

Metro Greenways 2008 Community Conservation Assistance Grants

Project Profile

Project Name: ***Using the collaborative track progress to achieve conservation values through the development process***

Geographic Context: ***City of Minnetrista***

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Grant Amount: \$18,000

Project Goal: *Incorporate ways to incent developers to preserve high quality natural areas into the City's land use regulations.*

Project Outcome: *This project is still in progress. The City has been applying the collaborative track process to a proposed development.*

Project Overview:

The City's research and application of the collaborative track development process has fostered many partnerships and enabled them to apply the concept to a proposed development prior to codifying in their land use regulations.

Intra-city partnership: for the first time ever the city council, parks commission and planning commission have met jointly to identify the values they want developments to incorporate into their proposals.

Inter-city partnerships: the City has worked with special purpose districts (watershed and park) within their jurisdiction inviting them to be a partner in the collaborative process and asking them what values/goals they want incorporated in the proposed development.

City-developer partnership: the City is working with the developer to make sure the values they have identified are incorporated into the application for the development. This upfront communication will hopefully replace the apply/review/revise cycle of the traditional planned unit development process.

Many of the values the City identified for this development are natural resource based:

- Preserve/enhance/restore ecological systems (on and off site)
- Provide public park and trail opportunities
- Manage stormwater
- Ensure long-term natural resource stewardship