



Planning & Economic Development

Saratoga County Trails Grant Program 2024

A. Background: Saratoga County Board of Supervisors has allocated \$100,000 in grant funds to assist municipalities with the planning and construction of trails. Grant funds are awarded directly to the municipality upon completion of the proposed project.

B. Eligible Applicants: All Saratoga County municipalities may apply for this grant program.

C. Eligible Projects: Project that may be funded through this grant program include:

- Engineering/Design/Feasibility Study
- Construction of new recreation trails
- Restoration of existing trails
- Development and improvement of trail amenities including wayfinding signs
- Land acquisition and permanent easements
- Water trails aka "blue trails"

D. Eligible Costs: Grant funds may be used for costs associated with the planning, construction or reconstruction of trails including survey work, scoping reports and feasibility studies. The maximum amount of award for a single proposal is \$10,000.

E. Match Requirements: The grant program provides a 100% match of the applicant's contribution to the project costs up to \$10,000. The applicant may provide a match in the form of cash, in-kind services or a combination of both.

F. Post Award: Upon notice of award, the Saratoga County Planning Department will provide the awardee with a checklist of submission requirements along with a template for the project's final budget. If an awarded grant remains active for more than one (1) year following the date of award, the awardee will be required to provide quarterly updates to the County outlining the progress of the project. Saratoga County reserves the right to rescind the awarded amount if the project has not made satisfactory progress within two (2) years from the date of award. No grant monies shall be released without sufficient evidence of expenditures by the awardee.

Application must be received by **June 28, 2024.**

Please submit one (1) electronic copy and (3) paper copies of the application to:

Saratoga County Planning Department
50 West High Street, Ballston Spa, New York 12020
518.884.4705

JWilliams@saratogacountyny.gov



Saratoga County Trails Grant Program 2024

(Please type responses)

APPLICATION COVERSHEET

Title of Proposed Project: _____

Sponsoring Organization: _____

Project Contact: _____

Project Contact address: _____

Telephone number: _____

Email Address: _____

Location of Proposed Project: _____

Project Address: _____

Tax Map number(s): _____

Proposed Trail Length: _____

Proposed Construction Material: _____

Signature: _____

PROJECT SUMMARY

Description of the property and its current use:

Is the right of way currently owned or controlled by the applicant? Yes

No

Provide a detailed description of how grant funds will be used for the proposed trail project:

Is the proposed project identified or in compliance with any local, regional or statewide plans?

Yes

No

If yes, which plans?

REQUIRED PROJECT MAPS

- Location map showing street names and important landmarks
- Aerial photo with tax map overlay
- Location of connecting trails and nearby natural and cultural resources.

PROJECT BUDGET

Total estimated cost of proposed project: \$

Feasibility/Design: \$

Survey: \$

Plan Preparation: \$

Construction: \$

Materials: \$

Other (please list): \$

Amount and sources of other outside funding sources, identify sources:

Amount of County grant funds requested: \$

Will this project proceed if awarded amount is less than the requested amount? Yes No

Project Ranking Considerations

In the event that grant requests exceed the budgeted amount, the following criteria will be used to rank the projects. Items below are ranked on a numerical scale, 1 being the lowest, and 25 points maximum.

RESOURCE PROTECTION 1-5 points (max)

- Proximity to protected water body/waterway/aquifer
- Wildlife Habitat corridor
- Close proximity to significant wetlands complex
- Scenic view shed
- Provides public access
- Proximity to other parklands

COMMUNITY RESOURCE 1-10 points (max)

- Important to rural character of municipality
- Proximity to expanding residential growth
- Located close to public infrastructure
- Connectivity of Trail to other public resources
- Connectivity to County-wide trail network
- Allows for multi-use trail
- Provides viable transportation alternative in populated area

LOCAL SUPPORT 1-10 points (max)

- Municipal designation as an important Community Resource as evidenced in a Town adopted ordinance
- Other funding sources confirmed as evidenced by a letter from entities providing additional funding.
- Letters of support from local offices and stakeholders may be submitted as evidence of local support

Applicant may provide additional narrative regarding the proposed project that will help the Saratoga Trails and Open Space Committee understand its importance to the surrounding landscape and community, and why it is a good candidate for grant funding.

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All applications must be received by: **June 28, 2024.**