



Questions and Answers

Oakland County Parks and Recreation Community Grant Programs

Informational Webinar

Tuesday December 7, 2021

1. Can applicants combine Pre-Development with Development on this grant opportunity?

Not at this time. It must be one or the other. If this is a challenge it can be reevaluated in the future.

2. Can you apply for more than 1 project and get funding for both?

No, 1 grant per year per community.

3. What are eligible matches?

Match can be identified as pledged, awarded, budgeted, or pending. Applicant match sources may include:

- *General Funds or Local Restricted Funds:* Local cash or budgeted funding from the applicant's general fund or restricted recreation funds.
- *Force Account Labor:* The applicant's paid employees who will work directly on the construction of the project. This value cannot include administration or supervision costs but may include design engineering and other professional services.
- *Federal or State Funds:* Federal or State grant funds that have been awarded (or are pending award) for funding within the OCPD grant project period.
- *Private or Philanthropy:* Funding that has been awarded through private donations or philanthropic organizations.
- *Cash Donations:* Cash generated from donations, fund-raising, or other similar means.
- *Donated Labor/Materials:* Labor or materials directly related to the construction of the project from sources other than the applicant's own paid labor. Donated labor will be valued at minimum wage, unless the person is professionally skilled in the work being performed on the project. When a professional is volunteering professional services, the wage rate this individual is normally paid for performing this service may be charged to the project. Value of donated materials must be documented. Value of donated land will not be counted as match.

4. Could two different entities in the same area write for grants- like a DDA and a Parks commission?

The Grant application must be submitted by a city, village, or township in Oakland County. The State of Michigan, school districts, regional authorities, federally recognized Native American tribes, colleges, universities, private recreation providers, land conservancies, and conservation districts are NOT eligible.

5. We are looking to build a playground at one of our parks. In our Recreation Master Plan it says, "Create a Development/Operations Plan" for this park. We created that plan as a separate document, which includes the playground. Does this qualify as being documented in our community plans if we submit both the Recreation Master Plan and the Development Plan for that specific park?

Yes.

6. Can a municipality apply on behalf of a trail that is managed by a Commission?

Yes.

7. In the pre-development phase, can a consultant be used to assist in the application?

Yes.

8. Is there a scoring system for each question?

Yes, the scoring documents for the Trailways and Park Improvement Grant Programs are posted on the OCPR Community Grant Programs website (<https://www.oakgov.com/parks/getinvolved/Pages/Grant-Programs.aspx>).

Trailways Grant Program Scoring:

<https://www.oakgov.com/parks/Resources/Trailways%20Grant%20Program%20Scoring%2012-2-21.pdf>

Park Improvements Grant Program Scoring:

<https://www.oakgov.com/parks/Resources/Park%20Improvement%20Grant%20Program%20Scoring%2012-2-21.pdf>

9. If grant funding opportunities come in after the application period can the matching fund source be changed? So, the new grant fund instead of Twp. funds?

Yes.

10. Can the grant application focus on projects at more than one park?

Yes, as long as the projects are similar and tied together.

11. When can grants start? After April 2022?

Grants will be awarded in April 2022. Once the grant agreement is signed, the project can begin.

12. Do you require a resolution from the governing body like MNRTF?

Yes, a certified copy of a resolution from the applicant's governing body (city council, village council, township board) is required. With the holidays and meeting schedules; your governing body may not meet before the application is due. In this case, include a signed letter that states when the resolution will be on the agenda and upload it in the application. For your application to be considered, a certified resolution will need to be submitted no later than **February 14th**.

13. Does this application require a public hearing? Or just a resolution by our Township Board?

No public hearing is required, just a resolution.

14. Our current 5-year Master Plan expires 12/31/21. We are in the process of updating our plan. Our new plan will be complete and filed with the state by 2/1/22. Is that a problem?

That is not a problem.

15. I briefly saw a list of eligible parks projects on the application. Where can I find that?

Samples are listed in the Grant Program Guidance Document.

<https://www.oakgov.com/parks/Resources/OCPR%20Grant%20Program%20Guidance%20book.pdf>

16. If you are a separate park commission, elected can that board make the resolution?

The Certified Resolution can be passed by any entity that has the legal authority to submit grant applications and sign/accept grant agreements. In some communities this may be a Parks and Recreation Commission or Planning Commission, and in other communities it may be the Township Board or City Council.

17. Will this webinar be posted online or sent to us?

Yes, this webinar is being recorded and will be available on the OCPR website (<https://www.oakgov.com/parks/getinvolved/Pages/Grant-Programs.aspx>). The webinar will also be emailed to webinar attendees.

18. How many years into the future do you expect this grant program to be available?

The grant program will be available at least through 2029.

19. Are the funds on a first serve basis, or is there a set amount established for each community?

This is a competitive grant program, there is no set amount per community.

20. You said it doesn't require a public hearing, but it does require public engagement. A public hearing could count as public engagement, correct? But we will receive fewer points if nobody shows up to speak at the public hearing, correct?

Public Hearing counts as public engagement, but you will not be penalized for no participants.

21. We would like to apply for a grant to renovate/replace our decades-old picnic pavilion, but don't have the final design yet. Do we need that, or can we use a conceptual image?

Conceptual image is acceptable to submit.

22. What are the expectations for grant awardees as far as signage, recognition for Oak County, etc?

Signage will be required and maybe provided.

23. Just to clarify, can you submit more than 1 application if you have a couple of projects that may qualify?

No, 1 project per community per year. The application won't allow for a city, village or township to submit more than 1 application.

24. Will you be looking to fund smaller projects so the funding goes to more communities, or will you fund projects that are requesting the maximum allowed?

Projects will be scored on the merit of project. The goal will be a balance between smaller and larger projects.