.ly/1Xq2Yhs>

[3] Metropolitan Council (2014). "Regional park use among select communities of color: A qualitative investigation." <http://bit.ly/10sQ2LV>

Describe how your project will protect or improve water quality.

The ultimate aim of education and outreach efforts is to develop environmental literacy in residents and cultivate positive environmental behaviors.

The sPARK program aims to enhance the knowledge and skills of youth in protecting and improving water quality in Saint Paul through in-depth, hands-on learning and stewardship experiences in natural areas. Youth will care for native wetland plugs during the summer and plant them in riparian areas or rain gardens in parks at the close of the program. These plants will stabilize the soil, slow overland movement of water, and take up dissolved nutrients.

The Parks Ambassador program will engage people who are typically underrepresented in regional parks, such as racial and ethnic minorities, youth, young adults, older adults, new immigrants, and families with children [4]. The program improves access to urban water systems and other natural resources in parks by breaking down barriers such as lack of awareness of park amenities and rules, lack of transportation, and safety concerns. Research suggests that experiences in nature, particularly in early childhood, "significantly influence the development of lifelong environmental attitudes and values." [5] By increasing awareness of and access to urban water resources and parkland among underrepresented groups, the ultimate goal is to cultivate positive environmental behaviors to protect and conserve water resources.

REFERENCES

[4] Metropolitan Council (2016). "Small share of Legacy funds to be spent to 'Connect people and the outdoors' in regional parks." <http://bit.ly/2eYKoMX>

[5] Strife, S and L. Downey (2009). "Childhood development and access to nature: A new direction for environmental inequality research." *Organization & Environment*, 22(1): 99-122. <http://bit.ly/2f7lh5C>

If applicable, please list other partners and their role in your project.

CommonBond Communities is the Midwest's largest nonprofit provider of low-income housing with services. Youth from Skyline Tower (along I-94 near Lexington Parkway) and other sites will participate in the sPARK program in summer 2017. CommonBond staff will communicate with families of youth, obtain permission slips, and chaperone the youth during outings. Adults from Skyline Tower's Elder Group will participate in the Parks Ambassador program and go on outings to visit parks and water resources in Saint Paul. CommonBond staff will publicize the outings and recruit participants. CommonBond successfully participated in sPARK and Parks Ambassadors in 2016.

Hallie Q. Brown (HQB) Community Center "is an African American, nonprofit social service agency open to all." Youth from HQB's Youth Enrichment program will participate in the sPARK program. HQB staff will communicate with families of youth, obtain permission slips, and chaperone the youth during outings. HQB participated in sPARK in 2016.

SPNR staff will collaborate with the YMCA, National Park Service, and Wilderness Inquiry to pilot a summer day camp at Hidden Falls. The effort is part of a citywide initiative to equitably connect children to nature and is led by Faith Krogstad, the Environmental Education Coordinator for SPNR. This team will develop curriculum for the day camp, which will include water-focused activities from the sPARK

program, and recruit youth-serving organizations to bring youth to the camp.

For the Park Ambassador program, SPNR staff will partner with groups that are underrepresented in regional parks including Skyline Elders program, Women's Advocates, and Hmong American Partnership. SPNR staff will recruit additional groups to participate in the program in the course of 2017. The role of the groups is to publicize the meetings and outings and recruit participants for the program.

Measurement and Evaluation

Briefly describe how you will measure the success of your project.

sPARK: This project will be successful if participants report and/or demonstrate 1) positive experience in the program, 2) increased understanding of, and connection to, the environment, and 3) increased competency and self-efficacy in environmental improvement. Evaluation strategies include group reflection and debriefs, informal interviews with individuals and staff observations of participants behavior and skills throughout the program.

Parks Ambassadors: This project will be successful if participants spend time in parks and report having a positive experience and plan to return to the same parks in the future.

Project Tasks

Task 1

Name

sPARK education program

Estimate Completion Date

09/2017

Description

Engage 60 youth in environmental education in Saint Paul parks. Recruit 1-2 additional organizations for participation (CommonBond and HQB are on board already), develop and sign organizational agreements, refine curriculum, provide transportation, supply materials and equipment, and implement program. Funds to be spent as follows: \$4000 for transportation, \$5500 for staff time, \$1000 for materials, and \$500 for in-hive bee classes at Bruce Vento Nature Sanctuary. SPNR will commit additional Legacy-funded staff time and in-kind program resources to this program.

Task 2

Name

sPARK activities in new day camp

Estimate Completion Date

09/2017

Description

Engage 100 youth in environmental education activities at Hidden Falls Regional Park. Create curriculum in partnership with the YMCA, Wilderness Inquiry, and the National Park Service, recruit youth-serving organizations for participation, and implement program. Partner grant funds will support \$1000 in staff time at the camp. SPNR will commit additional staff time funded by Legacy dollars and National League of Cities/Children & Nature Network grant funds to the development and implementation of this program.

Task 3

Name
Parks Ambassadors

Estimate Completion Date
11/2017

Description

Description Build relationships with 5 community groups, elucidate interests in parks, plan at least 10 outings and engage 100 people in parks. Provide transportation and knowledgeable staff to facilitate discussions about natural resources. Partner grant funds will support \$4000 in staff time for this program. SPNR will commit transportation and additional Legacy-funded staff time to this program.

Task 4

Name
Program evaluation

Estimate Completion Date
12/2017

Description

Conduct debriefs, interviews, and observations and collect data to assess the results of the programs.

Project Budget

Tasks	Personnel / Staff Costs	Other Expenses	Total Cost
sPARK education program	\$14,000.00	\$1,000.00	\$15,000.00
sPARK activities in new day camp	\$5,500.00	\$500.00	\$6,000.00
Parks Ambassadors	\$9,000.00	\$3,000.00	\$12,000.00
Program evaluation	\$500.00	\$0.00	\$500.00
Totals	\$29,000.00	\$4,500.00	\$33,500.00

Grant Funding

Tasks	Requested CRWD Funding	Approved	Other Source Funding	Total
sPARK education program	\$11,000.00	(\$11,000)	\$4,000.00	\$15,000.00
sPARK activities in new day camp	\$1,000.00	(\$1,000)	\$5,000.00	\$6,000.00
Parks Ambassadors	\$4,000.00	(\$4,000)	\$8,000.00	\$12,000.00
Program evaluation	\$0.00		\$500.00	\$500.00
Totals	\$16,000.00	(\$16,000)	\$17,500.00	\$33,500.00