

**DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION  
COMMISSION ORDER**

Division/Bureau/Office Transportation Development Division  
Systems Planning Bureau Order No. TD-2023-44  
 Submitted by Craig Markley Phone No. 515-239-1027 Meeting Date January 11, 2023  
 Title Federal Recreational Trails Program Funding Recommendations

**DISCUSSION/BACKGROUND:**

Review of the current round of applications for funding from the federal Recreational Trails Program has been completed. The following funding recommendations will be presented.

Cedar River Water Trail Access Improvements (Mitchell County Conservation Board)	\$665,050
Central Place Levee Trail Phase 2 (Des Moines)	\$300,000
Nicholson-Ford OHV Park Tree Clean Up (Iowa Department of Natural Resources)	\$131,600
Snowmobile Trail Maintenance (Iowa State Snowmobile Association)	\$246,000
Support for Bicycle Summit (Iowa DOT)	\$ 6,000
 Total	 \$1,348,650

**PROPOSAL/ACTION RECOMMENDATION:**

It is recommended the Commission approve the federal Recreational Trails Program funding recommendations as listed.

<b>COMMISSION ACTION:</b>		Vote	
		Aye	Nay
	Pass		
Moved by _____	Arnold	_____	_____
Seconded by _____	Fehrman	_____	_____
	Gaesser	_____	_____
	Juckette	_____	_____
	Rielly	_____	_____
	Stutsman	_____	_____
	Yanney	_____	_____
_____ Division Director	_____ Legal	_____ State Director	



Federal Recreational Trails Program  
**Funding Recommendation**



# Federal Recreational Trail Program

- **Federal program created in 1991**
- **Available to federal, state, and local government agencies. Private individuals and organizations may apply with a government co-sponsor.**
- **Purpose is to develop and maintain recreational trails and trail related facilities for both motorized and non-motorized trail users.**
- **Eligible projects include:**
  - Maintenance and restoration of existing trails, development of trailside and trailhead facilities, purchase of trail construction and maintenance equipment, construction of new trails, and acquisition of land for trails.

# Project Evaluation Criteria

- Degree to which motorized and non-motorized trail use are accommodated. (10 points)
- Greatest number of compatible multi-purpose uses. (10 points)
- Access and use for persons with disabilities, older citizens, economically challenged and other special populations or groups. (10 points)
- Provides development of trail linkages. (10 points)
- Opportunities for new partnerships between trail users and private interests. (10 points)
- Identified in or furthers a specific goal of a state, regional, or local plan. (10 points)
- Leverages greater public or private investments. (10 points)
- Citizen involvement in the project's conception and implementation (10 points)
- Degree to which project ties in to other trails. (10 points)
- Public/private partnerships to continue operation and maintenance. (15 points)
- Trails with national designation or resulting in the cleanup of an area. (10 points)

# Available Funding and Application Summary

- **Available Funding:**
  - Annual appropriation: \$1,300,000
  - Underruns from closed projects: \$ 61,167
- **Application Summary:**
  - Total number of projects: 18
  - Total project costs: \$19,760,150
  - Total amount requested: \$7,653,328

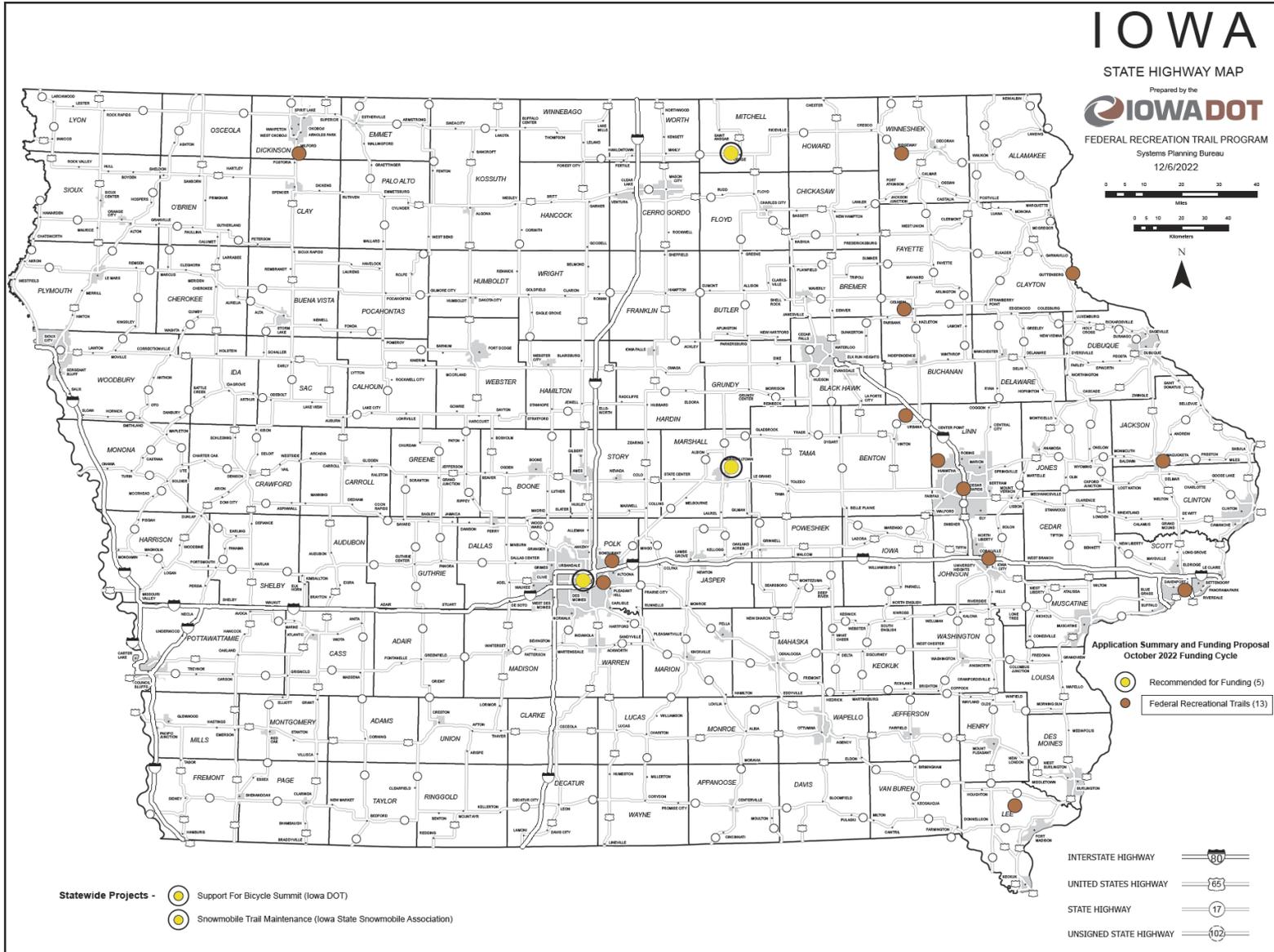
# List of Motorized Applications Recommended

PROJECT NAME	SPONSOR	SCORE	TOTAL PROJECT COST	REQUESTED AMOUNT (% of Total Project Cost)	RECOMMENDED AMOUNT (% of Total Project Cost)
<a href="#"><u>Nicholson-Ford OHV Park Tree Clean Up</u></a>	Iowa Department of Natural Resources	57.57	\$164,500	\$131,600 (80%)	\$131,600 (80%)
<a href="#"><u>Snowmobile Trail Maintenance</u></a>	Iowa State Snowmobile Association	56.43	\$307,500	\$246,000 (80%)	\$246,000 (80%)

# List of Non-motorized Applications Recommended

PROJECT NAME	SPONSOR	SCORE	TOTAL PROJECT COST	REQUESTED AMOUNT (% of Total Project Cost)	RECOMMENDED AMOUNT (% of Total Project Cost)
<a href="#"><u>Bicycle Summit</u></a>	Iowa DOT	N/A	\$7,500	\$6,000 (80%)	\$6,000 (80%)
<a href="#"><u>Cedar River Water Trails Access Improvements</u></a>	Mitchell County Conservation Board	79.57	\$1,289,210	\$665,050 (52%)	\$665,050 (52%)
<a href="#"><u>Central Place Levee Trail Phase 2</u></a>	Des Moines	76.57	\$2,500,000	\$300,000 (12%)	\$300,000 (12%)

# Map of Applications Received





QUESTIONS?



Scott Flagg, Federal Recreational Trails Program Manager

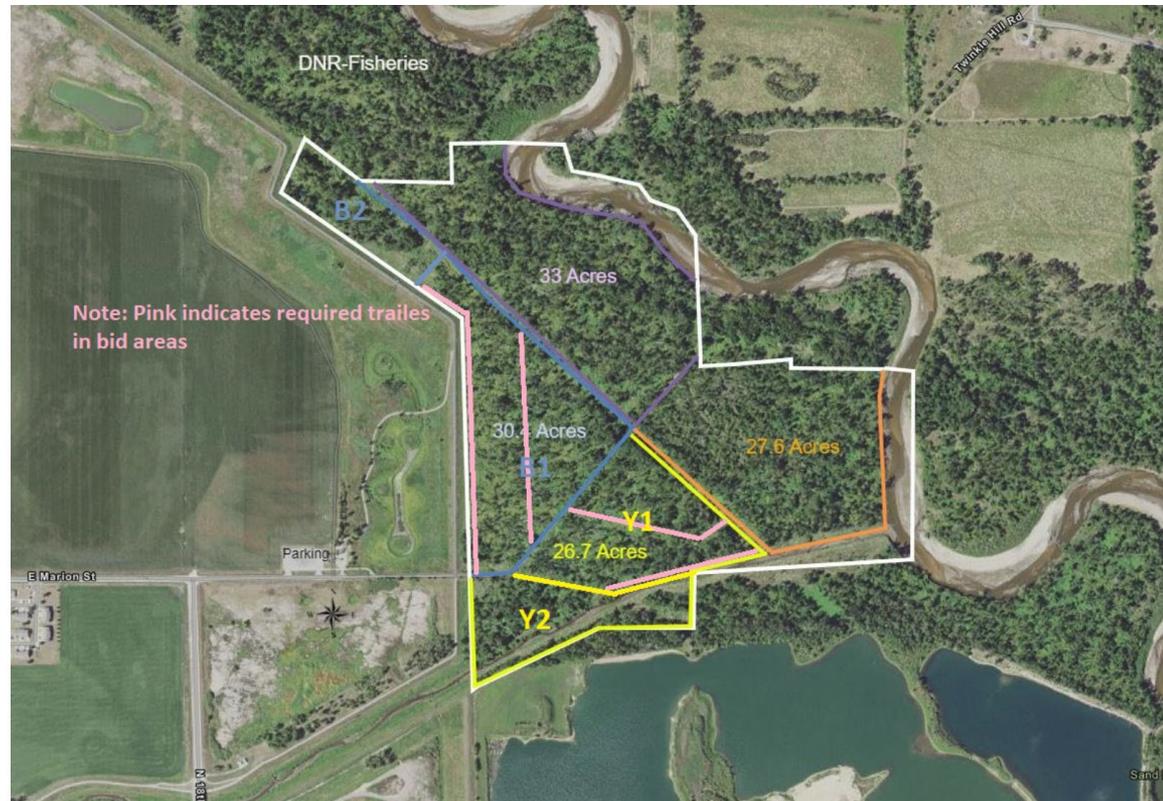
[scott.flagg@iowadot.us](mailto:scott.flagg@iowadot.us)

515-239-1252

## Nicholson-Ford OHV Park Tree Clean Up (Iowa Department of Natural Resources)

Remove damaged and downed trees and reopen trails within park that was damaged by 2020 derecho.

**Total Cost: \$164,500**  
**Requested: \$131,600 (80%)**

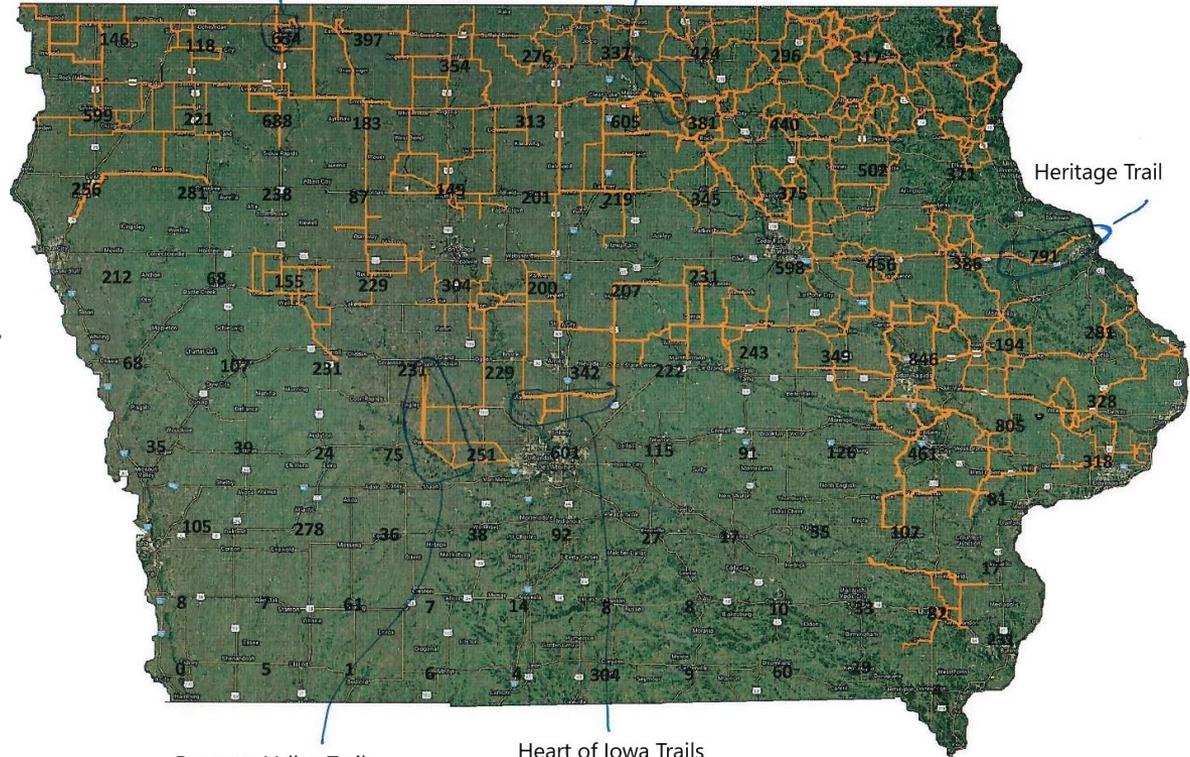


Map 1: Overview of the park area broken into sections for tree cleanup, recovery, and conservation

# Snowmobile Trail Maintenance (Iowa State Snowmobile Association)

Project will create and maintain snowmobile trails in 63 counties across Iowa for the winter of 2023-2024.

**Total Cost: \$307,500**  
**Requested: \$246,000 (80%)**



## ISSA STATE SNOWMOBILE TRAIL

## Bicycle Summit (Iowa DOT)

This project provides funding to pay for costs related to the 2024 Iowa Bicycle Summit. The Iowa Bicycle Summit is an annual conference providing education on the latest bicycle facilities, technology, and programming. It brings national speakers to Iowa to share bicycle facility successes and best practices from around the United States. Many of the lessons learned at the Summit have manifested into trail facilities and safety.

**Total Cost:** \$7,500  
**Requested:** \$6,000 (80%)



## Cedar River Water Trails Access Improvements (Mitchell County Conservation Board)

Project adds paved parking, boat ramps and other enhancements at three Cedar River access points.

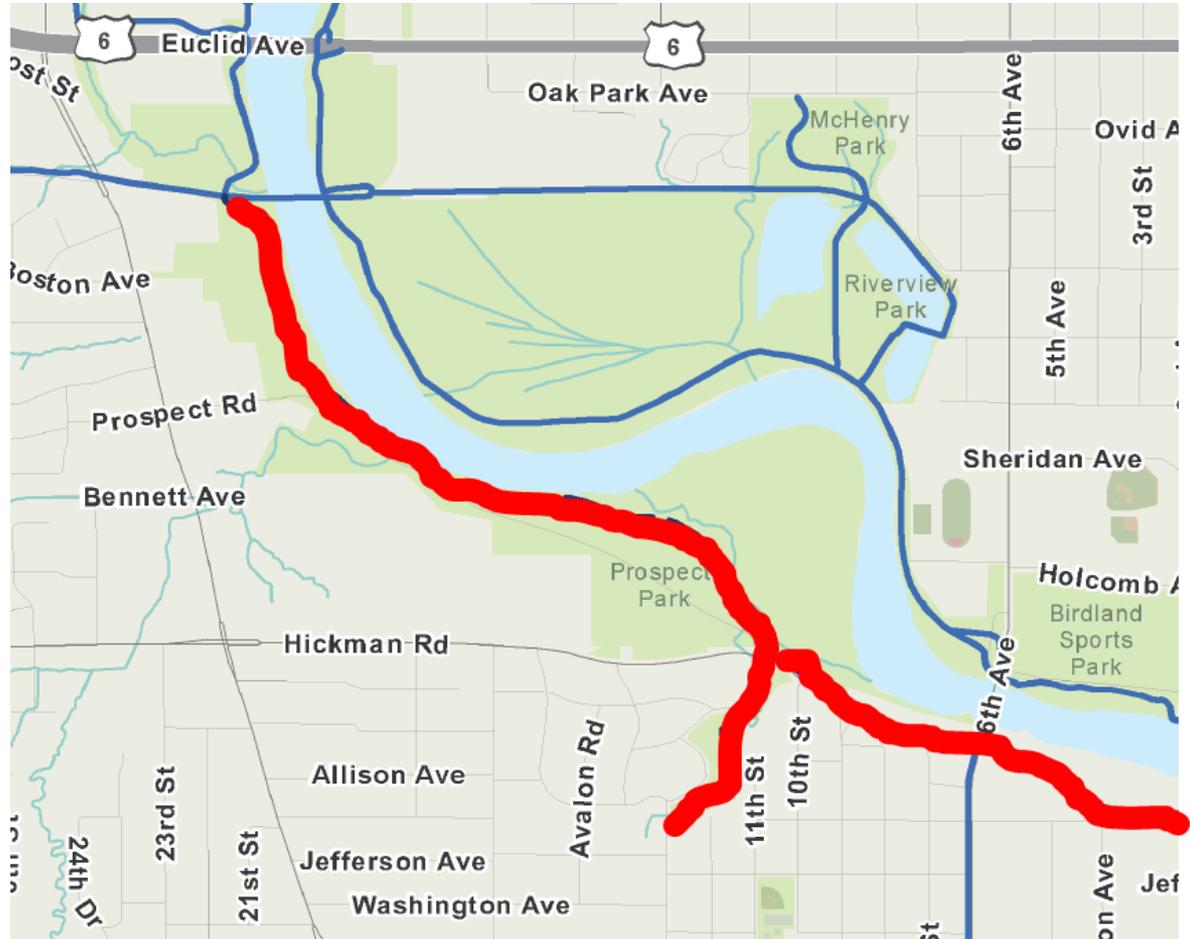
**Total Cost: \$1,289,210**  
**Requested: \$665,050 (52%)**



## Central Place Levee Trail Phase 2 (Des Moines)

Project constructs 2.1-miles of multi-use trail along the west bank of the Des Moines River between the intersection of 2nd Avenue and Franklin Avenue and the intersection of the Inter-Urban and Trestle to Trestle trails. A 0.8 mile spur into local neighborhoods without trail access is also included.

**Total Cost: \$2,500,000**  
**Requested: \$300,000 (12%)**



# List of Applications Not Recommended for Award

PROJECT NAME	SPONSOR	SCORE	TOTAL PROJECT COST	REQUESTED AMOUNT (% of Total Project Cost)	RECOMMENDED AMOUNT (% of Total Project Cost)
Trailhead at Clear Creek Point	Coralville	69.71	\$155,400	\$124,320 (80%)	\$0
Cedar Valley Nature Trail: Iowa 150 to Benton/Buchanan County Line	Linn County Conservation Board	69.57	\$2,474,080	\$750,000 (30%)	\$0
Clay County Connection Phase II	Dickinson County	68.29	\$972,850	\$340,500 (35%)	\$0
First Bridge Pedestrian/Bicycle Bridge	River Action Inc	67.71	\$2,906,748	\$700,000 (24%)	\$0
Copper Creek Mountain Bike Park	Polk County Conservation Board	61.29	\$1,600,000	\$400,000 (25%)	\$0

# List of Applications Not Recommended for Award

PROJECT NAME	SPONSOR	SCORE	TOTAL PROJECT COST	REQUESTED AMOUNT (% of Total Project Cost)	RECOMMENDED AMOUNT (% of Total Project Cost)
Pollmiller Park Trail Rehabilitation	Lee County Conservation Board	57.57	\$420,000	\$150,000 (36%)	\$0
Oelwein Municipal Urban Trail - Segment 2	Oelwein	57.43	\$781,318	\$625,054 (80%)	\$0
Chichaqua Valley Trail Connection	Bondurant	57.14	\$1,579,289	\$100,000 (6%)	\$0
Guttenberg Recreational Trail Connection	Guttenberg	56.86	\$819,000	\$215,200 (26%)	\$0
Iowa 64 and Prairie Creek Trails Connection	Maquoketa	54.71	\$561,755	\$449,404 (80%)	\$0

# List of Applications Not Recommended for Award

PROJECT NAME	SPONSOR	SCORE	TOTAL PROJECT COST	REQUESTED AMOUNT (% of Total Project Cost)	RECOMMENDED AMOUNT (% of Total Project Cost)
4th Street Trail : 7th Avenue to 9th Avenue SE	Cedar Rapids	54.43	\$502,000	\$401,000 (80%)	\$0
Palo Connector Trail	Palo	47.17	\$2,464,000	\$1,971,200 (80%)	\$0
Prairie Farmer Trail Paving Project	Winneshiek County Secondary Roads	42.50	\$255,000	\$78,000 (31%)	\$0