



Grant Routing Sheet

COMPLETED GRANT OVERVIEW PROPOSAL MUST BE ATTACHED BEFORE ROUTING IS INITIATED

Date Routing Initiated: 11/15/2023; 11/28/23 ^(P) Application Due Date: _____

Originating Department: Parks, Recreation & Leisure Services Department No.: 01-710

Submitter's Name: Adam Newland Direct Telephone No. (757) 759-8528

E-mail Address: adam.newland@hampton.gov

Grant Title: BBGF All Terrain Wheelchairs - Get Outdoors Fund (GO) - FY24

Other Participating Departments: _____

BEFORE COMPLETING AN APPLICATION:

1. READ THE GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS. AN _____ (Submitter's Initials)
2. COMPLETE GRANT PROPOSAL OVERVIEW. AN _____ (Submitter's Initials)
3. DEPARTMENT HEAD ORIGINATING DEPT. David McCauley Print Name _____ Signature _____ Date 11/28/23
4. ASSISTANT CITY MANAGER Brian DeProffio Print Name _____ Signature Approved via Email Date _____

BEFORE SUBMITTING AN APPLICATION TO THE AWARDING AGENCY:

5. PREPARE INITIAL DOCUMENTATION PACKAGE FOR REVIEW TO INCLUDE (EITHER HARD COPY OR ELECTRONIC): ALL DOCUMENTS RELATED TO THE GRANT, INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO INSTRUCTIONS, ATTACHMENTS, EXHIBITS, GRANT DOCUMENTS, PRIMARY GRANT (IF SUBAWARDEE). AN _____ (Submitter's Initials)
6. COMPLETE APPLICATION **EXCEPT** NECESSARY SIGNATURES. AN _____ (Submitter's Initials)
7. CITY ATTORNEY Angela King Print Name _____ Signature Approved via Email Date 12/13/23
8. BUDGET DIVISION Lori Green Print Name _____ Signature Approved via Email Date 12/14/23
9. HUMAN RESOURCES Nicole Clark Print Name _____ Signature Approved via Email Date 12/14/23

10. FINANCE DEPARTMENT

Veronica Kmetz

Print Name

Approved via Email

Signature

11/24

Date

11. RISK MANAGEMENT

Patricia Parker

Print Name

Approved via Email

Signature

11/28/23

Date

AFTER GRANT IS AWARDED:

- ✓ After the grant award has been received, and if there are no changes to the application or condition(s), the grant may now be placed in Granicus for City Council action.
- ✓ Reference "Quick Tips for Submitting Grants - City Council Agenda"



If there are **ANY** changes to **ANY** component of the grant, consult with your department's City Attorney for advice on whether to re-route the grant for second approval or continue with the placement of the grant on the Council agenda.

Bullock, Tamara

From: DeProffo, Brian
Sent: Tuesday, November 28, 2023 2:07 PM
To: Bullock, Tamara; Clark, Nicole; Green, Lori; Kmetz, Veronica; Parker, Patricia; King, Angela
Cc: McCauley, David; Newland, Adam
Subject: RE: PRLS - BBGF Virginia Outdoor Foundation Grant Award

I approve. Thanks

From: Bullock, Tamara <tamara.bullock@hampton.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, November 28, 2023 1:27 PM
To: DeProffo, Brian <bdeproffo@hampton.gov>; Clark, Nicole <nmclark@hampton.gov>; Green, Lori <lgreen@hampton.gov>; Kmetz, Veronica <veronica.kmetz@hampton.gov>; Parker, Patricia <pparker@hampton.gov>; King, Angela <angela.king@hampton.gov>
Cc: McCauley, David <david.mccauley@hampton.gov>; Newland, Adam <adam.newland@hampton.gov>
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Please review the attached proposal for approval. And please don't hesitate to reach out if you have any questions.

Thanks in advance for your attention on this grant award.

Tamara Bullock, MPA, CPRP
Business Services Administrator
Parks, Recreation & Leisure Services
(757)727-8319



Bullock, Tamara

From: Parker, Patricia
Sent: Tuesday, November 28, 2023 2:14 PM
To: Bullock, Tamara; DeProffio, Brian; Clark, Nicole; Green, Lori; Kmetz, Veronica; King, Angela
Cc: McCauley, David; Newland, Adam
Subject: RE: PRLS - BBGF Virginia Outdoor Foundation Grant Award

Excellent!! Risk approves.

Patricia L. Parker, ARM
Risk Manager
City of Hampton
Department of Risk Management
(757) 727-6386



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To: DeProffio, Brian <bdeproffio@hampton.gov>; Clark, Nicole <nmclark@hampton.gov>; Green, Lori <lgreen@hampton.gov>; Kmetz, Veronica <veronica.kmetz@hampton.gov>; Parker, Patricia <pparker@hampton.gov>; King, Angela <angela.king@hampton.gov>
Cc: McCauley, David <david.mccauley@hampton.gov>; Newland, Adam <adam.newland@hampton.gov>
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Thanks in advance for your attention on this grant award.

Bullock, Tamara

From: King, Angela
Sent: Wednesday, December 13, 2023 3:56 PM
To: Parker, Patricia; Bullock, Tamara; DeProfio, Brian; Clark, Nicole; Green, Lori; Kmetz, Veronica
Cc: McCauley, David; Newland, Adam
Subject: RE: PRLS - BBGF Virginia Outdoor Foundation Grant Award

Hello Tamara,

With the change we've discussed to #17 in the grant agreement that VOF accepted, legal approves. If everyone approves, I'll work with PRLS staff to get this on a Council agenda.

Thanks,
Angela

Angela King
Deputy City Attorney
City of Hampton
22 Lincoln Street
Hampton, VA 23669
P: (757) 727-6754
F: (757) 727-6144
angela.king@hampton.gov



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From: Parker, Patricia <pparker@hampton.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, November 28, 2023 2:14 PM
To: Bullock, Tamara <tamara.bullock@hampton.gov>; DeProfio, Brian <bdeprofio@hampton.gov>; Clark, Nicole <nmclark@hampton.gov>; Green, Lori <lgreen@hampton.gov>; Kmetz, Veronica <veronica.kmetz@hampton.gov>; King, Angela <angela.king@hampton.gov>
Cc: McCauley, David <david.mccauley@hampton.gov>; Newland, Adam <adam.newland@hampton.gov>
Subject: RE: PRLS - BBGF Virginia Outdoor Foundation Grant Award

Excellent!! Risk approves.

*Patricia L. Parker, ARM
Risk Manager
City of Hampton
Department of Risk Management
(757) 727-6386*



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Cc: McCauley, David <david.mccauley@hampton.gov>; Newland, Adam <adam.newland@hampton.gov>

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Thanks in advance for your attention on this grant award.

Tamara Bullock, MPA, CPRP
Business Services Administrator
Parks, Recreation & Leisure Services
(757)727-8319



Bullock, Tamara

From: Clark, Nicole
Sent: Thursday, December 14, 2023 10:20 AM
To: Bullock, Tamara; Green, Lori; Kmetz, Veronica
Cc: McCauley, David; Newland, Adam
Subject: RE: PRLS - BBGF Virginia Outdoor Foundation Grant Award

Human Resources approves.

Nicole M. Clark, Director (she/her)
MSHRM, SPHR, IPMA-SCP, SHRM-SCP
City of Hampton
22 Lincoln Street
Hampton, Virginia 23669
P: 757-727-6522 F: 757-727-6449



From: Bullock, Tamara <tamara.bullock@hampton.gov>
Sent: Thursday, December 14, 2023 10:19 AM
To: Green, Lori <lgreen@hampton.gov>; Clark, Nicole <nmclark@hampton.gov>; Kmetz, Veronica <veronica.kmetz@hampton.gov>
Cc: McCauley, David <david.mccauley@hampton.gov>; Newland, Adam <adam.newland@hampton.gov>
Subject: FW: PRLS - BBGF Virginia Outdoor Foundation Grant Award

Good Morning,

I hope that you are having a great morning. Now that Angela has approved for legal, when you get a moment can you please review the attached grant proposal for Bluebird Gap Farm. If you have any questions, please let us know.

Thanks

Tamara Bullock, MPA, CPRP
Business Services Administrator
(757)727-8319



HAMPTON
PARKS & RECREATION

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Tamara Bullock, MPA, CPRP
Business Services Administrator
Parks, Recreation & Leisure Services
(757)727-8319



Bullock, Tamara

From: Green, Lori
Sent: Thursday, December 14, 2023 2:24 PM
To: Bullock, Tamara; Clark, Nicole; Kmetz, Veronica
Cc: McCauley, David; Newland, Adam
Subject: RE: PRLS - BBGF Virginia Outdoor Foundation Grant Award

Hello, the Budget Division approves of the BBGF Virginia Outdoor Foundation Grant Award as there is no cash or future funding obligation required.

Thank you.

From: Bullock, Tamara <tamara.bullock@hampton.gov>
Sent: Thursday, December 14, 2023 10:19 AM
To: Green, Lori <lgreen@hampton.gov>; Clark, Nicole <nmclark@hampton.gov>; Kmetz, Veronica <veronica.kmetz@hampton.gov>
Cc: McCauley, David <david.mccauley@hampton.gov>; Newland, Adam <adam.newland@hampton.gov>
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Tamara Bullock, MPA, CPRP
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PARKS & RECREATION

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Business Services Administrator
Parks, Recreation & Leisure Services
(757)727-8319



Bullock, Tamara

From: Kmetz, Veronica
Sent: Thursday, January 4, 2024 2:54 PM
To: Bullock, Tamara
Subject: RE: PRLS - BBGF Virginia Outdoor Foundation Grant Award

Sorry....I was out on sick leave for two weeks, and this got lost in my inbox. Finance approves.

Thanks.

Veronica A. Kmetz
Finance Department
Phone: 757-727-6331



To recognize exceptional service from anyone in the Finance Department or the Procurement Department, please click the link below or email COHfinance@hampton.gov. Thank you!!

<https://form.jotform.com/222680144247150>

From: Bullock, Tamara <tamara.bullock@hampton.gov>
Sent: Thursday, January 4, 2024 2:44 PM
To: Kmetz, Veronica <veronica.kmetz@hampton.gov>
Subject: FW: PRLS - BBGF Virginia Outdoor Foundation Grant Award

Good Afternoon Veronica,
Happy New Year! Did you get a chance to review the attached grant proposal? Can you please provide your approval or denial?

Thanks
Tamara Bullock, MPA, CPRP
Business Services Administrator
(757)727-8319



From: Bullock, Tamara
Sent: Thursday, December 14, 2023 10:19 AM
To: Green, Lori <lgreen@hampton.gov>; Clark, Nicole <nmclark@hampton.gov>; Kmetz, Veronica <veronica.kmetz@hampton.gov>
Cc: McCauley, David <david.mccauley@hampton.gov>; Newland, Adam <adam.newland@hampton.gov>
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(757)727-8319



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Tamara Bullock, MPA, CPRP
Business Services Administrator
Parks, Recreation & Leisure Services
(757)727-8319





Grant Proposal Overview

COMPLETED GRANT OVERVIEW PROPOSAL MUST BE ATTACHED TO THE GRANT ROUTING SHEET BEFORE ROUTING IS INITIATED

Grant Title: BBGF All Terrain Wheelchairs - Get Outdoors Fund (GO) - FY24

1. PRIMARY OR SUB-AWARD: Application will be submitted to: the agency that is the primary source of funding (City = Primary Awardee); the agency that has received the funds from another awarding agency (City = Sub-Awardee).

If the City is a Sub-Awardee, the agreement between the Primary Awardee and the agency to which the City is making application must be attached to this Overview.

2. GRANT AWARD PERIOD: If awarded, funds are expected to be received: in the current fiscal year only; in the current fiscal year and the future fiscal year(s) of 2025 or in the future fiscal year(s) of _____.

3. PREVIOUS APPLICATIONS: (Not including the current application) This grant was previously applied for during _____ fiscal year(s); and was previously awarded during _____ fiscal year(s).

If previously awarded, provide all prior agenda item numbers and dates of Council approval.

4. BACKGROUND/PURPOSE:

Mobility aid users do not have equitable access to the outdoors as most of their tools are not designed to withstand rugged terrain; they cannot risk damage to something they rely on for their daily functioning. But unlike typical wheelchairs, an all-terrain wheelchair can safely maneuver trails, beaches, and rocky paths without undue discomfort to the user. This grants visitors assured safety and comfort when entering natural spaces.

Bluebird Gap Farm is working toward increasing the park accessibility for all and one question that often comes from visitors is if we have wheelchairs available due to the trails being difficult on standard wheelchairs. This grant would fund 2-3 all terrain wheelchairs that can be loaned out for use at BBGF at no cost to the visitor.

5. TYPE OF GRANT EXPECTED TO BE AWARDED:

Cash Amount \$ 14,000

Non-Cash (Describe): _____

6. FINANCIAL OBLIGATIONS:

a. **Current Financial Obligations:** This grant will will not **require** matching funds/contributions. If so, please indicate in the space below the amount and whether the match is cash or in-kind, or both.

Required Match – CASH

Amount: Cash \$ _____

Required Match – IN KIND

*Value of In-Kind \$ _____

* Description:

b. **Future Financial Obligations:** This proposal and/or the submitting department will will not incur or request commitments or financial obligations for/from the City beyond the grant period.

If it will, in the description box, please elaborate on the future financial obligation(s) for the grant:

Provide the future financial obligation amount(s) for the appropriate expenditure category below:

- * Amount: \$ _____ Personnel Services
- * Amount: \$ _____ Operating Expenses
- * Amount: \$ _____ Capital Outlay

Provide information on the duration of the obligation and other relevant details below:

* Description:

* Grants with future financial obligations must be approved by the City Manager or her designee:

Approve **Disapprove** **Signature** _____

If it will not, please provide a description of how activities, programs, or positions funded by the grant will be addressed at the conclusion of the grant period:

* Description:

This would be a pilot program to assess the need and long term cost of offering all-terrain wheelchairs to increase accessibility in Hampton's parks. This should be a low cost and low maintenance solution to providing more equitable access to our parks.

c. **Resource Obligations:** This proposal will will not require special facilities, equipment and/or services provided by the City. If it will, summarize arrangements in a separate memorandum and attach to this Overview.

Description:

7. Sources of Grant and Matching Funds:

Please identify the funding source of your grant and any required or non-required matches.

- For Federal grants, please provide the Federal Catalog Number (CFDA) and the grant number.
- For State grants, the grant number must be supplied.
- All grant matches must be supplied by the submitting department, unless they have historically received a contribution/match from the City's Matching Funds Pool or a special arrangement has been made with the City Manager's Office-Budget Division.
- If another City department, other than the submitting department, will be providing a funding or in-kind match, documentation to that effect must be submitted along with this grant packet.

a. Source of Grant Funds (Please check all that apply.)

Federal	\$	_____	Federal Catalog No.	_____
Pass Through	\$	_____	Federal Grant No.	_____
State	\$	_____	State Grant No.	_____
Foundation	\$	14,000		
Private	\$	_____		

b. Source of Matching Funds* (Please check all that apply.)

Department:	_____	Amount:	_____
Budget Line-Item:	_____	Amount:	_____
Budget Line-Item:	_____	Amount:	_____

**If you are listing a funding source from a department other than your own, the Budget Division will need written authorization of agreement from the funding department.*

8. Proposed Budget:

City Department-Match Other Matches

	Grant Total	Cash	In-Kind	Cash	In-Kind
Personnel Svcs					
Operating Exp.					
Capital Outlay					
Column Totals					

Grand Total: _____

9. Additional information that will be helpful to reviewers:

Recently, two Master Naturalists that volunteer at Bluebird Gap Farm were very interested in promoting more accessibility in Hampton Parks. The volunteers applied for a grant through the Virginia Outdoors Foundation (<https://www.vof.org/protect/grants/go/>) and the City has been awarded the full amount of the grant application, \$14,000 to purchase 2-3 all-terrain wheelchairs. The wheelchairs would serve anyone with mobility issues who would otherwise not be able to navigate natural terrain. They may have age-related disabilities, paralysis, chronic pain, or life long conditions such as cerebral palsy.

The goal of the project is to purchase 2 all-terrain wheelchairs that can be rented out to the public for no cost. These tools would be essential in ensuring visitors' access to all areas of the park, including forest trails, natural beach, grassy areas, and gravel paths. Not only would this provide equitable access to the outdoors for wheelchair users, but it is the accessibility solution with the smallest environmental impact as it would require no changes to the land itself. Most visitors to the Bluebird Gap Farm are from the surrounding city of Hampton. The park aims to provide the local community with outdoor adventure and education not typical available in an urban environment, and at no cost. This is a sizable investment in BBGF (23% of the yearly operating budget) and the project would fill a need for our residents and could serve as a sort of pilot program to see how PRLS can secure grant funding for other accessibility projects that would increase the quality of life for many in our community.

In the past, visitors to the park have attempted to request a wheelchair for themselves or a loved one; this could not be provided because typically available wheelchairs do not function on rough natural terrain such as trails and beach. Bluebird Gap Farm is eager to meet this need and hopes that the provision of these chairs will invite more people to come out and explore the park.

Those with disabilities in some cases do not have equitable access to the outdoors. We want this project to not only ensure safety for wheelchair users when they are outside, but more importantly, to empower disabled hikers and explorers. We want to see wheelchair users in our community have equal opportunity to navigate the great outdoors with curiosity and confidence, as we strive to be a positive inclusive outdoor experience to all visitors.



November 9, 2023

Adam Newland
City of Hampton
22 Lincoln Street
Hampton, Virginia 23669

Greetings,

The Virginia Outdoors Foundation (VOF) is pleased to award your proposal, ATTA Farm Project (Accessible Trails To All), submitted to the Get Outdoors (GO) Fund, a grant award of \$14,000.00. VOF recognizes the merit of increasing access to the outdoors, particularly in underserved communities. The VOF Board of Trustees viewed this project as a step toward achieving this goal.

A grant agreement will be sent for review and signature within the next thirty days. The two-year project period for the grant will begin on November 13, 2023, regardless of the status of the grant agreement.

VOF is glad to support the City of Hampton in the pursuit to make outdoor resources more available to all.

Warm regards,

Emily White
Conservation Grant Program Manager

Cc: Tamara Bullock, Jacqueline Keener (via email)

2699 - All-Terrain Wheelchairs- Bluebird Gap Farm Trails

Application Details

Funding Opportunity: 2343-Get Outdoors Fund (GO) - FY24 - Fall Round
Funding Opportunity Due Date: Aug 7, 2023 5:00 PM
Program Area: Get Outdoors Fund
Status: Submitted
Stage: Final Application
Initial Submit Date: Aug 7, 2023 1:05 AM
Initially Submitted By: Jacqueline Keener
Last Submit Date: Aug 7, 2023 1:29 PM
Last Submitted By: Jacqueline Keener

Contact Information

Primary Contact Information

Name*: Ms. Jacqueline Christian Keener
Salutation First Name Middle Name Last Name
Title:
Email*: jacquelinekeener@gmail.com
Address*: 163 Cherokee Rd

Hampton Virginia 23661
City State/Province Postal Code/Zip
Phone*: (757) 254-7232 Ext.
Phone
###-###-####
###-###-####
Fax: ###-###-####

Organization Information

Organization Name*: Bluebird Gap Farm
Organization Type*: State Government
Tax Id:
Organization Website: <https://hampton.gov/139/Bluebird-Gap-Farm>
Address*: 60 Pine Chapel Road

Hampton Virginia 23669-
City State/Province Postal Code/Zip

Phone*:

(757) 825-4750 Ext.

####-####-####

Fax:

####-####-####

GO Fund Grant Pre-Application Questionnaire

Project Information

The project title will be used in public relations and grant documents should funding be awarded.

Is the project title the same as application title?* No

Project Title: ATTA Farm Project (Accessible Trails To All)

Are you affiliated with a federal No

governmental entity, a for-profit entity, or are you an individual?*

Proposal Status

Proposals for the same concept may be submitted twice, but resubmissions must reflect significant revision to be considered.

Has this proposal been submitted to the GO Fund previously?* No

Funding Requested

Projects with budgets that greatly exceed \$25,000 are not usually appropriate for the program unless the GO Fund award is meeting the final need to bring the project to fruition, or the proposal is focused on a specific stand-alone component of a larger project. Inversely, projects with a scope of work that could be completely funded and implemented through a GO Fund grant exclusively are competitive.

Amount of Funding Requested \$14,000.00

(\$500 min, \$25,000 max)

Partial funding is possible.

***:**

Would you like to be considered for any other VOF grant program if eligible?* Yes

Please select which category best describes the project.

Category*: Accessibility

Project Location

Locality and latitude/longitude required; other location info such as street address or tax parcel ID optional.

*See [Google Maps Guide](#) for directions on using Google Maps or contact grants@vof.org to ask for help getting latitude/longitude coordinates.

Project Location

Select the locality where the project is located

***:**

Hampton

Latitude/Longitude*:

37.03329 -76.38735

Latitude (00.000000) Longitude (-00.000000)

Please provide any additional location information to help locate the project site.

Other Location Information (such as street address or tax parcel ID): 60 Pine Chapel Road, Hampton, VA 23669

Is the project located on a property owned by the grant applicant? No

Located on Property Owned by Applicant*:

No

Does the landowner agree to the proposed use of their land?

Landowner Agrees to Use:

Yes

Project Description

Project Description*:

The goal of the project is to purchase 2 all-terrain wheelchairs that can be rented out to the public for no cost. These tools would be essential in ensuring visitors' access to all areas of the park, including forest trails, natural beach, grassy areas, and gravel paths. Not only would this provide equitable access to the outdoors for wheelchair users, but it is the accessibility solution with the smallest environmental impact as it would require little to no changes to the land itself.

Community Description

Community Description*:

Most visitors to the Bluebird Gap Farm are from the surrounding city of Hampton. The park aims to provide the local community with outdoor adventure and education not typical available in an urban environment, and at no cost. The wheelchairs would serve anyone with mobility issues who would otherwise not be able to navigate natural terrain. They may have age-related disabilities, paralysis, chronic pain, or life long conditions such as cerebral palsy.

Community Needs

Community Need

equitable access to the outdoors for wheelchair users
an alternative to personal wheelchairs that aren't built to withstand natural environments
an outdoor mobility aid that can be adjusted for all forms of paralysis and support needs
and equitable means to getting outdoors with minimal environmental impact

Community Support

Community Support*:

In the past, visitors to the park have attempted to request a wheelchair for themselves or a loved one; this could not be provided because typically available wheelchairs do not function on rough natural terrain such as trails and beach. Bluebird Gap Farm is eager to meet this need and hopes that the provision of these chairs will invite more people to come out and explore the park.

Project Readiness

Project Status*:

The specific wheelchair model has already been identified- The Hippocampe Beach & All-Terrain wheelchair. This model would allow for safe and comfortable outdoor exploration, and is customizable to meet the physical support needs of nearly every user. Upon receipt of this grant, funds would be used to purchase a size Medium and size Large of this model. After volunteers test them out on the trails to ensure proper assembly and troubleshoot any issues, they will be unveiled to the public.

Project Implementation

Implementation Step

- Define what features the wheelchair would need to best meet users' potential needs
- Identify a specific wheelchair model that meets all identified needs
- Consult with the wheelchair's manufacturer (Vpamat) to get detailed information and pricing
- Select the appropriate wheelchair add-ons to maximize usability to all potential users
- Calculate final price
- Procure funds
- Purchase wheelchairs and have them shipped directly to park
- Have volunteers with disabilities try out wheelchairs in the park; make adjustments if/as needed
- Create policies defining user agreements and staff expectations to ensure safety and comfort for all
- Make wheelchairs available to the public

Funding

Projects with budgets that greatly exceed \$25,000 are not usually appropriate for the program unless the GO Fund award is meeting the final need to bring the project to fruition, or the proposal is focused on a specific stand-alone component of a larger project. Inversely, projects with a scope of work that could be completely funded and implemented through a GO Fund grant exclusively are competitive.

Funding is Essential*:

GO funding is the last critical step in getting these wheelchairs to the park. Our amazing team of volunteers, including those available at the farm, the Peninsula Chapter of the Virginia Master Naturalists, wheelchair users in the community, and experts in accessibility have completed all steps to

ensure the ongoing success of these tools at the BBGF. Obtaining the chairs is a simple one-time purchase that could be completely covered with provision of GO funding.

Total Estimated Project Cost

Total Cost of Project*: \$14,000.00

Funding Sources

Please indicate the total estimated cost of the project. Include all expenses related to the implementation of the project, not just those submitted for the GO Fund grant.

Please indicate the amount of funding secured for the project and the amount requested from non-VOF sources.

Secured Funds: \$0.00

Requested Funds (non-VOF)*: \$0.00

Additional Information

Additional Information*:

Those with disabilities do not have equitable access to the outdoors. We want this project to not only ensure safety for wheelchair users when they are outside, but more importantly, to empower Disabled Hikers and Explorers. We want to see wheelchair users in our community have equal opportunity to navigate the Great Outdoors with curiosity and confidence. And with the natural beauty of Southeastern Virginia packed in the BBGF, we strive to be a positive outdoor experience to ALL who visit.

Supplemental Material (If Applicable)

Applicants are strongly encouraged to include supplemental material.

Selecting yes and saving the form will pull up a section where materials may be uploaded for submission.

Will you be providing supplemental material?* Yes

Supplemental Material

Description	File Name	Type	Size	Upload Date
Showing the running thought process behind every decision made thus far: why this matters, why we stand by this chair meeting our users' needs, why we want to purchase certain add-ons, and exactly how much we would need in funding through the GO grant.	All-Terrain Wheelchairs at the Bluebird Gap Farm.pdf	pdf	1 MB	09/11/2023 01:42 PM

Get Outdoors Grant Application

Project Description

Provide a brief summary of this project in the space below. Please note this summary will be shared with the public and replicated for press releases and grant documents should funding be awarded.

Brief Summary*:

Wheelchairs users do not have equitable access to the outdoors as their equipment is typically not designed to withstand rugged terrain, and they cannot risk damage to tools that they rely on for daily functioning. We aim to provide an alternative for park visitors to confidently explore our trails, shoreline, and hidden paths with all-terrain wheelchairs provided at no cost. We hope that this will make our outdoor space more accessible and inviting to wheelchair users across Hampton Roads.

While an explanation of the project has already been provided, please share some additional information about the project.

State the purpose of the project*:

We intend to support accessibility for wheelchair users by providing a built-in accommodation at our park (the all-terrain wheelchairs). In doing so, we hope that wheelchair users who may have been nervous to explore parks- or completely unable to- will visit the Bluebird Gap Farm and enjoy exploring our trails safely and confidently. We hope that these tools will encourage people of all ages, abilities, and adventure levels to enjoy the great outdoors in a way that is meaningful to them.

Planned Deliverables

Deliverable

- All-terrain wheelchair, Medium size that members of the public can access when needed
- All-terrain wheelchair, Large size that members of the public can access when needed
- A no-charge check-out system for the park to monitor/improve on wheelchair use

Project Goals/Results/Outcomes

Goal/Result/Outcome

wheelchair users visiting the park feel more welcome to explore trails/shoreline/rough terrain alternative for wheelchair users who cannot use their tools on rugged terrain
increased use of trails and unpaved paths in the park
slight increase in park attendance due to improved accessibility
other parks in the area becoming interested in improving accessibility at their facility

Community Description

Expand upon how this project addresses specific needs in the community.

Community Needs:

Wheelchair users do not have equitable access to natural spaces. Typical wheelchairs are not built to withstand unpaved areas; using them on trails could potentially damage the equipment (scratches, dents, damaged wheels, unbalanced axels, loose hinges, and more) or harm the rider (jostling from unabsorbed shock, back/neck pain, head instability, risk of the chair tipping over, risk of falling from the chair, etc.). Many individuals choose to avoid these risks to ensure their own safety.

Describe how this project provides a unique service or resource to the community.

Community Service or Resource*:

Providing a wheelchair that can comfortably navigate outdoor spaces keeps people from having to make that decision. They can simply arrive at the park, rent the chair, and go out and explore like any able-bodied visitor. The specific model and adjustments selected (Hippocampe All-Terrain) includes extra cushioning, shock-absorbing wheels, an adjustable back, headrest, and multiple seatbelt options. This gives users the flexibility to meet their own support and comfort needs.

Community Support

Describe how the community has been involved in the development of this proposal.

Development*:

The community that provided input for this proposal include members of the public who have repeatedly requested wheelchairs at the Bluebird Gap Farm (BBGF), leaders of the park, members of the Peninsula Chapter of the Virginia Master Naturalists (a state-wide volunteer organization supported by the Virginia Department of Conservation & Recreation, Virginia Tech, and Virginia State University), as well as one volunteer with an educational background in disability studies and assistive technology.

Describe how the community will be involved in the implementation of this project.

Implementation*:

One volunteer with educational background in assistive technology (J. Keener) has already identified the ideal wheelchair that would best serve the public in this specific environment. Volunteers of the BBGF and VMN will use funds to purchase chairs and ensure their delivery and assembly at the park; select wheelchair users from the public will be invited to test out the chairs to ensure success/troubleshoot issues if needed, then chairs will be made available to all visitors.

Additional Information

If the location of the project or the focus of the project has special significance to the community, please describe it here.

Additional Information:

The BBGF has been a pillar to our city's community for over 50 years, and has always strived to provide positive outdoor experiences to all

members of the public. And yet most wheelchair users and their families can't fully access the park. They either refrain from visiting at all, or are constrained to one paved path away from the trails and shoreline area. This disparity is something our team has never been comfortable with and aims to directly tackle through this project.

Estimated Timeline/Plan of Work

Estimated Timeline/Plan of Work

Start Date	Completion Date	Activity	Status	Responsible Party
07/01/2023	07/14/2023	Researching/Identifying the appropriate wheelchair to meet visitors' needs	Completed	Peninsula Master Naturalists
07/12/2023	07/14/2023	Contact Vendor for price quotes	Completed	Peninsula Master Naturalists
08/07/2023	08/07/2023	Secure Funds	Underway	Peninsula Master Naturalists
08/14/2023	09/15/2023	Purchase Chairs, Allow time for shipping	Not yet started	Peninsula Master Naturalists
09/01/2023	09/29/2023	Volunteer wheelchair users try out the chairs, provide feedback, then adjustments made if needed	Not yet started	Peninsula Master Naturalists, Bluebird Gap Farm, Public Volunteers
10/01/2023	10/06/2023	Define rental system and record keeping for wheelchair usage	Not yet started	Bluebird Gap Farm
10/21/2023	10/21/2023	Introduce public to the chairs and make them available for no-cost rental	Not yet started	Peninsula Master Naturalists, Bluebird Gap Farm

Budget

GO Fund Project Expenditures

Item	Expense	Estimated or Actual Cost?
Wheelchair Frame, MEDIUM	\$4,174.00	Actual
Wheelchair Frame, LARGE	\$4,174.00	Actual
Comfort Plus Duo Cushion, MEDIUM	\$1,297.00	Actual
Comfort Plus Duo Cushion, LARGE	\$1,449.00	Actual
Arm Rests, Both Sets	\$814.00	Actual
Head Rests, Both Sets	\$594.00	Actual
Parking Brakes, Both Sets	\$572.00	Actual
Chest Harness, Both Sets	\$328.00	Actual
Waist Belts, Both Sets	\$234.00	Actual
Shipping + Handling Fees	\$200.00	Estimated
Minor Additions to Park (Low barrier fencing on large hills, filling in holes along the trail, etc.)	\$164.00	Estimated
	\$14,000.00	

Other Fund Sources

Match Source	If other, please list	If Grant Program, please list Grant Funding Source Name	Funding Status	If requested, please list the anticipated award date	Match Type	If other, please list	Planned Use	Match Amount

No Data for Table

Budget Summary

Total Requested Amount:	\$14,000.00
Total Match Amount:	\$0.00
Total Project Cost:	\$14,000.00

Match Percentage:

0.00%

Supplemental Material

Supplemental Material (If Applicable)

Applicants are strongly encouraged to include supplemental material.

Selecting yes and saving the form will pull up a section where materials may be uploaded for submission.

Will you be providing supplemental

material?*

Yes

Supplemental Material

Description	File Name	Type	Size	Upload Date
PowerPoint with photos, video, and fact sheets	BBGF Wheelchairs.pptx	pptx	7 MB	08/07/2023 01:03 AM

All-Terrain Wheelchairs at the Bluebird Gap Farm

Why Buy an All-Terrain Wheelchair?

People with disabilities do not have equitable access to the outdoors. For wheelchair users, this stems from the limitations of their chairs on rugged terrain. Daily-use chairs are not built to withstand the environmental strains of forest floors, mud, water, and sand. Not only can environmental exposure lead to the quick deterioration of their chair, but wheelchair hikers can often guarantee a jostling, uncomfortable experience that potentially puts them at undue risk for pain and injury.

All-terrain wheelchairs are built with the outdoors in mind: their stronger frames, texturized wheels, and lower center of gravity create a smoother and safer ride for the user in a variety of outdoor spaces. Wheelchair-using hikers can confidently explore forest trails, muddy areas, beach, marsh, and graveled paths without worrying about harm to themselves or their equipment. With the right tools, those with disabilities can access the Great Outdoors with the same curiosity and confidence as non-disabled individuals.

So Why This Model?

The Hippocampe Beach and All-Terrain wheelchair is ideal for public parks like the Bluebird Gap Farm because it can be adjusted to meet varied seating & positioning needs, and thus can benefit the widest user demographic. It can recline, has optional belt and chest harnesses, and can be either self-propelled or pushed by a care partner. Its waterproof cushions, heat-resistant hardware, and thickened tires make it work well in most outdoor environments, including the various terrains at the Bluebird Gap Farm.

Costs & Adjustments

The total cost is **\$13,636**, as quoted through direct consulting with the manufacturer (Vipomat). This price includes add-ons and adjustments that would directly benefit guest comfort and safety, including a cushion insert, reclining back, head rest, seat belts/harnesses, and parking brakes. Guests can utilize whichever component best suits their physical needs, adding the ability to customize for every potential visitor. The chair comes in 4 sizes- Medium and Large would be the most beneficial for serving guests of all ages and body types.



BBGF Wheelchair Additions: Hippocampe All-Terrain		
	Medium Size	Large Size
Frame: Adjustable height + Reclining Backrest in Blue	\$4,174.00	\$4,174.00
Comfort Plus Duo Velcro Armrests (Blue)	\$1,449.00	\$1,297.00
Headrests	\$407.00	\$407.00
Parking Brakes	\$297.00	\$297.00
Mixed Harness	\$286.00	\$286.00
Waist Belt	\$164.00	\$164.00
	\$117.00	\$117.00
Total for ONE SET:	\$6,894.00	\$6,742.00
Total for TWO WHEELCHAIRS (Medium & Large)		\$13,636.00