

AMY KLOBUCHAR  
MINNESOTA

COMMITTEES:  
AGRICULTURE, NUTRITION,  
AND FORESTRY  
COMMERCE, SCIENCE,  
AND TRANSPORTATION  
JOINT ECONOMIC COMMITTEE  
JUDICIARY  
RULES AND ADMINISTRATION

United States Senate  
WASHINGTON, DC 20510

May 6, 2022

The Honorable Patrick Leahy  
Chairman  
Appropriations Committee  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Richard Shelby  
Vice Chairman  
Appropriations Committee  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Tammy Baldwin  
Chair  
Senate Appropriations Subcommittee on  
Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and  
Drug Administration, and Related Agencies  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable John Hoeven  
Ranking Member  
Senate Appropriations Subcommittee on  
Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and  
Drug Administration, and Related Agencies  
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Chairman Leahy, Vice Chairman Shelby, Chair Baldwin, and Ranking Member Hoeven,

I certify that neither I nor my immediate family has a pecuniary interest in any of the congressionally-directed spending items that I have requested in the Fiscal Year 2023 Subcommittee on Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies, consistent with the requirements of paragraph 9 of Rule XLIV of the Standing Rules of the Senate.

Sincerely,



Amy Klobuchar  
United States Senator

**Klobuchar, Amy(D-MN) Agriculture  
Congressionally Directed Spending Requests**

Recipient Name	Project Purpose	Project Location	Amount Requested (\$000)
Wabasha County	Wabasha County is seeking proposals from qualified firms to assist the county in implementing the county's vision for broadband: All residents have access to adequate and affordable broadband. To help progress in that vision that County Board is considering using American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds to establish a grant program for existing Broadband vendors to expand services within the County. The purpose of this engagement is to identify a consultant to help in developing a grant program for existing providers that will make use of ARPA funds available to the county for the construction and expansion of broadband to serve county residents, businesses, and institutions.	All cities and townships in Wabasha County MN	\$75
Fraser Mental Health	Fraser Mental Health provides counseling for children and adolescents with mental health concerns. We are the largest and most experienced provider of early childhood mental health services in Minnesota. Fraser offers evaluation, therapy, preschool day treatment and support services for children with a mental health diagnosis, including adjustment disorder, post-traumatic stress disorder, mood disorder, conduct disorder and attention deficit hyperactivity disorder. Each year we serve over 2,300 children. For both autism and mental health disorders, children who receive early intervention rely less on special education services, have a better chance of completing school and are more likely to gain employment and independence as adults. In the Twin Cities metropolitan area, more than 15,000 children aged 5 or younger suffer from a mental health disorder (Minnesota Department of Human Services). These disorders interfere with emotional development, social relationships, academic performance and future physical and mental health. This is not a challenge unique to the Twin Cities and suburbs. All children in Minnesota need these valuable services, and Fraser is able to deliver care via telehealth. This delivery model is deeply related to Fraser's commitment to DEIB work as clinicians do not need to move to Alexandria, Thief River Falls, or Willmar to provide care to any Minnesotan in need of services also allowing families to access a more diverse group of clinicians.	All of Minnesota-Hennepin County MN	\$50
City of Argyle	The Argyle Volunteer Fire Department/Rescue Squad's equipment has exceeded the space of their current Fire Hall. With the harsh winter temperatures, the equipment needs to be stored in a heated building out of the elements. With the size of equipment increasing, there just is no solution to this problem other than construct a new Fire Hall.	Argyle MN	\$500
City of Audubon	<p>The City of Audubon is looking to demolish the current fire/community hall and erect a new fire/community hall.</p> <p>The current fire/community hall, is three separate buildings combined as one. Foundation, structure, and roof issues have all caused severe issues with the existing building, including leaks, mold, uneven floors, gaps under doors, and drafty windows. Inadequate space for social distancing, proper air ventilation, and proper storage of gear and supplies are all results of a building that is well past its prime. Due to many of these issues, the community hall portion has been closed to the majority of the public.</p> <p>The current city hall houses administration, police, and office space for the rescue department, whose storage facility is in the existing fire/community hall. This building has an unusable second level due to the lack of an acceptable access for individuals of all abilities.</p> <p>In order to provide the best service possible to the residents of not just our city, but also the surrounding lakes area a new all in one facility is the best option physically and financially.</p>	Audubon MN	\$2,380
Balkan Township	Funds will be used to design, engineer and construct a fiber network over two square miles connecting 330 households, a population of 808, to high-speed Internet service.	Balkan Township MN	\$5,313

Lake of the Woods County	<p>This project will provide a new 22,000 square foot Public Safety and Emergency Operation Center for Lake of the Woods County in Baudette, Minnesota. The single story, steel framed structure will consist of insulated precast wall panels and metal stud framing on the exterior walls. Metal roof decking will cover the non-secure side of the building, whereas precast plank will cover the detention side. CMU interior walls will be prevalent in the detention area along with ten prefabricated steel cell and toilet modules.</p> <p>The administrative side of the building will feature offices for the law enforcement, evidence and case file storage, a squad room, interview rooms, a law library and offices for county attorneys. The detention side will have individual holding cells and the minimum, dormitory style holding areas, an indoor recreation gym, dispatch and jail control areas, all emergency communication and operations, as well as a sallyport with accompanying intake and release areas.</p>	Baudette MN	\$3,500
Consolidated Telephone Company (CTC)	<p>The project being proposed by Consolidated Telephone Company (CTC) affects five areas within Crow Wing, Benton, and Cass counties in north central Minnesota. Currently, the 300+ homes and businesses in these rural areas do not have access to internet service for everyday needs and essential services. They are considered 100% unserved at this time. When this project is successfully completed, residents and businesses will have access to high-speed, reliable broadband internet with an efficient and productive speed of up to 1 Gigabit.</p> <p>Access to broadband is as imperative today as electricity was 75 years ago. This fiber-to-the-home project would enable residents to take advantage of educational opportunities and telehealth services that are not currently available to them. Federal funding, combined with CTC's efforts and support from the areas' leaders, will provide residents with the opportunity to attend school, work from home, access telemedicine services, maintain viable businesses, and remain healthy and safe in their homes.</p> <p>A reliable, affordable fiber broadband network is the backbone of any successful rural area; providing residents, healthcare workers, business owners, teachers, community advocates, remote employees, students, and farmers with the necessary connectivity that they need and deserve.</p>	Bay Lake, Maple Grove, Sylvan, & Langola Townships Crow Wing County MN	\$1,391
Chalkboard Collective Community	<p>The Chalkboard Collective Community's vision is to repurpose the vacated BOLD Elementary School in Bird Island and create a 65,985 square foot multi-purpose property that will foster school sports, student learning, business expansion, community wellness, a deep winter greenhouse, and arts programs for Central Renville County. To achieve this vision, Chalkboard Community Collective needs to demolish parts of the school and prepare the site for occupancy. The original school building was erected in 1917 and was expanded in 1937 and 1956. The original 1917 building and part of the 1956 addition are unusable due to deferred maintenance. As a result, 41,340 square feet of the property, or 42%, needs to be demolished and made weather tight and usable in its existing condition.</p> <p>Additional work includes building a new exterior wall at the part of the building exposed after the demolition, hazardous materials abatement, reconnecting utilities, a new HVAC system for parts of the building, an ADA accessible restroom, a new lobby connecting the east and west parts of the building, a new locker room, and the new greenhouse.</p> <p>Chalkboard Collective Community partners will then use a combination of personal capital and community support to renovate the interior space once the usable portion of the building is restored.</p> <p>The commissioned work by the Architect firm Engan Associates to assist in projecting both costs and usage of this project, and Artspace Consulting to do a Feasibility Study including a capital and operating analysis have determined the redevelopment cost of the project to be \$7,520,784.</p>	Bird Island MN	\$2,238
Brainerd Family YMCA	<p>To fully renovate the property at 703 Oak St., Brainerd, Minnesota, which is located in an 'opportunity zone' census tract where 27% of families fall below the poverty level, into a licensed childcare center which will provide infant and toddler spots to a minimum of 74 working families in the community. Funds will be used to fund renovation expenses along with start-up furniture, fixtures and equipment necessary for opening and operation.</p>	Brainerd MN	\$600

United Way of Northeastern Minnesota	<p>"The funds will be used to help build two new childcare facilities, one in Chisholm and one in Ely. These facilities are estimated to serve 240 children across the Iron Range. The lack of childcare availability is severely impacting workforce recruitment and retention in our region.</p> <p>Chisholm - Land is donated by Delta Airlines, and predevelopment plans are complete. Construction of an 8,000-square-foot facility is being proposed. The childcare facility will be licensed for 80 full-time equivalent children and will serve approximately 130 youth part-time to full-time. This is a \$1.6 million project. The community of Chisholm and surrounding townships of Balkan, Side Lake, and Buhl have no childcare facilities. We are proposing to contribute \$500,000 in federal funds to this project for construction; completion date Feb. 22, 2023.</p> <p>Ely - Land is donated by the city of Ely, and predevelopment plans are complete. Construction of a 7,000 square-foot facility is being proposed. The childcare facility will be licensed for 70 full-time equivalent children and will serve approximately 110 youth part-time to full-time. This is a \$1.2 million project. The city of Ely and the surrounding communities of Winton, Morse Township, and Babbitt have no childcare facilities. We are proposing to contribute \$500,000 in federal funds to this project for planning and construction; completion date Aug. 15, 2023.</p> <p>This request also includes a reserved \$200,000 in funding for UWNEMN to provide additional support to existing facilities - trainings, workforce development, and/or emergency funding - as needed."</p>	Chisholm MN	\$1,200
City of Chisholm	<p>"The funding will be used to expand the current City owned Chisholm Iron Trail Campground to accommodate the need of an influx of tourism to the area. The existing campground is within a mile of the Minnesota Discovery Center, St. Louis County Fairgrounds, Redhead Mountain Bike Park, and various other trails. Given the popularity of these attractions, the City of Chisholm needs to expand the existing campground to accommodate the increased number of visitors to the area.</p> <p>The proposed expansion area will accommodate 17 full RV hookup sites, 21 tent sites, 2 outhouses and 1 shower/restroom/shelter facility. The funding will also fund road extensions to supply vehicle access to the expansion. A bituminous roadway is proposed to supply access to the RV sites and a gravel road will continue from the RV sites to supply road access to the tent sites. To supply full hookup RV sites, the sanitary sewer main and water main will be extended to the sites. This is a great opportunity to embrace economic growth to the region.</p> <p>"</p>	Chisholm MN	\$2,500
Le Sueur County	<p>LeSueur County is a rural community south of the Twin Cities Metro, west of Northfield, north of Mankato and east of St. Peter. The county seat is in LeCenter, population 2,500. It is a "between" area; that is to say made up of rural farms and a large percentage of people commuting to jobs outside the county.</p> <p>We are a farming community: SALES</p> <p>24 dairy farms, one organic- \$11 million, 85 hog farms- \$35 million, 67 beef farms- 13 million, 469 grain oil soybeans farms- \$111 million.</p> <p>There is a growing family-based CSA farm industry raising produce for local consumption marketing through internet sales/delivery.</p> <p>Other local businesses:</p> <p>International coffee, desserts, breweries, wineries</p> <p>Bars, restaurants, stores, pharmacies, grocery stores</p> <p>Many farms/home based businesses</p> <p>Lakes/tourism</p> <p>4 school districts</p> <p>2 townships in the county are completely built out with fiber-to-homes, farms, businesses. This is thanks to township, county, state and CARES funding, a \$3.8 million project.</p> <p>With CARES act funds was spent \$1.7 million on middle mile fiber across the county and 7 fixed wireless broadband with redundant fiber and free WiFi spots at the county fairgrounds, county campgrounds and township halls.</p>	Cleveland Township, Cordova Township, Elysian Township, Kasota Township, Kilkenny Township, Lexington Township, Montgomery Township, Ottawa Township, Sharon Township, Tyrone Township, Washington Township, Waterville Township MN	\$11,977

	<p>With the Blandin Foundation and the Southern Minnesota Initiative Foundation, since May 2018 residents, the County commissioners, and Townships have been engaged in planning for broadband/county wide economic development. We have been stalled with 2 years of no new construction. Residents are frustrated/can't understand why. This project will re-engage our providers and get us on the move once again in 12 townships.</p>		
Fond du Lac Band of Lake Superior Chippewa	<p>A Public Works Administrative Office and Maintenance Facility will provide essential services for the Band incorporating administrative offices for department and administrative staff, and further housing an attached maintenance facility to provide a central location for the Highway, Water/Wastewater, Waste Management, General Maintenance, and Graves Registrar Departments; the Band is proposing to construct a 90' x 175' (15,750 sqft) maintenance facility with attached office space of 80' x 45' (3600 sqft).</p>	Cloquet MN	\$3,800
Kevin R. Dupuis	<p>A Public Works Administrative Office and Maintenance Facility will provide essential services for the Band incorporating administrative offices for department and administrative staff, and further housing an attached maintenance facility to provide a central location for the Highway, Water/Wastewater, Waste Management, General Maintenance, and Graves Registrar Departments; the Band is proposing to construct a 90' x 175' (15,750 sqft) maintenance facility with attached office space of 80' x 45' (3600 sqft). A concern is proper operation and efficiency of the current site, as well as any expansion site. A major driver for the small upgrades to date, was concern for</p> <p>household hazardous waste contaminants and their proximity to adjacent wetlands. An expanded site will promote safety by increasing traffic pattern circulation and line of sight for vehicles, remove out-dated processes of handling various solid waste materials, promote other environmental and agricultural initiatives, and allow for better site management being located at one location, rather than separated into two.</p> <p>The existing FDL Solid Waste Collection Site has both environmental and space concerns. The location of the facility is adjacent to a wetland where runoff from the site would need to be captured and treated.</p>	Cloquet MN	\$3,800
Kevin R. Dupuis, Sr.	<p>The project will provide an excellent opportunity for the Fond du Lac Band to continue and build upon previous work done to sustain and preserve the Ojibwe language and culture. The goals of the project would be:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Protect traditional Anishinaabe culture.</li> <li>Protect the Ojibwe language.</li> <li>A community space to hold traditional funerals.</li> <li>Increase the number of people speaking the Ojibwe language.</li> <li>Increase interest in the Ojibwe language and culture by providing a place to "learn while doing".</li> <li>Strengthen individual and community identity, confidence, and self-esteem.</li> </ul> <p>The goal is to create a venue to assist the Band in preserving the Anishinaabe traditional practices for all generations of the Fond du Lac community. The Fond du Lac Band will be donating the land for the project. Staff and programming will also be "in-kind" provided by the Band. This new facility will allow the Reservation to create a central point for traditional funerals on the Reservation. Currently, the Reservation does not have a building that is suitable for this type of traditional activities.</p>	Cloquet MN	\$3,500
Fond du Lac Band of Lake Superior Chippewa	<p>The Waste Site is a comprehensive site that accepts waste tires, electronics, appliances, waste oil and oil filters, household hazardous waste, fluorescent bulbs, recycling, mattresses, household municipal solid waste and bulk items. There are a small number of waste items that are not accepted at the Waste Site including asbestos, junk automobiles, trailer homes, radioactive waste, medical waste. The health of FDL, and any community for that matter, revolves around waste, whether it is wastewater and its proper treatment or disposal of refuse at transfer stations or landfills. The current site has served as a function of health and provided for Bandmembers.</p>	Cloquet MN	\$4,550

	<p>A concern is proper operation and efficiency of the current site, as well as any expansion site. A major driver for the small upgrades to date, was concern for</p> <p>household hazardous waste contaminants and their proximity to adjacent wetlands. An expanded site will promote safety by increasing traffic pattern circulation and line of sight for vehicles, remove out-dated processes of handling various solid waste materials, promote other environmental and agricultural initiatives, and allow for better site management being located at one location, rather than separated into two.</p> <p>The existing FDL Solid Waste Collection Site has both environmental and space concerns. The location of the facility is adjacent to a wetland where runoff from the site would need to be captured and treated.</p>		
City of Cromwell	<p>The City of Cromwell is seeking funding for community improvements to city streets and accessibility improvements to parking lots and the community recreation facility. The project includes the reconstruction of Railroad Street, Burnett Street, Clark Avenue, Elm Street, Lake Hill Drive, and rural gravel roads located within city limits. Parking lot reconstruction and ADA access improvements for three City parking lots, lighting improvements along Trunk Hwy 210, and improvements to the city recreation facility.</p>	Cromwell MN	\$325
Ag Innovation Campus	<p>"The funds will be leveraged with other funds to complete construction of the education and research center. Part of the funding will also be used to purchase laboratory equipment and help in subsidizing the professionals needed to staff the areas of the Ag Innovation Campus dedicated to commercialization of new technologies including new types of crops.</p> <p>Supported by the oil seed crushing and purifying center built in phase one, the phase two education and research center will help prove the viability of new technologies. Professional laboratories managed by the Ag Utilization and Research Institute AURI will be available to provide technical assistance and access to other wise unaffordable but necessary testing. This testing is paramount to assure food and feed safety. A critical part of any new processing technology of plant breeding efforts. Phase 3 will be a temporary home for technologies that require large space and access to feed stocks created in the phase one production plant. To often this is the most difficult part of bringing a new technology or new types of crops to market. Because of the scale of today's food and feed manufacturing facilities, it is nearly impossible for new concepts to be proven at a scale that demonstrate long term viability. When all three phases of the project are completed, it will be the only center like it in the world. It will be able to meet many different objectives for many different groups and concepts. It will become the premier location to demonstrate the ingenuity of US agriculture to solve the problems we face today and tomorrow.</p> <p>The requested \$ 4,530,000 in funding will be used for the following</p> <p>\$3,798,000 to be spend on infrastructure of phase 2 and 3</p> <p>\$320,000 to be spent on Scientific equipment</p> <p>\$85,000 to be spent on educational materials including supporting trade efforts</p> <p>\$327,000 for partial funding of scientific -educational staff."</p>	Crookston MN	\$4,530
The National Loon Center Foundation (NLCF)	<p>The National Loon Center Foundation (NLCF) in Crosslake, Minnesota was established in 2017 as a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization dedicated to the conservation of loons and lakes. The NLCF is building a world-class, net-zero energy facility that will create dozens of valuable jobs, stimulate the local and regional economy, and position Minnesota as a national leader in loon and freshwater conservation. With federal and state funds, the National Loon Center (NLC) will begin construction in 2023 and open to the public in 2024. It will be an interactive and family-friendly destination projected to attract 200,000 visitors annually. This vital rural development will simultaneously enhance the local and regional economy while protecting the state's unique natural resources. In its leadership role, the NLC will connect and amplify loon and freshwater research and conservation efforts occurring across the nation.</p> <p>The NLC will incorporate an exciting array of educational initiatives to engage diverse audiences including the Ojibwe tribe and other underrepresented communities in metro and rural Minnesota. The</p>	Crosslake MN	\$3,500

NLC will also promote and celebrate responsible recreation as it fosters stewardship of our lakes and contributes directly to the preservation of our treasured state bird.

City of Dassel	Construction of a new fire hall and training facility.	Dassel MN	\$3,000
City of Edgerton	<p>Edgerton Minnesota can't kick the sewer and water problems down the road anymore. Several years ago, Edgerton hired DGR Engineering to assist with sewer back-ups and water problems. The initial assistance has turned into a complete sewer and water study as requested by the USDA (Preliminary Engineering Report). This report was provided to the City Council to understand the current state of the aged water and sewer infrastructure.</p> <p>This phase of the project will cover some of the oldest infrastructure in Edgerton that is roughly 100 years old.</p> <p>Edgerton is currently working with USDA on a city wide 7 phase sewer and water project. The monies requested will help cover the non-eligible costs of phase 2.</p> <p>The \$511,800 is for non-eligible costs.</p> <p>The total cost for phase 1 is \$4,948,000</p> <p>The scope of phase 2 will focus on roughly 1.3 miles of business, commercial and residential section of Edgerton. Strategically phase 1 was organized at the lowest section of town to ensure flow for sewer, water and storm water management.</p> <p>Phase 2 includes new sewer, water, storm water pipes in addition to drilling a new well.</p>	Edgerton MN	\$512
Grant County	Construction of a new standalone Law Enforcement Center. In 2013, Grant County received a multiple department master plan/needs assessment final report from LEO A Daly. The report states that currently the Sheriff's Office is located in the Courthouse. Due to the increased staffing through the recent years, more space is necessary. The current size of the Sheriff's Office is 1,200 sq. ft. The area necessary to adequately accommodate the needs of the Sheriff's Office at minimum is 9,000 sq. ft. As of now, the projected project meets and exceeds the recommendations.	Elbow Lake MN	\$5,850
City of Ellendale	The Ellendale Community Hall is in need of a new roof and wall repair/restoration. Several water leaks through the roof have caused damage to the concrete block. Structural Engineer recommends trimming out the entire building outside walls with steel siding to protect and preserve the structure. The roof is in need of replacement due to continuous leaks developing because degraded roof material.	Ellendale MN	\$150
Ely Area Ambulance Service Joint Powers Board	<p>The Ely Area Ambulance Service Joint Powers Board has operated the area ambulance service through a partnership of area communities. The Joint Powers is funded by tax payer contributions from the governmental agencies of Ely, Winton, Morse and Fall-Lake. The ambulance service covers just over 1,500 square miles, which includes the City of Ely, City of Winton, Town of Morse, Fall Lake Township, Stoney Rover Township, unorganized areas of St. Louis County and the Boundary Waters Canoe Area Wilderness.</p> <p>The ambulance service has been housed in a temporary facility for many years that was a repurposed maintenance garage for the hospital campus. The ambulance is staffed twenty four hours per day year around and needs to house the on call staff. Currently the crew is housed in a rental home remote from the storage garage. This project would develop a facility that would have all functions of the service under one roof. The facility will include proper training areas as well as office and crew quarters.</p> <p>In addition to the joint ambulance service the City of Ely is planning to build a fire and first responder apparatus storage garage. The historic City Hall /Fire Hall is beyond it's capacity and an auxiliary facility is required to store the newer, larger equipment. With the ongoing, increasing threat of wild fire the City also has wild land fire fighting equipment that requires storage space. Currently this equipment is stored in make shift facilities that are scheduled for future demolition or outside.</p>	Ely MN	\$2,200

Embarrass Township	<p>If awarded the funds would be used towards a new roof on the town hall that is desperately needed, the weather station part of what Embarrass is known for is falling apart and needs the patio area replaced as the pavers have crumbled, the temperature gauge has broken and the pole that stands with our record temperature is rotting and falling. All these would be replaced. Embarrass Cemetery needs clearing and landscaping to add new lots, because there is not many remaining. The Heritage Park Campground is a beautiful and small campground that is turning away camping patrons because of the electrical upgrades to 50 amp that are needed. The water lines also need replacing as every year the spring a leak somewhere along the lines, also to possibly add 5 sites. The Nelimark Museum which a big part of Embarrass History needs a new roof on the garage and a few new windows on the house along with some maintenance with the ramp leading into the house. Any remaining funds would be used around the township to spruce up the welcoming areas along the roadways and a few new signs as some of the current ones are quite weathered.</p>	Embarrass Township MN	\$100
City of Fairmont	<p>The City of Fairmont Economic Development Authority (EDA) holds an option to purchase land near the intersection of County Road 39 and Interstate 90 in Fairmont. The parcel includes 37.61 acres that is currently utilized as agriculture land that is zoned for industrial development. The City intends to utilize the land for additional industrial development as the current industrial park has two lots remaining both of which have wetlands that make building prohibitive. The City has completed a preliminary geotechnical report on the property and has recently completed a utility extension to the property line to support the development of the land as an industrial park. The EDA has had numerous businesses interested in the land for possible business development and growth, but without a major business interested in purchasing a sizeable portion of the land, the EDA is not in the position to be able to exercise the option to purchase.</p>	Fairmont MN	\$398
Elliot Belgard	<p>Martin County is seeking \$3.5 million in Congressional-Directed funds to assist in the construction of a new, 71,000 square foot Regional Public Safety and Justice Center to house co-located county sheriff and city police law enforcement operations, including dispatch and emergency management services. The new public safety facility will also include: state courtrooms, multi-county drug court, court services, victim-witness services, the county attorney's office, a mental health services unit, and jail facilities. Without federal funds and state bonding, funding the entire \$40.567 million facility could require up to a 5-6% property tax rate increase on county residents.</p>	Fairmont MN	\$3,500
City of Garrison	<p>"The City of Garrison is requesting \$704,894 for improvements to its Community Center/Fire Hall facility, so the City's administrative offices can also be relocated there. The total project cost is \$939,859. The City will fund its 25% cost share of \$234,965 with cash on hand or general obligation bonding. Improving this space will allow the City staff and Fire Department to improve public services with stronger collaboration.</p> <p>This improvement project will remodel existing space as it is less expensive than building new. High priority needs are replacing compromised insulation that is causing mold growth, replacing broken windows, and replacing stairways with proper depth treads and ADA compliance handrails. ADA accessibility is a substantial need including new doors, proper swing areas, grab bars and proper clearances. Serious electrical issues will be corrected, and safety LED lighting will be added to entrances. Essential improvements to the facility were identified in a facility study conducted in January 2022 which is included.</p> <p>Ventilation is a serious issue. The Fire Hall's garage lacks the required ventilation by state code, which is a dangerous environment for the 20 firefighters. Installing an appropriate heating system and hazardous gas detection system is critical for protecting firefighters.</p> <p>Two existing wells at the facility do not meet isolation distances from contaminant sources as required by the Minnesota Well Code. These wells will be sealed and a new compliant well will be established at the exterior, providing a dual source for drinking water and an efficient source to fill fire vehicles. "</p>	Garrison MN	\$704

Itasca Economic Development Corporation (IEDC)	<p>"Itasca Economic Development Corporation (IEDC) has been in operation for 40 years. We are the host of Innovate 218, the northeast Minnesota hub for Launch Minnesota and led the Center on Rural Innovation report on our digital economy ecosystem. Today, IEDC is entering our first step in creating a regional innovation ecosystem. It is our intention to utilize IEDCs existing asset of a 17,000 sf building as a regional innovation center called The Forge. This building has been owned by IEDC for 14 years with Phase One of this project underway (building renovation, equipment acquisition, programming) as an awardee of a 2021 \$750,000 USDA-RISE grant. Local funding from Arrowhead Intelligent Region Grant, Itasca Community College, and Itasca County matched this grant. The \$1,080,000 renovation on 7,000 sf of The Forge will be complete this August. Phase Two begins this summer as the result of an additional \$1,080,000 MN DEED grant award designated to exterior work such as landscaping and parking lot improvements. Phase Three finalizes the renovation and equipment required for the remaining 10,000 sf at The Forge. When complete, The Forge provides dynamic environments where the public can access work readiness skills training, pre-apprenticeship training, and in-demand occupational training in an area with high rates of concentrated poverty. Specifically, individual and community spaces are available for product development, trade training, business incubation, and entrepreneurship with access to specialized equipment. Additional community assets include office spaces and conference rooms configured for classroom training, networking, or pitch competitions."</p>	Grand Rapids MN	\$577
City of Howard Lake	<p>"The City of Howard Lake is seeking financial assistance to construct a 7,000 square foot library/senior center. Howard Lake-Waverly and surrounding areas is currently served by a 1,700 square foot functionally obsolete library facility constructed in 1979. The facility fails to meet ADA accessibility standards for egress, aisles, technology, assembly, bathroom functions and parking for patrons with limited mobility and seniors. In 2019, a water infiltration issue has compromised the structural integrity of the foundation. The space has been largely unused and underused during the covid19 pandemic due to inability to provide services while meeting CDC guidelines.</p> <p>The City is proposing to build a replacement facility, adjacent to a community park and HLWW Schools in an all inclusive, all users manner. The facility will use renewable technologies and is believed to be the first net-zero library to be constructed in the state. "</p>	Howard Lake MN	\$3,700
City of Karlstad	<p>Funds received would be used to pay for repainting of the city water tower.</p>	Karlstad MN	\$210
City of Lake City	<p>Funding would be used to restore and improve the resiliency of the City's infrastructure by replacing the existing retaining wall on the lakefront of Lake Pepin and the Mississippi River, which is being heavily eroded and impacting the city's public park space, quality of life for community members, and the water quality and natural habitat of the Lake. The existing retaining wall is undermined, allowing lake water to seep underneath its base and erode soil from the park, which in turn is creating sinkholes on park land and washing out the park structures. In addition to the instability of the existing wall structure, climate change has impacted the water levels of Lake Pepin, and the existing wall cannot withstand the higher water levels and flooding. The investment of a new retaining wall would not only protect the City's public infrastructure, but it would also preserve safe public spaces and the shoreline of the Mississippi River.</p>	Lake City MN	\$1,000
Le Sueur County	<p>Through multiple feasibility studies and landowner meetings three project sites have been identified that Le Sueur County is looking to find alternative ways to fund. The first project is Mareks Lake outlet structure. The structure in question is failing and is needed to be replaced. The proposed structure which would help maintain a natural water body and keep the Ordinary High level of Mareks Lake. The project has been identified as the responsibility of the drainage system. Due to the cost it has had little support from the watershed landowners for repair. The remaining projects are from willing drainage system land owners who want to help the system by installing in water storage basins on their land. The projects will mitigate flooding events throughout the Drainage System. The storage projects will help with flooding and sediment that impact the drainage system and outlet to the Minnesota River. The storage projects would be a huge benefit to the Le Sueur County</p>	Le Center MN	\$528

Drainage System, landowners and also the Minnesota River. These types of projects are beneficial to help address altered hydrology in the upper watershed that lead to flooding issues within the Drainage System and ultimately the Minnesota River. Awarding Le Sueur County funds for the projects would help take a huge burden off of everyone on the Drainage System as well as impacted landowner and homeowners downstream as flooding and erosion continue to be a problematic issue for Le Sueur County.

City of Luverne	<p>"The funds will be used for the one-time capital investment to establish a childcare center. The funds are specifically requested to acquire property, design, renovate, construct, equip, and furnish a facility for a? childcare center. The goal is to transform an existing 30,000-square-foot facility into a childcare center licensed for 186 childcare slots (24 Infants, 42 Toddlers, 60 Preschoolers, and 60 School Age).</p> <p>The City has acquired the facility located at 1 Roundwind Road for \$515,000, which can be included as a portion of the match requirement, and the cost to renovate the space is estimated to be \$2,963,000. This cost estimate includes interior demolition, new wall framing, new doors and side lights, new flooring and tile, new ceiling, painting, electrical, plumbing and HVAC work, roof replacement, parking lot repairs, playground equipment, fencing and other miscellaneous furniture, fixtures, and equipment. Total project costs equal \$3,478,000. The City is requesting \$2,608,500 in grant funds (75%) and will provide the \$869,500 match (25%).</p> <p>The City of Luverne is committed to supporting the on-going operations once the center is established to ensure the sustainability and success of the center. The City will own the building and lease it to a non-profit entity for \$1/year. The City will sign a management contract with a non-profit entity with an agreement to provide childcare services. The non-profit will acquire childcare license and carry out daily operations to offer childcare services. The City and non-profit will partner with local businesses and organizations to help support the center to address a critical need for childcare. There is overwhelming community support for this effort as indicated in the Letters of Support from various businesses and organizations."</p>	Luverne MN	\$2,608
City of Madison	<p>"The project is to construct a new 72 x 124 foot fire hall. The hall will be a stick built slab on grade with 16-foot sidewalls. There will be 5 bays, 2 will be set up as drive through rapid water filling stations. It will be heated with 3 hanging propane furnaces and 4 ceiling fans. The floor is sloped in all directions to a center drain system. The hall will have 2 full handicap bathrooms. One bathroom will have a large storage closet for all first responder's equipment and another for air filling cascade system. The bathrooms will be equipped with large walk-in showers to provide an area for fireman and first responders to wash following emergency calls. A meeting area and kitchenette will be included. The back wall will be set up with open lockers for all firefighting gear."</p>	Madison MN	\$525
City of Madison	<p>Repair and/or replace windows and doors: It has been determined that the existing windows are likely original to the building. The repair work will protect and restore these elements so they are not lost and can continue to function properly. Replacement items will be sensitive to the historic character of the building and only be used when repair is non-feasible. The window and door work also include repair of original decorative elements over and around the doors. These original decorative elements provide much of the character and charm of the building.</p>	Madison MN	\$275
West Central Initiative	<p>The purpose of this project is to renovate a space in south Moorhead to open a 70-slot, multi-cultural child care center, staffed with culturally competent teachers. This will be the second location for the Jasmin Child Care and Preschool Center, with their first located in Fargo, North Dakota. Following is a list of the advantages of this center's construction project:</p> <p>The Jasmin Child Care and Preschool is working with a local church to renovate the church's underutilized space for a child care center. The church is located within a neighborhood where a high concentration of New Americans resides and near public transportation hubs. The church already serves the community through other mission-based initiatives, such as community gardens and meeting/gathering space. The Christian based church is open-minded about other religions and has created a welcoming space and attitude for their New American neighbors.</p>	Moorhead MN	\$500

The current center director and staff speak three to four different languages each, and all are fluent in English. The Jasmin Child Care and Preschool center tailor their services primarily for children who are directly from Africa and Middle East Asia or whose parents are from Africa and Middle East Asia, though any child is welcome. As part of their mission, the Jasmin Child Care and Preschool supports the transition into the mid-western American culture for both the child and their parents, creating a safe space for understanding, care and translations. The goal of the Jasmin Child Care and Preschool staff is to support the transition of children and their parents into the public school system, when the child enters kindergarten, helping the child towards better social and academic success.

A major component of the overall lack of child care is the shortage of teacher-qualified early care educators. The Jasmin Child Care director has committed her own early childhood expertise and educational background and is partnering with CAP LP Child Care Aware to recruit and train the Jasmin Child Care staff in the Child Development Associate (CDA) certification. This will provide the care center, along with the Moorhead community, with multi-lingual, teacher-qualified care providers.

On a broader scope, child care is drastically needed and child care that focuses on cultural and linguistic diversity is non-existent in Moorhead and in West Central Initiative's region. Construction of the Jasmin Child Care is a vital need for the New American community, and the Moorhead community and a model for all of west central Minnesota. "

Oslo Region Joint Powers Board	The water flooding the Oslo region is not local run-off, but the result of the entire Red River from the southern end of Minnesota that drains an area of 20,000,000 acres with a population of 631,000 people, including the upstream communities of Fargo, ND/Moorhead, MN and Grand Forks, ND/East Grand Forks, MN. The fact that the bridges and land features at the Oslo area cause a pinch point in the river flow has been a problem for decades, amplified by increased waterflows, that cannot be handled merely with the local population. Flooding has been a disaster declaration multiple times. The Oslo Region Joint Powers Board (ORJPB) applying for the funds is a governing body representing border townships established for the purpose of reducing the flooding occurrences by coordinating efforts of all affected agencies in the Oslo area. This is a multi-state issue involving many government entities and agencies, each commissioned with a singular purpose, and none large enough to offer a solution to the common problem. ORJPB has a singular purpose to unite these many entities for the purpose of solving the flooding problem.	Oslo MN	\$29,429
City of Paynesville	Deploying a fiber network to 735 residential dwellings and 74 businesses in the City of Paynesville to meet the essential needs of homes, businesses, e-learning, and telemedicine by offering 1Gig broadband service.	Paynesville MN	\$261
Bois de Sioux Watershed District	<p>We are building a flood impoundment, and re-meandering a portion of the Mustinka River that was previously straightened by an Army Corps of Engineers project and building a two-stage channel to protect the re-meandered portion into the future. Flooding and water quality are major regional issues in the Red River Valley. The Mustinka River is located within the Bois de Sioux Watershed District, which plans and implements watershed improvement projects as part of a flood damage reduction strategy. Once completed, the Redpath Impoundment will span a footprint of approximately 3 square miles, with the capacity to temporarily store 23,000 ac-ft of runoff for the 100-yr spring snowmelt event. The project also includes a gated outlet structure that allows the impoundment to hold 19,000 ac-ft or approximately 2 inches of runoff from the nearly 200 square mile contributing watershed.</p> <p>A significant reach of the channelized Mustinka River, from highway 9 near Norcross to one mile upstream of the Fivemile Creek confluence, will be permanently restored through the creation of a two stage system consisting of a naturalized meandering low flow channel within a larger floodplain corridor channel. This fish and wildlife habitat corridor will be 300 ft wide and over 5 miles in length and will include over 34 acres of adjacent Type 3 shallow marsh wetland communities.</p>	Red River Valley in portions of Grant, Traverse, Big Stone, Wilkin, Ottertail and Stevens Counties MN	\$900

Goodhue County	There are three separate projects included in this grant funding proposal, all located within Goodhue County: Goodhue, Welch Village North and White Rock West. Each projects extends fiber broadband access to multiple unserved and underserved areas of the county.	Red Wing MN	\$7,918
Vermilion Housing Corporation	"Four buildings comprised of 50 apartments were constructed since 1976 and are in need of major rehabilitation to continue to provide a safe and adequate living space for tenants. The buildings are approaching 50 years of use by various tenants and it is essential to rehab the structures. These one and two bedroom apartments are critical to meet the needs of low to moderate income people. The project includes planning and design, roof replacement, complete siding replacement, electrical upgrades, window replacements and energy improvements with insulation and energy conservation improvements. Individual apartment upgrades include kitchen and bath upgrades for modern living arrangements."	Soudan MN	\$2,000
Stearns County	The funds would be used to complete the remaining items on the rehabilitation list that had to be cut due to the lack of funding. Air-source heat pumps for each tenants unit, remove and replace all concrete sidewalks, curb and gutter and replace with new, remove bituminous parking lot and replace with new, replace site lighting with new LED fixtures, replace electrical posts at each parking spot so that vehicles can be plugged in during the winter and landscaping.	St. Martin MN	\$405
Hmong American Farmers Association	Federal funds received would be used to implement Phase II of our Capital Campaign project, which focuses on building a 6000 square feet year-round training facility that includes wash, rinse, cooling and curing rooms and office space on the HAFA incubator farm. HAFA advances the economic, social and cultural prosperity of low-income, immigrant and first-generation Hmong farmers and their families through economic development, capacity building, advocacy, and research. We are a community-based nonprofit that works with over 100 Hmong farmers who live in the Twin Cities metropolitan area but farm in the outer ring rural suburbs where farmland is available, as well as Hmong farmers in the greater Minnesota region, providing training, support, and capacity building so their small-scale farming businesses can grow and thrive. We also consult and collaborate with other Minnesota organizations that focus on the needs of immigrant, refugee, and BIPOC farmers, and with other Hmong organizations across the continental United States. The new facility will allow HAFA to improve the bilingual, bicultural training programs and support we offer to farmers and other BIPOC-farmer-focused organizations by consolidating our operations and support personnel into one space, and hosting training programs on the farm instead of renting space at other facilities, which provide farmers with hands-on opportunities to deepen their knowledge of training material content. This facility would also greatly increase the capacity for HAFA's farmers to supply produce to local retailers, as well as our Farm-to-Family program, which supplies produce to local schools, daycares, and low-income families.	St. Paul MN	\$2,775
United Way of Steele County	"Extended Childcare Facility - open and operate a childcare facility that accommodates families that have caregivers working 2nd (and possibly 3rd shift), as well as emergency childcare drop ins. We will purchase or build a Childcare Center and outfit it to accommodate sleeping arrangements for the later shifts. We will hire a Childcare Consultant to ensure that we are following all best practices and legal obligations. We will hire and train a Center director, care providers, and staff to operate the facility. Work with current childcare providers to identify areas that they are not area to accommodate. Work with factories to identify how their employees need childcare to work for their families. Work with the school district to identify how we can better support their staff (because these absences significantly affect the quality of education that our students receive). Work with health providers to identify how we can better support their staff (because for our providers to keep providing health care services, they need to be able to come to work). Work with MN Prairie County Alliance who manages the Respite programming to identify how we can better support them (because these breaks are needed to support healthy parenting and reduce child abuse). Create a sliding fee scale and scholarship program to ensure that every child has access to quality childcare regardless of ability to pay."	Steele County MN	\$500
Greenwood Township	This project will provide fiber to the home to 1,370 HH/passings in Greenwood & Lake Vermillion Townships in rural NE MN.	Tower MN	\$5,000

City of Virginia	The City of Virginia proposes to construct a new facility that will be a combined Regional Public Safety facility approximately 59,700 sq. ft. in size that will provide space for Fire and Police operations in a shared facility. Currently housed in facilities that are over 100 years old, both departments have grown out of their current spaces. A new facility will greatly enhance the Fire Department and Police Department capabilities, enhance departmental efficiency, and provide adequate space for the departments to properly serve the community. A well designed and equipped facility enable fire and law enforcement to more effectively provide services to the city. These operations are all heavily facility dependent and will be greatly improved by a proper facility solution. Funds received through Rural Development Community Funding will be used for construction of the facility. The facility will include offices, training rooms, evidence storage, and vehicle storage.	Virginia MN	\$10,000
Wabana Township	"To revive and enhance recreational opportunities, for the benefit of Wabana Township citizens and visitors, in cooperation with identified partners. Wabana Township developed a Comprehensive Plan that was adopted in January 2021 (attached reference letter #2). The plan involved a community survey which contributed greatly to the development of the initiative of improving the recreational facilities at the Township Hall. A committee of township volunteers was formed in May 2021 to address this issue. This committee has been approved by the Wabana Township Board of Supervisors. Many improvement ideas have been considered and we have decided to focus on the top three immediate needs with details provided later in this application."	Wabana Township MN	\$15
Tri-County Health Care	This funding would be used for the development of rural based cancer program for larger broader scope of cancer treatment options and services in underserved region of Minnesota. In 2020, an estimated 6,400 Minnesotans died from cancer, 18 times the number caused by auto fatalities. Heart disease and cancer are the leading causes of death in Minnesota.  The cancer center at Tri-County Health will be the closest treatment available for many in our underserved rural region of Central Minnesota. It will conveniently offer a hematology/oncology outpatient clinic, with both chemotherapy infusion and radiation oncology services in the same building. In addition to these clinical services, the center will offer an array of holistic and other cancer-related services.	Wadena MN	\$2,100
City of Warren	The proposed use of the congressionally-directed spending funds would go toward the building of a new child care facility. The city of Warren begin the design and securing of funds prior to the pandemic. The proposed cost was \$1.6 Million. Bids were opened for a new facility in February 2022 and the cost will be \$2.6 Million for a 10,000 square foot building. The price of materials has increased about 25% since the pandemic. The design of the building was done to be sure every square foot was a revenue generator. The current childcare facility is poorly designed to allow for maximum revenue per room. The facility was also designed very conservatively. There was not a lot of extras. There is no where to cut to get the cost down. A total of \$1.6 Million was secured prior to the bids being opened but that does not cover the new costs to build. Two additional grants have been secured but the project is still \$400,000 short to cover the costs to build. The \$400,000 request for funds would go to build the facility to increase childcare slots in Northwest Minnesota and increase the workforce. The requested amount will finish the funding for the project.	Warren MN	\$400
Minnesota Agricultural Interpretive Center	Description: The Minnesota Agricultural Interpretive Center (FarmAmerica) is expanding and renovating existing facilities to upgrade classroom space, add year-round agriculture literacy opportunities, remodel the 22-year-old Visitor Center with interactive exhibits and experiences about agriculture's impact on everyday life, and build an inclusive outdoor playground. Purposes: To attract new and repeat visitors to increase consumer awareness of agriculture's importance locally and globally. To help consumers see agriculture and farmers as part of the solution to our food, fiber, energy, and environmental challenges.	Waseca County MN	\$400