A scenic photograph of a sunset over a mountain range. The sky is filled with vibrant orange and yellow clouds, with the sun low on the horizon. The mountains in the foreground are silhouetted against the bright sky.

Land and Water Conservation Fund Program

SCORP and LWCF FY20 Applications

west virginia  
**cad**

[www.wvcad.org](http://www.wvcad.org)

West Virginia Development Office  
Community Development Division  
Capitol Complex – Building 3, Suite 700  
Charleston, West Virginia 25305-0311



***AGENDA:***

***West Virginia Comprehensive  
Outdoor Recreation Plan (SCORP)***

***Objectives***

***Plan Sections***

***Funding Priorities***

***Q&A - Comments***

***Fiscal 2020 LWCF Application  
Cycle***

***Eligible Applicants, Projects***

***Major Steps***

***Review Criteria***

***Getting Help***

***Q&A - Comments***

**1.**

## ***PROCESS NAVIGATION:***

Participant questions will be taken at two Q&A periods. All slides are numbered to refer questions by slide number. To facilitate online commenting, individuals who wish to talk must use the “raise hand” function or text their question. Once an individual has raised his/her hand, the individual will be called on by the facilitator in order, unmuted, and asked to comment. This presentation to be posted online or made available by request. Any Additional written comments can be mailed through December 9, 2020.

This hearing is being recorded to help draft meeting minutes.

**2.**

## ***AGENCY CONTACTS:***

[Jennifer.I.Ferrell@wv.gov](mailto:Jennifer.I.Ferrell@wv.gov) (State Liaison Officer)

[James.E.Bush@wv.gov](mailto:James.E.Bush@wv.gov) (Alternate State Liaison Officer)

[John.R.McGarrity@wv.gov](mailto:John.R.McGarrity@wv.gov) (Planner, Presenter)

[Sherry.L.Risk@wv.gov](mailto:Sherry.L.Risk@wv.gov) (Facilitator)

(all) 304.558.2234



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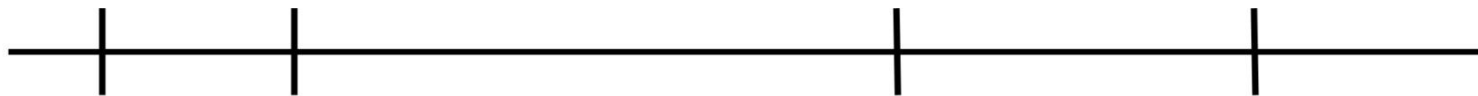
# LWCF History...

- 1906 - Antiquities Act Passed*
- 1917 - National Park Service Est.*
- 1958-61 - Outdoor Recreation Resources Review Commission*
- 1962-65 - Introduction and Passage of LWCF Act*



**1906 1917**

**1958-1961 1962-1965**





### *National LWCF State Assistance Goals...*

- 1. Meet state and locally identified public outdoor recreation resources needs to strengthen the health and vitality of the American People.*
- 2. Increase the number of protected state and local outdoor resources and ensure their availability for public use in perpetuity.*
- 3. Encourage sound planning and long-term partnerships to expand the quantity and ensure the quality of needed state and local outdoor recreation resources.*





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*...typical and atypical projects*

VIEW OF AMPHITHEATRE

5.



**DRAFT PLAN  
FY 2020-  
2025**

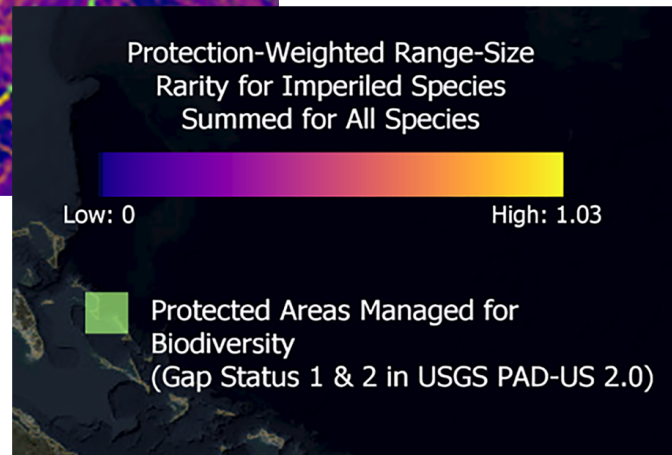
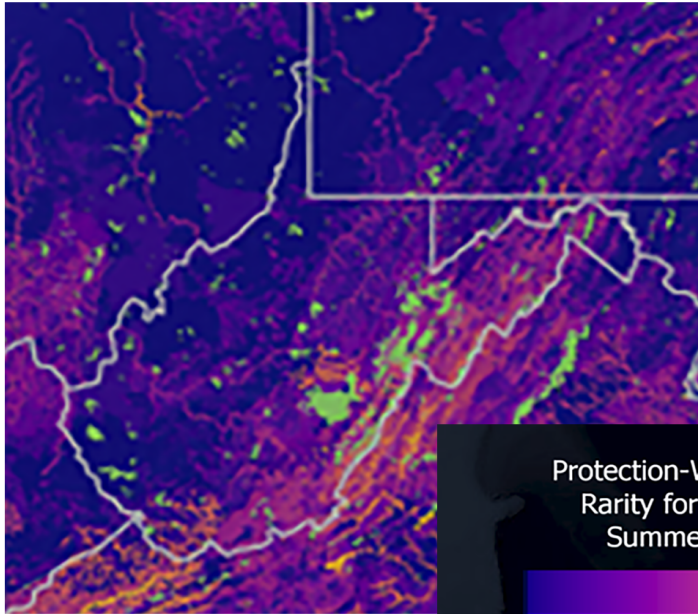
# WV-SCORP

**West Virginia  
Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan  
2020-2025**



**West Virginia Development Office**

## ***WV Distinctions:***



- ***Highest mean elevation on East coast,***
- ***Highest plateau in East,***
- ***Longest free-flowing river in East,***
- ***3<sup>rd</sup> most forested state behind Maine & New Hampshire***

**7.**

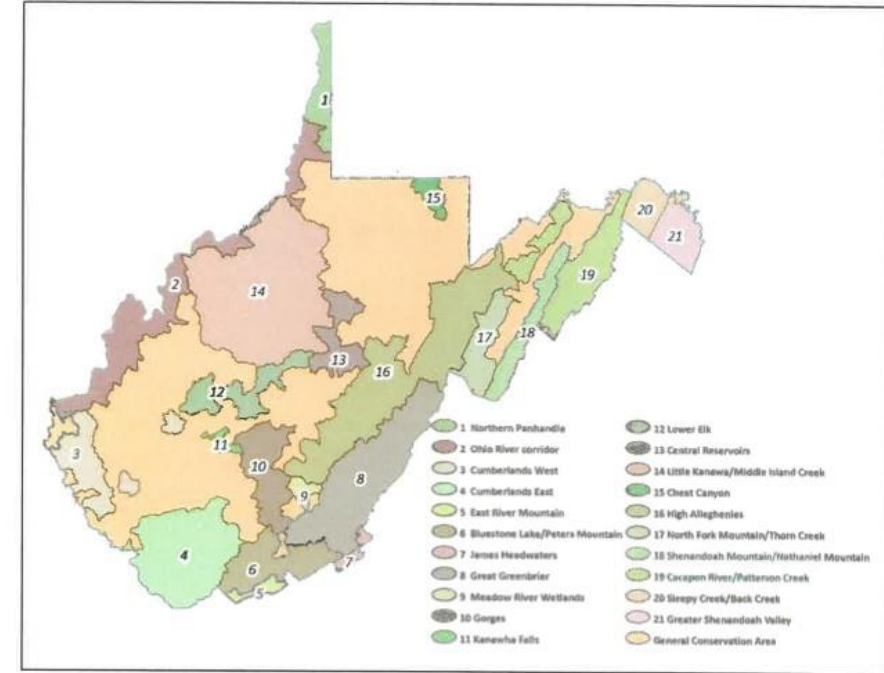
*Figure 10. State Biodiversity Threat Map*



***WVDNR's State Wildlife Action Plan (SWAP) breaks down fauna, land, and water assets into 21 state Conservation Focus Areas (CFA's) that can include a range of particular Areas of Environmental Concern....***

- ***Watershed or sub-watershed areas serving as public water supplies....***
- ***Watershed or sub-watershed areas threatened by water depletion or degradation....***
- ***Prime or virgin forests....***
- ***RTE remnant species habitats....***
- ***Biodiverse or historic areas subject to irreversible loss if developed....***
- ***Existing state or federal parks, forests, or wildlife management areas or areas so identified for potential acquisition....***
- ***Unique geological formation areas....***
- ***Floodplain or floodway areas that constitute a natural hazard area.***

Conservation Focus Areas in West Virginia

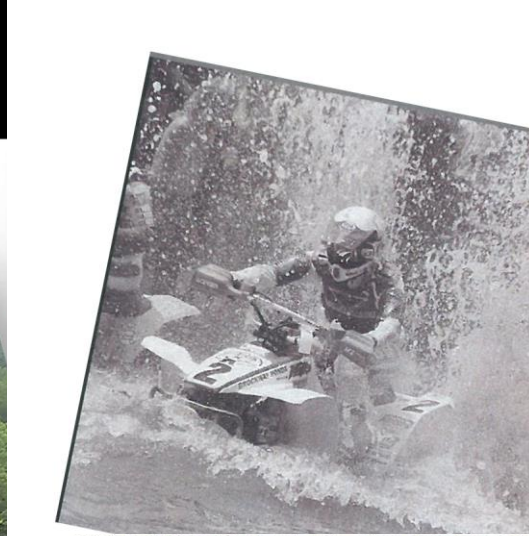


***New parks or acquisitions with AEC's typically require Environmental Assessments!***



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## **Adventure & Discovery trends for Generation 'Z'...**



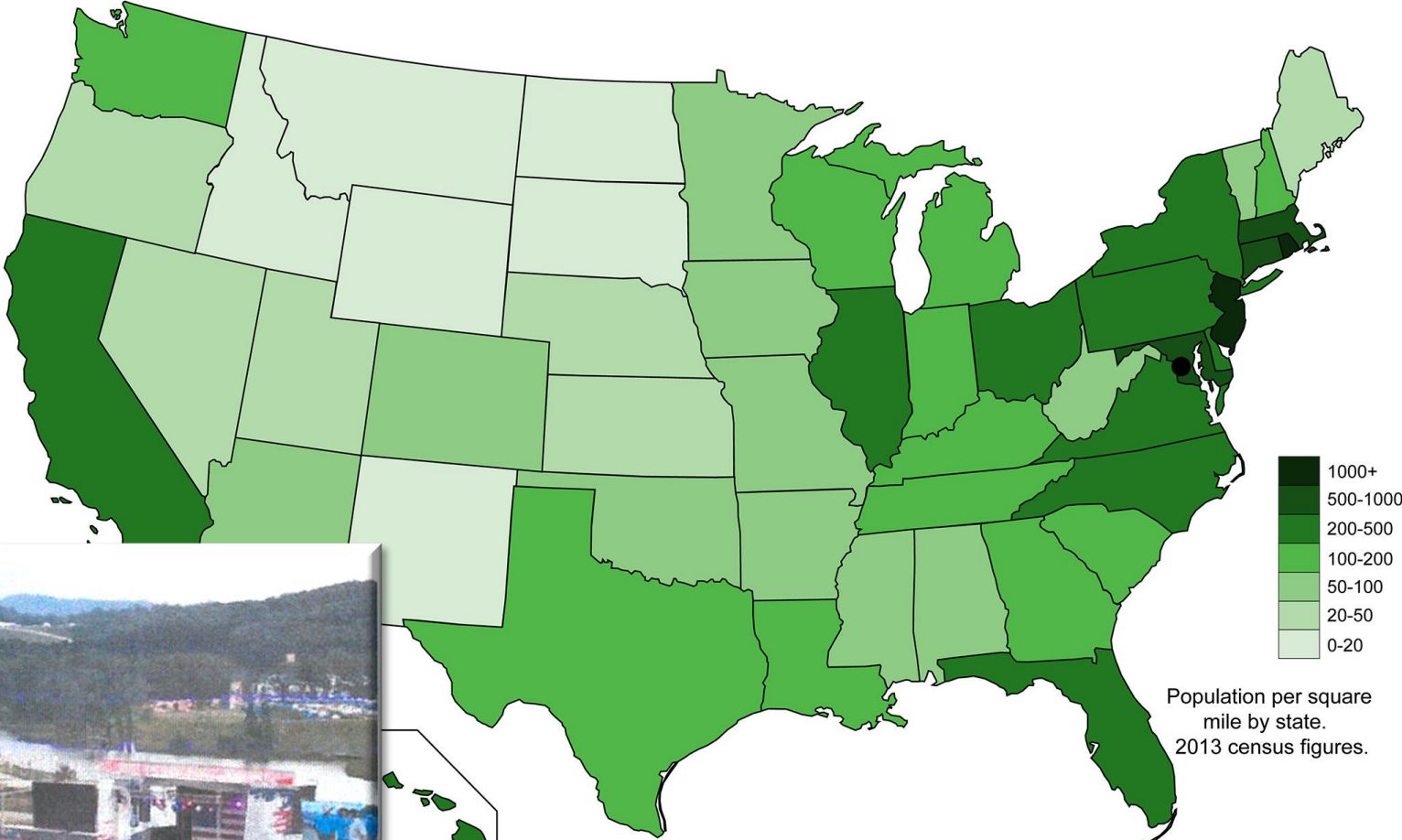
**9.**

**COVID-19 impacts on state parks as destinations:**

- **Resident visitation up 71%...overall attendance up 12-20%**



***West Virginia's destination potential in its landscapes and cultural attractions...***



**10.**



***--helped by its innate assets:***

- low population density,***
- connectivity to other states***

***2019 Boy Scouts World Jamboree, Fayette County***



# Supply & Demand

## Outdoor Recreation in West Virginia: 2019

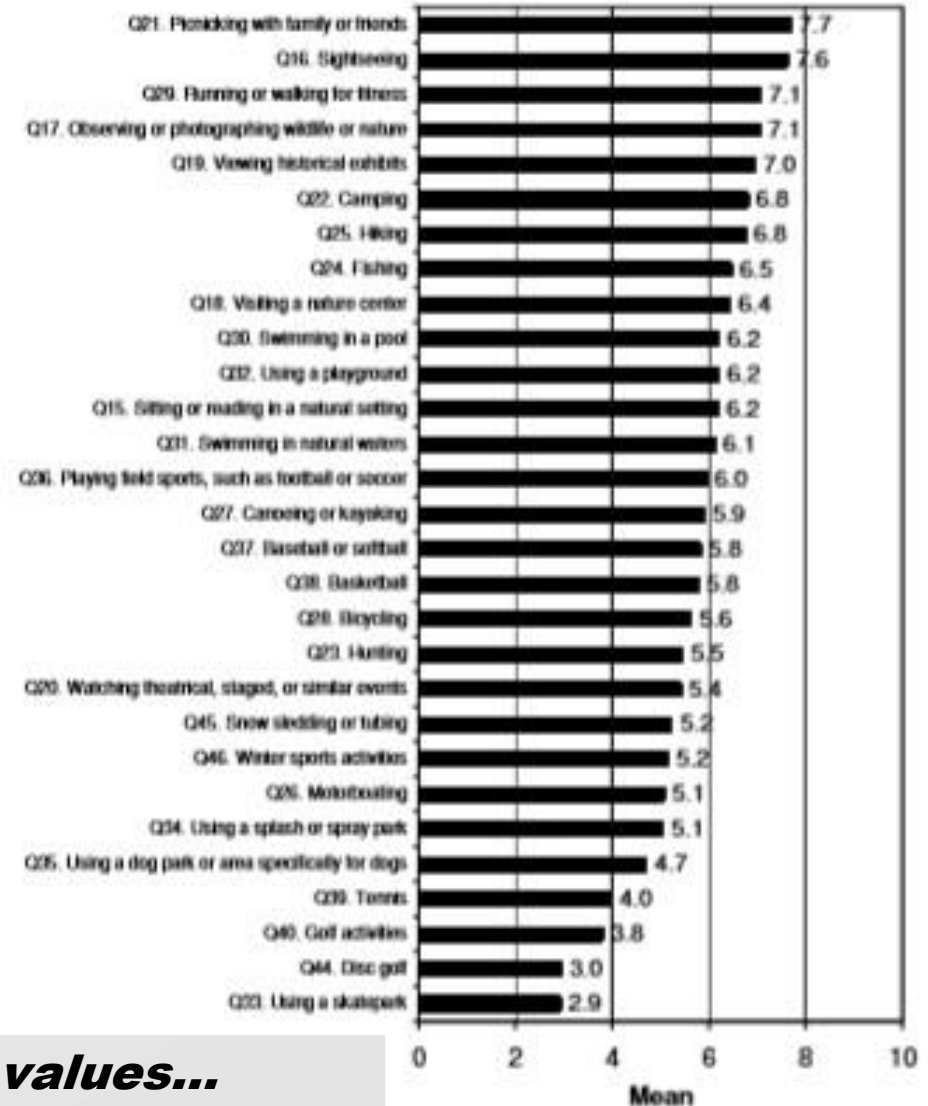


Conducted for the West Virginia Development Office  
by Responsive Management

# Pre-Pandemic Local Park Survey Results of 500 residents...

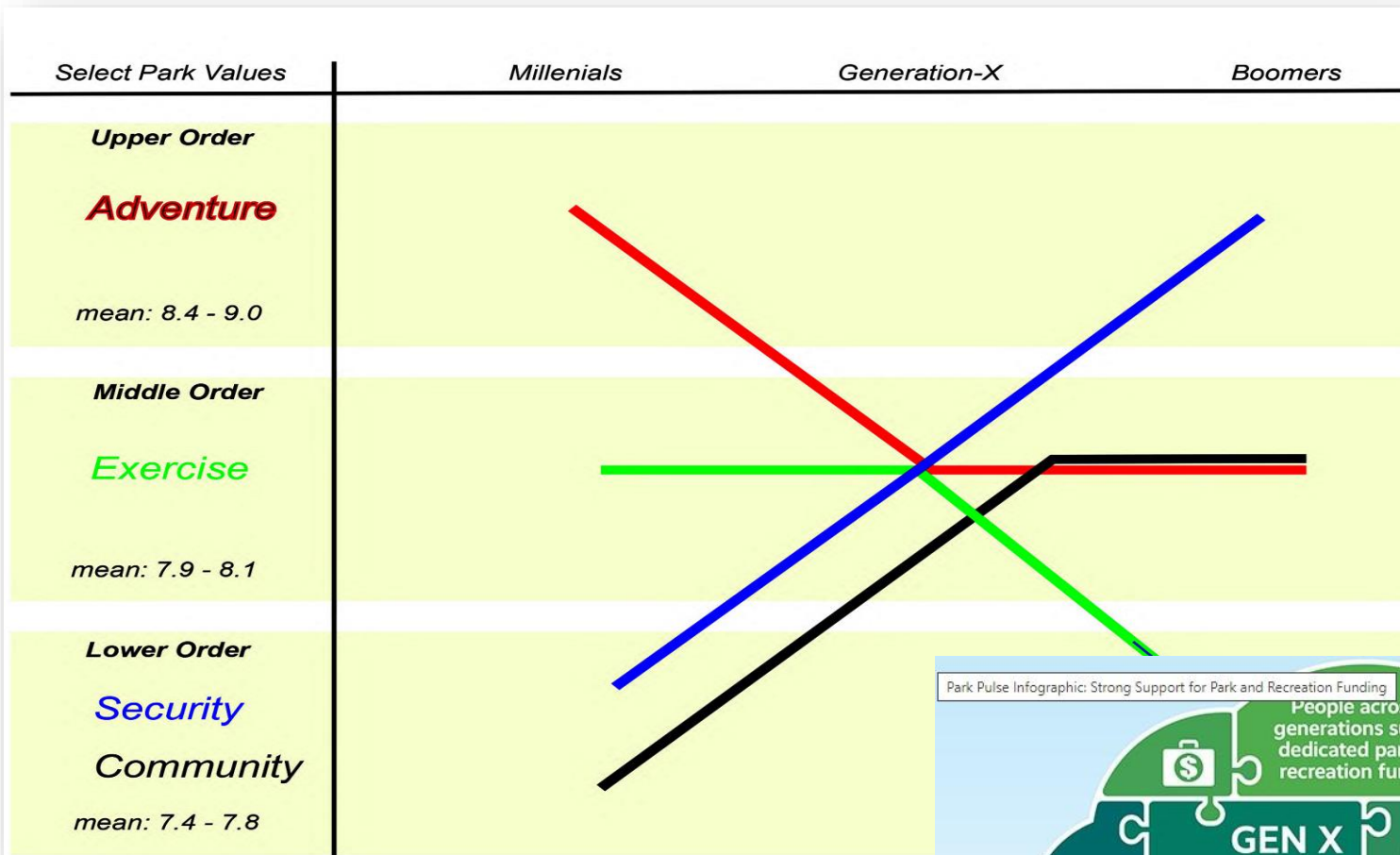


Q15-Q46. Mean ratings of how important each activity is to residents' park use in their area, on a scale of 0 to 10, where 0 is not at all important and 10 is extremely important.



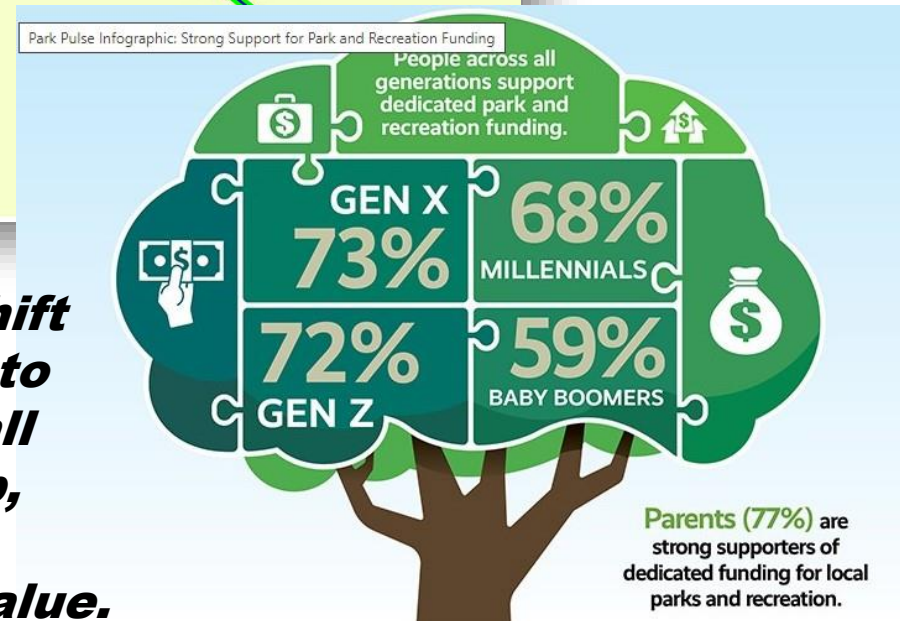
11.

**Fresh air and escape highest recreational values...  
...picnicking and sightseeing highest overall interests...**

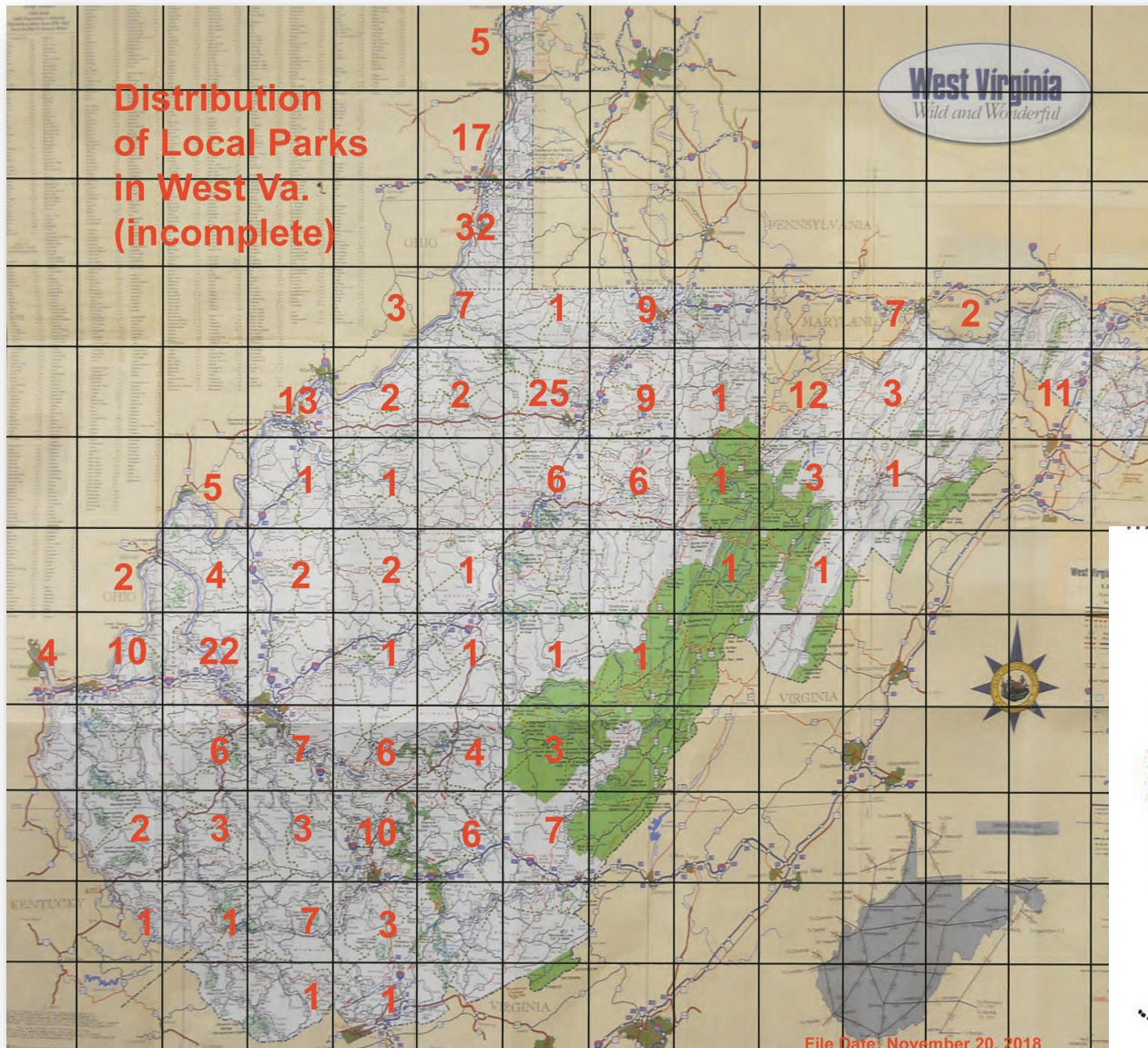


12.

- **Resident close-to-home preferences shift with age---active to passive...exercise to socialization...priorities higher for small improvements: restrooms, trail upkeep, security...mirroring national trends....**
- **More active choices add destination value.**

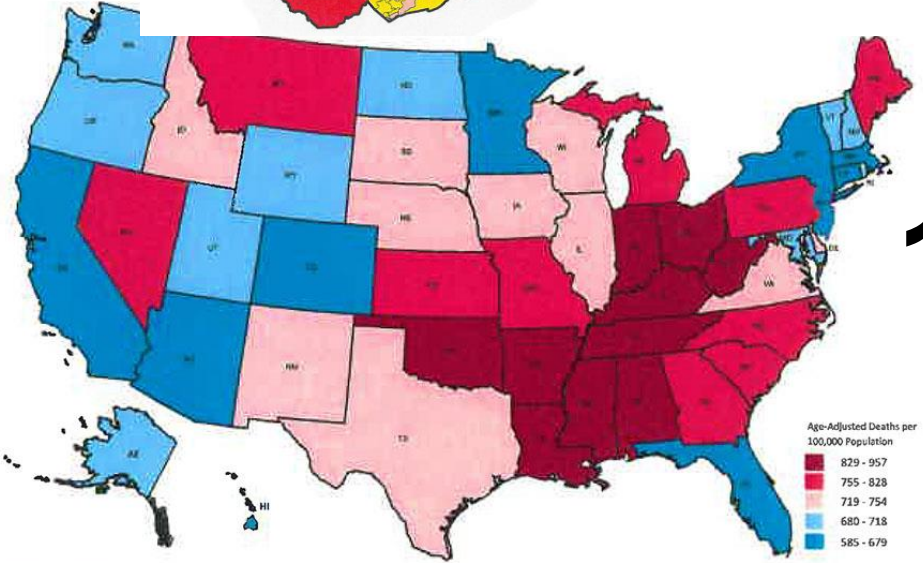
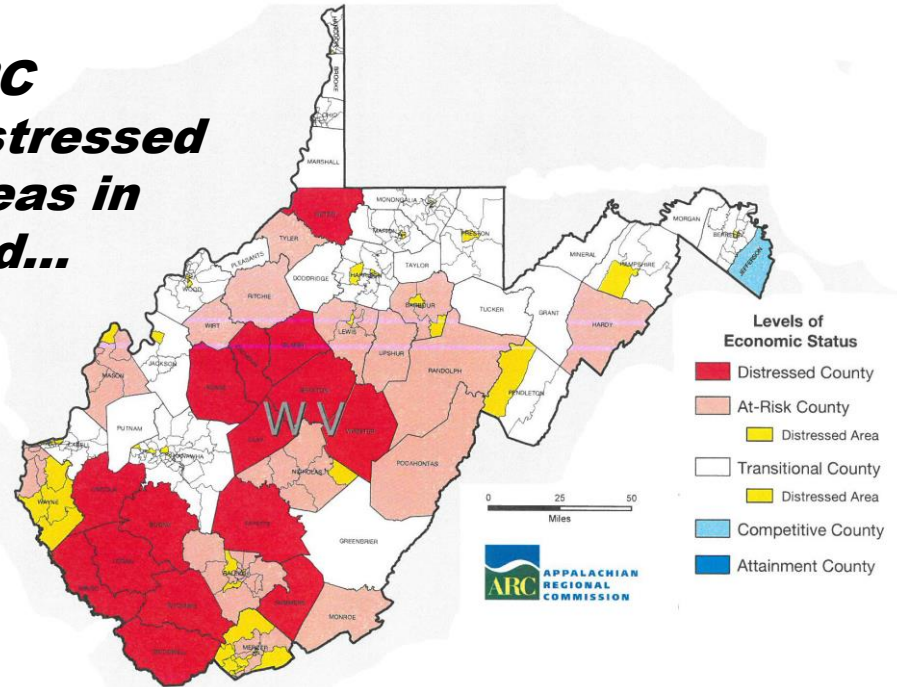






**Limited access limits physical activity...**

**ARC Distressed Areas in Red...**



**13.**

Source: Centers for Disease Control

**Fig. 13 All-Cause Morbidity Rates**



Towns < 1500# Towns, 1500-10K# Towns > 10K# Urban Counties Rural Counties

|                  |     |     |      |     |      |
|------------------|-----|-----|------|-----|------|
| # places         | 139 | 69  | 14   | 20  | 33   |
| Median Age       | 45  | 42  | 40.7 | 45  | 46.1 |
| % ARC-Distressed | 54% | 29% | 14%  | 20% | 39%  |
| % w/park budgets | 57% | 90% | 100% | 75% | 58%  |
| % LWCF-assisted  | 28% | 67% | 100% | 75% | 36%  |

Source: WVDO

**(Above) WV LWCF awards by community size...1965 to 2019...60% of state with three or fewer LWCF grants.**

**LWCF 50-50 MATCH ISSUES & BIASES:**

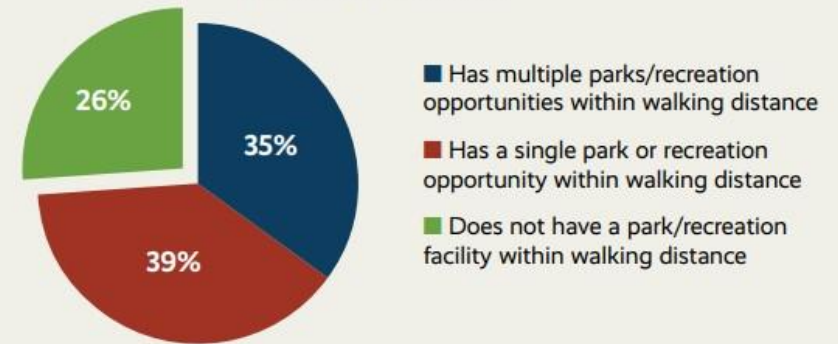
**Small towns – less to spend...more deterioration evident...lack of new investment...higher jurisdictional costs.... must, “Have money to make money.”**

**GAOA: LWCF apportionment change estimate: \$!M to \$5M**



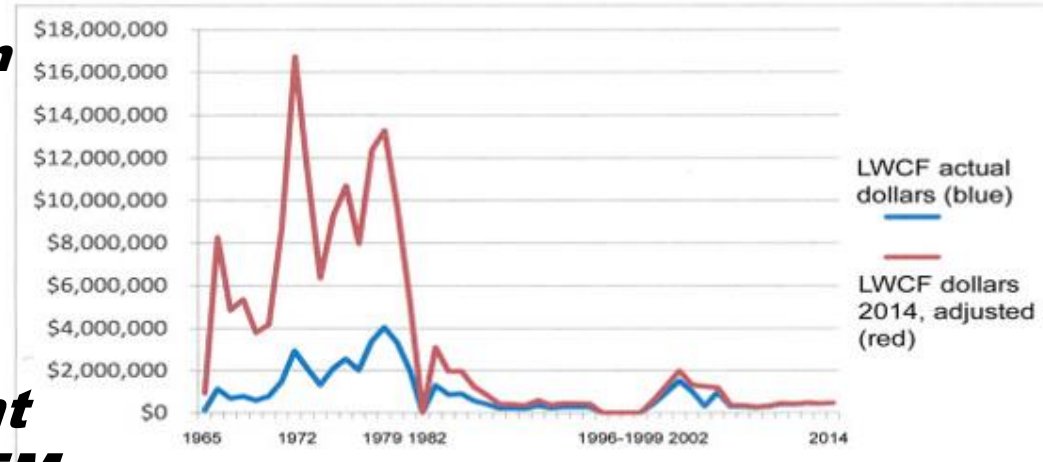
Detail: Broken bench along path besides tennis courts.

**More than Seven in Ten U.S. Residents Live within Walkable Distance of a Local Park or Other Recreational Opportunity**  
(Percentage Distribution)



**NRPA U.S. statistics on park proximity... WV park walking proximity estimated at 10%....**

Time Value of Money: LWCF Annual Apportionments Adjusted for 2014 Dollars



**14.**

# ***Policy Plan***

## **● *Priority One:***

***Acquire and/or develop local, basic park and playground facilities in rural, non-metro areas of the state.... Basic facilities proposed can include shelters, walks, restrooms, shade and play areas, benches, trash receptacles and signage.***

## **● *Priority Two:***

***Provide funding assistance for the maintenance of, or addition to, local or state parks, forests, or wildlife management areas when such assistance is needed to support demands beyond the present.***

## **● *Priority Three:***

***Renovate or expand state or local parks with new projects or acquisitions including conservation areas as multi-purpose developments to engage and promote active lifestyles, innovate community cores, attract or retain visitors to an area, or preserve and protect some area of environmental concern.***



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## ***Project Selection Criteria...***

### ***The OPSP, "Open Project Selection Process"***

Likert-scaled: \_\_\_\_\_ : \_\_\_\_\_ : \_\_\_\_\_ : \_\_\_\_\_ : \_\_\_\_\_ :  
0 points 15 points 30 points  
*less than expected; not observed expected better than expected*

### ***Criteria:***

- ***Relationship to WV-SCORP Priorities...***
- ***Site and Project Suitability...***
- ***Demographics...including how the public engaged?***
- ***Infrastructure...applicant's need and prior work....***
- ***Government Finances...***
- ***Amendments and multiple-projects....***

**16.**





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# ***Q&A – Part I***

**17.**

**CONTACT:** *West Virginia Development Office  
Capitol Complex, Bldg. 3 – Suite 700  
Charleston, West Virginia 25305-0311  
attention: John McGarrity  
(t): 304.558.2234 (e): [john.r.mcgarrity@wv.gov](mailto:john.r.mcgarrity@wv.gov)*

# ***LWCF Grants Review***



## ***PURPOSES:***

- ***Land Acquisitions...***
- ***Facility Improvements***



***...typical LWCF projects from 50+ year history...***





## ***Only grant with perpetual covenants!***



SEC. 6(f)(3) No property acquired or developed with assistance under this section shall, without the approval of the Secretary, be converted to other than public outdoor recreation uses. The Secretary shall approve such conversion only if he finds it to be in accord with the then existing comprehensive statewide outdoor recreation plan and only upon such conditions as he deems necessary to assure the substitution of other recreation properties of at least equal fair market value and of reasonably equivalent usefulness and location: *Provided*, That wetland areas and interests therein as identified in the wetlands provisions of the comprehensive plan and proposed to be acquired as suitable replacement property within that same State that is otherwise acceptable to the Secretary, acting through the Director of the National Park Service, shall be considered to be of reasonably equivalent usefulness with the property proposed for conversion.

### ***Eligibility:***

- ***State & Local Units of Government,***
- ***50 percent required local match,***
- ***Freehold property ownership.***





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## ***Major Steps...***

- ***Planning:***  
***(Organization Key!)***

- ***Budgeting:***

- ***Timelines:***

- ***Group strategy-making encouraged to decide options, engage stakeholders...get project 'co-designers'...***
  - ***Basic Navigation: forms, advice from WVDO first....***
  - ***Finding service providers—RPDC's, NPO's, others, ...***
  - ***Fundraising and other efforts: match negotiations...site planning...writing and assembling documents....***
  - ***Getting service providers responses: RPDC, DNR, DEP, USFWS, SHPO, NPO's, others...***
- 20.**
- # varies, grants \$5000 to \$25,000 (# varies up to unobligated fund balance);
  - Four awards, each for \$50,000 or less (each, \$100,000 total project cost);
  - One award for \$100,000 or less (each \$200,000 total project cost);
  - One award for \$200,000 or less (each, \$400,000 total project cost);
  - One award for \$500,000 or less (each, \$1 million or greater project cost);
- ***December 31, 2020 due date;***
  - ***'Trial Balloons' encouraged before due date.***



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## ***Narrative Statements:***

### ***Selecting a project...objectives restated:***

***Basic LWCF objectives—preservation of open space for public use and enjoyment...promotion of physical activity...provision of adequate recreational services...protection of areas of environmental or ecological importance...enhancement of overall community development.***

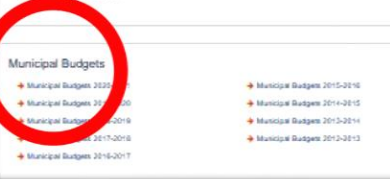
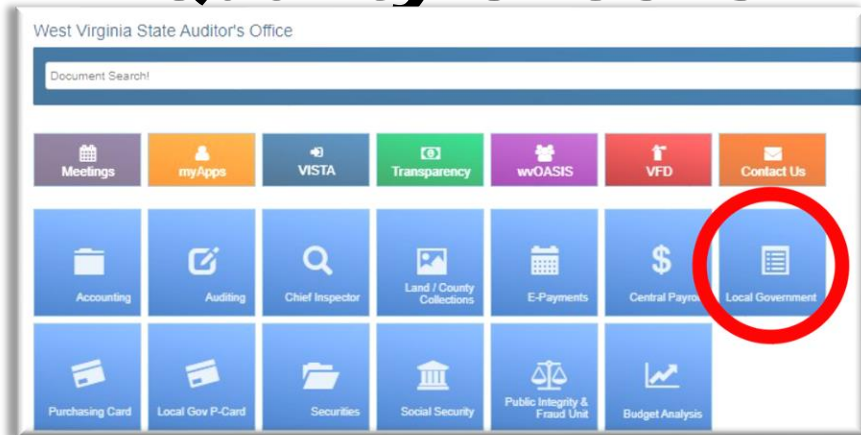
### ***WV-SCORP Priorities...state one or more:***

- 1. Acquire and/or develop local, basic park and playground facilities in rural, non-metro areas of the state....***
- 2. Provide assistance for the maintenance or addition to park facilities to restore or maintain services beyond present demands....***
- 3. Renovate or expand parks with new projects or acquisitions to engage and promote active lifestyles, innovate community cores, attract or retain visitors to an area, or preserve or protect some area of environmental concern.***



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## Quality Checks... (part two—WVSAO budget data)



3. From 'municipal' or 'county' budget tab, examine park expenditures for past five years (bottom, right).

1. From *wvsao.gov* website (above left), go to 'local government' tab....
2. From local government tab (middle square), select 'municipal' or 'county' budget tab....

|  |                                     |                |                |              |              |
|--|-------------------------------------|----------------|----------------|--------------|--------------|
| 809  | Grants - Health and Sanitation      | -              | -              | -            | -            |
| <b>Total Health &amp; Sanitation Expenditures</b>  |                                     | <b>133,332</b> | <b>133,332</b> | <b>-</b>     | <b>-</b>     |
| <b>CULTURE &amp; RECREATION EXPENDITURES</b>       |                                     |                |                |              |              |
| 900  | <b>Parks &amp; Recreation</b>       | <b>18,765</b>  | <b>18,765</b>  | <b>5,000</b> | <b>5,000</b> |
| 901  | Visitors' Services                  | -              | -              | -            | -            |
| 902  | Travel Council                      | -              | -              | -            | -            |
| 903  | Public Recreation Facilities        | 3,800          | 3,800          | -            | -            |
| 904  | Swimming Pools                      | -              | -              | -            | -            |
| 905  | Community Centers                   | -              | -              | -            | -            |
| 906  | Arts & Humanities                   | -              | -              | -            | -            |
| 907  | Youth Programs                      | -              | -              | -            | -            |
| 908  | Playgrounds                         | -              | -              | -            | -            |
| 909  | Museums, Commemorations             | -              | -              | -            | -            |
| 910  | Civic Center - Municipal Auditorium | -              | -              | -            | -            |
| 911  | Historical Commission               | -              | -              | -            | -            |
| 912  | Civic Promotions                    | -              | -              | -            | -            |
| 913  | 4-H Camp                            | -              | -              | -            | -            |
| 914  | Rails to Trails                     | -              | -              | -            | -            |
| 915  | Ice Arena                           | -              | -              | -            | -            |
| 916  | Library                             | 3,575          | 3,575          | -            | -            |
| 917  | Law Library                         | -              | -              | -            | -            |
| 918  | Golf Course                         | -              | -              | -            | -            |
| 919  | Stadium                             | -              | -              | -            | -            |
| 920  | Grants - Culture and Recreation     | -              | -              | -            | -            |
| <b>Total Culture &amp; Recreation Expenditures</b> |                                     | <b>26,140</b>  | <b>26,140</b>  | <b>5,000</b> | <b>5,000</b> |
| <b>SOCIAL SERVICES EXPENDITURES</b>                |                                     |                |                |              |              |
| 950  | Reafforestation Programs            | -              | -              | -            | -            |

22.





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# Quality Checks... (part three--PDESf)

Checks in green areas  
Require  
footnotes.

NPS Form 10-904 (Rev. 09/2016)  
National Park Service

OMB Control No. 1024-0031  
Expiration Date 01/31/2020

| A. ENVIRONMENTAL RESOURCES<br>Indicate potential for adverse impacts. Use a separate sheet to clarify responses per instructions for Part A on page 9. | Not Applicable<br>Resource does not exist | negligible impacts | Impacts | EA/EIS required | Minor EA/EIS required | More Data Needed to Determine Degree of Impact<br>EA/EIS required |
|--|---|--------------------|---------|-----------------|-----------------------|---|
| 1. Geological resources: soils, bedrock, streambeds, landforms, etc.   |   |                    |         |                 |                       |   |
| Quality  |   |                    |         |                 |                       |   |
| (noise impacts)  |   |                    |         |                 |                       |   |
| Quality/quantity   |   |                    |         |                 |                       |   |
| Flow characteristics   |   |                    |         |                 |                       |   |
| /estuarine   |   |                    |         |                 |                       |   |
| Marshes/wetlands   |   |                    |         |                 |                       |   |
| Use/ownership patterns; public access; community livability  |   |                    |         |                 |                       |   |
| Recreation, transportation   |   |                    |         |                 |                       |   |
| Special animal/fish species of special concern and habitat; state/federal proposed for listing   |   |                    |         |                 |                       |   |
| Sensitive ecosystems, such as bogs, wetlands, World Heritage sites, riparian forests, etc.   |   |                    |         |                 |                       |   |
| State or important wildlife/ wildlife habitat  |   |                    |         |                 |                       |   |

'N/A' entries for all red column items will get your application rejected!

Use only '2020' form!

NPS Form 10-904 (Rev. 09/2016)  
National Park Service



PROPOSAL DESCRIPTION

Use only '2020' form!

OMB Control No. 1024-0031  
Expiration Date 01/31/2020



The purpose of this Proposal Description and Environmental Assessment Form (ESF) is to provide descriptive and environmental information about a variety of Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) state assistance proposals submitted for National Park Service (NPS) review and decision. The completed PD/ESF becomes part of the "federal administrative record" in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and its implementing regulations. The PD portion of the form captures administrative and descriptive details enabling the NPS to understand the proposal. The ESF portion is designed for States and/or project sponsors to use while the LWCF proposal is under development. Upon completion, the ESF will indicate the resources that could be impacted by the proposal enabling States and/or project sponsors to more accurately follow an appropriate pathway for NEPA analysis: 1) a recommendation for a Categorical Exclusion (CE), 2) production of an Environmental Assessment (EA), or 3) production of an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS). The ESF should also be used to document any previously conducted yet still viable environmental analysis if used for this federal proposal. The completed PD/ESF must be submitted as part of the State's LWCF proposal to NPS.

Except for the proposals listed below, the PD/ESF must be completed, including the appropriate NEPA document, signed by the State, and submitted with each new federal application for LWCF assistance and amendments for: scope changes that alter or add facilities and/or acres; conversions; public facility exceptions; sheltering outdoor facilities; and changing the original intended use of an area from that which was approved in an earlier LWCF agreement. Consult the LWCF Program Manual ([www.nps.gov/lwcf](http://www.nps.gov/lwcf)) for detailed guidance for your type of proposal and on how to comply with NEPA.

For the following types of proposals only this Cover Page is required because these types of proposals are administrative in nature and are categorically excluded from further NEPA environmental analysis. NPS will complete the NEPA CE Form. Simply check the applicable box below, and complete and submit only this Cover Page to NPS along with the other items required for your type of proposal as instructed in the LWCF Program Manual.

## ***Sample Narrative Organization for “Multi-Purpose” Recreation Project (recreation/conservation)***

- ***Tag and frame observations of what you see in the landscape’s project area (streams, floodplains, existing parks, views, proximities, etc.)***
- ***Add known history of site, present use and condition...***
- ***Locate & describe special environmental qualities (water uses, species habitats, educational values, etc.) and how buffered, or **not....\******  
***\*may require formal NPS-specified environmental assessment***
- ***Describe particulars of recreational project, type of experiences sought, (tie to landscape) and concrete details of who and how service to be done.***

**24.**



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## ***'Get It Done' Document Assembly...***

- Cover letter: Project title, SCORP reference, Clearinghouse request***
  - SF-424 (signed)***
    - SF-424B, Budget Summary***
      - SF-424D, Construction/Acquisition Project Assurances (signed)***
        - Authorizing Resolution with match commitment (signed)***
          - Documentation of matching share (bank statement, usually)***
            - Narrative: Project purpose, specific use of funds, site history***
              - Detailed Budget Narrative: quantities & costs—use NPS sample***
- PD-ESF (new sites would require separate environmental assessment)***
- SHPO clearance letter***
  - USFWS/DNR-WRS clearance letter/s...permits (DEP, ACE, as required)***
    - Map products: 6f boundary map, site/floor plans, location map, parcel maps (acquisition projects), floodplain map with floodplain certification***
      - Deeds, UASFLA appraisal (acquisition projects), review appraisal, acquisition schedule***
        - Misc. forms: DI-1350, DI-2010, 504 Plan, DNF***

**25.**





**26.**

## ***Project Review Criteria...***

The State's Open Project Selection Process (OPSP) evaluates project according to a number of criteria including the following: originality with respect to concept and use of other resources, the applicant's park history including any deferred maintenance, any parkland conversion issues, any lack of progress with prior or current construction, any competition of the project proposal with the private sector, the project sponsor's handicapped access compliance, the number and size of prior grant awards, and the merits of the project's design as it relates to its completeness, quality and readiness to be bid. Major application errors and omissions include: lack of detailed budgets, lack of documented match, lack of SHPO or other environmental clearance, lack of UASFLA-qualified appraisals on any project land acquisitions, land acquisition without development, and/or missing narratives from ESF or state application sections dealing with a project's description, impact or other collaborations.



# **“CAPSULE SUMMARY”**

## **• Project Design:**

- Fund Sources:** LWCF – GAOA (due date: 12/31/2020)
- Pathways:** start with WVDO, RPDC’s if necessary, NPO’s...
- Prerequisites:** Governments eligible – Freeholds preferred – 50% matching
- SCORP Agreement:** I. Basic Park Development – II. Park Capital Repairs – III. New Park Facilities or Acquisitions, AEC possible screens...
- Work Products:** plans & maps – written justifications – detailed budget – documented match – possible Environmental Assessment....

## **• Project Implementation:**

- Project Period:** normally 3 years...max. 5 years (do early, not late)
- Deed Dedication:** perpetual use, non-conversion reservations—recorded 1<sup>st</sup>!
- Reimbursement Process:** ...,“have money to make money”....
- Uses of Other Resources:** HUD CDBG – ARC – DOT RT, AML, others....

## **• Project Maintenance:**

- Annual Self-Inspection Reports by Grantees
- Periodic On-Site Inspections by WVDO
- Inspection Items: Neglect – Conversions – Handicapped Accessibility....elp
- Navigating Process:** focus on capabilities, less about needs – “people-up” to get help, – scale-out situation—organize phases as stand-alone pieces...

**27.**



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# ***Q&A – Part 2***

**28.**

**CONTACT:** *West Virginia Development Office  
Capitol Complex, Bldg. 3 – Suite 700  
Charleston, West Virginia 25305-031  
attention: John McGarrity  
(t): 304.558.2234 (e): john.r.mcgarrrity@wv.gov*