

**Landscape Partnership Grant
Information Session Q & A
January 28, 2025**

How much funding do you have available for the Landscape Partnership grant program?

We do not yet have our FY25 budget, so don't know.

Does a municipal applicant have to have an Open Space and Recreation Plan in place to qualify as a partner?

There is no OSRP requirement for the Landscape Partnership grant.

If Community Preservation Act funds are used, does the land trust have to own the land or can the municipality?

CPA legislation requires that property interests be purchased by the municipality and owned by the municipality.

Does an applicant need a municipal vote to accept the donation of a CR?

We defer to municipal counsel on questions of municipal authorization, but donations of land may be exempt from Town Meeting vote. A vote to hold a CR is likely still required by the Conservation Commission even if the CR is donated.

If a partner is purchasing a 105 acre CR with a 10-acre building envelope, how many acres are eligible towards the grant acreage requirements?

The 10-acre building envelope would not count towards the minimum required acreage. Of note, structures are better excluded from the CR, rather than included in a building envelope (unless there is a specific, compelling reason to consider a building envelope in the CR) to help clarify acreage potentially excluded from Article 97 protection.

Can you apply now for FY27 funding only?

Rather than applying for funding in FY27 in the FY25 grant round, we prefer that you wait until FY26 to apply for FY27 funding. This helps ensure the project is ready and provides greater flexibility to address changes that may take between now and then.

If a land trust pre-acquires a property and a portion of the property is retained by that land trust, is that retained acreage eligible for reimbursement?

Probably not, but it would be worth scheduling a time to review the project details.

Should we consider applying for funding for a project with a closing in FY25?

We do not specifically encourage projects that require funding in FY25. However, if it is necessary we strive to ensure we can consider this. The deadline for applications, and the deadline for the project to be completed are tight, so please reach out to confirm the project requirements can be met in the timeframe provided before applying for funding in FY25.

Do we need to submit MOA's or other documentation of the proposed transaction to demonstrate the property is/was a pre-acquisition?

Please feel welcome to include those in the application. EEA reserves the right to request this documentation if we feel it is needed.

How do you prove a road is minimally traveled?

This is at EEA's discretion and will be verified at the site visit.