

MARATHON COUNTY PARK COMMISSION AGENDA

Date and Time of Meeting: Tuesday, January 8, 2019 at 2:00pm

Meeting Location: Conference Room #3, 212 River Drive, Wausau WI 54403

<u>Park Commission Members</u> - Gary Gisselman (President), Jacob Langenhahn (Vice-President) Commissioners: Connie Conrad, John Durham, Pat Peckham, Rick Seefeldt, Dennis Smith

Marathon County Mission Statement: Marathon County Government serves people by leading, coordinating, and providing county, regional, and statewide initiatives. It directly or in cooperation with other public and private partners provides services and creates opportunities that make Marathon County and the surrounding area a preferred place to live, work, visit, and do business. (Last updated: 12-20-05)

Parks, Recreation and Forestry Department Mission Statement - To provide a park and forest recreation system that will meet the needs of our current and future generations, preserve and protect the County's open space, water, historical, cultural, and natural resources; and provide recreation opportunities that are designed to enhance the County's quality of life.

Agenda Items

- 1. Call to Order Park Commission
- 2. Public Comment Period Not to Exceed 15 Minutes
- 3. Approval of the Minutes of the November 6, 2018 Park Commission Meeting
- 4. Educational Presentations/Outcome Monitoring Reports
 - A. Discussion and Possible Action to Apply for a Trail Accelerator Grant to Develop a Master Plan for the Brokaw Mountain Bike Area
 - B. Discussion and Possible Action on 2019 Project and Task Plan
 - C. Parks, Recreation & Forestry Mission Statement
 - D. Project Update
- 5. Operational Functions Required by Statute, Ordinance or Resolution:
 - A. Discussion and Possible Action by Committee
 - 1. None
 - B. Discussion and Possible Action by Committee to Forward to the Environmental Resource Committee for its Consideration
 - 1. None
- 6. Policy Issues for Discussion and Committee Determination for Consideration by Environmental Resources Committee None
- 7. Announcements
 - A. Next Meeting Date & Time, Location February 5, 2019, at 212 River Dr., Rm. 3
 - B. Future Agenda Items Spring Park Tour
- 8. Adjourn

Signed <u>/s/ Jamie Polley</u> Presiding Officer or Her Designee

Any person planning to attend this meeting who needs some type	of special accommod	ation in order to participate should call the
County Clerk's Office at 715-261-1500 or e-mail infomarathon@m	ail.co.marathon.wi.us	one business day before the meeting.
FAXED TO DAILY HERALD	THIS NO	TICE POSTED AT THE COURTHOUSE
(Email/Fax City Pages, Marshfield News, Midwest Radio Group)		
Date <u>01/03/2019</u> Time <u>2:45pm</u>	Date	
ByJodi Luebbe_	Ву	

DRAFT MARATHON COUNTY PARK COMMISSION

Date and Time of Meeting: Tuesday, November 6, 2018 at 2:00 pm

Meeting Location: Conference Room 3, 212 River Drive, Wausau WI 54403

Park Commission members present: Connie Conrad, Gary Gisselman, Pat Peckham, Rick Seefeldt, Dennis Smith

Park Commissioners excused: John Durham, Jacob Langenhahn

Staff present: Jamie Polley, Dan Fiorenza, Greg Freix

1. Call to Order – President Gary Gisselman called the Park Commission meeting to order. Official notice and the agenda for this meeting were posted publicly in accordance with the State statutes.

2. Public Comment Period – none brought forward.

3. Approval of Minutes of the October 2, 2018 Joint Park Commission and Forestry/Recreation Committee Meeting – Motion by Smith, second by Conrad to approve the October 2, 2018 Joint Park Commission and Forestry/Recreation Committee meeting minutes. Motion carried by voice vote, no dissent.

4. Educational Presentations/Outcome Monitoring Reports

A. Discussion and Possible Action on the Hiring of a Consultant for the 2019 – 2023 County Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan – Polley said the 2018 County CIP program allocated \$30,000 for the County to update the Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (CORP). The most recent CORP that is on file is 2007 – 2012. The updated CORP will be for 2019 – 2023. The County received four proposals. Staff reviewed and scored each proposal. There were two top choices which staff then narrowed down to one. Staff is recommending the consulting firm of MSA Professional Services, Inc. This firm provided a comprehensive proposal including an in-depth project understanding, project approach and schedule. They provided a project cost estimate within the allocated amount and have demonstrated experience with many comparable projects. Polley said one of their comparable projects was being a team member on the Marathon County Comprehensive Plan so they have some knowledge of the County itself. Conrad complimented staff on the caliber of the Request for Proposals itself which helps in getting a good plan. Peckham hopes the firm will consider sustainable opportunities. Polley discussed more in-depth why staff decided on MSA Professional Services, Inc. out of the two top choices. In the future there may be a melding of the City and County plans into one plan. **Motion** by Peckham, second by Seefeldt to approve MSA Professional Services, Inc. to update the Marathon County Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan for 2019 – 2023. Motion **carried** by voice vote, no dissent.

B. Discussion and Possible Action Appointing a Representative from the Commission to Serve as the Liaison to the Wausau/Marathon County Parks Foundation – Currently the Park Commission member serving as the liaison to the Wausau/Marathon Parks Foundation is Connie Conrad. Conrad has indicated that the demands of her new professional position hinders her from continuing to serve as the liaison to the Foundation. She is appointed to the Park Commission as a citizen member and can continue to do so. This appointment does not require her to serve as the liaison. Conrad said she enjoyed her time on the Park Foundation and the discussions at Park Commission are a natural segway to the work the Foundation does. The Park Foundation meets the third Tuesday of every other month. Peckham and Gisselman said they have a City meeting on those Tuesdays. **Motion** by Conrad, second by Peckham to nominate Seefeldt as the representative to the Park Foundation. Motion **carried** by voice vote, no dissent. Seefeldt approved of the nomination.

C. Project Update – Freix reported on the Precast Restroom Installation-four precast restrooms will be installed in prepared sites with site remediation to follow. Sites include Dells of the Eau Claire near main shelter, Big Eau Pleine West Unit Campground, Sunnyvale Lake (two units side by side). Water Systems-all potable water systems and irrigation systems being taken apart and winterized throughout County park buildings and grounds. Marathon Park MPB/Ice Arenas-MPB#2 (east rink) ice making and preparation for opening on November 3rd. Nine Mile Trails-trail work for preparation of upcoming ski season includes grading, mowing, leaf blowing. Recently Completed-at Marathon Park the contractor just finished up the last wing of Exhibition Building roofs. Upcoming-Big Eau Pleine asphalt replacement on designated sections of main park road (5,000 square yards of replacement). DC Everest, Bluegill Bay, Mission Lake, Big Eau Pleine Parks-pier removal as winter weather approaches.

Fiorenza reported on recent events including a high school bike race at Nine Mile, Haunted Train Ride at Marathon Park, and a Mixed Martial Arts event at Marathon Park. He reported that the biking season wrapped up October 15th at Nine Mile and staff is getting the ski trails ready. The Riverwolves hockey season has started and is going well. Ultimate Frisbee and the Hmong Festival would like to return to the Eastbay Sports Complex next year and a possible new event will be Badger State Games youth rugby. Discussion followed.

5. Operational Functions Required by Statute, Ordinance or Resolution

A. Discussion and Possible Action by Committee – None

6. Policy Issues for Discussion and Committee Determination for Consideration by Environmental Resources Committee - None

7. Announcements

- A. Next Meeting Date & Time, Location Tuesday, Dec., 4, 2018 at 2:00 pm, Rm 3, 212 River Drive, Wausau WI 54403 B. Future Agenda Items Spring Park Tour
- **8.** Adjourn Motion by Peckham, second by Seefeldt to adjourn at 2:40pm. Motion carried by voice vote, no dissent.

AGENDA SUMMARY

4A. <u>Discussion and Possible Action to Apply for a Trail Accelerator Grant to Develop a</u> Master Plan for the Brokaw Mountain Bike Area

In 2014, the County purchased approximately 80 acres of formal paper mill land in Brokaw, Wisconsin. This site has been identified in Central Wisconsin Off-road Cycling Coalition's (CWOCC) master plan for creating destination quality mountain bike recreation as part of CWOCC's bid to attain International Mountain Bicycling Association's (IMBA) status as a destination Ride Center. During the master planning process IMBA's Trail Solutions team was hired by CWOCC to evaluate areas identified in the master plan. The Brokaw property was identified in the top two locations for trail development due to physical location, exceptional terrain and favorable soil types.

Mountain bike trail construction at Brokaw would provide a great opportunity for unique trail design given the terrain rising from the Wisconsin River valley. The soils, side slopes, and overall terrain will provide a very different user experience than other trail locations in Marathon County, an important aspect to becoming a designated IMBA Ride Center.

CWOCC has developed a conceptual plan for the Brokaw property, but is in need of a much more in depth, detailed plan with specific trail designs, maps, and site plans to begin fundraising and trail-building efforts. IMBA is currently accepting applications for a Trail Accelerator Grant that assists communities plan and build trails. The grant applicant must be an agency and therefore CWOCC has requested that the County apply for the grant. Members of CWOCC have agreed to assist with writing the grant and CWOCC has agreed to provide the matching funding needed for the grant. The grant request will be for \$15,000 and will be to develop a refined master plan for the Brokaw property. The grant application is due by January 30, 2019.

CWOCC completed a similar master plan for Sylvan Hill trails. Also with the completion of the Ringle Trails system expected in fall 2019, there will be two brand new mountain bike trail systems built in the Wausau area in the last 3 years. CWOCC's efforts have generated \$600,000 of local investment in mountain biking over the last 6 years, and we want to continue to build on that momentum.

The Park Commission is asked to approve the application for the IMBA Trail Accelerator Grant by Wausau and Marathon County Parks, Recreation & Forestry Staff for the development of a master plan for the Brokaw property.

4B. <u>Discussion and Possible Action on 2019 Project and Task Plan</u> See Attached Plan.

4C. Parks, Recreation & Forestry Mission Statement

In discussing and reviewing the objectives of the County's strategic plan and how the Parks, Recreation & Forestry department contributes to specific objectives, staff took a step back to look at the department's mission and future expectations of the department.

It was identified that the department had multiple mission statements that all incorporate our core services; adaptively managing the parks and facilities, natural resource sustainability, and providing recreation opportunities. Staff then offered a number of ideas for combining the mission statements. Through this exercise three mission statements have been developed:

- 1. Adaptively managing our park and forest lands for natural resource sustainability while providing healthy recreational opportunities making our County a desirable place to live, work and play.
- 2. Adaptively managing our park and forest lands for natural resource sustainability while providing healthy recreational opportunities for all.
- 3. To create a lasting impact for residents and visitors by managing our park and forest lands for natural resource sustainability and providing high quality recreation facilities and opportunities.

These statements will now be reviewed by all full-time staff for feedback on the desired mission. The goal is to have a mission statement that is all encompassing, impactful and easy to remember.

4D. Project Update

Marathon Park MPB/Ice Arenas:

Daily programs and arena maintenance operations ongoing.

Youth Hockey, High Schools, Wausau River wolves, Central Wisconsin Storm and Public Skating.

Nine Mile Trails:

Trails, equipment and staff are all on standby in anticipation of significant snowfall in order to open. If weather remains above normal and snowfall below normal scheduled culvert work will be completed at designated trails areas.

Operations Building Project:

Storeroom remodel and reorganization to improve allocation of space and efficiency of locating products and supplies.

Campground Firewood Processing:

Will begin processing end of next week at Big Eau Pleine Park and work around other winter and weather operations. (100 cords).

Mountain Bay Trail:

Intersection gates will be removed, repaired, repainted and new safety reflectors added for next season

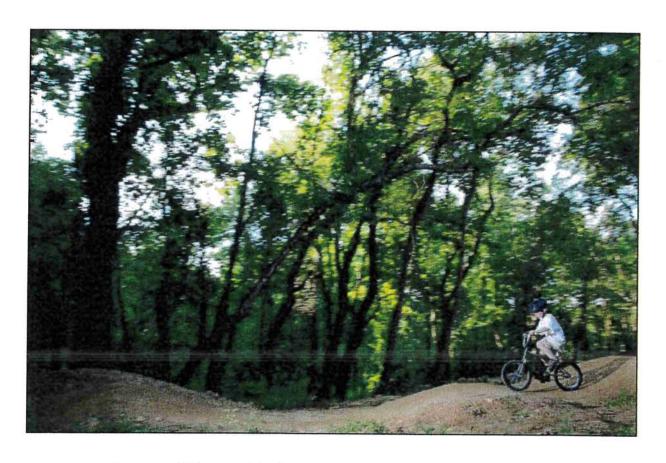
Routine Operations/Programs:

Snow removal; walks, trails, parking lots and roads. Urban forestry program; tree trimming and removals Building and structure maintenance. Shelter reservations and Special Events Equipment maintenance and repair

Brokaw Area

Mountain Bike Recreation Conceptual Proposal

Brokaw, WI September 2017



Prepared For:

Mathy Construction/Marathon County Park,

Recreation & Forestry Dept.

Prepared By:

Central Wisconsin Off Road Cycling Coalition

PO Box 745

Wausau, WI 54402

BROKAW AREA Prese MOUNTAIN BIKE TRAIL PROPOSAL

I. OVERVIEW

Central Wisconsin Off Road Cycling Coalition (CWOCC) is a 501(c)3 non-profit Chapter of International Mountain Bicycling Association (IMBA). Established in 2012 our mission is to educate through trail advocacy and promote fitness, group activities as well as exploring nature. We are dedicated to maintaining, designing and building sustainable, environmentally sound, offroad bicycling trails.

Since 2012 CWOCC volunteers have logged over 2100 volunteer hours building and maintaining summer and winter riding trail at Nine Mile County Forest, Sunnyvale County Park and Big Eau Pleine County Park. In addition to volunteer labor CWOCC also facilitated conceptual design work and fund raising for a purpose built bike park at Sylvan Hill in Wausau. Working with Wausau/Marathon County Park, Recreation & Forestry Dept. Sylvan Hill bike park was completed in 2017 by Rock Solid Trail Contracting from Copper Harbor, MI.

In November 2014 Matt Block, Vice President of the Central Wisconsin Off Road Cycling Coalition (CWOCC), presented material to the Marathon County Parks, Recreation and Forestry Dept regarding the concept of creating purpose built mountain bike trails on former paper mill land near Brokaw, WI. This site has been identified in CWOCC's master plan for creating destination quality mountain bike recreation as part of CWOCC's bid to attain the International Mountain Bicycling Association status as a destination Ride Center.

During master planning process IMBA's Trail Solutions team was hired by CWOCC to evaluate areas identified in the master plan. Brokaw area was identified in the top two locations for trail development due to physical location, exceptional terrain and favorable soil types.

The purpose of this proposal is to:

- Provide a brief overview of purpose built off road bicycle trails (mountain bike trails)
- Brief review of Brokaw trail conceptual plan
- Propose volunteer and/or professional trail construction
- Review Land Use Agreement or Lease Agreement





MOUNTAIN BIKE TRAIL PROPOSAL

II. Purpose Built Off Road Bicycle Trails

Purpose built off road bicycle trails, or mountain bike trails, are natural surface trails that utilize the unique features of the surrounding landscape to create an entertaining and sometimes challenging

experience for the trail user.

While CWOCC advocates, builds and maintains trails to be enjoyed on an off road bicycle, the trails are often enjoyed by other user groups including: hiking, trail running, snowshoeing, and hunters. Our trails are also multi-seasonal with the advent of fat bikes or mountain bikes with 4"-5" wide low pressure tires that function well on packed snow trails.

Bike Optimized Flow Trails

Bike-optimized singletrack trails are purpose built or modified singletrack trail, the majority

of which contain a number of specific features to enhance the user experience and provide challenge, such as berms, rollers, consistently wide turn radii, technical features, rock gardens, jumps, and drops.

Flow trails are designed to provide a floating sensation to users by maximizing the efficiencies afforded by riding a bicycle and by counteracting forces that would direct a rider off a trail. For example, berms and cambered tread surfaces promote traction, safety, sustainability and enjoyment. These trails are never extreme, dangerous or steep and challenge is provided by rewarding progressive skill development and incorporating features that can always be rolled but may be jumped. Flow trail is



singletrack, however, the tread surface should always be wider in areas where less experienced riders may need a greater margin of error.





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III. Brokaw Area Trail Concept

Mountain bike trail construction at Brokaw would provide a great opportunity for unique trail design given the terrain rising from the Wisconsin River valley. The soils, side slopes, and overall terrain will provide a very different user experience than other trail locations in Marathon County, an important aspect to becoming a designated IMBA Ride Center.

The trail concept for Brokaw area can be broken down into three phases. Phase 1 would center around an entrance/welcome area and parking lot off of Cty Hwy WW on Marathon County owned property. A condensed 4-5 mile bike park system on Marathon County property beginning with a 2.5 to 3 mile loop around the perimeter of the property. Additional flow trail and technical trail will be constructed inside the main loop.

Phase 2 would extend from Marathon County property onto adjacent Mathy Construction property to the north and east. Approximately 2 mile loop will wrap around private property up near the top of County Hwy WW and return back on a downhill leg of trail approximately 0.75 to 1 mile in length. This would be a significant trail feature for central Wisconsin.

Phase 3 would extend farther north on Mathy Construction property. Approximately 7-8 miles of purpose built bike trail on roughly 430-450 acres of property. Trail layout in this phase would consist of a perimeter loop with three central trails connecting the east and west sides of the main loop. The center trail would be climbing only with all other trails descending back toward the river valley in varying degrees of difficulty and distances of 1-1.5 miles in length.

All non-motorized trail access onto privately owned Mathy Construction property will be controlled through Marathon County public property.









BROKAW AREA MOUNTAIN BIKE TRAIL PROPOSAL

Presented by Central Wisconsin Off Road Cycling Coalition

IV. Trail Design & Construction Proposal

Trail design and construction on Marathon County property would be a combination of volunteer and professional contractors. Trail design and construction on Mathy Construction property would be performed by professional trail contractors. CWOCC and/or Marathon County will provide funding for trail construction and maintenance.

Professional trail contractors would operate under a design/build contract. Meaning they would use the base trail concept in this plan as a guideline, then if hired, design the trail on the ground and

immediately build the trail.

All trailhead amenities such as kiosk, bike fixing station or restrooms would be located on Marathon County Property.

All signs and trail maps would match the design of other trail riding locations.

V. Land Use or Lease Agreement

If the concept plan is approved, then a written land use agreement or land lease will be required to move forward. CWOCC has operated under a land use agreement with Marathon County for Sunnyvale Park snow bike trails and is currently working under a land lease agreement for Ringle trails with Marathon County Solid Waste Dept. The main purpose of an agreement is to establish roles and responsibilities for parties engaged in implementing public access bike trails on Marathon County and Mathy Construction properties. Additionally land use agreements provide increased liability protection for

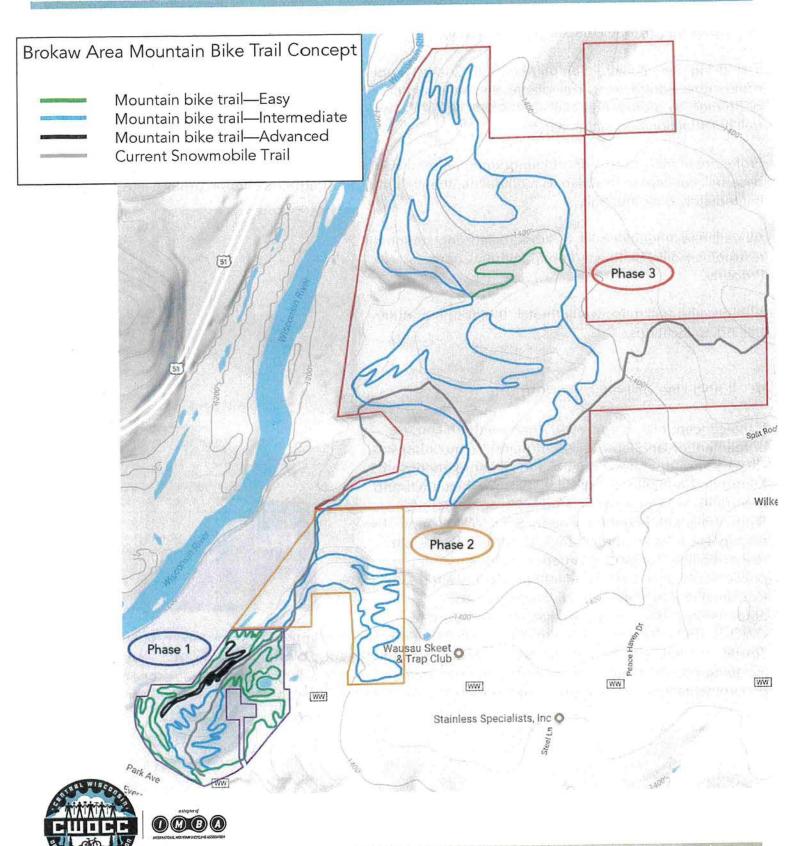


CWOCC under Wisconsin Statute 895.52 which defines No Duty Immunity from Liability for any "owner" of land with recreational use. "Owner" is further defined by statute 895.52 as: "A person, including governmental body or nonprofit organization, that owns, leases or occupies property" or "A governmental body or nonprofit organization that has a **recreational agreement** with another owner".





EXHIBIT A-TRAIL CONCEPT

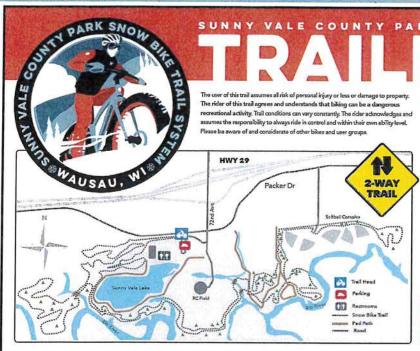


BROKAW AREA

Presented by Central Wisconsin Off Road Cycling Coalition

MOUNTAIN BIKE TRAIL PROPOSAL

EXHIBIT B—Map & Sign Examples



TDAII DIII EC.

SNOW BIKES ONLY ON TRAIL!

- Tires must be 3.7" or wider and tire pressure must be less than 10 psi, no exceptions!
- Helmets required
- Trails open Dec 1st, close March 15th pending conditions
- Riders yield to pedestrians
- Only ride designated bike paths

SUGGESTED

SEASON \$25.00 DAILY

\$5.00 onations go to CWOCC for trail

Receive a Sunny Vale Support sticker with every Season donation. Go to CWOCC.com for more information or visit our local bike shops





















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Home

Trail Accelerator Grants

Catalyzing more trails close to home is critical to IMBA's mission, and we wish to accelerate the pace of trail building in the U.S. Many communities have the interest and political support to develop mountain bike facilities and trail systems, but lack funding and/or knowledge to jump-start efforts. IMBA's new Trail Accelerator Grant will support communities with visions for model trails in typically under-served states. The application period is open Dec. 3, 2018 - Jan. 30, 2019.



More trails close to home



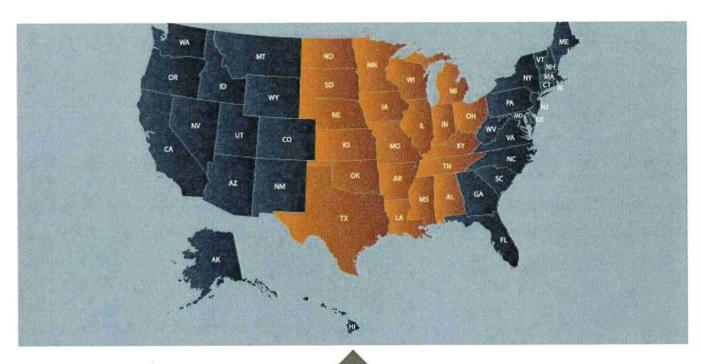


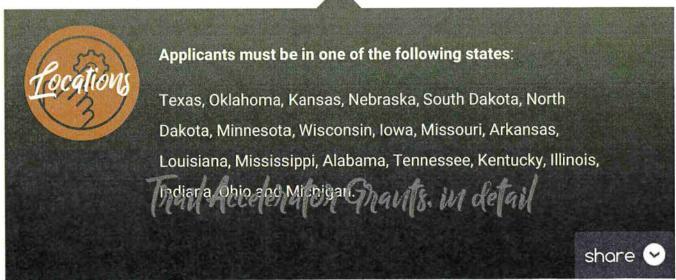
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ever before, and we're proud to be leading the charge on such an effort.

The Trail Accelerator Grant is a competitive grant offering for communities wanting to get started on building better places to ride. Awardees will receive professional trail planning and consultation services to launch their trail development efforts, which can often help leverage more interest and investment for community trail projects.

In 2018, matching grant money will be used for projects in select states, up to \$250,000.











Single-Site Trail Plan Grants

Do you have one spot where you'd like to offer mountain biking opportunities? This grant provides a detailed site-specific plan for one park or facility, which may include a conceptual layout of one or more individual trails.

These grants will generally be awarded in amounts from \$5,000 - \$15,000, each.

Community-Wide Trail Plan Grants

Does your entire community, or a regional location, want to develop mountain biking opportunities? This grant provides a comprehensive assessment of the feasibility of mountain bike trail development across multiple parks/facilities. Includes an assessment of opportunities and constraints and phasing recommendations.

These grants will generally be awarded in amounts from \$15,000 - \$30,000, each.

What types of projects will be considered?

- Projects that serve mountain bikers as the primary users, though multi-purpose human-powered trail uses are eligible to apply.
- Projects that will result in a visible and substantial increase in access, improved mountain bike experiences, and greater community benefit.
- Projects where the Trail Accelerator Grant stands to leverage additional resources to ensure the success of the project.
- Projects that promote community development along with the specific project, including volunteer recruitment and support, new rider development and youth engagement. Higher preference will be given to projects that demonstrate a focus on diversity, equity, and inclusion.
- Higher preference will be given to projects that involve high-functioning I mountain bike organizations, especially ones in the IMBA Local Program



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needed or valued, but that it does not fall within our giving guidelines and/or priorities, or that funds are not available.

Applying for a grant

Each grant is an award of in-kind professional services, not cash, and requires a one-to-one match. The application process is currently open until January 30, 2019.

- All communities interested in applying for a Trail Accelerator Grant must submit a completed application. Incomplete applications will not be accepted.
- · Calls will be scheduled with some applicants to further discuss their proposals.
- Each awardee will be assigned a project manager who will coordinate the site visit, evaluation and report.
- All awardees will be required to announce the receipt of the grant in a formal press release, on social media outlets, and on the site of the trail project (if applicable) as agency policy permits.
- · Organizations can only apply once per calendar year.
- CLICK HERE TO APPLY

Who can apply

Local, municipal, state or federal government agencies, and 501(c)3 nonprofits that actively manage parks and trails may apply. The agency/organization must be able to provide the appropriate matching funds.

The following are not eligible to apply: for-profit businesses (such as ski resorts), religious organizations for religious purposes, private foundations, political causes/candidates/legislative lobbying groups, IMBA Local organizations including IMBA Chapters. However, higher preference will be given to projects that involve high-functioning local mountain bike organizations.





2019 COUNTY PROJECT AND TASK PLAN

<u>PROJECTS</u>	<u>2019 Budget</u>	2018 Carryover
Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan Update	\$30,000	
Sustainable Forestry Grant	\$31,200	
Installation of 6 Snowmobile/ATV Bridges	\$448,000	
Marathon Park MPB Compressor Room Refrigeration System Accumulator Replacement		\$30,000
Marathon Park Roadway Light Upgrades To LED (Continuation)	\$11,000	
Marathon Park MPB Lobby & Hallway Flooring Replacement	\$37,000	
Sunny Vale Softball Complex Concession Stand Paver Conversion To Concrete	\$7,279	
Big Eau Pleine Road Paving		\$150,000
Dells of the Eau Claire Campground Electric Upgrade	\$24,950	
Operations Storage Building Roofs (50/50 With City)		\$4,750
County Shelters (East Gate Hall, Meeting Hall, Nine Mile) Table and Chair Replacements (Copy Style with City Shelters)	\$6,500	
County Forest Trail Reconstruction	\$13,271	
Restroom Replacement		\$110,000
Eastbay Sports Complex Shelter - Joint project w/ Soccer	\$50,000	

TASKS

Marathon Junction Plan

Park Asset List and 5-Year CIP Plan

Community Assessment of Program Needs

User Group Agreements - WASA, Fair Board, CVB, etc.

Friends of the Mountain-Bay Trail Organization

Forest and Park Land Acquisitions

Sponsorship Program

Develop New or Improved Website