

Capital Project Request

2017-19 Biennium

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Version: BD 17-19 Capital Budget

Report Number: CBS002

Date Run: 9/8/2016 11:33AM

Project Number: 30000411

Project Title: Nonhighway Off-Road Vehicle Activities

Description

Starting Fiscal Year: 2018

Project Class: Grant

Agency Priority: 15

Project Summary

The purpose of the Nonhighway and Off-Road Vehicle Activities (NOVA) program is to provide grants to develop and manage recreation opportunities for hikers, equestrians, off-road vehicles, bicyclists, hunters, and other users of nonhighway roads. It provides greater opportunity for outdoor recreation experiences, bringing more kids and adults outdoors. The funded projects are intended to satisfy user needs, be environmentally responsible, and minimize conflict between user groups. The projects funded by NOVA grants have contributed significantly to the \$20.5 billion in outdoor recreation economy in Washington state. The grants are funded from the NOVA Account, which in turn is funded by 1% of the state gasoline tax revenue (the amount attributable to nonhighway use) and by off-road vehicle permit fees (RCW 46.09).

Project Description

Provide grants to develop and manage recreation opportunities for users of nonhighway roads (including hikers, equestrians, off-road vehicles, bicyclists, hunters, and other users of nonhighway roads). Nonhighway roads are those roads not supported by state fuel taxes.

Eligible Grant Recipients:

* Local governments: cities, towns, counties, and special purpose districts (ports, park, and school districts);

* State agencies;

* Tribal governments; and

* Federal agencies (Forest Service, Park Service).

The request supports IT related activities only to the extent that RCO uses a portion of its administrative funds to support its IT infrastructure and PRISM project database. All larger IT enhancements follow the OCIO review process.

Eligible Projects: Trails, trail heads, parking lots and other related capital improvements, planning, maintenance and operation, and education and enforcement, including noise enforcement.

RCO's mission is to work with others to protect and improve the best of Washington's natural and recreational resources, enhancing the quality of life for current and future generations. This request is in direct alignment with the agency's mission and helps Washington meet recreation needs identified in the state's 2013 State Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan and the goals in the state's 2013-2018 Washington State Nonhighway and Off-road Vehicles Activities (NOVA) Plan. It also supports the strategic direction of the Recreation and Conservation Funding Board.

Revenue Source: The portion of the motor vehicle gasoline tax attributed to off-road, nonhighway road use by motorized vehicles and a portion of ORV permit fees.

Location

City: Statewide

County: Statewide

Legislative District: 098

Project Type

Grants

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Grant Recipient Organization: See project description for full list of eligible recipients

RCW that establishes grant: RCW 79A.25

Application process used

Funding is divided by formulas established in statute: Up to 30% for education and enforcement and at least 70% for NOVA recreation facilities. Of the 70% portion, at least 30% of the funds are allocated for ORV facilities, at least 30% are allocated for nonmotorized facilities, and at least 30% are allocated for nonhighway road facilities. Revenue from ORV permit fees may only be used in the ORV category. Grant applications are evaluated in a competitive process by an advisory committee of hiking, equestrian, off-road vehicle recreationists, bicycling and other outdoor recreation representatives. Criteria adopted by the Recreation and Conservation Funding Board (board) are used in the evaluation process. Final prioritized lists are approved by the board.

Growth Management impacts

GMA is considered for this program through the adopted criteria used for project evaluation.

Funding

Acct Code	Account Title	Estimated Total	Expenditures		2017-19 Fiscal Period	
			Prior Biennium	Current Biennium	Reapprops	New Approps
268-1	NOVA-State	65,995,000				13,195,000
	Total	65,995,000	0	0	0	13,195,000
Future Fiscal Periods						
		2019-21	2021-23	2023-25	2025-27	
268-1	NOVA-State	13,200,000	13,200,000	13,200,000	13,200,000	
	Total	13,200,000	13,200,000	13,200,000	13,200,000	

Operating Impacts

No Operating Impact

Narrative

This is a pass through grant program.