

Seattle Parks and Recreation State Recreation and Conservation Office (RCO)

2026 Grant Application Authorization



Purpose

This legislation authorizes the Superintendent of Seattle Parks and Recreation to **seek and accept** capital project grant funding from the State of Washington Recreation and Conservation Office and **accept** all property obligations outlined in these grant funds.

Agenda

- Context and Resolution Requirement
- RCO Grant Programs and Timeline
- 2026 Grant Opportunities
- Summary of Proposed Projects
- Questions and Discussion



Context: Recent Grants to SPR

Location of recent and active awards (2019-2025)

Primary Funders:

- **RCO - State Funds**
- **RCO – Federally Administered Funds**
- King County Levy
- King County Flood Control District
- WA Department of Commerce
- Federal Emergency Management Act
- US Consumer Product Safety Commission
- Washington State Department of Ecology

 Award

 2026 Proposed Applications



RCO Grant Programs Overview: Resolution Requirement

- RCO requires applicants to submit an adopted resolution authorizing the agency to apply.
- RCO requires match funding.
- As a condition of accepting the funding, project areas must be operated and maintained in perpetuity for the purposes required by the funding.
- If approved, this resolution would be submitted to RCO in August as part of our 2026 applications.



Context: 2025 RCO Resolution Update

2025 Update		
Project	Status	Amount
Stan Sayres Boat Launch Renovation	Application Successful	\$ 880,000
Evans Pool	Grant Program never opened in 2025.	\$ 14,705,881
Judkins Park	Grant Program never opened in 2025.	\$ 3,250,000
Upper Dr. Jose Rizal Park	Grant Program never opened in 2025.	\$ 1,250,000
Northwest Native Canoe Center	Grant Program never opened in 2025.	\$ 1,900,000
First Tee at Bill Wright Golf Complex	Application not awarded funding due to insufficient funding.	\$ 1,200,000
Discovery Park South Beach Trail	Application not awarded funding due to insufficient funding.	\$ 420,111



RCO Grant Programs Overview: Timeline

Description	Date
Council Consideration of Authorizing Resolution	August 5, 2026
Applications Due to RCO (including resolution)	August 25, 2026
RCO Board Approves Preliminary Ranked List	October 27, 2026
Formal Award Notifications	Summer 2027
Contracts issued for execution	Fall 2027



RCO Grant Programs Overview: Project Selection



Judkins Park –
William Grose Minecraft Outreach

SPR staff assess projects based on scoring criteria, readiness / alignment with funding timelines and potential funding gaps.

RCO scoring considerations (making them competitive for funding) include:

- Need-Local Priorities
- Project Scope
- Project Design – Fit & Budget
- Project Engagement
- Sustainability
- Cost Efficiencies
- RCO's Project Location Scores

RCO Grant Programs Overview: 2026 Applications



SPR would like to apply for **\$5,111,345** in funding via 5 RCO grant programs:

- Washington Wildlife Recreation Program (Local Parks)*
- Washington Wildlife Recreation Program (Trails)
- Aquatic Lands Enhancement Act (ALEA)
- Youth Athletic Facilities (YAF)
- Boating Facilities Program (BFP)

* SPR would like to submit three applications to this grant program.

Washington Wildlife Recreation Program (Local Parks)

Local Parks Program Overview: The program provides grants to create or improve parks across the state.

Proposed 2026 Projects:

- **Judkins Park Playground:** Planned playground renovation project upgrades playground, spray park, and restroom to meet safety and accessibility standards; also improves connections and landscaping.
- **Miller Park Playground:** Planned playground renovation installs inclusive play equipment, accessible surfacing, and improved pathways to ensure full accessibility in partnership with Inclusion Matters.
- **Dr. Jose Rizal Playground:** Renovates the upper section of Dr. Jose Rizal Park, including play area renovation, accessibility upgrades, new plantings, and updated site furnishings. Design reflects extensive community engagement and honors Filipino heritage.

Proposed Project	Grant Amount	Local Match Amount	Local Match Source	Grant Plus Match Total	Estimated Start Year
Judkins Park Playground	\$500,000	\$500,000	Seattle Park District	\$1,000,000	2027
Miller Park Playground	\$500,000	\$800,000	Seattle Park District	\$1,300,000	2027
Dr. Jose Rizal Playground Park	\$500,000	\$1,000,000	KC Parks and Open Space Grant	\$1,500,000	2027



Washington Wildlife Recreation Program (Trails) and Aquatic Lands Enhancement Act

Trails Program Overview: The program provides grants to create or improve public trails open to pedestrians, equestrians, or bicyclists.

Proposed 2026 Project:

- **Arboretum Trail (Phase II):** Restores the Arboretum Waterfront Trail, the only route across Seattle’s largest wetland, supporting high-use recreation, education, and wildlife viewing. Replaces two failing bridges that keep the trail passable.

Also applying to **Aquatic Lands Enhancement Act** grant program designed to protect and restore shorelines and tidelands and provide public access to waterfronts.



Grant Program	Grant Amount	Local Match Amount	Local Match Source	Grant Plus Match Total	Estimated Start Year
Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program -Trails	\$1,509,000	\$1,509,000	Seattle Park District and REET	Total local match will be used to support both projects. Amount for each TBD.	2028
Aquatics Lands Enhancement Act	\$500,000	\$1,509,000 (Same match as above)	See above	See above	2028

Youth Athletic Facilities Program

Youth Athletic Facilities Program Overview: Funding to buy land and develop or renovate outdoor athletic fields.

Proposed 2026 Project:

- **Walt Hundley Playfield:** Installs new synthetic turf, upgrades restroom and improves field accessibility.

Proposed Project	Grant Amount	Local Match Amount	Local Match Source	Grant Plus Match Total	Estimated Start Year
Walt Hundley Playfield	\$1,402,345	\$1,402,345	Seattle Park District	\$2,804,690	2027



Boating Facilities Program

Boating Facilities Program Overview: Funding to buy, develop, and renovate facilities for motorized boats.

Proposed 2026 Project:

- **Eddie Vine Boat Ramp:** Seeks funding for planning and design to renovate the Eddie Vine Boat Ramp, a heavily used regional water-access site.
- Focuses on improving safety, circulation, accessibility, and overall functionality for motor boaters and paddlers. Assesses docks, ramps, parking, shoreline conditions, and habitat considerations. Includes community engagement to shape priorities.

Proposed Project	Grant Amount	Local Match Amount	Local Match Source	Grant Plus Match Total	Estimated Start Year
Eddie Vine Boat Ramp	\$200,000	\$200,000	REET	\$400,000	2027 (design)



Summary of Proposed 2026 Projects

Project Name	# of Applications	Grant Request	Local Match	RCO Program Category
Judkins Park Playground	1	\$500,000	\$500,000	Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program (Local Parks)
Miller Park Playground	1	\$500,000	\$800,000	Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program (Local Parks)
Dr. Jose Rizal Park Playground	1	\$500,000	\$1,000,000	Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program (Local Parks)
Arboretum Waterfront Trail Phase II	2	\$500,000 \$1,509,000	\$1,509,000	Aquatics Land Enhancement Act (ALEA) + Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program (Trails)
Walt Hundley Playfield	1	\$1,402,345	\$1,402,345	Youth Athletics Facilities (YAF)
Eddie Vine Boat Ramp - Planning	1	\$200,000	\$200,000	Boating Facilities Program (BFP) - Planning
TOTALS	7	\$5,111,345	\$5,411,345	--



Questions?



Dr. Jose Rizal Park