

# **Coachella Valley Mountains Conservancy**



## **Climate Resilience and Community Access Grant Program**

Funded by the State of California General Fund

**Request for Proposals No. CRCA - 02**

**November 21, 2022**

**Pre-Application Deadline: January 27, 2023**

Coachella Valley Mountains Conservancy  
73-710 Fred Waring Drive, Suite 112  
Palm Desert, CA 92260  
(760) 776-5026  
[www.cvmc.ca.gov](http://www.cvmc.ca.gov)

The Coachella Valley Mountains Conservancy (the “Conservancy”) is pleased to offer up to \$2,917,000.00 in local assistance grants as part of its latest request for proposals under its Climate Resilience and Community Access Grant Program (“Program”). The Program was created in 2021 and seeks to support programs that address climate adaptation and resilience or enhance access to outdoor recreation or education. Further details about the Program can be found in the Program Guidelines. The first RFP was issued in late 2021 and sought proposals that focused on expanding the capacity of local organizations and agencies to address climate change and create recreational opportunities. This RFP No. CRCA - 02 seeks applications that apply “Nature-Based Solutions” approaches to the objectives of the Program.

### **RFP Objectives**

The Conservancy currently seeks applications for projects or program that use Nature-Based Solutions (NBS) to achieve the objectives of the Program. NBS refer to sustainable management and use of natural features and processes to tackle socio-environmental challenges. NbS address climate change mitigation and adaptation, resiliency building, disaster risk reduction, and water security. At its core NbS are actions to protect, sustainably manage and restore natural and modified ecosystems in ways that address societal challenges effectively and adaptively, to provide both human well-being and biodiversity benefits. Nature-Based Solutions:

- Recognize natural systems and processes as critical infrastructure
- Consider climate impacts on priority CVMCSHP natural assets
- Consider equity implications in their design and application to avoid unintended consequences
- Are planned and implemented with the engagement of local stakeholders and residents to ensure that not only key climate-related hazards and risks are addressed, but are done so in ways that support the community’s own vision for its future
- Ensure positive biodiversity benefits
- Seek to protect or restore critical natural infrastructure
- Give natural features and processes space to function
- Address hazards and risks posed by historical inequities in patterns of settlement, land use, and property ownership. For example, many lower income communities have low levels of tree cover, lack equitable access to parks and other open spaces, and are susceptible to flooding from stormwater.

### **Grant Eligibility**

Eligible applicants include state and local public entities, nonprofit organizations, Indian tribes and mutual water companies.

Any project that fulfils one or more of the objectives of the Program is eligible for consideration, but the Conservancy specifically encourages applications for:

- (a) **People and Communities:** Community-based innovations, education, greenhouse gas reduction, public awareness and public health, urban greening infrastructure, and water conservation.
- (b) **Wildlife and Ecosystems:** Restoration, enhancing natural systems, reducing edge development.
- (c) **Land Use or Management:** Conservation land management, prevention of conversion of agricultural lands to urban use, soil health, and protecting open spaces.
- (d) **Community Access:** Parks, trails, transportation, cultural, recreational, historical resources; education on habitat conservation, and the effects of climate change on nature.

Projects that meet more than one objective will receive priority for funding. Refer to the Guidelines for more details on eligibility.

**Application Process and Key Dates**

<b>Steps</b>	<b>Task</b>	<b>Deadlines</b>
1	<b>Applicant</b> Submits <b>Pre-Application</b>	Friday, Jan. 27, 2023
2	<b>CVMC</b> Notifies Applicant of Full Application Eligibility Status	February 6 - 17, 2023
3	<b>Applicant</b> Submits <b>Full Application</b>	12:00 Noon Friday, Mar. 17, 2023
4	<b>CVMC</b> Reviews and Scores Full Applications	March 20-31, 2023
5	<b>CVMC</b> Notifies Applicant of Full Application Review Status	April 3 - 7, 2023
6	<b>CVMC</b> Conservancy Board Awards Grant	April or May 2023
7	<b>Grantee</b> Commences Grant Project Upon Grant Agreement Execution	

Applications will be reviewed, scored and ranked in accordance with the competitive process established by the Guidelines, with final awards to be made by the Conservancy Board. The Board reserves the discretion to award available funds in this round of funding based on the strength of responses to this RFP. If funds remain, one or more additional RFPs will be issued in 2023.

### **Further Information**

All Grant Program documents, including the Guidelines and any addenda to this RFP are available for review at [www.cvmc.ca.gov](http://www.cvmc.ca.gov). If you have questions, please contact Rick Youngblood, CMVC Project Coordinator at (760) 776-5026 or [richard.youngblood@cvmc.ca.gov](mailto:richard.youngblood@cvmc.ca.gov).

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## CLIMATE RESILIENCE AND COMMUNITY ACCESS GRANT PROGRAM

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### Grant Proposal Pre-Application Form

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We fully understand that your project information may be preliminary and subject to change. Our main purpose is to understand what you hope to accomplish with program funding. Pre-application submissions will be reviewed by CVMC staff and may follow up with questions, comments, clarifications as needed. Applicants whose projects are deemed eligible will be notified with further instructions as to completing the full application narrative.

1. Name of Applicant(s):
2. Representative and contact information:
3. Please attach a brief, one-page project description that summarizes key objectives, work tasks and deliverables.
4. Was the project part of any other project that has undergone environmental review under CEQA or NEPA? \_\_\_\_\_ If so, please identify the project and type of environmental document.
5. Please attach a map that depicts the location of the project or the areas to be served.
6. Does the applicant own the project site? \_\_\_\_\_ If not, how will you achieve site control?
7. Tentative amount of funding to be requested? \$\_\_\_\_\_. Please attach a summary budget.
8. Do you have, or are you seeking, other funding for the project? \_\_\_\_\_ Projects that provide at least 20% in matching funds are priorities for funding.
9. Does the project serve *severely disadvantaged communities* (i.e., with median household incomes of less than 60 percent of the statewide average)?
10. Would conservation corps services be appropriate for your project (if appropriate)?

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