

State of Hawai'i
DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES
Division of State Parks
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

April 28, 2017

Board of Land and Natural Resources
State of Hawai'i
Honolulu, Hawai'i

SUBJECT: Selection of Phase 2 of Hilo Bayfront Trails, County of Hawai'i; Renovation of Tennis Courts and Basketball Courts, County of Kaua'i; and Renovation of Playgrounds, City and County of Honolulu for Federal Grant Awards through the Land and Water Conservation Fund Program with Fiscal Year 2016 Funds.

The Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) is a Federal grants program administered by the Department of the Interior, National Park Service (NPS) to expand public outdoor recreation opportunities. The Division of State Parks (State Parks) assists with the administration of this program on the state level. LWCF grants are made available to county and state agencies for the acquisition of recreation areas, construction of new recreational facilities, and rehabilitation of existing facilities. The grant funds must be matched with State funds, County funds, or in-kind services. State Parks takes the lead in notifying the county parks and recreation departments, as well as recreational agencies within DLNR, of the availability of grant funds, accepts applications, and makes a preliminary selection of projects for the grant awards. The Land Board approves this selection of projects as a means of soliciting public comment in the selection process and authorizing DLNR to enter into project agreements with the NPS for the selected projects receiving grant awards.

In order to qualify to receive the LWCF funds, Hawai'i must prepare an updated Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (SCORP) every 5 years. With previous matching LWCF grant funds, State Parks prepared an update to the SCORP in 2015. The SCORP includes an inventory of the Hawaii's recreational resources, including parks, boat ramps and small harbors, hunting areas, trails, and other recreational facilities. The update also assesses the recreational demands and priorities based on consultation with government agencies and input from public surveys and meetings. Projects for grant awards are ranked on their ability to meet the state's recreational demands and priorities as identified in the SCORP.

After Hawai'i's program review by NPS in 2010, it was agreed that the State and Counties would alternate years for grant awards and that there would be an effort to award several large grants rather than many small grants. Federal fiscal year 2016 is a County cycle and Hawai'i currently has apportionments totaling \$795,787.

The four counties were notified of these grant funds and invited to submit applications in August 2016. Hawai'i County, Kaua'i County, and the City and County of Honolulu each submitted one application for projects as follows:

ITEM E-1

- 15-00173 Phase 2 of Hilo Bayfront Trails, Hilo, Hawai'i Island
Applicant: County of Hawai'i
Estimated Project Total: \$440,000
LWCF Grant Request: \$220,000
Project Description: Construction of approximately 2,000 feet of multi-purpose paved path within the Hilo Bayfront Soccer Fields. This new path will connect with the existing path constructed during Phase 1 to create a loop trail around the soccer field complex.
- 15-00174 Renovation of Tennis Courts and Basketball Courts, Kaua'i
Applicant: County of Kaua'i
Estimated Project Total: \$500,000
LWCF Grant Request: \$250,000
Project Description: Resurfacing and repair of court fixtures at tennis and basketball courts in 5 parks: Kapaa New Town Park, Puhi Park, Wailua Houselots, Peter Rayno Park, and Kapalawai Park. This project is part of the County's larger project to repair courts and playgrounds at 39 parks for an estimated cost of \$3 million.
- 15-00175 Renovation of Playgrounds, O'ahu
Applicant: City and County of Honolulu
Estimated Project Total: \$600,000
LWCF Grant Request: \$300,000
Project Description: Replacement of playground surfacing and equipment at 4 parks: Ala Puumalu Community Park (Salt Lake), Kaimuki Community Park, and Kahalu'u Regional Park.

These projects meet high priority recreation needs identified in the 2015 SCORP and address the need for safe facilities that encourage outdoor recreation for residents and visitors. Phase 2 of the Hilo Bayfront Trails will provide an additional segment of the larger trail system that meets the priority goal of new paths for walking, jogging, and biking.

RECOMMENDATION:


It is recommended that the Board approve the selection of the three projects described above to receive LWCF grant funds totaling \$770,000 with the understanding that the awards are subject to final approval by the National Park Service.

Respectfully submitted,



CURT A. COTTRELL
State Parks Administrator

APPROVED FOR SUBMITTAL:



Suzanne Case, Chairperson