

Alameda County Altamont Landfill Open Space Fund Application for Funding

Funds for acquisition of open space lands in eastern Alameda County are available owing to a legal settlement in connection with expansion of the Altamont Landfill. Fees of approximately \$1.25 million per year will be paid into the fund. The settlement stipulates that first priority for use of funds must be given to properties having significant value for preservation of native biological diversity and/or wildlife habitat. Second priority is given to properties having significant value for visual character and/or non-motorized recreation. The purchase of permanent conservation easements that meet these goals also is eligible for funding.

Individual land owners, public agencies, private conservancies and other non-profit organizations may apply for funds. To be considered for funding, the property must lie within the territory established by the settlement agreement, generally to the east of the Pleasanton/Dublin ridgeline (see map attached to this application). The Altamont Landfill Open Space Committee (ALOSC), composed of representatives from Alameda County, the City of Livermore, the City of Pleasanton, and the Sierra Club, decides which properties receive funding. How well a given property meets the criteria established by the committee, including the availability of sufficient funds to make the acquisition, will determine whether the property receives funds.

Application Procedures:

When to apply:

The Altamont Landfill Open Space Committee will accept proposals on a continuous basis. Processing time for applications will vary depending on completeness of the application, time needed to evaluate project benefits and funding availability. Every effort will be made for applications submitted by November 1 to be evaluated within the ensuing 6 months. Projects not funded in a particular cycle remain eligible for future funding. Applicants may reapply using existing forms if the information remains current.

Applications should be sent to:

Maria Palmeri
Alameda County Planning Department
224 W. Winton Avenue, Room 111
Hayward, CA 94544

Review Process:

The Altamont Landfill Open Space Committee meets on a regular basis. After an application has been submitted, the ALOSC will notify the applicant in writing whether or not the proposal is acceptable, incomplete, or not acceptable. All proposals will be evaluated with assistance from Alameda County staff. If a proposed project is acceptable and funding is available, a project summary will be prepared for the applicant and the proposal will be scheduled for consideration at a future ALOSC meeting. The applicant will be notified when his/her property is up for consideration. For more information, contact Maria Palmeri at the Alameda County Planning Department (510) 670-5421 or the address above.

**Alameda County Altamont Landfill Open Space Fund
Application for Grant Funding**

GRANTEE INFORMATION

Name of Applicant Requesting Funding (Project Sponsor):

Project Manager or Contact Person:

Mailing Address:

Telephone Number: ()

Fax Number: ()

E-mail Address:

Is the Applicant a Non-profit or 501(c)(3) organization: ___ Yes ___ No

Federal Tax Identification Number:

LANDOWNER INFORMATION

Name of Landowner:

Mailing Address:

Telephone Number: ()

Fax Number: ()

E-mail Address:

PROJECT INFORMATION

Project Title:

Project Location:

Jurisdiction in which property is located:

Land use designation and zoning applicable to the property:

Project Objective:

Funding Requested: \$

Total Project Cost (including in-kind contributions): \$

Itemized Project Expenses, including transaction costs:

(Include all project expenses; indicate those that would be paid for with Altamont funds.)

Itemized Expenses

Requested funding with
this proposal

Funded by another source
(Identify the source)

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.
- 6.
- 7.
- 8.

Please Note: Additional requirements may be imposed as a condition for funding.

Proposed funding date:

Estimated completion date of project:

Is the property currently under a Williamson Act contract?

Yes No

If yes, has a notice of non-renewal been filed?

Yes No

If yes, when does the contract expire?

Are there other easements or deed restrictions on the property (e.g., conservation easements, access roads, utility lines, pipelines, etc.)? Are other easements currently being negotiated?

Yes No

If yes, please describe:

Who will hold fee title to the land or hold the easement?

Is that entity aware of this project? Yes No

If yes, provide name and contact information of the appropriate representative:

Signature of Applicant: _____

Date: _____

PROJECT DESCRIPTION (Use additional sheets as necessary.)

Thoroughly describe the full project and clearly indicate which portions are proposed for ALOSC funding.

Describe how the project meets the ALOSC funding criteria (attached).

Describe how the property will be operated and maintained (e.g., if donated to the East Bay Regional Park District, an agreement showing that EBRPD is willing to accept and maintain the property; if a conservation easement is proposed, indicate what the easement holder's monitoring plan is for the property.)

CRITERIA FOR SELECTION

Applicant should describe how the property addresses each of the following criteria. Under terms of the Altamont Settlement agreement, properties selected for funding must meet some of the criteria in Categories 1 or 2. Criteria in categories 3 – 5 (below the dotted line) will be used by the Altamont Lanfill Open Space Committee to further evaluate and choose from among candidate properties. The criteria are not used quantitatively as a scoring system. Rather they help the committee to evaluate, rank or choose from among different candidate properties at a given point in time. A property that meets many of the following criteria would indicate a higher priority for ALOSC involvement.

1. Significant Native Biodiversity Value

- a. Are native flora or fauna present on the property?
- b. Are flora or fauna of special concern present? (e.g., biota listed on federal or state endangered species lists or other comparable lists; species at the end of their natural range; unusual assemblages of species; rare plant communities; etc.)
- c. Does the property contain important wildlife habitat or is it valuable for protecting nearby wildlife habitat, especially for species of special concern? (e.g., Is the property designated as critical habitat or does it serve to protect critical habitat; is it valuable for protecting hydrologic flows or watersheds on which native species depend?)
- d. Is the property a corridor that links wildlife habitats?
- e. Is the quality of the habitat good for native species? (e.g., Is it relatively intact; should it be acquired for restoration purposes?)
- f. Is the habitat at risk from inappropriate (but permissible) uses if not protected?

2. Significant Visual and/or Non-motorized Recreational Value

- a. Is the property identified as a scenic resource in city or county general plans?
- b. Is the property identified as important for non-motorized recreation in city, county or park district plans?
- c. Is the property identified as an important acquisition target by trail users?

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3. Strategic Value in Land Protection

1. Is the property at risk of development if not acquired or protected?
2. Can acquisition of the property protect a larger area from development (e.g., by securing an urban growth boundary or an existing greenbelt)?
3. Is the property contiguous to existing protected lands or does it link protected lands?
4. Does the property fit into a long-term strategic plan for land protection in Alameda County?
5. Does the property fit into a city's land protection goals?

4. Additional Funding Sources

1. Are other agencies, conservancies, conservation organizations or jurisdictions interested in helping protect the property?
2. Are there other sources of funds to tap?
3. Will collaboration on acquisition of a particular property forge relationships that will be valuable for future acquisitions?

5. Willing Sellers

1. Is the property currently on the market?
2. Are the property owners willing to sell the land or willing to sell conservation easements?
3. Have the owners expressed an interest in conservation values?
4. Are the owners aware of the concept of conservation easements and the availability of funds for their purchase?
5. What is the cost of the property compared to the benefit received?

REQUIRED ATTACHMENTS

Complete applications must contain the following attachments to facilitate review of the grant request.

1. Property location map (regional and site specific).
2. A detailed map that displays the following information:
 - a. the exterior boundaries of the entire property with parcel numbers of the property proposed for acquisition or easement
 - b. adjacent parcels with their parcel numbers and names and mailing addresses of parcel owners
 - c. the total number of acres of the entire property and if applicable the number of acres and location on the property subject to the terms and conditions of any proposed conservation easement
 - d. regional landscape features or habitat areas of importance in relation to the property
4. Six, 4 x 6-inch representative, color photographs of the property.
5. A copy of any proposed easement for the property.
6. A description of any known existing environmental hazards on the property.
7. A statement that the Applicant has conducted due diligence to determine that all applicable environmental laws and regulations are being followed.

NOTE:

A real estate appraisal for the property or easement is not required to be submitted with the initial application. However, an appraisal and title search may be required during the review process at applicant's expense.