### 2024 Trail Grants Program | Worksheet

About the RTC Trail Grants

Rails to Trails Conservancy’s Trail Grants program is open to non-profit organizations as well as state, regional, local and tribal agencies working to support, develop and activate local and regional trail networks. This year’s Trail Grant awards will prioritize projects and programs that help to achieve RTC’s vision for equitable trail networks as essential community infrastructure. With this in mind, we are planning to support a broad spectrum of funding need categories that may otherwise be challenging to fund. We strongly encourage organizations that represent or serve low-income, or communities of color to apply.

*Please review the* [*eligibility requirements and guidelines*](https://www.railstotrails.org/our-work/grants/eligibility/) *before you apply.*

Before You Apply Online

*This worksheet is intended to assist you in filling out the online form.* ***Please note that we will not accept this worksheet as a completed application.***

This worksheet contains all the information you will be asked to provide in the 2023 RTC Trail Grants Program application. We suggest you prepare your responses below and when finished, copy and paste your responses in the [online application form](https://forms.office.com/r/VpuJyhn9n9). *Note: You will need to complete the online application in one sitting and will not be able to save the information on a partially completed application.*

Please review this year’s [Trail Grants guidance](https://www.railstotrails.org/our-work/grants/eligibility/). **All answers are required on the application.** For questions not applicable to your project or organization, write “N/A” in the text box.

Your Contact Information

**First Name:**

**Last Name:**

**Title:**

**Email Address:**

**Phone number:**

Secondary Contact Information

**First Name:**

**Last Name:**

**Title:**

**Email Address:**

**Phone number:**

Organization Information

**Organization Name:**

**Address:**

**City:**

**State:**

**Zip Code:**

**Organization Website:**

**Organization Phone Number:**

**List Preferred Social Media Page URLs That You’re Active On:**

**Organization Mission Statement:**

Project Information

**Please name and briefly describe the associated trail network (i.e. the Moose Loop).** *Proposed projects and programs should be a part of or associated with developing or activating a local or regional trail network.*

**Please briefly describe the associated trail network.** Proposed projects and programs should be part of or associated with developing a local or regional trail network. (For example: A network of 4 multi-use trails that connect to form a 32-mile bike loop.)

**What is your organization’s relationship to the network** (i.e. community group; local trail management agency, etc.)?

**Project or program name** *Give your project or program a short name to easily identify it (e.g. Creekside Rail-Trails extension or Richmond Greenway Trail Cleanup)*

**In what city and/or county is your project or program based?** *Please list all counties if project footprint is multi-county.*

**State(s)**

Project Summary 

*This year’s Trail Grants awards will prioritize projects and programs that help to achieve RTC’s vision for equitable trail networks as essential community infrastructure. With this in mind, we are planning to support a broad spectrum of funding need categories that may otherwise be challenging to fund.*

**TrailNation Playbook elements** We welcome funding requests for projects and programs that align with RTC’s TrailNation Playbook categories. Please select the element(s) of the [TrailNation Playbook](https://www.railstotrails.org/our-work/trailnation/playbook/) the proposed project or program will pursue:

*Applicant tip: prioritize those elements with a clear connection to the project. Selecting multiple elements does not result in additional points.*

* Project Vision *(e.g. developing a local or regional vision)*
* Coalition building *(e.g. cultivating stakeholder and political support)*
* Gap-filling strategy *(e.g. acquisition strategies)*
* Mapping and analytics *(e.g. mapping the network, equitable connectivity analysis)*
* Investment Strategy *(e.g. securing matching funds, identifying and pursuing funding opportunities)*
* Engagement *(e.g. inclusive community engagement, user activation, and events)*

**Write a brief description (750 words maximum) of the proposed project or program.** *Include what it is, why the work is important and how it would advance or strengthen the trail network in your community or region.*

**Describe how this project or program will increase**[**equitable access to your local or regional trail network**](https://www.railstotrails.org/about/equity/) **?** *(350 words maximum)*

**Total project/program cost:**

**Grant amount requested:**

**Minimum grant amount acceptable** *Grant awards will range between $5,000 and $25,000, with approximately $200,000 in total funds available.:*

**Budget description** *Briefly describe how you plan to use the funds. A detailed budget is not required. Please provide any additional information about funds leveraged or use of funds for other match requirements.*

**Organization’s total operating budget** *Please provide total operating budget for your most recent fiscal year.*

**Timeline** *Please provide a brief description of the project timeline and the proposed timeline to use grant funds. Include start and end date and any additional information about time sensitivities.*

**Maps and attachments** *Please provide a map of your trail network and project area. An ArcGIS or Google Map is preferred—please provide a link below if applicable. If you only have a PDF map please follow step 3 listed below in the next steps section of this document.*

**Additional information** *If necessary, provide any additional comments or links (videos, websites) that support your application.*

Next Steps

1. Gather any additional information you want to submit with your online application.
2. [Fill out the online application](https://forms.office.com/r/FtCW2Qxu9U) in one sitting by copying and pasting your above answers in the form. You will not be able to save your application and return to it.
3. After you submit your application, email any PDF maps along with other supporting documentation/images to grants@railstotrails.org. Please put your organization’s name in the subject line.
4. If you have any issues that arise during the grant application process, email [grants@railstotrails.org](mailto:grants@railstotrails.org)