Fact Sheet for the 2022 Outdoor Recreation Legacy Partnership Program Pre-Application

1. **Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO):** This NOFO from the NC Division of Parks and Recreation (DPR) is to advise States, local units of government, and federally recognized Indian Tribes of the available funding from the Land and Water Conservation Fund’s (LWCF) Outdoor Recreation Legacy Partnership (ORLP) Program.
2. **2022 Program Eligibility Changes:**
* Decreasing the city size cap from 50,000 to 30,000 residents
* Removing the requirement for cities to be in a Census-designated Urban Area boundary
* Increasing the maximum grant amount from $5 million to $10 million.
1. **Purpose:** The purpose of the LWCF ORLP is to provide grants to acquire and/or develop public lands for outdoor recreation purposes consistent with the purpose of the LWCF, but with further specific goals of funding projects that:
* Meet recreation goals as identified in, and align with, at least one priority of, the State’s Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan ([NC SCORP](https://files.nc.gov/ncparks/north-carolina-state-parks-statewide-comprehensive-outdoor-recreation-plan-2020-to-2025-for-public-comment.pdf)).
* Are located within or abutting an incorporated city (or town) having a population of 30,000 or more.
* Serve the specific needs of a community(ies) that is (are) severely lacking in walkable, publicly accessible, outdoor recreation (“park deserts”), and that has a poverty rate of at least 20% or that is at least 10% higher than that of the project city, county, and state rates.

\* For the purposes of this competition, for a community to be considered a “park desert,” there must be one of the following:

* No existing parks within a .5-mile radius of the community(ies) to be served by the park (not the radius of the proposed park); or
* One or two small parks within a .5-mile radius of the community(ies) that is/are not large enough to support the size of the population of the service area, or otherwise unable to provide a variety of recreational opportunities; or
* One or two existing parks (potentially of adequate size), including the park that is being addressed in this project, that is/are so obsolete or underdeveloped that a major redevelopment or rehabilitation is necessary to be able to significantly increase the number of people or user groups who could be served in a way that would be equivalent to a new park; or
* Existing parks that are inaccessible to the target community due to physical barriers such as transportation infrastructure, rivers, etc.

Proposed projects must align with the above listed ORLP purposes to be considered for selection.

1. **Application review:** Applicants are strongly encouraged to download the full NOFO, Fact sheet and related documents at <https://www.ncparks.gov/more-about-us/grants>.

1. **[ORLP](https://cityparksalliance.org/event/outdoor-recreation-legacy-partnership-program-technical-assistance/)****[Technical Assistance Webinar](https://cityparksalliance.org/event/outdoor-recreation-legacy-partnership-program-technical-assistance/) – September 13, 2022, 2-3:30 pm:** City Parks Alliance, with partners, National League of Cities, National Recreation and Park Association, and Trust for Public Land, is hosting an ORLP technical assistance webinar with the National Park Service (NPS). NPS staff will provide details on applicant and project eligibility, give tips on writing a strong ORLP application, explain the application and selection process, and answer questions. **DPR will hold a virtual Q&A session on September 15, 10-11 AM for all eligible NC local governments.**
2. **Program Requirements:** To be eligible for either an acquisition or a development grant, the project must involve publicly owned land or the transfer of ownership, by fee simple acquisition or acquisition of lesser rights, to a public entity. The project sponsor must possess sufficient legal title and control of the property to ensure that it can be managed and maintained for outdoor recreation in perpetuity and otherwise remain compliant with the conversion provisions of the LWCF Act (see [54 U.S.C.](https://uscode.house.gov/view.xhtml?req=54%2BUSC%2B200305&f=treesort&fq=true&num=9&hl=true&edition=prelim&granuleId=USC-prelim-title54-section200305) [200305(f)(3)](https://uscode.house.gov/view.xhtml?req=54%2BUSC%2B200305&f=treesort&fq=true&num=9&hl=true&edition=prelim&granuleId=USC-prelim-title54-section200305)).

Outdoor recreation areas and facilities assisted by the LWCF must be open to the general public and not limited to special groups. Chapter 3 of the [LWCF Manual](https://www.nps.gov/subjects/lwcf/upload/LWCF-FA-Manual-Vol-71-3-11-2021-final.pdf) describes project eligibility requirements in detail.

Acquisition of land may be in fee simple or a lesser interest (e.g., a perpetual easement) if sufficient rights, including the right for the public to access and recreate on the site and excluding rights for any non-recreation uses, would be  provided.

On the development side, LWCF assistance is available for a wide range of outdoor recreation uses and the facilities needed to support the use and enjoyment of these areas. These include community parks, sports fields and courts, picnic areas, water-based recreation facilities such as swimming pools, trails, campgrounds, etc. Indoor recreation and other buildings are not eligible but recreation-supporting facilities, such as restrooms or changing areas, can be eligible.

1. **Matching Funds:** In accordance with the LWCF Act ([54 U.S.C. 200305(c)](https://uscode.house.gov/view.xhtml?req=54%2BUSC%2B200305&f=treesort&fq=true&num=9&hl=true&edition=prelim&granuleId=USC-prelim-title54-section200305)), ORLP grant projects must be cost- shared with non-federal funds at a minimum ratio of 1:1. Matching funds may be derived from state, local, non-governmental, or private sources in the form of cash or in-kind contributions of land, services, materials, etc.

Matching share meeting the 1:1 minimum required must be secure or *firmly committed* at the time of application and be supported by a signed letter from the donor confirming the type (cash, in-kind, etc.) and amount/value of the contribution. If the project match exceeds the 1:1 requirement, the budget must indicate how the additional funds/in-kind contributions will be used. Further information about eligible costs, sources of match, and other cost-sharing requirements can be found in Chapter 5 of the [LWCF](https://www.nps.gov/subjects/lwcf/upload/LWCF-FA-Manual-Vol-71-3-11-2021-final.pdf) [Manual](https://www.nps.gov/subjects/lwcf/upload/LWCF-FA-Manual-Vol-71-3-11-2021-final.pdf) and in [2 C.F.R. 200.306](https://www.ecfr.gov/cgi-bin/text-idx?SID=6f6f94fa753026efdd8fe3d112929f25&mc=true&node=se2.1.200_1306&rgn=div8).

The following costs may not be counted toward the non-Federal matching share (not inclusive):

* Any project costs incurred before the grant start date, unless they are an eligible pre- award cost as defined in the LWCF Manual or unless the sponsor gets prior written approval from the State Lead Agency and the NPS (i.e., waiver of retroactivity).
* Any funds or in-kind contributions such as land or services that have been used previously or will be used in the future to satisfy the matching requirements of another LWCF grant or other Federal grant.
* Any funds or in-kind contributions such as lands or services that were or will be acquired with other Federal funds.  However, there is an exception for funds authorized by their enabling legislation to be treated as non-Federal match. The most common options are HUD’s Community Development Block Grants, DOT-FHWA’s Recreation Trails Program, and Section 306 of the Coastal Zone Management Act, but there may be others (project sponsors should be prepared to show supporting documentation if seeking to use Federal funds from other sources as match).

Other: In the text box below, insert a description of any other criteria that have the effect of making an application or project ineligible for Federal awards, as applicable.  If there are other eligibility criteria (i.e., criteria that have the effect of making an application or project ineligible for Federal awards, whether referred to as “responsiveness” criteria, “go-no go” criteria, “threshold” criteria, or in other ways), clearly state those in the following text field.  Include reference(s) to the regulation of requirement that describes the restriction, as applicable.  State any limit on the number of applications an applicant may submit under the announcement and make clear whether the limitation is on the submitting organization, individual investigator/program director, or both.  Specify any eligibility criteria for beneficiaries or for program participants other than Federal award recipients.

Recipients with an active ORLP grant may apply for one additional grant to supplement the existing active project or another project at the same park. A recipient who has been awarded an ORLP grant for a project at one park may also submit additional applications for ORLP projects at different parks. However, either scenario is contingent on each state’s Open Project Selection Process (*see Section D2- Content and Form of Application Submission for explanation of full application process*). For example, some states do not permit a project sponsor to apply for additional funding when they have a currently active grant. Contact NC Division of Parks and Recreation (DPR) for information.

In the interest of ensuring a wide distribution of LWCF ORLP funds and addressing the needs of communities that are under-served due in part to financial constraints, parks that are currently receiving or received an LWCF formula grant that closed within the last seven years may not apply for an ORLP grant  at the same park, even if the scope of the project is different. Additionally, ORLP project that were awarded and terminated during the grant period may not reapply for funds.

1. **ORLP Program Competition Priorities:** The competition will prioritize the selection of projects that:
* Provide new recreational opportunities, particularly those that will increase access to nature’s benefits, such as green spaces, shady areas (via tree cover), and natural landscapes that help cool the air and reduce urban heat island effects, reduce pollution, and have positive effects on mental and physical health.
* Empowered and engaged members of the target community in the project development and design of the plans for the park.
* Create or expand public-private partnerships that leverage matching share resources (e.g., money or donations of land, supplies, or services, etc.).
* Benefit from a high degree of coordination among the public, multiple levels of government, and the private sector.
* Advance goals of, or meet, priority recreation needs identified in numerous local, regional, state plans and/or initiatives.
1. **Secretary of the Interior Priorities:** This program supports priorities of the Secretary of the Interior, including “Working to conserve at least 30% each of our lands and waters by the year 2030” and “Centering equity and environmental justice” as outlined in Executive Order (EO) 14008: Tackling the Climate Crisis at Home and Abroad, and EO 14005: Ensuring the Future is Made in All of America by All of America’s Workers.
2. **Award Information:** Funds will be awarded in two rounds, 6A and 6B. Projects selected under Round 6A have an expected award date of **September 1, 2023**. Projects selected under Round 6B have an expect award date of **January 1, 2024**.

Maximum award: 10,000,000
Minimum award: $300,000

1. **Administrative Rules:** If the NPS selects the project for funding, all LWCF administrative rules noted in the LWCF Manual will apply. The [LWCF Manual](https://www.nps.gov/subjects/lwcf/upload/LWCF-FA-Manual-Vol-71-3-11-2021-final.pdf) can be found online.
2. **Selection and Award:** Applicants should be aware that selection during the application phase does not guarantee an award of grant funds. The decision to award a grant and the amount of funding is not guaranteed until the NPS completes its review of the full application and determines that the project meets all requirements. The application documents should be submitted to DPR within the grant timeline below and labeled per the checklist on the last page.

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| **Grant TimelineGrant Timeline** |
| **July, 2022** | National Park Service (NPS) released the “Announcement of Federal Funding Opportunity” and guidelines for the “Outdoor Recreation Legacy Partnership Program (ORLP)” |
| **August 2022** | NC Division of Parks and Recreation (DPR) issues statewide notification of funding opportunity and application guidelines to the eligible local governments.  |
| **September 13,2022,2:00 - 3:30 PM** | City Park Alliance Educational Webinar – (Register at) <https://register.gotowebinar.com/register/7183371573051895565> |
| **September 15, 2022,10:00 – 11:00 AM** | DPR will hold a virtual Q&A session: [Click here to join the meeting](https://teams.microsoft.com/l/meetup-join/19%3Ameeting_MTA5Njk1ODYtZjhiZC00YTdlLWI3YmQtMmE1NTk2MWNhNWM2%40thread.v2/0?context=%7b%22Tid%22%3a%227a7681dc-b9d0-449a-85c3-ecc26cd7ed19%22%2c%22Oid%22%3a%224f3d23fc-01a2-4588-854f-0013d8ac536c%22%7d) |
| **November 30, 2022** | **1st Round applications due to DPR**: To be eligible, pre-applications must be delivered to DPR or postmarked, with a tracking number by November 30, 2022 |
| **January 31, 2023** | NPS begins to review grant submissions for 1st Round Applications. DPR can let applicants know if NPS has accepted the application or if additional information is needed for consideration (possibly in round 2).  |
| **March 31, 2023** | **2nd Round applications due to DPR:** To be eligible, pre-applications must be delivered to DPR or postmarked, with a tracking number by March 31, 2023.  |
| **May 31, 2023** | NPS begins to review grant submissions for 1st Round Applications.  |
| **September 2023** | Anticipated start date for grants selected in round 1st round |
|  **January 2024** | Anticipated start date for grants selected in round 2nd round |
| Grant selection and timeline to contracting are subject to change.  |

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| **Pre-application packet requirements**  |
| 1. Provide one paper copy of all application documents.
2. Provide one PDF copy of all application documents on one flash drive.
3. Each section of the application should be labeled by the section number and section name provided.
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| **Where to send the application (and direct questions)** |
| **Via Mail:** Attn: Grants and OutreachNC Division of Parks and Recreation1615 Mail Service Center Raleigh, NC 27699-1615 | **In person drop-off:**DNCR- Division of Parks and RecreationNature Research Center2nd Floor121 West Jones St., Raleigh, NC 27603 | **Direct questions to**:Grant ManagerVonda Martinvonda.martin@ncparks.gov |

# OUTOOR RECREATION LEGACY PARTNERSHIP (ORLP) PROGRAM APPLICATION CHECKLIST

**Rounds 6A and 6B**

## **Required Application Elements:**

[ ]  SF424, Application for Federal Assistance

[ ]  SF424C, Budget Information – Construction

[ ]  SF424D, Assurances for Construction Programs

[ ]  SF 429B, Real Property Status Report, Request to Acquire, Improve, or Furnish (for acquisition or acquisition

 with development projects only)

[ ]  SF - Project Abstract Summary

[ ]  SF-LLL – Disclosure of Lobbying Activities

[ ]  Letter of Recommendation from State Liaison Officer

[ ]  Pre-award Onsite Inspection Report

[ ]  Project Narrative (10-page max)

[ ]  Budget Narrative (5-page max)

[ ]  Project Timeline (1-page max)

[ ]  Photos

[ ]  Recreation Area Map

[ ]  Map Delineating Project Area and Proposed Boundary

[ ]  Plan or Sketch of Planned Site Features/Improvements

[ ]  Letter(s) of Support – Confirming Matching Contributions or Co-sponsor Ownership Arrangements

[ ]  General Letters of Support – all letters, including those from Congress, must be address to the Project

 Sponsor and included with the application on Grants.gov.

[ ]  Letter of Intent to Sell, Purchase, or Donate Property (if applicable)

[ ]  Application and Revision (A&R) Form

[ ]  Description and Notification (DNF) Form

[ ]  Copy of an Approved Waiver of Retroactivity (if applicable)

[ ]  Conflict of Interest Disclosure

[ ]  Overlap or Duplication of Effort Statement

[ ]  Copy of the Negotiated Indirect Cost Rate Agreement (if applicable)