

2.1.8. INNOVATION GRANT PROGRAM

The Innovation Grant Program will fund projects that demonstrate innovation in park design or maintenance, park access, understanding of park users, or functioning of park agencies. The projects should incorporate sustainability, energy and water efficiency, stormwater capture, and/or state of the art technology into their scope of work. Projects funded by the Innovation Grant Program should be replicable in communities throughout the County and will serve as precedents that move parks forward in Los Angeles County.

Refer to Section 3.4.6 for information about applying for and administering these grants.

Funding Amount and Cycle Frequency



Allocation: These funds are derived from the Implementation, Operations, and Oversight Category of Measure A's Expenditure Plan (Section 6.e.3 (7.2%)) when funds are available.

Grant Cycle: Innovation Grant funds will be distributed on a rolling basis as funds are available.

Grant Award Amount: Innovation Grants will be awarded for a minimum of \$20,000.

Recipients: Public agencies, community-based organizations, and schools that oversee parks in one or more of the 188 Study Areas in Los Angeles County are eligible to apply.

Project Types

Below is a non-exhaustive list of projects that may be eligible for grant funds under the Innovation Grant Program. This list is intended to assist applicants in understanding the types of projects that Innovation Grant Program funds can be expended on, not to limit or direct the projects they choose to complete.

- Design elements that support innovative environmental sustainability and a decreased reliance on inefficient or outdated energy sources.
- Innovative approaches to increasing park access and use by community members.
- Innovative approaches to water quality improvement or conservation.
- Innovative human-centered technology such as publicly accessible WiFi connectivity in parks, online or in-person engagement tools to educate and encourage park use, apps or programs designed to increase park user engagement or gather park user statistics.
- Innovative systems for use by park agency or organization staff that result in increased efficiency, higher quality service, gathering of park user and maintenance statistics or savings of resources.



Project Requirements

Applicants must provide proof that the project meets the project eligibility and feasibility requirements listed below.

Project Eligibility

Applicants must provide proof that the project meets *all* the following Project Eligibility requirements to apply for a grant award:

- The project is in a park, or involves parks users
- The applicant is the Agency of Record for the Study Area in which the project will be located; or the Agency of Record for the Study Area is included as a partner in the project
- The project is an innovative approach to park design or maintenance, park access, understanding of park users, or functioning of park agencies.
- The project incorporates sustainability, energy and/or water efficiency, stormwater capture, and/or state of the art technology.
- The project has potential to be replicated throughout the County and scaled for small or large agencies.

Project Feasibility

Applicants must provide a feasible timeline, budget, and project management plan.

Community Engagement

The applicant must share information about the project with the community.

