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[Santa Clara Valley Open Space Authority](#)

2020 Urban Grant Program

Deadline: [7/1/2020](#)

West Valley College

West Valley College Public Lands Institute

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\$ 53,563.93 Requested

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EIN [77-0396330](#)

Project Description [top](#)

Applicant Type

1. What type of organization is this?

- Public Agency
- School or School District
- 501(c)3 Nonprofit
- Eligible organization acting as Fiscal Sponsor for another organization

2. Does the application include a fiscal sponsor?

If the project includes a fiscal sponsor, the fiscal sponsor must be the applicant.

- YES
- NO

Overview

3. Which type of grant are you requesting?

- Small (\$10,000 - \$39,999)
- Large (\$40,000 - \$250,000)

4. Grant category (check all that apply)

- Environmental Stewardship and Restoration
- Parks, Trails, and Public Access
- Environmental Education
- Urban Agriculture / Food Systems

5. Type of project (check all that apply)

- Capital improvement (Large projects only)
- Planning
- Program

6. Project Location: Address / Neighborhood

What is the physical location of the project? If there is no physical location, please enter "N/A." If the project will be in multiple locations, please list all. Note: project location(s) must be within the Authority's jurisdiction.

There is no current location for this idea. This is a request for funding to do a feasibility study to determine if there is a suitable location to develop this West Valley College Public Lands Institute idea.

7. Project Location: Open Space Authority District (check all that apply)

A detailed map of the Authority Districts can be found under the Library tab, or online at <https://www.openspaceauthority.org/public-information/board-of-directors.html>.

- ✓ Authority District 1
- ✓ Authority District 2
- ✓ Authority District 3
- ✓ Authority District 4
- ✓ Authority District 5
- ✓ Authority District 6
- ✓ Authority District 7

8. Who does the project serve? Please indicate which Open Space Authority Districts are served (check all that apply)

A detailed map of the Authority Districts can be found under the Library tab, or online at <https://www.openspaceauthority.org/public-information/board-of-directors.html>.

- ✓ Authority District 1
- ✓ Authority District 2
- ✓ Authority District 3
- ✓ Authority District 4
- ✓ Authority District 5
- ✓ Authority District 6
- ✓ Authority District 7

9. Project Abstract

(Brief, 3-4 sentences)

This urban grant request is to determine the feasibility of developing a Public Lands Institute.

The primary goal of this project is to develop a location that is more centrally located and to provide greater access to educational resources. This project will lead to the development of a multi-organizational training facility and education resource for the community specific to environmental and public lands education.

Project Planning (20 points)**10. Describe the proposed project.**

To create an organization and location for a joint education facility at which the West Valley College Park Management Program would be its foundation. This facility and organization would be a resource for training and stewardship activities that would assist all public land agencies and environmental organization within the service area of the Santa Clara Open Space Authority and in the region.. West Valley College Park Management would provide both initial training and professional skills upgrade training. The target audience would include underserved populations to create greater access to this type of education and professional training. The program will include both hands on and on-line training and education.

11. Describe key project deliverables and estimated completion dates.

This project is designed to create a feasibility study to develop this Public Lands Institute.

The goal would be to produce a concept design for a proposed facility and establish a location. The next phase would include the acquisition of funding and agreements with our agency partners. The concept design and location would be the deliverables for this proposal.

12. Does this project require permission, permits, or other approvals? If so, please describe the status of these.

To conduct the feasibility study no permissions, permits and approvals are required.

13. What is the lifetime of this project? If applicable, describe plans for operating and maintaining the project in the future.

The feasibility study will take one year to accomplish. This will allow us time to locate a place for the Public Lands Institute and develop a concept plan for the facility and the idea. There will also be a period of fund raising that would need to happen that would be long-term should this idea come to fruition.

14. Describe the project's readiness for implementation.

The West Valley College Park Management Program has supported this education and training for over 50 years. We have an established track record of excellence with our alumni working in all our local, state, county and federal agencies. We have curriculum established that can be taught both on-line and in the classroom. This curriculum has been designed in collaboration with all of our public land agencies that sit on our Park Management Advisory Board.

Project Budget (15 points)**15. Budget Summary - Grant Request**

This is a budget summary only; a detailed Project Budget must be submitted using the Documents Upload tab. Please enter dollar amount. Note: after the application is submitted, the software will automatically add a TOTAL.

15,012.93	Grant request: Personnel
30000	Grant request: Contracted Services
1000	Grant request: Supplies / Materials
5,000	Grant request: Other Direct Costs
2550.66	Grant request: Indirect Costs
53,563.59	TOTAL

16. Budget Summary - Matching Funds

This is a budget summary only; a detailed Project Budget must be submitted using the Documents Upload tab. Please enter dollar amount. Note: after the application is submitted, the software will automatically add a TOTAL.

19,007.93	Total Matching Funds
19,007.93	TOTAL

17. Budget Narrative

Provide a brief budget narrative to explain the expenses listed in each of the budget categories (e.g. Personnel).

The budget for this project will cover expenses for the research required to determine a location for West Valley Public Lands Institute and to develop a concept plan for this facility and organization. This planning will involve both college and community partners. This will also require the ability to pay for and host meetings with community partners to develop this concept design and idea for this project. We will also need to contract with a professional design firm to complete the final concept design. College resources such as technology equipment and meeting space will be used in the process as part of our in-kind match.

Project Goals (15 points)**18. Describe the specific problems, issues, or unserved needs the project will address.**

The issues we observe with students in our program relates to geographic and on-line access. The on-line access component we are addressing at this time with the way we will be offering classes in the future. We will be working to extend our sphere of influence through our partner organization as an example the San Jose Conservation Corps who has the ability to help us extend our instruction with the other statewide corps programs. We have met already with the statewide conservation corps organizations. The statewide corps organizations work directly with underserved populations. The Public Lands Institute idea will help support our ability to bring this education closer to underserved populations. Currently, our base location at West Valley College is further away from the underserved populations. A more centralized location would allow for greater access through the use of public transportation. We would still maintain our existing location. This proposal would create an additional location to extend educational opportunities for our partner agencies and underserved populations. It is also important to note that the San Jose Evergreen Valley Community College District does not have programs in Parks and Public Land Management.

19. How does this project serve the community?

These metrics are required for all projects. Project-specific metrics can be added under Question 20 below. Note: after the application is submitted, the software will automatically add a TOTAL that will not be used.

1.928 mil	Number of people served
476,210	Number of youth served (under 18 years)
1	Number of programs provided
476,211.00	TOTAL

20. In what other ways does the project serve the community? Please list the project-specific goals (both social and environmental).

Please list any additional goals and how they will be measured (e.g. surveys, field measurements, attendance sheets, etc.).

The project areas that best align with our program are as follows:

1. Environmental Stewardship
2. Parks, Trails and Public Access
3. Environmental Education

These areas overlap in all parts of our curriculum here at West Valley College. Students are given first-hand opportunities in these areas both in the classroom and in direct field applications. Our sphere of influence extends beyond the state to the nation as our graduates are working at all levels of public land agencies. This specific project will involve our students this coming spring in our Park Planning and Design Class as well as working with concept design professional yet to be determined.

Impact (15 points)**21. Describe the lasting impact of the project.**

The lasting impact of this project will be to provide continued access to education to the underserved populations and deep engagement areas identified by the Santa Clara Open Space Authority. When this idea comes to fruition it will provide future land stewards the necessary skills to work in the field of environmental and resource protection. Taking care of the environment is both a social and environmental justice issue. Our program has served the community for more than 50 years, that fact alone demonstrates our capability to serve over a long period of time. We have over 500 graduates working across the country in public lands, natural resources, interpretation and environmental education jobs; several of whom have been promoted into positions of upper management and leadership roles. Many of our projects such as trail construction, and restoration have also had a lasting impact on the ecology of the region. We strive to get our students to become life-long learners as well as life-long environmental stewards. We are quite proud of the legacy we have built and the students we have mentored over the years.

Community Engagement / Stakeholder Support (10 points)**22. Describe the community support and/or community engagement process.**

Please submit letters using the Documents Upload tab.

The West Valley College Park Management Program has wide community support as demonstrated through our advisory board. The Park Management Advisory Board is currently represented by 12 different public land agencies and non-profit organizations. There are five specific agencies and organizations within the Santa Clara Valley Open Space Authority Service Area that are members of our advisory board and they are City of San Jose Regional Parks-PRNS, Santa Clara County Parks, San Jose Conservation Corps, Santa Clara Valley Water District and the Santa Clara Valley Open Space Authority. Our students and graduates have worked for or are currently working for these agencies and organizations. These agencies have consistently provided internship

opportunities for our students.

Leadership & Innovation (10 points)

23. Describe how this project employs innovative approaches or encourages collaboration and partnerships.

If there are project partners, please upload partner letters on the Documents Upload tab.

This project will employ teaching innovations that are both hands-on and on-line. The West Valley College Park Management Program has a majority of its classes approved for on-line instruction. The program also includes technology through its Geospatial and Unmanned Aircraft Technology Programs. The program collaborates with many different organizations both locally and nationally some examples include; California State Parks, National Park Service, FAA, GeoTech Center (National Science Foundation), PRAC-Park Ranger Association of California, CSPRA-California State Park Ranger Association, NASA-Ames, CalFire, and the National Association of Interpreters.

Organizational Capacity (15 points)

24. Briefly describe the organization and its ability to successfully implement this project. This might include successful past projects, key staff qualifications, financial resources, etc.

If the applicant is a Fiscal Sponsor, please describe both the Fiscal Sponsor and the sponsored organization.

Our current full-time and adjunct faculty represent a variety of organizations. It is important to note that at least 9 current employees of the Santa Clara Open Space Authority are either graduates or students from our program. We have also served in a variety of capacities to include the following:

Board Member-San Jose Conservation Corps

Board Member-Saved by Nature

Community Advisory Committee-Mid-Peninsula ROSD-Measure AA

Sanborn Skyline Trail Management Plan

Sanborn Skyline County Park Master Plan

Hiring Committees with City of San Jose PRNS and Santa Clara County Parks

Successful Grant Proposals:

iGETT Remote Sensing- National Science Foundation-CO-PI DUE 0703185 and 1205069

GeoTech Center-National Science Foundation- Assistant Director-Senior Team Member NSF: DUE 1304591, DUE 1644409, DUE 1700496, DUE 1937177, DUE 1938717, and DUE 1937237

CalGETT- State of California Workforce Grant Remote Sensing

Several Perkins Grant Proposals over the last 21 years.

Professional Expertise:

Chris Cruz, Former National Park Service, Bureau of Land Management, and Miami-Metro Dade County Parks Employee

Heidi McFarland, Former Santa Clara County Parks and Santa Clara Valley Water District Employee

Both Heidi and Chris have completed with students a variety of different field projects in all our local public land agencies. Examples to include but not limited to: building retaining walls, installing BBQ's, building trail, invasive plant eradication, constructing fuel breaks, building and rehabbing trails, restoration of newly acquired public lands, installation and building of display boards, creek restorations and rebuilding bridges to name a few.

The West Valley College Park Management Program has continued to evolve by developing curriculum in the areas of Geospatial and UAS Technology.

Organizational Recognitions:

2010 Professional Citation for 40 years of service from Park Ranger Association of California

2005 Resolution of Commendation Santa Clara County Board of Supervisors

The college will be the fiscal sponsor through the West Valley Mission Advancement Foundation. The West Valley-Mission Community College District lies within the Authority jurisdiction.

BONUS POINTS: Underserved Communities (10 points)

25. Describe how the project addresses open space needs for sensitive populations such as residents of park-poor neighborhoods, underserved or disadvantaged communities, youth, seniors, persons with disabilities, or is located within a Deep Engagement Community (DEC).

This question is optional; please answer if applicable, otherwise enter "N/A." A map of the DECs can be found by clicking on "Apply" at <https://www.openspaceauthority.org/urban>.

The West Valley College Park Management Program has been working closely with the San Jose Conservation Corps on two separate projects. Our students have been working with the SJCC on their Tiny House Project and their Trail Safety Program. Students from the San Jose Conservation Corps have now started attending classes in the Park Management Program.

BONUS POINTS: Community Building (10 points)

26. Describe how this project actively encourages community building by engaging or accommodating local residents in novel and creative ways.

This question is optional; please answer if applicable, otherwise enter "N/A."

Community engagement is a part of our program from day one. Though there are many examples such as students doing presentations in various local parks. This past school year we participated in a Creek Clean-up at Murdoch Park on Saratoga Creek and we worked in collaboration with the San Jose Conservation Corps in the design and development of the Trail Safety Program. We are also involved in advising PRNS on Ranger Operations. We were on the community advisory committee for Measure AA with Mid-Peninsula Regional Open Space District. We have also participated in numerous hiring committees for both PRNS and Santa Clara County Parks.

BONUS POINTS: Climate Resilience (5 points)**27. How does this project enhance and/or raise awareness about climate resilience?**

This question is optional; please answer if applicable, otherwise enter "N/A."

Climate Change and Climate resiliency are topics of discussion in many of our classes especially our Conservation of Natural Resources and our Duties of a Park Professional Classes. This project would allow us to extend this training and knowledge to the larger underserved population.

Documents Upload [top](#)**Documents Requested ***

Financial Statement

Project Budget

[download template](#)

Fiscal Sponsorship Agreement

[download template](#)

Site Control Documentation

[download template](#)

CEQA Compliance Certification Form

[download template](#)

Letters of Support

Project Partner Letters

Maps and Site Plans

Photographs

Other

Required?

✓

✓

Attached Documents *[Form 990 West Valley College](#)[501 c 3 Status West Valley College](#)[West Valley College Public Lands Institute](#)[Fiscal Sponsor Agreement](#)[Santa Clara County Parks Letter of Support](#)[San Jose Conservation Corps Letter of Support](#)[City of San Jose PRNS Letter of Support](#)[West Valley College Park Management OSA Grant Map](#)[West Valley College Park Management Brochure](#)

* [ZoomGrants™](#) is not responsible for the content of uploaded documents.

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