Updates - Questions and Answers
Proposition 68 Statewide Park Development and Community Revitalization Program (SPP)

July 1, 2020

1. **The recent SPP grant announcement list was called "Round 3". When were Rounds 1 and 2?**
   SPP Rounds 1 and 2 funding came from Proposition 84 (2006 Bond Act), Chapter 9: Sustainable Communities and Climate Change Reduction (Public Resources Code 75065 (b)(1-5)).
   Proposition 84 funded two rounds. Under Rounds 1 and 2, $2.9 billion was requested for $368 million in funding.
   Proposition 68 (2018 Bond Act) continues this program's legacy.
   Round 3 applications were received on August 5, 2019, and grants were announced on February 25, 2020.

2. **How many applications were received in Round 3? How much was requested?**
   478 applications requesting $2.3 billion were received in Round 3. $254.9 million was available for Round 3.
   The average grant request was $4.8 million and the average grant amount was $4.1 million.

3. **How many applications were awarded grants in Round 3?**
   62 of the 478 applications received for Round 3 were awarded.

4. **How many new parks compared to existing parks were funded in Round 3?**
   Of the 62 awarded grant projects, 28 will create new parks, 14 are expansions of existing parks, and 20 are renovations. Project Selection Criteria #1 (page 15 in Application Guide) and Project Selection Criteria #3 (page 18 in Application Guide) prioritize the creation of new parks in park deficient areas.
   Of the $650,275,000 total Proposition 68 SPP funding, up to 80% ($516 million) can go towards the creation of new parks and 20% ($134 million) was set aside for existing park improvements.

5. **How much funding will be available for Round 4?**
   $395.3 million is available for Round 4 competitive applications. The State budget gave authority to proceed with Round 4 starting on July 1, 2020. This is the final round of SPP funding through Proposition 68.

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6. **When are Round 4 applications due?**
   The application period is open until March 12, 2021. Applications must be submitted online by March 12, 2021. A link to the OGALS online application portal will be provided at www.parks.ca.gov/spp. Applicants can upload draft documents into the online system as early as September 2020. Paper copies of application will no longer be accepted.

7. **For Community Based Planning (Criteria #4), will applicants or partners be required to meet in person with residents? Can remote meetings be held due to the current COVID-19 health situation?**
   Please see the document named "Community Based Planning During COVID-19" available at parks.ca.gov/spp. It provides guidance for conducting in-person park design meetings with emphasis on following local and state health guidelines. It also provides guidance for using phone conference or webinars as an alternative solution, if in-person meetings cannot be held in the project area. For California residents in critically underserved communities with limited personal technology resources, remote meetings may not be an effective replacement for in-person outreach and communication, especially when the residents may lack internet access or do not follow a particular social media account. Additional guidance is available in the "Community Based Planning During COVID-19" document.

8. **If I am applying for the same project in Round 4, do I need new meetings (community based planning per Criteria #4)? Can I use the same application?**
   If it is the same exact project scope and project site as the Round 3 application, another set of meetings is not required. However, if there were any weaknesses with the meetings, new meetings should address the weaknesses.

   See the next two pages for more guidance about reapplying for the same project sites.

ROUND 4 GUIDANCE ABOUT REAPPLYING FOR THE SAME PROJECT SITE

9. **If I am applying for a Round 4 SPP grant for the same project site as a Round 3 application, what revisions or updates are required?**

   Response: In all cases, a new Application Package must be submitted following pages 10-11 of the Application Guide.

   Some documents may be revised. See Scenarios A, B, and C explained below:

   A) Same Project Scope/Same Project Site:
   This means the same Project Site, Recreation Features, and Major Support Amenities with the same concept level details in the Project Selection Criteria and Site Plan are still 100% applicable.

   If it is 100% the same scope of work at the same project site the applicant may resubmit the same application with the following updates:

   Required updates are 1-4 below. 5 below is based on the circumstances.

   1. A new Authorizing Resolution ensures that the applicant's governing body, which may have newly elected officials, still approves this project. Please see page 35 of the application guide for information.
   2. A new Community FactFinder Report. Follow the FactFinder Tool Kit steps at www.parks.ca.gov/spp. (Note: Use a new Community FactFinder Report dated after November 11, 2020)
   3. A new Community FactFinder Handbook Form (pages 33-34 of the application guide) signed by the "Authorized Representative" designated through the new Authorizing Resolution.
   4. An updated Project Timeline (see page 42 of the Application Guide) with current date projections for Round 4 funding.

   5. If applicable:
      a. If the grant request amount or total project cost has changed, revise the dollar amounts in the Application Form, Grant Scope/Cost Estimate Form, and Funding Sources Form.
      b. If a new "Authorized Representative" is designated through the new Authorizing Resolution (provision #4 on page 35-36 of the application guide), ensure that the new individual has signed all forms listed in the Application Checklist (page 11 of the Application Guide).

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B) Different Project Scope – Same Project Site:
This means new or removed Recreation Features or Major Support Amenities, typically with a different grant request amount at the same project site as the Round 3 application.

- Revise all Checklist Items per pages 10-11 of the Application Guide to become consistent with the new project scope.
- This includes the Project Selection Criteria response to reflect the new project scope.
- For Community Based Planning Meetings - Project Selection Criteria #4 found on pages 20-23 of the Application Guide:
    o Meetings that started on June 5, 2018, can still receive credit.
    o However, applicants should consider if the new project scope meets the design goals described on pages 22-23 of the Application Guide. If it does not, additional meetings should be conducted.

C) Different Project Site:
This requires a new application with each Application Checklist Item.
See pages 10-11 of the Application Guide.

10. **Is anything changing in the Application Guide for Round 4 compared to the Round 3 Application Guide dated January 22, 2019?**
There are two updates that will occur for Round 4:

1) "Paperless Applications" - Page 10. Instructions for submitting an application will change from a paper copy submittal to a new paperless submittal. Instructions for submitting "paperless" applications will be provided when the Round 4 application period is open.

2) Median Household Income - Pages 16 and 57. $56,982 will replace $51,026. To be eligible for Round 4, the project site must have either of the following.
    - A ratio of less than 3 acres of parkland per 1,000 residents OR
    - A Median Household Income below $56,982

    Use a Community FactFinder Round 4 report dated after November 11, 2020 with the newest demographic data.

11. Will grants awarded through Round 4 have a different period for eligible costs?

Please see the definition of "Grant Performance Period" on page 72 in the Application Guide. The Round 4 "Grant Performance Period" for eligible costs is July 1, 2020 through June 30, 2025.

12. Will we be more competitive if we ask for a lower grant amount in Round Four?

Applicants should request the funds necessary for essential project elements as determined through the community based planning meetings with the residents. Similar to Round 3, grant awards may range from less than $1 million through the maximum $8.5 million.

13. Where can I find more information about Round 4?

Updates will be posted at www.parks.ca.gov/spp

You can also sign up to receive email updates at www.parks.ca.gov/spp Click on the link on the link titled "[Sign up for email updates](http://www.parks.ca.gov/spp)".