



AGENDA REPORT

City Council Meeting

TODAY'S DATE: 9/11/2024

MEETING DATE: 9/18/2024

TO: Sandpoint City Council and Mayor Grimm

FROM: Jason Welker, Community Planning & Development Director

SUBJECT: Request for approval for Outdoor Recreation Fund Grant application

DESCRIPTION/BACKGROUND:

This report seeks City Council approval to submit a grant application to the Outdoor Recreation Fund, administered by the Idaho Department of Parks and Recreation, to secure funding for the final design and construction of an asphalt pump track at Travers Park.

Travers Park serves as a hub for outdoor recreation. The park is utilized by a diverse cross-section of the community, including families, youth, and local sports teams. The proposed asphalt pump track will be located in an under-utilized corner of the park, transforming it into a year-round recreation facility for wheeled sports enthusiasts. The pump track will fill a significant gap in recreation infrastructure, especially for youth who are not drawn to traditional ball fields and courts. The durable asphalt surface will provide a weather-resistant venue that encourages lifelong physical activity, supports local tourism, and promotes outdoor recreation sustainability.

The total project cost is estimated at approximately \$350,000, which will be funded by the Outdoor Recreation Fund if the grant application is successful. According to the Idaho Department of Parks and Recreation's website, "The Idaho Outdoor Recreation Fund Advisory Council was created by Gov. Brad Little and the Idaho Legislature to recommend projects to expand outdoor recreation or access to it in Idaho. Examples could include expansion of recreational facilities (parks, trails, boating, etc.) or agreements to gain entry to new areas for public recreation. The Legislature in early 2023 provided \$5 million in initial funding for the council's work. In the 2024 session, the Legislature provided a second, \$5 million installment for distribution."

The project will leverage existing resources, including the fill material from recent construction at the James E. Russell Sports Center, which will reduce overall costs by approximately \$100,000. The City of Sandpoint will provide ongoing maintenance and operations as part of our broader maintenance work at Travers Park.

The grant will cover the final design and construction phases of the project, with anticipated work to begin in spring 2025. The project will likely be completed by late summer or fall of 2025, with the pump track ready for public use.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends that the Sandpoint City Council approve the submission of the Outdoor Recreation Fund grant application to fund the construction of the Travers Park asphalt pump track.

ACTION: Approve staff's request to apply for the Outdoor Recreation Fund Grant by September 30th, 2024.

WILL THERE BE ANY FINANCIAL IMPACT? NO HAS THIS ITEM BEEN BUDGETED? YES

ATTACHMENTS:

- ORF grant application narrative answers