

Funding Programs

The identification of existing and potential funding programs is included to help City officials in the implementation phase of the plan. Funding sources are available in a variety of forms such as bonds, donations, federal and state grants, and loans. Further information can be obtained from the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources and Community Services Specialist for the appropriate state district. It should be noted that although it is desirable to acquire funding sources from grants and other non-local sources the City should also consider its ability to submit the necessary grant application materials, administer the grant and maintain the necessary documentation as required by the grant, fund any required match, maintain the improvement or program, and consider any long term obligations or restrictions on the city property where the funding is used.

Potential Funding Sources

STATE OF WISCONSIN GRANTS:
WI Department of Natural Resources (DNR)
Acquisition & Development of Local Parks (Stewardship)
Acquisition of Development Rights (Stewardship)
Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS) Control Grants
Boat Patrol Grants
Boating Infrastructure Grant (BIG) Program
Brownfield Site Assessment/Green Space/Public Facilities Grants
Clean Water Fund Program
Friends of State Parks (Stewardship)
Gypsy Moth Suppression Program
Habitat Area (Stewardship)
Knowles-Nelson Stewardship Program (Multiple)
Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF)
Local Water Quality Management Planning Aids
Municipal Flood Control
Natural Areas (Stewardship)
Non-point Targeted Runoff Management
Recreational Boating Facilities Grant Program
Recreational Trails Grant Program (Fed Highway Administration)
River Protection and Planning Grant Programs
Sport Fish Restoration (SFR)
State Trails (Stewardship)
State Wildlife Grants Program (Stewardship)
Streambank Protection (Stewardship)
Urban Forestry Assistance Grants
Urban Green Space (Stewardship)

Urban Non-point Source and Storm Water Grant Program
Urban Rivers (Stewardship)
WI Economic Development Corporation (WEDC)
Community Based Economic Development Program (Multiple)
Community Development Block Grants (Multiple)
WI Department of Administration (DOA)
Coastal Management Grants
Comprehensive Planning Grants
WI Department of Transportation (DOT)
Bicycle and Pedestrian Facilities Program
Harbor Assistance Program
Local Transportation Enhancement (TE) Program
Safe Routes to School
Surface Transportation Program – Urban
Transportation Economic Assistance (TEA)
Wisconsin State Infrastructure Bank (Loan Program)
FEDERAL GRANTS:
US Army Corp of Engineers
Aquatic Ecosystem Restoration and Protection Grants
US Environmental Protection Agency
Brownfield Clean Up Grant
Clean Water State Revolving Fund
EPA Environmental Education Grant Program
Great Lakes Restoration Initiative (Through 2014)
US Fish and Wildlife Service
North American Wetlands Conservation Fund
PRIVATE/NON-PROFIT GRANTS:
Bikes Belong Coalition
Bikes Belong Grant Program
Natural Resources Foundation of Wisconsin
C.D. Besadny Conservation Grant (small grants only)
National Fish and Wildlife Foundation
Five-Star Restoration Matching Grants Program
Native Plant Conservation Initiative
Sustain our Great Lakes Program
Eastman Kodak, etc.
Kodak American Greenways Program

Other Funding Sources

There are numerous sources available for funding besides state and federal programs. Substantial funding has come from private foundations, donations, trust funds, and civic organizations in the past for the development of outdoor recreation.

Eligibility

“Eligible local governments are only those towns, villages, cities, counties, and tribal governments that have a Department approved Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan or Master Plan which has been approved by resolution by the local governing unit or a plan of a higher unit of government. Local governments with qualifying plans receive eligibility to apply for grants for five years.”

Source: (<http://www.dnr.state.wi.us>)

Eligible Projects

In general eligible project include land acquisition, development, and renovation projects for “nature-based outdoor recreation” purposes. Decisions by the department (DNR) as to whether a particular project activity is “nature-based outdoor recreation” are made on a case by case basis.

1. Acquisition of a conservation easement (including the acquisition of development rights) that enhances or provides nature-based outdoor recreation. Because of the complexity of easements, the department has developed separate guidelines, including a model easement to explain the requirements for eligibility for Stewardship funding. Contact your DNR region Community Service Specialist for additional information.
2. Land purchases
 - To preserve scenic or natural areas, including areas of physical or biological importance and wildlife areas. These areas shall be open to the general public for outdoor recreation use to the extent that the natural attributes of the areas will not be seriously impaired or lost.
 - Within urban areas for such uses as open natural space, undeveloped play areas, bicycling trails, walking and horseback riding trails, and day-use picnic areas.
 - That preserve or restore urban rivers or riverfronts for the purposes of economic revitalization and nature based outdoor recreation activities.

3. Development and renovation projects for the purpose of nature-based outdoor recreation – e.g., trails, camping areas, picnic areas, water recreation areas, and educational facilities where there is a permanent professional naturalist staff and the facilities are for nature interpretation, etc.
4. Development and renovation of support facilities for the above – e.g., access roads, parking areas, restroom facilities, utility and sanitation systems, permanent landscaping, park signs, fences and lighting for the protection of park users, etc.
5. Shoreline habitat restoration projects that serve public recreation or resource conservation purposes and is dependent on being on a shoreline.
6. Riparian buffer rehabilitation including establishment of native vegetation, which may include slope and site preparation, and control of exotic plant species.
7. Shoreline stabilization, which may employ bioengineering practices, and other environmentally beneficial stabilization techniques.

Source: (<http://www.dnr.state.wi.us>)

Ineligible Projects

1. Land acquired through condemnation by the applicant; development of facilities on lands that were acquired through condemnation by the applicant.
2. Purchasing land for and development of recreation areas that are not related to nature-based outdoor recreation – e.g., sports that require extensively developed open space such as dedicated sports fields, swimming pools, tennis courts, playgrounds, skateboard parks, hockey rinks, indoor horse arenas, golf courses, and motorized recreation.
3. Lands dedicated through a local park land dedication ordinance.
4. Restoration or preservation of historic structures.
5. Buildings primarily devoted to operation and maintenance.
6. Indoor recreation facilities.
7. Construction or repair of seawalls, dams and lagoons.
8. Construction of lodges, motels, luxury cabins or similar facilities.
9. Environmental remediation or clean-up of site contamination.

Source: (<http://www.dnr.state.wi.us>)