

NATIONAL RECREATIONAL TRAILS FUNDING APPLICATION

(DOT/SHA USE ONLY)

Project Sponsor (Applicant):

Mid-Atlantic Off Road Enthusiasts (MORE)

Name and title of designated representative:

Austin Steo, MORE Maryland Advocacy Director

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Project name: Maryland Park Trail Development

Project location (Describe the limits of the project, including City and County; may include location map):

Priority trail projects: Black Hill Park, Montgomery County; Rosaryville State Park, Prince George's County; L.F. Cosca Regional Park, Prince George's County; Anne Arundel County land in Crownsville.

Secondary trail projects: Fairland Recreational Park, Montgomery County

Project Description:

The purpose of this application is to request funding to develop natural surface trail in Maryland parkland.

MORE has established a reputation for our commitment, and quality of work. Maryland National Capital Park and Planning Commission awarded MORE with a certificate of appreciation for our help in building trail at Fairland in 2001. And in 2005, MORE received the "Trail of Fame" award from Maryland Department of Natural Resources for "Exemplary service and commitment to the improvement and maintenance of trails on our public lands."

MORE members are experienced and knowledgeable in both modern trail design and construction techniques, and will perform some of the layout and construction work. However, our intent is to contract a highly qualified professional trail design and building crew to perform the most labor intensive portion of trail construction using mechanized means. Two trail building activities, "bench cuts" and "corridor clearing," require a lot of time and labor which can be completed in a short amount of time using specialized equipment such as small landscaping machines and brush cutters respectively. Volunteers are an integral part of the process even when employing mechanized techniques.

Because currently the International Mountain Bike Association (IMBA) have some of the most knowledgeable experts on modern trail design and understand the inherent issues related to bikes on multi-use trail, we plan to employ the services of IMBA's Trail Solutions to accomplish these tasks.

We also request funds for signage for the new trails being constructed. Some park departments have been able to provide these. Therefore, our request for funds for signage would come on an as needed basis.

If for some reason any of our priority projects are postponed, we will utilize the trail crew to work on other Maryland park trail projects as they become available.

We are happy to report that we recently completed the Hoyles Mill Connector Trail with the help of Recreational Trail funding. The Hoyles Mill Connector is a natural surface trail between the trail systems of Little Seneca Creek State Park (Schaeffer Farms) and Black Hill County Park, passing through Hoyles Mill Conservation Park. Signage and a significant bridge are all that remain to declare this trail finished.

Black Hill Park

Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission of Montgomery County is allowing us to assist them in constructing an additional trail link to the Hoyles Mill Connector in Black Hill Park. The new trail will connect with the Hoyles Mill Connector to trail in the northwest part of Black Hill Park. Many people who visit Black Hill are unaware of the trail in the northwest section. The new link will provide a more accessible connection to all trails in Black Hill Park and increase the amount of trail available to visitors. Layout of this area has begun and we have determined that it will be perhaps a mile or two longer than we anticipated.

Rosaryville State Park

Working with both the Department of Natural Resources and the Rosaryville Conservatory, MORE has been very involved in upgrading the trails in Rosaryville State Park. There are a few more trail reroutes needed which will require bench cuts. (See enclosed letter from DNR)

L.F. Cosca Regional Park

Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission of Prince George's County is doing the Masterplan for Cosca Park. We have been asked to submit a trail proposal with expected construction to follow appropriate approvals.

Anne Arundel County land in Crownsville

Anne Arundel County Parks Department is expected to receive land formerly part of the Crownsville State Mental Hospital. MORE will provide layout design and construction. Some existing Parks Department land adjacent to the new land is ready for development now.

Fairland Recreational Park:

Most of the trail at Fairland is complete. However, there are several sections of new trail that need mechanized bench cutting. Additional trail is planned, but is largely manageable with volunteers.

Time Table: (estimates here are for mechanized construction only)

Black Hill: The trail addition layout has begun. We expect construction to start in fall 2005. Estimate three to four weeks.

Rosaryville: Depending on environmental review, construction on the Rosaryville reroutes could begin fall 2005. Estimate three weeks.

Cosca Regional Park: Trail layout should begin fall 2005. Estimate twelve weeks weeks.

Anne Arundel County land: Trail layout and construction plan is still in development. Estimate nine weeks

Project property ownership (project must be constructed on property owned by and/or on permanent easements held by the Project Sponsor):

Trail projects are in Maryland State or County parkland. MORE is providing experienced volunteers and professional trail builders to assist in park approved trail projects. We all will work under park supervision and approval.

Project length (linear feet of trail, each new and reconstructed; proposed surface of trail):

Primary natural surface trail projects:

Black Hill addition beyond previous estimate: 1-2 miles

Rosaryville: 2-3 miles

Cosca Regional Park: 10 miles

Anne Arundel County land: 8 miles

Fairland Park (bench cut of new cleared route): .5 mile

Project total cost:

Total: \$30,000

Federal funds requested and specific use:

We request \$25,000 to for the above trail objectives.

Matching funds to be provided by Sponsor:

\$5,000 in volunteer hours for a 20% match (based on \$15/hour).