



Angela Anderson  
Marketing & Communications  
218-894-3233  
aanderson@regionfive.org

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

October 16, 2018

### **Region Five Selects 10 Vital Projects**

STAPLES, MN – Region Five Development Commission (R5DC) selected ten projects to include as Vital Projects in their Comprehensive Regional Economic Development Strategy (CREDS). The projects were prioritized by a group of diverse regional leaders from the private, public & non-profit sectors. The committee chose projects with regional significance that create economic vitality, environmental stewardship and quality of life.

Vital Projects listed in the CREDS document allows access to U.S. Economic Development Administration (EDA) funding as well as other federal grant programs. Being listed in this document shows alignment to a regional plan which is favorable to most Federal, State or Local funding agencies. Projects will be shared with multiple funding agencies to encourage these partners to invest in projects meeting regional goals.

2018 Vital Projects are:

Integrating Site-based Solar Energy Systems into STEAM Curriculum – RREAL

Talent Advantage Series – Rural MN CEP

Ag Vet Program – R5DC

Regional Broadband Expansion Projects – CTC and WCTA

Innovations Academy – Bertha-Hewitt School District

Expanding the Legacy Trail – City of Staples

The Good Life...for ALL! – R5DC

Region 5+ Comprehensive Re-entry Project – Crow Wing County

River to Rail – City of Brainerd

Toward Zero Deaths

To learn more about the 2016-2021 CREDS, please visit [www.eda.gov/ceds](http://www.eda.gov/ceds) or [www.regionfive.org](http://www.regionfive.org). You may also contact Dawn Espe at 218-894-3233 or via email at [despe@regionfive.org](mailto:despe@regionfive.org).

## About Region Five Development Commission

Enhancing the vitality and quality of life in Cass, Crow Wing, Morrison, Todd and Wadena counties is the mission of Region Five Development Commission. Resiliency, inclusion and collaboration are guiding concepts in achieving mutually shared goals that continue to evolve with local municipalities, state, federal agencies, philanthropic, non-profit and social advocacy agencies. Visit [www.regionfive.org](http://www.regionfive.org) to learn more.

###