

Only sponsors who submitted letters of intent are eligible to apply

2012 Recreational Trails Program

Application

Approximately \$1,000,000 Available for Trail Grants



Submit an electronic copy through Drop-Box and mail 1 paper bound original to:

Attn: 2012 RTP Application
South Carolina Department of Parks, Recreation & Tourism
Tourism and Recreation Development Office
1205 Pendleton Street, Room 225
Columbia, SC 29201

Electronic copy and 1 original application are due in our office
by **April 17, 2012** at 4:00 pm
(FAX copies will not be accepted)
Grant awards will be announced in July, 2012

2012 RECREATIONAL TRAILS PROGRAM (RTP)

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2012 RECREATIONAL TRAILS PROGRAM (RTP)

A QUICK LOOK

How much does South Carolina have available for RTP grants in 2012?

Approximately \$1,000,000

Who can apply? **Local, state and federal government agencies and qualified private organizations**

What sorts of recreational facilities can receive a grant? **In general, recreational trails and trailhead facilities that are open to the public; this application will explain the requirements and restrictions**

What is the maximum federally funded grant amount per project? **\$100,000 * - This does not apply to motorized projects. Motorized projects are eligible for the maximum amount of motorized funding available.**

What is the minimum federally funded grant amount per project? **\$10,000**

*Note: The SCPRT - State Trails Program may waive the maximum amount of an approved project if the project is determined to have statewide or regional significance.

Do grant funds have to be matched? **Yes.** RTP requires the sponsor provide 20% of the total project cost. RTP will reimburse only up to 80% of the total project cost. Your 20% match can be contributed in the form of hard cash or approved in-kind services.

Is RTP a reimbursement grant program? **Yes.** You must first spend your money and then request reimbursement.

When is the application deadline? **April 17, 2012 at 4 pm**

What is the target date for award? **July, 2012**

How many copies of the grant application are required? **Electronic submission and 1 signed bound original**

Where do we send the completed paper original application?

Attn: 2012 RTP Application

South Carolina Department of Parks, Recreation & Tourism

Tourism and Recreation Development Office

1205 Pendleton Street, Room 225

Columbia, SC 29201

If questions arise while preparing the application, please call (803) 734-0130.

HISTORY

The South Carolina Department of Parks, Recreation and Tourism (SCPRT) administers the Recreational Trails Program (RTP) under the approval of the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA). This federally funded program receives its funding from a portion of federal gas taxes paid on fuel used in non-highway recreational vehicles. Funds can be spent on both motorized and non-motorized recreational trail projects to construct new recreational trails, improve/maintain existing trails, develop/improve trailhead or trailside facilities and acquire trail corridors.

Funding provided by this program is on a cost reimbursement basis. Project sponsors must initiate their approved projects with their own funds and be reimbursed up to 80 percent of allowable costs after submitting documentation of expenses. Individual trail grants can range from \$10,000 (\$12,500 total project cost) minimum to \$100,000 (\$125,000 total project cost) maximum with the exception of the motorized projects. Motorized projects are eligible for the maximum amount of motorized funding available. Projects will be selected for funding with the help of the State Trails Advisory Committee made up of both motorized and non-motorized trail users. Selected projects must comply with FHWA funding requirements and be in accordance with all applicable federal laws and executive orders, state and local laws and regulations.

Priorities for funding are based on the 2002 South Carolina's State Trails Plan: *Expanding the Experience, Trails for South Carolina* and advice from South Carolina's State Trails Advisory Committee. Projects will be evaluated in terms of their overall quality, need, public support, planning process; that adequate resources are available to execute the project; and that resources are available to adequately manage, maintain and operate the project after completion.

Private nonprofit organizations, local trail volunteer groups and private operators of recreational facilities open to the public are encouraged to work with federal, state and local government agencies to develop RTP grant applications. The State's goal is long-term development and management of SC trails by fostering cooperative efforts among these groups.

FUNDING

Available Funding

The Recreational Trails Program requires that not less than 30 percent of the monies received annually shall be used for uses relating to motorized recreation and not less than 30 percent shall be used for uses relating to nonmotorized recreation. To ensure diversified trail use, the remaining 40 percent shall be used for diversified trail uses.

Applicant Match

This is a reimbursement program; therefore, the grant recipient must pay 100% of the cost of an item before submitting a request for reimbursement for 80% of eligible costs,

i.e. *\$5,000 in eligible billings submitted*

 X 80%

= \$4,000 reimbursed to grant recipient.

The program allows the donation of private funds, materials, right-of-way, and services at fair market value to be counted toward the match. However, donations of pre-existing state or local government right-of-way, materials, or services cannot be credited toward the local match. This federal program allows federal funds, materials, programs (NCCC, AmeriCorps, etc.) or services to credit 15% toward the match for a total of 95% federal. However, equipment previously purchased with federal trails funds can not be used as project match. Only non-federal equipment can be used as project match.

Reimbursements will be made only for those items that were listed on the Project Agreement and subsequent approved amendments. Normally, requests for reimbursements are processed and funds dispersed within 6 to 8 weeks.

Procurement procedure requirements – In order to receive reimbursements, grantees are required to follow and provide documentation of procedures for the purchase and/or rental of materials, equipment, and contract services associated with any awarded grant.

ELIGIBLE APPLICANTS/SPONSORS

Eligible sponsors include state, federal and municipal government agencies or qualified private organizations. Private organizations include forprofit or nonprofit organizations that operate recreational facilities open to the public. The trails program encourages community-based partnerships.

Nonprofit organizations must meet both of the following requirements to be determined eligible to receive RTP grant funds:

Nonprofit organizations which are registered at the time of application with the Secretary of State under South Carolina's Solicitation of Charitable Funds Act are eligible. Nonprofit organizations need to include a copy of their confirmation letter of registration with their project application. For additional information see South Carolina's Secretary of State's Official Web site <http://www.scsos.com/> or call 803-734-1790.

Nonprofit organizations determined at the time of application by the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) to be a tax-exempt organization pursuant to Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code are eligible. All nonprofit organizations need to include a copy of their IRS tax-exempt letter with their project application.

An organization described in section 501(c)(4) of the Internal Revenue Code which engages in lobbying activities is not eligible.

Forprofit and Nonprofit applicants are required to demonstrate financial ability to execute and maintain/operate project and deed restrict property for twenty-five years.

Forprofit organizations which are approved for funding will have additional requirements in their Project Agreement.

PERMITTED USES

- Construction of new recreational trails open to the public on state, county, municipal or private lands where a recreational need for such construction is shown.
- Construction of new recreation trails crossing federal land if the project is consistent with resources management plans. Approval will be contingent upon compliance with all applicable laws, including the National Environmental Policy Act and the Forest and Rangeland Renewable Resources Planning Act, and the Federal Land Policy and Management Act.
- Development and rehabilitation of trailside and trailhead facilities and trail linkages for recreational trails. Trailside and trailhead facilities includes trail components or associated facilities which serve the purpose and safe use of the recreational trail, and may include, but are not limited to, the following: drainage, crossings, stabilization, parking, signage, controls, shelters, hitching rails, bike racks, fencing, motorized access barriers, underpasses, and water, sanitary, and access facilities.
- Acquisition of easements or fee simple title from a willing seller to property for recreational trails or recreational trail corridors. Only governmental agencies are allowed to purchase property.
- Maintenance and restoration of existing recreational trails.
- Lease of recreational trail construction and maintenance equipment.
- Provide access and use of recreational trails by persons with disabilities.
- Redesign, reconstruction, nonroutine maintenance or relocation of recreational trails to benefit the natural environment or to mitigate and minimize the impact to the natural environment.

- No more than 5% of total project costs on construction engineering or planning costs (environmental evaluation and documentation, permits or approvals).

USES NOT PERMITTED

- Condemnation of any kind of interest in property.
- Construction of new recreation trails for motorized use on National Forest or Bureau of Land Management lands that have been recommended for Wilderness designation.
- Upgrading, expanding, or otherwise facilitating motorized use or access to recreational trails predominantly used by nonmotorized recreational trail users and on which, as of May 1, 1991, motorized use was prohibited or had not occurred.
- Road construction or sidewalks.
- Purchase of recreational trail construction and maintenance equipment.
- Administrative staff time, overhead or indirect charges are not allowable charges.
- Feasibility studies.
- Playground equipment.

IMPORTANT POINTS

Projects will be required to meet a minimum score of 120 points to be determined eligible.

Project will be awarded in Rank order in order to meet the 30 percent motorized, 30 percent nonmotorized and 40 percent diverse recreational trail requirements.

We are unable to score incomplete applications. Incomplete application will be returned without consideration for funding.

The RTP requires a match. The share attributable to RTP may not exceed 80 percent of the total project cost. Funds from federal sources may be attributed to the project, which could bring the total federal share to 95 percent. The sponsor must provide the remaining project amount from a non-federal source.

Project costs are eligible only if they are incurred after the project has been approved, awarded and the Project Agreement has been signed. Sponsors can not be reimbursed for work done prior to Agreement date.

Project sponsors will have 18 months to complete the project after the Project Agreement has been signed.

Grant funds will be paid on a reimbursement basis.

Project sponsors may submit applications for more than one project.

If admission, user or other fees are charged for the use of the land, facilities or buildings that were rehabilitated, developed or acquired with funding from the RTP, the fee structure must be reasonable and cannot be discriminatory to non-residents of the local area. The fee structure and use of program income will have to be approved by the SCPRT - State Trails Program and be specified in the Project Agreement.

Up to 5% of the total project amount may be expended on construction engineering or planning costs (environmental evaluation and documentation, permits or approvals).

Projects should solicit Disadvantaged Businesses when contracting out work.

Projects that involve new construction or renovation of facilities must provide access in accordance with the American with Disabilities Act (ADA).

Projects which are approved for funding for work on public lands will be required to enter into a separate agreement with the agency(s) to undertake the work.

Projects which are approved for funding for work on private lands must enter into an easement or other legally binding agreement that ensures public access to their recreational trail.

Projects shall comply with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), the National Historic Preservation Act, and the Endangered Species Act.

Project should involve Federal Highway Administration, South Carolina Division as a Cooperating Agency on all NEPA work.

Projects shall comply with all applicable local, state and federal laws, rules and regulations.

Projects shall comply with all appropriate Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) and Office of Management and Budget (OMB) Circulars.

Projects which are approved for funding may require additional documentation prior to receiving a Project Agreement. It is the responsibility of the Project Sponsor to secure the required documentation and submit it to SCPRT- State Trails Program.

Projects which are approved to acquire an easement or purchase land in fee simple, will be required to comply with the terms of Title II and Title III of the Uniform Relocation Assistance and Real Property Acquisition Policy Act of 1970 and the applicable requirement and procedures implementing such Act and other provision of federal laws and executive orders as identified under the Project Agreement. Acquired property will be restricted subject to Section 6(f)(3) of the Land and Water Conservation Fund Act. Only governmental agencies are allowed to purchase property.

All project sponsors will be required to attend a fiscal briefing before receiving a signed Project Agreement.

Because of the competitive review process an increase in funding or significant changes in project scope will not be considered.

APPLICATION PROCESS

Applicants must have submitted a Recreational Trails Program **2012 Letter of Intent form by our December 5, 2011** deadline to be eligible to apply for our funds. **SCPRT has started using an electronic Drop-Box for the 2012 RTP Cycle.** Therefore, it is mandatory that all applicants use the most recent application and follow the instructions given on the following page carefully on how to *submit your electronic application*.

The following instructions are provided to assist you in development of your RTP application.

- Incomplete applications will not be considered for funding and will be returned to the applicant without being scored. Do not leave any sections blank, use N/A if appropriate.
- No late or faxed applications will be accepted.
- Application must be typed and organized according to the Application Checklist.
- The paper application must be **bound**.
- Provide enough detail in your project description that Review Team can clearly understand your project.
- All supporting materials, maps, drawings, etc. must be no larger than 8.5"x11".

Applicants must submit the Electronic Application and one signed original application to SCPRT by 4:00 pm, April 17, 2012. Please mail signed original application to:

Attn: 2012 RTP Grant Application
South Carolina Department of Parks, Recreation & Tourism
Tourism and Recreation Development Office
1205 Pendleton Street, Room 225
Columbia, SC 29201

Start early and finish early. Applications received after this deadline will be returned unopened to the applicant and will not be graded!

Please be sure to keep a copy of your application for future reference. If you have any questions or need assistance, please call Ronda Pratt, State Trails Coordinator, at (803) 734-0130.

APPLICATION SUBMITTAL PROCESS

To submit a Recreational Trails Program Grant Application once your Letter of Intent has been submitted and approved, visit <http://www.scprr.com/our-partners/RTPGrantApplication.htm> by April 17, 2012 to submit an electronic copy (a scanned Adobe PDF file) of your paper application. An example of the page can be found below. Please note that your Trail Project name should include the Sponsor Name. Combining the Sponsor Name - Project Name will provide a unique name for Sponsor's with multiple projects and allow us to better track the project.

Submit a Recreational Trails Program Grant Application

Only sponsors who submitted letters of intent are eligible to apply

Sponsor Name *

Submittor's Name *
First Name Last Name

E-mail *
So that we can get back to you

Contact Phone Number * -
Area Code Phone Number

Name of Trail Project *
Use Sponsor Name - Project Name (Must be a unique name)

RTP Funds Requested \$ *

Attach your application *
You can upload any type of file. Max: 300 MB

Multiple projects from the same Sponsor should provide a unique name here

Once you submit the form, you will see a "Thank You" notice and receive an e-mail to the effect that we have received your submission.

Thank You!

Your submission has been received.
 You should receive an e-mail from grantsubmissions@scpr.com acknowledging your submittal. If you do not receive a notice within 24 hours, please check your Junk mail or Spam folder for verification. Alternatively, you may e-mail Ronda Pratt at rpratt@scpr.com to verify your submission.

CHECK LIST

- Sponsor Information
- Project Information
- Narrative Project Description
- Topographic map (electronic and 1 original)
- A site map (electronic and 1 original)
- Financial Information
 - Match commitment letters from funding source
- Project Description Sheet
- Fixed Criteria
- Project Criteria
- Special Priority
- Land Owner/Manager Approval
- Certification
- Any other Attachments
- Submit 1 electronic and 1 signed paper bound original of all sections and all attachments
- Nonprofit Organizations only
 - Copy of confirmation letter of registration from SC Secretary of State
 - Copy of IRS tax-exempt letter

****Only submit actual application beginning on page 10 and attachments. Do not submit guidelines and informational pages.***

2012 RECREATIONAL TRAILS PROGRAM APPLICATION

SCPRT USE ONLY

Received: _____
Postmarked: _____
Application #: _____

SPONSOR INFORMATION

Sponsor _____

Contact Person _____

(The contact person is someone who will be in direct contact with SCPRT)

Title _____ Email _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____ Fax _____

Federal Tax Identification Number _____

Type of Sponsor (check one)

- Federal Agency
- State Agency
- Local Agency
- Nonprofit Organization
- Forprofit Organization
- Other (explain) _____

PROJECT INFORMATION

Name of Trail Project _____

County(s) _____ Nearest City _____

Project Address _____ Nearest Cross Street _____

US House District Number _____

State Senate District Number _____ State House District Number _____

Land Classification (check one) Public Private Combination

If combination, please explain _____

Intended Use of Trail (check one)

- Motorized Trail Uses
- Nonmotorized Trial Uses
- Combination Motor/Nonmotorized Trail uses

If combination, please explain _____

User group (check all that apply)

- Hikers/walkers
- Horseback riders
- Accessible
- Trail/mountain bicyclists
- Off-road vehicles (e.g., motorcycles, ATV's, OHV's)
- Canoeist/kayakers/boaters

NARRATIVE PROJECT DESCRIPTION

Briefly describe the proposed project in the space provided.

PROJECT LOCATION

Topographic map (No larger than 8.5"x11")

Submit electronic and 1 original copy of the 1:24,000 U.S. Geological Service (USGS) topographic map (or map portions, clearly marked with USGS quad name) which shows your complete project site. Indicate the project boundaries clearly on all maps.

A site map (No larger than 8.5"X11")

Submit electronic and 1 original copy of a site map of the project itself. The maps must have a scale, a north arrow, and the route of the proposed trail or location of the trail facilities must be clearly indicated. If the project involves a combination of new trail construction and trail maintenance/restoration, the location of these two activities must be clearly marked along the length of the trail on the site map.

Financial Information Requirements

Funding:

List all sources of project funding and the amount committed by each for this project. Attach a letter of commitment from each funding source other than the applicant. The commitment letters should specify the amount of funds being provided, when the funds are available, and any restrictions or conditions for the use of the funds. For the applicant's commitment, attach a letter from the chief executive (or resolution if a county or city council is committing the funds) specifying the source of funds, when the funds are available and any restrictions or conditions for the use of the funds.

If a letter of commitment cannot be provided for any expected sources of funds, a rationale should be provided which explains why such a letter cannot be provided and states how funding for the project will be assured.

Budget:

A detailed summary of request and match expenses for your project must be completed on page 15 of the application. Please only list items on budget summary sheet that have a **direct link** to the completion of project and are eligible for RTP reimbursement. Individual items and expenses may be adjusted or denied at the discretion of PRT.

The following are basic descriptions of what may be included in each category:

- In kind labor (unskilled labor): Work performed outside of the workers/volunteers professional capacity.
- Skilled labor: Work performed within the workers/volunteers professional capacity. (Can also be used as in kind labor)
- Service contracts: Contracted services for any combination of labor, equipment rental and operation, and/or materials.
- Design & engineering: May be included, only through use of a professionally licensed engineer or trail design planner. Total cost may not exceed 5% of total project cost.
- Land acquisition: Actual cost for the purchase of land and/or easements. Applications submitted for land acquisition must include development of recreational trail.
- Materials: Lumber, steel, fasteners, concrete, stone, culverts, mulch, seed, etc.
- Trail signs & trailside amenities: Educational/interpretative signage, shelters, benches, trash receptacles, lights, kiosks, etc.

Items not eligible for reimbursement or match include but are not limited to the following:

- Administration time
- Meeting time
- Travel time
- Passenger vehicle rental
- Food items

Grant payments (Grantees only):

RTP grants are paid on a reimbursement basis. Grantees must incur cost for work actually completed then submit requests for reimbursement with invoices, cancelled checks and/or paid-in-full receipts attached. Expenses and items may not be reimbursed if not included in within the original project proposal and budget.

Procurement procedure requirements: In order to receive reimbursements grantees are required to follow and provide documentation of procedures for the purchase and/or rental of materials, equipment, and contract services associated with any awarded grant.

Project Sponsors can use their established procurement guidelines, unless their procurement guidelines are less stringent than our State Procurement Guidelines. In which case, the Project Sponsor ***must*** follow our established State Procurement Guidelines. ***Failure to follow established procurement guidelines will result in reimbursement request being deemed ineligible for reimbursement (no exceptions).***

FINANCIAL INFORMATION DETAILED BUDGET

Estimated Project Budget

Include a detailed budget that includes all project activities and costs. List the source of all match funds and provide commitment letters.

Estimated Expenditures	Total Funds	RTP Funds Requested	Match Funds	Source of Match Funds
Personnel:				
Supplies/Materials:				
Equipment:				
Contractual:				
Acquisition:				
Other (be specific):				
Total:				

Total Project Costs \$ _____

RTP Funds Requested \$ _____ 80% of Total Project Costs

Match Funds \$ _____ 20% of Total Project Costs

Has the sponsor authorized and appropriated the financial resources to pay the total project costs as they are incurred?

Yes or No

Has the sponsor received funding from the Recreational Trails Program in the past?

Yes or No

If yes, please list project names, project number, amount received and date completed:

PROJECT DESCRIPTION SHEET

The description sheet will be used to assess the impact of your project on cultural and natural resources—its accurate completion cannot be overemphasized. Do not leave any sections blank, use N/A if appropriate.

Project Name: _____

Project Sponsor: _____

Landscape Description

- 1. How many acres in the site will be impacted by the proposed trail construction?

- 2. Describe the site's general land cover as accurately as possible (for example, 40% hardwoods, 30% pines, 30% open field)

- 3. If there is water flowing or open water on the site, please describe it.

- 4. If there is a Wild or Scenic River on the site, please list it.

- 5. If there is a wetland on the site, please describe it, noting the acreage it includes. Show its extent on the enclosed site map.

- 6. If there is a floodplain on the site, please describe it, noting the acreage it includes. Show its extent on the enclosed site map.

7. If there is a coastal zone area on the site, please describe it, noting the acreage it includes. Show its extent on the enclosed site map.

8. Describe the site's general topography as accurately as possible (for example, 40% steep bluffs, 40% floodplain, 20% gentle ridges)

9. What are the significant plant communities on the site? (for example, bottomland forests of sweetgum, tulip trees, and ash; part of site covered in honeysuckle) Include approximate age and size of trees.

10. What animal species have been noted on the site?

11. Has the site ever been identified as having a threatened or endangered species of plant or animal? Yes or No
If yes, what is the species? _____

Additional information to answer this question is available at the following web sites: <http://ecos.fws.gov/servlet/TESSWebpageUsaLists?state=SC>
http://www.dnr.state.sc.us/pls/heritage/county_species.select_county_map

12. Has the site ever been known or suspected to have hazardous wastes?
 Yes or No
If yes, please list them and indicate their location on the site map. _____

13. Does the site contain any known historic or archaeological resources that are on, or eligible for, the National Register of Historic Places? Yes or No
If yes, please list them and indicate them on the site map. _____

If yes, has the project been coordinated with the State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO)? Yes or No

Explain _____

If your trail is on a new location, SHPO coordination is required.

Construction Description

1. If your application is for construction of a new trail:
What is the proposed length? _____
What is the proposed width of your trail? _____
Of what material(s) is the trail tread constructed? _____

2. If your application is for trail maintenance/rehabilitation/restoration:
What is the length? _____
What is the width of your trail? _____
Of what material(s) is the trail tread constructed? _____

3. Check the appropriate boxes to show all expected trail user groups:
- Hikers/walkers
 - Horseback riders
 - Accessible
 - Trail/mountain bicyclists
 - Off-road vehicles (e.g., motorcycles, ATV's, OHV's)
 - Canoeist/kayakers/boaters

4. Estimate the number of trail users per week per user group checked above.

How were these estimates determined?

5. If your application is for construction of trail facilities (for example, parking, restrooms, ramps, etc) what is the total area which will be impacted?

6. Please describe these facilities as completely as possible, including specific dimensions (for example, parking area of 70 ft by 85 ft) when relevant:

7. Please describe any construction impact mitigation practices that you will be using:

8. Will the project’s construction have any adverse affect on air quality?

Yes or No

If yes, please explain:

9. If this trail includes motorized use, please explain the potential for noise impacts on surrounding land uses:

10. Have all required pre-construction permits and approvals been secured?

- Yes or No – Approval to Cross a Public Highway
- Yes or No – Approval to Cross a Public Utility Right-of-Way
- Yes or No – Water Obstruction and Encroachment Permit
- Yes or No – Wetlands Review
- Yes or No – Erosion and Sedimentation Control
- Yes or No – Building Permit
- Yes or No – Sewage Permit
- Yes or No – Water System Approval
- Yes or No – Others: _____

If no, please explain:

Socioeconomic Description

1. Will the proposed project impact Health/Education Facilities?

Yes or No

Explain: _____

2. Will the proposed project impact Emergency Service Providers?

Yes or No

Explain: _____

3. Will the proposed project impact persons with disabilities, seniors, economically disadvantaged and other special populations?

Yes or No

Explain: _____

4. Will the proposed project impact Economic Activity?

Yes or No

Explain: _____

5. Will the proposed project impact Public Utilities?

Yes or No

Explain: _____

6. Will the proposed project impact Local Tax Base?

Yes or No

Explain: _____

7. Will the proposed project impact Residential Areas?

Yes or No

Explain: _____

FIXED CRITERIA

- Most recent grant award (No response required for this section).
2009 or earlier - 10 points
2010 – 5 points
2011 – 0 points
- Grant Administration and Project Maintenance History
(No response required for this section).
0 – 25 points
- Project Readiness (Complete Project Description Sheet).
0 – 25 points

PROJECT CRITERIA

Please provide a written proposal that thoroughly answers each question as it pertains to your project in the order presented in the following outline. Projects will be rated on the information that you provide. Include as much supporting documentation as you deem necessary to convey to the graders that your project is needed, that it is supported by the general public, that it has been thoroughly planned, that adequate resources are available to execute the project and that resources are available to adequately maintain the project upon completion. Organize your documentation in a manner that is easily referenced (Notebook with tabs, etc.)

1. What is the primary purpose of your project (check only one box)?
 - New trail construction. **30 points**
 - Maintenance and restoration of existing trails. **20 points**
 - Support facilities such as restrooms, benches, signage, trailhead parking and lighting. **10 points**
2. 0 - 10 points
How is the project consistent with the SC Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (SCORP), SC State Trails Plan, State or any Metropolitan Transportation Improvement Programs, city, county, regional plan or the applicant's general plan? Please provide site specific documentation of how your trail project will implement the plan(s).
3. 0 – 10 points
How will the project connect or complement other trails or result in the development of trail linkages?
4. 0 – 10 points
Are there cultural, historical, geographical, or scenic points of interest that contribute to the project?
5. 0 - 10 points
Describe how the project provides for diversified recreational uses and/or trail corridor sharing.
6. 0 – 10 points
Describe the measures employed in the design of the trail that ensures the sustainability of the trail and minimizes negative environmental impacts.
7. 0 – 10 points
Describe how the trail will be managed. Include discussion on season length, hours of operation, limitations on use, enforcement provisions, scheduling, safety and educational activities.
8. 0 – 10 points
Describe the degree of commitment to continue operation and maintenance of the project. Include an operations and maintenance plan detailing the annual estimated cost of operating and maintaining the trail. Identify who will incur the cost and who will be responsible for the work.

9. Describe when your mandatory **advertised public meeting** was held solely for the purpose of discussing the proposed project. Attach a copy of proof of publication for the advertisement. Meeting must be for the **sole purpose** of discussing **the project proposed in this application**. The advertisement should indicate that the purpose of the meeting is to discuss this RTP grant for this project site. Meeting must be advertised according to community/agency requirements, and at a minimum of 72 hours prior to date and time of meeting. Include proof of date and time advertised. Meetings may not be held on day of application submittal.

- Yes, a current advertised public meeting was held. **10 points**
- No, a current advertised public meeting was not held. **0 points**

10. 0 – 10 points

Describe in detail and thoroughly document how this project involves interagency cooperation, public/private partnerships and volunteer services. Provide the roles, responsibilities or financial contributions of each cooperator, partner and volunteer group.

11. 0 – 5 points

Describe the lack of similar trail opportunities in the surrounding area.

12. 0 – 5 points

Describe how the project will facilitate access to and use of trails by persons with disabilities.

13. 0 – 5 points

Describe how the project will facilitate access to and use of trails by seniors.

14. 0 – 5 points

Describe how the project will facilitate access to and use of trails by economically disadvantaged people.

SPECIAL PRIORITY – MOTORIZED PROJECTS ONLY

15. Use up to 1 page to describe the project and how it relates to the special priority section. 0 – 25 points

- Acquisition of land that will provide mileage for motorized trails will receive up to 25 additional points.
- Development projects that will provide new motorized trails will be eligible for up to 25 additional points.
- Rehabilitation or maintenance projects that are necessary to keep a motorized trail open will be eligible for up to 10 additional points.

LAND OWNER/MANAGER APPROVAL

As the official responsible for management of the land or land owner on which the project will be accomplished, I agree to the following:

- 1. The trail project or facility will remain accessible for public use for not less than 25 years.
- 2. The project as described in this application has my approval.
- 3. If this project is located on federal lands, the project is in compliance with the all applicable laws, including the National Environmental Policy Act, The Forest and Rangeland Renewable Resources Planning Act, and the Federal Land Policy and Management Act.

Signature

Title

Printed Name

Date

*Please note: Grant may not be awarded without proper permission from the property owner(s).

CERTIFICATION

I certify that the information provided in this application is complete and accurate. I understand this application will be rated on the basis of the information submitted and the submission of incorrect data or an incomplete application can result in this application being withdrawn from consideration for funding.

I certify the sponsor will comply with all applicable local, state and federal laws and regulations.

I certify the availability resources required to complete this project as represented in this application.

I certify the sponsor has the ability and intent to provide for long term management, maintenance and operation of the project.

I further certify that I have the authority to apply for this grant on behalf of the project sponsor.

Signature of Authorized Representative

Title

Printed Name

Date

Signature of Project Contact

Title

Printed Name

Date