

## **2020 TAS - Questions and Answers:**

**Q1.** StreetsLA (BSS) has been closing slip lanes in public R/W and converting them to green spaces and/or plazas that can be programmed for recreation depending on size. Would that count as urban greening/recreation? We are looking to see if there are any slip lanes that can be closed in the SNAP area, and also anywhere in the City.

**Answer:** *This project may be eligible under the urban greening, however StreetsLA is not an eligible applicant, as its purpose is not providing public recreation. StreetsLA could apply jointly with Recreation and Parks or another similar agency.*

**Q2.** BSS is also looking at converting extra wide medians in the public R/W (60'-70' wide) and program activity/recreational nodes along the median. The medians are about 3-miles long. Will any of these repurposed uses qualify for Prop K funding?

**Answer:** *Similarly, these types of projects may be eligible, but StreetsLA is not an eligible applicant and would have to submit a joint application with a city department, or other eligible agency with a mission of recreation or youth services or equivalent.*

**Q3.** Does the urban greening money have to have a youth/recreational component?

**Answer:** *Yes, any project under any of the categories must have a youth/recreational component.*

**Q4.** Can you expand on the unrestricted funds?

**Answer:** *Unrestricted funds can be used for all eight categories in Prop K, as explained in the RFP.*

**Q5.** Being that this is a reimbursement grant correct? Do we have to have funds just to initiate the project?

**Answer:** *Yes, these grants are on a reimbursement basis. You will have to upstart the project and provide invoices with canceled checks, showing that payment was made for the invoice amount.*

**Q6.** Can we attend any other presentations?

**Answer:** *Yes, you may.*

**Q7.** Would bleachers and shading structure for an outdoor bird show theater be eligible for the Prop K funding (unrestricted)?

**Answer:** *Potentially, assuming there is specific youth programming; and that it expands the use of the subject facility. Note that even if funded from the unrestricted funds, it would still have to fit into one of the eight competitive grant categories identified in the RFP. Assuming this is for the LA Zoo, it may qualify as a regional recreational facility.*

**Q8.** Can Prop. K fund the entire project, is match required?

**Answer:** *A match is not required, however, a match might make a project receive a higher score than a similar project serving a similar number of youth, costing a similar amount, as the project might be considered more cost effective to the scorers.*

*In addition, not all projects are funded for the full amount requested. The proposal must show how the project will make up for any shortfalls. Other funding sources will need to be shown.*

*On a related note, if the grantee states that they will use their own funds for a match, proof of such funds availability will be required. A bank statement or similar proof of funds available will be required.*

**Q9.** Regarding the audit requirement, is a Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (CAFR) acceptable? The report contains financial statements that have been prepared in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles (GAAP) prescribed for governmental entities and provides a comprehensive overview of the County's financial operations and financial position.

**Answer:** **Yes**

**Q10.** Is there a required number of community support letters?

**Answer:** *No. However, it is good to get as many letters of support as you can. They factor into the scoring criteria.*

**Q11.** Is a joint use required if non-city owned, grantee owned park in the City of LA?

**Answer:** *If the grantee owns the property and uses the space for public recreation, no, a JUA is not required. However, the grantee will need to post signs stating it is for public use.*

*The grantee would be required to maintain the space and provide structured and programmed recreation hours, which are supervised and for which usage and other required data can be provided to the City.*

***If the facility is not open to the general public during normal daytime, weekend hours, please contact City staff to discuss, in case there are opportunities to provide reduced public hours and/or special accommodations for certain types of facilities, with additional City Attorney guidance.***

**Q12.** Given that the city is under quarantine and measures will likely be increased soon, how will you address the 5/28 deadline to complete all this pre-application testing in order to craft a budget around the results? Our sites are all shut down through April, possibly longer. Many city schools will not re-open this school year...

***Answer: We fully understand your concern. An extension is possible. Everyone will be notified in due time if an extension is approved; it will be posted on our Prop K website as soon as possible.***

***The extension requests have been brought to Prop K management's attention for further discussion.***

***Any extension would require the formal approval of the City Council, subsequent to a recommendation from the LA for Kids Steering Committee.***

**Q13.** Since the prop k program sunsets 11/2026, will this cycle projects if funded also receive the regular maintenance funding support and time window?

***Answer: Maintenance funding is not a guarantee, year to year. It will be at the discretion of the City Council and the availability of funds. It may, and likely will, sunset concurrently with the end of the 30 year assessment program in 2026, or sole residual maintenance funds may still be available.***

**Q14.** Would renovation of an existing recreation field and sports courts/ playground equipment for a non-profit community center be an appropriate project to seek funding for? We have received Prop K funds for maintenance in the past.

***Answer: Yes, it may be possible if it is a full renovation that expands recreational opportunities. Maintenance of existing facilities (other than post completion funded maintenance) is NOT eligible under any of the programs in this RFP. Thus, Funds under this RFP will not pay for maintenance type project scopes, only for capital improvements.***

**Q15.** I have a follow-up question on the zoo outdoor theater... we already have funding for the 60%. It's the remaining 30% that we are hoping to fund through the Prop K grant monies. Would this make any difference to your response provided earlier?

***Answer: As stated earlier, a match may make a project score higher than a similar project with a similar overall cost. It does not guarantee success or funding.***

**Q16.** What is Part One, Restricted Funds all about and how does it differ from the rest of the funding groups?

**Answer:** *Restricted funds are Prop K competitive grant funds allocated to the 4 Prop K categories that have remaining funds under the ballot measure, as shown on page ii and 7 of the RFP.*

*The approximately \$2M in unrestricted Prop K funds, also shown on page ii of the RFP, can go to projects that are eligible under any of the 8 categories listed on that page under Part One, section ii a, Unrestricted Funds. Although termed unrestricted, projects funded by these funds are still required to fit under one or more of the 8 Prop K competitive grant categories.*

**Q17.** Should we state on the application which funding we are applying for?

**Answer:** *Yes, and you may be eligible for multiple fund sources for the same project or parts of the project, so you should identify each fund(s) that you believe you may be eligible under.*

**Q18.** What if the one we are applying for is all used up?

**Answer:** *Not all projects will be funded, or fully funded, as with all RFPs. As with every RFP issued by the city, you will bear the costs of proposal preparation, regardless of whether or not your project(s) get funded. We try to review all proposals fairly, and the scorers score similarly.*

*If the funds are used up by other projects that the scorers scored higher, and your project is eligible under multiple categories that you have identified, we may be able to fund it in those other categories, or take dollars from the various Prop K categories and /or other fund sources it is eligible for to fund what we can based on available funds.*

**Q19.** Will Prop K let us know if the funds are dried up and recommend which one we should apply for?

**Answer:** *All proposals are reviewed around the same time. We have no idea which will or won't be funded until eligibility review and scoring. We do not start any funding recommendations until after those reviews and scoring are done, so we have no way of telling you at any time what to apply for.*

*You have to look at the available funds identified by category and/or fund source in the RFP, and apply accordingly.*

**Q20.** Will we get a notice that, “So sad. Too bad. That account dried up. We will have to disqualify you?”

**Answer:** *We would NEVER say it that way, nor is that how this process works. Again, all applications have the same level of eligibility review and scoring by outside, un-biased scorers. Funding recommendations are not made until these two processes are complete.*

*Proposals that are submitted that do not complete all required forms, signatures, attachments etc. may be found non-responsive and thus not able to be funded, similarly, projects that do not qualify under one of the categories or fund sources available will be found non-responsive. Those proposals cannot be funded. That is true, of course.*

**Q21.** LAUSD has a lot of property, including areas not being used. Can we apply for Category 8 for Pocket Parks that are near the school where parents can pick up children?

**Answer:** *LAUSD projects, and all projects located on school owned property, are normally funded under the Youth schools/Recreation category, as they generally require a joint use agreement under the Prop K requirements.*

*The project would have to include actual programming of cultural or recreational activities for youth, beyond just a green, safe pick up/drop off spot for youth to be eligible under any category.*

*The good news is that the youth schools category has significant funding available.*

**Q22.** Can you please clear up regarding when the first paycheck can be received after the project is done?

**Answer:** *As replied to at the technical advisory session, assuming your project is funded, your proposal will indicate when funds would be needed to be disbursed as a part of your milestone expenditure schedule. Assuming that your Funds disbursed under this RFP are split among up to three (3) fiscal years, based on our availability of funds and your milestone schedule and adherence to that schedule. Thus, your project may be reimbursed at completion of various stages, such as environmental, design, bid and award, construction, etc. in very few cases, such as property acquisition, we may be able to direct funds. The first check processed may take up to approximately 45 days. See Section 404 of the sample grant agreement.*

**Q23.** Is there any benefit to turning them in early? Like if you find something wrong will you let us know so we can correct it like CDBG does?

**Answer:** *No, only that you ensure that they are received on time. Once submitted, they are considered final. Please feel free to contact staff for assistance well before submitting, if you have further questions.*

**Q24.** The 30 years doesn't necessarily mean Prop K grants will end in 30 years, right?

**Answer:** *The 30 years is 2/3 complete, as was stated the 30 years started in the late 90s, it ends in about 7 years, but the service and maintenance commitment may extend beyond that. No additional funds will be available after the sunset of Prop K.*

**Q25.** Is a government entity such as the County of LA required to have a BTRC with the City of LA?

**Answer:** *No, a resolution from your governing body is required however.*

**Q26.** Is a multi-use recreational trail project for a new trail an eligible project type for the unrestricted category?

**Answer:** *Maybe, under the greening and/or open space acquisition categories if a new acquisition of land, and/or open space. The unrestricted funds are not fully unrestricted, they must still be used in one of the 8 eligible categories.*

**Q27.** In terms of urban greening, how would one determine if the project is eligible under this category? The project does not include acquisition. However, the new trail would be in a natural lands setting.

**Answer:** *As far as urban greening, if you do any planting as a part of the project that is viewable/accessible by youth and families (as they hike!) with some form of educational programming such as docent led hikes, it should be eligible.*