

RECREATIONAL TRAILS PROGRAM (RTP)



2009

Technical Assistance Workshop

Workshop Presenters

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Learning Objectives

- ◆ Identify the “recreational trails” grant program and evaluate how agencies can increase and enhance trail experiences through grant funding opportunities.

- ◆ Provide insight into basic trail development strategies, techniques and pitfalls.



Agenda

- **Workshop Overview**
- **Eligibility and Application Requirements**
- **Criteria Review**
- **Developing a Competitive Application**
- **Next Steps**
- **Management of Urban Multi-Purpose Trails**
- **Evaluations**



Housekeeping

- **Lunch**
- **Facility Information**
- **Field Exercise (Tomorrow)**
 - Non-Motorized-Non-Paved
 - Motorized



The RTP's Purpose

To develop and maintain recreational trails and trail-related facilities for both non-motorized and motorized recreational trail uses.





RTP Funds



From the Federal Highway Trust Fund

Represent a portion of the motor fuel excise tax collected from non-highway recreational fuel use.

Fuel used for off-highway recreation by snowmobiles, all-terrain vehicles, off-highway motorcycles, and off-highway light trucks.

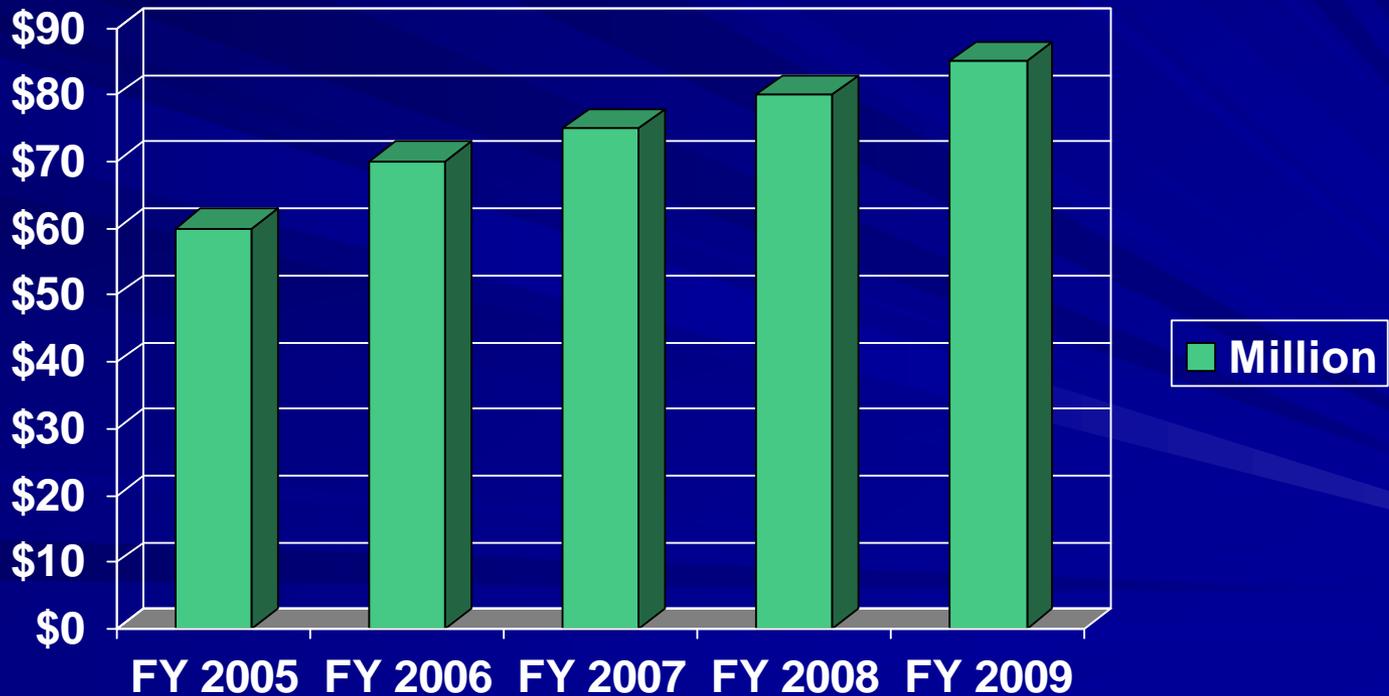
RECREATIONAL TRAILS PROGRAM (RTP)

SAFETEA-LU

Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient Transportation Equity Act: A Legacy for Users

Enacted August 10, 2005 as Public Law 109-59

Nationwide



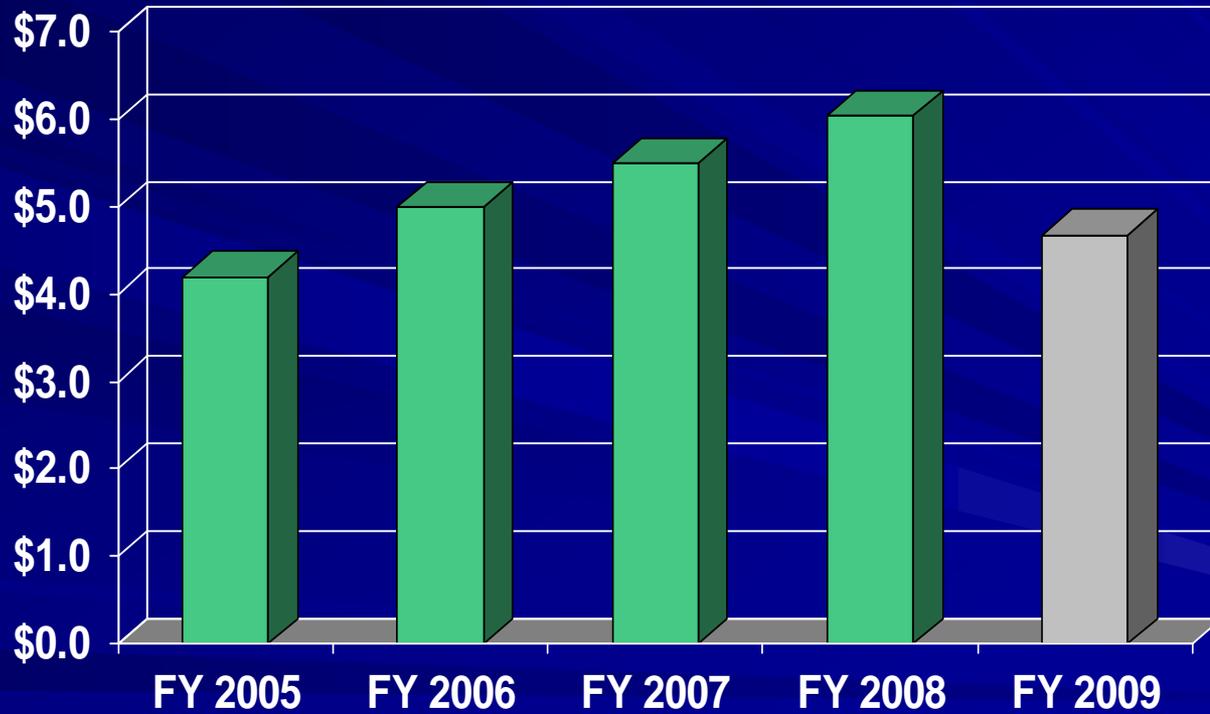
RECREATIONAL TRAILS PROGRAM (RTP)

Statewide

Allocations for CA



For Project Funding and Administrative Costs



■ = Non-Motorized Competitive Cycle Ceased due to lower than expected apportionment



RTP Applicants



U.S. Dept. of Transportation

Federal Highway
Administration (FHWA)

State of California

California State Parks

Federal
Agencies

State
Agencies

Cities,
Counties,
Districts

NPOs

**Non-Profit
Organizations
with Management
Responsibility over
Public Lands**

RTP - Eligible Projects

NON-MOTORIZED PROJECTS

- Acquisition
- Development and rehabilitation of trails and trailhead facilities
- Construction of new trails.



Eligible Project Examples

NON-MOTORIZED PROJECTS

- **Trail system which links to other trail systems.**
RTP project submittal reflects construction of one or more segments.
- **Construction of trailhead facilities (parking lot, restroom, etc.)**
- **Trail rehabilitation project.**
RTP project includes trail realignment (rehabilitation of one route to its natural state; new construction of alternate route.)



Sample RTP Projects



Before



After



County of San Diego

Lake Morena Pacific Crest Trail Stage Area Development

Grant Award: \$164,000

Total Project Cost: \$205,000

Sample RTP Projects



Before



After



California State Parks
Skyline to Sea Trail
Grant Award: \$96,689



Total Project Cost: \$120,859

RTP - Eligible Projects

MOTORIZED PROJECTS

- Acquisition
- Development and rehabilitation of trails and trailhead facilities.
- Maintenance of existing trails.
- Purchase and lease of trail construction and trail maintenance equipment.
- Safety programs



Eligible Project Examples

MOTORIZED PROJECTS

- Off Highway Vehicle (OHV) route maps
- Trail maintenance equipment purchases
- Development and operation of OHV safety programs



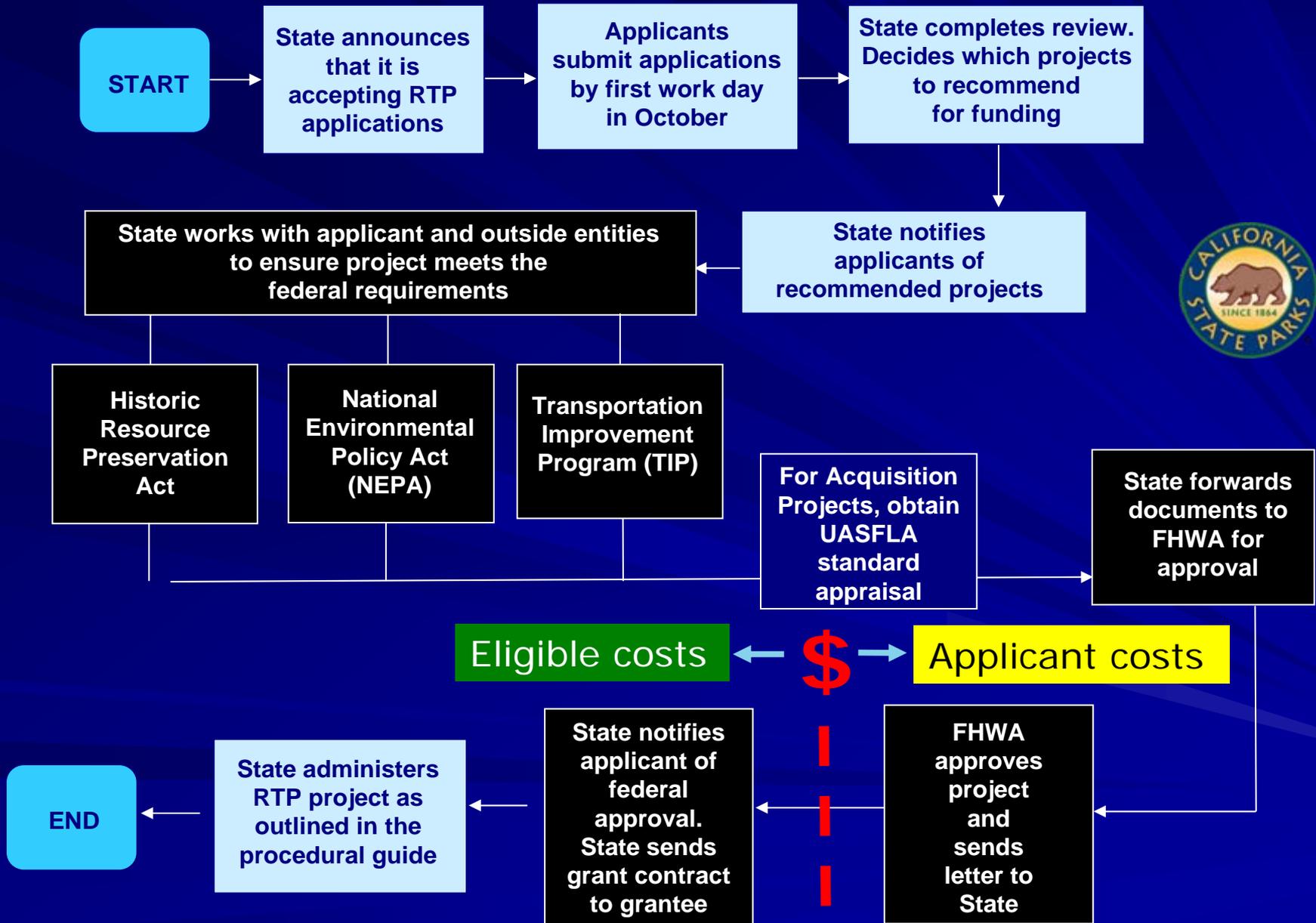
Eligible Project Examples

MOTORIZED PROJECTS

- Installation of restroom facilities at OHV trailheads
- OHV route signage



RECREATIONAL TRAILS PROGRAM (RTP)





Forward Planning Elements

Project Plans

- **Good Representation on the Ground**
(Flagging, marking, etc.)
- **Plans**
- **Project Budget**
 - **Plan for additional costs related to federal requirements**
 - Consider conducting historical/ cultural record search early to assist in estimating future costs

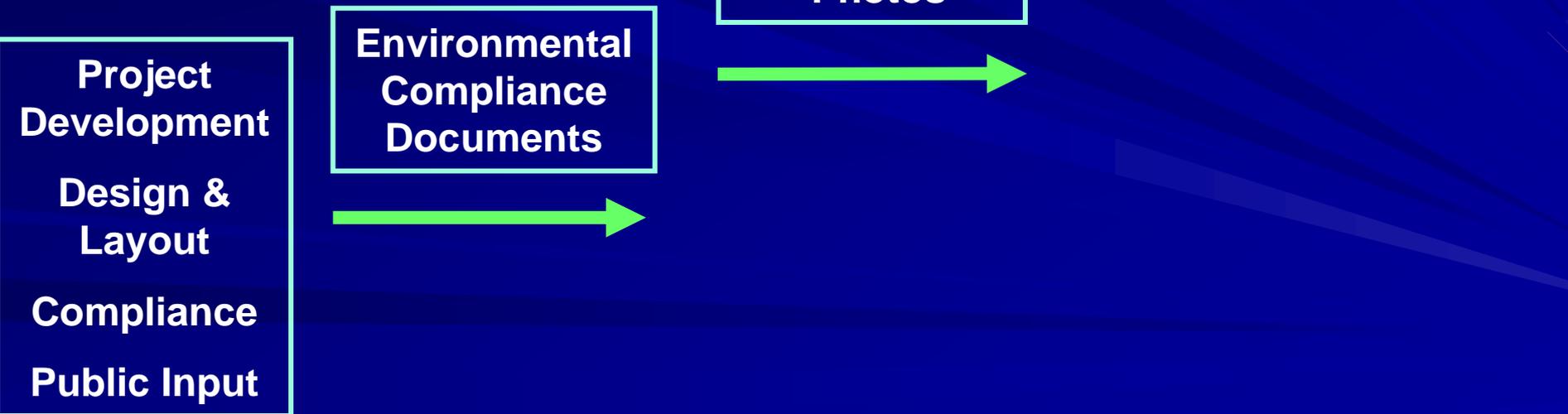


Elements Of Public Involvement

CEQA / NEPA Determination



Planning Time Line



December January February March April May June July August September October

RTP Procedural Guide

Procedural Guide
for the federal

Recreational Trails Program

FINAL

June 4, 2007



2007 Guide

Use June 4, 2007
version for
October 2009 Cycle

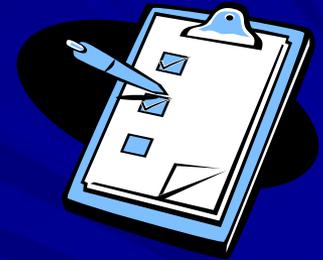


Application Package

What to Submit

Application Packet Requirements and Checklist – Page 19

- One Copy of Application Package
- One Application Per Project
- One Project Per Application
- Respond to All Items in Checklist
- Use N/A when Not Applicable (provide brief explanation)



Application Package



Application Form – Item 1, Page 19

- Use appropriate form:
Non-Motorized or Motorized.
- Limit information to what is requested.
- For Development Projects,
provide “Recordation #”.
- Grant Scope = “What is the project.”

Must Describe the Project (Grant+Match).

Should Not Include merits of the project.

Must be consistent with

Cost Estimate, CEQA/NEPA, and Site Plan





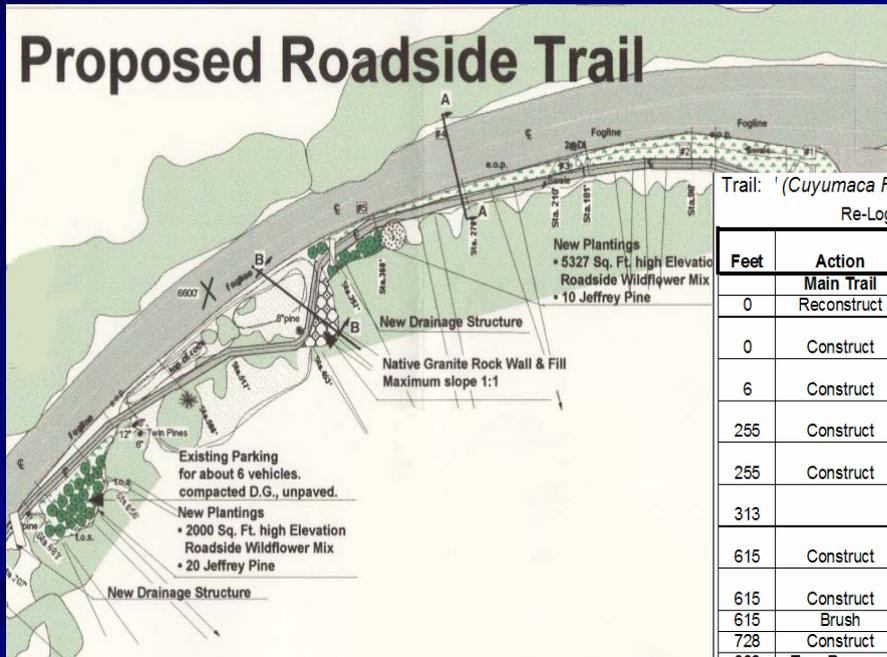
Application Package

Site Plan - Item 2, Page 20

Topo Map - Item 3, Page 20



Trail Log or Reconnaissance Notes (Preliminary Plan)



Item 4, Page 20

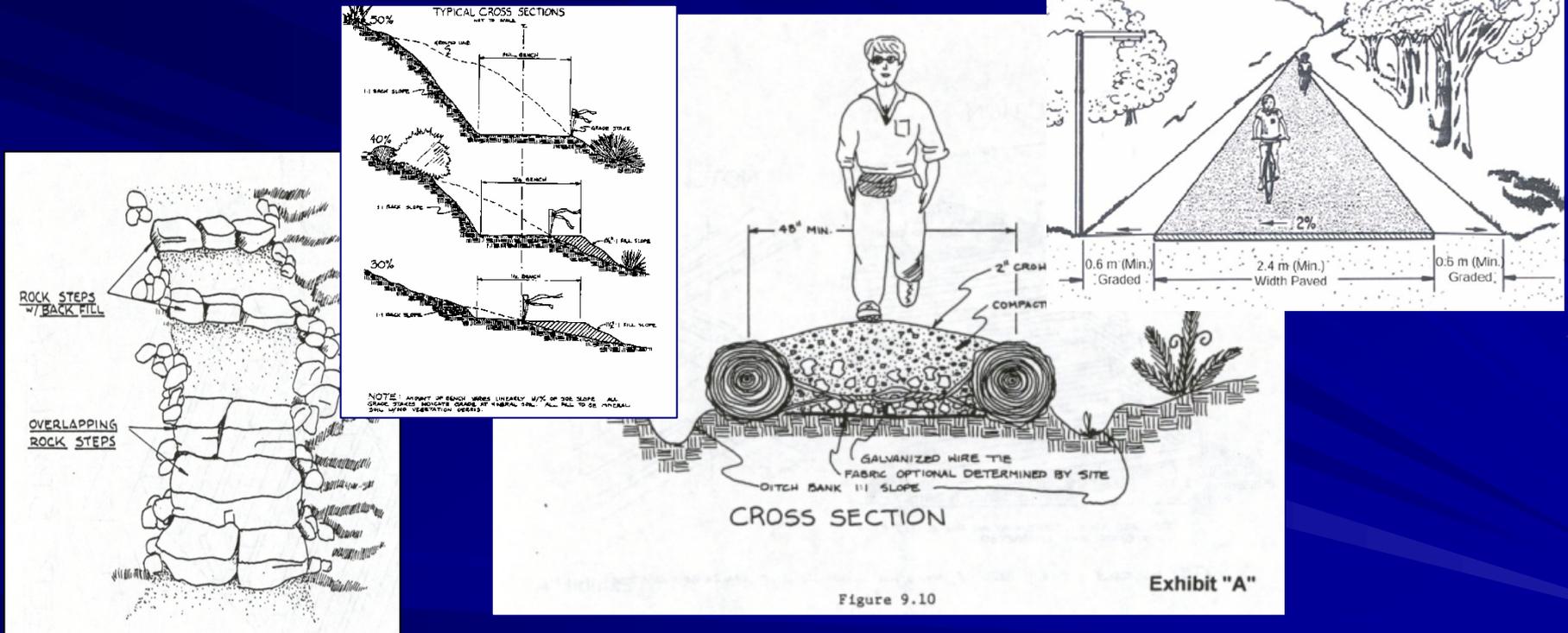
Feet	Action	Feature	Size/Qty			Units	Comment	Picture	Total
			L	H	W				
		Main Trail							0.0
0	Reconstruct	Trail	6			If	Start of Trail		6.0
0	Construct	Fence				If	Two rail fence to protect meadow		0.0
6	Construct	Causeway (Wall less)	249			If	Start of crown, 4" of fill for causeway		249.0
255	Construct	Causeway (Wall less)					End of crown		0.0
255	Construct	Causeway (Wall less)	360			If	Start of outslope		360.0
313		Water Valve					Location of Water Valve (Left)		0.0
615	Construct	Causeway (Wall less)					End of outslope		0.0
615	Construct	Trail	1254			If	Start of Reroute bench construction		1254.0
615	Brush	Heavy	10			If			10.0
728	Construct	Fence					End two rail fence		0.0
809	Tree Removal	Heavy	45			ft	40" Dia Dead Oak		45.0
1176	Excavate	Rock	3	2	4	cf			24.0
1272	Tree Removal	Heavy					9" Dia scavage from rock on site		0.0
1333	Construct	Abutment Rock	25	3	1.5	cf	Right bank, Construct standard bridge		112.5
1333	Construct	Bridge	32						32.0



Design Standards

Specify Standards to Be Used

Item 5, Page 20



Refer to Design Specifications and Proposed Solution Typical Drawings



Application Package

Item 6, Page 20

Cost Estimate

- List all “project components”.
- Line Items for Contingency are no longer allowed.
- Show “Required Match” amount and source(s).
 - Minimum match amount is 12% of total project costs.
- There is no minimum or maximum grant request amount.



Note: Costs (including match) are only eligible after date of Federal approval.

Application Package

Project Location Map, Item 7, Page 20

Photos of the Project Site, Item 8, Page 21

Land Ownership, Item 9, page 21

- Acquisition Schedule, Parcel Map and Willing Seller Letter
- Land Tenure for Development Projects





Application Package

Environmental Compliance, Item 10, Page 21

CEQA California Environmental Quality Act

- CEQA must be complete at time of application.

NEPA National Environmental Policy Act

- Federal applicants must have completed NEPA.

Application Package



Item 11, Page 21

Authorizing Resolution-Local Agencies and Non-Profit Organizations

Agency Letter-Federal and State Agencies

Application Package

Project Summary, Item 12, Page 21

Provide brief, one-page overview of applicant's intentions regarding the project.





Project Proposal

Item 13, Page 21

Respond fully to each question or statement

If portions are not applicable, state N/A along with a brief explanation

**Project merits can be addressed
throughout the
project proposal**

***Proposal: 15 page limit
Must be double-spaced, 12 point font
Attachments are separate***



Application Package

Items 14, 15, 16, and 17, Page 22

- Leases or Agreements Affecting Project
- Required Regulatory Permits
- Nonprofit Requirements
- Signed SHPO Memorandum of Understanding

Recreational Trails Program

Project Proposal and Criteria Overview



2009 Technical Assistance Workshop

Deficiency – Criterion 1, Page 25

Describe the trail deficiencies and why the project is needed

- **Can be New Trail or Completing a Trail Network**
- **Regional or In-Park System Fixes**
- **Deficiency can be from Poor Design or Construction which Resulted in Impact to Natural or Cultural Resources**

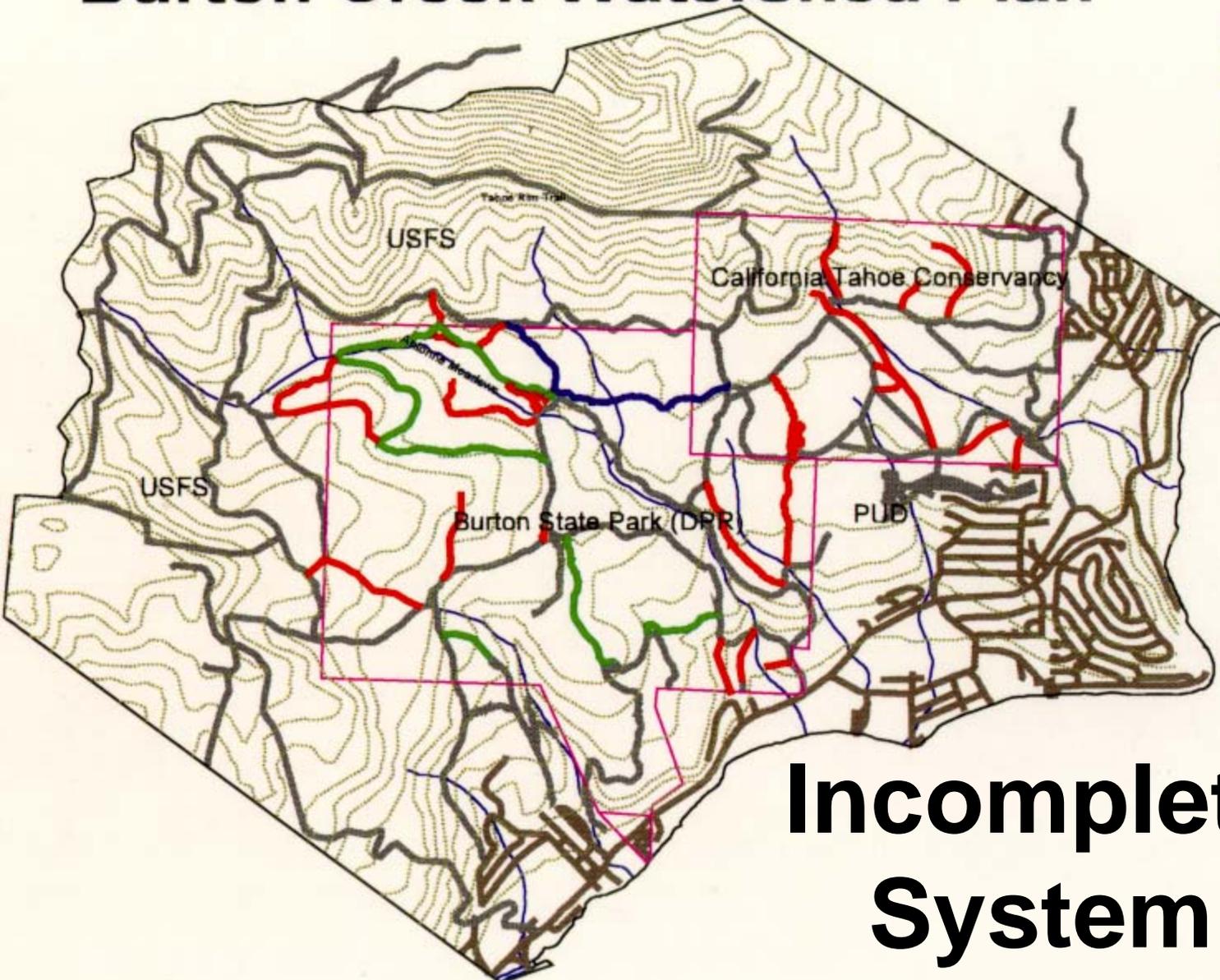


Deficiency Can Be Caused by Resource Impacts on a Trail that is an Important Link

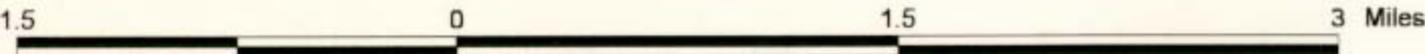


Burton Creek Watershed Plan

- Rdstrls
- Convert to trail
 - Remove
 - Trail Reconstruct
 - Topoclip
 - Property boundaries
 - Study area boundary
 - Roads and Trails
 - Non-park roads
 - Streams



Incomplete System



Solutions to the Deficiency

Criterion 2, Page 26

Solutions which:

- Provide for trail in an area without trail opportunities,
- Reconstructing or relocating trail opportunities to increase usability and/or access, OR
- Reconstructing non-sustainable trails or rehabilitating old routes to reduce environmental impact



Connectivity

Criterion 3, Page 27

Projects which provide connections to or are part of regional, state, or national systems



Linkages

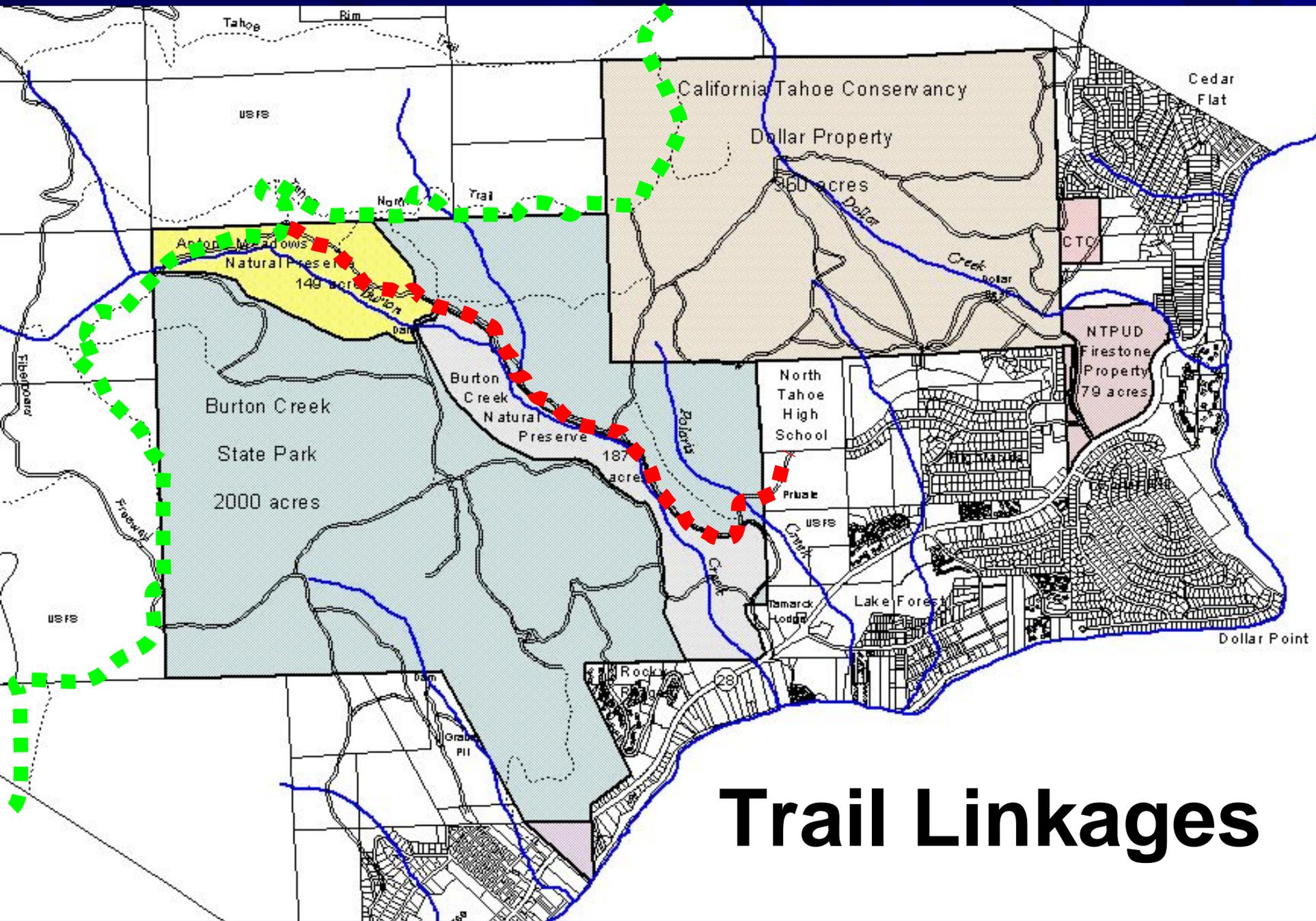
Criterion 4, Page 27



Provide linkages between homes, schools, work places, campgrounds, and/or resorts; to parks, trails, greenways, scenic corridors; or natural, cultural, historical or recreation areas.

**Trails separated from highway use receive higher priority.
(On road facilities are not eligible)**





Trail Linkages



Number of Project Users

Criterion 5, Page 28

Describe what the
estimated average annual use will be.
Provide a numeric figure.

Project User Accessibility

Criterion 6, Page 28



- Will the Project Provide Access to Persons with Disabilities?
- Does Your Project Meet the Proposed Federal Access Board Guidelines for Recreational Trails?
- If Not, Can You Show Your Reason for Departure?

Accessibility



Where Can You Get ADA Trail Information?

US Access Board

1331 F Street NW Suite 1000

Washington, DC 20004-1111

(800) 872-2253

info@access-board.gov

www.access-board.gov/outdoor

Access to the Project Criterion 7, Page 29

**Describe the Access to the Project
(transit, bike lanes, parking, staging areas) and/or
How the Project Will Improve Access**



Points of Interest

Criterion 8, Page 29

How will the Project provide for viewing and interpreting natural, cultural, historical or scenic characteristics





Sustainable Design

- How does Your Project Use Sustainable Design?
- What is Sustainable Design?
 - Projects Placed on the Topography to Minimize Resource Impacts and Maximize Long Term Maintenance



Sustainable Design

- Make Your Application Competitive by Fully Addressing the Criteria.
- Review the Guide, Criterion 9, Page 30, and:
 - Describe each item, A – J; use “NA” if any items are not applicable (provide a brief explanation).
 - Outline Your Sustainable Solutions to each item, as applicable.
- Remember, Make it Easy for the Reviewer.

Diversified Use Criterion 10, Page 31



**Describe How the Project will Provide for
Multiple Recreational Trail Uses and/or Trail
Corridor Sharing**

Including Stakeholders in the Process

Criterion 11, Page 31



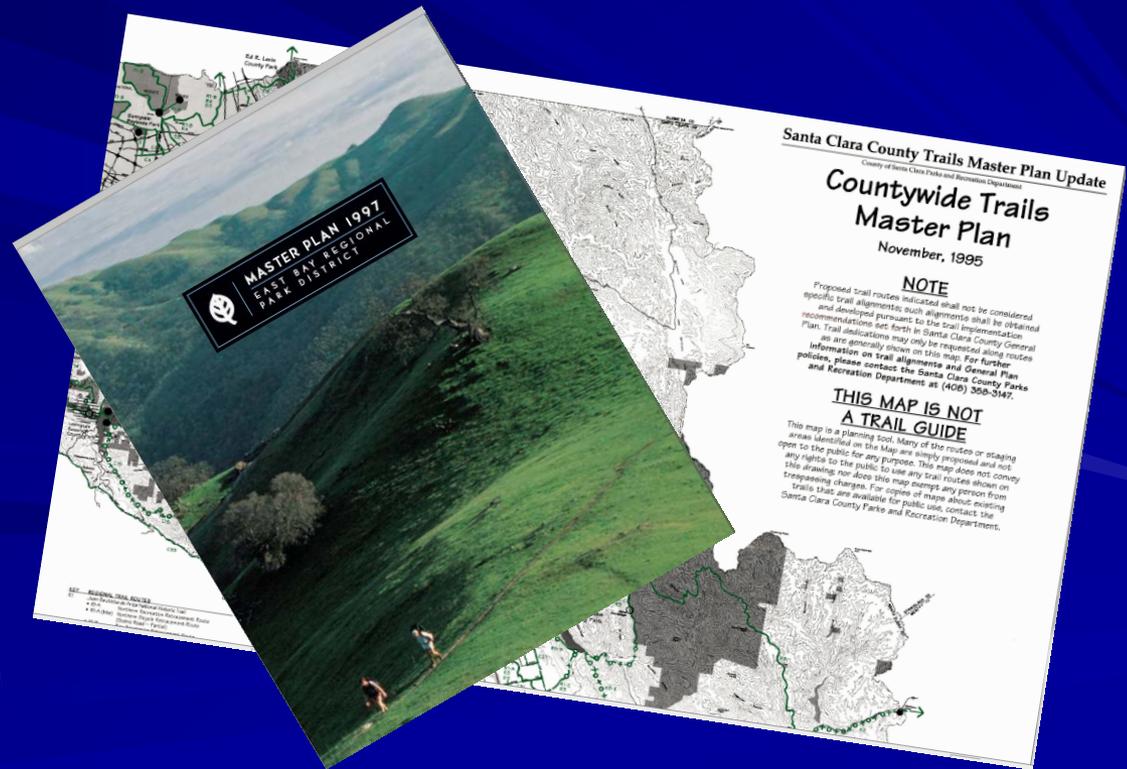
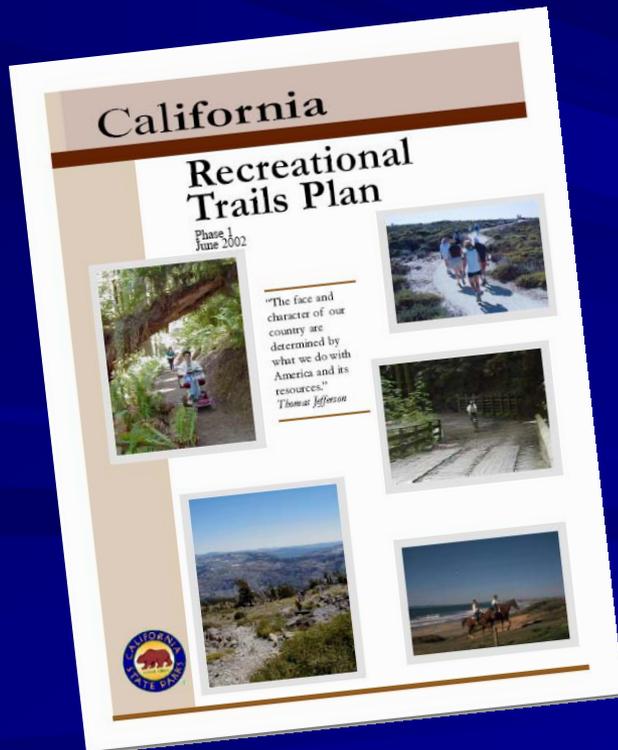
**Describe Efforts to Include Stakeholders
in the Process**

Consistency with Other Plans

Criterion 12, Page 32



Consistency with the Applicant's General Plan or Equivalent Planning Document-CORP, Statewide Trails Plan, city, county or regional master plan



Management Capacity

Criterion 13, Page 32

- Help the Grant Officer to Understand Agency Readiness to Complete Your Project
- Do You Use a Trail Management Process?
- Demonstrate Agency Capability to Implement Completed Project
 - Organizational Trail Skills
 - Completed Training
 - Appropriate Planning and Upfront Work
 - Ability to Maintain





Service Corps Involvement Criterion 14, Page 33

- Use of
Local Youth Corps
- CCC or
Other
Service Corps

Developing a Competitive Application



Good Grant Applications Generic to All Development Grants

- Location Maps, Topographic Maps and Site Plans
- Photo Documentation
- Use Graphics to Demonstrate Your Project's Compliance with Grant Criteria



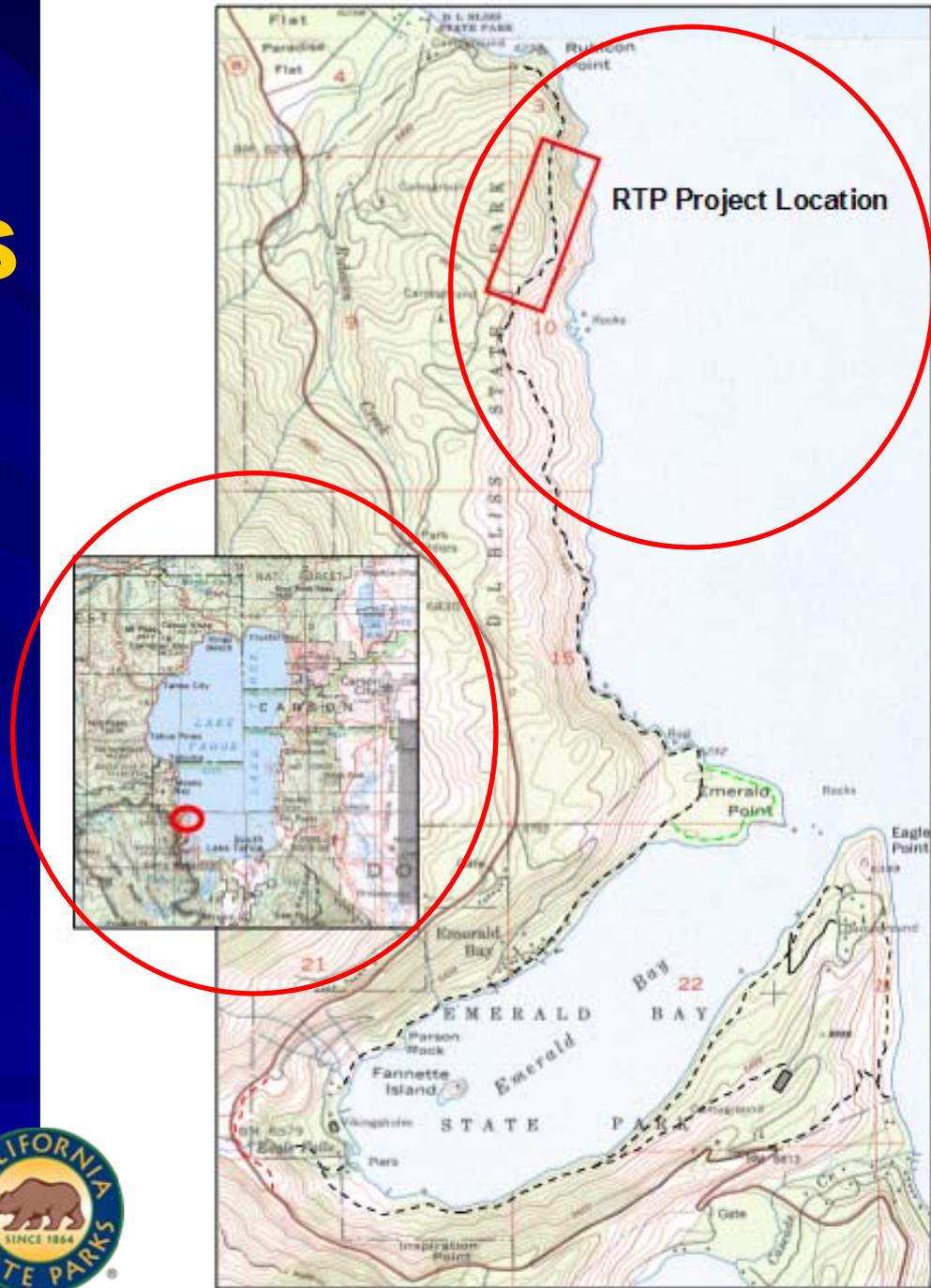
Trail Development Strategies

- Remember Who is Reviewing Your Grant Application Package
- The grant reviewer has never been to your site
 - Make it easy and understandable
 - Do not make the grant reviewer look for information



Project Location Maps

- Give Good Regional Location
- Identify the Project Location on the Regional Map
- Simple “Off the Shelf” Topographic Programs Work



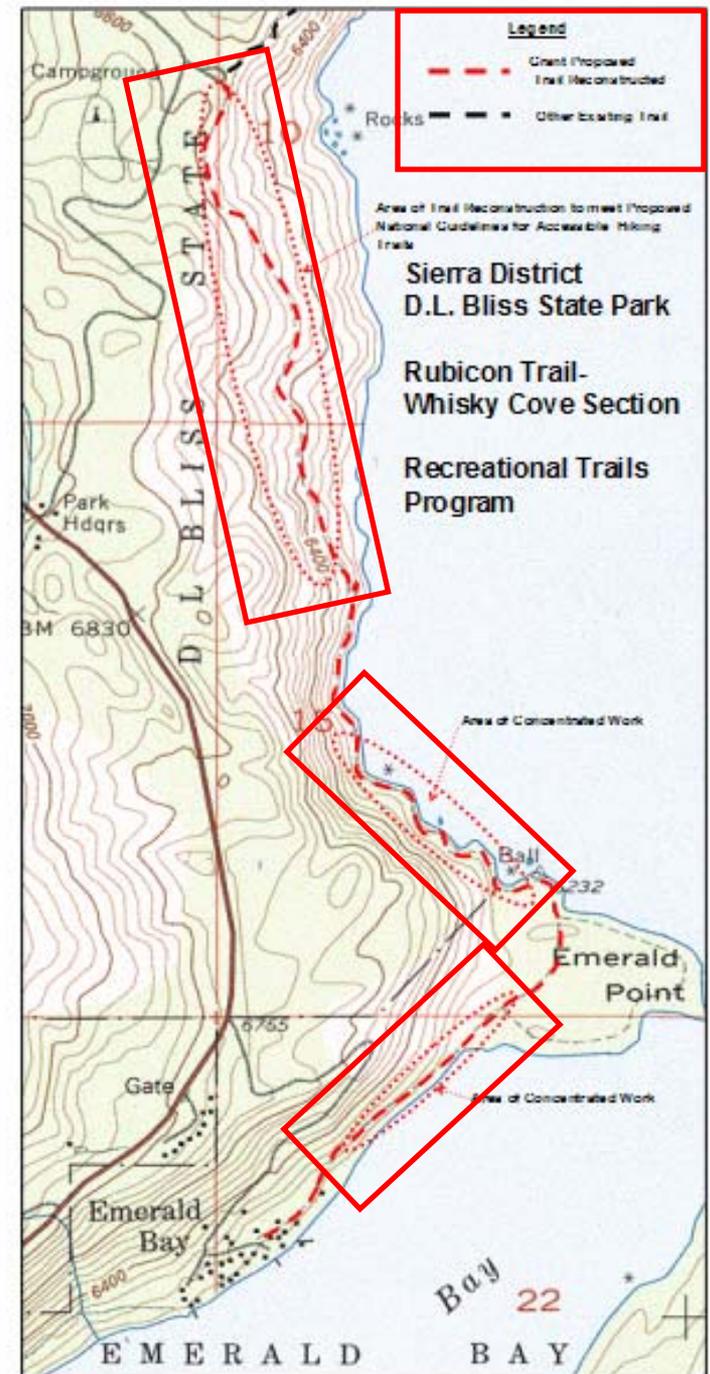
How to Find a Topographic Map



- Local Agency (Planning, Public Works Departments)
- Free download from U.S. Geologic Survey
[http://store.usgs.gov/b2c_usgs/usgs/maplocator/\(ctype=areaDetails&care=%24ROOT&layout=6_1_61_48&uiarea=2\)/.do](http://store.usgs.gov/b2c_usgs/usgs/maplocator/(ctype=areaDetails&care=%24ROOT&layout=6_1_61_48&uiarea=2)/.do)
- Other on-line topographic sites
- Topographic software from hiking/sporting goods stores

Detail Work Locations on Project Maps

- Help Grant Reviewer to Visualize Your Project
- Use Identifiable Legend
- Display Project Work Area Clearly



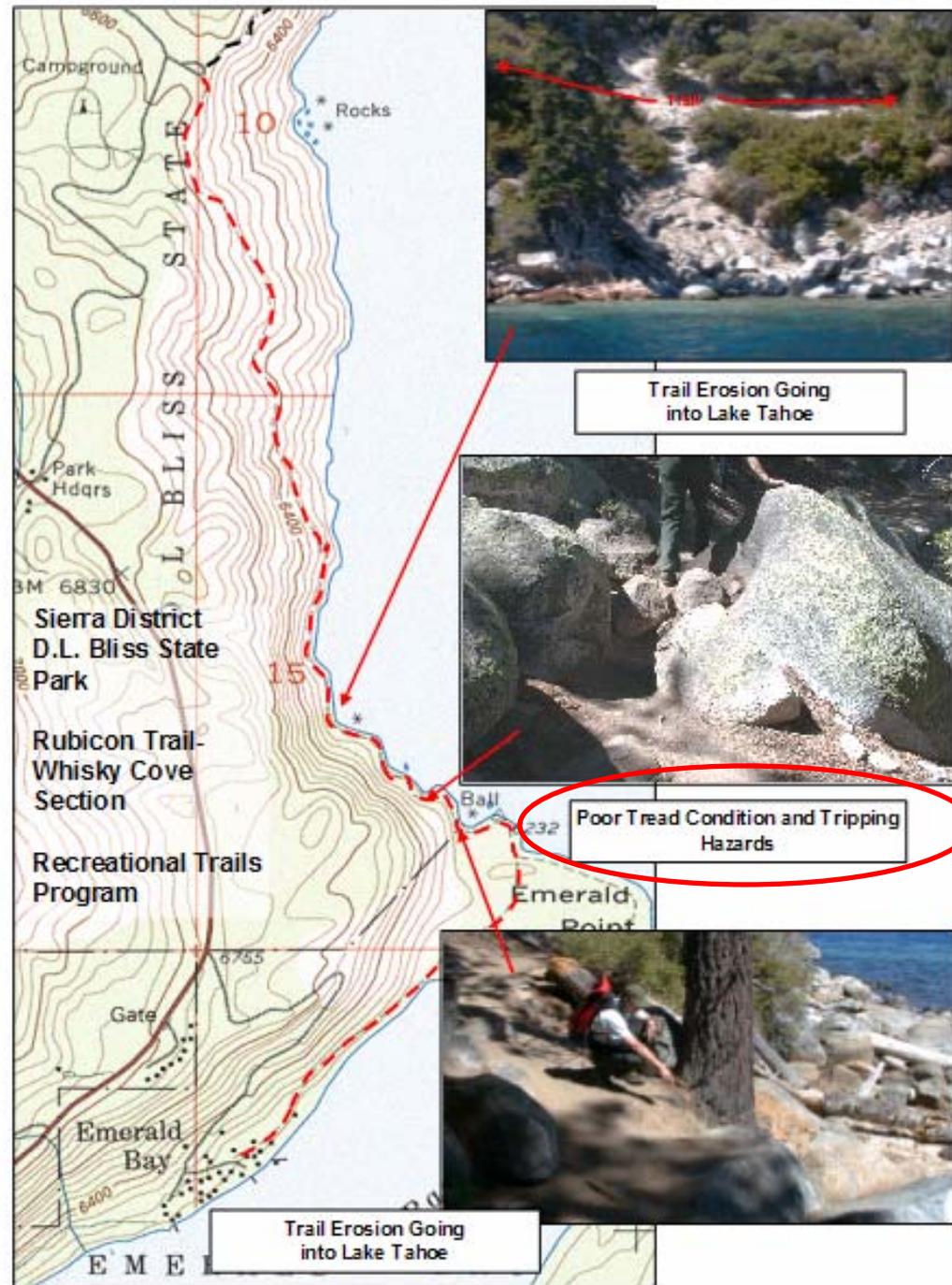
Show Linkages

- Regional Connectivity to Trail Systems
- Connectivity to Transit
- Completing In-Park System Routing
- Show the Importance of Your Project's Connection



Tie Project Photos to Work Project Maps and Site Plan

- Help Grant Reviewer to See Project Deficiencies
- Caption Photos for Reference



Tie In Project Photos - New Construction



Wood Bridge

Rock Retaining Wall

Rock Armor Crossing

New Trail Construction



Good Grant Applications

Non-Paved Trail Grant Proposals

- Deficiency
- Sustainable Design
- Diversified Use
- Management Capacity
 - Training
 - Maximizing Accessibility
 - Designs to Minimize Impacts to Natural and Cultural Resources
 - Construction Techniques Utilizing Aesthetic, Compatible or Renewable Resources
 - Maintenance Program



Is Your Project Ready?

Trail Logs for Unpaved Trails

Trail: ' (Cuyumaca Rancho State Park)

Re-Logged 12/16/2005

Feet	Action	Feature	Size/Qty			Units	Comment	Picture	Total
			L	H	W				
	Main Trail								0.0
0	Reconstruct	Trail	6			lf	Start of Trail		6.0
0	Construct	Fence			728	lf	Two rail fence to protect meadow		0.0
6	Construct	Causeway (Wall less)	249			lf	Start of crown, 4" of fill for causeway		249.0
255	Construct	Causeway (Wall less)					End of crown		0.0
255	Construct	Causeway (Wall less)	360			lf	Start of outslope		360.0
313		Water Valve					Location of Water Valve (Left)		0.0
615	Construct	Causeway (Wall less)					End of outslope		0.0
615	Construct	Trail	1254			lf	Start of Reroute bench construction		1254.0
615	Brush	Heavy	10			lf			10.0
728	Construct	Fence					End two rail fence		0.0
809	Tree Removal	Heavy	45			ft	40" Dia Dead Oak		45.0
1176	Excavate	Rock	3	2	4	cf			24.0
1272	Tree Removal	Heavy					9" Dia		0.0
1333	Construct	Abutment Rock	25	3	1.5	cf	scavage from rock on site		112.5
1333	Construct	Bridge	32				Right bank, Construct standard bridge		32.0





Trail Logs

- **Trail Logs can also be Construction Logs**
 - Logs Developed for New Construction



Sustainable Design

- Non Paved Trails are Designed to:
 - Season of Use
 - User Type
 - Soil Type

- Do You Utilize:
 - Curvilinear Layout
 - Outslope and Sheet Drainage
 - Minimal Use of Structures

Deficiency Can Be Caused by Resource Impacts on a Trail that is an Important Link



Diversified Use



Management Capacity Training

Highlight the Non Paved Trail Training



Management Capacity

Maximizing Accessibility



Management Capacity

Designs to Minimize Impacts to
Natural and Cultural Resources



Management Capacity

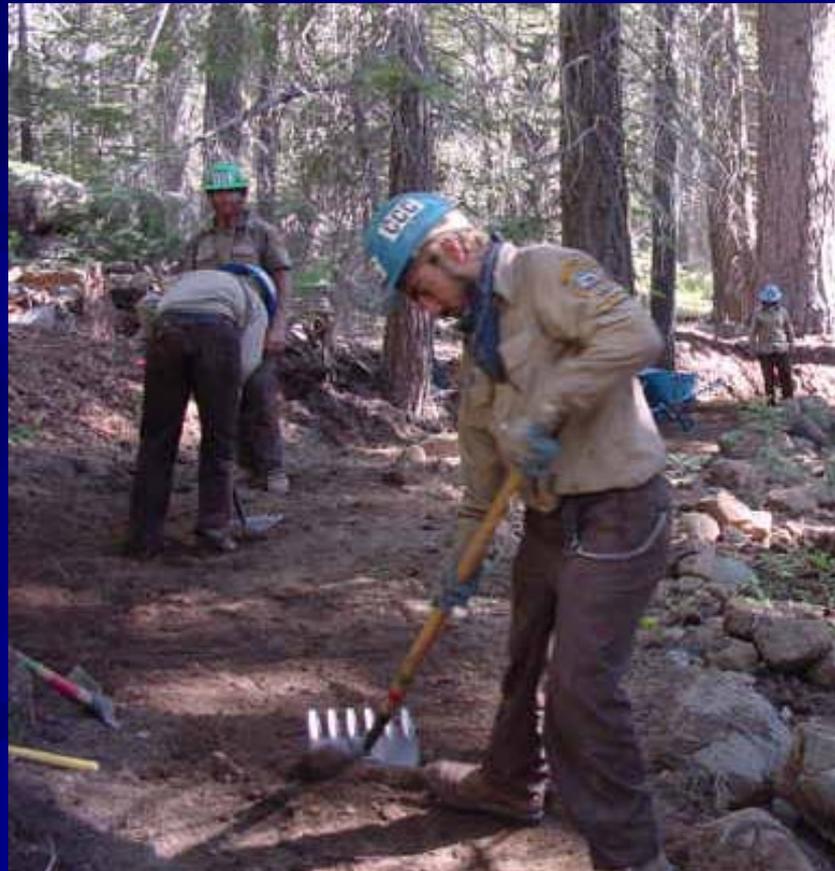
Construction Techniques Utilizing

Aesthetic,
Compatible or
Renewable
Resources





Management Capacity Maintenance Program



Developing a Competitive Motorized Application

- ◆ Project Proposal must address the unique qualities of motorized projects
 - Trail map development
 - Trail maintenance and trail maintenance equipment



Developing a Competitive Motorized Application

- Deficiency and Solutions to the Deficiency



Developing a Competitive Motorized Application

- **Project User Accessibility**



Developing a Competitive Motorized Application

- **Access to the Project**

- ✓ **Parking Lots**

- ✓ **Staging Areas**



Developing a Competitive Motorized Application

- Sustainable Design



Developing a Competitive Motorized Application

- Sustainable Design (continued)



Developing a Competitive Motorized Application



- Sustainable Design (continued)



Developing a Competitive Motorized Application

- Management Capacity



Grant Applications for Multi-purpose Paved Trails



Multi-purpose Paved Trails

- **Deficiencies & Solutions**
- **Connectivity & Linkages**
- **User Accessibility & Access**
- **Sustainability**
- **Management Capacity**
- **Diversified Use & Visitation**
- **Stakeholders & Planning**
- **Service Corps**



Deficiencies & Solutions

- Gaps in Regional Trail Systems
- Think
“Outside the Box”



Connectivity & Linkages

- **Coordinate with Neighboring Agencies**
- **Investigate Regional Trail Opportunities**



User Accessibility & Access

- **AASHTO vs. Federal Access Board**
- **Metro Links**
- **Urban Core Access**



Sustainability

- Design
- Materials
- Management
- Funding



Management Capacity

- What is your Agency's Program?
- Utilize Different Sources
- Be Flexible!



Diversified Use & Visitation

- Define your User Groups
- Evaluate Source of Users
- Can Facility Meet User Needs?



Stakeholders & Planning

- **Start Involvement Early**
- **Be Open to Ideas**
- **Builds Constituents**



Service Corps

- **Select Service Corps that best suits tasks**
- **Match technical abilities with selected tasks**
- **Maintain Level of Oversight**



Developing a Competitive Acquisition Application

- **Deficiencies & Solutions**
- **Connectivity & Linkages**
- **User Accessibility & Access**
- **Sustainability**
- **Management Capacity**
- **Diversified Use & Visitation**
- **Stakeholders & Planning**
- **Service Corps**



Developing a Competitive Acquisition Application

Deficiencies & Solutions

- Describe the lack of trails in the Project area
- Describe how the planned trails in the Project area will solve the deficiencies



Developing a Competitive Acquisition Application

Connectivity

Show How Your Project Will Provide Future Connections to:

- **Regional , state or national systems**
- **Any local trail connections**



Developing a Competitive Acquisition Application



Developing a Competitive Acquisition Application

Numbers of Project Users

Provide a numeric figure for projected use when the future trail is built



Developing a Competitive Acquisition Application

User Accessibility

Describe how your future trail will meet accessibility guidelines



Developing a Competitive Acquisition Application

Access

How will the public access your future trail?
Staging areas, transit, bike lanes, near work
and housing centers?



Developing a Competitive Acquisition Application

Sustainability

Explain how you will use sustainable design for your future trail

Cover all items A-J



Developing a Competitive Acquisition Application

Management Capacity

Describe your capacity for all aspects of your management process for your future trail



Developing a Competitive Acquisition Application

Diversified Use

Describe your future use types



Developing a Competitive Acquisition Application

Stakeholders

Get future users, adjacent landowners, and public officials involved early in your acquisition planning

Planning

Be sure to document how your project is consistent with other plans



Developing a Competitive Acquisition Application

Service Corps

Describe how you will involve Service Corps in your future trail development



Suggested Next Steps



- Read RTP Procedural Guide thoroughly.
- Begin forward planning elements as soon as possible.
- Contact California State Parks if you have questions.
 - For Non-Motorized Projects:
Office of Grants and Local Services (OGALS)
 - For Motorized Projects:
Off-Highway Motor Vehicle Recreation Division (OHMVRD)

