

## GRANT APPLICATION FORM

**\*NOTE: EVERY QUESTION MUST BE ANSWERED IN ORDER FOR THE APPLICATION TO BE CONSIDERED FOR FUNDING. USE N/A WHERE APPLICABLE.**

### PROJECT

**Project Name:** Phase II of the Desert View Conservation Area (DVCA) Recreational Trails Project

**If applicable, what is the Native American name of your project site?** N/A

### Brief Project Summary (one paragraph):

The County of San Bernardino Recreation and Park District in Joshua Tree, California, manages 600 acres of undeveloped desert biome which is designated as Resource Conservation. The County purchased area known as the Desert View Conservation Area (DVCA) from the Bureau of Land Management with the intent of developing it as a regional recreational park. Located between two mountain ranges, the DVCA is home to desert tortoises, big horn sheep, coyotes, cougars, as well as various birds, rodents, and reptiles. Joshua Tree National Park brings more than 1.2 million visitors annually to this area. Activities include hiking, horseback riding, picnicking, and other relatively low-impact activities. The County implemented Phase I of DVCA improvements (construction completed in June 2020) included an entry gate and signage, staging area with shelter, kiosk, restroom, and defined parking areas, which have assisted in keeping visitors on designated trails and eliminating trail-blazing and other illegal activities. Funding is needed for Phase II of the Project, which would include two discovery shelters and a viewing platform to enhance educational opportunities; new barriers, such as boulders or fencing, to prevent visitors from illegally entering and driving through sensitive species areas; and trail manicuring to improve accessibility (including signage). Funding is being sought for implementation (design and construction), as CEQA was addressed for the full Project prior to construction of Phase I. The schedule mentioned in this application is tentative and was estimated based on when funding is expected to become available.

**Total cost (round up to nearest \$1,000):** \$2,000,000

**Amount requested from WCB (round up to nearest \$1,000):** \$2,000,000

**Start date:** 9/1/2023 (pending availability of funds and execution of funding agreement)

**End date:** 9/1/2025 (pending availability of funds and execution of funding agreement)

**Project type (select one):** Implementation

### APPLICANT

**Organization name:** San Bernardino County Special Districts

**Organization type:** Local Government

**Primary applicant contact name and title:** Frank Haggard, Regional Manager

**Phone:** (760) 366-8415

**E-mail address:** fhaggard@sdd.sbcounty.gov

**Mailing address:** 6171 Sunburst Avenue, Joshua Tree, CA 92252

**Signatory Name and Title:** Brendon Biggs, Director of Public Works

### **LANDOWNER**

**Organization type:** Local Government

**Primary landowner contact name and title:** San Bernardino County Special Districts

**Phone:** (760) 366-8415

**E-mail address:** fhaggard@sdd.sbcounty.gov

**Signatory Name and Title:** Brendon Biggs, Director of Public Works

**Signatory Address:** 825 E. Third Street, San Bernardino, CA 92415

**Signatory Email:** bbiggs@dpw.sbcounty.gov

### **STATE ELECTED OFFICIALS**

**Assembly District Number and Representative** (<https://www.assembly.ca.gov/>): District 47 and Greg Walls

**Senate District Number and Representative** (<https://www.senate.ca.gov/>): District 12 and Shannon Grove

### **LOCATION**

**Briefly describe the project location. Identify any previous WCB projects that you are aware of on the site, property or nearby. Describe historic and current land uses.**

- **County(ies):** San Bernardino
- **Nearest City and Distance To:** Joshua Tree (census designated place) – project is about ¼-mile east of Joshua Tree, closer to the southern limit.
- **Specific Location (APN or Address):** 62539 Onaga Trail, Joshua Tree, CA 92252  
Parcels: 0589321730000, 0589311250000
- **Latitude (Decimal Degrees):** 34.11259
- **Longitude (Decimal Degrees):** -116.29679
- **What is represented by the lat/long coordinates (e.g., center of project site)?:**  
Intersection of Onaga Trail and Larkspur Avenue (main searchable intersection within DVCA)

### **BOARD MEETING DATES**

Projects must meet readiness standards in order to be considered for funding approval at a board meeting (e.g., CEQA documents must be completed no less than 15 days prior to the board meeting where funding approval may be considered).

Use the following drop-down lists to select which board meeting dates are feasible, not feasible, and preferred from the applicant's perspective. Note: WCB requires a minimum of three months for due diligence prior to taking any item to the Board.

- February: Not Feasible (next February is feasible, but far away)
- May: Feasible (if grantors complete their review)
- August: Preferred
- November: Feasible

## PURPOSE AND NEED

### **1. Describe the specific problems (current conditions, limiting factors, etc.), issues, or unserved needs the project will address.**

San Bernardino County Special Districts (SBC SDD), under San Bernardino County Public Works, manages County Service Area 20 – Joshua Tree, which includes the Desert View Conservation Area (DVCA). The DVCA is located on Onaga Trail, which connects to Quail Springs Road south of the Twentynine Palms Highway and Alta Loma Drive. DVCA is adjacent to the census designated place of Joshua Tree and the Joshua Tree National Park. Funding is needed to implement Phase II of the DVCA Recreational Trails Project (Project), where implementation funds will cover design and construction. The Project was initially comprised of both Phase I and Phase II but due to funding limitations only Phase I was completed in 2020.

Prior to Phase I implementation, the site was purchased to create a recreational park to address unwanted trail blazing and improper use of the site. Meetings were held with the community to discuss planned improvements, at which time the community expressed greater interest in a conservation area as compared to a recreational park. SBC SDD then moved forward with plans to convert this space into a conservation area. Due to limited funding, only a portion of the Project was constructed, which improved use of the site, while there are still problems that need to be addressed.

Phase II is needed to further protect the existing habitat and sensitive species while improving recreation and educational opportunities. The DVCA Recreational Trails still suffers from illegal shooting, dumping, campfires, overnight camping, and poaching of resources. Sections of the site are currently blocked off with temporary orange fencing to keep people out of sensitive habitat areas. The Project will include permanent barriers to better protect existing habitats. Based on the Hi-Desert Star, a local newspaper, the area was cited for animal abuse of the desert tortoise. Visitors purposely abused the desert tortoise which resulted in the animal's death. This Project is needed because the DVCA is a natural asset that lacks park amenities to protect biodiversity/fragile habitat areas and educate visitors. The educational components of the Project will help educate visitors on the importance of the sensitive inhabitants.

The local community consists of disadvantaged community areas, which could use extra funding and amenities. The DVCA receives over 1.2 million visitors annually due to the proximity to Joshua Tree National Park, meaning a large group of people from all over the country, and even the world, would benefit from Project improvements. SBC SDD conducted community outreach and engagement for this Project. The community indicated they felt it was very important to complete the Project and meet the goals summarized above. The success of Phase I of the Project serves as another reason why these improvements are needed in the Joshua Tree area.

### **2. Describe the goals and objectives, quantify expected outcomes and benefits of the project. Be specific.**

The goals of Phase II are to install additional informational kiosks to improve public education and promote partnerships with local user groups; increase management

strategies for the preservation of sensitive habitat by installing boulders, barriers, and signage along vehicle routes to keep visitors out of sensitive areas; install additional amenities that support outdoor recreation, such as kiosks, interpretive panels, viewing platforms, and rest areas; and trail manicuring to improve accessibility and keep visitors on designated trails (including updated signage, boulders, and trail delineators). The general goal is to improve the public space to better protect existing habitats while improving recreational and educational opportunities. Based on the goals, the anticipated outcomes include more accessible trails and recreational amenities, improved educational opportunities, increased opportunities to foster partnerships with local user groups, and enhanced protection of sensitive habitat and species. The benefits are quantified further under Question 4 below. The Project will provide several benefits that align with the Wildlife Conservation Board's (WCB's) Strategic Plan goals, including protecting/enhancing biodiversity and enhancing public access that are further detailed in Question 8.

**3. What would happen to the project if no funds were available from WCB? What project opportunities or benefits could be lost if the project is not implemented?**

If no funds were available from WCB, SBC SDD will continue to research and apply for relevant grants. If the Project is not implemented, all benefits described above could be lost or delayed until funding is secured. Enhancing educational opportunities, improving recreational amenities, preventing visitors from illegally entering and driving through sensitive species areas, and trail manicuring to improve accessibility could be lost or delayed if the Project is not implemented.

**APPROACH**

**4. Thoroughly describe the full project, the scientific merit of the approach, use of best available science, and methodologies and technologies to be used.**

SBC SDD is implementing the Project, a multi-benefit project that will provide several benefits that align with the WCB's Strategic Plan goals, including protecting/enhancing biodiversity and enhancing public access. Refer to Question 8 for further details on how the Project aligns with WCB's Strategic Plan goals. SBC SDD identified trail improvements within DVCA, which are expected to include up to (3) miles of trails which will be manicured, including Bighorn Sheep Trail (2.5 miles) and Tortoise Loop Trail (0.6 miles). The Project includes the following:

- Two discovery shelters: the Native American Discovery Shelter (with a parking area) and Creosote Habitat Discovery Shelter. The discovery shelters will serve as information pavilions.
- One overlook area, a steel structure with deck, referred to as the Rock View Overlook Vista.
- Educational signage to make visitors more aware of their role in preserving natural resources incorporated into the discovery shelters (quantities below are preliminary estimates).
  - (3) Native American Discovery Shelter Interpretive Panels (30'x42')
  - (3) Creosote Habitat Interpretive Panels (30'x42')
  - (6) Slogan and Environmental Awareness Panels
  - (1) Big Horn Sheep Interpretive Panel (30'x42')
  - (1) Geological Features Interpretive Panels (30'x42')
  - (1) Reptile Interpretive Panel (30'x42')

- (2) Rock Outcrop Interpretive Panels (30'x42')
- Picnic shelters, benches, and tables will be installed at the shelters and viewing area.
  - (1) 10-foot picnic tables
  - (1) 14-foot round concrete table
  - (8) concrete benches
  - (3) animal proof trash receptacles
  - (3) animal proof recycle receptacles
- 1,000-linear feet of Boulder/Cable Barrier near DVCA entrance, such as boulders or fencing, to protect sensitive habitat and prevent visitors from illegally entering and driving through sensitive species areas.
- Trail manicuring to improve accessibility (including signage and trail delineators)
  - (1) Trail Directional Signage
  - (4) Trailside Information Kiosk with Roof and Bench
  - Animal Print Stepping Stone along Tortoise Trail
  - (10) Steel Wayfinding Markers
  - (10) Steel Mile Posts

The discovery shelters and overlook area will provide platforms for people to connect to the natural world around them. The elevated platforms will include stairs, rails, and integrated seating. Permanent binoculars will be integrated to allow people to get closer to nature without impacting sensitive species and areas. Interpretive Panels will be installed in these areas and will provide information on the native plants and animals that can be found in the DVCA, along with historical Native American usage of this site or similar areas. The interpretive panels will also include descriptions of views and highlights of geographical formations. The proposed improvements were determined through a series of community outreach. The community shared what they wanted to see at the site, which was ultimately evaluated by SBC SDD and included in preliminary plans.

**5. Describe the actions required to solve the identified problem(s).**

The Project will entail the following tasks: Project Management and Administration, Survey/Mapping, Engineering Design Plans/Specifications/Estimates, Monitoring Plan, Administering the Bid and Award Process, Construction Engineering Support Services, Construction, and Grant Reporting. The tasks are further detailed in the Work Plan Attachment.

The Project's construction elements will solve the problems identified in the response to Question 1 by providing the following: protecting the existing habitat and sensitive species with new permanent barriers, improve recreation and educational opportunities with new features and educational panels, eliminate/reduce trail-blazing through sensitive habitat with new signage and barriers, and eliminate/reduce other illegal activities that negatively impact environmentally sensitive species with improved wayfinding signs and delineators.

**6. Provide a description of how the data and other information generated from the project will be handled, stored, and made publicly available.**

SBC SDD Parks and Recreation will be responsible for handling and storing data and other information about the Project. SBC SDD's selected consultant(s) will provide CAD files, reports, and pdf files related to the Project to SBC SDD. SBC SDD has their own internal



server system to maintain the data for storage. SBC SDD's website has a parks and recreation webpage for DVCA. DVCA Phase II documentation can be uploaded there for the public to view. Information on the proposed improvements will be made publicly available during the design/construction phase.

**7. Provide a detailed workplan as an attachment.**

**CONSISTENCY WITH STATE, FEDERAL, REGIONAL AND LOCAL PLANS**

**8. Identify and discuss how the proposed project meets the specific goals, strategic initiatives, and objectives outlined in the [WCB Strategic Plan](#).**

The 2014 WCB's Strategic Plan guides WCB's activities and includes goals, strategic initiatives, and objectives. The Plan has been updated for 2019-2024 to define prioritized objectives clearly, while it still relies on the 2014 Strategic Plan for the fundamentals. The Project meets all goals of the Strategic Plan and meets most Strategic Initiatives (SI) except SI 6 and SI 8, as is demonstrated in **Table 1**. The table below summarizes applicable goals, strategic initiatives, and objectives identified in the Strategic Plan and additional discussion is included below the table. Refer to 2014 WCB's Strategic Plan for further definitions of each goal, strategic initiative, and objective.

**Table 1 Summary of Project Contributions to WCB's Strategic Plan**

<b>WCB's Strategic Plan</b>		
<b>Goals</b>		
A. Environmental Protection and Conservation		
B. Environmental Restoration and Enhancement		
C. Public Use and Recreation		
D. Public Awareness and Education		
E. Fiscal and Organizational Effectiveness		
<b>Strategic Initiative and Objectives</b>		
<b>Strategic Initiative</b>	<b>Goals</b>	<b>Applicable Objective</b>
SI 1: Climate Change Adaption, Resiliency, and Mitigation	A, B, C	SI 1.3
SI 2: Biodiversity Actions	A, B	SI 2.2, SI 2.4
SI 3: Public Access and Wildlife-Oriented Recreation	C	SI 3.1, SI 3.4
SI 4: Ecosystem Services	A, B, D	SI 4.3
SI 5: Partnerships	A, B, C, D	SI 5.2
SI 7: Natural Resource Conservation Leadership	D, E	SI 7.1, SI 7.5

DVCA Phase II meets SI 1: Climate Change Adaption, Resiliency, and Mitigation, specifically objective SI 1.3 which supports Goals A, B, and C. Objective SI 1.3 states: "Ensure 40 percent of all acquisition and restoration projects are in areas identified as habitat for vulnerable species or as highly resilient to climate change." The Project aids WCB in the objective, as the Project is within an area identified as sensitive habitat, specifically for the desert tortoise. The DVCA is comprised of 605 acres of undeveloped desert biome and as previously mentioned, is home to desert tortoises, big horn sheep, coyotes, and cougars, as well as various birds, rodents, and reptiles. More than 20 stressors affecting tortoise populations have been identified, and the cause of their decline has been the cumulative impact of human-related activities. The Project's boulders, barriers, signage along vehicle routes, and trail amenities (trail manicuring and trail

delineators) establish boundaries for the vulnerable species to be observed at a safe distance and to keep visitors out of sensitive areas.

The Project meets SI 2: Biodiversity Actions, specifically objectives SI 2.2 and SI 2.4 which supports Goals A, and B. Objective SI 2.2 states “Each year, invest in at least three acquisitions and two restoration grants that advance habitat and natural and natural community targets embodied in [other] conservation plans.” Objective SI2.4 states “Ensure 75 percent of all approved projects meet one or more conservation priorities expressed in the [State Wildlife Action Plan (SWAP)].” The Project meets Objective SI 2.2, as it involves restoration grant to advance habitat and natural targets embodied in 2018 San Bernardino County Regional Conservation Investment Strategy (a conservation plan). The DVCA is home to desert tortoises, big horn sheep, coyotes, cougars, as well as various birds, rodents, and reptiles. The proposed improvements, i.e. the designated barriers and enhanced trail components, will conserve the habitat and reduce the threat of habitat loss. The Project aids WCB in the objective of meeting one or more of the conservation priorities expressed in the SWAP. The response to Question 10 includes additional details on how the Project meets the Statewide Action Plan goals.

The Project meets SI 3: Public Access and Wildlife-Oriented Recreation, specifically objectives SI 3.1 and SI 3.4 which both support Goal C. Objective SI 3.1 states “Invest in at least five projects providing public access for disadvantaged or severely disadvantaged communities.” Objective SI 3.4 states “Invest in at least 10 projects that have a primary or secondary purpose of non-consumptive wildlife recreation, such as bird watching or hiking.” The Project area is within a disadvantaged community (DAC) and the improvements will directly benefit the DAC. The DVCA's recreational activities are non-consumptive as they include hiking, picnicking, and bird watching.

The Project meets SI 4: Ecosystem Services, specifically objective SI 4.3 which supports Goals A, B, and D. Objective SI 4.3 states “Invest in at least five projects that provide tangible ecosystem services benefits to local lower watershed (urban or rural) communities and document that benefit.” Ecosystem services are benefits that humans gain from the natural environment and properly functioning ecosystems. The Project helps protect vulnerable species, making them available for humans to watch and learn from. The area provides non consumptive recreation activities such as horseback riding, bird watching, and hiking, which are also considered ecosystem services.

The Project meets SI 5: Partnerships, specifically objective SI 5.2 which supports Goals A, B, C, and D. Objective SI 5.2 states “Conduct outreach, including meetings or field visits to five new partners per year.” The Project can aid WCB in objective SI 5.2 by conducting outreach, meetings, and field visits to DVCA, as SBC SDD would be considered a new partner. Refer to Question 22 for the Project's community support and collaboration efforts. The Project has included outreach activities with the federal government, state government, Native American tribes, and local stakeholders.

The Project meets SI 7: Natural Resource Conservation Leadership, specifically objectives SI 7.1 and SI 7.5, which supports Goals D and E. Objective SI 7.1 states “Take the lead to coordinate among the state conservancies and other agencies regarding habitat-based priorities for upcoming competitive grant solicitations.” Objective SI 7.5 states “Refine priority conservation areas for each WCB program (consistent with overall WCB goals), and report progress toward program-specific goals annually or biannually.” The Project can aid WCB in the objective SI 7.1, as WCB can coordinate with agencies (SBC SDD) and others related to the habitat protection provided by the Project. Objective SI 7.5 can also be met, as the Project is consistent with WCB goals, specifically for conservation areas such as the DVCA.



9. **How does your project support the State's Pathway's to 30x30 strategy**  
[\(https://www.californianature.ca.gov/\)](https://www.californianature.ca.gov/)?

California's 30x30 Strategy includes conserving 30 percent of the State's land and coastal waters by 2030. The State has defined 10 Pathways to achieve the strategy. The Project aligns with several pathways as demonstrated in **Table 2**. The table below summarizes applicable pathways identified in the State's 30x30 Strategy and how the Project's improvements contribute to them.

**Table 2 Summary of Project Contributions to 30x30 Strategy Pathways**

State's Pathway's to 30x30 Strategy	How Project Contributes to Goal
Accelerate Regionally Led Conservation	<p>The Project Phase II improvements enhance public access to the DVCA. The proposed information pavilions will be a tool for visitors to become better stewards of the area. Informational panels will focus on the sensitive species and tribal connections of the area.</p> <p>SBC SDD performed outreach to involve the community and provide a platform for collaboration, which included surveys, letters of support, and public meetings. Community support and collaboration efforts are further detailed in Question 22 and consultation efforts with California Native American tribes are detailed in Question 26.</p>
Enhance Conservation of Existing Public Lands and Coastal Waters	<p>SBC SDD sought funding opportunities to fund SBC SDD projects geared toward protecting/enhancing biodiversity and enhancing public access. The Project will provide more permanent boundaries between visitors and wildlife to allow for safe interactions without damaging the wildlife habitat.</p> <p>As SBC SDD manages the DVCA as part of County Service Area 20, which was specifically formed to manage and operate conservation lands. SBC SDD is authorized under California law and formed by the Board of Supervisors to provide municipal-type services, capital improvements and financial planning and management. Refer to the Management Plan attachment for further details on SBC SDD existing monitoring and maintenance practices.</p>
Expand and Accelerate Environmental Restoration and Stewardship	<p>The problems with the DVCA prior to DVCA Phase I and Phase II improvement are further detailed in Question 1. DVCA Phase II improvements are further detailed in Questions 2, 4, and 5. As described throughout this application, the Project expands environmental restoration efforts by providing better protection for sensitive species.</p> <p>The consultation that occurred with California Native American tribes is further detailed in Question 26. The results of the collaboration with the tribes are further detailed in Question 22 and Question 26.</p>
Strengthen Coordination Among Governments	<p>Refer to Accelerate Regionally Led Conservation section and Expand and Accelerate Environmental Restoration and Stewardship section for California Native American Tribes' involvement with the Project. Additionally, the Project received funding for Phase I from the Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF), a federal program. SBC SDD has coordinated with several local, regional, and federal governments as part of Project implementation.</p>



State's Pathway's to 30x30 Strategy	How Project Contributes to Goal
Align Investments to Maximize Conservation Benefits	SBC SDD is seeking diverse funding for the Project. Phase I utilized federal funding from the LWCF and now state funding is being sought. Leveraging funding results in maximized benefits that revolve around conservation for this Project.
Evaluate Conservation Outcomes and Adaptively Manage	Refer to Enhance Conservation of Existing Public Lands and Coastal Waters Section on SBC SDD current conservation areas and easements data. Community support and collaboration efforts are further detailed in Question 22 and California Native American tribes' consultation efforts are detailed in Question 26. SBC SDD adaptively manages the conservation area, such that improvements address current challenges/problems.

**10. Describe ecosystem benefits, such as restoration or enhancement of rare species habitats, or the protection of priority vegetative communities (macrogroups) identified in the [State Wildlife Action Plan](#) and/or [CDFW's Areas of Conservation Emphasis](#). Describe those benefits and how they alleviate existing ecological problems.**

Based on **Table 4**, DVCA ranks the highest for species biodiversity, ecoregion native species, and ecoregion native species. These rankings indicate the Project area is rich in native species, climate vulnerable species, rare species, and irreplaceability for birds, amphibians, plants, mammals, and reptiles. DVCA also has a high-count of native plants, native vertebrae, native birds, and native reptile count. The Project provides ecosystem benefits identified in CDFW's Areas of Conservation Emphasis which include enhancement and protection of rare species habitats and vegetative communities. Refer to Question 15b for further details on how the Project's improvements enhance and protect rare species habitats and vegetative community.

Based on the 2015 State Wildlife Action Plan (SWAP), the Project meets goals 1.3, 1.4, 2.2, and 3.1 that correlate to ecosystem benefits (included in Executive Summary of SWAP). The Project meets the following:

- Goal 1.3 and 1.4: Sustains and enhances native species abundance and diversity and ecosystem diversity.
- Goal 2.2: Maintain and improve community structure and composition vital for sustaining ecosystems.
- Goal 3.1: Maintain or improve succession dynamics vital for sustaining ecosystems.

As described throughout the application, Project improvements will include permanent barriers, wayfinding signage, and other educational content that will better protect sensitive species and habitats by keeping people outside of sensitive areas. The trail manicuring and trail amenities are in areas that have already been impacted by public use and these allow people to observe the ecosystem from a distance. The Project will not further encroach on sensitive habitat.

**11. Identify any key plan(s) that the proposed project supports or will help achieve its goals. For example, [Central Valley Joint Venture 2020 Implementation Plan](#), [2008 American River Parkway Plan](#), [State Wildlife Action Plan](#), etc.**

The proposed project supports/help achieve the goals of the following key plans: State Wildlife Action Plan, WCB's Strategic Plan, 2018 San Bernardino County Regional

#### DURABILITY AND CLIMATE RESILIENCY

**12. Describe how the proposed project will deliver enduring sustainable benefits.**

Through established trail signs, delineators, and boundaries, the Project will prevent unauthorized shooting, poaching of resources, camping, fires, dumping, and off road vehicle use on sensitive habitat. Due to the proposed park amenities, visitors will stay on the suggested path of travel and further prevent harm to the wildlife habitats. Phase II will provide protected spaces for Desert tortoise, wildlife, and wildlife resources to grow and flourish. The viewing platforms will provide visitors opportunities to learn and observe the local wildlife from a safe distance. The educational opportunities will improve local stewardship of the wildlife and habitat of the area. Visitors will be able to learn and understand the human impact on wildlife and their habitats and mitigate that moving forward. The educational amenities and trail boundaries will foster wildlife conservation awareness, appreciation, and knowledge.

**13. Describe the provisions to maintain the benefits and how long management and maintenance activities will occur. Implementation grants shall require a long-term management plan of the grantee to maintain the improvements for typically 20-25 years.**

SBC SDD is dedicated to maintaining the benefits of the DVCA Recreational Trails, which involves the use of maintenance staff and volunteers. SBC SDD maintenance staff are currently responsible for opening and closing gates daily, ongoing maintenance, and janitorial support for the Project site/restroom. SBC SDD also has a group of local volunteers that are responsible for reporting abuses and providing education to visitors in the area. Currently, the Park and Recreation District's budget provides funding for the maintenance staff. SBC SDD will develop a 20-25-year maintenance program in accordance with funding program requirements.

The Scope of Work included with this application includes a long-term management plan to maintain the improvements for a minimum of 20-25 years, as required by the funding program.

**14. For projects involving restoration or construction, describe a plan for monitoring, evaluating, and reporting project effectiveness. Describe the adaptive management strategies (compiling baseline data, adaptive management strategies, documentation, etc.), if applicable. Who will be responsible for funding and implementing on-going management and monitoring? For planning projects, does the project include development of monitoring and metrics for project success?**

SBC SDD will perform monitoring as required by applicable funding programs. Typically, volunteers and maintenance crews visit the site and note any damage or impacts that could assess habitat. SBC SDD could monitor the frequency of these reports before and after implementation to demonstrate the effectiveness of improvements. During and after construction, SBC SDD could monitor for species, specifically the desert tortoise, to confirm the effectiveness of the Project at protecting species. The site will be adaptively managed based on observations made and findings during and after Project implementation.

For construction activities outside of the Desert Tortoise hibernation period, SBC SDD will hire a biologist to monitor construction activities on the site (as required). SBC SDD hired ECORP Consulting, Inc., a private environmental consulting firm, for biological monitoring during construction of Phase I of the Project. The hibernation period of the Desert Tortoise occurs between October to February. CEQA documents filed for the Project area include additional monitoring requirements.

Park and Recreation District's budget will provide funding and implementing on-going management and monitoring. The funding request included in this application may also cover portions of the monitoring, specifically what is required as part of the funding agreement.

**15. Describe how the proposed project will provide habitat and/or species resilience to climate change:**

a) What are the projected climate impacts? Tools such as [CalAdapt](#) and the Department of Fish and Wildlife's [Areas of Conservation Emphasis](#) can aid in identifying climate vulnerabilities and potential resilience in the project area.

California's overall temperature is expected to rise in the next century, the steady rising temperature has already impacted communities and ecosystems. Cal Adapt's Local Climate Change Report summary demonstrated in **Table 3** and Department of Fish and Wildlife's Areas of Conservation Emphasis summary are included in **Table 4**.

**Table 3 Local Climate Change Summary based on Cal Adapt**

Metric	Quantification
Annual Average Maximum Temperature	96°F
Extreme Heat Days above 107°F	140 Days
Annual Average Minimum Temperature	62°F
Warm Nights above 74.2°F	110 Days
Maximum Daily Precipitation	5 inches
Maximum Length of Dry Spell	350 Days
Standardized Precipitation-Evapotranspiration Index (SPEI) <=-1 <sup>1</sup>	10 months (moderate in intensity)
Snow Water Equivalent (SWE) <sup>2</sup>	0 inches
Annual Precipitation	22 inches
Annual Average Burned <sup>3</sup>	50 acres
Keetch-Byram Drought Index (KBDI) > 600 <sup>4</sup>	350 Days

<sup>1</sup>SPEI, a multi-scalar drought index, detects, monitors, and analyzes droughts.

<sup>2</sup>SWE measures the amount of liquid water within snowpack.

<sup>3</sup>Average area burned measures the risk of the area burning in a year.

<sup>4</sup>KBDI measure how dry the soil and vegetative detritus is.

**Table 4 Areas of Conservation Emphasis Summary based on Department of Fish and Wildlife**

Metric (Rank 1-5, 5 is the highest)	Quantification
Species Biodiversity Rank	5
Ecoregion Native Species Rank	5
Statewide Native Species Rank	2
Ecoregion Rare Species Rank	4



<b>Metric (Rank 1-5, 5 is the highest)</b>	<b>Quantification</b>
Statewide Rare Species Rank	3
Ecoregion Irreplaceability Rank	3
Statewide Irreplaceability Rank	3
Native Vertebrate Count	160
Native Amphibian Count	2
Native Reptile Count	32
Native Bird Count	85
Native Mammal Count	41
Native Plant Count	976
Game Species Count	7
Climate Vulnerable Vertebrate Count	15
All Taxa Rare Count	5
Rare Reptile Count	1
Rare Bird Count	2
Rare Plant Count	2
All Taxa Endemic Count	2
Endemic Plant Count	2
Significant Terrestrial Habitat Rank	2
Number of Significant Terrestrial Habitats	1

The projected climate vulnerabilities are extreme heat and dry spells within the project area. The project area is ranked high for species biodiversity, ecoregion native species, and ecoregion rare species. The wildlife was quantified in the area, and it was found that the following wildlife populate the area: 976 native plant count, 160 native vertebrate count, 85 native bird count, and 32 native reptile count. The potential resilience in the area is that it is characterized as a desert biome and has native plants and wildlife acclimated to this type of climate already. The Project will better protect sensitive habitats, which is expected to have a positive impact on the environment and climate.

**b) How would the project address those impacts and provide long-term climate resilience?**

The Project addresses increasing climate temperature and provides long-term climate resilience by providing park amenities that will withstand the temperatures, protecting the sensitive wildlife of the area, and enhancing visitor's experience. The discovery shelters and picnic shelters will provide shade for visitors during their visit, allowing them to avoid extreme temperatures. The barriers near the DVCA area entrance will prevent access and damage to sensitive habitat areas. The barriers will stop the negative impacts the visitors have been inflicting on the site by preventing off-road trail blazing, dumping, campfires, and poaching of resources. Because of the delicate nature of the desert environment, motorized all-terrain vehicles and motorcycles are prohibited from use within the preserve. The trail manicuring, signage, and trail delineators on designated existing trails will prevent further impact to the surrounding terrain. The enhanced overlook area and discovery shelters will educate visitors and provide amenities to best view the animals safely. The improvement prevents further damage to the habitat and provides safety for the wildlife and provides comfortable amenities to visitors. Long-term



climate resilience of the Project also includes materials that are not heat absorbing nor heat retaining which will be delivered to the Project site and are to be incorporated in the Project's planned improvements of the site. These materials, i.e. asphalt, reduces heat island effect and improves the park's resilience to heat waves.

**c) Will there be net, long-term carbon sequestration benefits from the project, taking into consideration the carbon emissions from construction and vehicle miles traveled to the site for management and monitoring? How is this evaluated?**

Net long-term carbon sequestration benefits from the Project are at the simplest terms preserving what is existing in the Project site. The natural environment will grow safely once the designated barrier and trails have been implemented. From DVCA Phase I, when the COVID pandemic was at an all-time high the visitors to the site were minimal. This allowed natural species to come back to the area and repopulate for example baby tortoise were spotted by the SBC SDD staff during a site visit. The Project is not expected to have long-term carbon sequestration benefits, in that new trees and plants are not proposed, while preserving existing habitat could lead to long-term carbon sequestration benefits.

Carbon emissions during construction shall be limited to transportation of building materials to the site, which can be done by vehicle along Onaga trail with minimal impacts to the surrounding terrain.

**16. Are there any protections or restrictions affecting the project (e.g., utility easements, conservation easements, mineral rights, etc.)?**

A Deed Restriction will affect the Project based on funding received for Phase 1 of the Project from the Land and Water Conservation Fund. The Deed Restriction states that the entire site is to be used for recreational purposes only in perpetuity. The Deed Restriction, document number 2016-0338013, is provided. There are no other easements or rights that will restrict use of the site.

**PROJECT TEAM QUALIFICATIONS**

**17. Describe the project team's qualifications, experience, and capacity to perform the proposed tasks to complete the proposed project. Provide specific examples of similar projects completed to date.**

SBC SDD has successfully completed multiple projects with annual improvements valuing millions of dollars. Recent examples include, Big Bear Alpine Zoo, DVCA Recreational Trail Phase I, Ayala Park relocation, Bloomington, plus multiple roads projects, water and sanitation projects, dam projects, and other park projects. After the DVCA Phase I construction, DVCA Phase I received American Society of Landscape Architects' Merit award and National Association of Counties' 2021 Achievement award under cultural resource.

For Phase II, SBC SDD will hire a design consultant through a competitive process and the Construction Contractor will be selected through the bid and award process as the lowest bid. SBC SDD previously consulted with Architerria Design Group, Inc. for the design of Phase I improvements. The Project was successfully completed and award-winning. SBC SDD will follow a similar process in securing a consultant for Phase II improvements.

As previously mentioned, SBC SDD will hire a biologist to monitor construction activities on the site if construction occurs outside the hibernation period of the Desert Tortoise (as required). SBC SDD has previous experience with ECORP Consulting, Inc., a private environmental consulting firm, for biological monitoring for DVCA Phase I. SBC SDD will contract with a similar firm for Phase II, assuming monitoring is required. The biologist will monitor tortoise, resources, and the habitat to assess if the Contractor is managing the area and wildlife effectively.

#### PROJECT READINESS

**18. Are the environmental documents complete and all required State, federal and local permits for the projects obtained? If not, what is the anticipated date for completion.**

Environmental documents have been completed. There are no required State, federal, and local permits for the Project to obtain. The following reports were completed as part of the CEQA process:

- Final Initial Study, March 2015
- Cultural Resources Inventory
- Air Quality Assessment
- Desert Tortoise Survey
- Palaeontologic Study

**19. For implementation projects: is the project shovel-ready? If yes, describe. No, but almost.**

**For planning projects, will the planning project result in an implementation-ready project? If yes, describe.** Not applicable – seeking implementation (and planning) funds.

SBC SDD is seeking funding for planning and implementation. The project is not shovel-ready, while SBC SDD could move quickly based on the conceptual design plans already prepared for Phase II. Once survey/mapping, engineering design plans, specifications, estimate, and monitoring plan are finalized, implementation can occur. SBC SDD has been in discussions with design consultants, such that they can move forward once funding becomes available. Environmental documentation is complete, which will allow the Project to move quickly through the design phase. The Project does not require any environmental or regulatory permits in advance of construction.

**20. A CEQA determination is required prior to WCB approval. What is the status of CEQA for the proposed project? CEQA has been completed for the proposed Project.**

**a) If complete, what document was prepared?**

Provide the State Clearinghouse Number and a copy of the NOD or NOE, and associated CEQA document.

The State Clearinghouse Number is 201412048. The NOD and Final Initial Study and Mitigated Negative Declaration for the Desert View Conservation Area Trail Project are provided.

**b) If using a CEQA exemption, specify which exemption(s) apply and the basis for this determination.** Not Applicable.

- c) If CEQA is not complete, specify who is the “lead agency” under CEQA, status of the CEQA documents, what documents are under consideration, and when the documents will be submitted to the State Clearinghouse. Not Applicable.

For more information on CEQA, visit the [Governor's Office of Planning and Research CEQA](#) page.

21. Using the [WCB Budget template](#), provide a complete line-item budget for the proposed project. Submit budget electronically along with the application. Budget tasks should be consistent with the work plan tasks and sufficiently detailed to describe project costs. Ensure all tabs are completed including the cost share tab. Justification must be provided for costs to ensure that they are cost effective and appropriate to the work proposed. Budget document is included with the application.

#### COMMUNITY SUPPORT AND COLLABORATION

22. Does the project have broad-based public and institutional support, at the local, regional, or larger scale? Describe efforts to include stakeholders in project planning, design, outreach/education, implementation, monitoring, and maintenance.

The Project has broad-based public and institutional support at a larger scale. SBC SDD performed a recent Proposition 64 application process, where outreach was performed in the Project area. SBC SDD performed a survey of the local area and several non-profit organizations in the area provided letters of support. Federal government, state government, Native American tribes, and local stakeholders performed preliminary site visits. They provided input in project planning, development, and completion.

SBC SDD held multiple meetings with the public and the initial design team for the Project that involved the following topics: creating design elements that blended into the site, providing public education, and defining historic use of the site i.e.. Native American usage. An example of a historic use of the site are Native American Wiki-up huts that were used for design references for trail shelters. The trail names included Cahuilla language; the Cahuilla are a Native American tribe within the area. Trail signage was designed based on petroglyphs. As Phase II moves forward, SBC SDD will engage with the community and park users to let them know of upcoming improvements through meetings and mailers, as appropriate.

23. Is the Project Area in a Disadvantaged Community? Use the [DWR Disadvantaged Communities Mapping Tool](#). Select one Yes
24. Does the project benefit or serve severely disadvantaged communities? If yes, describe services and/or benefits provided.

The Project serves severely disadvantaged communities and the benefits the Project provides are summarized in **Table 5**.

**Table 5 Summary of DAC Benefits**

DAC Benefits	How the Project Applies
Provide Accessible Trails and Recreational Amenities	Project improvements include new permanent barriers, trail manicuring, and trail amenities, which will benefit DACs. The local communities will have access to the improved DVCA trails and recreational amenities, which can be used to improve health and wellness in the community.



DAC Benefits	How the Project Applies
Improved Educational Opportunities	<p>SBC SDD has made previous outreach and engagement efforts with the local school districts. The outreach and engagement efforts resulted in the local school districts great interest in coordinating, with SBC SDD, field trips to the site with local groups of students.</p> <p>The Project's several interpretative panels will be provided to make visitors more aware of their role in preserving natural resources. The panels will expand on the contrast between the way individuals can positively influence the environment versus how individuals negatively impact the environment and will encourage individuals to take care of their environment and not destroy it. The panels will aid visitors in participating in self-guided tours which highlight many of the various elements observed on site.</p> <p>The panels will provide information on the local desert flora and fauna, geology of interest, environmental concerns of a desert environment, historical uses by First Peoples (Native Americans) of the region, historic use by local ranchers and prospectors, and modern methods to conserve water resources in desert environments. Visitors will be able to view maps of the designated trails which would include information regarding the degree of difficulty and an estimate of the amount of time needed to walk the trail. The maps would also identify the various highlights and informational plaques found along each trail. The panels will provide graphic displays and detailed descriptions of each of the subjects addressed. Local DAC communities will benefit from increased educational opportunities.</p>
Increased Opportunities to Foster Partnerships with Local User Groups	<p>Information regarding how individuals can become more involved with the area animal rescue, composting and gardening groups, the Joshua Tree Community Association and area Clean Team (trash pick-up) will be provided within the interpretative panels.</p> <p>As previously mentioned, SBC SDD coordinates with a group of local volunteers for DVCA to provide services to visitors that include monitoring possible abuses on the site and providing education.</p> <p>Based on Community Support and Collaboration section, SBC SDD has fostered partnerships with the federal government, state government, Native American tribes, and local stakeholders for project planning, design, outreach, education, and implementation of DVCA Phase II.</p>
Enhanced Protection of Sensitive Habitat and Species	<p>The proposed improvements that include barriers, trail manicuring, and trail amenities will enhance protection of sensitive habitat and species. The barriers will limit access of off-road vehicles, campers, and poachers. The trail enhancements will not encroach on sensitive habitat as the established trails are in areas that have already been</p>



DAC Benefits	How the Project Applies
	impacted by public use. Local DAC communities will benefit from habitat protection, as they will be able to observe and learn from the preserved nature, especially since improvements will make it easier and safer to view and learn about these habitats.
Protect/Enhance Biodiversity and Enhance Public Access	The County of San Bernardino Recreation and Park District has a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with Mojave Land Trust for seed banking of sensitive flora. Local DAC communities will benefit from seed banking, as they will be able to conserve and provide access to diverse plant genetic resources that may go extinct due to climate and ecosystem changes. Additionally, see Enhanced Protection of Sensitive Habitat and Species response above.

**25. Will the project include work undertaken by the California Conservation Corps or a Local Conservation Corps?**

During DVCA Phase I, the Conservation Corps were interested in helping but SBC SDD did not have sufficient funds for it at that time. During the design phase, SBC SDD will reach out to the California Conservation Corps and Local Conservation Corps to see how they can be involved. The budget included herein is intended to be able to cover those services, while the details will be worked out during the design/implementation phases. It is anticipated that their services can be used for trail work, marker installation, etc.

**26. Describe which tribe(s) were consulted for this project, the outcome, and any on-going discussions.**

SBC SDD reached out to the following Native American tribes for consultation on the proposed project area (prior to Phase I):

- Twenty-nine Palms Band of Mission Indians
- Morongo Band of Mission Indians
- Agua Caliente Band of Cahuilla Indians
- San Manuel Band of Mission Indians

SBC SDD received responses from Denisa Torress of Morongo Band of Mission Indians and referred them to other individuals. SBC SDD consulted Daniel McCarthy who is the MS RPA Director of San Manuel Band of Mission Indians. The outcome of the consultation was confirmation that the project site is not expected to have cultural resources based on previous archeological excavations. There are no on-going discussions but if human remains are found during ground disturbing/construction activities, the San Manuel Band of Mission Indians will be notified for further input.

Based on DVCA Phase I efforts, there were previous site visits with Native American stakeholders that have provided input on project development and completion of the Project.

**ADDITIONAL INFORMATION - ONLY AS APPLICABLE**

**Use of Herbicide:** If the proposed project will use herbicides, complete the [Herbicide Questionnaire](#) N/A

27. **Planning Projects:** For planning projects, describe potential or secured funding for project implementation.

Not applicable – seeking implementation (and planning) funds. SBC SDD has not obtained any additional funding at this time. Funding is being pursued from WCB at this time. Phase I improvements were paid for in part with LWCFs.

28. **Groundwater Sustainability Plan:** Is the proposed project located within a medium or high priority groundwater basin and what is the status of the [Groundwater Sustainability Plan](#)?

The Project is located within a low priority groundwater basin. The area is not subject to Groundwater Sustainability Planning.

29. **Stream Flow:** Projects must measurably enhance stream flows (a change in the amount, timing, and/or quality of the water flowing down a stream, or a portion of a stream, to benefit fish and wildlife) at a time and location necessary to provide fisheries or ecosystem benefits that improve upon existing flow conditions, are measurable, and significant, in that they help alleviate a limiting factor.

The items below are not applicable, as no stream flow is impacted or part of the Project.

- a) How significant is the anticipated stream flow enhancement in the context of the stream's current (pre-project) flow regime? Will the limiting factor be eliminated or reduced and by how much? Provide analysis and documentation to demonstrate the significance of expected stream flow benefits and the likelihood that anticipated outcomes will be realized.
- b) Quantify to the best of your ability the stream flow benefits anticipated from successful completion of the project (i.e. length of stream improved, flow enhancement in cfs, water quality improvements, as applicable).
- c) If applicable, please complete and attach the [Water Rights Supplemental Questionnaire](#).

30. **Lower American River Parkway Project:** Select the primary goal of the project [Choose an item](#).. If other, please describe.

The items below are not applicable, as the Project is not near the Lower American River Parkway Project.

- a) Lower American River Parkway Project: Is the project area within the American River Parkway boundary? [Choose an item](#). If other, please describe.
- b) Lower American River Parkway Project: For projects that are completely or partially within the American River Parkway boundary, what is the Land Designation and what Area Plan is the project within? See the [2008 American River Parkway Plan](#).
- c) Lower American River Parkway Project: Explain how the project is compatible and consistent with the [2008 American River Parkway Plan](#).
- d) Lower American River Parkway Project: Explain how the project advances the goals and objectives of the 2022 American River Parkway Natural Resources Management Plan.



31. Inland Wetlands Conservation Program Project: Explain how the project advances habitat and/or species conservation objectives of the Central Valley Joint Venture.

Not applicable

32. **Wildlife Corridors:** Does the proposed project address wildlife barriers as described in the [CDFW's 2020 Wildlife Movement Barrier Priorities](#) list? What is the proposed project's location connectivity score based on the California Department of Fish and Wildlife's (CDFW) [Areas of Conservation Emphasis \(ACE\) Terrestrial Connectivity](#) dataset?

Based on CDFW's Areas of Conservation Emphasis (ACE) Terrestrial Connectivity dataset, the Project's location connectivity score is 1 and 2. Connectivity rank 1 and 2 means the area partially has limited connectivity opportunity and it is partially a large natural habitat area. Based on CDFW's 2020 Wildlife Movement Barrier Priorities list, DVCA Phase II is in CDFW Region 6 and addresses wildlife barriers. The wildlife barriers criteria the Project fulfills are demonstrated in **Table 6**.

**Table 6 Summary of CDFW's Wildlife Movement Barrier Priorities List**

CDFW's 2020 Wildlife Movement Barrier Priorities list	How the Project Applies
Important landscape linkage identified in regional connectivity studies or habitat protection plans	SBC has a county regional protection plan, the 2018 San Bernardino County Regional Conservation Investment Strategy, and the Project's purpose aids in the plan's conservation goals. The DVCA is home to desert tortoise and bighorn sheep and the proposed improvements would conserve the habitat and reduce the threat of habitat loss.
Known areas of high wildlife mortality due to infrastructure use	As previously mentioned, the illegal off-road vehicle use in the DVCA has been detrimental to the wildlife inhabitants and sensitive habitat.
Areas where animals are known to cross more frequently than other nearby areas	As previously mentioned, Joshua Tree National Park is near the DVCA. It is assumed some of the wildlife migrate between the sites.
Areas where animals approach and refuse to cross	DVCA is a regional recreational park that has existing trails within the sensitive habitat where animals approach.
Areas where habitat of adjacent lands is currently in good condition	DVCA is located between two mountain ranges and near Joshua Tree National Park. The adjacent lands are considered in good condition.
Linkages that could facilitate range shifts due to climate change	As previously mentioned, DVCA is located between two mountain ranges i.e., the site connects to higher to lower elevations or habitat towards the north.

33. **Public Access and ADA:** Does the proposed project include public access? If so, describe how the project will enhance public access and Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) accessibility. Be specific (e.g., the project will install one ADA compliant fishing pier, ADA compliant vault toilet, and 2 miles of accessible trails).

The Project includes and enhances public access by manicuring (3) miles of trails and furnishing and installing trail signage and trail delineators for Bighorn Sheep Trail (2.5 miles) and Tortoise Loop Trail (0.6 miles). The Project's components will assist visitors on staying on designated trails and improve accessibility. The DVCA's ADA access is limited to existing parking areas and informational kiosks since the trails are within natural semi-rugged terrain that does not support ADA access.



By signing this form, I certify that I am authorized to apply for this grant and the information contained in this application and its attachments is true and accurate to the best of my knowledge.



SIGNATURE

Name: Brendon Biggs

Title: Director of Public Works

Date Signed: 4/25/23

END OF APPLICATION

CHECKLIST NEXT PAGE

## CHECKLIST

- ☒ Application is signed
- ☒ [Budget Template](#) completed
- ☒ A Payee Data Record ([Standard Form 204](#))
- ☒ Resolution from applicant's governing board ([Resolution Sample](#))
- ☐ CDFW letter of support if on CDFW lands
- ☒ Support letters. Letters should be current and specific to the proposed project and include contact information of the individual submitting the letter (if available).
- ☒ Project location maps
  - ☒ Regional map – clearly identify project location in relation to prominent area features
  - ☒ Site-scale map – clearly delineate project site and boundaries on an appropriately scaled map
- ☒ Representative photographs showing project area and specific problems and issues the project is addressing
- ☐ Detailed project drawing showing relevant features of the proposed project. Include engineering design drawings, if available
- ☒ GIS, Arcmap, KMZ, KML shapefiles, if available
- ☐ Land Tenure/Site Control/ Landowner Access agreements or templates that cover the life of the project (typically 20-25 years).
- ☒ Workplan: Provide a workplan. [Workplan examples](#)
- ☒ Management Plan: Provide a management plan. [Management Plan examples](#)
- ☒ Project Timeline: Provide a timeline, Gantt chart, or similar option to show project timelines, milestones, and deliverables.

Category	Evaluation Criteria
<b>Purpose and Need</b>	The extent to which a proposed project warrants action for its need, and how well the goals and objectives meet the needs of the project.
<b>Approach</b>	The extent to which the proposed project's approach seem likely to result in a successful project, how well the approach will meet the goals and objectives, and the appropriateness of the methodologies and technologies. How well the underlying scientific basis for the proposed work is clearly explained (e.g., does it include a clearly articulated conceptual model, if applicable) and is it based on the best available science.
<b>Consistency with State, Federal, Regional and Local Plans</b>	The extent to which the proposed project meets initiatives, goals, or objectives for WCB's Strategic Plan, the State Wildlife Action Plan, or other State, federal, regional, or local plans.
<b>Durability and Climate Resiliency</b>	The extent to which the project benefits will be maintained over time. The extent to which the application addresses a project's ability to improve climate resilience in fish, wildlife, water, habitats, and infrastructure.
<b>Project Team Qualifications</b>	The extent to which a proposal demonstrates that the project team, and any partnership as appropriate, has the appropriate experience, facilities, equipment, and capacity to successfully perform the proposed tasks.
<b>Project Readiness</b>	The extent to which a proposal demonstrates that access to the property, environmental compliance, permitting, planning, engineering, design, or other necessary preparations for the project are sufficient for prompt project implementation.
<b>Budget</b>	The extent to which a proposed budget and justification are appropriate to the work proposed, cost effective, and sufficiently detailed to describe project costs, and are consistent with the tasks shown in the work plan and schedule. The extent to which a project provides secured federal, State, private, or local cost share. All fund sources must be identified.
<b>Community Support and Collaboration</b>	The extent to which an application demonstrates that the project has broad-based public and institutional support, engaged in public and stakeholder outreach, and supports local communities.
<b>Additional Information Only if Applicable</b>	The extent to which the proposed project addresses the appropriate additional information question. Only questions that are directly related to the proposed project will be evaluated.