



**OHMVR COMMISSION MEETING  
San Benito County Board of Supervisors Chambers**

**December 1, 2012**

**STAFF REPORT:** Recreational Trails Program  
**STAFF:** Kelly Long, Grant Administrator  
**SUBJECT:** Recreational Trails Program Update

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**Summary**

This year the Off-Highway Motor Vehicle Recreation (OHMVR) Division will be distributing approximately \$1.5 million from the Recreational Trails Program (RTP) to successful applicants for motorized trail projects on public lands in California.

**Discussion**

California State Parks announced the RTP application cycle on October 19, 2012. Two technical assistance workshops were conducted by staff from the OHMVR Division and the Office of Grants and Local Services (OGALS). One workshop was held on November 8 in Santa Ana and approximately sixty potential applicants attended. On November 14, fifty-five potential applicants attended the workshop in Oakland.

Applications for the upcoming RTP cycle are due on January 9, 2013. Funding recommendations are expected by summer of 2013.

The Recreation Trails Program was reauthorized on July 6, 2012, when the “Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21st Century Act” (MAP-21) was signed by the President. This Act provided more than \$100 billion for numerous federal highway programs, including nearly \$80 million nationwide for RTP.

California's RTP apportionment is approximately \$5 million through Federal Fiscal Year (FFY) 2014 / State Fiscal Year (SFY) 2013/14. State law prescribes that 30% of California's apportionment (\$1.5 million) is available for motorized projects and 70% (\$3.5 million) for non-motorized projects.

Enactment of MAP-21 provided steady funding for the RTP through September 30, 2014. For the preceding years, funding was tenuous and relied on a series of continuing resolutions. This uncertainty made it difficult to administer the program, including the 2011/12 cycle when no RTP funding was offered.

California is participating in RTP, as the Governor did not indicate that California wished to “opt out” and the California State Recreational Trail Advisory Committee meeting was held on June 7, 2012. Commission Action.

**Commission Action**

For information only

**Attachments**

RTP Factsheet



## Recreational Trails Grant Program

Under the  
Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21st Century Act (MAP-21)

**Program Description:** The Recreational Trails Program (RTP) provides federal funds for recreational trails and trails-related projects.

The Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) administers the program at the federal level and the California Department of Parks and Recreation (DPR) administers the program at the state level. DPR's Office of Grants and Local Services administers non-motorized projects. The motorized projects are administered by DPR's Off-Highway Motor Vehicle Recreation Division.

**Eligible Applicants:** Cities, counties, districts, state agencies and federal agencies are eligible to apply, as well as non-profit organizations, which have management responsibilities over public lands. (All non-profit organizations shall have a current tax-exempt status under Section 501(c) (3) of the Federal Internal Revenue Code, and a written agreement between the non-profit organization and the federal agency owning the land, identifying the organization's responsibilities over public lands.)

**Eligible Projects for Non-Motorized Trails:** Development and rehabilitation of recreational trails, trailside and trailhead facilities, and trail linkages; construction of new trails (if on federal land, certain restrictions apply); or acquisition of easements or fee-simple title to property for recreational trails or trail corridors (from a willing seller only).

**Eligible Projects for Motorized Trails:** Acquisition of easements and fee simple title to property for Recreational Trails or Recreational Trail corridors (from a willing seller); development and rehabilitation of trails, trailside and trailhead facilities; construction of new trails (if on federal land, certain restrictions apply); maintenance of existing trails; purchase and lease of trail construction and maintenance equipment; assessment of trail conditions for accessibility and maintenance; development and dissemination of publications and operation of educational programs to promote safety and environmental protection related to trails (including supporting non-law enforcement trail safety and trail use monitoring patrol programs and providing trail-related training).

**Application Deadline:** January 9, 2013

**Funds Available:** Approximately \$5 million

**Minimum & Maximum Grant Request Amounts:** There is no minimum or maximum limit on grant request amounts.

**Match Requirement:** Grant funds will reimburse up to 88% of eligible project costs. Federal funds cannot exceed 95% of total project costs (at least 5% must come from a non-federal source). The source of matching funds for local agencies can include local, state, or private funds, and/or donated materials and services.

**RTP Procedural Guide:** The RTP procedural guide can be obtained from the Department's website at <http://www.parks.ca.gov/grants> or you may call (916) 653-7423 to receive a guide by mail. The RTP procedural guide covers both non-motorized and motorized trail projects.