



United States Department of the Interior

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

Pacific West Region
909 First Avenue, Fifth Floor
Seattle, Washington 98104-1060



IN REPLY REFER TO:

October 24, 2015

Gordon Padelford, Coordinator
Seattle Neighborhood Greenways
220 Second Avenue South, #100
Seattle, WA 98104

Dear Mr. Padelford:

Gordon:

The National Park Service (NPS) is pleased to announce an award of technical assistance to Seattle Neighborhood Greenways for interconnected walking and biking routes for the Safe and Green Streets for North Seattle. Our assistance will focus on helping you and your partners reach and engage the community, support greenway planning and develop an action plan. Assistance from the Rivers, Trails and Conservation Assistance (RTCA) program will be provided during the 2015 federal fiscal year, which ends September 30th, 2015.

I am pleased to assign Alexandra Stone, a Community Planner, to provide assistance to this exciting project from the RTCA program of the National Park Service. You can reach Alex at 206-220-4108 and alex_stone@nps.gov. Alex will contact you soon to discuss your project and the timing for start-up meetings. We consider our working relationship to be a partnership in which we work with you, not for you as a consultant might. NPS technical assistance is represented by the time and resources staff invest in each project. We encourage you and your partners to use the value of our assistance to leverage additional project resources and as a match for non-federal grants.

I must acknowledge a circumstance that might impact this award of RTCA assistance in federal FY '15. A budget bill for the Department of Interior (DOI) has yet to be passed by Congress. We are currently operating under a short-term 'continuing resolution' (CR), which provides funding equal to the level provided in FY '14. If/when a budget bill is passed by Congress and signed by the President, actual funding levels provided to RTCA will determine the degree to which this award of technical assistance can be maintained. If a DOI budget bill is not passed in FY '15, subsequent CRs will need to be passed and these could also reduce funding to our program.

Award Requirements

In return for NPS technical assistance, we ask the following of you and your project partners during our work together:

- Jointly participate in the development of an annual work plan that identifies specific roles and tasks for project partners, public involvement, and RTCA assistance;
- Commit significant time and resources (financial, in-kind, overhead, etc.), along with other project partners, to match our assistance;



- Acknowledge and credit NPS assistance in press releases, promotional materials, trailhead and welcoming signage, maps, and publications such as newsletters, surveys, brochures, and final concept plans;
- Provide copies of print and media news to RTCA staff; provide 10-20 copies of the final concept plan or other project products, along with an electronic copy on disc;
- Complete a Project Close-Out Report at the end of NPS assistance (attached).

Continued Assistance

RTCA recognizes that broad-based, community-driven planning projects that involve significant public outreach take time. If the project goals and outcomes are not realized this fiscal year, you may request a second year of NPS assistance by submitting a Continuing Project Application by August 1, 2015 (attached). RTCA does not typically provide assistance beyond two years.

Measuring Success

Each year, on average, our partners across the country create more than 1,400 miles of trails, conserve more than 63,000 acres of open space, and protect more than 700 miles of rivers. Congress measures the success of our program by looking at the tangible, on-the-ground results (miles and acres) our partners have achieved five years after we complete our technical assistance. Keeping an ongoing record of your project successes will help all of us report good results, especially as there are often changes in staff over time.

We look forward to a successful year of collaboration with you and your project partners. Please feel free to contact me anytime at 206.220.4113 to discuss any issues or concerns you might have regarding NPS assistance.

Congratulations,

 Michael Linde
 Leader, Partnership Programs

Attachments:

FY 2014 RTCA Project Close-out Report
 Application for Continued Assistance

cc: Alexandra Stone, NPS-RTCA
 Lee Bruch, North Central Greenways
 Janine Blaeloch, Lake City Greenways
 Sandra Adams Motzer, Lake City Neighborhood Alliance
 Jim Curtin, Seattle Dept. of Transportation
 Joanne Ho, Haller Lake Community Club
 Megan Horst, Greenwood Phinney Greenways