

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE: NOTICE OF INTENT TO AWARD

This announcement is not a request for applications.

This announcement is to provide public notice of the National Park Service's intention to award financial assistance for the following project activities. *Refer to Section 2. Grants.gov Posting Determination.*

ABSTRACT	
Grants.gov Opportunity Number	NPS-19-NERO-0099
Project Title	Collaborative Implementation of Chesapeake Programs & Projects
Recipient	Chesapeake Conservancy
Anticipated Federal Funding	\$725,427.48
Non-Federal Cost Share	\$801,792.00
Total Anticipated Award Amount	\$1,527,219.48
Award Instrument	☒ Task Agreement ☐ Cooperative Agreement ☐ Grant Agreement
Anticipated Period of Performance	Through December 31 2020
Legal Authority	54 USC 101702(a); PL 105-312, Section 502(b), as amended by Se
CFDA # and Title	15.930 Chesapeake Bay Gateways Network/Chesapeake Bay Gate
Single Source Justification Criteria	
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Section 1. Project Summary

PROJECT GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

The project goals are to advance a network of gateways, parks, trails and other sites to connect people with experiences of the natural and cultural resources of the internationally significant Chesapeake Bay and watershed. Specific objectives are to: expand access to, develop and support visitor experiences at contact stations and selected sites and routes; broaden and deepen visibility, expand public awareness and increase use of Chesapeake watershed trails and gateway visitor destinations; build, integrate and leverage partnerships and voluntarism to advance the Chesapeake stewardship and create lasting economic value; and support collaboration among local, state and federal agencies, tribes and non-governmental organizations on public access and conservation within the Chesapeake region.

STATEMENT OF PUBLIC PURPOSE

This award supports these particular public purposes: (1) the project engages recipients, partners, communities, and/or visitors in shared environmental stewardship; (2) the information, products and/or services identified or developed by this project will be shared through a variety of strategies to increase public awareness, knowledge and support for historic preservation and stewardship of the nation's cultural and historical heritage; (3) the scientific community and/or researchers external to NPS gains by new knowledge provided through research and related results dissemination of natural, cultural and/or historical resource information; and (4) the project assists in the creation, promotion, facilitation, and/or improvement of the public's understanding of natural, cultural, historic, recreational and other aspects of areas such as ecological conservation areas, and state and local parks.ify and utilize the collective resources sites for enhancing public education of and access to the Chesapeake Bay; link sites with trails, tour roads, scenic byways, and other connections; develop and establish watertrails comprising water routes and connections to sites and other land resources within the Chesapeake Bay Watershed; and create a network of Chesapeake Bay Gateways and watertrails.

STATEMENT OF WORK SUMMARY

THIS ANNOUNCEMENT IS NOT A REQUEST FOR APPLICATIONS. This announcement is to provide public notice of the National Park Service's intention to award financial assistance for the following project activities.

The National Park Service Chesapeake Office (NPS Chesapeake) and the Chesapeake Conservancy collaborate to advance projects and programs supporting Chesapeake Bay Gateways and Chesapeake Bay Watershed Agreement implementation. This Task Agreement under Master Cooperative Agreement P17AC00753 supports work to: (a) facilitate collaboration among the Conservancy, the National Park Service and multiple partners in planning and implementing projects and programs supporting the Chesapeake Gateways; (b) collaborate in planning and implementing digital (Find Your Chesapeake, Paddle the Potomac, etc.) and other communications to share information about Chesapeake sites and trails; (c) partner in interpretive program implementation, including the Roving Ranger and related interpretive content, programming and events; (d) support collaboration among local, state and federal agencies, tribes and non-governmental organizations through the Chesapeake Conservation Partnership in furtherance of the Chesapeake Watershed Agreement; and (e) providing GIS data management and stewardship.

RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE PARTIES

A. The recipient shall be responsible for the following items under this agreement:

1. Collaborate with the NPS in planning, coordinating, and implementing digital and other communications to advance access and public use of the Chesapeake sites, trails and rivers.
2. Coordinate networking among Chesapeake Gateways and trail partners.
3. Design, develop, and deliver enhanced programs for the Roving Ranger mobile interpretive station for taking Chesapeake to scores of partner sites and parks and other interpretive programming
4. Deliver coordinated digital presence and visitor experience through Find Your Chesapeake and related digital applications.
6. Serve as the administrative home for Chesapeake Conservation Partnership staff.
7. Provide GIS support for resource documentation and analysis to support conservation and restoration.
8. Collaborate with NPS in coordinating and carrying out the Chesapeake Conservancy and NPS Chesapeake Partnership including collaborative strategic planning, and annual work and budget planning and implementation.
9. Provide required 50% cost share

B. The NPS Responsibilities:



A task agreement is proposed;



A cooperative agreement is proposed;

therefore substantial involvement by NPS is anticipated during the period of performance of this agreement. In support of this agreement NPS will:

1. Collaborate with the Chesapeake Conservancy in planning and coordinating digital and other communications and coordinate interpretive program roles and implementation.
2. Collaborate with Chesapeake Conservancy in designing and carrying out networking and training workshops.
3. Work with Chesapeake Conservancy on design and execution of interpretive programs. Create schedule of venues for the Roving Ranger.
4. Collaborate with Chesapeake Conservancy in guiding the digital presence.
5. Participate with the Conservancy and other partners in Chesapeake Conservation Partnership activities.
6. Collaborate with Chesapeake Conservancy in setting the GIS work plan and managing implementation.
7. Collaborate with the Chesapeake Conservancy to ensure that both organizations are fully informed and engaged in both strategic planning for the partnership and planning and executing annual work plans.
8. Maintain regular communication with Chesapeake Conservancy staff to ensure that work is implemented effectively and that any issues are identified and readily addressed.



A grant agreement is proposed, therefore no substantial involvement on the part of the NPS is anticipated for the successful completion of the statement of work. It is anticipated that involvement will be limited to actions related to monitoring project performance and technical assistance at the request of the recipient.

Section 2. Grants.gov Posting Determination

- ☒ The National Park Service intends to award a task agreement under a previously competed or single source justified award.
- ☐ The National Park Service intends to award a single source justified cooperative agreement. *Refer to Section 3 Single Source Justification.*
- ☐ The National Park Service intends to award a single source justified grant agreement. *Refer to Section 3 Single Source Justification.*

Section 3. Single Source Justification

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE SINGLE SOURCE POLICY REQUIREMENTS

National Park Service Policy FAP&P 1443-2015-06 requires a written justification which explains why competition is not practicable. The justification must address one of the following criteria.

In order for an assistance award to be made without competition, the award must satisfy one or more of the following criteria:

- (1) Unsolicited Proposal – The proposed award is the result of an unsolicited assistance application which represents a unique or innovative idea, method, or approach which is not the subject of a current or planned contract or assistance award, but which is deemed advantageous to the program objectives. The unsolicited proposal must demonstrate an innovative capability or concept not currently available to the government, and prepared without Government involvement. ;
- (2) Continuation – The activity to be funded is necessary to the satisfactory completion of, or is a continuation of, an activity presently being funded, for which competition would have a significant adverse effect on the continuity or completion of the activity;
- (3) Legislative intent – The language in the applicable authorizing legislation or legislative history clearly indicates Congress' intent to restrict the award to a particular recipient of purpose;
- (4) Unique Qualifications – The applicant is uniquely qualified to perform the activity based upon a variety of demonstrable factors such as location, property ownership, voluntary support capacity, technical expertise, or other such unique qualifications. Successful past performance, familiarity with existing requirements, capabilities that can be obtained or matched by a competitor, or a positive reputation, are not considered to be unique qualifications.
- (5) Emergencies – Program/award where there is insufficient time available (due to a compelling and unusual urgency, or substantial danger to health or safety) for adequate competitive procedures to be followed.

NPS did not solicit full and open competition for this award based the following criteria:

- ☒ Task Agreement issued under previously competed or single source master cooperative agreement per Section 2 above. Single Source Justification not applicable.
- ☐ Unsolicited Proposal ☐ Continuation ☐ Emergency
- ☐ Legislative Intent ☐ Unique Qualifications

Explanation of the proposed recipient's qualifications or the criteria of the proposed project which requires use of the single source criteria cited.

Section 4. Department of the Interior Secretary's Priorities

This award will support the following DOI Secretary priority(ies):

Other Key Initiatives:

- ☐ Employment of veterans.
- ☐ Supporting DOI Infrastructure needs.
- ☐ Creating jobs in the American economy.
- ☒ Access to outdoor recreation opportunities.

Priority 1: Creating a conservation stewardship legacy second only to Teddy Roosevelt

- ☒ Utilize science to identify best practices to manage land and water resources and adapt to changes in the environment.
- ☒ Examine land use planning process and land use designations that govern public use and access.
- ☐ Revise and streamline the environmental and regulatory review process while maintaining environmental standards.
- ☐ Review DOI water storage, transportation, and distribution systems to identify opportunities to resolve conflicts and expand capacity.
- ☒ Foster relationships with conservation organizations advocating for balanced stewardship and use of public lands.
- ☐ Identify and implement initiatives to expand access to DOI lands for hunting and fishing.
- ☒ Shift the balance towards providing greater public access to public lands over restrictions to access.

Priority 2: Utilizing our natural resources

- ☐ Ensure American energy is available to meet our security and economic needs.
- ☐ Ensure access to mineral resources, especially the critical and rare earth minerals.
- ☐ Refocus timber programs to embrace the entire 'healthy forests' lifecycle.
- ☐ Manage competition for grazing resources.

Priority 3: Restoring trust with local communities

- ☒ Be a better neighbor with those closest to our resources by improving dialogue and relationships with persons and entities bordering our lands.
- ☒ Expand the lines of communication with Governors, state natural resource offices, Fish and Wildlife offices, water authorities, county commissioners, Tribes, and local communities.
- ☐

Priority 4: Ensuring sovereignty means something

- ☐ Support tribal self-determination, self-governance, and sovereignty.
- ☐ Solidify mutual interests between the U.S. and the freely associated states and territories.

Priority 5: Generating additional revenues to support DOI & National interests

- ☐ Ensure that the public receives the full market value for the natural resources produced on Federal lands.
- ☐ Ensure that fees or costs levied for DOI services are reasonable and targeted to achieve cost recovery.
- ☐ Consider the impact of DOI decisions on economic development and job creation.

Priority 6: Protecting our people and the border

- ☐ Actively support efforts to secure our southern border.
- ☐ Ensure DOI law enforcement staffing addresses public safety risks anticipated on DOI land.
- ☐ Promote a "public service" demeanor within our law enforcement community.

Priority 7: Striking a regulatory balance

- ☐ Reduce the administrative and regulatory burden imposed on U.S. industry and the public.
- ☐ Ensure that Endangered Species Act decisions are based on strong science and thorough analysis.

Priority 8: Modernizing our infrastructure

- ☐ Support the White House Public/Private Partnership Initiative to modernize U.S. infrastructure.
- ☐ Remove impediments to infrastructure development and facilitate private sector efforts to construct infrastructure projects serving American needs.
- ☐ Prioritize DOI infrastructure needs to highlight:
 1. Construction of infrastructure;
 2. Cyclical maintenance;
 3. Deferred maintenance.

Priority 9: Reorganizing for the next 100 years

- ☐ Improve alignment and integration of the DOI organizational structure. Redistribute organizational resources (people and funding) to enhance mission achievement and improved public service.
- ☐ Improve organizational alignment with Executive Branch counterparts with major land management assets or influence.

Priority 10: Achieving our goals and leading our team forward

- ☐ Senior executives are expected to provide leadership in achieving goals of the President and the Secretary.
- ☐ The Management Team is expected to:
 1. Ensure cost-effective operations and quality service to the public;
 2. Facilitate organizational cooperation and conflict resolution;
 3. Ensure the workplace environment is conducive to employee productivity and safety;
 4. Hold individuals accountable for actions that violate DOI policies and requirements.

The proposed project does not support any of the DOI Secretary priorities, but the project is being funded for the following reasons: