



2022 PROGRAM CHANGES “AT A GLANCE”

Farmland Preservation Program:

- No changes are proposed

Land Acquisition Program:

- Land Acquisition applications will be accepted on a continual basis; there are no application deadlines or funding rounds
- Once deemed complete, land acquisition applications will be prioritized for review by the Open Spaces Board over all other types of applications

Historic Preservation Program:

- There will be 2 funding rounds per year, with applications being due April 1st and September 1st
- The program will focus on exterior and structural restoration and preservation; projects that are related to the preservation/restoration of adaptive reuse of interior spaces are not eligible for funding.
- The program does not fund HVAC, mechanical, plumbing, or electrical systems.
- The program will contribute up to 25% of the capital costs for fire suppression systems for eligible structures.

Park/Recreation Development Program Priority, and Joint Venture Grants:

- Letters of Interest and Preliminary Application Form and Materials are due on *February 1st and August 1st of each year. **Note: The February 1st, 2022 deadline will be extended to March 15th, 2022 to allow adequate time for applicants to adjust to the new schedule.*
- Preliminary application packages will be reviewed by the Open Spaces Board in a workshop setting at a regularly scheduled Board meeting after the necessary form and materials have been received. The purpose of the workshop setting is to engage in an open dialogue to discuss the proposed project and its consistency with Open Spaces policies, guidelines, and priorities. The applicant will be provided with written feedback and details after the workshop in order to continue to mature the project.
- The workshop is not intended to replace individual consultations, which are still available upon request
- The new process is as follows:
 - Submission of a letter of interest, completed Preliminary Application Form and Materials by February 1st and August 1st of each year (*although for 2022 the February 1st, 2022 deadline is extended to March 15th*)

- Staff reviews the submitted pre-application package for completeness; applicants are notified of any deficiencies
- Once the pre-application package is complete, the applicant will be scheduled for a workshop at regular meeting of the Open Spaces Board
- At the workshop, the pre-application materials will be reviewed, and an open dialogue between the applicant and the Open Spaces Board regarding the project will occur. Applicants will receive written feedback from the Board subsequent to the workshop session.
- Applicants will then work to advance the project through the design, planning, permitting, and cost estimation phases, addressing all of the feedback from the workshop session.
- Once all requirements have been met and required materials for the full application have been assembled, applicants can make a full application to the Open Spaces Board.
- When staff is satisfied that the application is complete, it will be sent to the Board's consultant for a Creative Placemaking Review. A written report will be sent to the applicant for consideration.
- The applicant will work to incorporate or resolve the issues raised by the Creative Placemaking consultant and will revise plans and cost estimates accordingly. Revised documents will be submitted to the County Planning Department.
- The applicant will be invited to make a formal presentation to the Open Spaces Board at a regularly scheduled Board meeting. The presentation should be relatively brief (5-7 minutes) and the applicant should be prepared to answer any questions by the Board or the general public. Written determination of the recommendation by the Open Spaces Board will be provided subsequent to the application.
- Applications recommended for funding will proceed through the public hearing process. It is anticipated that there will be two public hearings per year, held during a regularly scheduled meeting of the Board of County Commissioners in the months of August and February. Applicants will be notified of the date and time of the hearing and will be invited to attend should there be any questions from the Commissioners or general public. No presentation by the applicant is necessary at this meeting.
- The applicant will be provided with a Shared Services agreement prepared by County Planning Department Staff and will be asked to take action on the agreement prior to it being offered to the Board of County Commissioners.
- Funds will be encumbered by the execution of the Shared Services Agreement by a resolution of the Board of County Commissioners at a regularly scheduled meeting after the conclusion of the required 45-day public comment period.
- The applicant will receive payment from the Open Spaces Program upon successful completion of the project and submission of the required Open Spaces reimbursement paperwork, which can be found on the Open Spaces website.