

3.3.3 COMPETITIVE GRANTS

3.3.3.1 GENERAL INFORMATION

Letter of Intent

Potential grantees have the option of submitting an informal letter of interest to RPOSD, indicating the agency or organization's intention to submit a grant application for a project, a description of the project, and the desired grant award size. RPOSD staff will review these letters and provide agencies written guidance and suggestions for crafting a strong application for the project. Note that the application process would be open to all, including organizations that chose to forego the optional informal letter of interest.

Grant Application Meeting Requirement

All applicants of competitive grants are required to attend a grant application meeting. A grant application meeting will be held for each grant program. The grant application meetings will be held at a centrally located venue in each of the five Supervisorial Districts or be available for virtual attendance online. Applicants can choose to attend the meeting in-person or via a webinar. At the grant application meeting, RPOSD staff will walk applicants through the goals of the grant program, application requirements, and respond to questions. Proof of attendance at a grant application meeting or webinar will be required at the time of application submittal.

Award Process

All grant applications will be reviewed by RPOSD staff for completeness and eligibility. All complete and eligible competitive grant applications will be evaluated by a grant review panel. The grant review panel will be composed of internal and external representatives experienced with the grant subject matter, including academics, subject area experts, and jurisdictions and/or districts that are not eligible for the round of funding being evaluated. The grant review panel will be consistent within each grant cycle. However, the panel will likely change for different funding cycles to ensure the panel's expertise matches the subject of the grant cycle. The grant review panel will evaluate the grant applications against the established scoring criteria. Applications with the highest scores will receive funding. The number of grants awarded will be dependent upon the funding pool for the grant cycle and maximum grant amount.

3.3.3.2 GENERAL COMPETITIVE (CATEGORY 3)

Description

Category 3 grant projects should improve and protect open space, watersheds, and water resources through planning, acquisition, development, improvement, and restoration, of multi-benefit park projects that promote, improve, or protect clean local water supplies, habitat improvements, park space, recreation, public access, watershed health, and open space, including improvements or restoration of areas that buffer our rivers, streams, and their tributaries along with the lakes and beaches throughout

the County. Priority will be given to projects offering the greatest regional benefit, or serving the greatest regional need.

2018 Funding Amount

\$7,399,808 (Category 3 - 13% of Measure A funds; General Competitive - 60% of Category 3 funds)

Project Types

Below is a non-exhaustive list of projects that may be eligible for grant funds under Category 3.

Open Spaces

- Parks
- Fire prevention
- Lawn/turf repair
- New or improved access points to mountain, foothill, river, stream, and wetland areas
- Restoration of natural habitat
- Scenic vistas
- Wildlife corridors and habitats

Natural Lands

- Habitat gardens
- Land stewardship
- Nature centers
- Preservation of natural lands
- Revegetation of drought tolerant plants
- Tree planting

Water Conservation

- Drainage basins
- Irrigation projects
- Permeable walkways and play surfaces
- Rainwater harvesting
- Revegetation of banks and waterways
- Stormwater capture and other water recycling

Watershed Protection

- Beach and coastal watershed clean up
- Community trash clean up
- Drinking water improvements
- Lake or reservoir clean up
- Riparian corridor improvements
- River and stream clean up
- River and stream Parkway development

Beaches

- Active recreation amenities
- New or improved fishing and boating facilities
- Pier/dock improvements
- Replacement of sand
- Restrooms/shower facilities
- Access facilities, roadways, parking lots, trailheads, etc.

Project Requirements

Applicants must meet all of the following requirements in order to apply for a grant award:

Project Eligibility

- The project plans for, acquires, develops, improves, or restores a multi-benefit park project.
- The project promotes, improves, or protects clean local water supplies, habitat improvements, park space, recreation, public access, watershed health, or open space.
- The project is a permanent capital project.
- The project's requested grant award size is a minimum of \$50,000 and maximum of \$3,700,000.

Project Feasibility

Land Access/Tenure

- Agency owns the land in question;
- Agency has entered into a lease or other use agreement for the land in question; or
- Agency has concrete plans as to how access or tenure will be acquired or arranged.

Planning and Design

- Design documents of 30% or greater are complete; or

- Agency has sketch-level plans for project design and a planned approach as to how and when planning and design will be completed.

Permitting and CEQA Compliance

- Project is exempt from regulatory permits and CEQA;
- Any necessary permitting and CEQA documents are completed and certified; or
- Agency has concrete plans as to how and when permitting and CEQA will be completed.

Adverse Site Conditions (e.g., overhead or underground utilities, toxic contamination, etc.)

- There are no adverse site conditions that would affect project implementation;
- Adverse site conditions have been characterized and the agency has concrete plans for addressing them; or
- Adverse site conditions are known to exist but have not been characterized. Agency has plans as to how and when these conditions will be addressed, with appropriate budget contingencies in the project budget.

Project Cost and Funding

- Agency has a detailed budget consistent with the level of planning and design completed to date, as well as a plan for funding to cover the budgeted costs, with appropriate contingencies given the level of planning completed.

Project Schedule

- Agency has a detailed schedule from grant receipt to project completion that reflects the level of planning, design, permitting and community involvement that will be necessary for the project.

Operations and Maintenance

- The project has an appropriately detailed financial plan for operation and maintenance of the completed project.

Community Engagement

The project must meet the minimum community engagement requirements described in Section 3.3.1.1.

Award Size

Requested grant awards must meet the minimum and maximum grant award size requirements. Grant applications will be categorized into different thresholds of award size brackets depending on the requested size of the grant award. Grant applications within the same award size bracket will be evaluated and compete against each other.

Minimum: \$50,000

Maximum: \$3,700,000

Brackets

Small: \$50,000 - \$499,999

Medium: \$500,000 - \$999,999

Large: \$1,000,000 - \$1,999,999

Jumbo: \$2,000,000 - \$3,700,000

Evaluation Criteria

Proposed projects will be scored and ranked on the basis of the applicant’s responses to the specific criteria and subcriteria below. Note that acquisition-only projects will be scored only against other acquisition-only projects. Evaluation includes all criteria shown below excluding “Park Facility/Amenity Conditions” and “Creativity, Place-Making, & Design.” Projects will be scored out of 90 points total.

EVALUATION CRITERIA	POINTS
<p>Level of Need Level of need is based on the current Countywide PNA determination. Projects located within or serving Study Areas or subareas with High or Very High need will receive more points than projects that do not.</p> <p>Only one of the following four subcriteria may apply to each project.</p>	25
<p><i>(A) Project is located in a High or Very High need Study Area.</i></p>	25
<p><i>(B) Project is not located in a High or Very High need Study Area, but directly serves the residents of a High or Very High need Study Area.</i></p> <p><i>This subcriterion will be scored on a range of 6 to 15 points depending on how the project serves residents of the High or Very High need Study Area.</i></p>	6-15
<p><i>(C) Project does not meet subcriterion (A) or (B), but is located within a High or Very High need subarea within a Study Area that contains at least 5,000 residents living in High or Very High need subareas.</i></p>	10
<p><i>Project does not meet subcriterion (A), (B), or (C), but directly serves a High or Very High need subarea within a Study Area that contains at least 5,000 residents living in High or Very High need subareas.</i></p> <p><i>This subcriterion will be scored on a range of 1 to 4 points depending on how the project serves residents of the High or Very High need subarea.</i></p>	1-4
<p>Regional Benefits Projects that provide new or improved facilities or amenities throughout the region will receive more points than projects that provide services only to local communities.</p>	20 max.

Projects may meet one or more of the criteria below to be awarded, totaling up to 20 points maximum.	
<i>Project will add one or more facilities/amenities that do not currently exist, or improve one or more facilities/amenities that are one of its kind, within a 25-mile radius.</i>	0-15
<i>Project will add one or more facilities/amenities that do not currently exist, or improve one or more facilities/amenities that are one of its kind, within a 15-mile radius.</i>	10-14
<i>Project will add one or more facilities/amenities that do not currently exist, or improve one or more facilities/amenities that are one of its kind, within a 10-mile radius.</i>	0-9
<i>Project involves the collaboration of at least three or more adjacent Study Areas or cities.</i>	5
<p>Multi-Benefit Projects</p> <p>Projects that maximize or enhance recreation opportunities and one or more of the following benefits related to sustainability: protection or enhancement of the natural environment, stormwater capture, water and air quality improvements, greenhouse gas (GHG) reductions, carbon sequestration, heat-island reductions; habitat protection and biodiversity, community health improvements, or any combination thereof.</p> <p>Projects may receive full or partial credit in each subcriterion below, totaling up to a maximum of 20 points.</p>	20 max.
<p>Habitat Protection and Biodiversity</p> <p><i>Project includes features to preserve important habitat areas and biodiversity.</i></p>	0-5
<p>Healthy Ecosystem</p> <p><i>Project includes the use of native California flora and fauna and provides measures to protect against disease or infestation.</i></p>	0-3
<p>Water Quality Improvements</p> <p><i>Project includes features to improve water quality which go beyond those required by State and local codes.</i></p>	0-3
<p>Stormwater Capture and Attenuation</p> <p><i>Project includes features to capture stormwater and attenuate potential flood conditions which go beyond those required by State and local codes.</i></p>	0-3
<p>Water Conservation</p> <p><i>Project includes features to reduce or minimize the use of water for irrigation, recreation, and domestic use which go beyond those required by State and local codes.</i></p>	0-3
<p>Public Safety</p> <p><i>Project includes features that improve safety conditions through the provision of safe equipment and facilities and the reduction or prevention of crime.</i></p>	0-3
<p>Climate Resiliency</p> <p><i>Project includes features to accommodate and adapt to climate change.</i></p>	0-3

<p>Greenhouse Gas (GHG) Reductions <i>Project includes features to reduce existing GHG emissions that go beyond those required by current regulations.</i></p>	0-2
<p>Air Quality Improvements <i>Project includes features to reduce existing criterion air pollutant emissions that go beyond those required by current regulations.</i></p>	0-2
<p>Active Recreation and Fitness <i>Project includes components to promote active recreation, health, and fitness.</i></p>	0-2
<p>Food Access <i>Project includes components to enhance access to healthy food.</i></p>	0-2
<p>Carbon Sequestration <i>Project includes features to sequester carbon that go beyond typical plantings found in park projects.</i></p>	0-1
<p>Heat-Island Reduction <i>Project includes features to reduce heat-island effects, in ways that go beyond typical plantings found in park projects.</i></p>	0-1
<p>Community Involvement Applicants who have conducted or plan to conduct meaningful outreach to community members and interested stakeholders will receive points based on the degree of and approaches to community engagement conducted prior to grant application and/or planned for the period after the grant is awarded that goes beyond the project eligibility requirement for community engagement. Between 0 and 20 points will be awarded based on the evaluators' assessment of the submitted community involvement plan.</p>	20
<p><i>Project includes robust and innovative outreach strategies (beyond the project eligibility requirement for community engagement) that will engage the identified target audience.</i></p>	15-20
<p><i>Project includes sufficient outreach and includes outreach strategies (beyond the project eligibility requirement for community engagement) that will engage the identified target audience.</i></p>	6-14
<p><i>Project includes minimal and limited outreach strategies (beyond the project eligibility requirement for community engagement) that will engage the identified target audience.</i></p>	0-5
<p>Park Facility/Amenity Conditions Projects that propose to fix or replace an amenity that has been identified to be in "poor" or "fair" condition, as defined by the PNA, will receive points based on the existing condition of the amenity and/or the percentage of the amenities that are in "poor" condition within the Study Area in which the project is located. Projects may receive points from multiple applicable subcriteria below, totaling up to a maximum of 5 points.</p>	5 max.
<p><i>Project fixes or replaces an amenity that has been identified by the PNA or another adopted community planning document to be in <u>poor</u> condition. More points will be given based on the scale, function, and importance of the amenity.</i></p>	0-5
<p><i>Project fixes or replaces an amenity that has been identified by the PNA or another adopted community planning document to be in <u>fair</u> condition. More points will be given based on the</i></p>	0-2

<i>scale, function, and importance of the amenity.</i>	
<i>Project is located in a Study Area with at least 50% of its amenities in poor condition.</i>	5
<i>Project is located in a Study Area with between 40% and 49% of its amenities in poor condition.</i>	4
<i>Project is located in a Study Area with between 30% and 39% of its amenities in poor condition.</i>	3
<i>Project is located in a Study Area with between 20% and 29% of its amenities in poor condition.</i>	2
<i>Project is located in a Study Area with between 10% and 19% of its amenities in poor condition.</i>	1
<p>Leveraging of Funds</p> <p>Measure A encourages projects that leverage public and private funding from several specific types of benefit programs. Please submit a budget indicating secured funding sources and amounts that will be leveraged for the project. Relevant funding sources specifically called out in Measure A are those that address the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Water conservation and supply; water quality improvements; flood risk management; • Air quality improvements; climate pollution reduction or adaptation; carbon sequestration; heat-island reduction; habitat protection and biodiversity; • Public health; environmental justice; housing; and/or transportation access. 	5
<i>Project will receive at least 45% of the project's cost from the listed public and private funding sources.</i>	5
<i>Project will receive between 25% and 44% of the project's cost from the listed public and private funding sources.</i>	4
<i>Project will receive between 10% and 24% of the project's cost from the listed public and private funding sources.</i>	3
<p>Creativity, Place-Making, and Design</p> <p>Projects will receive points for creativity, place-making, and high quality design.</p> <p>Points will be awarded based on the evaluators' assessment of the level of creativity and quality of the design.</p>	5
<i>Project includes a high level of creativity and quality of design and place-making.</i>	4-5
<i>Project includes a moderate level of creativity and quality of design and place-making.</i>	0-3
Total Points	100

3.3.3.3 GENERAL COMPETITIVE (CATEGORY 4)

Description

Category 4 grant projects should improve and protect regional recreational facilities, trails and accessibility projects. Greater priority will be given to trail and accessibility projects that connect river, mountain, and urban areas, especially to County Parks, State Parks, the National Forest, the National Recreation Area(s), and the National Monument(s), and that link other canyons and regional and local parks throughout the County.

2018 Funding Amount

\$6,166,507 (Category 4 - 13% of Measure A funds; General Competitive - 50% of Category 4 funds)

Project Types

Below is a non-exhaustive list of projects that may be eligible for grant funds under Category 4.

Regional Recreational Facilities

- Aquatic facilities
- Development of new regional park facilities
- Equestrian staging areas
- Improvements to existing regional park facilities
- Golf course facilities
- Multi-use sports facilities

Multi-use Trails

- Addition of amenities along trail corridor
- Development of new multi-use trails
- Trail maintenance
- Trailhead amenities and improvements

Accessibility

- ADA restroom upgrades
- ADA walkway/sidewalk improvements
- ADA-compliant amenities
- Bike storage facilities at parks, trails, recreation centers, and beaches
- Connections from Class I bike paths to recreation facilities
- General trail and walkway repairs or improvements
- Interactive wayfinding
- Parking facilities serving parks and recreational facilities
- Pathways and trails connecting transit stops to park and recreation facilities, open space, natural lands, or beaches
- Projects that utilize publicly owned rights-of-way and vacant spaces

- Safety improvements such as crosswalks and pedestrian signals that provide safer access (must be adjacent to facility)
- Trailhead improvements

Project Requirements

Applicants must meet all of the following requirements in order to apply for a grant award:

Project Eligibility

- The project acquires, develops, improves, and/or rehabilitates land for regional recreational facilities, multi-use trails, and/or accessibility.
- The project is a permanent capital project.
- The project's requested grant award size is a minimum of \$50,000 and maximum of \$3,100,000.

Project Feasibility

Land Access/Tenure

- Agency owns the land in question;
- Agency has entered into a lease or other use agreement for the land in question; or
- Agency has concrete plans as to how access or tenure will be acquired or arranged.

Planning and Design

- Design documents of 30% or greater are complete; or
- Agency has sketch-level plans for project design and a planned approach as to how and when planning and design will be completed.

Permitting and CEQA Compliance

- Project is exempt from regulatory permits and CEQA;
- Any necessary permitting and CEQA documents are completed and certified; or
- Agency has concrete plans as to how and when permitting and CEQA will be completed.

Adverse Site Conditions (e.g., overhead or underground utilities, toxic contamination, etc.)

- There are no adverse site conditions that would affect project implementation;
- Adverse site conditions have been characterized and the agency has concrete plans for addressing them; or
- Adverse site conditions are known to exist but have not been characterized. Agency has plans as to how and when these conditions will be addressed, with appropriate budget contingencies in the project budget.

Project Cost and Funding

- Agency has a detailed budget consistent with the level of planning and design completed to date, as well as a plan for funding to cover the budgeted costs, with appropriate contingencies given the level of planning completed.

Project Schedule

- Agency has a detailed schedule from grant receipt to project completion that reflects the level of planning, design, permitting and community involvement that will be necessary for the project.

Operations and Maintenance

- The project has an appropriately detailed financial plan for operation and maintenance of the completed project.

Community Engagement

The project must meet the minimum community engagement requirements described in Section 3.3.1.1.

Award Size

Requested grant awards must meet the minimum and maximum grant award size requirements. Grant applications will be categorized into different thresholds of award size brackets depending on the requested size of the grant award. Grant applications within the same award size bracket will be evaluated and compete against each other.

Minimum: \$50,000

Maximum: \$3,100,000

Brackets

Small: \$50,000 - \$499,999

Medium: \$500,000 - \$999,999

Large: \$1,000,000 - \$1,999,999

Jumbo: \$2,000,000 - \$3,100,000

Evaluation Criteria

Proposed projects will be scored and ranked on the basis of the applicant's responses to the specific criteria and subcriteria below. Note that acquisition-only projects will be scored only against other acquisition-only projects. Evaluation includes all criteria shown below excluding "Park Facility/Amenity Conditions" and "Creativity, Place-Making, & Design." Projects will be scored out of 90 points total.

EVALUATION CRITERIA	POINTS
Level of Need Level of need is based on the current Countywide PNA determination. Projects located within or serving Study Areas or subareas with High or Very High need will receive more points than projects that do not. Only one of the following four subcriteria may apply to each project.	25

<p><i>(A) Project is located in a High or Very High need Study Area.</i></p>	<p>25</p>
<p><i>(B) Project is not located in a High or Very High need Study Area, but directly serves the residents of a High or Very High need Study Area.</i></p> <p><i>This subcriterion will be scored on a range of 6 to 15 points depending on how the project serves residents of the High or Very High need Study Area.</i></p>	<p>6-15</p>
<p><i>(C) Project does not meet subcriterion (A) or (B), but is located within a High or Very High need subarea within a Study Area that contains at least 5,000 residents living in High or Very High need subareas.</i></p>	<p>10</p>
<p><i>Project does not meet subcriterion (A), (B), or (C), but directly serves a High or Very High need subarea within a Study Area that contains at least 5,000 residents living in High or Very High need subareas.</i></p> <p><i>This subcriterion will be scored on a range of 1 to 4 points depending on how the project serves residents of the High or Very High need subarea.</i></p>	<p>1-4</p>
<p>Multi-Benefit Projects</p> <p>Projects that maximize or enhance recreation opportunities and one or more of the following benefits related to sustainability: protection or enhancement of the natural environment, stormwater capture, water and air quality improvements, greenhouse gas (GHG) reductions, carbon sequestration, heat-island reductions; habitat protection and biodiversity, community health improvements, or any combination thereof.</p> <p>Projects may receive full or partial credit in each subcriterion below, totaling up to a maximum of 20 points.</p>	<p>20 max.</p>
<p><i>Habitat Protection and Biodiversity</i></p> <p><i>Project includes features to preserve important habitat areas and biodiversity.</i></p>	<p>0-5</p>
<p><i>Healthy Ecosystem</i></p> <p><i>Project includes the use of native California flora and fauna and provides measures to protect against disease or infestation.</i></p>	<p>0-3</p>
<p><i>Water Quality Improvements</i></p> <p><i>Project includes features to improve water quality which go beyond those required by State and local codes.</i></p>	<p>0-3</p>
<p><i>Stormwater Capture and Attenuation</i></p> <p><i>Project includes features to capture stormwater and attenuate potential flood conditions which go beyond those required by State and local codes.</i></p>	<p>0-3</p>
<p><i>Water Conservation</i></p> <p><i>Project includes features to reduce or minimize the use of water for irrigation, recreation, and domestic use which go beyond those required by State and local codes.</i></p>	<p>0-3</p>
<p><i>Public Safety</i></p> <p><i>Project includes features that improve safety conditions through the provision of safe equipment and facilities and the reduction or</i></p>	<p>0-3</p>

<i>prevention of crime.</i>	
Climate Resiliency <i>Project includes features to accommodate and adapt to climate change.</i>	0-3
Greenhouse Gas (GHG) Reductions <i>Project includes features to reduce existing GHG emissions that go beyond those required by current regulations.</i>	0-2
Air Quality Improvements <i>Project includes features to reduce existing criterion air pollutant emissions that go beyond those required by current regulations.</i>	0-2
Active Recreation and Fitness <i>Project includes components to promote active recreation, health, and fitness.</i>	0-2
Food Access <i>Project includes components to enhance access to healthy food.</i>	0-2
Carbon Sequestration <i>Project includes features to sequester carbon that go beyond typical plantings found in park projects.</i>	0-1
Heat-Island Reduction <i>Project includes features to reduce heat-island effects, in ways that go beyond typical plantings found in park projects.</i>	0-1
Community Involvement Applicants who have conducted or plan to conduct meaningful outreach to community members and interested stakeholders will receive points based on the degree of and approaches to community engagement conducted prior to grant application and/or planned for the period after the grant is awarded that goes beyond the project eligibility requirement for community engagement. Between 0 and 20 points will be awarded based on the evaluators' assessment of the submitted community involvement plan.	20
<i>Project includes robust and innovative outreach strategies (beyond the project eligibility requirement for community engagement) that will engage the identified target audience.</i>	15-20
<i>Project includes sufficient outreach and includes outreach strategies (beyond the project eligibility requirement for community engagement) that will engage the identified target audience.</i>	6-14
<i>Project includes minimal and limited outreach strategies (beyond the project eligibility requirement for community engagement) that will engage the identified target audience.</i>	0-5
Connectivity Projects that connect river, mountain, and urban areas, especially to County Parks, State Parks, the National Forest, the National Recreation Area(s), and the National Monument(s), and that link other canyons and regional and local parks throughout the County. Between 0 and 15 points will be awarded based on the evaluators' assessment of how the project provides connectivity to other areas.	15

<i>Project provides <u>new</u> physical connections that connect river, mountain, and urban areas, especially to County Parks, State Parks, the National Forest, the National Recreation Area(s), and the National Monument(s), and that link other canyons and regional and local parks throughout the County.</i>	0-15
<i>Project provides <u>improvements</u> to existing physical connections that connect river, mountain, and urban areas, especially to County Parks, State Parks, the National Forest, the National Recreation Area(s), and the National Monument(s), and that link other canyons and regional and local parks throughout the County.</i>	0-10
Accessibility Projects that provide accessibility for many users, including hikers, equestrians, bicyclists, seniors, and persons with disabilities, especially in urban areas.	15
<i>Project provides access to many users, including hikers, equestrians, bicyclists, seniors, and persons with disabilities. More points will be awarded to projects that intentionally provide access to more types of users.</i>	0-15
<i>Project meets the subcriterion above <u>and</u> this access is provided within an urban area.</i>	5
Facility/Amenity Conditions Projects that propose to fix or replace an amenity that has been identified to be in “poor” or “fair” condition, as defined by the PNA, will receive points based on the existing condition of the amenity and/or the percentage of the amenities that are in “poor” condition within the Study Area in which the project is located. Projects may receive points from multiple applicable subcriteria below, totaling up to a maximum of 5 points.	5
<i>Project fixes or replaces an amenity that has been identified by the PNA or another adopted community planning document to be in <u>poor</u> condition. More points will be given based on the scale, function, and importance of the amenity.</i>	0-5
<i>Project fixes or replaces an amenity that has been identified by the PNA or another adopted community planning document to be in <u>fair</u> condition. More points will be awarded based on the scale, function, and importance of the amenity.</i>	0-2
<i>Project is located in a Study Area with at least 50% of its amenities in poor condition.</i>	5
<i>Project is located in a Study Area with between 40% and 49% of its amenities in poor condition.</i>	4
<i>Project is located in a Study Area with between 30% and 39% of its amenities in poor condition.</i>	3
<i>Project is located in a Study Area with between 20% and 29% of its amenities in poor condition.</i>	2

<i>Project is located in a Study Area with between 10% and 19% of its amenities in poor condition.</i>	1
Total Points	100

3.3.3.4 COUNTY CULTURAL FACILITIES (CATEGORY 4)

Description

Of Category 4 funds, which are granted to projects that acquire, develop, improve and/or restore regional recreational facilities and multi-use trails, up to ten percent (10%), on an annual basis, shall be allocated to County cultural facilities.

2018 Funding Amount

\$1,233,301 available annually (Category 4 - 13% of Measure A funds, Cultural Facilities - 10% of Category 4 funds)

Project Types

Below is a non-exhaustive list of projects that may be eligible for County Cultural Facilities grant funds under Category 4.

- Development of new facilities
- Expansion of existing facilities
- Improvement or refurbishment of permanently installed exhibits
- Projects that provide increased access to cultural facilities
- Repairs or improvements to existing facilities

Project Requirements

Applicants must meet all of the following requirements in order to apply for a grant award:

Project Eligibility

- The project improves, refurbishes, enhances an existing County-owned cultural facility; creates a new County-owned cultural facility; or the project is developed on County-owned land and the owner is an agency of which the County is a partner.
- The project acquires, develops, improves, and/or rehabilitates land for regional recreational facilities, multi-use trails, and/or accessibility.
- The project is a permanent capital project.
- The project's requested grant award size is a minimum of \$50,000 and maximum of \$1,200,000.

Project Feasibility

Land Access/Tenure

- Agency owns the land in question;
- Agency has entered into a lease or other use agreement for the land in question; or
- Agency has concrete plans as to how access or tenure will be acquired or arranged.

Planning and Design

- Design documents of 30% or greater are complete; or
- Agency has sketch-level plans for project design and a planned approach as to how and when planning and design will be completed.

Permitting and CEQA Compliance

- Project is exempt from regulatory permits and CEQA;
- Any necessary permitting and CEQA documents are completed and certified; or
- Agency has concrete plans as to how and when permitting and CEQA will be completed.

Adverse Site Conditions (e.g., overhead or underground utilities, toxic contamination, etc.)

- There are no adverse site conditions that would affect project implementation;
- Adverse site conditions have been characterized and the agency has concrete plans for addressing them; or
- Adverse site conditions are known to exist but have not been characterized. Agency has plans as to how and when these conditions will be addressed, with appropriate budget contingencies in the project budget.

Project Cost and Funding

- Agency has a detailed budget consistent with the level of planning and design completed to date, as well as a plan for funding to cover the budgeted costs, with appropriate contingencies given the level of planning completed.

Project Schedule

- Agency has a detailed schedule from grant receipt to project completion that reflects the level of planning, design, permitting and community involvement that will be necessary for the project.

Operations and Maintenance

- The project has an appropriately detailed financial plan for operation and maintenance of the completed project.

Community Engagement

The project must meet the minimum community engagement requirements described in Section 3.3.1.1.

Award Size

Requested grant awards must meet the minimum and maximum grant award size requirements. Grant applications will be categorized into different thresholds of award size brackets depending on the requested size of the grant award. Grant applications within the same award size bracket will be evaluated and compete against each other.

Minimum: \$50,000

Maximum: \$1,200,000

Brackets

Small: \$50,000 - \$249,999

Medium: \$250,000 - \$549,999

Large: \$550,000 - \$1,200,000

Evaluation Criteria

Proposed projects will be scored and ranked on the basis of the applicant's responses to the specific criteria and subcriteria below.

EVALUATION CRITERIA	POINTS
<p>Level of Need Level of need is based on the current Countywide PNA determination. Projects located within or serving Study Areas or subareas with High or Very High need will receive more points than projects that do not.</p> <p>Only one of the following four subcriteria may apply to each project.</p>	25
<p><i>(A) Project is located in a High or Very High need Study Area.</i></p>	25
<p><i>(B) Project is not located in a High or Very High need Study Area, but directly serves the residents of a High or Very High need Study Area.</i></p> <p><i>This subcriterion will be scored on a range of 6 to 15 points depending on how the project serves residents of the High or Very High need Study Area.</i></p>	6-15
<p><i>(C) Project does not meet subcriterion (A) or (B), but is located within a High or Very High need subarea within a Study Area that contains at least 5,000 residents living in High or Very High need subareas.</i></p>	10
<p><i>Project does not meet subcriterion (A), (B), or (C), but directly serves a High or Very High need subarea within a Study Area that contains at least 5,000 residents living in High or Very High need subareas.</i></p>	1-4

<p><i>This subcriterion will be scored on a range of 1 to 4 points depending on how the project serves residents of the High or Very High need subarea.</i></p>	
<p>Multi-Benefit Projects Projects that maximize or enhance recreation opportunities and one or more of the following benefits related to sustainability: protection or enhancement of the natural environment, stormwater capture, water and air quality improvements, greenhouse gas (GHG) reductions, carbon sequestration, heat-island reductions; habitat protection and biodiversity, community health improvements, or any combination thereof.</p> <p>Projects can receive full or partial credit in each subcriterion below, totaling up to a maximum of 20 points.</p>	<p>20 max.</p>
<p>Habitat Protection and Biodiversity <i>Project includes features to preserve important habitat areas and biodiversity.</i></p>	<p>0-5</p>
<p>Water Quality Improvements <i>Project includes features to improve water quality which go beyond those required by State and local codes.</i></p>	<p>0-3</p>
<p>Stormwater Capture and Attenuation <i>Project includes features to capture stormwater and attenuate potential flood conditions which go beyond those required by State and local codes.</i></p>	<p>0-3</p>
<p>Water Conservation <i>Project includes features to reduce or minimize the use of water for irrigation, recreation, and domestic use which go beyond those required by State and local codes.</i></p>	<p>0-3</p>
<p>Public Safety <i>Project includes features that improve safety conditions through the provision of safe equipment and facilities and the reduction or prevention of crime.</i></p>	<p>0-3</p>
<p>Climate Resiliency <i>Project includes features to accommodate and adapt to climate change.</i></p>	<p>0-3</p>
<p>Greenhouse Gas (GHG) Reductions <i>Project includes features to reduce existing GHG emissions that go beyond those required by current regulations.</i></p>	<p>0-2</p>
<p>Air Quality Improvements <i>Project includes features to reduce existing criterion air pollutant emissions that go beyond those required by current regulations.</i></p>	<p>0-2</p>
<p>Active Recreation and Fitness <i>Project includes components to promote active recreation, health, and fitness.</i></p>	<p>0-2</p>
<p>Food Access <i>Project includes components to enhance access to healthy food.</i></p>	<p>0-2</p>
<p>Carbon Sequestration</p>	<p>0-1</p>

<i>Project includes features to sequester carbon that go beyond typical plantings found in cultural facility projects.</i>	
Heat-Island Reduction <i>Project includes features to reduce heat-island effects, in ways that go beyond typical plantings found in cultural facility projects.</i>	0-1
Community Involvement Applicants who have conducted or plan to conduct meaningful outreach to community members and interested stakeholders will receive points based on the degree of and approaches to community engagement conducted prior to grant application and/or planned for the period after the grant is awarded that goes beyond the project eligibility requirement for community engagement. Between 0 and 20 points will be awarded based on the evaluators' assessment of the submitted community involvement plan. The community involvement plan should include target audiences, outreach strategies, and outcomes or desired outcomes. Also, include strategies for reaching members of high and very high need Study Areas and non-English speaking populations, if applicable.	20
<i>Project includes robust and innovative outreach strategies (beyond the project eligibility requirement for community engagement) that will engage identified target audience.</i>	15-20
<i>Project includes sufficient outreach and includes outreach strategies (beyond the project eligibility requirement for community engagement) that will engage identified target audience.</i>	6-14
<i>Project includes minimal and limited outreach strategies (beyond the project eligibility requirement for community engagement) that will engage identified target audience.</i>	0-5
Accessibility Projects that provide accessibility for many users, including hikers, equestrians, bicyclists, seniors, and persons with disabilities, especially in urban areas.	20
<i>Project provides access to many users, including hikers, equestrians, bicyclists, seniors, and persons with disabilities. More points will be awarded to projects that intentionally provide access to more types of users.</i>	0-20
<i>Project meets the subcriterion above <u>and</u> this access is provided within an urban area.</i>	5
Creativity, Place-Making, and Design Projects will receive points for creativity, place-making, and high quality design. Between will be awarded based on the evaluators' assessment of the level of creativity and quality of the design.	15
<i>Project includes a high level of creativity and quality of design and place-making.</i>	6-15
<i>Project includes a moderate level of creativity and quality of design and place-making.</i>	0-5
Total Points	100

3.3.3.5 RECREATION ACCESS (CATEGORIES 3 & 4)

Description

Measure A allows for up to 15 percent (15%) of Category 3 and 4 funds to be awarded to recreation access programs. These programs shall increase the ability of residents to access public lands, park facilities, and park amenities, including education, interpretive services, safety information, transportation, and other activities that increase the accessibility for County residents, especially those in high-need and very high-need areas.

2018 Funding Amount

\$3,699,904 available annually (Categories 3 & 4 - 26% of Measure A funds; Recreation Access - 15% of Categories 3 & 4 funds)

Program Types

Below is a non-exhaustive list of programs that may be eligible for Recreation Access grant funds under Category 3 and Category 4.

- Educational and interpretive programs that promote park use
- Resource interpretive programs and nature education
- Pop-up recreational or interpretive programs
- Programs that provide or fund transportation from areas of High and Very High need to beaches, regional parks, cultural facilities, recreational events, or natural parks

Program Requirements

Applicants must meet all of the following requirements in order to apply for a grant award:

Program Eligibility

- The program increases the ability for county citizens to access public lands, park facilities, park amenities, and recreational opportunities.
- The program meets the requirements of the Americans with Disabilities (ADA) Act of 1990.
- The program must provide an annual third-party program evaluation report.

Program Feasibility

The program must meet at least one of the following:

- The program has already been established.
- The program provider has a track record of running similar types of programs at other locations.

- The program provider has not run programs similar to the one proposed, but is either well-established in the service area or has established a partnership with an agency or community based organization (CBO) that is well-established in the service area.

Award Size

Requested grant awards must meet the minimum and maximum grant award size requirements. Grant applications will be categorized into different thresholds of award size brackets depending on the requested size of the grant award. Grant applications within the same award size bracket will be evaluated and compete against each other.

Minimum: \$50,000
Maximum: \$1,850,000

Brackets

Small: \$50,000 - \$499,999
Medium: \$500,000 - \$999,999
Large: \$1,000,000 - \$1,850,000

Evaluation Criteria

Proposed projects will be scored and ranked on the basis of the applicant's responses to the specific criteria and subcriteria below.

EVALUATION CRITERIA	POINTS
<p>Level of Need Level of need is based on the current Countywide Parks Needs Assessment determination. Programs located within or serving Study Areas or subareas with High or Very High need will receive more points than projects that do not.</p> <p>Only one of the following four subcriteria will apply to each project.</p>	20
<p><i>(A) Program is located in a High or Very High need Study Area.</i></p>	20
<p><i>(B) Program is not located in a High or Very High need Study Area, but directly serves the residents of a High or Very High need Study Area.</i></p> <p><i>This subcriterion will be scored on a range of 6 to 15 points depending on how the project serves residents of the High or Very High need Study Area.</i></p>	6-15
<p><i>(C) Program does not meet subcriterion (A) or (B), but is located within a High or Very High need subarea within a Study Area that contains at least 5,000 residents living in High or Very High need subareas.</i></p>	10

<p><i>Program does not meet subcriterion (A), (B), or (C), but directly serves a High or Very High need subarea within a Study Area that contains at least 5,000 residents living in High or Very High need subareas.</i></p> <p><i>This subcriterion will be scored on a range of 1 to 4 points depending on how the project serves residents of the High or Very High need subarea.</i></p>	1-4
<p>Program Benefits Programs that improve accessibility, connectivity, and safety, and provide opportunities for education, interpretive services, and active recreation.</p> <p>Programs can receive full or partial credit in each subcriterion below, totaling up to a maximum of 30 points.</p>	30 max.
<p>Goals and Objectives</p> <p><i>Organization has clearly stated its goals and objectives (e.g., service or recruit a certain number of participants), and has provided a detailed description on how these goals and objectives will be met, and an evaluation program to show how the outcomes are met.</i></p>	0-5
<p>Accessibility</p> <p><i>Program provides accessibility for many users, including hikers, equestrians, bicyclists, seniors, and persons with disabilities, especially in urban areas. More points will be awarded to programs that intentionally provide access to more types of users, and/or targets its services to urban areas.</i></p>	0-5
<p>Participant Recruitment</p> <p><i>Agency or organization actively recruits and publicizes the program to a wide range of participants within the area served.</i></p>	0-5
<p>Connectivity</p> <p><i>Program connects (or offers transportation from) river, mountain, and urban areas, especially to County Parks, State Parks, the National Forest, the National Recreation Area(s), and the National Monument(s), and that link other canyons and regional and local parks throughout the County.</i></p>	0-3
<p>Interpretive Programs and Education</p> <p><i>Program includes an educational component that promotes park use, the environment, the outdoors, and/or recreation.</i></p>	0-3
<p>Public Safety</p> <p><i>Project includes features that improve safety conditions through the provision of safe equipment and facilities and the reduction or prevention of crime.</i></p>	0-3
<p>Active Recreation and Fitness</p> <p><i>Program includes components to promote active recreation (e.g., pedestrian and bicycle travel), health, and fitness.</i></p>	0-3
<p>Community Participation</p> <p>Programs must incorporate outreach to community members and interested stakeholders (participants) and will receive points based on the degree of and approach to community outreach conducted.</p> <p>Between 0 and 20 points will be awarded based on the evaluators' assessment of community participation.</p>	20
<p><i>Program incorporates robust and innovative outreach strategies that will engage the identified target audience.</i></p>	15-20
<p><i>Program incorporates sufficient outreach strategies that will engage the identified target audience.</i></p>	6-14
<p><i>Program incorporates minimal and limited outreach strategies that will engage the identified target audience.</i></p>	0-5

Total Points	70
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3.3.3.6 CATEGORY 5 YOUTH AND VETERAN JOB TRAINING AND PLACEMENT OPPORTUNITIES PROGRAM

Description

Category 5 grants provide funds for two types of programs:

- **Education and Skills Training Program.** Organizations, including conservation corps, are eligible for funds if they administer a program within the county that provides education, skills training, and career pathway development to young adults, aged 18 to 25, or veterans, to implement park projects.
- **Certification and Job Placement Program.** Organizations, including conservation corps, are eligible for funds if they administer a program within the county that provides certifications and placement services, or apprenticeship opportunities, for young adults, aged 18 to 25, or veterans, for jobs and careers in the Parks and Recreation field.

2018 Funding Amount

Education and Skills Training Program

\$2,884,028 (80% of Category 5 funds)

Certification and Job Placement Program

\$721,007 (20% of Category 5 funds)

Program Types

Below is a non-exhaustive list of programs that may be eligible for grant funds under Category 5.

Education and Skills Training Program

- Apprenticeship programs
- Certification programs
- Educational seminars
- Formal coursework
- Internship/entry level job placement
- Job skills classes that focus on education and training needed to work in the Parks and Recreation field
- Trade schools that focus on skills needed to work in the Parks and Recreation Field
- Tuition grants/stipends

Certification and Job Placement Program

- Apprenticeship programs

- Arborist training and certification for tree planting and maintenance in parks
- Landscape architecture certification with emphasis on parks and recreation
- Sustainability/LEED accreditation with emphasis on parks and recreation facilities

Program Requirements

Applicants must meet all of the following requirements in order to apply for a grant award:

Program Eligibility

The program must meet at least one of the following:

- The applicant is an eligible organization within the county, including certified conservation corps, that provides education, skills training, and career pathway development to implement park projects; AND
The program's requested grant award size is a minimum of \$50,000 and maximum of \$1,400,000.
- The applicant is an eligible organization within the county that provides certifications and placement services, or apprenticeship opportunities for jobs and careers in the Parks and Recreation field, for young adults, aged 18-25, or veterans; AND
The program's requested grant award size is a minimum of \$50,000 and maximum of \$350,000.

The program must also provide an annual third-party program evaluation report.

Program Feasibility

The program must meet at least one of the following:

- The program has already been established.
- The program provider has a track record of running similar types of programs at other locations.
- The program provider has not run programs similar to the one proposed, but is either well-established in the service area or has established a partnership with an agency or community based organization (CBO) that is well-established in the service area.

Award Size

Requested grant awards must meet the minimum and maximum grant award size requirements. Grant applications will be categorized into different thresholds of award size brackets depending on the requested size of the grant award. Grant applications within the same award size bracket will be evaluated and compete against each other.

Education and Skills Training Program

Minimum: \$50,000

Maximum: \$1,400,000

Brackets

Small: \$50,000 - \$249,999

Medium: \$250,000 - \$549,999

Large: \$550,000 - \$1,400,000

Certification and Job Placement Program

Minimum: \$50,000

Maximum: \$350,000

Brackets

Small: \$50,000 - \$99,999

Medium: \$100,000 - \$199,999

Large: \$200,000 - \$350,000

Evaluation Criteria

Proposed projects will be scored and ranked on the basis of the applicant's responses to the specific criteria and subcriteria below.

EVALUATION CRITERIA	POINTS
Level of Need Organizations that provide services to, or recruit a majority of their participants from, the areas of High and Very High need, as identified in the 2016 Countywide PNA. Only one of the following three subcriteria will apply to each project.	20
<i>Organization provides services to, or recruits more than 75% of their participants from, a High or Very High need Study Area.</i>	<i>20</i>
<i>Organization provides services to, or recruits 50% to 75% of their participants from, a High or Very High need Study Area.</i>	<i>15</i>
<i>Organization provides services to, or recruits 25% to 49% of their participants from, a High or Very High need Study Area.</i>	<i>5</i>
Program Benefits Describe in detail the program that your organization provides related to (1) education, skills training, and career pathway development to implement park projects, and/or (2) certifications and placement services, or apprenticeship opportunities for jobs and careers in the Parks and Recreation field. Programs can receive full or partial credit in each subcriterion below, totaling up to a maximum of 30 points. Please provide	30 max.

supporting documentation to demonstrate the aforementioned.	
<p>Program Quality <i>Program provided by the organization is of high quality, including having an efficient and effective organizational structure, being staffed by highly trained individuals, providing a wealth of useful resources, fostering invested mentorship relationships, etc.</i></p>	0-5
<p>Program Variety <i>Organization provides a variety of program types (e.g., education, skills training, career pathway development, job training, certification, apprenticeship, etc.) to its participants and serves a variety of participant types (e.g., youth, veterans, seniors, students, etc.).</i></p>	0-5
<p>Goals and Objectives <i>Organization has clearly stated its goals and objectives (e.g., service or recruit a certain number of participants), and has provided a detailed description on how these goals and objectives will be met</i></p>	0-5
<p>Participant Recruitment and Retention <i>Organization actively recruits and publicizes its programs to a wide range of participants, including in high and very high need Study Areas, and has a successful track record of retaining participants.</i></p>	0-5
<p>Follow-up Services <i>Organization effectively and efficiently tracks the status and outcomes of past program participants.</i></p>	0-5
<p>History of Success and Outcomes <i>Organization has defined expectations of participants, developed evaluation tools, and has a history of success through their programs that help participants thrive in their future careers, earn a steady income, and be employed with jobs that promote parks and the environment.</i></p>	0-5
<p>Community Participation Organizations must incorporate outreach to community members and interested stakeholders as a part of their program to recruit participants will receive points based on the degree of and approach to community engagement conducted. Between 0 and 20 points will be awarded based on the evaluators' assessment of community participation.</p>	20
<p><i>Organization incorporates robust and innovative outreach strategies into its program(s) to engage identified target audience.</i></p>	15-20
<p><i>Organization incorporates sufficient outreach strategies into its program(s) to engage identified target audience.</i></p>	6-14
<p><i>Organization incorporates minimal and limited outreach strategies into its program(s) to engage identified target audience.</i></p>	0-5
Total Points	70