Outdoor Recreation Legacy program Grant - Deaverview

Presented by

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Board of County Commissioners Meeting

April 2, 2024
Overview

- Deaverview Mountain Property
- Property Status
- Grant Opportunity – Outdoor Recreation Legacy Partnership (ORLP)
- ORLP Program Implications
- Optional Paths Forward
- Request for Board Action
Deaverview Mountain Property

Property is located in the Deaverview Community

- 5.2 miles from Downtown Asheville
- 3.6 miles from West Asheville
- 7.5 miles from Leicester
- 7.9 miles from Candler
Deaverview Mountain
342 acres
Property Status

• **Ownership**
  - Privately owned by conservation-minded individual
  - SAHC (Southern Appalachian Highlands Conservancy) – 3 year option to secure needed funds for County donation of property
    - Deadline - March 2026

• **Funding Status**
  - SAHC awarded Land and Water Grant Funding October 2023: $4,369,630
    - April 2023 - County passed resolution to support grant application and due diligence
  - Additional Funding Needed: $4,430,370
  - Total Project Cost: $8,800,000
Grant Opportunity

Outdoor Recreation Legacy Partnership Grant (ORLP) Program

• Federally funded through Land and Water Conservation Fund
• Dollar-for-dollar matching grant program
• 2024 Grant program moved from every year, to every-other year

Requirements

• City Population Minimum – Incorporated area or county having a population of 30,000 or more, per the 2020 U.S. Census.
• Disadvantaged Community – Project sites and the communities served must be located within a disadvantaged community (Census tract)
• Perpetuity Outdoor Recreation Use - project sites assisted with these funds must be maintained and accessible exclusively for public outdoor recreation use in perpetuity.
• Matching Share – Each dollar of federal share requested must be matched by a dollar of non-federal share.
ORLP Program Implications

• States must apply for ORLP funds
  • May apply on behalf of itself or appoint an eligible primary or program sponsor
  • State has submitted the Notice of Funding Opportunity for the Deaverview property land acquisition
    • Request would be $4,430,370
    • Funds leveraged would include LWF funds through SAHC - $4,369,630
    • Request for Buncombe County to be primary on Application, SAHC as supporting non-profit
  
• Application deadlines moved to every other year
  • Proposal submittal deadline - April 30, 2024
  • Approval of proposals – November 2024
  • Final application deadline – November 2025
Optional Paths Forward

A. County as Primary

- Commits County to move application forward if proposal is accepted
  - County develops final application
  - Leverages LWF funds through SAHC
    - Award solidifies land acquisition
- Agrees to ownership of Deaverview Property
  - Development of property as passive park with public access in perpetuity
  - Three years to develop and open to community
  - Fund operations for Deaverview as County Park

B. County as Support

- County agrees to support State application for acquisition of property
  - State chooses to submit grant as primary
    - Grant submittal and award allows for completion of acquisition of Deaverview property by SAHC
    - Potential for future negotiation for operations of Deaverview property
  - State chooses not to submit grant
    - LWF funds not leveraged
    - SAHC continues to raise funds for Deaverview property
Request for Board Action

Discuss and provide direction to staff