



The property is part of a contiguous, approximately 425-acre, area of largely undevelopable open space that the City is in the process of acquiring for permanent protection. The larger protected area includes mature northern hardwood forest, steep slopes, extensive wetlands, and two important trout streams. Exhibit B depicts the 68-acre Duluth Cemetery Association property in the context of the larger envisioned protected area.

Acquisition of the property will permit completion of the Duluth Traverse multi-use trail system and support the Superior Hiking Trail Association's desire to relocate their existing trail through this area from a roadway to the forest.

The City has intentionally foregone acquisition of approximately 75 acres of adjoining, developable, open space to preserve the possibility that it may be developed for housing.

The City will meet the required \$408,000 match with awarded grant funds from the Conservation Partners Legacy Metro Program from the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources as authorized by City Council resolution 22-0408R and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Great Lakes Restoration Initiative funding as accepted by City Council resolution 22-1059R.

The Duluth Cemetery Association Board of Directors, responsible for the Forest Hill Cemetery property, is a willing seller though final property boundaries and a final sale price have yet to be agreed upon.