

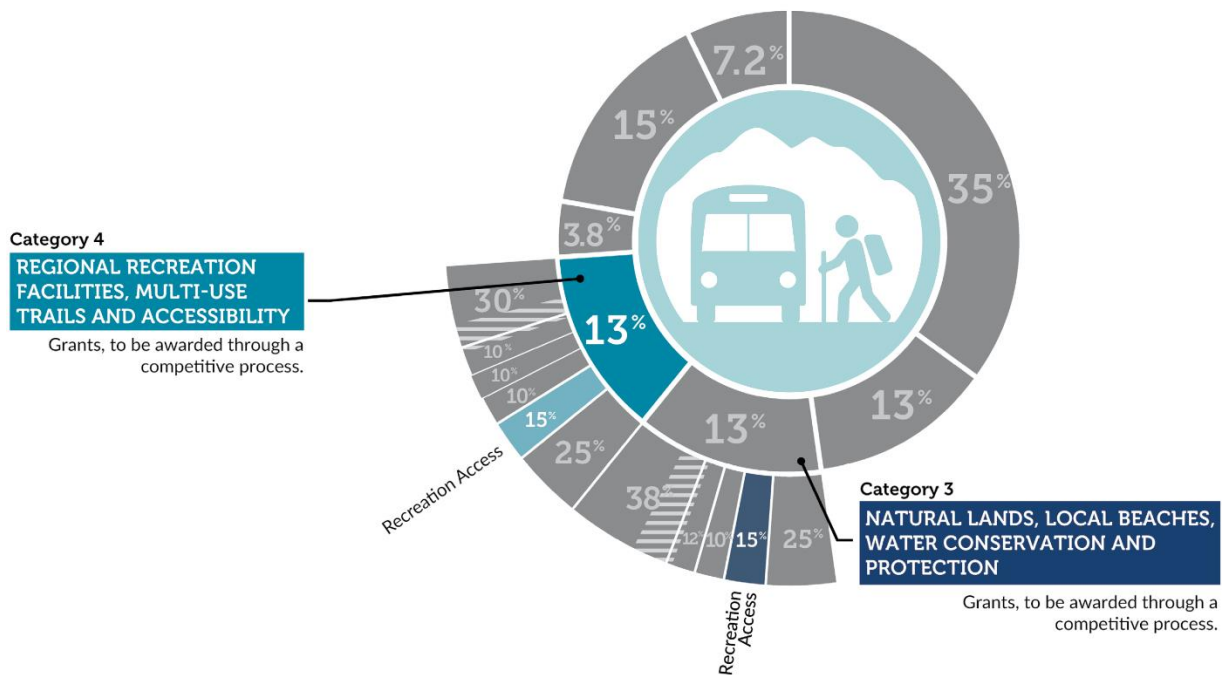
2.2.4. RECREATION ACCESS PROGRAM

This is a Program Projects grant program, funded from Categories 3 and 4.

Goals

Measure A allows for up to 15 percent of Category 3 and 4 funds to be awarded to recreation access grants programs. These grants shall establish or continue building upon established programs to increase the ability of residents to access public lands, park facilities, and park amenities, including education, interpretive services, safety information, transportation, and other activities that increase the accessibility for County residents, especially those in High-Need or Very-High-Need Study Areas.

Funding Amount and Cycle Frequency



Annual Allocation: 15% of the Natural Lands, Local Beaches, Water Conservation and Protection Program (Category 3) and 15% of the Regional Recreation, Multi-use Trails and Accessibility Program (Category 4).

Grant Cycle: The first cycle will occur after resolution of ongoing litigation; then every two years thereafter.

Amount: The dollar amount of funds available is updated annually based on the revenue received by September 15th of each year, and awarded at intervals as described in the Competitive Grants Calendar (Figure 3-1).



Program Examples

Below is a non-exhaustive list of programs that may be eligible for Recreation Access grant funds:

- Educational and Interpretive programs that promote park use;
- Interpretive programs and nature education;
- Pop-up recreational or interpretive programs;
- Programs that provide or fund transportation that includes an interpretive or educational; opportunity from areas of High-Need or Very-High-Need to beaches, regional parks, cultural facilities, recreational events, or natural parks.

Program Requirements

Applicants must provide proof that the Recreation and Access program meets the eligibility, feasibility, and community engagement requirements listed below.

Acknowledgement of the assistance provided by RPOSD must be included in all written materials produced for the program. RPOSD will provide electronic samples of its graphics for use by grantees.

Program Eligibility

Applicants must provide proof that the program meets *all* the following eligibility requirements to apply for a grant award:

- The program increases the ability for county citizens to access public lands, park facilities, park amenities, and recreational opportunities.
- The program meets or will meet the requirements of the Americans with Disabilities (ADA) Act of 1990.
- The program must provide an annual program evaluation.

Applicants must provide proof that the program meets *at least one* requirement below to apply for a grant award:

- The program has already been established; or
- The program provider has a track record of running similar types of programs at other locations in Los Angeles County; or
- The program provider has not run programs similar to the one proposed but is either well-established in the service area or has established a partnership with an agency or CBO that is well-established in the service area. The partner agency or CBO needs to have experience providing recreation and access programs or similar programs.



Project Feasibility

Applicants must provide proof that the program meets *at least one* requirement below in order to apply for a grant award:

- The program has already been established; or
- The program provider has a track record of running similar types of programs at other locations in Los Angeles County; or
- The program provider has not run programs similar to the one proposed, but is either well-established in the service area or has established a partnership with an agency or CBO that is well-established in the service area.

Community Engagement

The project must meet the minimum community engagement requirements described in Section 3.3.

Award Size

Requested grant awards must meet the minimum and maximum grant award size requirements.

- Minimum: \$50,000
- Maximum: \$1,850,000

Requested grant awards must meet the minimum and maximum grant award size requirements.

Grant applications will be categorized into award size brackets as shown in Table 2-5.

Table 2-5: Recreation Access Program Award Size Brackets

AWARD SIZE BRACKETS	MINIMUM AWARD SIZE	MAXIMUM AWARD SIZE
Small	\$50,000	\$499,999
Medium	\$500,000	\$999,999
Large	\$1,000,000	\$1,850,000

Grant applications within each bracket will be evaluated and ranked to determine projects to be awarded a grant.

Projects that require funding beyond these Measure A limits may seek to leverage supplemental funding from other sources.

Organizations may submit grant applications to fund multi-year program(s) not to exceed three years. For awarded multi-year programs, grant funding will only be guaranteed for the first year. Funding for subsequent year(s) is contingent to approval by RPOSD and an evaluation process. The program evaluation must have multiple evaluation points and be inclusive of the full grant timeline.



Evaluation Criteria

Applications will be scored using the following criteria. Refer to Section 3.4.2 for additional information on evaluation methodology.

Level of Need:

This will consider whether or not a project or program serves or benefits residents of High-Need or Very-High-Need Study Areas or provides services to and/or recruits a majority of its participants from High-Need or Very-High-Need Study Areas.

Community Involvement Beyond Required Minimum

This is evaluated based on the assessment of submitted community involvement documentation and/or community involvement plan for the proposed project as well as quality of the agency's engagement with the community in past or ongoing projects (in any). Examples include:

- Engaging the community while developing the program to ensure that the program will meet the community's needs;
- Utilizing multiple inclusive outreach methods that target broad representation of residents and stakeholders;
- Actively seeking to remove barriers to accessing engagement meetings/ events such as scheduling meetings/events in the evenings and/or weekends, providing childcare, providing transportation, and providing refreshments;
- Establishing or leveraging community partnerships with local community-based organizations, citizen advisory groups, and/or school districts to gain support for the project;
- Providing language access services beyond minimum requirements;
- Reflecting community input received during the engagement process in the project's outcome and its components.

Program Benefits

Programs that improve accessibility, connectivity, and safety as well as provides opportunities for Education, Interpretive services, and Active Recreation are rewarded. Evaluation will be based on submitted plans. Aspects that will be taken into consideration during application evaluation process will include:

- Goals and Objectives
- Accessibility
- Participant Recruitment
- Connectivity
- Interpretive Programs and Education
- Program elements tied to State Environmental Education Curricula &/or Education Code
- Safe and Active Transportation

