

2025 RTP Scoring Criteria

Sect. B Project Need		25 possible		
15. & 16.	Trail details (select from range for each)	Point Range	Points	Total
	Age of trail section where work will occur (30+ years = 3 pts, 20+ years = 2 pts, 10+ years = 1 pt)	0-3		
	Trail usage level compared to nearby trails and population demand	0-3		
	Degree to which the cause of the issue or development of the need was unavoidable or couldn't be addressed earlier	0-3		
Max. points: 9				
16.	Need (select from range for each)	Point Range	Points	Total
	Project needed to address critical (5 pts), serious (2-4 pts), or minor (1 pts) safety issues on existing trail	0-5		
	Severity of need (due to users excluded, trail closure, lack of funding, etc.)	0-3		
Max. points: 8				
17.	Virginia Outdoors Plan (SCORP) Needs (select from range for each)	Point Range	Points	Total
	Project listed as (3 pts) or connected to (1 pts) a regional featured project in the 2024 Virginia Outdoors Plan OR provides or repairs priority amenities expressed in the corresponding Virginia Outdoors Plan Survey (restroom, trailhead parking, drinking water, information kiosk, trash receptacles, trailside benches, lighting) (0-3 pts) (3pts - provides restroom or three from list, 2 pts- two from list, 1 pt- one from list)	0-3		
	Degree to which project meets Recreation for All project prioritization recommendations of the 2024 Virginia Outdoors Plan (Section 2.1.6) (includes projects on publicly owned lands, expanding recreation programming, increasing access for people with disabilities, serving historically underserved communities, improving safety, contributing to health and wellbeing)	0-3		
Max. points: 6				
18.	Local and Regional Plan Needs (select from range for each)	Point Range	Points	
	Project need demonstrated in local and/or regional plans	0-2		
Max. points: 2				
Sect. C Public Involvement and Impact		26 possible		
19. - 21.	Public participation & collaboration (select from range for each)	Point Range	Points	Total
	Degree of public involvement in the project	0-3		
	Degree of collaboration between agencies, land managers, users, and/or community stakeholders	0-3		
	Project has a workforce development component, such as utilizing youth or training corps, or includes youth group volunteers	0-3		
Max. points: 9				
22. & 23.	User benefits (select from range for each)	Point Range	Points	Total
	Degree of positive impact on trail users	0-3		
	Degree to which project will benefit or expand access to new, disadvantaged, and/or underserved users	0-3		
	Degree of positive local economic or tourism impact	0-2		
	Use of trail will not require an entrance fee (2 pts) or fee-free and reduced options available (1 pt)	0-2		
Max. points: 10				
24.	Access for people with disabilities (select from list or range for each)	Point Range	Points	Total
	Project will contain specific design elements to provide an equitable experience for trail users with sensory (including visual), cognitive, neurological, and/or mental health disabilities	0-2		
	Project will contain specific design elements to provide an equitable experience for trail users with disabilities impacting mobility (including surface, slope, width, resting areas)	0-5		
	• Project will exceed accessibility standards (5 pts)			
	• Project will meet accessibility standards (4 pts)			
	• Some but not all project elements will meet accessibility standards, other elements fall under an allowable exception or are not covered by standards (2-3 pts)			
	• Application contains insufficient information to verify project will meet minimum accessibility requirements or minimum requirements not met (0-1 pts)			
Max. points: 7				

Sect. D Design, Sustainability, and Environmental Impact			22 possible	
25. - 27.	Design (select from list or range for each)	Point Range	Points	Total
	Design completeness	0-3		
	• Design and construction drawings complete (3 pts)			
	• Construction drawings created, but not 100% complete (2 pts)			
	• Project is beyond concept and feasibility stage, (preliminary designs complete, layout flagged, etc) (1 pt)			
	• Project is in conceptual phase and/or no site designs complete (0 pts)			
	Appropriateness of design standards used for the type of trail, usage level, and site conditions	0-3		
	Sustainability and resiliency: Degree to which design minimizes future resource inputs and has built in resiliency against future weather events	0-5		

Max. points: 11

28.	Environmental quality impact (select from list for each)	Point Range	Points	Total
	During project construction	0-2		
	• Positive or neutral environmental impact (2 pts)			
	• Negative environmental impact that will be reversed or mitigated when construction is complete (1 pts)			
	• Negative impact that will exist after construction is complete (0 pts)			
	After construction	0-3		
	• Improvements to environmental quality in several categories (3 pts)			
	• Improvements to environmental quality in one or two categories (2 pts)			
	• No change to environmental quality from preexisting (1 pts)			
	• Net negative impacts resulting from this project (0 pts)			

Max. points: 5

29.	Future maintenance (select from range for each)	Point Range	Points	Total
	Appropriateness of planned maintenance tasks and planned frequency to ensure longevity	0-3		
	Adequateness of labor and funding sources	0-3		

Max. points: 6

Sect. E Project Implementation			19 possible	
30.	Schedule (select from list)	Point Range	Points	
	• Detailed schedule that shows understanding of RTP grant requirements and is clear, realistic, and well planned (3 pts)	0-3		
	• Schedule less detailed, missing minor milestones, or shows lack of full understanding of grant procedures (1-2 pts)			
	• Schedule unrealistic or missing major milestones (0 pts)			

Max. points: 3

31.	Budget (select from list)	Point Range	Points	
	• Budget itemized, comprehensive, includes reasonable cost estimates, how it was estimated is explained (5 pts)	0-5		
	• Missing one of the above (3-4 pts)			
	• Missing two of the above (1-2 pts)			
	• Missing three or more of the above (0 pts)			

Max. points: 5

32.	Grant match (select from list for each)	Point Range	Points	Total
	Grant match secured	0-3		
	• Documentation provided showing cash or other eligible match items (volunteer labor, donations, administrative labor, etc.) available to cover 20% of costs (3 pts)			
	• Some cash or eligible match items for 20% share are still pending (1 pt)			
	• Match funding information incomplete or missing (0 pts)			
	Grant match leverages community support by including volunteer labor and/or donations	0-3		
	• Match includes extraordinary amount of volunteer labor (3 pts)			
	• Match includes significant volunteer labor and/or donations (2 pts)			
	• Match includes small amount of volunteer labor and/or donations (1 pt)			
	• No volunteer labor or donations planned (0 pts)			

Max. points: 6

33. & 34. Procurement (select from list)	Point Range	Points
- Comprehensive methods list provided, demonstrates understanding of requirements, all procurement procedures appear compliant (2 pts) - List not comprehensive, does not appear to understand requirements, or lists non-compliant methods (1 pt) - Not enough information provided or multiple errors in response (0 pts)	0-2	

Max. points: 2

35. Environmental review, permitting, and NEPA (select from list)	Point Range	Points
- Already complete (3 pts) - Response outlines clear plan and demonstrates understanding of requirements (2 pts) - Response shows lack of understanding of full requirements (0-1 pts)	0-3	

Max. points: 3

Sect. F Grant Administration		8 possible	
36. Past RTP grant experience (select from list)	Point Range	Points	
- Applicant has never received an RTP grant (5 pts) - It has been at least 20 years since applicant has received an RTP grant (4 pts) - It has been at least 15 years since applicant has received an RTP grant (3 pts) - It has been at least 10 years since applicant has received an RTP grant (2 pts) - Applicant has had an RTP grant in the last 10 years (1 pt) - Applicant currently has an open RTP grant (0 pts)	0-5		

Max. points: 5

Completeness of application (select from list)	Point Range	Points
- All submission requirements are met and sufficient detail is provided to understand the project, all required attachments are included (3 pts) - Most submission requirements are met, but missing a required attachment or detail (2 pts) - Most submission requirements are met, but missing multiple required attachments or details (1 pt) - Critical submission requirements are not met (0 pts)	0-3	

Max. points: 3

Total Score:

out of 100

Comments:

Committee Discretionary Points		5 possible	
Discretionary Points (scored at committee meeting, committee does not have to award any discretionary points in a grant round)	Point Range	Points	
Discretionary point could include but are not limited to: geographical distribution of funds, significant need.	0-5		

Max. points: 5