

(\$ in thousands)

Project Title	Priority Ranking	Funding Source	Project Requests for State Funds		
			2024	2026	2028
Irrigation Infrastructure Replacement and Design	1	GO	\$ 12,000	\$ 0	\$ 0
New Nordic Golf Facility	2	GO	\$ 13,700	\$ 0	\$ 0
New Aerial Chair Lift - Calgary	3	GO	\$ 3,500	\$ 0	\$ 0
Minnesota Discovery Center	4	GO	\$ 8,102	\$ 0	\$ 0
<b>Total Project Requests</b>			<b>\$ 37,302</b>	<b>\$ 0</b>	<b>\$ 0</b>
<b>General Obligation Bonds (GO) Total</b>			<b>\$ 37,302</b>	<b>\$ 0</b>	<b>\$ 0</b>

**Irrigation Infrastructure Replacement and Design**

**AT A GLANCE**

**2024 Request Amount:** \$12,000

**Priority Ranking:** 1

**Project Summary:** The irrigation system for the Legend Golf Course is at the end of its useful life. Prolonging its operation has become cumbersome and costly, with reliability issues becoming increasingly frequent. Replacement parts are difficult to obtain and some crucial upgrade components are unavailable. Replacing the irrigation system will improve the quality of the Legend course turf and reduce the operational difficulties associated with maintaining the current system.

**Project Description**

Upgrade infrastructure for the golf course irrigation to preserve the asset.

Replace failing underground infrastructure. Improved automation technology for operation.

Efficiency and energy improvements.

Water usage savings and pump house integration.

**Project Rationale**

The project will provide adequate stability and improvements for the irrigation system for the next 25 years.

Asset preservation to replace and enhance the system will provide energy and staff savings.

The golf course operation is a key economic driver for the region.

Ability to minimize downtime of the golf course utilization due to repairs.

**Project Timeline**

Funding: 2024

Pre-Design - Design: 2024

Bid and Construction: 2025

Construction Completion Spring 2027

**Other Considerations****Impact on Agency Operating Budgets**

Reduced labor, water, and fertilizers to maintain and operate the golf course.

**Description of Previous Appropriations****Project Contact Person**

Linda Johnson

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(\$ in thousands)

**New Nordic Golf Facility**

**AT A GLANCE**

**2024 Request Amount:** \$13,700

**Priority Ranking:** 2

**Project Summary:** The Nordic Golf Center will anchor the Giants Ridge base area, expand indoor and outdoor recreational facilities for skier and golfers. It will add to the overall vibrancy of the base area and create a smoother interface between the nordic ski trails and the golf course. Currently the golf shop is in a old maintenance building and there is not dedicated indoor nordic space for skiers and ski teams to base from at Giants Ridge. The need for such a facility is vital to the operations.

**Project Description**

The proposed Nordic Golf Center will coexist of two major endeavors: relocate the existing golf course maintenance building that now detracts from the golf and nordic operations, construct an new Nordic/Golf center and outdoor plaza are which will anchor the north edge of the site and create a village experience for customers. The project will continue to enhance the destination appeal and provide the added needed space for events. The facility will have dedicated spaces for nordic and golf locker rooms, function space, storage space and counter/retails space, outdoor gathering spaces, new arrival area. The Nordic/Golf Center will anchor the base, expand indoor and outdoor space for gathering and special events. It will create a smoother interface between the existing operations and the parking lot.

Nordic skiing and golf are integral to the Giants Ridge experience. Despite having high-quality nordic trails, Giants Ridge has not been able to leverage additional nordic visitation. Improving the Nordic facility by providing designated guest services space in the Nordic Center that is separate from the alpine facility will make this of Giants Ridge winter experience more attractive and saleable.

**Project Rationale**

Project will provide adequate and safe spaces for Nordic skiers and golfers, bikers, as well as employees. It will provide for a much better overall experience and creates the potential to grow additional events within the recreation area and surrounding communities.

- Separates the customers from the current maintenance facility which is over 30 years old
- Provides a safer environment for the Nordic skiers who participate in events currently utilizing the maintenance facility and provides additional space
- Locates the Nordic skiers closer to the trails

- Maintenance facility is within the Nordic and golf campus and is a safety risk with heavy equipment and deliveries arriving at the same location
- Creates a better arrival into the property for guests
- Provides for an updated maintenance facility that will be energy efficient and secure

### **Project Timeline**

Funding: 2024

Pre-Design - Design: 2024

Bid and Construction: 2025

Completion: Spring 2026

### **Other Considerations**

The economic impact to the region currently generates \$55 million annually into the local economy. The facility is located in an economically distressed region of the state. The project attracts tourism dollars into the local economy and diversifies employment opportunities for the regional workforce. It also supports healthy communities within the region and the state.

### **Impact on Agency Operating Budgets**

The construction will provide for energy efficient buildings that will help to reduce the carbon footprints of the buildings. New energy systems enhance efficiencies to the current buildings, which reduce expenses associated with the physical plant operations. It will help to increase the opportunity to advance the region as a quality location for athletic competitions for both Nordic and golf events.

### **Description of Previous Appropriations**

N/A

### **Project Contact Person**

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(\$ in thousands)

**New Aerial Chair Lift - Calgary**

**AT A GLANCE**

<b>2024 Request Amount:</b>	\$3,500
<b>Priority Ranking:</b>	3
<b>Project Summary:</b>	\$3.5 million in state funds is requested to construct a new aerial chair lift.

**Project Description**

The new infrastructure will replace an aging chair lift that provides transport to the top of the ski, bike and hiking areas.

**Project Rationale**

The project will provide reliable and safe transportation to the top of the ski/hiking/biking area.

- Project will add additional uphill capacity.
- An aerial lift will provide a safe and dependable ride for customers.
- Improved safety monitoring with new technologies
- Safety retention bars will be required.
- Increased operator efficiencies
- Provides greater lift capacity (skier per hour)

**Project Timeline**

Design & Engineering: September 2024

Construction Bid: January 2025

Final Completion: November 2025

**Other Considerations**

Economic impacts for Giants Ridge on the local economy are \$43 million. The project is located in an economically distressed area of the East Iron Range. The facility is the host site to 11 Alpine and multiple Nordic events annually serving 4,000 plus participants. Over 50% are alpine related.

**Impact on Agency Operating Budgets**

There is a potential for reduction in labor and spare parts spent on fixing old infrastructure.

**Description of Previous Appropriations**

N/A

**Project Contact Person**

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(\$ in thousands)

**Minnesota Discovery Center**

**AT A GLANCE**

**2024 Request Amount:** \$8,102

**Priority Ranking:** 4

**Project Summary:** \$8.102 million in state funds is requested to remodel, reconfigure, and repurpose 14,900 sq. ft. of existing archival space that has reached collection capacity. MDC would design, construct, furnish and equip 12,000 sq. ft. of new space to expand archival collection space, address ADA compliance with entrance and restrooms, and new multi-purpose event and education space at the Minnesota Discovery Center (MDC) that also serves as the Redhead Mountain Bike Park Trailhead in Chisholm.

**Project Description**

The MDC is seeking \$8.1 million in state funds as part of a 2 phase \$18 million infrastructure update and expansion project. The MDC would remodel, reconfigure, and repurpose 14,900 sq. ft. of existing archival space. MDC would design, construct, furnish and equip 12,000 sq. ft. of new space to expand the archival collection capacity, address connectivity, create ADA compliant entrance and restrooms, and a multi-purpose event and educational space.

The \$8.1 million project breakdown is as follows:

- 14,900 sf. of existing facilities will be reconfigured, repurposed, remodeled, furnished, and equipped to tie into our new main entrance and existing facilities and will facilitate circulation from the new entrance into the museum and campus.
- 2,300 sf. of new facilities that will serve as the new ADA compliant museum entrance. The new entrance will house new ADA compliant public restrooms. The new entrance and facilities will connect into our existing infrastructure.
- 1,000 sf. of new archival space to allow for capacity expansion.
- 8,700 sf. of new facilities that will serve as more private, multi-use educational and event space to better serve thousands of students and businesses that we accommodate on an annual basis.

**Project Rationale**

By constructing a new main entrance, the MDC can create an experience that serves all demographics of our 50,000+ annual visitors including those with disabilities. The project will also allow us to continue serving our mission of preserving and protecting Iron Range history. It will maximize the use of our space within our current campus footprint, making it safer, more accommodating, easier to navigate, and more efficient to operate. By reconfiguring and remodeling 14,900 sf. of existing space we can create a safer and more accommodating environment that transitions into our new entrance and facilities as a part of this project. Additional project benefits and rationale include:



- Addressing long standing deferred maintenance needs.
- Maximizes campus space and streamlines efficiencies in our campus operations and facility costs.
- Addresses ADA compliance issues.
- Provides safer environment for our guests and staff.
- Provides much needed updates to our campus which was constructed in the 1970's and 1980's with no significant investment since original construction.
- The MDC facility is a state asset.
- Provides protection and preservation to thousands of state historical archival collections.
- The MDC serves as one of the only state repositories for historical records and documents.
- Positions the MDC to better accommodate educational programming, workshops, events, school field trips, individuals with disabilities, concerts, and Redhead Mountain Bike Park users.

### **Project Timeline**

Funding: 2024

Pre-Design - Design: 2024

Bid and construction: 2025

Completion: Spring 2026

### **Other Considerations**

The Minnesota Discovery Center is one of Chisholm's largest employers and generates more than \$2.5 million to the local and regional economy via our annual operating budget and payroll. The project is located in an economically distressed part of our state. The project attracts more tourists to our region, creates more jobs, and helps diversify employment opportunities for the regional workforce. Additionally, the MDC 's attractions draw in more than 50,000 guests each year and that number is anticipated to increase by an additional 30,000 guests a year due to the Redhead Mountain Bike Park. This project will help better accommodate the additional influx of tourists to our region and maximize opportunities for additional spending. The project will also promote healthier and more sustainable communities on the Iron Range and throughout the state.

- The Minnesota Discovery Center has up to \$400,000 to contribute toward the project to cover the cost of design fees above and beyond the \$8.1 million.
- This funding request is part of a 2 phase \$18 million project.
- By obtaining \$8.1 million in state funds, we can leverage additional public and private investment of up to \$20 million for additional development.
- In 2020 alone, the Minnesota Discovery Center's Research Center served more than 2,400 individuals from 48 states and 17 countries. Additionally, we served requests from military APO's and Washington, D.C.

### **Impact on Agency Operating Budgets**

This project will provide for energy efficient buildings that reduce expenses related to operations.

This project will allow us to allocate more of our internal capital budget to address critical infrastructure needs in other areas of our campus. The project provides the opportunity to significantly increase revenue by creating adequate spaces to serve our school groups and venue rental customers. We will better accommodate guests, events, workshops, and have the ability to accommodate more educational programming with the schools within our service area.

**Description of Previous Appropriations**

NA

**Project Contact Person**

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