Sharp, Justine (RCO)

From: RCO-Director (RCO)
Sent: Monday, October 05, 2015 10:17 AM
To: tlee@penmetparks.org
Cc: eguenther@penmetparks.org; ghayes@penmetparks.org
Subject: Long-term Obligations for Grants from the Washington State Recreation and Conservation Office
Attachments: Peninsula Metropolitan Park 2015 Sponsor Notice.pdf; RCO Long-term Obligations.pdf

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STATE OF WASHINGTON
RECREATION AND CONSERVATION OFFICE

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VIA EMAIL

October 5, 2015

TO: **Terry Lee, Executive Director**
Peninsula Metropolitan Park

CC: Eric Guenther, Special Projects Manager
Gretchen Hayes, Recreation Manager

FROM: Kaleen Cottingham, Director
Washington State Recreation and Conservation Office

RE: Long-term Obligations for Grants from the Washington State Recreation and Conservation Office (formerly the Interagency Committee for Outdoor Recreation, IAC)

Since 1964, the Washington State Recreation and Conservation Office (RCO) has awarded grants to state agencies, counties, cities, special purpose districts, and non-profit organizations for parks, open space, farmland, critical habitat for wildlife, trails, boating facilities, and other recreation and conservation projects.

Your organization received one or more grants from RCO at some time in the past. The grant award comes with a long-term obligation for your organization to maintain the project area as originally funded. Attached is a fact sheet that provides some basic information about RCO grant obligations. It is your responsibility to know your project areas that are protected with RCO grant restrictions and to manage them accordingly. Additional information on long-term obligations may be found on our Web site (http://www.rco.wa.gov/grants/long_term_obligations.shtml.)

Attached is a list of grants awarded to your organization that come with these long-term obligations. You can access information about each specific grant award by clicking on the link in the first column, which will take you to RCO's Project Snapshot.

RCO conducts periodic inspections of its funded projects to ensure the long-term obligations are maintained. You will receive an inspection report when this occurs. RCO grants staff also may contact your organization if any issues arise from the inspection. Some common issues that we find in our inspections include a change in the use of the project area

from what was originally funded by the grant, a transfer or sale of the project area to another organization, or lack of site management. If you are aware of any potential issues, please be proactive and notify RCO so that we can work with you to address any compliance issues.

Failure to comply with long-term obligations for an RCO grant has certain consequences for your organization to mitigate for the loss of grant-assisted land or facilities. This may require the appraisal of the property and the purchase of similar replacement property or development of replacement facilities equal to the grant expended. It also may jeopardize future RCO grant funding for your organization.

Please share this letter with your staff who manage the project areas that have received RCO grants. For more information on RCO grant obligations, please send an e-mail to Myra Barker, Compliance Specialist, at RCOStewardship@rco.wa.gov or call (360) 902-2976. I look forward to working with you to protect and steward RCO's investment in parks and other recreational amenities, open space, farmland, and wildlife habitat.

Information on RCO's current grant funding opportunities can be found on our Web site. I encourage you to consider applying for grants to expand or improve project areas that have received RCO funding in the past.

Kaleen Cottingham / Director / Recreation and Conservation Office / 360.902.3000

WASHINGTON STATE Recreation and Conservation Office

RCO Grants with Long-term Obligations
Peninsula Metropolitan Park

Project # and Project Snapshot	Project Type[1]	Project Name	Project Areas	Grant Program[2]	Project Sponsor Contact
01-1075	A	Sehmel Homestead	Sehmel Homestead (#1)	WWRP - LP	Eric Guenther, Special Projects Manager
06-1600	A	Harbor Family Park Acquisition	Harbor Family Park (#1)	WWRP - LP	Eric Guenther, Special Projects Manager
08-1235	A	Wollochet Bay Estuary Park	Multiple	WWRP - WA	Eric Guenther, Special Projects Manager
08-1774	A	Cushman - Scott Pierson Trails Connector	Cushman-Scott Pierson Trails Connector (#1)	WWRP - TR	Eric Guenther, Special Projects Manager
10-1268	A	Knight Forest Acquisition	Knight Forest (#1)	WWRP - LP	Eric Guenther, Special Projects Manager
10-1271	A	DeMolay Property Acquisition	DeMolay Property (#1)	WWRP - WA	Eric Guenther, Special Projects Manager

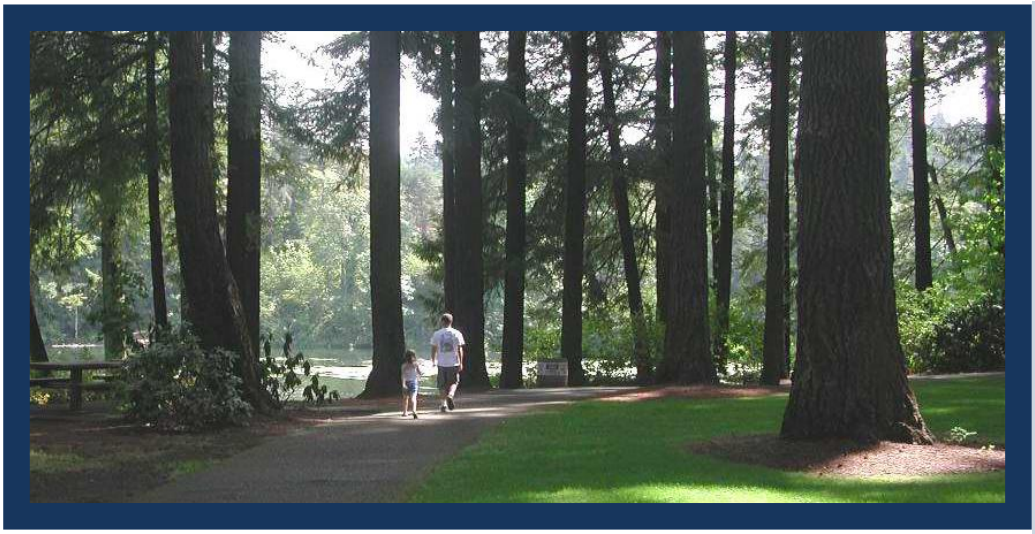
Note: This list of projects and associated project areas is based upon RCO's PRISM data as of August 2015. A project agreement may contain more than one worksite or park. Please review your project agreement for details. Your project agreement can be found by following the Project Snapshot link.

[1]Project Types: A=Acquistion

[2]Grant Programs: WWRP-LP=Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program, Local Parks Category
WWRP-TR=Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program, Trails Category
WWRP-WA=Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program, Water Access Category

Long-Term Grant Responsibilities

WASHINGTON STATE Recreation and Conservation Office



Long-Term Obligations

Grant recipients have long-term obligations for land purchased, developed, or restored with RCO grants. When an element of the project no longer meets the terms in the grant contract or the site no longer meets the original function of the grant, the grant recipient must check with RCO about resolving the issue.

These responsibilities are described primarily in the project agreement and RCO's *Manual 7 Long-Term Obligations*. RCO and the grant recipient must inspect funded sites to ensure these obligations are upheld.

Types of Changes

There are two ways a site or structure may no longer meet the terms of the contract or the original function of the grant: Element change or conversion.

Element Change

- Minor element changes do not conform to the project agreement but have no negative impact on the recreational opportunity. Example: A 15-car parking lot funded in 1995 is reduced to an 11-car lot to make room for a new park feature.
- Major element changes do not conform to the project agreement and negatively affect, but do not eliminate the recreational opportunity. Example: A tennis court funded in 1995 has been turned into a skate park.
- Exceptions include acts of extraordinary vandalism or arson, acts of nature such as floods or earthquake, and obsolescence (structure past its useful life).

Remedy

May require an amendment to the project agreement, approval from the Recreation and Conservation Funding Board or Salmon Recovery Funding Board, or remediation.

Conversion

A conversion occurs when:

- All or part of the property is conveyed for an ineligible use, or to an ineligible third party.
- Public or private uses impair the original purpose of the grant.
- Non-eligible, indoor facilities are constructed.
- Public use is terminated for more than 180 consecutive days.

Remedy

If RCO assisted with acquiring the site, it must be replaced with new property of equal utility and market value in today's dollars. If RCO assisted with development or restoration of the site, it must be replaced with new facilities or restoration of equal function.

Long-term Obligations

- Maintain the funded site and structures as originally funded.
- For recreation projects, maintain public outdoor recreation opportunities in a safe and attractive manner and at reasonable hours and times of the year.
- For habitat projects, manage and maintain the habitat values or functions.

Please Contact RCO

before you significantly alter a grant-funded site or facility to see if your plans are compatible with the project agreement and RCO policies.

Recreation and Conservation Office (RCO)
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