City & Borough of Juneau Community Funding Request

Basic Information

Name of Requesting Group or Organization	Trail Mix, Inc.
Summary of request (sentence or phrase)	Eaglecrest hike and bike trail construction.
Amount of request	\$54,000
Assemblymember Sponsor	Neil Steininger
Is this a request for a one-time event, purchase or grant match?	No
Does this request provide monetary support for the group's ongoing or operating expenses?	No
Primary contact individual for this group	Meghan Tabacek
Primary contact's phone number	509-981-5755
Primary contact's email	meghan@trailmixinc.org

1. Funding Request (Project) Title (Suggested heading):

Eaglecrest Biking and Hiking Trail Construction and Improvements

2. <u>Project description and benefit</u>. Describe the project (in half a page or less), including specific aspects of the funding request and project. Explain how the project will benefit the community. What sector(s) of the community will this project benefit and/or serve?

Trail Mix, Inc. is requesting a \$54,000 Assembly Grant from the City and Borough of Juneau (CBJ) for the construction and improvement of hiking and biking trails at Eaglecrest. The project preliminary budget includes \$43,000 for four weeks of crew labor and \$11,000 for materials (gravel, wood, etc.) and excavator rental. By improving and expanding the trail network, this initiative will increase the usability of the Eaglecrest area for year-round recreation, supporting both locals and visitors who enjoy spending time outdoors.

With 89% of Juneau residents using trails, this project will directly benefit the community by enhancing recreational opportunities and supporting active lifestyles. Additionally, it aligns with CBJ Assembly Goal 3b, which focuses on developing funding and management strategies for Eaglecrest's capital and operational needs. The project also builds upon Eaglecrest's Summer Development Plan, which envisions diverse outdoor activities such as biking, hiking, and adventure-based attractions.

As Juneau experiences increasing tourism, particularly from the cruise industry, these improved trails will provide a high-quality outdoor experience for visitors while also benefiting locals. Trail Mix has a proven track record in trail construction, having partnered with the Juneau Mountain Bike Alliance for the past three years on projects like the Under Thunder Bike Park. With this expertise, we are well-equipped to deliver a high-quality trail system that supports Eaglecrest's long-term vision for sustainable, year-round recreation.

3. <u>Plans and progress</u>. Describe (in one or two paragraphs) what has been accomplished so far (if anything) toward this project's or funding's goal. This may include studies, designs, grant application status, fundraising activity, and total funds raised to date.

Trail Mix, Inc. is in the early planning phases for this project. This spring, we will meet with Eaglecrest leadership to discuss the goals for trail construction and determine the best use of our four-week work period. Depending on the needs of the area, Trail Mix could either construct a new trail or improve existing trails to enhance accessibility, durability, and usability. If additional funding is secured, we are interested in extending the project beyond the initial four weeks to further develop the trail network.

Once the snow melts, Trail Mix coordinators and the executive director will conduct on-site assessments at Eaglecrest. This process will involve hiking the terrain to evaluate potential trail routes, identify areas for improvement, and develop a strategic plan for construction. These early efforts will ensure that the project aligns with Eaglecrest's long-term vision for summer recreation while maximizing the impact of available funding.

4. <u>Project support.</u> Is the project supported in CBJ or other community plans (List where the project is mentioned or supports concepts in planning documents such as the Assembly Goals, Legislative Priorities, CIP Plan, etc.

Yes, this project is supported by:

- 2025 Assembly Goal 3b: Develop funding and management strategy for the next three years of Eaglecrest's capital and operations needs.
- Eaglecrest Summer Development Plan
- Eaglecrest Master Plan: page 6, Summer
 - Multi-Use Trail Network: Development of a trail system for hiking and biking at Eaglecrest has a very high level of support from the community. Trail development at Eaglecrest would generate substantial new summer season recreational activity at Eaglecrest among Juneauites. Further, with the relatively easy access to the alpine environment, the area would be a popular independent visitor attraction as well.
 - Mountain Bike Skills Park: Just over one-quarter (27%) of online survey respondents indicated they
 would use a mountain bike skills park if it were developed at Eaglecrest.
- 5. <u>Goal of project</u>. In one sentence or less, state the goal of the project. For example "economic development" or "improve non-motorized transportation routes."

The goal of the project is to enhance year-round recreational opportunities at Eaglecrest by constructing and improving hiking and biking trails for the benefit of both locals and visitors.

6. Total cost:

- A. TOTAL COST (including funds already secured) = \$54,000
- B. AMOUNT SECURED (include funding source) = \$0
- Timeline: Indicate when you hope to complete the project.
 Planning would begin with Eaglecrest management in 2025, with 4 weeks of trail construction taking place summer of 2026.
- 8. Physical Location. Please provide the address or physical description of where the project is located.
 - 3000 Fish Creek Road, Juneau, AK 99801