



# DOCUMENT APPROVAL FORM

THIS FORM MUST BE ATTACHED TO ALL DOCUMENTS SUBMITTED FOR THE MAYOR'S SIGNATURE, ROUTE AS LISTED BELOW.

THIS DOCUMENT RECOMMENDED FOR MAYOR'S SIGNATURE

ORIGINATOR OF DOCUMENT Bennett Knox	
<b>SIGNATURE APPROVALS</b>	
AGENCY/DEPARTMENT DIRECTOR Louisville Parks and Recreation	<i>[Signature]</i> 7/13/18
OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET	<i>[Signature]</i> 7/13/18
COUNTY ATTORNEY	
CHIEF / SPECIAL COUNSEL	

*Box  
7-24-18*

DOCUMENT NAME Approval for Great Urban Parks Campaign Grant Application (Chickasaw Park design and construction drawings)	
SUMMARY OF DOCUMENT This is a request for approval to submit a grant application to the National Recreation and Parks Association for up to \$300,000 to advance implementation of the West Louisville Outdoor Recreation Initiative. The grant DOES NOT require a match.  The application will request funding up to the maximum to pay a consultant to develop design drawings and construction documentation for master plan items including restoration of Chickasaw Pond for safe use by west Louisville residents and other associated improvements to create equitable access to nature (e.g., bank stabilization, creation access to nature forest areas within the park). The proposed project will build upon the conceptual designs completed as part of the 2016 WLORI master plan (paid for using CDBG funds), Link: <a href="https://louisvilleky.gov/government/jefferson-memorial-forest/west-louisville-outdoor-recreation-initiative-wlori">https://louisvilleky.gov/government/jefferson-memorial-forest/west-louisville-outdoor-recreation-initiative-wlori</a>  The application will also include a proposal for completion of a small demonstration project within the identified nature forest area that will satisfy grant requirements for green-infrastructure improvements (e.g., habitat restoration).  The scope of the application will not commit Metro dollars, but be confined to activities that can be completed with grant funds. Metro Parks has an AmeriCorps member assisting with the grant application and is awaiting a fee estimate from Lucket & Farley before commencing with drafting.  Staff participated in a webinar on 7/9 and held subsequent conversations with the grantee, within Metro Parks, and with external stakeholders (Olmsted Parks Conservancy, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, and MSD) to define a realistic project scope.	
CONTACT PERSON: Bennett Knox	TELEPHONE 366-2913
DATE NEEDED : July 26th, 2018	

DATE APPROVED BY MAYOR	INSTRUCTIONS FROM THE MAYOR

# Grants Budgetary Information

Agency: Parks

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Document Type\*:  Application    Award    Amendment    Other

\*Note: Legislation is not typically composed for applications. If legislation is requested for an application, please contact the Fiscal Administrator.

Document Name: Great Urban Parks

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Agreement Period: Pending

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Award Amount: \$300,000.00

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Cost Center(s): Federal Cost Center has not been established yet

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Match Required?    Yes    No   **Match Amount:** n/a

Match Cost Center: n/a

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Please fill out ONLY ONE of the boxes below. "New Grant" means this grant has not been budgeted within the current fiscal year and is a completely new revenue for the current fiscal year. "Existing Grant" means there is currently a cost center with budget established for this grant.

New Grant Information	
Note: New grants will require a resolution or ordinance be taken before Council. This process takes approximately 6-8 weeks.	
Amount to be budgeted in current fiscal year: _____	\$300,000.00

Existing Grant Information	
Note: If the award amount is greater than the amount budgeted in LeAP, an A/R memo will need to be signed by the Mayor. This process takes approximately 2 weeks.	
Current amount budgeted in LeAP: _____	n/a
Additional amount to be budgeted in LeAP for current fiscal year: _____	n/a

Routing Information	
Name: <u>Nick Borho</u>	Date: <u>7/23/2018</u>
Name: <u>Kristina Messina or Chris Swan</u> <i>VM</i>	Date: <u>7/25/2018</u>
Name: <u>Erica Smith</u> <i>EMS</i>	Date: <u>7/23/18</u>
Name: <u>Ben Tipton</u> <i>BT</i>	Date: <u>7-24-18</u>

**DOCUMENTS NEEDED:**

- a letter of support from the park and recreation agency director or equivalent (1)- Seve 2016
- two (2) letters of support. These could be from an elected official, a partner organization, a community based organization, other municipal agencies, etc. (Max 5 files)
- Please attach photos of the current site (required) and any renderings or planning documents (if applicable). (Max 5 files).

**9. Project Budget \***

- **What is the amount of grant funds being requested? (NRPA will be awarding grants between \$150,000-\$300,000) \***
- **What is the total project budget? \***
- **Please describe what level of funding has been secured to date or is anticipated towards this budget.**
  - Louisville Metropolitan Sewer District (MSD) is one of our partnering organizations on the Chickasaw Pond restoration project and will be making an in-kind donation (estimated value of \$75,000) of the construction/engineering drawings for pond restoration (should know the exact value of this by Wednesday July 25). \$79,000 for programming/job training.

**10. List itemized anticipated expenses to reflect how the requested grant funds would be spent for your project. Please be sure that the total of expenses equals the amount of grant funds being requested. \***

Number (10 max.)	Dollar Amount	Description
1	\$125,000	Design/drawings for recreational amenities across site (including public input phase)
2	\$65,000	Construction/engineering drawings for Ohio River bank stabilization
3	\$10,000	Partial site survey
4	\$5,000	Geotechnical analysis
5	\$75,000	Road demolition/construction of temporary access permeable gravel path
6	\$10,000	Tree planting/invasive plant removal
7	\$10,000	Bioswale/culvert work
8		
9		
10		
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$300,000</b>	

**11. Provide a description of the park and project site, current condition and usage. Explain the rationale for selecting this particular site including any community context. (Max word count=150) \***

The 76-acre Chickasaw Park, opened in 1921, is one of 18 parks and six parkways in Louisville designed by Frederick Law Olmsted. Although all Olmsted Parks in Louisville were closed to the black

community in 1924, Chickasaw alone remained open to these groups until desegregation in 1954 (Olmstead website). After desegregation, west Louisville experienced a large degree of associated turmoil and its parks entered an extended period of decay. Chickasaw Park is frequently used by predominately African American neighboring communities and for a variety of recreational and social activities.

Chickasaw Park borders the Ohio River, yet steep and heavily eroded banks prevent visitors from water access. An active recreation zone (tennis, basketball, spray pad, lodge) exists on the river side of the levee. The 1.8 acre pond inside the levee is a prominent element of the park which allows fishing and other passive activities, however, fish tissue sampling in the mid-1990s indicated contamination with low levels of dioxins.

**12. Who will this project serve? Provide demographic information on surrounding residents compared to the surrounding communities and region. (Max word count=150) \***

The Chickasaw neighborhood is one of nine predominantly African-American neighborhoods in west Louisville. It has a population of 2,535 households and 6,280 individuals, 96% of which are African-American. By comparison, Louisville as a whole is 20.6% African-American. Twenty-six percent of residents live below the poverty level compared to 17% of Louisville as a whole. The median income is \$26,627, compared to \$46,701 for Louisville overall. Of the total households, 18% are owned by married couples, compared to 42% in Louisville as a whole. Thirty-seven percent are female households which compares to 15% in Louisville overall. As of 2014, the unemployment rate in the Chickasaw neighborhood was 23% with 42% of youth ages 16-19 unemployed. In terms of education attainment, for young adults ages 18 to 24 as well as the population of adults over 25 years of ages, Chickasaw residents lag behind Louisville as a whole in every measured category. This includes high school graduation rates, bachelor's degrees, and graduate or professional degrees. The demographic statistics for the other eight west Louisville neighborhoods are consistent with the above. (this paragraph is all 2016 stats...so need to go back and update these)

The 2001 Master Plan surveyed 200 community members and 94% of their survey participants were African American. Of these park visitors, the average household income was \$30,000, which was \$8,000 less than the median income for Louisville in 2001. 43% of park visitors aged 55 years or older have fished in the Chickasaw Pond. Additionally, 42% of the disabled park visitors had fished in the Pond. The 2001 Master Plan recommended the improvements of passive recreational activities, such as fishing, to increase activities accessible to underserved populations such as senior citizens and those with physical and cognitive disabilities. Neighboring communities experience high levels of poverty, and Chickasaw has a long history of promoting inclusion and diversity in outdoor recreation. The 40211 zip code which encompasses the communities adjacent to Chickasaw is 92.5% African American with a median household income of \$29,118, versus \$56,513 for the entire Jefferson County. 25.81% of homes in 40211 report a household income of less than \$15,000. (more stats:

<http://www.healthylouisvillemetro.org/?module=demographicdata&controller=index&action=index&id=17368&sectionId=> )

**13. Describe how the project will improve local environmental quality and contribute to increased climate resiliency. Please provide information on both the local and regional environmental issues and/or context that this project will look to address including any information on recent flooding and/or its impact on the quality of local watersheds, etc. (Max word count=200) \***

Chickasaw Pond restoration will refurbish and expand the pond to improve water quality; mitigate stormwater issues; improve habitat, and provide opportunities to educate the community about pressing local stormwater and combined sewer issues.

- remove contaminated sediments to improve water quality;
- provide the necessary conditions to support a viable fish population;
- improve habitat, species diversity, and stormwater management through construction of a wetland and bioswale areas;
- provide improved fishing access;
- Improve access to the pond for environmental education; and
- provide a small area to facilitate flatwater canoeing instruction.

Chickasaw Park has 2,220 feet of shoreline along the Ohio River, and sits about 70 feet above the normal water pool. The construction of the lock and dam system just upstream of Chickasaw Park causes the river water level and velocities to fluctuate greatly and over time has degraded physical access to the river for park visitors due to bank undercutting. Similarly, psychological access to the river for west Louisville residents has been decreased for many decades due to the installation of the of the Ohio River Levee system which was necessary to protect flood-prone Louisville following the Great Flood of 1937.

Ohio River bank stabilization will

**14. How will this project contribute to larger city/community initiatives and priorities? If this project will help to the meet the goals of a larger resilience, watershed and/or equity plan, please describe. (Max word count=200) \***

The pond restoration project will help fulfill the community's desire for this pond to meet its tremendous potential as a recreational and educational amenity.

The project is a key component of Metro Parks' West Louisville Outdoor Recreation Initiative (WLORI) to create equitable "nearby nature" opportunities for low-income and minority residents of west Louisville through developing new infrastructure in underutilized or degraded natural spaces within the three main parks west Louisville. The WLORI is a holistic effort addressing broader community issues of

environmental sustainability, health and wellness, education attainment, and access to green facing jobs for low-income and minority residents through creation of outdoor infrastructure and complementary programming.

Restoring Chickasaw Pond solves an environmental justice issue by removing contamination within the only public flat water body in west Louisville, making it available for full use by the neighborhood in a free, close proximity location. Furthermore, it provides convenient neighborhood-level opportunities to introduce basic outdoor skills (fishing, flatwater canoeing, and general nature appreciation) that one can then further develop through more “challenging” opportunities that will be created as part of the WLORI (river fishing, moving water canoeing, hiking woodland trails).

**15. Please attached any plans that this project supports, described in the previous question. (Max 2 files)**

- 2001 Master Plan for the Renewal and Management of Chickasaw Park
- Ohio River Corridor Master Plan 1996
- Master Plan for Louisville’s Olmstead Parks & Parkways 1994
- 2016 Louisville Parks and Recreation Master Plan

**16. How will this project provide co-benefits to the surrounding community, including increased community access to green space for recreational, environmental educational and/or green job opportunities? What community needs will these benefits address? Include information on how these needs were identified. (Max word count=200) \***

- The redevelopment of the Chickasaw Pond will greatly increase and improve access to passive forms of recreation.
- We have identified these needs by analyzing the results of several surveys conducted to gain an understanding of the community’s use of the Chickasaw Pond and found that the pond was primarily used for fishing, relaxation and other passive forms of recreation.

**17. Outline your plan for engaging the community in each project phase (planning and design, implementation, maintenance and evaluation, etc). Specifically address barriers to engagement and how you will address those through your outreach. (Max word count=200) \***

Steering committee for WLORI community based, public meetings in planning phase, input through recreational activities associated with ECHO.

**18. Describe the organizations and/or municipal agencies you will partner with throughout the project and their specific roles. (Max word count=150) \***

- These project partners have a long history of collaboration and have partnered on numerous green infrastructure projects in the community. Chickasaw Park is managed and maintained by Louisville Metro Parks and Recreation and the Olmstead Parks Conservancy.

- The neighboring community centers will play in an integral role in shaping the future of Chickasaw Park as it develops. Louisville metro operates three community centers in close proximity to Chickasaw Park: Flaglet Senior Center, Shawnee Community Center, and Southwick Community Center. We plan to build on the existing relationships with these community centers as we develop plans for the future of Chickasaw.
- Louisville Metropolitan Sewer District (MSD) is partnering with us to develop construction/engineering drawings for pond restoration.
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**19. What role will the community play in the ongoing maintenance and programming of the site? (Max word count=150) \***

- The frequent use of Chickasaw Pond by community members shows their commitment and investment in the park's future. We hope to employ community members seasonally through our Louisville is Engaging Children Outdoors (ECHO) program. Employees will help staff our ECHO Mobile which is a mobile nature play unit that visits urban parks and community centers to provide natural elements for families to engage with. Additionally, we plan to staff our programs through SummerWorks, an initiative developed by Louisville's Mayor Fischer, which connects youth age 16-21 with summer employment opportunities to help with career readiness.

**20. Have you or will you make an effort to hire local, small, minority and/or women owned businesses and/or contractors to assist with the project? Describe who those businesses and/or contractors are and what their role is. (Max word count=150) \***

Lockett and Farley is our engineering firm that is employee-owned through an employee stock ownership plan. Local community centers will be involved through the planning process through surveys in order to best include local opinions in the development of planning and management.

**21. How will you determine the success of this project? Describe any plans to evaluate or monitor the project throughout the course of this grant and beyond and indicate the metrics to be used to track results. Please include measures related to the environmental, health, and community benefits of your proposed project. (Max word count=200) \***

Dosage metric KPI LouiStat, health surveys and SummerWorks, pre and post surveys

**22. Describe your organization's experience in completing similar projects. Please detail the success/results of those previous projects and provide examples/links to the work, if applicable. (Max word count=150) \***

**23. Please outline a timeline that includes community input, design, engineering, permitting, installation, completion, initial maintenance schedule and ongoing evaluation. (Max word count=150)**

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- 0-6 months: Bidding/ initial design and engineering phase
- 0-12: Community meetings,
- 6-12: culvert work and construction
- 12-24: Programming phase

**24. Please attach at least two (2) letters of support. These could be from an elected official, a partner organization, a community based organization, other municipal agencies, etc. (Max 5 files) \***

- (a letter of support from the park and recreation agency director or equivalent exists as a separate question, #4)
- Children in Nature Network\*
- MSD \*
- Olmstead \*
- CW Hamilton-reflection need for Chickasaw Pond and highlighting community need and Donovan Taylor-Chickasaw Federation (neighborhood association) JOINT LETTER
- YouthBuild Louisville (summerworks component)\*

**25. Please attach photos of the current site (required) and any renderings or planning documents (if applicable). (Max 5 files). \***