



Fiscal Year 2025

# Clean Ohio Greenspace Conservation Fund Program

## **Attachment B: Request for Additional Information**

Ohio Public Works Commission - District Six  
Natural Resource Assistance Council (NRAC)

Eastgate Regional Council of Governments  
City Center One  
100 E. Federal Street, Suite 1000  
Youngstown, OH 44503

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## District Six Attachment B

DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

PROJECT TITLE:

\_\_\_\_\_

APPLICANT:

\_\_\_\_\_

OPWC APPLICANT CODE<sup>1</sup> #: \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_

PROJECT CONTACT: \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ FAX: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

COUNTY: \_\_\_\_\_

PROJECT COST: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

TOTAL CLEAN OHIO FUNDS REQUESTING: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

APPLICANT MATCH (ORC 164.22 (A)(2)(3)): \_\_\_\_\_%

PROJECT TYPE (ORC 164.23 (A)(B): Check the largest component of application:

- A. \_\_\_\_ OPEN SPACE
- B. \_\_\_\_ RIPARIAN CORRIDOR
- C. \_\_\_\_ RESTORATION
- D. \_\_\_\_ IMPROVEMENTS

NUMBER OF ACRES PRESERVED/RESTORED IN THE PROJECT: \_\_\_\_\_

LINEAR FEET/STREAM MILES RESTORED: \_\_\_\_\_

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<sup>1</sup> Applicants must contact OPWC for Applicant Code if they do not have one.

**PRIMARY PROJECT EMPHASIS:**

Applicant MUST CLEARLY demonstrate the PRIMARY PURPOSE of the project involves ONE of the following from A. or B.

**A. OPEN SPACE (ORC 164.22 (A))**

- Acquire land for parks
- Acquire land for public forests
- Acquire land for wetland preservation or restoration
- Acquire land for natural areas protecting endangered species
- Acquire land for other natural areas
- Acquire land for connecting corridors for natural areas
- Open space acquisition
- Permanent conservation easement
- Improves open spaces acquired with a grant awarded under *ORC Sections 164.20 to 164.27* to make an open space area accessible and useable by the general public.

**B. RIPARIAN CORRIDORS OR WATERSHEDS (ORC 164.22 (B))**

- Protects or enhances riparian corridors or watersheds including the protection and enhancement of streams, rivers, and other waters of the state.

**C. DOES THE PROJECT:**

- | YES                      | NO                       |  |
|--------------------------|--------------------------|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Fund current legal obligations (such as fines, penalties, litigation expenses, mitigation or reclamation) under state or federal laws or local ordinances? |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Fund facilities other than those required to provide public access to or use of Open space?  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Fund facilities for active recreation, such as tennis courts, ball fields or recreation centers?   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Accelerate the runoff of untreated water?  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Encourage invasive nonnative plant and animal species?   |

Please note: If you answer "yes" to any of the questions below the project is ineligible

**D. FOR ALL ACQUISITION OR EASEMENT PROJECTS:**

Property Owner(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Does the owner(s) live in town? \_\_\_ YES \_\_\_ NO

If NO, please state where they currently live: \_\_\_\_\_

Has anyone contacted the property owner(s) about the proposed project? \_\_\_ YES \_\_\_ NO

If yes, who contacted the property owner(s)? \_\_\_\_\_

Date of contact: \_\_\_\_\_

Please list type of contact (i.e. telephone conversation, mailed letter): \_\_\_\_\_

Is the property owner(s) willing to cooperate with the applicant? \_\_\_ YES \_\_\_ NO

## Clean Ohio Fund - District Six Natural Resources Assistance Council

### PROJECT INFORMATION

The following four sections are evaluated by District Six NRAC members and used to establish OPWC funding recommendations. Each NRAC member assigns point values, when applicable, to each response provided in Project Evaluation Parts I, II, and III. Applicants are **strongly encouraged** to use the *District Six Application Manual* while completing Project Evaluation Parts I, II, and III to understand the point value associated with each response.

## Clean Ohio Fund - District Six Natural Resources Assistance Council

### PROJECT JUSTIFICATION

In the space below, please provide a narrative of the project, highlighting its natural features and its importance with respect to the District Six NRAC region. *For Improvement Only applications, please reference previous Clean Ohio project and OPWC's Project Number.*

## Clean Ohio Fund - District Six Natural Resources Assistance Council

### PROJECT EVALUATION- PART I

Please provide a detailed explanation to support the identified primary, secondary, and tertiary emphasis area. (OPWC's *Application for Financial Assistance- Attachment A: Project Emphasis* (page 7) (ORC 162.22)

1. \_\_\_\_\_

EXPLAIN:

2. \_\_\_\_\_

EXPLAIN:

3. \_\_\_\_\_

EXPLAIN:

## Clean Ohio Fund - District Six Natural Resources Assistance Council

### PROJECT EVALUATION- PART II

The District Six NRAC recognizes a project may emphasize more than the primary, secondary, and tertiary areas identified *in Project Evaluation- Part I*. Therefore, the District Six NRAC shall consider the following additional information in approving or disapproving an application. Please indicate **YES** or **NO** for each project emphasis listed (*ORC 164.22*) and provide an explanation and supporting documentation for each area.

1.\_\_\_\_\_ Does the project support comprehensive open space planning including incorporating aesthetically pleasing and ecologically informed design?

Explain:

2.\_\_\_\_\_ Will the project enhance economic development reliant on recreational and ecotourism in areas of relatively high unemployment and lower incomes?

Explain:

3.\_\_\_\_\_ Will the project protect habitat for rare, threatened and endangered species or preserve high quality, viable habitat for plant and animal species?

Explain:

4.\_\_\_\_\_ Will the project preserve existing high-quality wetlands or other scarce natural resources?

Explain

5.\_\_\_\_\_ Does the project enhance educational opportunities and provides physical links to schools and afterschool centers?

Explain:

6a.\_\_\_\_\_ Does the project preserve or restore water quality, natural stream channels, functioning floodplains, wetlands, and/or stream side forests?

Explain:



6b.\_\_\_\_\_ Does the project preserve or restore other natural features that contribute to the quality of life and to state's natural heritage?

Explain:

7.\_\_\_\_\_ Will the project reduce or eliminate nonnative, invasive species of plants or animals?

Explain:

8.\_\_\_\_\_ Will the project allow for proper management of areas where safe hunting and trapping may take place in a manner that will preserve a balanced natural ecosystem?

Explain:

9.\_\_\_\_\_ Will the project increase habitat protection?

Explain:

10.\_\_\_\_\_ Is the project included as part of a stream corridor-wide or watershed-wide plan?

Explain:

11.\_\_\_\_\_ Does the project provide multiple recreational, economic, and aesthetic preservation benefits?

Explain:

12.\_\_\_\_\_ Does the project preserve or restore flood plain and stream side forest functions?

Explain:

13.\_\_\_\_\_ Does the project preserve headwater streams?

Explain:

14 \_\_\_\_\_ Does the project restore or preserve aquatic biological communities?

Explain:

## Clean Ohio Fund - District Six Natural Resources Assistance Council

### PROJECT EVALUATION- PART III

The District Six NRAC shall consider the following information in approving or disapproving a grant:

1. Please identify the amount of Clean Ohio Funds necessary to complete the project. (*OPWC Application Section 1.2*) (*ORC 164.23 (A)(6)*) and (*ORC 164.24(A)(3)*)
2. Please identify the project type and provide the appropriate documentation (*OPWC Application Section 2.0*) as requested below. If a project is both land acquisition AND restoration, you must have the required documentation for both project types.
  - a. For Land Acquisition Projects- Please provide either a:
    - Signed Purchase Agreement. (*ORC 164.23 (B)(3)*)
    - Letter of Intent to Sell. (*ORC 164.23 (B)(3)*)
  - b. For Restoration/Improvement Projects- Please provide one or more of the following items:
    - Preliminary plans from a licensed landscape architect, engineer, or other qualified professional. (*ORC 164.23 (A)(4)*)
    - Documentation of secured permits OR documentation indicating starting the permitting process. (*ORC 164.23 (A)(8)*)
    - Project schedule. (*ORC 164.23 (A)(12)*)
3. Please detail the level of coordination that exists among the applicant and local political subdivisions, federal, state and/or local agencies, community organizations, and/or conservation/watershed organizations. Identify partners, mutual goals, and explain relationships. (*ORC 164.23 (A)(5)*)
4. Please indicate the level of community planning with other adopted community plans, watershed plans, Non-Point Source Implementation Strategy plans, or other adopted plan that follows the spirit of the Clean Ohio Conservation fund? If yes, please provide supporting documentation of plan/plans and cite where within the plan the project/project components are discussed. (*ORC 164.24 (A)(5)*)
5. Please detail the economic, social, recreational, and environmental benefits the proposed project will bring to the community. (*ORC164.24 (A)(6)*)
6. Will the project include public access? If yes, please describe how it will be made publicly accessible. (*ORC 164.24 (A)(8)*)

Other Project Factors (ORC 164.24(A)(11))

7. a. Is **THIS** project contiguous<sup>2</sup> with an existing preserved open space or riparian area? If it is, please explain the connectivity with the existing parcel(s). A map showing the contiguous nature of **THIS** project should be included with this application.
- b. Does the project **protect** wetlands? Applicants **MUST** provide the ORAM wetland score sheets identifying the category/categories of wetlands on the property.
- c. Does the project **restore** wetlands? Applicant must list the LARGEST acreage of wetlands to be restored with Clean Ohio Funds.
- d. For *Stream Restoration* projects- Identify the linear feet of stream to be restored using Clean Ohio funds.
- e. For *Land Acquisition* projects- Identify the acreage involved in the project. (*OPWC Application Section 3.0*)
- f. Identify the amount of Clean Ohio Funding requested for the project. (*ORC 164.24 (A)(2)*) (*OPWC Application Section 1.2(m)*)

For Improvement Only Projects (ORC 164.22 (A))

8. a. Do project improvements include trailhead parking, hiking trails, and/or creating public access for canoe and/or kayaking?
- b. Are project improvements ADA compliant?
- c. Does the project connect to larger trail networks?
- d. If the project includes surface improvements, outside of restoration areas, is the impact 10% or less of the property's total surface area?

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<sup>2</sup> Contiguous is defined as properties adjacent to one another and sharing a common property boundary.

## Clean Ohio Fund - District Six Natural Resources Assistance Council

### ATTACHMENT/COMPLETENESS REVIEW

IN ORDER FOR THE NRAC TO SCORE A PROJECT AND AWARD FUNDING, THE PROJECT APPLICATION MUST CONTAIN EACH OF THE ITEMS LISTED BELOW AS THEY RELATE TO THE PROJECT. IF THE NRAC DEEMS THE PROJECT INELIGIBLE THE PROJECT WILL NOT BE SCORED AND WILL NOT BE AWARDED FUNDING. (ORC 164.23)

**\*\* PLEASE NOTE: IF ANY ITEM LISTED BELOW IS NOT APPLICABLE FOR THE PROJECT, A PAGE DEDICATED FOR THAT ITEM MUST STILL BE SUBMITTED STATING THE ITEM IS NOT APPLICABLE. \*\***

1. A certified copy of the authorization by the governing body of the applicant authorizing a designated official to sign and submit this application and execute contracts with the commission. This individual should sign under 6.0, Applicant Certification. (ORC 164.23 (A)(1))
2. A certification signed by the applicant's chief financial officer stating all local share funds required for the project will be available on or before the dates listed in the Project Schedule section. **If a non-local source, an entity other than the applicant, provides funding towards the project, a letter of commitment from the non-local entity source must be submitted with the application.** (ORC 164.23 (B)(2))
3. A cooperation agreement (if the project involves more than one entity) identifying the fiscal and administrative responsibilities of each participant. (ORC 164.23 (D))
4. Resolution(s) of Support. (ORC 164.23 (B))
  - a. As per ORC 164.23 (C), an applicant that is a park district or other similar park authority must provide documentation of consultation with consult with the legislative authority of each county, township, and municipal corporation in which the proposed project will be located.
5. Each project must provide the following aerial maps **CLEARLY** showing/identifying: (ORC 164.23 (A)(3))
  - a. Aerial map of the project clearly identifying the project boundary.
  - b. Project location with respect to its location within the county/township/municipality.
6. **For Land Acquisition Projects:** Applicants **MUST** provide documentation of either a Signed Purchase Agreement or Letter of Intent to Sell. (ORC 164.23 (B)(3))

**For Restoration Projects:** Applicants MUST provide:  
(ORC 164.23 (A)(10))

- a. Documentation of preliminary plans by a licensed: landscape architect, engineer, or other qualified professional. (ORC 164.23 (A)(4))
  - b. Documentation of Secured Appropriate Permits or Permitting Process. (ORC 164.23 (A)(8))
  - c. Provide an itemized engineer's (budget) estimate for proposed restoration work. (ORC 164.23 (A)(5))
7. Project Schedule. (ORC 164.23 (A)(12))
  8. Proposed Declaration of OPWC Restrictions; also include other restrictions.  
(ORC 164.23 (B)(3))
  9. **For Acquisition and/or Conservation Easement Projects: A restricted appraisal report is due at the time of application.** Applications with a purchase price that is more than 5% above the appraised value must show that the local share is meeting the additional costs. Justification must be provided to the District Six NRAC for any acquisition above the appraised value.

*\*\*PLEASE REVIEW THE DISTRICT SIX NRAC'S SCORING METHODOLOGY TO ENSURE YOU ADDRESSED ALL APPLICATION COMPONENTS. PROPOSED PROJECTS THAT DO NOT OBTAIN A MEAN MINIMUM SCORE OF AT LEAST 40% (Total Points x .4) OF THE TOTAL POSSIBLE MAXIMUM POINTS AWARDED BY DISTRICT SIX NRAC COMMITTEE MEMBERS WILL ONLY BE FUNDED IN FULL OR PART UPON A FAVORABLE VOTE OF 8 COMMITTEE MEMBERS, AND BE CONTINGENT UPON FUNDING AVAILABILITY.*

Eligible Activities/Improvements at District Six NRAC's discretion:

The District Six NRAC will allow the following activities/improvements as part of a Clean Ohio application if the activity is in-line with the conservation nature within the Clean Ohio Greenspace Conservation Program:

- Mountain Biking
- Equestrian Trails
- Disc Golf
- Dam Removal
- Demolition of structures