

2026 (G26) Grants and Cooperative Agreements Program Stanislaus County Parks and Recreation Department's Preliminary Application Comments

Comments submitted by the Department of Parks and Recreation (Department) Off-Highway Motor Vehicle Recreation (OHMVR) Division to individual Grant Applicants should in no way be construed as a guarantee of successful results for the Applicant within the competitive Grants process or a commitment of funding. Additionally, the lack of comments by the OHMVR Division to any specific Applicant does not ensure successful results for the Applicant within the competitive Grant process or a commitment of funding.

Failure by the Applicant to respond to any OHMVR Division comment of their preliminary Application may be cause for eliminating that item from the Applicant's final Application.

All final Applications will be reviewed by the OHMVR Division. The OHMVR Division may, at its sole discretion, decrease the requested amount and eliminate activities pursuant with regulation Section 4970.07.2 (f)(1-5) and for Law Enforcement Projects, regulation Section 4970.15.3(b)(1-5).

If multiple proposed Projects are requesting funding for the same deliverable, and multiple projects are successful, only one project will receive funding for the deliverable.

For proposed Projects requesting Grant funding for snow and/or winter activities. Applicants must ensure the activities and/or Equipment/Heavy Equipment/Trailer requested are not and/or cannot be funded by the Department's Winter Program (commonly referred to as the Snow Grooming Program).

For proposed Projects requesting Grant funding for the maintenance of roads and/or trails, note that only roads and/or trails that allow "green sticker" Off-Highway Vehicles are allowed to receive Grant funding.

Applicants are reminded that no Grant funds and/or match can be expended, or Project activities conducted in any land owned or managed by the Department except as allowed in the Grants and Cooperative Agreements Program regulations section 4970.09 (b)(11).

General Evaluation Criteria:

- No comment.

Ground Operations: G26-03-20-G01

Project Description – Background

- No comment.

Project Description – Project Description

- It is unclear that Frank Raines OHV Park is open for OHV Recreation on a year-round basis. Applicant must confirm the Park's operational season and demonstrate that all proposed Project costs are limited to periods during which the Park is open to the public for OHV Recreation. Any costs associated with facility operations, including but not limited to campground maintenance and utility expenses, that extend beyond the Park's open riding season are not eligible for reimbursement under this Project and must be removed from the Project Cost Estimate accordingly.
- Applicant must clarify how “landscaping services” and “maintaining playground” are related to this proposed Project, as these activities appear to be either Indirect in nature or ineligible expenses. Applicant must either provide a clear justification demonstrating how these activities directly support the Project Deliverables or remove the associated language and costs from the Application.

Project Description – List of Project Deliverables

- #1 – Applicant must identify the specific trail sections that will receive the 5.9 miles of trail tread maintenance proposed under this Project. In addition, Applicant must clarify that the proposed “trail tread restoration” activities will be conducted exclusively on OHV trails or roads, as this language may be perceived as a Restoration Project Deliverable rather than a Ground Operations activity. Furthermore, Applicant must provide additional details regarding the work to be performed in relation to the sediment ponds referenced in this section, including the specific number of sediment ponds to be addressed under this Project. Lastly, Applicant is reminded that monitoring is not an eligible activity under Project Deliverable #1 but should be included under Project Deliverable #7 or Project Deliverable – Other.
- #2 – Applicant must clarify how frequent the “1 acre beginner/kiddie track” will be maintained. In addition, Applicant is reminded that monitoring is not an eligible activity under Project Deliverable #2 but should be included under Project Deliverable #7 or Project Deliverable – Other.
- #3 – Applicant is reminded that monitoring is not an eligible activity under Project Deliverable #3 but should be included under Project Deliverable #7 or Project Deliverable – Other.

Project Description – All Others

- No comment.

Project Cost Estimate

- All Staff Line items – The percentage of staff time dedicated to Project Deliverables #1, 2 and 3 is unclear. Applicant must clarify within the line item notes what portion of staff time will be specifically dedicated to the maintenance of OHV trails, roads, tracks, and open areas. In addition, Applicant must clarify which specific facilities will be maintained under Staff #1 and Staff #3, as the current line item notes reference either “Facility” or “facilities maintenance” without identifying the specific facilities and/or buildings to be maintained under this Project.
- Staff #1 “Park Manager/Supervisor/Mntce Worker III” – Applicant must provide further clarification regarding the activities included within “Onsite components of Habitat Management Program activities” and demonstrate that there is no overlap between the proposed activities and those outlined in the Contract #4 line item.
- Staff #4 “Volunteer” – Applicant must include the specific locations and number of miles of roads, trails, and tracks to be maintained in relation to Project Deliverables #1 and 2. It is unclear from the Project Description which agencies are responsible for maintaining which specific miles of OHV riding area.
- Contract #4 “Biologist” – Applicant must provide a clear explanation of how the cost for this line item was determined, including the precise scope and amount of work to be conducted.
- Materials / Supplies #1 “Fencing Supplies” – Increasing fencing efforts to reduce off-trail travel is considered a Restoration Project Deliverable and is not eligible under this Project type. Applicant must remove all costs and associated language related to any fencing activities that are not directly associated with delineating established trails or closing trails pending repair.
- Equipment Use Expenses #5 “Bucket Truck Rental” – Applicant must provide additional notes on how this piece of Equipment will be used on the Project. It is unclear how a bucket truck is used for trail maintenance.
- Equipment Use Expenses #7 “Track Loader Rental Use Fee County Owned” – The proposed cost for this line item has increased significantly compared to the prior year's Application. Applicant must clarify why a weekly or monthly rate is not being claimed in lieu of a daily rate, as doing so may establish greater cost savings to the State. In addition, Applicant must provide either a County-established rate that is reflective of their actual costs or supporting documentation substantiating the operating and fixed ownership costs for the vehicle listed in this line item. It is unclear how the vehicle use fees claimed do not exceed the Applicant's actual cost, and Applicant must provide sufficient documentation to demonstrate compliance with this requirement.
- Equipment Purchase #1 “4x4 Trucks” – Applicant must clarify what percentage of the proposed Equipment purchase will be used in direct support of Project activities. It is unclear whether the vehicles will be used exclusively for Project activities or whether they will also be utilized for other County-related purposes. Additionally, the cost is excessive. Applicant must provide how cost was determined.

- Indirect Costs #1 “Indirect Costs at 15%” – Applicant must revise this line item to address their project Indirect costs determined based on their Project needs. In the narrative, Applicant must provide a clear explanation of how the cost was determined, including the precise scope and amount of work to be conducted. For any Staff positions included in this line item, Applicant must utilize the hourly rate and quantity of hours as the unit of measure to clearly demonstrate how the associated costs were calculated. If helpful, Applicant may break this line item out into multiple Indirect Cost line items to clearly identify and separate the various costs. In addition, the use of "etc." within the line item notes does not provide sufficient detail to identify all costs anticipated under this line item. Applicant must specify each cost individually, as the current description does not clearly demonstrate the eligibility of the proposed expenses.

Ground Operations: G26-03-20-G02

Project Description – Background

- No comment.

Project Description – Project Description

- No comment.

Project Description – List of Project Deliverables

- #1 – Applicant must identify the specific four trails that will receive maintenance under this Project and clarify the precise location of the two miles to be maintained. In addition, Applicant must specify which five miles of trails and roads will receive grooming or grading activities. Furthermore, Applicant is reminded that monitoring is not an eligible activity under Project Deliverable #1 but should be included under Project Deliverable #7 or Project Deliverable – Other.
- #2 – Applicant must clarify the frequency at which the 10 to 12 miles of tracks will receive both maintenance and grooming activities under this Project. In addition, Applicant is reminded that monitoring is not an eligible activity under Project Deliverable #2 but should be included under Project Deliverable #7 or Project Deliverable – Other.
- #3 – Applicant is reminded that monitoring is not an eligible activity under Project Deliverable #3 but should be included under Project Deliverable #7 or Project Deliverable – Other.
- #4 – The Applicant proposed “reroofing and repaving of existing parking and paving within OHV park” in the prior year's Application. Applicant must either remove the associated costs and language related to this activity from the current Application or provide a detailed explanation justifying the need to perform this activity on an annual basis. In addition, Applicant must clarify the quantity of picnic tables and fire rings to be replaced under this Project, as this information is not clearly identified in the Project Cost Estimate.

- #6 – Applicant must provide further clarification regarding the proposed Deliverable “Installation or repair of approximately 4 acres of fencing barriers,” as this same Deliverable was included in the prior year’s Application. Applicant must explain why the same quantity is being proposed in the current Application and provide a clear breakdown identifying how much of the proposed fencing will consist of new installation versus repair of existing fencing.

Project Description – All Others

- Describe the size of the specific Project Area(s) in acres and/or miles... – Applicant must provide additional details regarding the "15 trails and tracks" referenced in this line item, including the length of each trail and track expressed in miles.

Project Cost Estimate

- All Staff Line Items – The percentage of staff time dedicated to Project Deliverable #1, 2 and 3 is unclear. Applicant must clarify within the line item notes what portion of staff time will be specifically dedicated to the maintenance of OHV trails, roads, tracks, and open areas.
- Staff #2 “Park Aide/Seasonal Park Maintenance Work” – The proposed cost for this line item has increased significantly compared to prior year Applications. Applicant must provide a detailed explanation justifying the quantity of hours requested and demonstrate that the proposed cost is reasonable and proportionate to the scope of work outlined in the Project Deliverables. It is unclear how the significant cost increase is justified given that the campsite facilities are now developed. Applicant must clarify whether there has been a corresponding increase in usership or other documented change in conditions that supports the increase in hours requested.
- Materials / Supplies #1 “Soil for Trails / Tracks” – Applicant must provide a clear explanation of how the cost for this line item was determined, including the unit price and quantity of soil used to calculate the line item total.
- Materials / Supplies #3 “Structures and Grounds” – Applicant must relocate the costs and associated language related to “pesticides for wasp control” to the Indirect Cost category, as this activity does not directly relate to the completion of the Project. In addition, Applicant must clarify the quantity of plastic culverts to be purchased and identify the specific locations where they will be installed.
- Equipment Use Fee #2 “ATV 4 x 4 Equipment Use” – The proposed daily use fee for this line item appears excessive. Applicant must provide either a County-established rate reflective of their actual costs, or supporting documentation substantiating the operating and fixed ownership costs for the vehicle listed in this line item. It is unclear how the vehicle use fees claimed do not exceed the Applicant's actual cost, and Applicant must provide sufficient documentation to demonstrate compliance with this requirement.
- Equipment Use Expenses #3 “Water Truck” – The proposed cost for this line item appears excessive when compared to the Applicant's similar G26 Application.

Applicant must clarify why the "Sunbelt Rentals" rate is not being utilized for this line item, as doing so may establish greater cost savings to the State.

- Indirect Costs #1 "Indirect Costs at 15%" – Applicant must revise this line item to address their project Indirect costs determined based on their Project needs. In the narrative, Applicant must provide a clear explanation of how the cost was determined, including the precise scope and amount of work to be conducted. For any Staff positions included in this line item, Applicant must utilize the hourly rate and quantity of hours as the unit of measure to clearly demonstrate how the associated costs were calculated. If helpful, Applicant may break this line item out into multiple Indirect Cost line items to clearly identify and separate the various costs. In addition, the use of "etc." within the line item notes does not provide sufficient detail to identify all costs anticipated under this line item. Applicant must specify each cost individually, as the current description does not clearly demonstrate the eligibility of the proposed expenses.