

Project Location (Give a brief description that would allow reviewers to locate on Google Earth or drive to visit site.)

The project is located at City Beach Park in Sandpoint, Idaho, a popular public park situated along the northern shore of Lake Pend Oreille. The boat launch facilities and parking area targeted for improvement are located within the park at 102 Bridge Street, just east of the Sandpoint Marina and adjacent to the downtown core. The site can be easily accessed via Bridge Street from Highway 95, and it is visible on Google Earth as the prominent waterfront area featuring a boat launch, public marina, and adjacent parking facilities.

Briefly summarize your overall project. Describe your project in 1-2 sentences.

This project aims to improve the boat launch facilities and adjacent parking area at Sandpoint's City Beach Park to enhance accessibility, safety, and functionality for boaters and recreational users. Planned upgrades include resurfacing the parking lot, repairing the boat launch, improving signage and lighting, landscaping the parking area with planters and shade trees, and implementing stormwater treatment measures such as bioswales to reduce effluent inflow into Lake Pend Oreille and Sand Creek.

Project Questions

Program Purpose - How does this project address the stated purpose of the program? Program descriptions can be found in the IDPR grant guidance book. Tell us how this project benefits the users who contribute to the program funds.

This project directly aligns with the stated purpose of the Waterways Improvement Fund by enhancing boating safety, improving waterway access, and promoting responsible waterway use. By upgrading the boat launch facilities and parking area at City Beach Park, the project ensures safe and efficient access for boaters who utilize the marina and Lake Pend Oreille, one of Idaho's most treasured recreational water bodies. Improvements such as resurfaced parking, better stormwater treatment to protect water quality, and enhanced lighting and signage will provide a safer, more user-friendly experience for those who contribute to the program funds through fuel taxes and other boating-related expenses. These upgrades also support the preservation of Lake Pend Oreille and Sand Creek as valuable natural resources, benefiting the broader boating and recreational community.

Project Urgency - What will be the adverse effects if this project does not receive funding? Describe potential resource damage or other impacts that may occur without action. Describe how this project will address any public health and safety issues.

Without funding for this project, the current boat launch facilities and parking area at City Beach Park will continue to deteriorate, leading to potential safety hazards and negative environmental impacts. The existing infrastructure, including aging pavement and boat ramp surfaces, poses tripping and slipping hazards to users. Ineffective stormwater management contributes to untreated runoff entering Lake Pend Oreille and Sand Creek, increasing the risk of water pollution and harming aquatic ecosystems. Additionally, insufficient lighting and poor signage

create navigational challenges, particularly during early morning or evening use, further compromising public safety.

By addressing these issues, this project will prevent further resource damage, improve water quality through upgraded stormwater treatment, and enhance the overall safety and functionality of the facilities, ensuring a better experience for all users.

Attach any current site deficiencies below

Project Impact - Describe how the project creates new opportunities not currently available? (See examples in the application instructions)

This project creates new opportunities by significantly enhancing the functionality, safety, and accessibility of the boat launch facilities and parking area at City Beach Park. The resurfaced parking lot and improved boat ramp will better accommodate a higher volume of users, including larger vessels, which are currently limited by the deteriorating infrastructure. The addition of stormwater treatment and landscaping will preserve water quality and the natural beauty of the area, encouraging sustainable recreational use.

Improved lighting and signage will enable safer use of the facilities during early morning and evening hours, broadening accessibility for anglers, boaters, and recreational users. By addressing these needs, the project not only preserves existing opportunities but also attracts a wider range of users, including visitors from outside the region, boosting local tourism and the associated economic benefits.

Plan or Survey - Is this project included in an outdoor recreation plan or survey? How does this project relate to the recommendations of the plan? (See application instructions for examples of recreation plans.)

The City of Sandpoint's 2010 Parks, Recreation, and Trails Master Plan explicitly identifies the need to repair and replace the parking lot and boat launch facilities at City Beach Park. Relevant goals include overlaying and re-striping the parking lot, creating a stormwater plan for the parking area, and implementing sustainable practices such as managing stormwater runoff to address environmental concerns. Additionally, the plan highlights the importance of enhancing park infrastructure while following sustainable and environmentally conscious practices, and includes a strategy to improve and increase vegetation, specifically by planting low-input vegetation and shade trees to enhance the parking lot.

Scope of Work - Describe what the project will accomplish and how. Describe the project planning. Explain, in detail, what will be accomplished and how, including the materials needed, labor, timeline, etc. If equipment will be used or purchased, who will be using it, number of hours used per year and for what?

This project will enhance the boat launch facilities and adjacent parking area at Sandpoint's City Beach Park, focusing on improving safety, accessibility, and environmental sustainability. The improvements will include reconstructing and restriping the parking lot, repairing the boat ramp, landscaping the parking area with shade trees, and implementing stormwater treatment systems to mitigate runoff into Lake Pend Oreille and Sand Creek. Additional upgrades will feature improved lighting and signage to enhance the user experience and safety.

The planning phase will involve developing detailed engineering plans for the parking lot reconstruction, boat ramp repairs, and stormwater treatment systems. Environmental consultants will be engaged to ensure compliance with water quality standards, and all necessary permits will be secured from relevant agencies such as the Idaho Department of Lands and the Army Corps of Engineers.

The parking lot improvements will address underlying structural issues by reconstructing the subgrade before installing a new asphalt surface. This will ensure long-term stability and durability of the parking area. The lot will then be restriped to optimize parking efficiency and accessibility. Stormwater management will be integrated through bioswales or permeable paving systems designed to filter and manage runoff. Landscaping will include planting shade trees and low-maintenance vegetation, enhancing the lot's aesthetics and reducing heat island effects. Licensed contractors with expertise in municipal paving and landscaping will execute this phase of the project.

Repairing the boat ramp will involve replacing the cracked and crumbling concrete apron. Currently, the ramp terminates in sand above the winter pool level of Lake Pend Oreille, limiting its usability during certain times of the year. The replacement will feature reinforced concrete and anti-slip surfaces for enhanced safety and durability, ensuring year-round functionality for boaters. The area will also be regraded and stabilized to prevent erosion and improve long-term reliability. This work will be handled by a contractor specializing in marine and waterfront construction.

Stormwater treatment systems will be installed to address environmental sustainability, incorporating features such as sediment traps, bioswales, or rain gardens. These systems will filter and manage runoff before it enters Lake Pend Oreille and Sand Creek. A riparian buffer zone with native plants will be created to further improve water filtration and provide habitat for local wildlife. Collaboration with environmental consultants and landscaping contractors will ensure the effective implementation of these measures.

Improvements to lighting and signage will modernize the facilities. Outdated lighting fixtures will be replaced with energy-efficient LED lights to increase visibility and safety while reducing energy consumption. Directional and informational signage will be updated to better guide users of the boat launch and parking area. Local electricians and signage professionals will manage this work.

A key component of sustaining these improvements will be the planned rollout of paid parking solutions at City Beach Park and other off-street parking facilities in Sandpoint. Once implemented, paid parking and boat launch fees will generate ample revenue to maintain these grant-funded enhancements in perpetuity. These funds will ensure the ongoing upkeep of the parking lot, boat ramp, stormwater systems, and landscaping, protecting the community's investment and maintaining the high-quality user experience for years to come.

The project timeline includes an initial four-month period for finalizing designs, obtaining permits, and securing contractors. The following two months will focus on site preparation, parking lot reconstruction, stormwater system installation, and boat ramp repairs. The final month will be dedicated to the installation of lighting, signage, and landscaping. Planning and design for the project will take place during summer of 2025, with construction activities planned for the shoulder season that begins in mid-September and ends when area asphalt plants close in mid-November. Any work not completed by winter 2025 will resume the following spring with anticipated completion before Memorial Day of 2026, when tourist season resumes and demand for launch facilities and parking at City Beach returns to its summer peak.

Heavy equipment such as excavators, pavers, and grading machines will be utilized extensively during the project, with an estimated 800 hours of operation. Licensed contractors will operate the equipment to ensure compliance with safety and quality standards. Post-project, the City's Parks and Recreation team will manage landscaping maintenance, dedicating approximately 100 hours annually to preserving vegetation and stormwater features.

This project will provide safer, more sustainable, and accessible facilities for boaters and recreational users. By addressing critical infrastructure needs and incorporating sustainable funding mechanisms through paid parking and eventually boat launch fees, the City of Sandpoint will ensure the long-term viability and functionality of these essential public amenities while protecting the environmental quality of Lake Pend Oreille and Sand Creek.

Construction drawings or conceptual plans should be attached to this application.

Scope of Work - Have you discussed this project (in detail) with IDPR staff and/or the respective advisory committee member?

Yes

No

Justify the Need and Demand for the Project - Describe the CURRENT use in the area (what recreationist presently use this site) and the POTENTIAL use expected with the development of this project. (Include user days, types of users, number of users during high use, etc.) Describe the current deficiencies and how they will be corrected with the development of this project. How will this affect current and future use of the site?

City Beach Park in Sandpoint serves as a critical hub for local and visiting boaters, underscoring the significant demand for its boat launch and parking facilities. According to the 2023 IDPR Boat Designation Report, Bonner County accounts for 15,934 boat registrations, representing nearly 30% of the statewide total of 56,607 registrations. Boater registration fees from Bonner County generated \$321,583.60 for the State of Idaho, making the county the second-highest contributor statewide, surpassed only by Kootenai County.

Additionally, data from the Idaho State Department of Agriculture reveals that 26,000 watercraft crossed into Bonner County in 2024, reflecting a 40% increase in just five years. This dramatic

growth demonstrates the increasing pressure on existing facilities at City Beach Park, which already experiences heavy use during peak boating seasons. High-use days can see hundreds of vehicles and trailers navigating the parking area, further straining the deteriorating infrastructure.

The current facilities at the park are inadequate to meet this growing demand. The boat ramp's cracked and crumbling concrete apron terminates in sand above the lake's winter pool level, making year-round launching impossible. The parking lot is plagued by uneven surfaces, potholes, and poor drainage, creating safety hazards for users. Moreover, the lack of effective stormwater management contributes to untreated runoff entering Lake Pend Oreille and Sand Creek, threatening the ecological health of these vital waterways.

This project will address these deficiencies, allowing for significant improvements in both current and future use of the site. The replacement and extension of the boat ramp will enable year-round launching, accommodating the needs of both local boaters and the increasing number of out-of-county visitors. A reconstructed parking lot with a new subgrade, asphalt surface, and improved striping will provide a safer and more efficient experience for vehicles and trailers, reducing congestion and enhancing overall functionality. The integration of stormwater treatment features such as bioswales and permeable paving will mitigate environmental impacts, ensuring the long-term health of the surrounding waterways.

With these improvements, City Beach Park is expected to see a substantial increase in use, both in terms of user numbers and user days. The upgraded facilities will attract more boaters and recreational users, particularly during shoulder seasons when access was previously limited by infrastructure constraints. By addressing these critical needs, the project will not only accommodate the current demand but also position the park as a sustainable and accessible destination for future generations. This is further supported by planned paid parking and boat launch fees, which will generate sufficient revenue to maintain these grant-funded improvements in perpetuity, ensuring their long-term viability.

Maintenance and Operation - Describe provisions for ongoing maintenance and operation of the project. This includes maintenance and upkeep of equipment purchases. (Who will be responsible for the maintenance and operation and what is the annual budget?)

The ongoing maintenance and operation of the improved boat launch and parking facilities at City Beach Park will be the responsibility of the City of Sandpoint's Parks and Recreation Department. The department has extensive experience managing and maintaining public recreation facilities and will ensure the long-term functionality and safety of the newly upgraded infrastructure.

To support these efforts, the City is exploring the implementation of a paid parking system at City Beach Park and other off-street parking facilities in Sandpoint. Combined moorage fees collected at City Beach's two marinas, this system will generate a steady stream of revenue dedicated to the maintenance and upkeep of the grant-funded improvements. Based on current projections, these fees are expected to generate sufficient revenue to cover maintenance costs while contributing to other operational needs within the park.

By combining dedicated staff resources with sustainable funding mechanisms, the City of Sandpoint is well-positioned to provide the necessary maintenance and operation for these facilities, protecting the public's investment and ensuring the continued enjoyment of City Beach Park for generations to come.

Provide letter(s) of commitment or other documentation to verify the match from each contributor. Your match will not be considered without appropriate letter(s) of commitment. Make sure the dollar value is noted on the letter of commitment. The total in column “b” must be the same as the total in the “matching share” column “B” on the next page.

Attach Letters of Commitment below

User Group Support - Describe the amount of support this project has from its associated user group(s). How has this support been demonstrated? (List supporting groups and attach letters of support.)

Attach User Group Support Letters of support below

Project Eligibility

Accessibility - Explain how the project complies with accessibility requirements as stated in the Uniform Federal Accessibility Standards, Americans with Disabilities Act Guidelines, or Uniform Building Code? (Include construction drawings or conceptual plans to support accessibility. Please do not use anything larger than 11x17 size paper.)

Attach ONLY construction drawings or conceptual plans that support the accessibility portion of the project

Site Description - Describe the site as well as the surrounding area. Explain the compatibility of the project to the site. (Include site location map, scale site plan including boundary and utility information, if available.) If the grant is for equipment, describe where it will be used (include map). Be specific.

Attach site location map, scale site plan including boundary and utility information, if available.

Project Design - Who will design and/or engineer this project? Is the person/company licensed?

Project Period - What are the intended start and completion dates?

Estimated Project Start Date

Estimated Project End Date

Projected Life of the Project/Equipment. This is the projected useful life of the components of the project you are applying for IN THIS application. This information will be used in the future to determine whether a conversion of use has occurred if the site is closed or altered in a way that removes the recreation utility.

1-5 years

6-10 years

11-15 years

16-20 years

20+ years

Use Fee - Will fee be charged for use of or access to this project?

Yes

No

Public Involvement - Describe the public involvement process (in detail) used in the planning of this project and the results of the input (attach necessary documentation). NOTE: PUBLIC

INVOLVEMENT IS MANDATORY FOR ALL APPLICANTS AS STATED IN IDAPA CODE 26.01.31.100.03. YOUR APPLICATION IS NOT ELIGIBLE WITHOUT PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT!

Attach necessary documentation. The applicant must include proof of public comment regarding the project in the application. The opportunity for public comment should begin within one (1) year of submitting the application. Acceptable proof may include a screenshot of a public announcement on your webpage or the agenda and minutes from a public meeting. Make sure that a date is visible within your attachment. *

Permits - Does this project require permits or clearances?

Yes

No

Please identify the permits or clearances that will be required for this project

Environmental or NEPA. Are there any potential environmental clearances that will be required? (if yes, your project will not proceed until clearance has been obtained.)

Yes

No

Please detail an environmental processes or reports needed to complete this project

Applicant Ownership - Describe ownership of the project site. This will ensure authorized use, project liability, management for the life of the project and legal responsibilities. Your project is not eligible without proof of ownership or a management agreement.

The application is for equipment/service (land ownership is not required)

Applicant owns land (attach a copy of Fee Simple Title - Is the deed and title clear?)

Applicant has a Management Agreement or Memorandum of Understanding with the legal landowner/management agency. (Attach copy of MOU and letter of support from landowner)

If ownership is different from above, describe specifically:

It is hereby mutually agreed and understood that the use of these funds will be for the purposes stated in this document only and are subject to the terms of the current Idaho Department of Parks and Recreation's Grant Agreement for this project, as signed by the authorized individuals. It is also understood that the applicant will comply with the appropriate Recreation Program rules as they now exist. Applicants that receive grants involving federal funds must comply with requirements as outlined in the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) 2 CFR Part 200.

Responses Selected:

I am authorized by the applicant to pursue these grant funds

Authorized representative details:

The authorized representative is the individual representing the applicant with the authority to sign contracts and agreements. Authorized representatives are: City Agency - Mayor; County

Agency - County Commissioner; Forest Service - Forest Supervisor, Bureau of Land
Management - Area Supervisor, Non-Profit Organization - President

Title

Typed or Printed Name

Date