

Project Information

Project Purpose: The primary purpose of this project is to provide a preliminary geometric layout of the greenway alignment for the Vermillion Highlands and North Creek Greenway sections in Rosemount, Empire, and Farmington. Preliminary design up to 60% for one grade separated crossing, preferably under, the railroad track will be needed on the North Creek Greenway project. Final Design for Vermillion River Greenway through Rambling River Park will also be delivered as part of the design work. Additional deliverables include supporting a public involvement process to address the grade-separated crossing, trail amenities, greenway nodes, landscaping, and other special design elements specific to greenways.

Elements of the scope of work include: County Project 2000233 will develop preliminary engineering design services for multiple sections of greenway including:

North Creek Greenway (3 Segments)

- 189th Street West to CSAH 64 – 30% Preliminary Design
- CSAH 64 to Rambling River Park – 2 or 3 alignment options with 30% Preliminary Design of 1 preferred option.
- Rambling River Park to Denmark (CSAH31) – 30% Preliminary Design

Vermillion Highlands Greenway (3 segments)

- TH 3 to Barcardi Ave– alignment study/landowner discussion
- Barcardi Ave to McMenemy property – 30% Preliminary Design through Schmitz (North 20 Brewery) and Dakota County conservation easement.
- Whitetail Woods Regional Park to Vermillion River – 30% Preliminary Design
 - Includes alignment study/discussion with Metro Council and DNR

Vermillion River Greenway: (2 segments)

- Rambling River Park to TH 3
 - Includes railroad crossing evaluation/concept design & discussion with railroad
 - TH 3 to Biscayne – two alignment alternatives, 30% Preliminary Design on one

Final Design is desired for Vermillion River Greenway in Rambling River Park. Pending outcomes of conversations with private landowners, additional final design work may be needed between Rambling River Park and the City of Empire.

Current request is for preliminary designs to be completed in 2024-2025 with final design of Vermillion River Greenway to Rambling River Park proposed in 2025-2026. The final design plans will also address trail amenities, nodes, landscaping, and other special features consistent with regional greenway design guidance.

Deliverables: The primary technical deliverables the project will include preliminary design phases, final design through Rambling River Park, public involvement, agency coordination, data collection, environmental reviews, permits, approvals, surveys, roadway geometric design, stormwater and hydraulic evaluation, geotechnical, right of way, and other required elements such as traffic analysis, project submittal, and construction administration.

Public and Agency Engagement (meetings, events, activities, website): This project will include efforts to engage with the general public and with local partners including the City of Farmington, City of Empire, MnDOT and Union Pacific Railroad. Public engagement efforts will also include visuals, surveys and include at least (1) public open house or pop-up event, up to two (2) meetings with stakeholders most directly impacted by the proposed project, and agency meetings/presentations as necessary. The consultant will have a lead role as the technical expert and will provide exhibits and information.

Schedule: The work plan will include concurrent tasks through winter of 2024 that include stakeholder engagement and technical design milestones to deliver final design by December 27, 2024.

Consultant Selection Summary

Request for Proposals (RFP): The RFP for the project was released on July 8, 2024. The RFP was sent to the following four consulting firms: Bolton & Menk, Confluence, Damon Farber, HKGI, Kimley Horn, KLJ, LHB, SEH, SRF, Stantec, TKDA, TOOLE Design, and WSB. Dakota County staff agreed to request proposals from these firms because of the familiarity with similar projects in the City and County, and similar project experience. Conversations with firms occurred before the proposal period to engage in project details. Other firms chose not to submit a proposal due to their current workload and lack of capacity for this project, the belief that other consultant firms were better suited for this project, and the inability to deliver the project with the proposed timeline in the RFP.

Review Team Agencies: Dakota County

Review Process: Two proposals were received on August 9, 2024. The proposals were reviewed by Dakota County Staff in Parks, Transportation, and Planning. The scoring panel met on August 19, 2024 to discuss the both proposals received, address any concerns with each proposal, and select the consultant.

Evaluation Results: The proposal received by KLJ Engineering LLC rated highly based on project approach, understanding of scope and project team. The consultant identified appropriate measures for quality control, had direct experience completing preliminary design on the project, had comparable past performance on similar projects and an appropriate public involvement plan. The proposal review utilized the criteria listed and paid special attention to project approach, public engagement, schedule and task hour accuracy, and attention to major traffic engineering milestones to support a best-value decision.

Summary of Proposed Costs:

Consultant	Cost/Hr	Total Hours	Total Cost
KLJ Engineering	\$ 148.00	3918	\$ 582,825.60

Recommendation and Summary: The project scoring panel selected KLJ for CP 2000233 because they provided the best understanding of the project scope, provided a reasonable schedule and suitable task hours with emphasis on public engagement, surveys, stormwater, traffic analysis and roadway engineering. They also presented a qualified team, provided staff’s expected level of effort and most accurately reflected the project needs. KLJ provided a project manager and public engagement process that have proven success in Dakota County and Rosemount.