



# Recreation Access Program

## Competitive Grant Workshop



Los Angeles County  
Regional Park and Open Space District

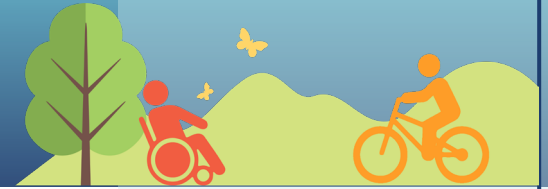
July 7, 2022



**Metro**<sup>®</sup>



# Welcome



## Today's Agenda

- Program Description
- Available Funds
- Program Evaluation/Other Funding Sources
- Grant Program Timeline/Milestones
- Program Examples
- Application Process
- Review Process
- RPOSD Resources
- Program Expectations
- Technical Assistance Program (TAP)
- Metro: Recreation Access Workshop
- Q & A (RPOSD and METRO)
- Action Items/Next Steps





# Program Description



The RPOSD Recreation Access Program will provide funding to:

- Establish **NEW** Recreation Access Programs
  - A program that has not existed within the past two (2) years
- Expand/Enhance **EXISTING** Recreation Access Programs
  - Increase in the number of program participants
  - Increase in the number of program locations
  - Increase in number of program activities
  - Increase in program frequency



# Program Description

Guidelines pg. 7



## Why:

- Increase County resident's access to Public Lands, Park Facilities, Park Amenities

## Including:

- Education, Interpretive Services, Safety Information, Transportation and Other Activities

## Who:

- All LA County residents particularly those who live in High Need or Very High Need Study Areas







## Eligible Applicants:

### Public Agencies

- Governmental Agencies
- Special Districts
- Joint Powers Authorities (JPAs)

### Nonprofit Organizations

- Mission statement must be related to one or more RPOSD approved focus areas

### Schools

- Public and private nonprofit schools are eligible to apply

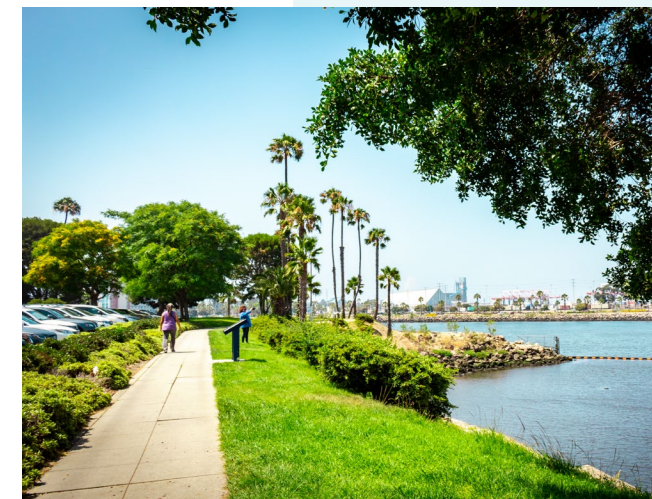




## Program Eligibility

Provide proof that the intended program meets all the following eligibility requirements to apply for a grant award:

- The program increases or will increase the ability for County residents to access public lands, park facilities, park amenities, and recreational opportunities as defined in these guidelines;
- The program trip(s) destination must occur within Los Angeles County, if applicable;
- The program improves or will improve accessibility, connectivity, and safety, including opportunities for education, interpretive services, and active recreation; and
- The program meets the requirements of the Americans with Disabilities (ADA) Act of 1990.







## Application Submission Rules:

- Eligible Applicant must be in Good Standing to apply for grant funding. Refer to the **Good Standing section, page 11, of the Guidelines** for more information.
- A maximum of two application submissions are allowed per Eligible Applicant for this program.
- Each of Los Angeles County's departments (Parks and Recreation, Beaches and Harbors, Public Works, etc.) and departments of Large Cities are considered distinct Eligible Applicants and may submit up to two applications. Large Cities are defined as having 100 or more parks as listed in the LA Parks Portal.
- Incomplete application submissions will not be considered. A response for each question must be provided.

# Available Funds

Measure A Funding available for the Recreation Access Program:  
**\$11,187,267** (over  
a maximum three-year grant  
program cycle)

## Grant Award Size Limits

- Minimum: **\$200,000**
- Maximum: **\$1,200,000**

RPOSD shall prioritize grants that provide services to, or recruit a majority of their participants from, High-Need and Very High Need areas.







# Program Evaluation and Other Funding Sources

- **Program Evaluation – Grant Funding Guarantee**

Organizations must submit grant applications to fund a three-year (3) program. Grant funding, however, will only be guaranteed for the first year. Funding for the subsequent program years is contingent upon approval by RPOSD following an evaluation process.

- **Other Funding Sources**

Eligible Applicants may include a line-item in the budget that lists costs to be paid for using non-Measure A funding. However, these sources can only be included in the budget form if the funding source is secured at the time of application submission.

# Grant Program Timeline/Milestones



- **Question and Answer Submission Period:**  
Closes: August 15, 2022, at 5:00 p.m.
- **Questions and Answers Posted to Website:**  
Ongoing
- **Application Deadline:**  
September 29, 2022 at 10:00 a.m.
- **Evaluation Process:**  
October 2022
- **Award of Funds/Grants:**  
Anticipated December 2022





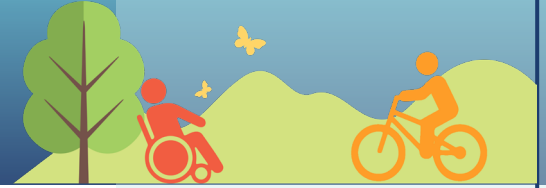
# Program Examples



- Community-Based Recreation Programs - Enhance and engage participants for access to recreation and programming located within their communities;
- Outdoor Education Programs- Serving participants who have limited access and familiarity with the outdoors, including local and regional Los Angeles County parks, County natural areas, local mountains, beaches, etc.
- Establishing partnerships with Recreation Service Providers that serve to enhance recreation access for residents in a High Need/Very High Need Study Area. (e.g. summer programs, cultural events at parks, special events, etc.)
- Pop-up recreational or interpretive programs.



# Application Process



## Grant Management System (GMS) - Select the Funding Opportunities:

- Recreation Access Competitive Grant – **NEW Program 2022**  
A program that has not existed within the past two (2) years
- Recreation Access Competitive Grant – **EXISTING Program 2022**  
A currently funded and operating program

## Complete all GMS Application Forms

- Acknowledgments
- Agency Information
- Program Budget
- Community Outreach and Engagement
- Evaluation Criteria Questions





**Part 1 – GMS Budget Form – provide all costs for the proposed NEW Program, include only secured funding.**

- Program Year 1 (include start-up costs)
- Program Year 2
- Program year 3 (include close-out costs)
- Contingency (set aside a minimum of 10% of the total grant award for unforeseen, eligible expenditures)

**Eligible and ineligible expense charts can be found on pages 20-21 of the Project Budgeting section.**

#### Program Year 1 (include start-up costs)

[Add](#)

*Enter the Tasks identified for the first year of the program. Enter Tasks based on project deliverables and key milestones.  
FOR EXISTING PROGRAMS, ONLY INCLUDE ENHANCEMENT/EXPANSION COSTS ON THIS FORM*

Item	Task	Start Date	End Date	RPOSD Funding	Other Funding	Total Funding	Deliverable	Comments
				\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00		

#### Program Year 2

[Add](#)

*Enter the Tasks identified for the second year of the program. Enter Tasks based on project deliverables and key milestones.  
FOR EXISTING PROGRAMS, ONLY INCLUDE ENHANCEMENT/EXPANSION COSTS ON THIS FORM*

Item	Task	Start Date	End Date	RPOSD Funding	Other Funding	Total Funding	Deliverable	Comments
				\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00		

#### Program Year 3 (include close-out costs)

[Add](#)

*Enter the Tasks identified for the third year of the program. Enter Tasks based on project deliverables and key milestones.  
FOR EXISTING PROGRAMS, ONLY INCLUDE ENHANCEMENT/EXPANSION COSTS ON THIS FORM*

Item	Task	Start Date	End Date	RPOSD Funding	Other Funding	Total Funding	Deliverable	Comments
				\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00		

#### Contingency (minimum 10%)

[Add](#)

*set aside a minimum of ten percent (10%) of the total grant award for unforeseen, eligible expenditures.*

				RPOSD Funding				
								\$0.00



**Part 2 – GMS upload – detailed Spreadsheet must include current program costs, enhancement/expansion costs and any secured funding**

- Applicant must create a detailed Spreadsheet (no template will be provided) that explains all program costs for the three maximum 3 years
- Include a breakdown of how each of the total budgeted line-items was calculated
- For enhancement or expansion of an Existing Program, the Spreadsheet must also include a breakdown of existing costs and any secured funding

**Eligible and ineligible expense charts can be found on pages 21-22 of the Project Budgeting section.**





## Evaluation Criteria Categories for both NEW and EXISTING Programs

1. Level of Need – maximum points 20;
2. Community Partnerships – maximum points 15;
3. Community Engagement Requirements - maximum points 10;
4. Program Benefits – maximum points 55; and
5. Organizational/Financial Health – maximum points 25

**Maximum Number of Points = 125 per Program**

16 Application Questions will be scored based on the five (5) Evaluation Criteria listed above.

It is the Applicant's responsibility to thoroughly review the Evaluation Criteria and the Scoring Rubric located in the Guidelines.



# Review Process



## Administrative Review

- Once the application period has closed on September 29 at 10AM, RPOSD will conduct an administrative review of all submitted applications.

## Evaluation Panel Review

- RPOSD will convene an evaluation panel composed of a multidisciplinary and diverse team to conduct a review of all eligible applications.



# RPOSD Resources



## Grants Management System (GMS):

<https://grantfunding.rposd.lacounty.gov>

- Link to RPOSD website
- Agencies and Staff must be registered
- All applications must be submitted via the GMS
- Quick Start Guide
- Registration Workshop Video
- GMS Walk-through Video

LOS ANGELES COUNTY REGIONAL PARK AND OPEN SPACE DISTRICT

System Compatibility

Log In

User ID:

Password:

Log In


[Forgot User ID?](#)

[Forgot Password?](#)

New to RPOSD - WebGrants?  
[Register Here](#)

Announcements

Welcome to the RPOSD WebGrants online Grants Management System.



Click Here for resources regarding this Grants Management System (GMS), including:

- [Quick Start Guide](#) - Print guide with information on using the GMS to apply for, manage, and close grants organized by Measure A Programs.
- [Registration Workshop Video](#) - Watch RPOSD's Measure A Registration Webinar.
- [GMS Walk-through Video](#) - Video demonstration for first-time users of this online system.

**Competitive Grant Programs Available NOW!**

- Natural Lands, Local Beaches, Water Conservation & Protection Guidelines
- Regional Recreation Facilities, Multi-use Trails and Accessibility Guidelines
- Acquisition-Only Guidelines



# Website

- <https://rposd.lacounty.gov>

## Applicant Resources

- Access the GAM
- Access the Competitive Grants Programs page
- Access the program Guidelines
- Access the Competitive Grants Workshop Videos





# Program Expectations



## RPOSD Signage and Branding

- Grant funded programs must acknowledge RPOSD funding prominently on signage, outreach materials, etc.

## Reporting

- Grant recipients will be required to submit status updates, annual reports, and a final report for the awarded program.
- The final report must include results/outcomes, lessons learned, obstacles encountered and a proposal for ongoing activity.



# Technical Assistance Program (TAP)



Measure A was approved by 75% of Los Angeles County Voters in Nov 2016 and generates approximately \$100 Million/year. TAP is comprised of an annual parcel tax of 1.7 cents per sq. ft. of improved property. Measure A was informed by the Park Needs Assessment (2016) and has no sunset date.

- Measure A sets aside a percentage specifically for technical assistance for projects in 'High-Need' or 'Very-High-Need' communities;
- Leverages park development resources from County, state, and federal programs;
- Supports parkland development, planning, and project design, funding, grant administration, and project management;
- Delivers completed projects to park users;
- Creates and supports relationships between eligible government agencies, joint power authorities, non-profits, community-based organizations, and schools; and
- Increases the number of acres, and access to parks, open space, and natural areas in Los Angeles County communities with the park 'High-Need' or 'Very-High-Need'.





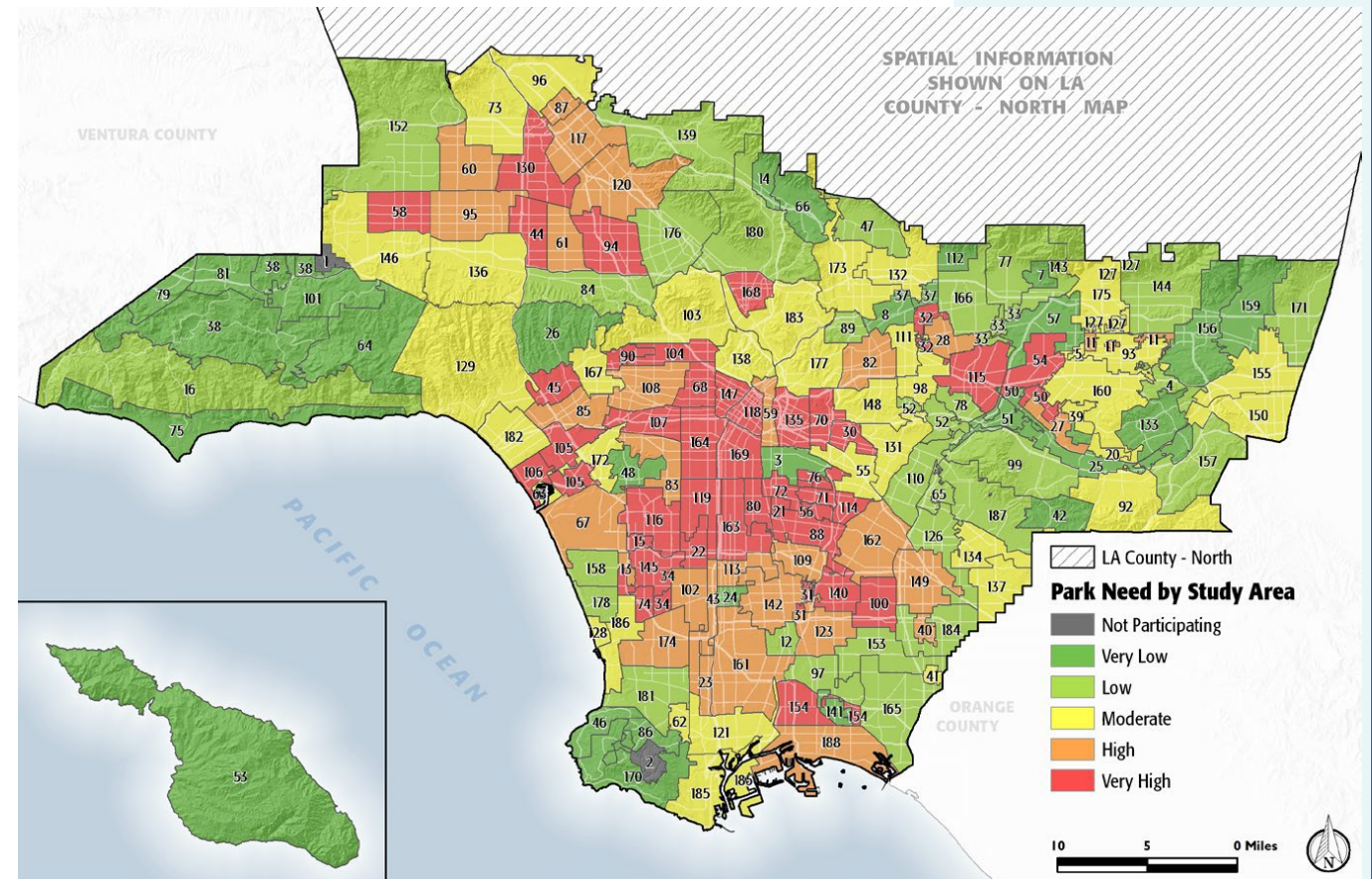


## TAP Program provides As Needed Park Project Development Consulting Services

Eligible Entities: Cities and Unincorporated Areas

1. Community Outreach and Engagement;
2. Environmental Studies;
3. Acquisition Services;
4. Project Feasibility and Cost Estimation;
5. Planning, Scoping, Design Engineering and Construction Documents;
6. Project and Construction Management
7. Grant Writing and Application

Submit all TAP related inquiries to [TAP@rposd.lacounty.gov](mailto:TAP@rposd.lacounty.gov)







# Next stop: more access to parks and open space

Recreation Access Competitive Grant Program

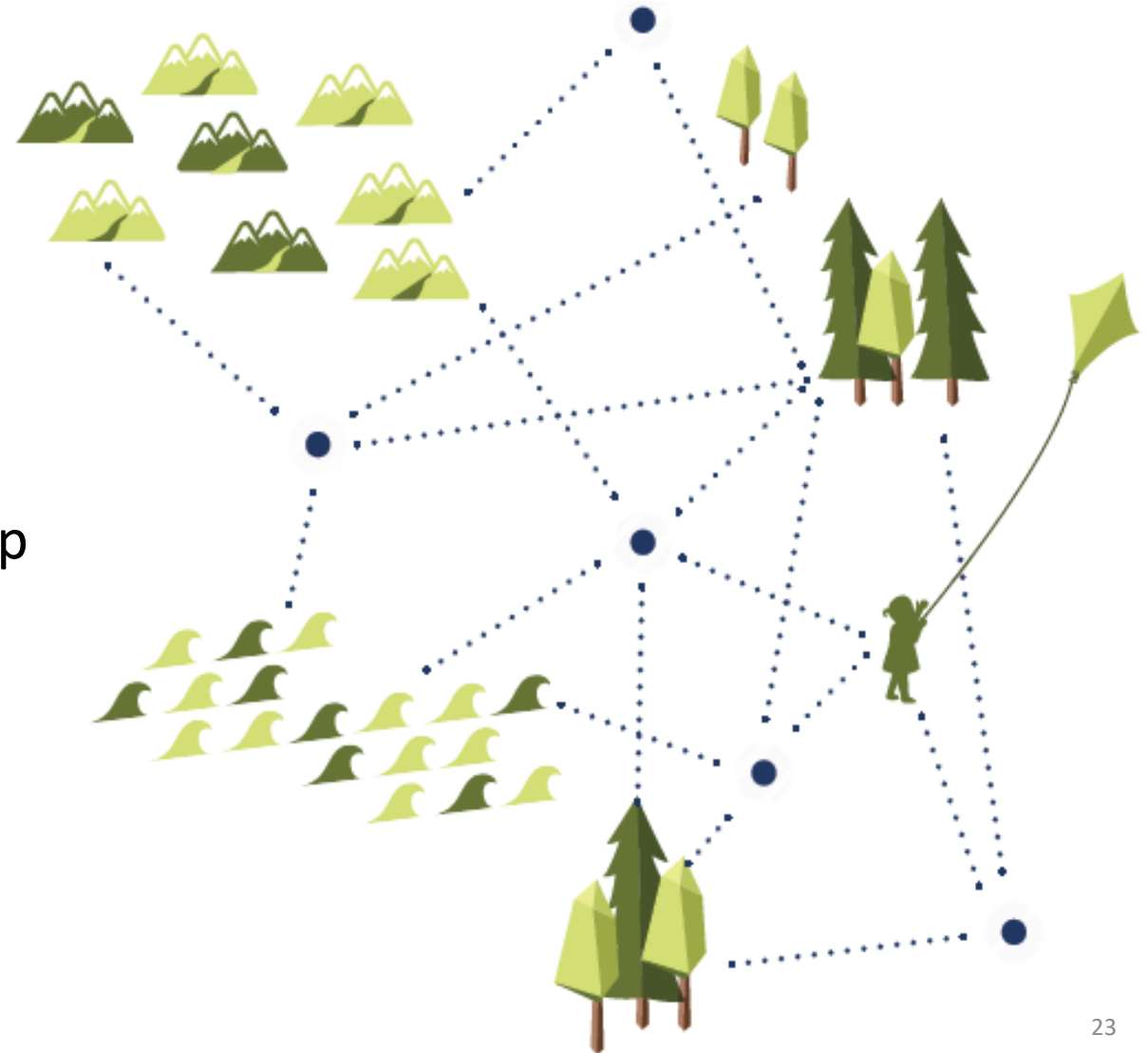
July 7, 2022



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# Agenda

- » Policy Context
- » Program Goals
- » Eligible Applicants
- » Funding, Restrictions, & Local Match
- » Project Requirements/Considerations
- » Community-Based Organization Partnership
- » COVID-19 Requirements
- » Evaluation Criteria & Scoring
- » Grant Administration & Timeline





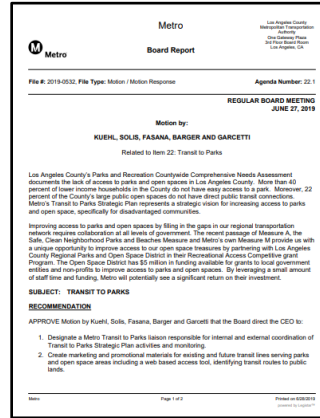
# Policy Context



June 2019

Metro Board adopts the Transit to Parks Strategic Plan:

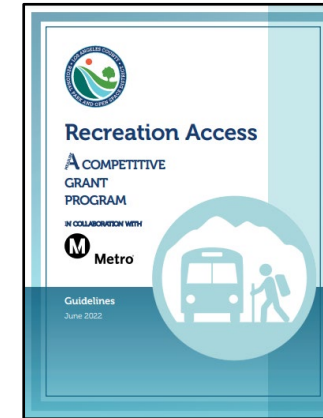
*“Systematic vision for increasing access to parks and open space countywide”*



June 2019 (cont'd)

Metro Board directs staff to do 9 actions (Motion 22.1), including:

*“Collaborate with the Los Angeles County [Regional Park and] Open Space District by contributing \$1 million in funding to create a grant program for cities and non-profits to fund transit to parks programs and initiatives”*



June 2022

County RPOSD, in partnership with Metro, releases guidelines for the Recreation Access Competitive Grant Program



# Program Goals

1. Advance key Metro policies, especially the [Transit to Parks Strategic Plan](#) and the [Equity Platform](#).
2. Provide connections to high quality parks and open spaces, especially for communities that lack access.
3. Serve as a catalyst to advance Transit to Parks projects and initiatives across Los Angeles County.
4. Encourage innovative partnerships, supportive programming, and advance models for Transit to Parks connections.

# Eligible Applicants

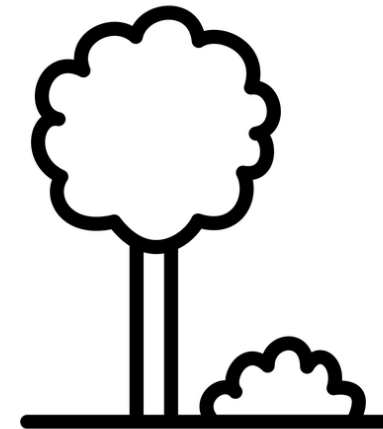
## Local/Municipal Transit Agencies:

- » Any governmental agency, special district, or joint powers authority (JPA) that is authorized to administer and manage transit activities and services



## Public Park Authorities:

- » Any governmental agency, special district, or joint powers authority (JPA) that is authorized to acquire, develop, improve, restore, and manage public lands, parks, and park facilities



# Funding, Restrictions, & Local Match

**Available Funding:  
\$1,000,000**

**No funding  
available for  
vehicle acquisition**



**Min Award: \$300K  
Max Award: \$1M**



**Right of Way, Utilities,  
and Landscaping  
capped at 5%**

**Metro intends to fund a  
maximum of 3 awards**

**Project Management  
and Admin Expenses  
capped at 10%**



**10%**

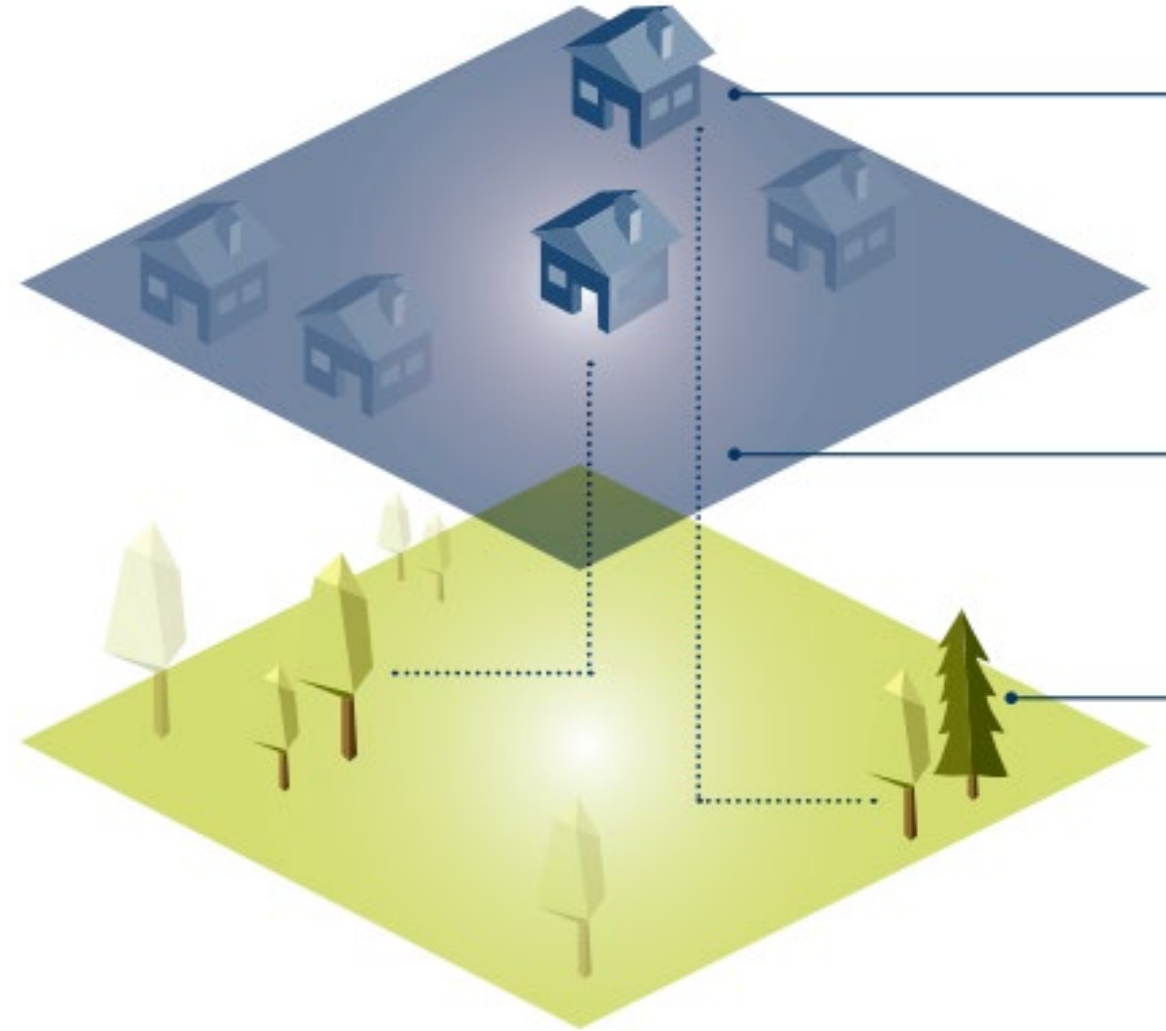
**Local Match  
(cash or “in-kind”)**

**Eligible “in-kind” contributions  
include staff time related to  
project management and  
administration expenses.**



# Project Proposal Requirements

- » Access Solutions
  - Circulator
  - Community Park Express
  - Rail Connector
  - Schedule Enhancement
  - On Demand Solution
- » “Communities of Interest”
- » High-Quality Park Facilities
- » Performance Monitoring
- » Market Research & Community Engagement



# Access Solutions

Projects must fund an **access solution** \* type as defined in the Transit to Parks Strategic Plan



# Communities of Interest

Projects must directly connect a “**Community of Interest**” \* to a high-quality park facility

**22%**  
of the County  
population

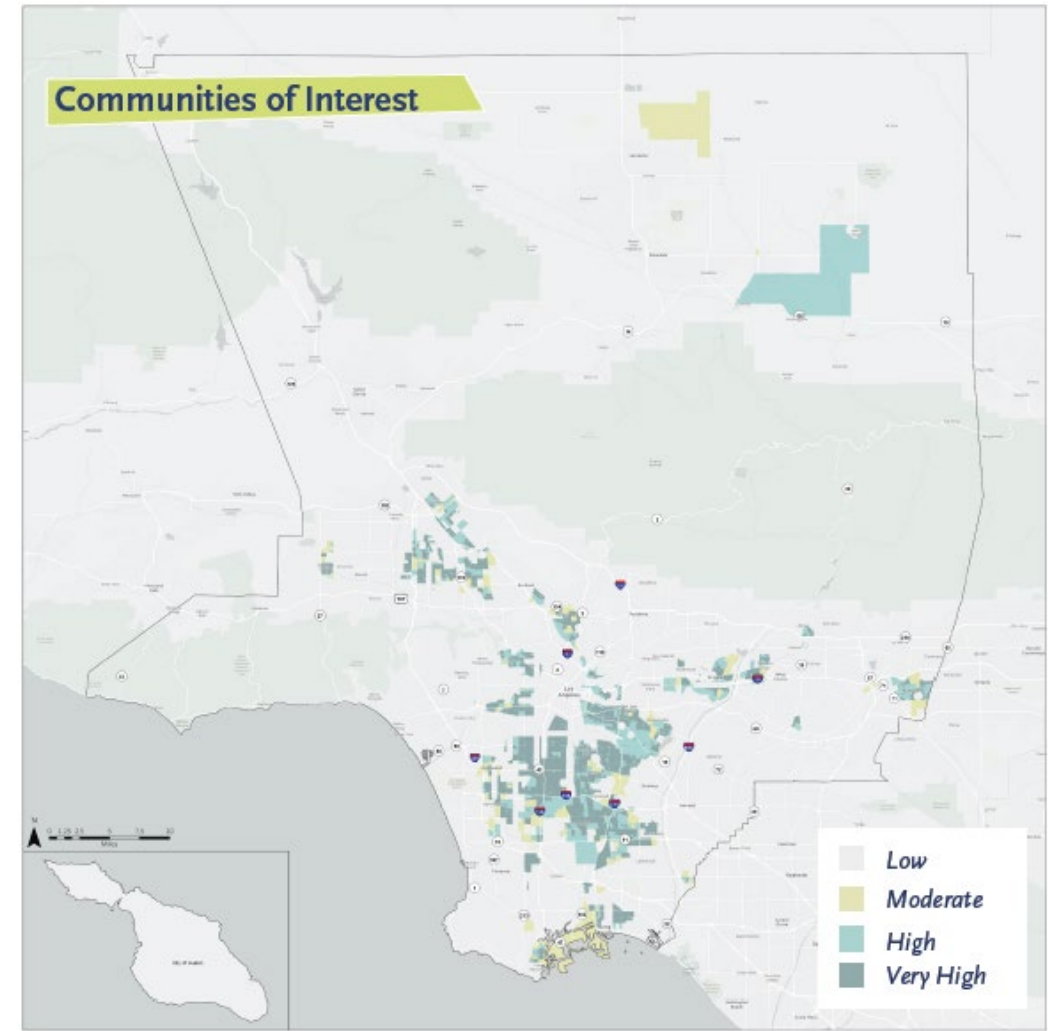
**80**  
communities

## Main Indicators

Health Disadvantage Index  
Dept of Water Resources  
CalEnviroScreen  
Park Need Focus Area

## Secondary Indicators

Senior Population  
Youth Population  
Obesity Rate  
Communities of Color





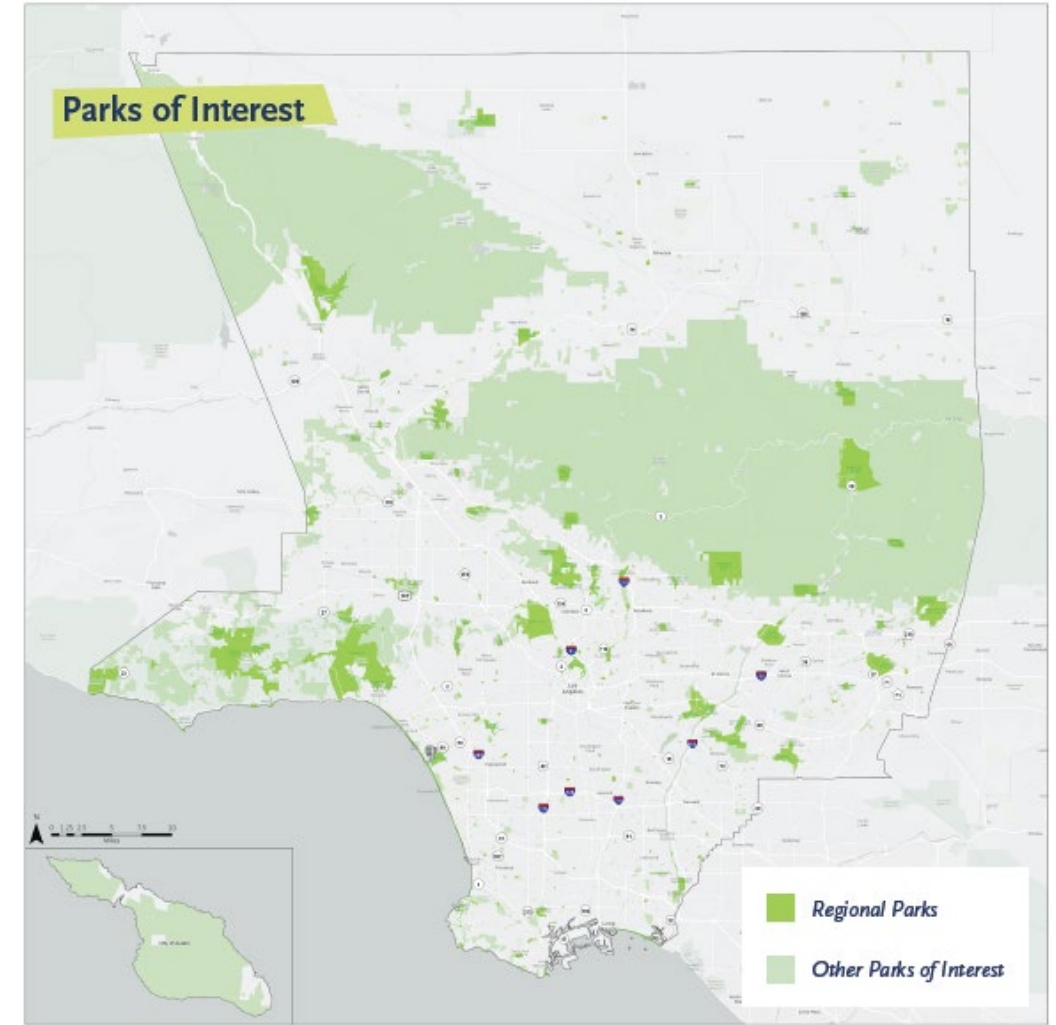
# High-Quality Park Facilities

Projects must directly connect a “Community of Interest” to a **high-quality park facility**

Not required to connect to a Metro-identified **“Park of Interest”** \*



If not connecting to a “Park of Interest”, applicants must describe why park facility is high quality



# Other Requirements

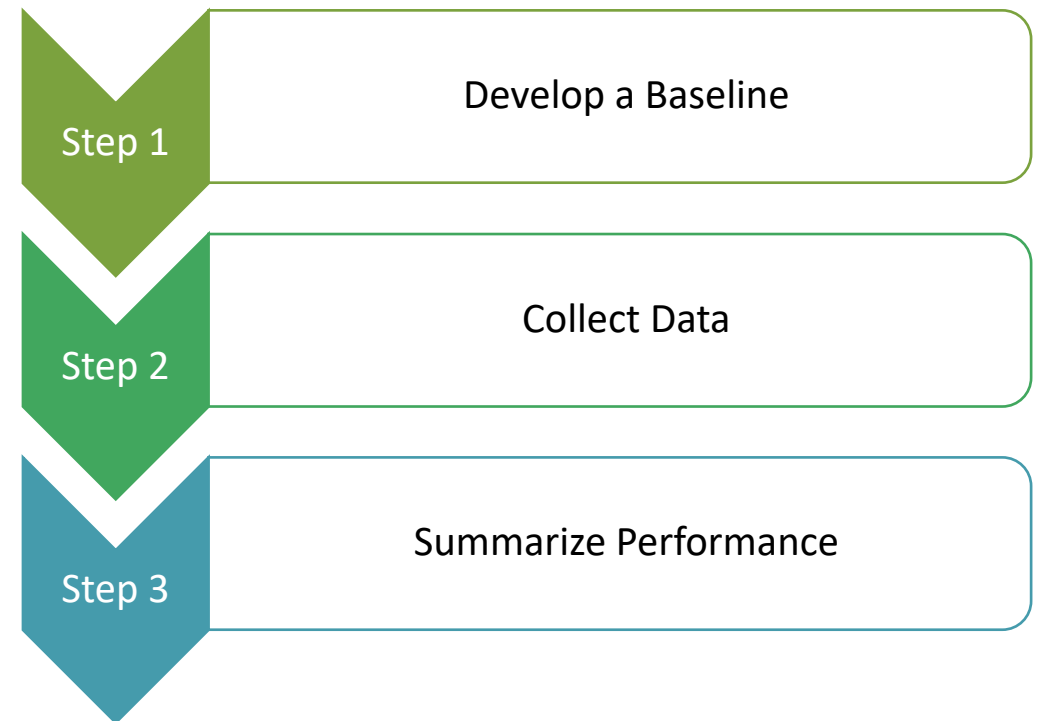
## Market Research\* and Community Engagement:

- » Identify customer needs & wants
- » Define target market segment
- » Positioning & messaging
- » Feedback loops to grow ridership

\* Refer to page 78 of the [Metro Transit to Parks Strategic Plan](#) for market research guidance



## Performance Monitoring\*:



\* Refer to page 74 of the [Metro Transit to Parks Strategic Plan](#) for performance monitoring guidance



# Additional Points For:

- » Supportive project elements, programming, and/or infrastructure, such as:
  - Bus shelters
  - Wayfinding signage
  - Educational or interpretive programming
  - Other supportive infrastructure



Source: Los Angeles Blade



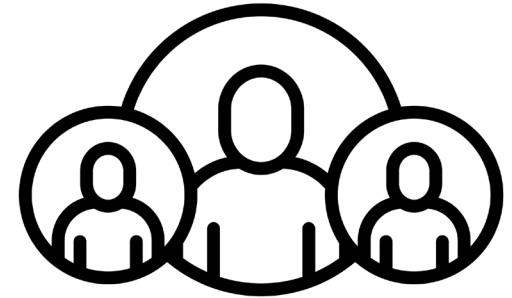
# Community-Based Organization Partnership

**Applicants are required to partner\* with a community-based organization (CBO)**

*CBO is an organization with a mission to improve the environmental, economic, social, cultural, and/or quality of life conditions of a common community of interest*

Potential Roles (not an exhaustive list):

- » Advise & Consult
- » Community Engagement
- » Communications & Messaging
- » Lead Programmatic Elements

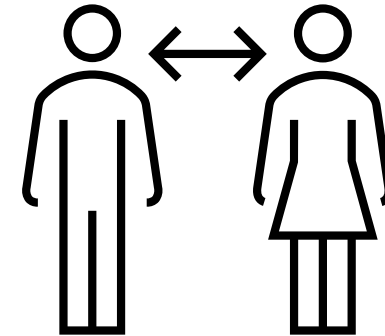
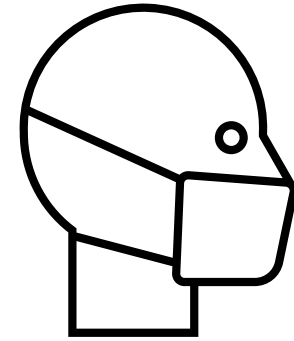


\* Partnership arrangements may be finalized after proposals are selected for funding

# COVID-19 Requirements

Applicants must consider all relevant federal, state, and local guidelines and protocols related to COVID-19 in their proposals including, but not limited to, **physical distancing requirements** and **mask mandates**

Applicants must also consider alternative scenarios should federal, state, and local guidelines and protocols related to COVID-19 change before funds are expended



# Evaluation Criteria & Scoring

Evaluation Criteria	Max Points
Project Elements	20 points
Project Outcomes	20 points
Supportive Programs & Initiatives	20 points
Innovative Partnerships	10 points
Community Engagement & Market Research	10 points
Budget & Funding Strategy	10 points
Performance Monitoring & Cost Effectiveness	10 points
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>100 points</b>



# Grant Administration & Timeline

Applicants whose projects are recommended to receive funding will be required to enter into a funding agreement with Metro



# Stay connected to this project.



Chris Moorman, *Senior Transportation Planner*  
Metro  
One Gateway Plaza, MS 99-22-4  
Los Angeles, CA 90012



213.547.4268



moormanc@metro.net

# Transit to Parks Summit

Two-day event to advance and generate momentum for Transit to Parks efforts around the region through **facilitated networking**, **topical sessions**, and **project workshopping**

## Topical Sessions:

- » Technical Assistance
- » Supportive Programming
- » Communications
- » Funding
- » Grant Writing Assistance
- » Cost Estimating
- » Equity

## Co-Hosted by:



**Metro**



**Earvin "Magic" Johnson Park  
(905 E. El Segundo Blvd)**



**Fall 2022  
(specific dates TBD)**



**Transit Agencies, CBOs,  
Park Facility Managers,  
Elected Officials**



\* Breakfast, lunch, & refreshments included. Join us for a post-Summit networking reception!



# Action Items/Next Steps



1. Read the **Guidelines**, including the **Addenda** that contain changes to the Guidelines
2. Utilize the **Competitive Grants Programs** webpage at: <https://RPOSD.LACounty.gov>
3. Register in the **GMS** at: <https://grantfunding.rposd.lacounty.gov>

Submit your questions in the Q&A box during the Q&A Session

After the workshop you can submit your questions to the following emails:

- **RPOSD Recreation Access** - Submit questions to: [info@rposd.lacounty.gov](mailto:info@rposd.lacounty.gov)
- **TAP** – Submit questions to: [TAP@rposd.lacounty.gov](mailto:TAP@rposd.lacounty.gov)
- **METRO Recreation Access**– Submit Questions to: [MoormanC@metro.net](mailto:MoormanC@metro.net)  
Identify the Program in the subject line of the email

All questions received will be grouped together and responses will be provided on website in the Q&A section of the Competitive Grants page at: <https://rposd.lacounty.gov>. Individual responses for questions will not be provided.

All questions must be submitted by **August 15, 2022, 5:00 p.m.**

RPOSD in conjunction with Metro will publish the Q&A to the website:

A PDF of this presentation will be available by Monday, July 7, 2022



# Questions?



# Thank You



Los Angeles County  
Regional Park and Open Space District

Email: [info@rposd.lacounty.gov](mailto:info@rposd.lacounty.gov)  
Phone: 626.588.5060  
Website: [RPOSD.LACounty.gov](http://RPOSD.LACounty.gov)



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