

TRAILS GRANT PROGRAM

DIVISION OF PLANNING AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT



PROGRAM OVERVIEW:

The Sussex County Trails Grant Program will award grants for the construction, rehabilitation, restoration, and maintenance of publicly owned shared use trails.

All trail construction must occur on permanently preserved public land held by a public entity or a permanent easement dedicated to a public entity enabling public recreational trail use.



PROGRAM HISTORY:

- The Trails Grant Program was developed as result of the November 7, 2017 General Election Public Question.
- The referendum asked the Public to allow the Farmland Preservation, Recreation and Open Space Trust Fund to be used for stewardship projects and for the development and maintenance of permanently preserved open space.
- The Public Question was approved by Sussex County voters, with sixty-three percent (63%) voting "Yes."

COUNTY OPEN SPACE & RECREATION PLAN REVIEW:

The Trails Program is consistent with the following OSRP Goals and Objectives:

- Connect land for regional greenways and trail development.
- Offer opportunities for resource-based (passive) recreation.
- Provide opportunities for facility-based (active) recreation.
- Promote tourism activities.
- Enhance land and sites with historic values
- Enhance system safety for permitted users.

ANTICIPATED TIMELINE:

- Sept. 2021: Grant Announcement
- Sept. 23, 2021: Pre-Application Meeting
- Dec. 2, 2021: Tentative Grant Application Deadline
- Dec. 2021: Projects Reviewed by Open Space Advisory Committee
- Jan. 2022: Open Space Application Meeting
- Feb. 2022: Recommendations to County Commissioners
- Mar. 2022: Grant Agreements Mailed
- Mar. 2023: Project Completion

PROPOSED FUNDING DISTRIBUTION:

Minimum Grant Amount: \$250.00

Maximum Grant Amount:

Individual municipality: max. of \$5,000.00
Two or More municipalities: max. of \$15,000.00

PROJECT STAFF:

For information on the Sussex County Trails Grant Project or the Sussex County Open Space program in general, please contact: Maggie Faselt, Open Space Coordinator, at 973-579-0500, ext. 1330 or email to mfaselt@sussex.nj.us