

PROPOSAL for the CITY OF VERGAS

Veterans Memorial Park

June 2021

Information Requested:

Section 2a: Who is conducting the project?

A committee consisting of Pam and Lyle Krieg (701-238-1575), Henry Ditterich (218-342-4904), John Lotzer (701-680-9189), Dennis Breitzman (701-202-6337), and Doug Safar (218-201-2554). In addition, the Vergas Lions Club has agreed to maintain the project in perpetuity.

Section 2b: Summary of the proposed project to include purpose, plan, and overall goals.

The purpose of the project is to memorialize the service of veterans, both living and deceased, and to celebrate service to our country. The park will be a point of interest and will provide a gathering place for both visitors and local residents. It will also be available to schools and teachers as a comfortable outdoor setting for the discussion of history and the importance of service.

Section 2c: How has the project been vetted with other stakeholders to ensure community support?

The Committee has met with the City Council, the Park Board and the Planning Committee on numerous occasions. We conducted an information meeting with the City and brochures describing the project were placed in local businesses. While some opposition to the project from a few individuals, for various reasons, was encountered, we have

found support for the project to be overwhelming. The project is supported by the Frazee VFW, the Frazee AmVets, the Dent American Legion and Quilts of Valor.

Section 2d: Which city property is proposed for the project?

The pie shaped lot between the baseball diamond and the railroad.

Section 2e: What is the anticipated cost for the project?

\$100,000

Section 2f: How will the project be funded?

Funds will be raised by donations from individuals, organizations and businesses. Funds will also be raised through grants and fund raising activities. Some materials such as sand and gravel, concrete, and signage are to be donated. There will be a fee to have a veteran's name engraved on the granite pillars. This fee may be paid by the veteran themselves, family members, organizations or any civic minded individuals. No veteran's name will be left out because of inability to pay. Additionally, engraved granite benches can be purchased.

Section 2g: Will there be any anticipated city costs at the conclusion of the project?

The Committee might request the city provide electrical power to illuminate the United States flag. If appropriate solar lighting cannot be found, the committee will pay all cost related to the installing powerful lights.

Section 2h: How will the city property be specifically used?

The park will include two 25' diameter circular concrete slabs connected by a sidewalk. A graveled parking area will be constructed as well as a sidewalk for access to the memorial. See drawing for a specific description.

The park will be available to the public. It is hoped that future additions to the park will include picnic shelter(s) for public use. All facilities will comply with ADA.

Section 2i: Map of project on city property, as indicated, the proposed activity that will occur on the property.

Section 2j: What is the city's responsibility(s) at the conclusion of the project?

Continued mowing of the grass around the monuments. Parking lot maintenance.

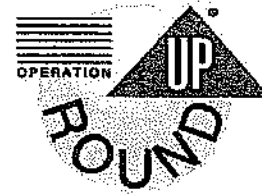


Lake Region Electric Cooperative

1401 South Broadway • P.O. Box 643
Pelican Rapids, Minnesota 56572-0643

April 19, 2021

Lyle or Pam Krieg
Vergas Veterans Memorial
35123 Adams Point Lane
Frazee, MN 56544



Dear Lyle or Pam Krieg,

On behalf of the Lake Region Electric Trust Board for Operation Round Up®, I am pleased to inform you that the donation requested by Vergas Veterans Memorial has been approved. Enclosed is a check for \$5000 to be designated exclusively to the project specified on the application that benefits communities in the local area served by Lake Region Electric Cooperative.

The Lake Region Electric Cooperative team is always interested in how Operation Round Up impacts those we serve. To better understand, a member of the Lake Region team may reach out to learn more about your project or to document the progress of your project. Lake Region thanks you for all the good works you do for the community and are proud to assist you in serving your area.

The board of trustees for Operation Round Up believes your project is important to the community and we wish you success in the years ahead.

Sincerely,

Bev Terhurne
Recording Secretary
Lake Region Electric Trust

Enclosures

Cc: Theresa Halverson, Executive Director

This is the documentation that was submitted to Lake Region Electric Round-Up Application for a grant they provide for community projects -- The Vergas Veterans Memorial Park Project was awarded \$ 5,000.00 in support of the Park Project-Vergas Veterans Memorial Park. Informed of the award on Monday, April 12, 2021.

LREC Operation Round-Up Application Form submitted by Vergas Veteran Memorial

State project purpose:

The Vergas Veterans Memorial Park will provide a point of interest that promotes awareness of the sacrifices our service men and women have made to protect our freedom.

The Vergas Veterans Memorial Park will be a place where legacy of the American military veterans can be recognized and honored.

When completed, this Memorial will represent the active-duty United States Uniformed Services and their respective Guard and Reserve Units.

What are the benefits to the community or area?

The Vergas Veterans Memorial Park will be promoted as a "destination" for local residents and tourists. This will enhance community spirit and economic benefits to local business.

The Vergas Veterans Memorial Park will provide an outdoor gathering place for veterans, military members, their families and friends to celebrate, recognize, remember, and honor the lives of those who are serving or have served.

The vision of the Vergas Veterans Memorial Park came about when 4 Vergas Lions members, who are also Veterans that served during the Vietnam War, were discussing the Veterans Memorial Parks that they had visited in area and they determined that it would be an assist to the area and a honor to have a Veterans Park in our community of Vergas. They started working with the city of Vergas to determine a location and an area next to the softball field along Country Road 4 was determined to be the future home of Vergas's Veteran Memorial Park. The location will be very visible to all residents of the area as well as those visiting the area.

Other Revenue Sources:

Grants, Individual, Businesses and In-Kind Donations-- There will be a fee to have a Veteran's name engraved on the pillars. There is also an opportunity to purchase bench to honor a Veteran and multiple Veterans.

Plans for a fundraising event this spring/summer will be done and the Smoke Wagon will be providing lunch, with some of the proceeds going towards the Veterans Memorial.

Currently, the Vergas Lions has a trailer that residents can drop off their aluminum cans, and the money that is received is going towards the Veterans Memorial.

What other information would you like to share?

We are currently planning a ground breaking ceremony in the spring of 2021 and hoping to have a ribbon cutting ceremony in the fall of 2022.

The Vergas Veterans Memorial Park will have flags and granite monuments to represent each branch of the Armed Forces, granite pillars that will display names of service men and women, and a specific granite pillar for those service men and women that have received a Purple Heart, or have been identified as POWs, MIAs, or KIA.

We are also hoping to be able to participate in "Wreaths across America" at the Vergas Veterans Park, which we will place wreaths at the Memorial. This is a National Remembrance Ceremony, which occurs in December to honor all servicemen and women for their self-less sacrifice.