

Office of Regulatory Management
Economic Review Form

Agency name	Department of Conservation and Recreation
Virginia Administrative Code (VAC) Chapter citation(s)	4 VAC 5
VAC Chapter title(s)	
Action title	2025 Trail Maintenance and Amenity Grants Application Manual
Date this document prepared	12/29/2025
Regulatory Stage (including Issuance of Guidance Documents)	Guidance Document Replacement

Cost Benefit Analysis

Complete Tables 1a and 1b for all regulatory actions. You do not need to complete Table 1c if the regulatory action is required by state statute or federal statute or regulation and leaves no discretion in its implementation.

Table 1a should provide analysis for the regulatory approach you are taking. Table 1b should provide analysis for the approach of leaving the current regulations intact (i.e., no further change is implemented). Table 1c should provide analysis for at least one alternative approach. You should not limit yourself to one alternative, however, and can add additional charts as needed.

Report both direct and indirect costs and benefits that can be monetized in Boxes 1 and 2. Report direct and indirect costs and benefits that cannot be monetized in Box 4. See the ORM Regulatory Economic Analysis Manual for additional guidance.

Table 1a: Costs and Benefits of the Proposed Changes (Primary Option)

(1) Direct & Indirect Costs & Benefits (Monetized)	<p>Direct Costs: Describe the direct costs of this proposed change here.</p> <p>Indirect Costs: Describe the indirect costs of the proposed change.</p> <p>Direct Benefits: Describe the direct benefits of this proposed change here.</p> <p>Indirect Benefits: Describe the indirect benefits of the proposed change.</p>	
(2) Present Monetized Values	Direct & Indirect Costs	Direct & Indirect Benefits
	<p>(a) Applicant Matching Share: Applicants must contribute at least 20% of the total project costs.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ Upfront Financing: Since this is a reimbursement program, the applicant must have the cash on hand to finance 100% of costs before requesting the 80% reimbursement. ◦ Environmental Review: Costs for conducting environmental analyses (NEPA, Section 106, etc.) are required and may be included in the grant. ◦ Acquisition Fees: Acquisitions require an appraisal and review following UASFLA "Yellowbook" standards 	<p>(b) ◦ Grant Reimbursement: The program provides up to 80% reimbursement for eligible project costs.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ Available Funding: Total funding available for 2025 is approximately 1,785,000
(3) Net Monetized Benefit		
(4) Other Costs & Benefits (Non-Monetized)	<p>Costs: The requirement to keep the project open to the public for a minimum of 10 years from grant closeout, necessitating long-term maintenance commitments.</p> <p>• Benefits:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ Improved Accessibility: Projects facilitate access for persons with disabilities. ◦ Environmental Protection: Eligible costs include bank stabilization, re-vegetation, and erosion control. 	

	◦ Diverse Recreation: Supports activities ranging from hiking and bicycling to motorized off-road vehicle riding
(5) Information Sources	

Table 1b: Costs and Benefits under the Status Quo (No change to the regulation)

(1) Direct & Indirect Costs & Benefits (Monetized)	Changes were made to this document to reflect updates from the previous 2024 grant round.	
(2) Present Monetized Values	Direct & Indirect Costs	Direct & Indirect Benefits
	(a)	(b)
(3) Net Monetized Benefit		
(4) Other Costs & Benefits (Non-Monetized)		
(5) Information Sources		

Table 1c: Costs and Benefits under Alternative Approach(es)

(1) Direct & Indirect Costs & Benefits (Monetized)	There are no alternative approaches.	
(2) Present Monetized Values	Direct & Indirect Costs	Direct & Indirect Benefits
	(a)	(b)
(3) Net Monetized Benefit		
(4) Other Costs & Benefits (Non-Monetized)		

(5) Information Sources	
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Impact on Local Partners

Use this chart to describe impacts on local partners. See Part 8 of the ORM Cost Impact Analysis Guidance for additional guidance.

Table 2: Impact on Local Partners

(1) Direct & Indirect Costs & Benefits (Monetized)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Direct Costs: Local partners are responsible for the 20% match and all procurement compliance following the Virginia Public Procurement Act (VPPA). • Direct Benefits: Financial assistance for maintaining existing trails and rehabilitating trailside/trailhead facilities. • Assistance: DCR staff provide assistance by conducting site inspections, performing administrative reviews of project documents, and helping prepare forms for FHA authorization. 	
(2) Present Monetized Values	Direct & Indirect Costs	Direct & Indirect Benefits
	(a)	(b)
(3) Other Costs & Benefits (Non-Monetized)		
(4) Assistance		
(5) Information Sources		

Impacts on Families

Use this chart to describe impacts on families. See Part 8 of the ORM Cost Impact Analysis Guidance for additional guidance.

Table 3: Impact on Families

(1) Direct & Indirect Costs &	Direct Benefits: Increased access to recreational trails and improved facilities, such as parking, restrooms, and interpretive aids.
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Benefits (Monetized)	Accessibility: Demonstration of how projects provide equitable experiences for users with sensory, cognitive, or mental health disabilities.	
(2) Present Monetized Values	Direct & Indirect Costs	Direct & Indirect Benefits
	(a)	(b)
(3) Other Costs & Benefits (Non-Monetized)		
(4) Information Sources		

Impacts on Small Businesses

Use this chart to describe impacts on small businesses. See Part 8 of the ORM Cost Impact Analysis Guidance for additional guidance.

Table 4: Impact on Small Businesses

(1) Direct & Indirect Costs & Benefits (Monetized)	Direct Benefits: Project sponsors must take reasonable steps to provide Small, Women-owned, and Minority-owned (SWaM) and Disadvantaged Business Enterprises (DBE) with opportunities to compete for trail project contracts. Procurement: Construction contracts must be competitively bid, providing opportunities for local contractors.	
(2) Present Monetized Values	Direct & Indirect Costs	Direct & Indirect Benefits
	(a)	(b)
(3) Other Costs & Benefits (Non-Monetized)		
(4) Alternatives		
(5) Information Sources		

Changes to Number of Regulatory Requirements

Table 5: Regulatory Reduction

For each individual action, please fill out the appropriate chart to reflect any change in regulatory requirements, costs, regulatory stringency, or the overall length of any guidance documents.

Change in Regulatory Requirements

VAC Section(s) Involved*	Authority of Change	Initial Count	Additions	Subtractions	Total Net Change in Requirements
	(M/A):				
	(D/A):				
	(M/R):				
	(D/R):				
Grand Total of Changes in Requirements:					(M/A):
					(D/A):
					(M/R):
					(D/R):

Key:

Please use the following coding if change is mandatory or discretionary and whether it affects externally regulated parties or only the agency itself:

(M/A): Mandatory requirements mandated by federal and/or state statute affecting the agency itself

(D/A): Discretionary requirements affecting agency itself

(M/R): Mandatory requirements mandated by federal and/or state statute affecting external parties, including other agencies

(D/R): Discretionary requirements affecting external parties, including other agencies

Cost Reductions or Increases (if applicable)

VAC Section(s) Involved*	Description of Regulatory Requirement	Initial Cost	New Cost	Overall Cost Savings/Increases

Other Decreases or Increases in Regulatory Stringency (if applicable)

VAC Section(s) Involved*	Description of Regulatory Change	Overview of How It Reduces or Increases Regulatory Burden

Length of Guidance Documents (only applicable if guidance document is being revised)

Title of Guidance Document	Original Word Count	New Word Count	Net Change in Word Count
Recreational Trails Program Trail Maintenance and Amenity Grants Application Manual	5,985	6,873	+888

*If the agency is modifying a guidance document that has regulatory requirements, it should report any change in requirements in the appropriate chart(s).