



**National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior**

NOTICE OF INTENT TO AWARD

This Funding Announcement is not a request for applications. This announcement is to provide public notice of the National Park Service's intention to fund the following project activities without full and open competition.

ABSTRACT	
Funding Announcement	P15AS00050
Project Title	Launch and Build Capacity – Groundwork Jacksonville
Recipient	Groundwork USA
Principle Investigator / Program Manager	Anjali Chen
Total Anticipated Award Amount	\$87,998,98
Cost Share	\$52,739.90
New Award or Continuation?	Continuation of Cooperative Agreement # P15AC10704, Legacy # H4531110704
Anticipated Length of Agreement	From date of award until 6/30/2016
Anticipated Period of Performance	From date of award until 6/30/2016
Award Instrument	Cooperative Agreement
Statutory Authority	54 USC 101702 and 16 USC 460.1-1(d)
CFDA # and Title	15.921 Rivers, Trails and Conservation Assistance
Single Source Justification Criteria Cited	Continuation
NPS Point of Contact	June Zastrow 303-987-6718 june_zastrow@nps.gov

OVERVIEW

Cooperative Agreement P15AC10704 Legacy Number H4531110704 was entered into by and between the Department of the Interior, National Park Service (NPS), and Groundwork USA (GW USA) for the purpose of supporting the reuse of Brownfields and other derelict sites for conservation, recreation, economic development, and other community benefit through development of Groundwork Trust Organizations as part of the Groundwork USA Initiative. Brownfields are defined as derelict sites that have been contaminated or perceived to have been contaminated through previous uses of the site. Groundwork USA, the national office of the Groundwork USA network, is a critical component of the Groundwork model. Its mission is to support the development of the existing and new Groundwork Trusts, promote and coordinate the work of the network, access national resources and partnerships to support local projects and programs, and establish and maintain best practices across the network of Groundwork Trusts. Unless otherwise specified herein, the terms and conditions as stated in the Cooperative Agreement will apply to this Task Agreement.

The objectives of this task agreement are to support the work of GW JAX to:

- Undertake the planning and development activities to engage GW JAX in the clean-up and reuse of brownfields and derelict lands for greenspace and other community benefits; in tree planting and community greenspace stewardship; in green infrastructure and storm water management; and in urban farming and community gardens.
- To expand opportunities for the GW JAX Green Team to participate in service learning activities in their communities and in their local National Parks.
- To assess projects, programs and operations of GW JAX at the completion of its first year of operation as part of an operations review with GW USA and to develop a two-year Strategic Plan for building the capacity of GW JAX.

RECIPIENT INVOLVEMENT

A. GW USA agrees:

1. That the funds made available through this Task Agreement will be used to support the work of GW JAX to: develop a conceptual plan for the connection of the S-Line and Hogan's Creek Greenway as an initial brownfields to green space project, to plan and organize a community planning workshop for reuse of brownfields for greenspace, plan and develop a GW JAX Tree Planting Program, plan and develop a bioswale project and rain garden demonstration project, research and initiate planning for an urban farm and community garden program, plan expanded opportunities for the GW JAX Green Team to assist with environmental improvement projects, update the GW JAX website, plan an organize a one-year operations review with GW USA and Board Workshop, and to develop a two-year strategic plan for building the capacity of GW JAX.
2. That the funds provided under this Task Agreement cannot be used for

- construction documents or construction of specific projects.
3. To support the work of GW JAX to develop a brownfields to green space demonstration project focused on the S-Line and Hogan's Creek Greenway connection, by accomplishing the following tasks:
 - a) Develop a plan of action through planned community workshops;
 - b) Recruiting community partners and volunteers to participate on project;
 - c) Develop outreach materials to inform community members about the program and invite their participation;
 - d) Engage community members and partners to plan improvements related to S-Line and Hogan's Creek Greenway connection and develop a concept plan;
 - e) Develop concept plan through partnership with RTCA and ASLA;
 - f) Work with City of Jacksonville to review concepts and plans;
 - g) Document the activities of the brownfields to green space program with pictures and videos.
 4. To support the work of GW JAX to engage the Springfield and Eastside communities in planning for the reuse of brownfields for greenspace and other community benefits, by accomplishing the following tasks:
 - a) Coordinate with the City of Jacksonville and additional partners on current and planned brownfields remediation work within Springfield and Eastside;
 - b) Plan and organize a community public workshop to engage and inform the communities of Springfield and Eastside about the current and proposed brownfields remediation plans. The workshop will be held to solicit ideas from the community on how these brownfields sites could be re-used for green space to meet the needs of their respective neighborhoods;
 - c) Through the community workshop engage the public in the planning of future green space development projects in target neighborhoods.
 5. To support the work of GW JAX to develop a Neighborhood Tree Planting Program, by accomplishing the following tasks:
 - a) Develop a plan for establishing a GW JAX Neighborhood Tree Planting Program and implementing the program in its first year;
 - b) Recruit partners and volunteers to participate in the program;
 - c) Develop outreach materials to inform community members about the program and invite their participation;

- d) Identify, map and inspect locations for planting trees in 2015;
 - e) Develop a training program and materials for the GW JAX Green Team youth, tree-adopters and volunteers to plant and care for the newly planted trees drawing on existing programs and materials;
 - f) Organize and provide support to volunteers who are caring for planted trees;
 - g) Organize and implement a volunteer tree planting event to engage residents and partners in the Neighborhood Tree Planting Program and provide them the training program and materials that have been developed to support their efforts;
 - h) Assess outcome of the program in 2015 and compile a report summarizing what was accomplished and recommendations for strengthening the program in 2016;
 - i) Document the activities of the Tree Planting Program with pictures and videos.
6. To support the work of GW JAX to develop a neighborhood bioswale/ rain garden project plan as a storm water management demonstration project in Klutho Park and/or on City-owned vacant lots, by accomplishing the following tasks:
- a) Work with City of Jacksonville to identify appropriate locations for bioswale/rain garden demonstration project within target neighborhoods;
 - b) Coordinate with civic and community leaders through schools and universities to participate in the bioswale/rain garden demonstration project;
 - c) Develop a project proposal for a bioswale/rain garden demonstration project within target neighborhoods;
 - d) Identify resources for supporting implementation of the project, such as the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation – Five Star and Urban Waters Restoration Program grant;
 - e) Coordinate the implementation of the bioswale/rain garden demonstration project with the Green Team youth/local universities and public schools.
7. To support the work of GW JAX to implement a Hogan’s Creek Greenway and Deer Creek Stewardship Program working with the City of Jacksonville, by accomplishing the followings tasks:
- a) Identify and map specific sections of Hogan’s and Deer Creeks that are appropriate for implementing stewardship activities on;

- b) Recruit partners and volunteers to participate in the program;
 - c) Develop outreach materials to inform community members about the program and invite their participation;
 - d) Select two (2) sites for implementing the Hogan's and Deer Creeks Stewardship Program;
 - e) Engage community members and partners to plan improvements and stewardship activities at the selected sites and develop a concept plan for each site;
 - f) Work with City of Jacksonville to review concepts and plans;
 - g) Develop work plans for implementing the improvements;
 - h) Document the activities of the Stewardship Program with pictures and videos.
8. To support the work of GW JAX to research and initiate planning of an urban farm and community garden project which the GW JAX Green Team could assist in creating and implementing, by accomplishing the following tasks:
- a) Conduct research on current and past successful community gardens and urban farming programs to serve as a model for implementation;
 - b) Host a community workshop to collect input for selecting a proposed site for a future community garden and urban farm within target neighborhoods;
 - c) Research funding opportunities for design and planning work for future implementation of community garden and urban farming projects within target neighborhoods.
9. To support the work of GW JAX to expand opportunities for the GW JAX Green Team to assist with environmental improvement projects on Hogan's and Deer Creeks and in surrounding neighborhoods, by accomplishing the following tasks:
- a) To continue coordination efforts with the City of Jacksonville and community partners to develop project opportunities for the Green Team and with school officials to develop projects that complement the academic curriculum for Green Team members;
 - b) Continue working with the lead youth program partner(s) who are responsible for the academic curriculum of the Green Team to ensure the service- learning activities complement the academics provided;
 - c) Develop an overview of service learning activities for the GW JAX Green Team to undertake in 2016, and plan for how they will be accomplished, and a

- calendar of activities;
 - d) Continue the development of outreach materials to engage local youth and partners with the Green Team;
 - e) Continue coordination and consultation with local schools to align service learning activities with school curriculum;
 - f) Plan and organize a second service learning project within Timucuan Ecological and Historic Preserve, and/or Castillo De San Marcos, in accordance with the NPS – GW USA Green Team Partnership Program;
 - g) Continue documentation of the activities of the Green Team Program with pictures and videos.
10. To support the work of GW JAX to update their website in accordance with the national Groundwork website template by accomplishing the following task:
- a) Work closely with GW USA to implement the standardized Groundwork design template for the GW JAX website.
11. To work with GW JAX to assess projects, programs, and operations by accomplishing the following tasks:
- a) Organize an operations review with GW USA and GW JAX staff and board members in accordance with GW USA Operation Review guidelines to assess development of GW JAX.
 - b) Plan, organize, and complete a GW JAX staff and board member day-long workshop. Topics to be covered include:
 - 1) Findings and recommendations from the operations review with GW USA;
 - 2) Board member and executive director roles and responsibilities in management of the organization;
 - 3) SWOT analysis (strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats) of Groundwork's mission and work in Jacksonville, Florida;
 - 4) Developing and prioritizing actions for the staff and board to undertake to address critical issues and opportunities identified as part of the SWOT analysis;
 - 5) Initiate work on a strategic plan to build the capacity of GW JAX over the next two years, including a board development plan.
 - c) Document the discussions, findings and recommendations from the one-year operations review and the daylong workshop.
12. To support GW JAX in developing a two-year strategic plan, approved by the GW

JAX Board of Directors, for building the capacity of GW JAX, drawing on the findings and recommendation of the operations review with GW USA by accomplishing by following tasks:

- a) Review the status of GW JAX projects, programs and operations;
 - b) Assess upcoming needs and opportunities and build upon the accomplishments to date to develop a GW JAX two-year strategic plan to guide development of GW JAX, including, but not limited to, operations, staffing, projects, programs, financials, governance, board recruitment, and long-term sustainability;
 - c) Submit the strategic plan to GW USA for review and approval. GW USA will notify the National Park Service of the outcome of that review and approval process.
13. To support the work of GW JAX to document all funding, in-kind services, volunteer hours, materials and equipment leveraged by GW JAX for its projects, programs and operations.
14. To maintain a photographic record and list of accomplishments for all projects undertaken by GW JAX.
15. To submit quarterly narrative progress reports to the National Park Service documenting the work completed on the tasks outlined above and required financial reports, in accordance with NPS requirements.

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE INVOLVEMENT

Substantial involvement on the part the National Park Service is anticipated for the successful completion of the objectives to be funded by this award. In particular, the National Park Service will be responsible for the following:

B. NPS agrees:

1. That the funding under this Task Agreement may be used to support the work of GW JAX to: develop a conceptual plan for the connection of the S-Line and Hogan's Creek Greenway as an initial brownfields to green space project, to plan and organize a community planning workshop for reuse of brownfields for greenspace, develop a GW JAX Tree Planting Program, plan and develop a bioswale project and rain garden demonstration project, research and initiate planning for an urban farm and community garden program plan expanded opportunities for the GW JAX Green Team to assist with environmental improvement projects, update the GW JAX website, plan and organize a one-year operations review with GW USA and Board Workshop, and to develop a two-year strategic plan for building the capacity of GW JAX.
2. To support GW USA and GW JAX with the funding from this Agreement to accomplish the tasks of this agreement.

3. To support the work of GW USA to link GW JAX with other Groundwork Trusts that can assist with accomplishing the tasks of this agreement.
4. To participate in the work of GW USA and GW JAX to accomplish the tasks described, especially the development of the S-Line brownfields to green space program project, Green Team tree planting and stewardship programs, and assessment of GW JAX projects, programs and operations as part of developing the two-year strategic plan.

SINGLE-SOURCE JUSTIFICATION

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR SINGLE SOURCE POLICY REQUIREMENTS
Department of the Interior Policy (505 DM 2) requires a written justification which explains why competition is not practicable for each single-source award. The justification must address one or more of the following criteria as well as discussion of the program legislative history, unique capabilities of the proposed recipient, and cost-sharing contribution offered by the proposed recipient, as applicable.
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; (2) Continuation – The activity to be funded is necessary to the satisfactory completion of, or is a continuation of an activity presently being funded, and 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, cost-sharing ability if applicable, technical expertise, or other such 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.

The National Park Service did not solicit full and open competition for this award based the following criteria:

(2) CONTINUATION

SINGLE SOURCE JUSTIFICATION DESCRIPTION:

THIS IS A NOTICE OF INTENT TO AWARD

This is a Task Agreement (P15AC00225) under Cooperative Agreement (P15AC10704) in the amount of \$87,998.98 with a period of performance from date of award until 06/30/2016.

STATUTORY AUTHORITY

54 USC § 101702 previously 16 U.S.C. §1g authorizes the NPS to enter into cooperative agreements that involve the transfer of NPS appropriated funds to state, local, and tribal governments, other public entities, educational institutions, and private nonprofit organizations for the public purpose of carrying out National Park Service programs.

16 U.S.C. 460.1-1(d) of the Outdoor Recreation Act authorizes the Secretary of the Interior to provide technical assistance and advice, and to cooperate with States, political subdivisions, and private interests, including nonprofit organizations, with respect to outdoor recreation.