Application for Community Assistance

The National Park Service Rivers, Trails and Conservation Assistance program supports successful partnerships with communities across America in achieving their conservation and outdoor recreation visions.

Please follow the application steps on our website and then submit this completed application along with a map of your project site, at least three letters of support, and any other supplementary information that helps us learn more about your project to your National Park Service staff contact by August 1.

Date: **Project Name:**

Project Location Description (provide a location/site map):

City and State:

Congressional District(s) Number(s):

Applicant organization(s):

Primary Contact: **Title:**

Street Address:

City: **State:** **Zip Code:**

Email: **Website (if applicable):** **Daytime Phone:**

Project Description:

1. Describe: *(limit to 750 words total)*
   a. Your vision and project goals.
   b. Accomplishments to date.
   c. Support: local, city, regional and state plans, endorsements from elected officials and boards, etc.
   d. Community benefits that would result from implementing the proposed project.
   e. Geographic location of your project (city, watershed, specific areas within a city or county, etc.).
   f. Important demographic characteristics of your project area.

2. Describe how your project advances one or more key National Park Service objectives: *(limit to 500 words)*

   a. Builds partnerships with health and wellness organizations to promote healthy lifestyles;
   b. Engages youth or youth organizations to promote close-to-home resource conservation, stewardship, and outdoor recreation opportunities;
   c. Develops and/or improves connections to parks, rivers, trails, and greenways in diverse urban areas and communities with limited resources and facilities;
   d. Develops or improves access to National Park Service sites by enhancing connections to nearby communities;
   e. Advances the protection and stewardship of large natural landscapes (parks, open spaces, and working lands) through partnerships;
   f. Expands public access to water resources, such as creeks, rivers, lakes, bays, and the coast, and the development of water trails.

Applicant and Partner Roles: ***(limit to 750 words)***

3. a. Describe your role and the level of commitment/services your organization can provide to the project.
   b. List the key partners involved with the project. Briefly summarize the existing or anticipated role and contribution of each partner.
   c. Please include three support letters from listed partners other than the applicant or individual(s) of the applying organization that note their support and list their contribution(s) and anticipated project role and responsibilities.

Public Support: ***(limit to 500 words)***

4. Describe level of public support to date, and any plans for future public outreach and participation.

How the National Park Service Could Help:

5. a. What are the biggest challenges and overall needs of the project? *(limit to 350 words)*
   b. What type of assistance are you seeking from National Park Service staff? Please include a short description of the specific project need(s) for each of the boxes checked. *(limit to 150 words for each box)*

- ☐ Defining project vision and goals
- ☐ Identifying and analyzing issues and opportunities
- ☐ Assessing and engaging partners and stakeholders
- ☐ Inventory and mapping of community resources
- ☐ Priority setting and consensus building
- ☐ Identifying funding sources
- ☐ Organizational development
- ☐ Designing community outreach and participation strategies
- ☐ Planning (trail, park, open space, greenway, etc.)
- ☐ Other