

# Park Bond Act of 2000



## **Department of Parks and Recreation Mission Statement**

To provide for the health, inspiration and education of the people of California by helping to preserve the state's extraordinary biological diversity, protecting its most valued natural and cultural resources, and creating opportunities for high-quality outdoor recreation.

As California edges into the 21<sup>st</sup> Century, the most significant aspect of our mission is to ensure that future generations are able to enjoy California's diverse natural and cultural heritage while enjoying its outstanding recreational opportunities.

The Department of Parks and Recreation will play an important role as a leader among park, recreation and resource management service providers. The Department will not only strengthen its bond with its traditional partners, including government agencies, cooperative associations, foundations, user groups, environmental organizations, and numerous other non-profit groups but will also form new partnerships with a broad range of service providers to insure the Department connects with all Californians.

Responding to the recreational and open-space needs of a growing population and expanding communities, the 2000 Bond Act will revive state stewardship of natural and cultural resources by investing in neighborhood and state parks, coastal beaches and scenic areas, and promoting clean water protection.

Together we share the ability and the responsibility to carry on a proud century-old heritage of stewardship and enjoyment!

## **2000 Bond Act Programs Addressed in this Document**

- ◆ Per Capita Grant Program
- ◆ Roberti-Z'berg-Harris Urban Open Space and Recreation Grants Program
- ◆ Riparian and Riverine Habitat Grant Program
- ◆ Murray-Hayden (Urban Youth Services) Program
- ◆ Dr. Paul Chaffee Zoological Program
- ◆ Urban Recreational and Cultural Centers and Wildlife and Environmental Education Program
- ◆ Regional Youth Soccer/Baseball Facilities Program
  
- ◆ California Heritage Fund Program

## **2000 Bond Act General Questions and Answers**

**Q. May I have a copy of the Organizational Chart for the Office of Grants and Local Services, and a listing of who is responsible for individual programs and counties?**

**A.** Yes! The organizational chart may be obtained by calling the Department at (916) 653-4563 and program contact information is easily accessible through our web site at: [http://www.parks.ca.gov/default.asp?page\\_id=1008](http://www.parks.ca.gov/default.asp?page_id=1008)

**Q. I can't obtain all of the required permits before the application deadline. Am I required to complete all permitting before I apply for a grant?**

**A.** No. However, all permits must be obtained before beginning construction. Please consult with your Project Officer concerning the specifics of your case

**Q. How much of the project grant amount can be spent on non-construction costs?**

**A.** Up to 25% of the project grant amount may be spent on non-construction costs, including grants

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administration, plans, permits, specifications, and CEQA compliance.

**Q. Are schools eligible for funds through any of the programs?**

**A.** No, however, schools may form partnerships with an eligible applicant. The eligible applicant must meet all of the tenure and maintenance requirements found in the Bond Act.

**Q. Where can I get a copy of the 2000 Bond Act text?**

**A.** You can download the text from our web site or from the Public Resources Code (Section 5096.300) web site at: [www.leginfo.ca.gov](http://www.leginfo.ca.gov)

**Q. Must a grantee pay the state administrative costs "off the top" of grant award?**

**A.** No. State administrative costs of 5.535% are taken at the front end of the bond sales process prior to allocation or award of bond money. The Department of Finance uses this money to cover administrative costs. Significantly, DPR uses less than 1.5% to administer Bond Act programs.

## Per Capita

**Q. What can these funds be used for?**

**A.** For acquisition, development, improvement, rehabilitation, restoration, enhancement, and interpretation of local park and recreation lands and facilities, including renovation of recreational facilities conveyed to local agencies resulting from the downsizing or decommissioning of federal military installations.

**Q. How are allocations determined?**

**A.** For cities and counties we used the estimated population from the California Department of Finance as of January 1, 2000. The Per Capita allocations are available on the web at <http://www.parks.ca.gov/pages/1008/files/ALLOCATIONSFOR2000BONDACT.pdf>.

**Q. What is the process for applying for funds, and when will funds be available?**

**A.** Guidelines for this program have been mailed. They include application forms and required documentation. A letter was sent to eligible districts, cities and counties informing them that the program guidelines are available. By law, contracts must be executed by eligible agencies by June 30, 2003 (Three years from the appropriation date). Individual project applications may be submitted at any time within the eight years following fund appropriation but projects will need to be completed by the June 30, 2008 deadline.

## Urban Recreational and Cultural Centers and Wildlife and Environmental Education Program

**Q. How much is available for this program?**

**A.** \$7,675,000 is available for funding.

**Q. Who can apply for these funds?**

**A.** Through a nomination process cities, counties, nonprofit organizations, and federally recognized California Indian tribes.

**Q. When do nominations need to be submitted to the Legislature?**

**A.** Letters of nomination were due to the Office of Grants and Local Services (OGALS) prior to July 1, 2001. Project applications were due November 1, 2001. OGALS will evaluate projects and prior to April 1, 2002, will submit to the Legislature a prioritized listing and comparative evaluation of all nominated projects. Funds will then be dispersed after they are appropriated in the state budget and there is a fully executed contract between the Department and the Grantee.

**Q. What can these funds be used for?**

**A.** Funds will be used for the development or rehabilitation of real property consisting of urban recreational and cultural centers, museums, and facilities for wildlife education or environmental education.

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- Q. Are funds available for land acquisition?**  
**A.** No, funds shall be used for the development or rehabilitation of real property only.

## Regional Youth Soccer and Baseball Facilities

All funds have been allocated.

## Roberti-Z'Berg-Harris Urban Open Space and Recreation Grants Program (RZH)

- Q. Please explain the RZH program.**  
**A.** It is easier if you think of RZH as having three separate sub-programs:
- Block grants allocated on a per capita basis to eligible public agencies in urbanized areas
  - Nonurbanized area need basis grants awarded competitively statewide
  - Urbanized area need basis grants awarded competitively statewide

**Q. How much money is available for this Program?**

- A.** \$189,000,000 as follows:
- \$157,000,000 for Block Grants
  - \$ 3,800,000 for competitive grants in Urbanized Areas
  - \$ 28,340,000 for competitive grants in Nonurbanized Areas.

**Q. Where can I see the allocations for the RZH Block Grants?**

- A.** The RZH Block Grant allocations are on the web at:  
[http://www.parks.ca.gov/pages/1008/files/ALLOCATIONSFOR2000BONDACT\\_RZH.pdf](http://www.parks.ca.gov/pages/1008/files/ALLOCATIONSFOR2000BONDACT_RZH.pdf) .

**Q. What is the deadline to apply for a competitive grant?**

- A.** November 1, 2001.

**Q. Is there a match requirement for an RZH grant?**

- A.** Yes. All RZH grants require non-state funds or non-monetary donations be used to match the grant amount. The ratio of state funds to non-state matching funds is 70% state and 30% non-state (i.e. if you want one dollar we give you 70 cents and you have to come up with 30 cents). For more information see the Procedural Guides.

**Q. How do I determine the match for volunteer labor?**

- A.** Volunteer labor is an eligible match source. To determine the match, the hours worked must be multiplied times the prevailing wage plus benefits for the type of labor that was done.

**Q. How do I determine the prevailing wage to be applied to volunteer labor?**

- A.** The prevailing wage to be applied to volunteer labor must (1) reflect the work that was actually done, (i.e. journey level carpenter versus carpenter's helper), (2) reflect differences in wages based on location, (3) be reasonable (i.e. for a first time carpenter's helper, use entry level wages) and (4) be defensible. The simplest way is to use minimum wage for all volunteer work. Effective January 1, 2001, the California minimum wage was \$6.25 per hours. Effective January 1, 2002, the California minimum wage increased to \$6.75 per hour. You can also use prevailing wage scales developed by governmental agencies, labor unions, or other organizations that research and publish prevailing wages. One of the governmental sources is the California Employment Development Department (EDD). EDD maintains hourly and annual wage data for 770 occupations for every geographic area of the state. The information is available on the Internet at: [http://www.calmis.ca.gov/file/occup\\$/oes\\$.htm](http://www.calmis.ca.gov/file/occup$/oes$.htm) . Look for your county, then find the job title.

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Another governmental source is the California Department of Industrial Relations. Their information is available on the Internet at [http://www.dir.ca.gov/DLSR/statistics\\_research.html](http://www.dir.ca.gov/DLSR/statistics_research.html).

**Q. It is hard for us to get donations from the private sector. Can the requirement for private sector match be waived for the RZH Program?**

**A.** Under certain circumstances, yes. But the full amount of the match still has to be provided.

**Q. Can the match requirement be waived entirely?**

**A.** Yes, but only for an Acquisition project.

**Q. Can I receive both block and competitive grants?**

**A.** Yes, in the case of the Urbanized Area Need Basis grantees. The Block Grant allocation will remain in effect for an agency that winds up with a successful competitive project request.

**Q. Are the cities and counties that got Block Grants at the higher rate for heavily urbanized areas eligible to compete for additional funds under the Urbanized Area Competitive Grants?**

**A.** No. For more information, contact your Project Officer.

**Q. What kinds of projects are eligible?**

**A.** RZH funds may either be spent on an acquisition or a development/rehabilitation project. Also, up to 30 percent of a grant may be spent on either Special Major Maintenance or Innovative Recreation Programs.

**Q. What qualifies as an Innovative Recreation Program?**

**A.** An Innovative Recreation Program is one that is new AND creatively addresses a community's recreation needs.

**Q. What is an "Urbanized Area?"**

**A.** An "urbanized area" consists of a central city or cities and surrounding closely settled territory, as determined by the Department of Finance on the basis of the most recent verifiable census data. The most recent verifiable census data are the "Urbanized Area" maps produced by the U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census. The next updates of these maps will be based on the 2000 Census. The maps will be available in late 2002 or early 2003.

## Riparian and Riverine Habitats

**Q. Who can apply for funds?**

**A.** Cities, counties, special districts, park districts, and federally recognized California Indian Tribes.

**Q. How much funding is available?**

**A.** \$9,446,000 is available.

**Q. What can these funds be used for?**

**A.** Funds can be used for the improvement or acquisition and restoration of riparian habitat, riverine aquatic habitat, and other lands in close proximity to rivers and streams for river and stream trail projects and river parkway projects in accordance with Section 78682.2 of the Water Code, and for purposes of Section 7048 of the Water Code.

**Q. What types of projects qualify for funding?**

**A.** The range of qualified project types include, but are not limited to:

- Projects that add to or restore river parkways.
- Projects that improve the natural environment of rivers and streams.
- Projects that restore riparian, aquatic, and wildlife habitat.
- Projects that deal with stream-related problems such as erosion and water quality.
- Projects that develop or restore stream trails.

**Q. What is the application deadline?**

**A.** February 1, 2002.

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## Dr. Paul Chaffee Zoological Program

There are two grant programs within the Dr. Paul Chaffee Zoological Program:

- 1) The Zoos and Aquarium Facilities Grant (ZAF)
- 2) The Wildlife Care Facilities Grant (WCF)

### Q. What is the ZAF Grant Program about?

A. This program provides approximately \$5,401,000 in funds for the development, rehabilitation, or restoration of zoos and aquariums operated by cities, counties, and nonprofit organizations.

### Q. Who is eligible to apply for ZAF funds?

A. Cities, counties and non-profit organizations that operate zoos and aquariums and who are accredited by the American Zoos and Aquarium Association (AZA) on April 1, 2002.

### Q. How will ZAF funds be allocated?

A. Funds will be allocated based on a pro-rata (equal) distribution to eligible applicants.

### Q. When will the ZAF guidelines become available?

A. Guidelines are available as of October 31, 2001.

### Q. What is the application deadline for the ZAF Grant?

A. To encumber funds, all eligible applicants must submit by April 1, 2002, an authorizing resolution or board letter and documentation of AZA accreditation. Copies of all required permits to keep wildlife must be submitted as well. Non-profit organizations must also submit their articles of incorporation and an IRS letter of tax exemption.

### Q. What is the WCF Grant Program about?

A. This is a competitive program that provides approximately \$385,000 in funding to publicly owned or non-profit zoos and wildlife care centers that care for animals that have been injured or abandoned and cannot be returned to

the wild. Facilities must have all required permits to keep wildlife to be eligible. Facilities must also: 1) serve a regional area 2) foster the environmental relationships of animals within that region 3) operate outreach and/or onsite educational programs and 4) be open to the public.

### Q. When is the WCF application deadline?

A. February 1, 2002

### Q. When will the WCF guidelines be available?

A. Guidelines are available as of October 31, 2001.

## Murray-Hayden Urban Park and Youth Services Program

### Q. Who can apply for these funds?

- A. The following are eligible applicants:
- Heavily urbanized counties (a county with a population of 750,000 and above);
  - Heavily urbanized cities as *either* a city with a population of 200,000 and above (Bakersfield and Stockton) *or* a city located in a heavily urbanized county.
  - Non-Profit Organizations, eligible districts, and federally recognized California Indian Tribes within heavily urbanized counties and heavily urbanized cities

### Q. What was used to determine population for eligible applicants?

A. US Census 2000, because at the time the Procedural Guide was written, the Department used the most recent verifiable data to allow the maximum number of entities to be eligible to apply for funding.

### Q. How much is available in the competitive program?

A. Approximately \$43 million is available for competitive projects.

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## **Q. What are the program intent and priorities?**

**A.** As stated in the Legislation: “To provide grant funding for capital projects, including parks, park facilities, environmental enhancement projects, youth centers, and environmental youth service centers that are within immediate proximity of a neighborhood that has been identified by the Department as having a critical lack of parks and/or open space and/or deteriorated park facilities, that are in an area of significant poverty and unemployment, and have a shortage of services for youth.

Priority shall be given to capital projects that employ neighborhood residents and at-risk youth.”

## **Q. What can these funds be used for?**

**A.** Funds can be used for the following:

- Acquisition and Development
- Development
- Rehabilitation

Acquisition only projects are not eligible.

## **Q. When is the application deadline?**

**A.** Project applications must be received by 5:00 P.M. on, or postmarked no later than Wednesday, May 1, 2002.

## **Q. Does the Murray-Hayden Program have a matching requirement?**

**A.** Yes. At least 30% of the total project costs must be provided by local applicants, with at least one-third coming from private or non-state sources. The 30% waiver is available for the acquisition portion of the grant amount, not the entire grant amount. Please see the Procedural Guide on information regarding match waivers.

## **Q. How do I determine the match for volunteer labor?**

**A.** Volunteer labor is an eligible match source. To determine the match, the hours worked must be multiplied times the prevailing wage plus benefits for the type of labor that was done.

## **Q. How do I determine the prevailing wage to be applied to volunteer labor?**

**A.** The prevailing wage to be applied to volunteer labor must (1) reflect the work that was actually done, (i.e. journey level carpenter versus carpenter’s helper), (2) reflect differences in wages based on location, (3) be reasonable (i.e. for a first time carpenter’s helper, use entry level wages) and (4) be defensible. The simplest way is to use minimum wage for all volunteer work. Effective January 1, 2001, the California minimum wage was \$6.25 per hours. Effective January 1, 2002, the California minimum wage increased to \$6.75 per hour. You can also use prevailing wage scales developed by governmental agencies, labor unions, or other organizations that research and publish prevailing wages. One of the governmental sources is the California Employment Development Department (EDD). EDD maintains hourly and annual wage data for 770 occupations for every geographic area of the state. The information is available on the Internet at:

[http://www.calmis.ca.gov/file/occup\\$/oes\\$.htm](http://www.calmis.ca.gov/file/occup$/oes$.htm) .

Look for your county, then find the job title.

Another governmental source is the California Department of Industrial Relations. Their information is available on the Internet at

[http://www.dir.ca.gov/DLSR/statistics\\_research.html](http://www.dir.ca.gov/DLSR/statistics_research.html) .

## **Q. What if an applicant has trouble finding matching funds?**

**A.** Waivers are available under certain circumstances. Please see page 8 in the Murray-Hayden Urban Parks and Youth Services Program Procedural Guide.

## **Q. Can eligible public entities partner with a non-profit organization, and can two or more non-profit organizations partner together?**

**A.** Yes. Partnerships are encouraged. However, applicants must provide detailed information on the roles and responsibilities of each partner.

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**Q. If a Non-Profit Organization intends to make improvements on land they already own, is the Non-Profit Organization required to provide both a Performance Bond and a Deed of Trust?**

**A.** Yes; the Performance Bond is required for Non-Profit Organizations, and the Deed of Trust is required for acquisition and development projects involving and occurring on real property to be held in private ownership.

**Q. Which entities need a Performance Bond?**

**A.** An applicant that is a Non-Profit Organization.

**Q. Does the Performance Bond need to be provided with the Application?**

**A.** No; A letter of commitment from the Bonding Company is required, but the Bond itself is not required until the project is selected for funding.

**Q. Under what circumstances is a Deed of Trust required?**

**A.** A Deed of Trust is required in these circumstances:

- For Acquisition and Development Projects involving and occurring on real property to be held in private ownership, the Grantee shall open an escrow account and provide to the Department a preliminary title report of the property to be acquired. The Grantee shall execute and deliver to the Department a promissory note, record the Deed of Trust, and deliver the conformed copy of the Deed of Trust to the Department within 15 calendar days from the property acquisition date.
- For Development or Rehabilitation Projects occurring on real property held in private ownership, the Grantee, prior to execution of the Grant Contract, shall execute and deliver to the Department a promissory note, record the Deed of Trust, and deliver a copy to the Department prior to the execution of the Grant Contract.

**Q. Does the Deed of Trust need to be provided with the application?**

**A.** No; the Deed of Trust is provided after the grant is awarded.

**Q. When will projects be reviewed?**

**A.** The proposed review period will occur after the final filing date of May 1, 2002. The review period generally takes from four to six months.

**Contact Person: Deborah Viney**

**(916) 651-8572 or [dvine@parks.ca.gov](mailto:dvine@parks.ca.gov)**

**Contact Person: Victor Patino**

**(916) 651-8598 or [vpati@parks.ca.gov](mailto:vpati@parks.ca.gov)**

**Contact Person: Don Shapiro, (916) 651-8575**

**or [dshap@parks.ca.gov](mailto:dshap@parks.ca.gov)**

For more information on these or any of the grants administered by the Office of Grants and Local Services, please contact the Department at TEL (916) 653-4563 or go to the California State Parks website:

[http://www.parks.ca.gov/default.asp?page\\_id=1008](http://www.parks.ca.gov/default.asp?page_id=1008)

**Contact Person: Project Officer.**

**List of Project Officers is listed at:**

[http://www.parks.ca.gov/default.asp?page\\_id=21369](http://www.parks.ca.gov/default.asp?page_id=21369)

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## California Heritage Program

**Q. Who can apply for these funds?**

**A.** Funds are available on a competitive basis to cities, counties, districts, federally recognized California Indian tribes, local agencies formed for park purposes pursuant to a joint powers agreement between two or more local entities, and nonprofit organizations.

**Q. What can these funds be used for?**

**A.** Funds will be use for acquisition, development, rehabilitation, restoration, and interpretation of historical resources.

**Q. Are there funds available for this program?**

**A.** Yes, there is \$8,506,000 allocated in the Bond Act, however, it has not been appropriated at this time.

**Q. Who is administering this program?**

**A.** The Office of Historic Preservation.

**Contact Person: Paula Jow**

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