



**REGIONAL PLANNING AFFILIATION - REGION 18**

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2024-2027 Regional Transportation Improvement Program  
**Surface Transportation Block Grant Application**

## APPLICATION FOR REGION 18 TRANSPORTATION PROJECTS

Complete and return the original plus (1) copy to Travis Halm, Associate Planner, MAPA  
2222 Cuming Street, Omaha NE 68102 or by e-mail to thalm@mapacog.org by 12:00 P.M. (Noon) 2/28/2023  
(Please do not send any color maps or maps larger than 8.5" x 14" legal size paper)

*Note: Application not required for County Bridge Program Projects*

1. Project Name: West Nishnabotna Hwy 44 River Access			Date: 2/2/2023
2. Contact Person: Gene Gettys		Phone Number: 712-755-5137	
3. Address of Contact Person 711 Durant Street	City Harlan	County IA	Zip Code 51537
4. Project Sponsor (lead entity if multi-jurisdictional) City of Harlan		Sponsor Signature	

### 5. Classification of Project: (check all that apply)

- |  |  |  |
|--|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Highway<br><br><input type="checkbox"/> Construction, reconstruction resurfacing, restoration, and rehabilitation<br><br><input type="checkbox"/> Highway safety improvements Capital and operating costs for traffic management and control<br><br><input type="checkbox"/> Surface Transportation planning, a highway And research and development<br><br><input type="checkbox"/> Operational Improvements<br><br><input type="checkbox"/> Fringe and corridor parking facilities<br><br><input type="checkbox"/> Most transportation control measures in The Clean Air Act<br><br><input type="checkbox"/> Development and establishment of management system | <input type="checkbox"/> Transit<br><br><input type="checkbox"/> Capital Costs for transit projects<br><br><input type="checkbox"/> Surface Trans. planning for transit technology transfer activities | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation Alternatives<br><br><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Construction, planning, and design of on-road and off-road trail facilities for pedestrians, bicyclists, and other non-motorized forms of transportation, including sidewalks, bicycle infrastructure, pedestrian and bicycle signals, traffic calming techniques, lighting and other safety-related infrastructure, and transportation projects to achieve compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990<br><br><input type="checkbox"/> Conversion and use of abandoned railroad corridors for trails for pedestrians, bicyclists, or other non-motorized transportation users<br><br><input type="checkbox"/> Construction of turnouts, overlooks, and viewing areas<br><br><input type="checkbox"/> Community improvement activities, including-<br>*inventory, control, or removal of outdoor advertising;<br>*historic preservation and rehabilitation of historic transportation facilities;<br>*vegetation management practices in transportation rights-of-way to improve roadway safety, prevent against invasive species, and provide erosion control; and<br>*archaeological activities relating to impacts from Implementation of a transportation project eligible under title 23<br><br><input type="checkbox"/> Any environmental mitigation activity, including prevention and pollution abatement activities and mitigation to-<br>*address stormwater management, control, and water pollution prevention and abatement related to highway construction or due to highway runoff, including activities described in sections 133(b)(11), 328(a), and 329 of title 23; or<br>*reduce vehicle-caused wildlife mortality or to restore and Maintain connectivity among terrestrial or aquatic habitats<br><br><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> The recreational trails program under section 206 of title 23<br><br><input type="checkbox"/> Planning, designing, or constructing boulevards and other roadways largely in the right-of-way of the former right-of-way of former Interstate System routes or other divided highways |
|--|--|--|

6. Please describe the proposed project and its regional significance within the space provided, including any bridges

The City of Harlan and Shelby County have seen increased water trail usage on the West Nishnabotna River. Safe access to the river for enthusiasts is the number one challenge curtailing additional enjoyment and use. Highway 44 Bridge launch site, while undeveloped, is the most utilized location along the river within the City of Harlan for water trail users. Loading and unloading of equipment along the shoulder of the highway is dangerous and unsafe. In addition, access to the river for launch requires navigation of undeveloped, sloped terrain. These two elements combined are a hindrance for water use enjoyment for the public. In a collaborative effort, the City of Harlan has been working with Shelby County Conservation and the DNR Water Trails Coordinator regarding water trail designation, inclusive of development of access points. There has been a landowner survey and meeting to assess interest and concerns. In addition, a meeting has been conducted with users of the river. The Harlan City Council has been regularly briefed regarding water trail designation and launch site development. The consensus from the respective entities and groups is a high level of interest in water trail designation and access point development.

7. Please provide a brief description of the project area. Include a map with the area marked (please do not enclose and color maps or maps larger than 8.5" x 14" (legal size) paper

The location is within the corporate boundaries of the City of Harlan. Hwy 44 bridge is located in the SE area of the community and the launch location will be on the SE location from the bridge, The property is currently owned by the City of Harlan and is within the water well field. Developing this location will complement an access upstream (Reining Access) and a new launch site soon to be under construction at Nishna Bend.

8. Project Budget

EXPENSES		REVENUE		
ITEM	COST	SOURCE	AMOUNT	%
Land/Site Acquisition Costs	\$0	Fed.	\$273,000	Click here to enter text
Construction/Materials Costs	\$325,000	Local	\$72,000	Click here to enter text
Engineering/Consulting Costs	\$20,000		Click here to enter text	Click here to enter text
Capital Acquisition explain: Click here to enter text.	\$0		Click here to enter text	Click here to enter text
Other (explain.) Click here to enter text.			Other grants will be utilized to achieve \$72,000 of local source.	
<b>TOTAL COST</b>	<b>\$345,000</b>	<b>TOTAL COST</b>	<b>\$345,000</b>	Click here to enter text

9. Work plan and schedule for project completion (please be sure to coincide the work plan with the correct federal fiscal year, the fiscal year for this cycle is Summer and Fall of 2024) (Federal fiscal year is October 1-September 30)

Projected timeline: Summer/Fall of 2023 – contract with engineer for final construction drawings, permitting, bidding and construction. Winter/Spring 2024 – Bid and award contract. Late Summer/Fall 2024 - Construction

10. Is there a need to coordinate with another entity in the programming and/or implementation of this project?

Yes

No

If yes, list other entities involved and describe the interaction needed and coordination to date.

Harlan Municipal Utilities will be constructing a raw water development project in 2023 and Spring 2024.

### QUESTIONS 11-13 ARE FOR HIGHWAY PROJECTS ONLY

11. What is the Average Daily Traffic of the proposed project?

ADT

Click here to enter text

Year of Count

Click here to enter text

12. What is the Federal Functional Classification(s) of the route within the proposed project? Has a change been requested? If yes, please describe.

Click here to enter text.

Major Arterial  Minor Arterial  Major Collector  Minor Collector

13. What are the basic roadway and bridge sufficiency values (including pavement age) for the route within the proposed project?

#### Bridge Data (if applicable)

Structurally Deficient  
 Functionally Obsolete

Sufficiency Rating

Click here to enter text.

Click here to enter text.

## PROJECT CHECKLIST

14. The following items are required		Note: Applications must specifically and directly answer each criterion within the space provided to receive points. Pertinent attachments are allowed such as maps, drawings, and/or photos as long as they are reproducible
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Project Description	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Project Location Map (reproducible)	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Project Budget	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	A project work plan with a schedule	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Motion/Letter of Support for Local Match	

Please fill in the following appropriate blanks:

We, the City of Harlan Support this application for West Nishnabotna Hwy 44 River Access by submitting this application, regional funding through the FAST Act (Transportation Alternatives or Surface Transportation Block Grant) (underline one) funds in the amount of \$273,000 are requested. This project has the support of local match funding of \$72,000, which is 21% of the anticipated project costs.

BY: \_\_\_\_\_

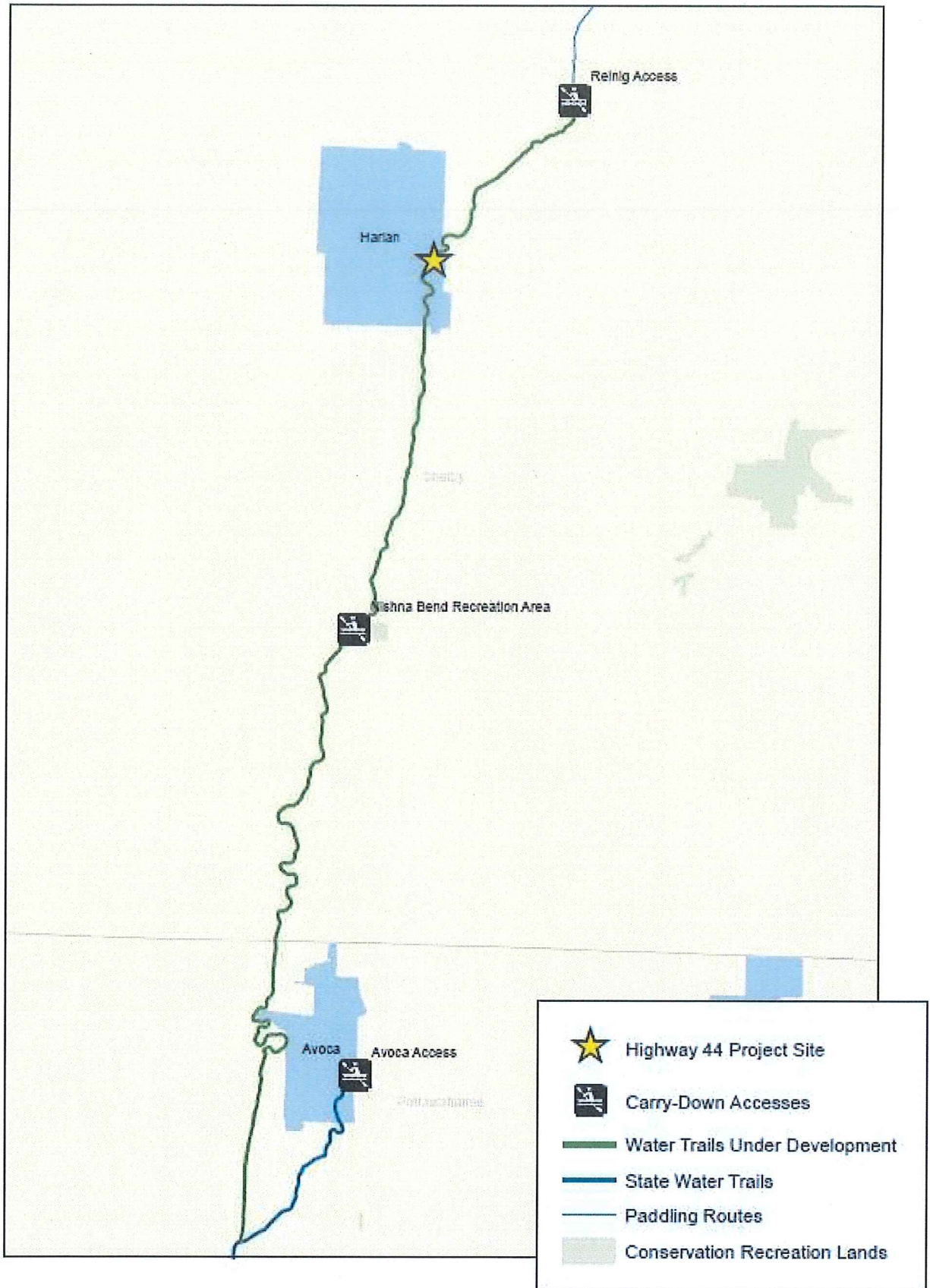
  
Gene Gettys, City Administrator

ATTEST: \_\_\_\_\_

  
Ashley Schleis, Deputy City Clerk

# Project Location Map

## Highway 44 River Bridge Access - City of Harlan





## CITY OF HARLAN

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CITY HALL 711 DURANT ST BOX 650 HARLAN IA 51537  
PHONE 712-755-5137 FAX 712-755-5138  
EMAIL INFO@CITYOFHARLAN.COM

February 1, 2023

To Whom It May Concern,

The City of Harlan is excited about the opportunity to add the Nishnabotna River to Iowa's designated Water Trail System. This effort will result in enhancements to our rudimentary access points currently in place, paths created only by public use during past decades.

Working alongside the Iowa Department of Natural Resources and Shelby County Conservation, the City has identified an access point for development within our city boundaries. Developing this access area will greatly enhance water recreation opportunities in Harlan and Shelby County. Increased usage will result in a positive economic impact from visitors travelling to and through Harlan and Shelby County. In addition, these access points would allow water enthusiasts to connect with access points already developed downstream in Pottawattamie County.

With this development, the safety of those already using these very challenging access points will improve dramatically. No longer will canoers and kayakers be required to scale up and down steep banks consisting of weeds, mud and broken concrete. Vehicle parking along the shoulder of Hwy 44 is another danger that will be eliminated with access point improvements.

Additional safety measures will be realized through information and education, alerting would-be users to the distance between access points, the difficulty of the route and best practices to observe while on the river.

The Harlan City Council, Mayor and administration have demonstrated a great desire to see this project through and are supportive of this application.

Respectfully,

Jay Christensen, Mayor