

2026 (G26) Grants and Cooperative Agreements Program BLM - Bakersfield Field Office's Preliminary Application Comments

Comments submitted by the Department of Parks and Recreation (Department) Off-Highway Motor Vehicle Recreation (OHMVR) Division to individual Grant Applicants should in no way be construed as a guarantee of successful results for the Applicant within the competitive Grants process or a commitment of funding. Additionally, the lack of comments by the OHMVR Division to any specific Applicant does not ensure successful results for the Applicant within the competitive Grant process or a commitment of funding.

Failure by the Applicant to respond to any OHMVR Division comment of their preliminary Application may be cause for eliminating that item from the Applicant's final Application.

All final Applications will be reviewed by the OHMVR Division. The OHMVR Division may, at its sole discretion, decrease the requested amount and eliminate activities pursuant with regulation Section 4970.07.2 (f)(1-5) and for Law Enforcement Projects, regulation Section 4970.15.3(b)(1-5).

If multiple proposed Projects are requesting funding for the same deliverable, and multiple projects are successful, only one project will receive funding for the deliverable.

For proposed Projects requesting Grant funding for snow and/or winter activities. Applicants must ensure the activities and/or Equipment/Heavy Equipment/Trailer requested are not and/or cannot be funded by the Department's Winter Program (commonly referred to as the Snow Grooming Program).

For proposed Projects requesting Grant funding for the maintenance of roads and/or trails, note that only roads and/or trails that allow "green sticker" Off-Highway Vehicles are allowed to receive Grant funding.

Applicants are reminded that no Grant funds and/or match can be expended, or Project activities conducted in any land owned or managed by the Department except as allowed in the Grants and Cooperative Agreements Program regulations section 4970.09 (b)(11).

General Evaluation Criteria:

- No comment.

Ground Operations: G26-01-03-G01

Project Description – Background

- No comment.

Project Description – Project Description

- No comment.

Project Description – List of Project Deliverables

- #8 – Applicant must clarify the meaning of “monitoring designated routes for compliance and reporting,” as there are no Ground Disturbing activities proposed under this Project and monitoring and reporting activities appear to be outside the scope of the proposed work. In addition, Applicant is reminded that Law Enforcement personnel performing educational outreach is duplicative of the Applicant's Law Enforcement Project and is not an eligible expense under a Ground Operations Project. Furthermore, Applicant must ensure that the List of Project Deliverables is accurate and precise, listing only those activities that directly pertain to the corresponding Project Deliverable title. Applicant must relocate the Facility maintenance activities referenced in the last paragraph to Project Deliverable #4.

Project Description – All Others

- No comment.

Project Cost Estimate

- All Staff line items – Due to recent federal staffing reductions, it is unclear whether the staffing levels listed in the Project Cost Estimate are accurate. Applicant must confirm that all staff positions listed in this Application are currently filled prior to the final Application submission.
- Staff #1 “Park Ranger Regular Wages” – Applicant must clarify the meaning of “inspecting, monitoring, and reporting route condition issues,” as it is unclear why monitoring activities are being proposed when no trail maintenance work will be performed under this Project. In addition, the proposed costs for this line item have increased significantly compared to the prior year's Application. Applicant must provide a clear explanation justifying this increase and demonstrate that the costs are reasonable relative to the Project Deliverables. Lastly, the proposed hourly rate has increased substantially compared to the prior year's Application. Applicant must clarify how the rate was determined and confirm whether overtime costs are being included in this line item.
- Staff #2 “Support Staff Overtime” – The proposed cost for this line item has increased significantly compared to the prior year's Application. Applicant must provide a detailed explanation justifying this increase and demonstrate that the

cost is reasonable and proportionate to the work outlined in the Project Deliverables. In their justification, Applicant must identify the number of staff positions included in this line item and provide a clear breakdown of how the quantity of hours was determined for each position.

- Contract #1 “Thomas Refuse” – The proposed cost for this line item appears excessive. Applicant must provide a clear explanation of how the contract cost was determined, including the precise scope, location of bathrooms, frequency of cleaning and pumping, and the number and location of any supplemental portable toilet rentals. Applicant must also attach a copy of the supporting contract quote to the final Application submission and confirm the services are exclusive to OHV areas.

Law Enforcement: G26-01-03-L01

Need Assessment

- Item #4 – Applicant must describe types of vehicles used for patrol.

Needs Enforcement Certification

- No comment.

Project Cost Estimate

- Staff #2 “Law Enforcement” – Applicant needs to explain why the information in the LE Needs (1 Supervisor 4 Field staff) section does not match the Project Cost Estimate (1 Supervisor 2 Field staff). Additionally, Applicant must explain why hours increased when staff decreased.