# Navigating the Land and Water Conservation Fund: Updates and Strategies for Grant Success

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## LWCF Overview

- In 1964, Congress established the Land and Water Conservation Fund thanks to the passage of the LWCF Act.
- Zero taxpayer dollars are used to invest in the LWCF. The primary source of revenue is from federal oil and gas leases on the Outer Continental Shelf.
- The LWCF program is administered by the Department of the Interior, National Park Service.
- On August 4, 2020, the Great American Outdoor Act went into effect, and the LWCF became permanently fully funded at \$900 million every year.





## **Project Basics**

- Funding is available from \$25,000 to \$1,000,000
- A 50/50 match is required
  - The match can consist of funding or in-kind contributions such as labor or materials
- Funds are paid on a reimbursement basis only
- LWCF funding can only be used for public outdoor recreation



City of Bardstown Mayor's Park





## Project Types

- Acquisition of lands, wetlands, and waters for public outdoor recreation
- **Development:** improvement or a group of related improvements designed to provide basic facilities for outdoor recreation, including facilities for access, safety, security, health, and protection of the area, as well as those required for the outdoor recreation use of the area





## Examples of types of project facilities

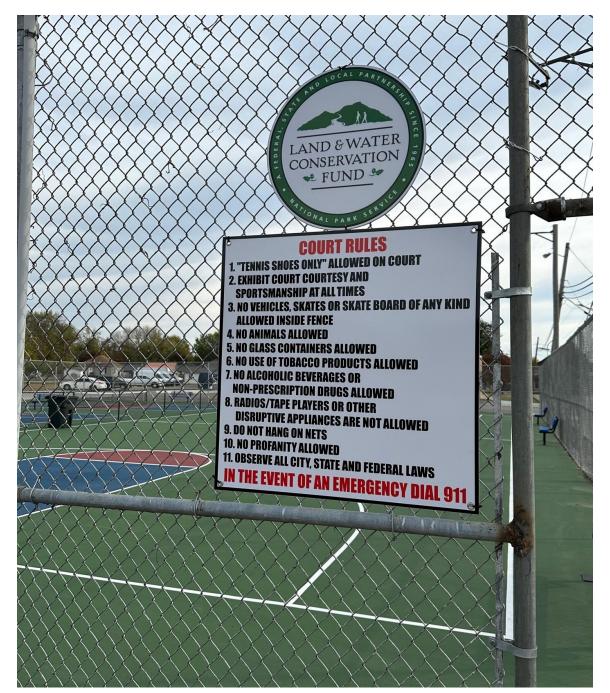
- Sports and playfields
- Picnic facilities
- Trails
- Swimming facilities
- Boating facilities
- Fishing/hunting facilities
- Camping facilities

- Community gardens
- Support facilities such as roads, parking, restrooms, etc.
- Operation and maintenance facilities in support of outdoor recreation





## **Deed Restrictions**



City of Worthington Park Upgrades

- The purpose of the deed restriction is to ensure that the land within the boundary continues to be used as the LWCF Act intends for perpetuity (i.e. used for outdoor recreation forever)
- The deed restriction contains limitations regarding specific uses and changes to the land
- Deed restriction applies to the entirety of the park, not just the areas where LWCF funds are spent, and remains in place <u>forever</u>.





## Conversions

- Conversions are triggered when a property acquired or developed with LWCF assistance is used (either partially or totally) for a purpose other than public outdoor recreation
- Replacement properties must be acquired and restricted in the same way as the original LWCF land
- Temporary non-conforming use occurs when a portion of the land is used for something other than outdoor recreation for a period of less than 6 months (construction, etc.)



Example of a transportation project that triggered a conversion





## **Application Timeline**

**Application to** DLG

January to May (Year 1)



Review Process -**Project Scoring &** Advisory Committee Review

November (Year



Governor **Preliminarily Approves Projects** 

January (Year 2)



Grant **Application Submitted to** the National **Park Service** 

September to October (Year 2)



Grant **Awarded** 

March to April (Year 2)





## Tips for preparing applications to DLG and to NPS



City of Lawrenceburg Century Bank Park

- 1. Project budget
- 2. Map requirements
- 3. Historical information about past LWCF missing
- 4. SHPO/Clearinghouse
- 5. Endangered Species Act Section7 documentation
- 6. Keep in mind project scoring when writing your application





## Common budget mistakes



Ensure consistency across all documents



For in-kind contributions, list them on their own line and include detail such as number of hours x hourly rate for labor



Make sure any line items listed are explained in the narrative

#### Detailed Budget

Budget Breakdown:	Amount	Local Match	Federal Match
Construction			
Materials			
Light poles	\$ 50,000.00	\$25,000.00	\$25,000.00
Conduit, fittings, wire and associated material	\$ 10,000.00	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 5,000.00
Control panel and controls	\$ 3,000.00	\$ 1,500.00	\$ 1,500.00
New service equipment	\$ 2,600.00	\$ 1,300.00	\$ 1,300.00
Labor			
Demolition	\$ 3,900.00	\$ 3,900.00	\$ -
Sitework	\$ 6,500.00	\$ 3,250.00	\$ 3,250.00
Installation	\$ 24,000.00	\$10,050.00	\$13,950.00
	\$100,000.00	\$50,000.00	\$50,000.00

#### SF 424

18. Estimated Funding (\$):					
* a. Federal	50,000.00				
* b. Applicant					
* c. State					
* d. Local	50,000.00				
* e. Other					
* f. Program Income					
* g. TOTAL	100,000.00				

#### SF 424C

S	SF 424C OMB Number: 4040-00 Expiration Date: 01/31/20							
BUDGET INFORMATION - Construction Programs								
NOT	E: Certain Federal assistance programs require additional co	omputations to arrive at the Federal sha						
	COST CLASSIFICATION	a. Total Cost	<ul> <li>b. Costs Not Allowable for Participation</li> </ul>	c. Total Allowable Costs (Columns a-b)				
1.	Administrative and legal expenses	\$	\$	\$				
2.	Land, structures, rights-of-way, appraisals, etc.	\$	\$	\$				
3.	Relocation expenses and payments	5	5	\$				
4.	Architectural and engineering fees	\$	\$	\$				
5.	Other architectural and engineering fees	5	\$	\$				
6.	Project Inspection fees	5	\$	\$				
7.	Site work	\$	\$	\$				
8.	Demolition and removal	5	\$	\$				
9.	Construction	\$ 100,000.00	\$	\$ 100,000.00				
10.	Equipment	\$	\$	\$				
11.	Miscellaneous	\$	\$	\$				
12.	SUBTOTAL (sum of lines 1-11)	\$ 100,000.00	\$	\$ 100,000.00				
13.	Contingencies	\$	\$	\$				
14.	SUBTOTAL	\$ 100,000.00	\$	\$ 100,000.00				
15.	Project (program) Income	\$	\$	\$				
16.	TOTAL PROJECT COSTS (subtract #15 from #14)	\$ 100,000.00	\$	\$ 100,000.00				
FEDERAL FUNDING								
17.	Federal assistance requested, calculate as follows: (Consult Federal agency for Federal percentage shar Enter the resulting Federal share.	re.) Enter eligible costs from lin	ne 16c Multiply X 50 %	\$ 50,000.00				

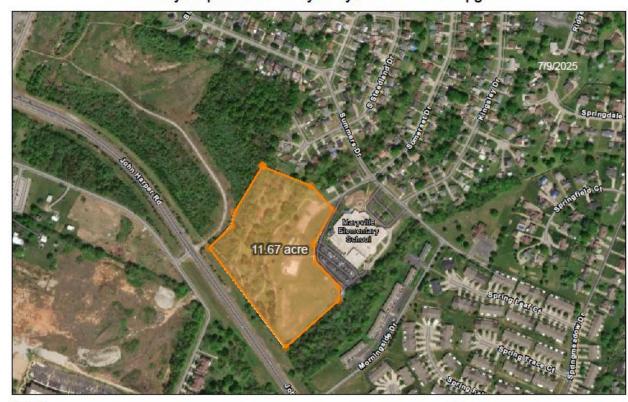




## Mapping

#### Boundary Map

Boundary Map: Bullitt County Maryville Park Pool Upgrades



GPS Coordinates: 38.061110, -85.685000

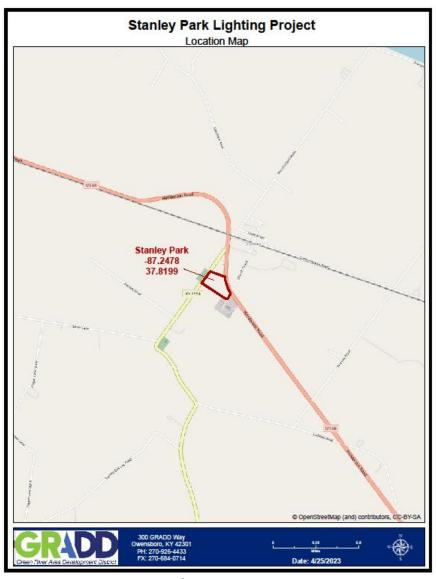
Source: KIPDA

#### Site Plan



Source: Barren River ADD

#### Location Map



Source: Green River ADD



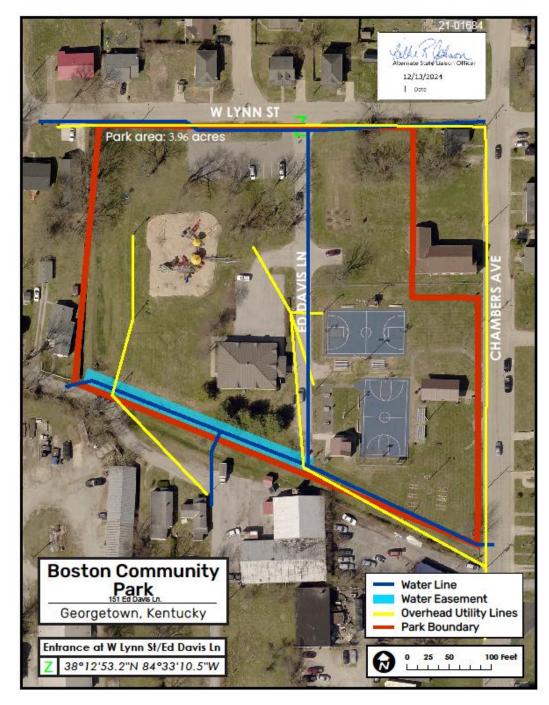


## **Boundary Map Requirements**

Purpose: to define the LWCF protected area

#### Must include:

- Park name
- GPS coordinates
- Park address
- Acreage
- North arrow
- All streets labeled (even if outside the park)
- LWCF project number (will not have until initial submission to NPS)
- All known outstanding rights and interests in the area held by others (leases, easements, etc.)
- Power lines (if applicable)



Source: City of Georgetown





## Site Plan

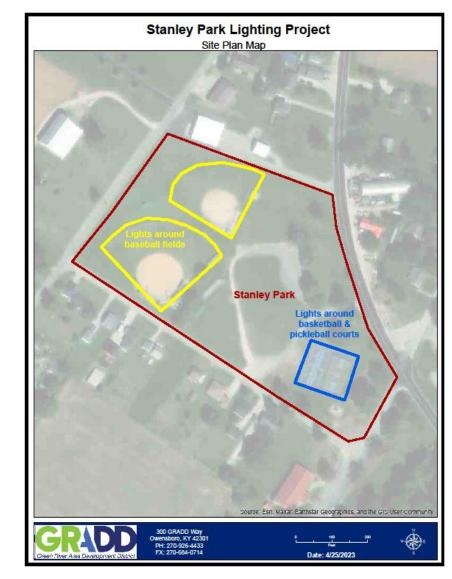
Purpose: to show where the LWCF project elements will be located



Source: City of Silver Grove



Source: Barren River ADD



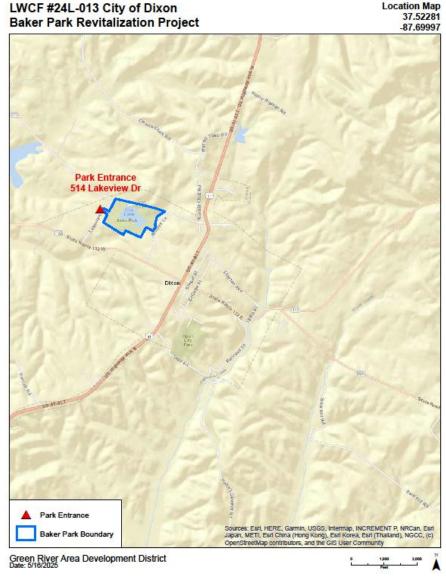
Source: Green River ADD



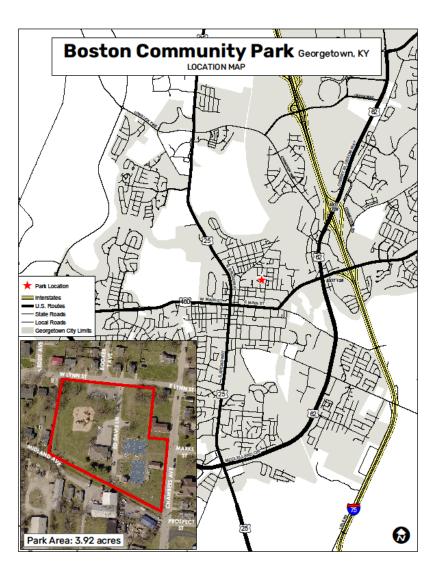


## Location Map

Purpose: to give context to the location of the area to someone unfamiliar with the area







Source: City of Georgetown





## Past project funding

- Both the DLG application and NPS application require a list of past LWCF funded projects in the park
- The DLG application also requests info on the city or county's current projects



Woodford County Park Tennis Courts





## SHPO & Clearinghouse



#### ANDY BESHEAR GOVERNOR

#### TOURISM, ART'S AND HERITAGE CABINET KENTUCKY HERITAGE COUNCIL

LINDY CASEBIER SECRETARY

THE STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICE 410 HIGH STREET

CRAIG A. POT EXECUTIVE DIRECT STATE HISTORIC PRESERVA

LT. GOVERNOR

FRANKFORT, KENTUCKY 40601 (502) 564-7005 www.heritage.ky.gov May 21, 2025

John Smith Judge P.O. Box 1234 Smithtown, KY 41234

RE: NPS, ABC County Fiscal Court, Park Inclusive Playground Equipment Revitalization Project in ABC County, Kentucky

Dear Judge Roberts:

Our review indicates that the proposed project will not impact any properties or sites that are listed in or eligible for the National Register of Historic Places. The proposed project should not require cultural resource survey. We would concur with a finding of No Historic Properties Affected.

In the unlikely event that human remains are found during construction for this project, work should cease immediately, and the county coroner and the Kentucky Heritage Council should be contacted. Should project plans change or there be any future concerns or questions regarding cultural resources in the vicinity of this project area, please do not hesitate to contact Nicole Konkol via email at <a href="mailto:nicole.konkol@ky.gov">nicole.konkol@ky.gov</a>.

Sincerely,

Craig A. Potts, Executive Director and State Historic Preservation Officer

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#### OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

Dennis Kee Commission

Andy Beshear Governor DEPARTMENT FOR LOCAL GOVERNMENT 100 AIRPORT ROAD, THIRD FLOOR FRANKFORT, KENTUCKY 40801 PHONE (502) 573-2382 FAX (502) 227-8801 WWW.Kydlqweb.ky.qov

May 31, 2024

Judge John Smith ABC County Fiscal Court PO Box 1234 Smithtown, KY 41234

> RE: Park Playground Revitalization SAI# KY CFDA# 15.916

Dear Judge Smit

The Kentucky State e-Clearinghouse is the official designated Single Point of Contact (SPOC) for the Commonwealth pursuant to Presidential Executive Order 12372, and supported by Kentucky Statutes KRS 45.031. The primary function of the SPOC is to streamline the review aforementioned process for the applicant and the funding agency. This process helps in vocalizing the statutory and regulatory requirements. Information in the form of comments, if any, will be attached to this correspondence.

This proposal has been reviewed by the appropriate state agencies in the e-Clearinghouse for conflicts with state or local plans, goals and objectives. After receiving this letter, you should make it available to the funding agency and continue with the funding agencies application process. This e-Clearinghouse SPOC letter signifies only that the project has followed the state reviewing requirements, and is neither a commitment of funds from this agency or any other state or federal agency. Please remember if any federal reviews are required the applicant must follow through with those federal agencies.

The results of this review are valid for one year from the date of this letter. If the project is not submitted to the funding agency or not approved within one year after the completion of this review, the applicant can request an extension by email to Lee.Nalley@ky.gov. If the project changes in any way after the review, the applicant must reapply through the e-Clearinghouse for a new review. There are no exceptions.

If you have any questions regarding this letter or the review process please contact the e-Clearinghouse office at 502-892-3462.

Sincerely,

Billie R Johnson,

Executive Director, Office of Federal Grants Kentucky State Clearinghouse

Attachment



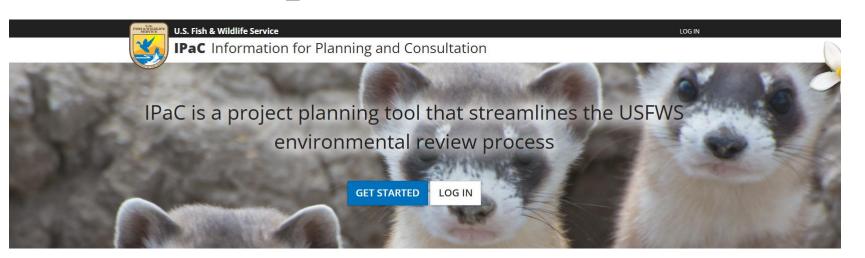




## Endangered Species Act – Section 7



Short's Bladderpod



ipac.ecosphere.fws.gov



Pink Mucket



Indiana Bat (found in every county in Kentucky)



Kentucky Cave Shrimp (found only in Mammoth Cave)





## SCORP & Project Scoring

- SCORP refers to the Kentucky
   Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor
   Recreation Plan
- LWCF are required to be in line with the goals of the SCORP
- Project scoring includes a question on number of SCORP goals the project aligns with (up to 30 points)
- SCORP can be found on the DLG LWCF webpage. The Goals are on page 79.



City of Elizabethtown Freeman Lake Playground





## Questions?

Contact:
Pamela Jordan
Pamela.Jordan@ky.gov
502-892-3158



