



2022 RTP Scoring Criteria



Criteria

1 Project Need (Local, Regional, and State)		34 possible	
1A	Virginia Outdoors Plan (SCORP) Needs (add all that apply)	Points	Score
	Project is listed as a regional feature project in the most recent VOP (2018)	2	
	Trail networks <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Project is part of a proposed state-wide trail or state connecting trail identified in the Trails chapter of the most recent VOP/ VOP Mapper (3 pts) Project not a state-wide or state connecting trail but completes a critical gap in a trail system (3 pts), lengthens an existing trail (2 pts), or would be a new standalone trail (1 pt) 	0 - 3	
	Project needed to address critical (3 pts), serious (2 pts) or significant (1 pt) safety issues on existing trail	0 - 3	
	<i>Max. points</i>	8	
1B	Nature-based Recreation Access Model/ParkServe or Water-based Recreation Access Model Need (select one)	Points	Score
	Project area has demonstrated need for new recreation based on the DCR Nature-based Recreation Access Model or Trust for Public Land ParkServe Model (land trails) OR Water-based Recreation Access Model (water trails) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Very High (4 pts) High (3 pts) Moderate (2 pts) Low (1 pt) Very Low or None (0 pts) 	0 - 4	
	<i>Max. points</i>	4	
1C	New Public Access and ConserveVirginia (select one or none)	Points	Score
	Project will provide public access to a property that was not previously open to the public <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Yes, and project area intersects at least one ConserveVirginia layer (4 pts) Yes, but project area not within ConserveVirginia (3 pts) No (property previously open to the public), but project provides new public access to a significant feature (1 pt) 	0, 1, 3, 4	
	<i>Max. points</i>	4	
1D	Alignment with needs or goals of local or regional plan or survey (add all that apply)	Points	Score
	Project need demonstrated in local and/or regional plans <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Project fulfills a general need or meets a general goal of a local or regional plan (1 pt) [for example, "increase access to natural areas" or "develop new trails"] Project fulfills a specific need or specific goal of a local or regional plan (2 pts) [for example, "develop multi-use trails at Riverside Park"] Project is specifically identified by location, layout, and features in a local or regional plan (4 pts) [for example, "complete section IV of Riverside Greenway from Main Street to River Ave."] 	1, 2, or 4	
	Project need is demonstrated by a reputable local public survey	2	
	<i>Max. points</i>	6	
1E	Innovation and project uniqueness (select one or none)	Points	Score
	Project uniqueness (based on user group, trail surface, access for people with disabilities, features, etc.) (0-2 pts)	0-2	
	Project innovativeness (based on funding, community involvement, design, etc.) (0-2 pts)	0-2	
	<i>Max. points</i>	4	

1F Economic impact (add all that apply)		Points	Score
	Application demonstrates project/completed trail likely to have positive economic impact through creation of new partnerships, supporting local businesses, increasing tourism, etc. (up to 2 pts)	0-2	
	Project has a workforce development component, such as utilizing youth or training corps, or includes youth group volunteers (up to 2 pts)	0-2	
	Project is located in a community where <i>greater than 50%</i> (3 pts), greater than 35% (2 pts) or <i>greater than 20%</i> (1 pts) of population is considered low income	0-2	
	Project site will not require an entrance fee	2	
		<i>Max. points</i>	8
2 Recreational Trail Access for All		21 possible	
2A Close to home (select one)		Points	Score
	Project will create a new close to home trail for a community within a city, urban area, or tribal land that does not currently have access to public trails within a 10 minute (1/2 mile) walk	5	
	Project will create a new close to home trail for a non-city or rural community that does not currently have access to public outdoor recreation opportunities within an 10 mile drive	5	
	Project doesn't meet either condition above but is still underserved by public trail opportunities; applicant has provided sufficient detail to justify the need	3	
	Project area is already served by public trail opportunities	0	
		<i>Max. points</i>	5
2B Access for people with disabilities (add all that apply)		Points	Score
	Project will contain specific design elements to provide an equitable experience for trail users with sensory, cognitive, neurological, and/or mental health disabilities	0 - 3	
	Accessibility Standards (surface, slope, width, resting areas)	0, 2, 3, 4, or -2	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Project will meet or exceed route standards (ie. ADA Accessible Route or Shared Use Path guidelines) (4 pts) 		
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Project will meet or exceed the trail accessibility standards (ABA Trail Accessibility Standards 1017) (3 pts) 		
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Project will not fully meet standards listed above but application clearly outlines how project will still meet Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act in respect to surface, slope, width, and other features (2 pts) 		
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Application contains insufficient information to verify project will meet minimum accessibility requirements or standards do not apply to scope items (0 pts) 		
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Project does not meet minimum accessibility standards and is not otherwise exempt (-2 pts) 	<i>Max. points</i>	7
2C Health disparities (add all that apply)		Points	Score
	Project is located in area with rates of obesity, diabetes, cancer, and/or heart disease greater than state-wide average rates	2	
		<i>Max. points</i>	2
2D Representation and public participation (add all that apply)		Points	Score
	The public has already been engaged and involved in the project	0-2	
	The project has been presented at a Board of Supervisors, City or Town Council, or other similar public leadership meeting	1	
	The public strongly supports this project (evidence provided in application)	0-2	
	Consultation: Project has consulted or has detailed plans to consult representatives from historically underrepresented people and groups in the planning and design stages. These groups may include, but are not limited to: people with disabilities, people of color, indigenous peoples and tribes, LGBTQ people, immigrants, youth organizations or representatives, senior organizations or representatives, neighborhood groups	0-2	
		<i>Max. points</i>	7

3 Project Readiness and Timeline			13 possible	
3A	Property ownership and/or access rights (select one)	Points	Score	
	Applicant has ownership or legal access to project right-of-way (through deed, easement, license agreement, etc.) for minimum 20 year period	6		
	Applicant has ownership or legal access to project right-of-way (through deed, easement, license agreement, etc.) for less than 20 year period	4		
	Applicant has documented commitment from property owner to sell or provide easement (purchase agreement, option, willingness to sell letter, easement documentation etc.)	2		
	Applicant has not secured access to right-of-way and does not have documented commitment from property owner (project may not be eligible)	0		
		<i>Max. points</i>	6	
3B	Project Schedule (select one)	Points	Score	
	Project schedule is clear, detailed, realistic, and well planned	4		
	Project schedule is missing minor details or has minor issues	2		
	Project schedule is unrealistic or is missing major details	0		
		<i>Max. points</i>	4	
3C	Design (select one)	Points	Score	
	Design and construction drawings complete	3		
	Construction drawings created, but not 100% complete	2		
	Project is beyond concept and feasibility stage, (preliminary designs complete, layout flagged, etc)	1		
	No site design complete	0		
		<i>Max. points</i>	3	
4 Long-term Management, Operations, and Maintenance			11 possible	
4A	Responsible entity	Points	Score	
	Personnel and experience (add all that apply)	0 - 6		
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Application demonstrates personnel/labor source available for maintaining trail (up to 2 pts) Application demonstrates personnel has experience in maintaining this type of trail (based on trails currently maintained) (up to 2 pts) 			
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Application demonstrates trail maintenance will be community supported through dedicated volunteers, community, and/or friends groups (up to 2 pts) 			
	Long-term maintenance plans (select one)	0 - 3		
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Well thought out and exceptionally detailed maintenance plans that should extend the reasonable lifespan of the project (3 pts) 			
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Well thought out maintenance plan that protects RTP investment throughout its reasonable lifespan (2 pts) 			
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Maintenance plans lacking detail (1 pt) Long-term maintenance plans are not well thought out, or missing critical tasks (0 pt) 			
		<i>Max. points</i>	9	
4B	Maintenance and Operation fund source (select one)	Points	Score	
	Detailed source of maintenance and operation funds for trail is identified	2		
	Maintenance and operation fund source is identified, but lacking detail or unlikely to cover full costs	1		
	Maintenance and operation fund source information is missing, incomplete, or unrealistic	0		
		<i>Max. points</i>	2	
5 Budget and Grant Match			16 possible	
5A	Budget detail (select one)	Points	Score	
	Exceptionally detailed, itemized budget and budget narrative thoroughly outlining how it was estimated is provided	5		
	Detailed, itemized budget and budget narrative outlining how it was estimated is provided	4		
	General budget provided but shows mostly lump sums instead of itemization OR narrative lacking detail	3		
	General budget provided but shows mostly lump sums instead of itemization AND narrative lacking detail (1-3 pts)	2		
	Budget not itemized OR narrative missing	1		
	Budget not itemized AND narrative missing	0		
		<i>Max. points</i>	5	

5B Grant match (add all that apply)		Points	Score
	Grant match leverages community support by including volunteer labor and/or donations	2	
	Grant match secured	0, 2, or 5	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Application demonstrates cash or other eligible match items (volunteer labor, donations, administrative labor, etc) available to cover 20% of costs (5 pts) 		
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Some cash or eligible match items for 20% share are still pending, including funds awaiting notification of other grant awards (2 pts) 		
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Significant matching funds are still pending (0 pts) 		
		<i>Max. points</i>	7
5C Upfront financing (select one)		Points	Score
	Application demonstrates proof of ability to finance the project expenses and invoices upfront while requesting periodic reimbursements (either through cash on hand, credit line, or other financing mechanism); or application demonstrates proof of ability to finance through combination of sources	4	
	Financing ability is awaiting notification of other grant awards or entity still working to secure some financing	2	
	Significant financing gaps are present	0	
		<i>Max. points</i>	
6 Application Preparation		5 possible	
6A Completeness of application (select one)		Points	Score
	All submission requirements, including supporting documentation, are included and sufficient detail is provided to understand the project	3	
	Most submission requirements are met, but missing a required document or detail	2	
	Most submission requirements are met, but missing multiple required documents or details	1	
	Critical submission requirements are not met	0	
		<i>Max. points</i>	
6B Clarity of application (select one)		Points	Score
	Application is exceptionally clear and well organized	2	
	Application is generally clear and well organized	1	
	Application is not clear and/or well organized	0	
		<i>Max. points</i>	2
Total Score:			
out of 100			
7 Committee Discretionary Points		9 possible	
7A Discretionary Points (scored at committee meeting, committee does not have to award any discretionary points in a grant round)		Points	Score
	Project has a strong environmental justice value and/or benefits an underserved community	0-3	
	Project will provide access to outdoor recreation for people with disabilities in an area where no similar opportunities currently exist or there are very limited opportunities for people with disabilities compared to those available to people without disabilities	0-3	
	Other discretionary points, could include but not limited to geographical distribution of funds, significant need	0-3	
Total Score:			
w/ discretionary points			

Comments:
