



# D: FUNDING SOURCES

## OVERVIEW

*Chapter Outline:*

*Overview*

*Local Sources*

*State of Colorado  
Sources*

*Federal Sources*

*Private Foundations/  
Philanthropic*

The following pages offer a comprehensive description of funding sources that can be used to support the acquisition of land, development of park and trail facilities and operation of a parks, open space and trails program for Arapahoe County. The sources are organized and defined by local, state and federal resources and agencies.

## LOCAL SOURCES

Below are listed sources of local funding that Arapahoe County can utilize to fund its open space program.

### Sales and Use Taxes

The Arapahoe County Open Space program (“ACOS” or “the Program”) was established in November 2003 when voters approved, by 55%/45%, Question 1A Water, Wildlife, Open Space, Trails and Neighborhood Park Measure which created a dedicated revenue stream from a ¼ cent countywide sales tax. The sales tax will run for 10 years and be used to make investments in open space, parks, trails and heritage opportunities.

The division of the revenue tax established in the Resolution as follows:

- 50% of revenues go to incorporated municipalities based on population (the “shareback”)
- 3% for administrative costs of distributing the collected funds
- 12% for grants to municipalities, special districts (that provide recreational services or amenities), and recreational districts
- 3.6% for cultural and historic sites designated by the County
- 3.24% for maintaining open space and trails
- 28.16% for open space acquisition and trail development

### Bonds

Bonds have been a very popular way for communities across the country to finance their open space programs. Bonds offer the ability for a county to leverage its sales tax program and gain access to the bulk of the total revenues (plus debt service). This enables a county to pursue a more aggressive conservation and protection program. A number of bond options are listed below. Since bonds rely on the

support of the voting population, an education and awareness program should be implemented prior to undertaking any vote.

#### Revenue Bonds

Revenue bonds are bonds that are secured by a pledge of the revenues from a certain local government activity, such as a sales tax program. The entity issuing bonds, pledges to generate sufficient revenue annually to cover the program's operating costs, plus meet the annual debt service requirements (principal and interest payment). Revenue bonds are not constrained by the debt ceilings of general obligation bonds, but they are generally more expensive than general obligation bonds.

#### General Obligation Bonds

Local governments generally are able to issue general obligation (G.O.) bonds that are secured by the full faith and credit of the entity. In this case, the local government issuing the bonds pledges to raise its property taxes, or use any other sources of revenue, to generate sufficient revenues to make the debt service payments on the bonds. A general obligation pledge is stronger than a revenue pledge, and thus may carry a lower interest rate than a revenue bond. Frequently, when local governments issue G.O. bonds for public enterprise improvements, the public enterprise will make the debt service payments on the G.O. bonds with revenues generated through the public enterprise's rates and charges. However, if those rate revenues are insufficient to make the debt payment, the local government is obligated to raise taxes or use other sources of revenue to make the payments. G.O. bonds distribute the costs of open space acquisition and make funds available for immediate purchases. Voter approval is required.

#### Special Assessment Bonds

Special assessment bonds are secured by a lien on property that benefits by the improvements funded with the special assessment bond proceeds. Debt service payments on these bonds are funded through annual assessments to the property owners in the assessment area.

#### **Fees and Service Charges**

Arapahoe County implements fees and services charges to offset the cost of community growth and development.

#### In-Lieu-Of Fees

A choice of paying a front-end charge for off-site open space protection is provided as an alternative to requiring developers to dedicate on-site open space that would serve their development. Arapahoe County currently provides this alternative as stated in the Land Development Code (Part 2: Subdivision Regulations; Section 100; Sub Section 111: Dedication Standards). Payment is calculated by the number of persons per 1000 and the required acreage per 1000 persons (depending on the land dedication usage) and the value of the land/acre. This is a condition of development approval and recovers the cost of the off-site open space land acquisition or the development's proportionate share of the cost of a regional parcel serving a larger area. This alternative allows the county to purchase land worthy of protection rather than accept marginal land that meets the quantitative requirements of

a developer dedication but falls a bit short of qualitative interests.

### Other Local Options

#### Local Park, Open Space and Trail Sponsors

A sponsorship program for park and trail amenities allows smaller donations to be received from both individuals and businesses. Cash donations could be placed into a trust fund to be accessed for certain construction or acquisition projects associated with the open space system. Some recognition of the donors is appropriate and can be accomplished through the placement of a plaque, the naming of a trail segment, and/or special recognition at an opening ceremony. Types of gifts other than cash could include donations of services, equipment, labor, or reduced costs for supplies.

#### Volunteer Work

It is expected that many citizens will be excited about the development of a trail or greenway corridor, or a new park. Individual volunteers from the community can be brought together with groups of volunteers from church groups, civic groups, scout troops and environmental groups to work on greenway development on special community workdays. Volunteers can also be used for fund-raising, maintenance, and programming needs.

An interest has been expressed in forming a volunteer committee that would work on reauthorization of the sales tax. This volunteer committee could also work with other elements of the Arapahoe County Open Space Program to solicit private contributions and financial support for the program.

#### Trust Fund

Arapahoe County may want to consider working in partnership with other public sector agencies and private sector groups to establish a Open Space Trust Fund. This Trust Fund would be a dedicated source of funding that supports the operation and management of portions of the open space system. The County can work with a private financial institution to set up an investment account or work with a local foundation to establish the endowment. Contributions to the fund would be solicited from parks, open space and trail advocates, businesses, civic groups, and other foundations. The goal would be to establish a capital account that would earn interest and use the interest monies to support maintenance and operations. Special events could be held whose sole purpose is to raise capital money for the Trust Fund. A trust fund can also be used in the acquisition of high-priority properties that may be lost if not acquired by private sector initiative.

A trust fund example is the Mountains-to-Sound Greenway Legacy Fund in Washington. The Mountains to Sound Greenway Legacy Fund is an endowment fund managed by The Seattle Foundation. Its purpose is the protection of the Mountains to Sound Greenway, for the public good, in perpetuity. It will be used to support restoration, enhancement, education and advocacy programs of the Mountains to Sound Greenway Trust.

## STATE OF COLORADO SOURCES

### The Colorado Lottery for Conservation and Great Outdoors Colorado

Approved on the ballot by voters in 1980 and passed by the General Assembly in 1982, SB 119 established a state-sponsored lottery. As voted on, some of the proceeds of this lottery go to land conservation. Originally, 40 percent of the proceeds went to the Conservation Trust Fund, 10 percent to Colorado State Parks, and 50 percent to the Capital Construction Fund for state buildings and prisons. However, in 1992 a petition put a measure on the ballot to create a Great Outdoors Colorado (GOCO) Trust Fund and the measure was approved with 58 percent in favor. Between 1993 and 1998, GOCO received 15 percent of the proceeds and in 1999 received 50 percent. From the creation of the lottery through FY 2000, \$1.1 billion have been made available for state programs, \$98.5 million in FY 2000 alone. In 1998, legislation was enacted extending the Colorado Lottery to 2009. In 2000, a ballot measure passed that authorizes the state to participate in Powerball, a multi-state lottery, starting August 2, 2001. The game's expected proceeds are \$12 million in its first year, which will be divided among GOCO, CTF, and State Parks. The programs below are all funded by the lottery:

#### Great Outdoors Colorado (GOCO)

In 1992, voters placed on the ballot and approved the creation of the Great Outdoors Colorado Trust Fund. GOCO is funded by the proceeds of the Colorado Lottery, receiving 50 percent with a \$35 million cap, adjusted for inflation (proceeds above that return to the State General Fund). The GOCO Trust Fund is administered by a 15-member Board of Trustees and is used to fund outdoor recreation, wildlife protection, and open space acquisition. State and local government agencies, including special districts, and nonprofit land conservation organizations are eligible to apply for grants, and 25-50 percent matching funds are required.

Between 1994 and 2001, GOCO distributed \$240.9 million to 1,419 projects. More than \$28 million went to fund 99 Open Space Projects, conserving 156,000 acres. Another \$108.2 million was awarded to fund 24 Legacy Projects that "place strong emphasis on the preservation of land." For example, in 1997, \$4.46 million was granted to the Colorado Wetlands Initiative, a program that has conserved over 99,000 acres between 1997 and 2000. GOCO has also helped the State Parks Department purchase 15,259 acres of new parkland and aided the Division of Wildlife purchase land for a 30,000-acre State Wildlife Area. Forty-eight projects by local governments were funded for new park and land acquisition projects. In recent years, available funding has met the \$35 million cap and is expected to do so again in FY 2001. The new Powerball game will help ensure that the cap is met in future years.

#### Conservation Trust Fund (CTF)

More than 400 cities, towns, counties, and special districts are eligible to receive CTF grants, distributed by the Colorado Department of Local Affairs. The funds may be used to acquire open space and to purchase, maintain, or restore local facilities, equipment, and parks. In FY 2000, CTF received \$35.8 million from lottery proceeds.

**Colorado Division of Parks and Outdoor Recreation (State Parks)**

Colorado has 40 state parks, and lottery money is used to fund land acquisition, trail systems, park facilities, and equipment. In FY 2000, \$9.4 million of the \$17.7 Capital Budget was funded by lottery proceeds with an additional \$5.3 million contribution from GOCO. Seventeen percent of the Division's 2000 Capital Construction Budget is allocated for land and water acquisitions.

**Conservation Easement Tax Credit**

On May 28, 1999, Governor Bill Owens signed House Bill 1155, a law that grants an income tax credit to individuals or corporations for the donation of conservation easements to governmental entities or non-profits. The original maximum tax credit was \$100,000 and could be used over a period of up to 20 years. An act signed on June 1, 2001 raised that maximum to \$260,000 (100 percent of the first \$100,000 of the donated value and 40 percent of the remaining value, up to that cap) and set the maximum credit that could be used each year at \$50,000. This law is expected to cost the state \$1.5 million in FY 2003, \$4.5 in FY 2004, and \$7.5 in FY 2005.

**Colorado Council on the Arts**

The Colorado Council on the Arts (CCA) provides grants in two subsets: grants to artists and organizations and youth development grants. The grants to artists and organizations are designed to leverage local support for arts and cultural activities in support of CCA's goals, including activities that support and promote the state's cultural heritage. Artists, cultural organizations and community groups are eligible to apply. [www.colorarts.state.co.us](http://www.colorarts.state.co.us)

**Colorado Tourism Office — Marketing Matching Grant Program**

The Colorado Tourism Office (CTO) administers the Statewide Marketing Matching Grant Program (which assists organizations with promotion of the state as a whole) and the Regional Matching Grant Program (which assists organizations with the promotion of specific regions in Colorado). Within the context of marketing projects, the funds may be spent on promotion, product packaging, networking and communication and education. Not-for-profit organizations are eligible to apply. For every \$1 the organization allocates to the program, the CTO will provide \$2 in matching funds. [www.colorado.com/static.php?file=industry\\_partners](http://www.colorado.com/static.php?file=industry_partners)

**State Historical Fund**

The Colorado Historical Society's State Historical Fund awards grants for preservation projects, education projects (including heritage tourism) and survey and planning projects. All projects must focus on the built historical environment including, but not limited to, buildings, landscapes and individuals involved in the building industry. Only not-for-profit and public entities are eligible to apply. A 25 percent match is requested. The State Historical Fund assists in the writing and administration of grants through its Public Outreach Unit that reads drafts, visits sites and conducts grant workshops. Approximately 65 percent of applications receive funding. [www.coloradohistory-oahp.org/programareas/shf/shfindex.htm](http://www.coloradohistory-oahp.org/programareas/shf/shfindex.htm)

**Tourism Cares**

Tourism Cares supports the efforts of tourism to “preserve, conserve and promote” the things that are our cultural and historic assets through its worldwide grant program. Grants provide money for capital improvements on important sites as well as the education of local communities and the traveling public about conservation and preservation. Only 501(3)(c) not-for-profit corporations are eligible. Grant applications that leverage other sources of funding, are endorsed by the local, state, or regional tourism office and have strong support from the local community have a better chance of being funded. [www.tourismcares.org](http://www.tourismcares.org).

**Colorado Brownfields Foundation**

Through its Environmental Due Diligence Technical Assistance Grant Program, the Colorado Brownfields Foundation provides money that can be used to conduct a Phase 1 Environmental Assessment to cover environmental due diligence requirements and identify potential liabilities associated with the re-use of historic properties. Adaptive use planning is also provided. While the property can be either publicly or privately owned, the grant must be applied for by a government agency. A match is not required. [www.coloradobrownfieldsfoundation.org/edd2006.html](http://www.coloradobrownfieldsfoundation.org/edd2006.html)

**Colorado Division of Wildlife**

The Colorado Division of Wildlife provides funds to preserve, protect and create natural habitats and landscapes. The Cooperative Habitat Improvement Program (CHIP) provides financial and technical assistance to landowners for the creation and enhancement of habitat. The Pheasant Habitat Improvement Program provides funding and technical assistance for habitat restoration. The Colorado Wetlands Partnership (CWP) provides funding for wetland restoration and creation, and for the purchase of conservation easements and fee-titles. Private landowners, public entities and nonprofits are eligible. CHIP requires a 15-percent match in cash or in kind services by the landowner who is responsible for maintenance. CWP requires funds from other sources to be used, but sets no specific match. [wildlife.state.co.us](http://wildlife.state.co.us)

**Colorado State Parks — State Trails Program Grant Process**

Through its State Trails Program grant process, the Colorado State Parks provides funds for the acquisition of land or water to be used for recreational purposes or for the construction or redevelopment of outdoor recreational facilities. Only if the project is done with the Colorado State Parks can the funds be used for planning projects. Municipalities, counties and special districts are eligible to apply. The grant process is competitive and requires a 50/50 fund match. Projects should attempt to be in line with the Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan. [www.parks.state.co.us/default.asp?action=park&parkID=111](http://www.parks.state.co.us/default.asp?action=park&parkID=111)

**Department of Local Affairs — Energy and Mineral Impact Assistance**

Energy and Mineral Impact Grants administered by the Department of Local Affairs (DOLA) assist communities affected by the growth and decline of extractive industries. The applicability of these funds to cultural heritage tourism lies mostly

in their ability to fund improvements to public facilities and local government planning efforts where cultural heritage tourism-related goals can be furthered through economic development initiatives. Municipalities, counties, school districts, special districts and state agencies are eligible for the funds. Because these grants require matching funds, applications with higher matches receive more favor as they highlight community support. [www.dola.state.co.us/LGS/FA/emia.htm](http://www.dola.state.co.us/LGS/FA/emia.htm)

#### **Department of Local Affairs — Heritage Grants Through the Smart Growth Initiative**

Administered by the Department of Local Affairs, heritage grants awarded through the Smart Growth Initiative are intended to address the impacts of growth. These grants have been frequently used to fund planning efforts, including those that end or mitigate the loss of agriculture and working landscapes. Towns, cities, counties and special districts can apply for the grants. Since these grants require matching funds, applications with a higher match are favored because they demonstrate community support. [www.dola.state.co.us/SmartGrowth/chpg.htm](http://www.dola.state.co.us/SmartGrowth/chpg.htm)

#### **Colorado Department of Transportation / SAFETEA-LU**

The Colorado Department of Transportation will accept Transportation Enhancement applications from federal, tribal, state, county or municipal governmental agencies. The applicant restriction was adopted because of project development and financial administration requirements associated with this federally funded program. CDOT recognizes that many private, non-profit, and civic organizations have a strong interest in, and support for, using these funds. These groups must partner with government agencies to develop project applications and sponsorships.

Eligible Activities. There are twelve (12) eligible activities described in SAFETEA-LU. These activities fall within the project categories listed below. Only these activities qualify as Transportation Enhancement activities. The 12 eligible activities as paraphrased below are:

1. Pedestrian and bicycle facilities.
2. Pedestrian and bicycle safety and education activities.
3. Acquisition of scenic easements and scenic or historic sites.
4. Scenic or historic highway programs, including tourist and welcome centers.
5. Landscaping and scenic beautification.
6. Historic preservation.
7. Rehabilitation/operation of historic transportation buildings, structures, or facilities.
8. Conversion of abandoned railway corridors to trails.
9. Control and removal of outdoor advertising.
10. Archaeological planning and research.
11. Environmental mitigation of water pollution due to highway runoff, and provision of wildlife connectivity.
12. Establishment of transportation museums.

Project Categories. This list is intended to be exclusive, not illustrative. For simplicity purposes, CDOT has further defined these activities into four project categories.

Transportation Enhancement projects must fall into one of the following project categories:

1. Pedestrian and Bicycle Facilities
2. Historic Preservation
3. Transportation Aesthetics
4. Environmental Mitigation

Evaluation Process. CDOT uses a two-step evaluation method to determine if projects qualify under the Transportation Enhancement Program. Applications must first meet all of the following threshold criteria:

- The applicant is a governmental entity or a partnership in which one or more governmental entities are involved in a lead role and have the authority to enter into a contract with the State.
- Projects located within a Metropolitan Planning Organization's (MPO) planning area are approved, prioritized and submitted by the MPO; certifying that the proposed project is included in their 20-year plan and 6-year Transportation Improvement Program (TIP). Contact the local MPO to determine how to get your project considered for their 20-year plan.
- The application package includes all required attachments.
- The application is received by CDOT or the agency designated by your CDOT Region prior to the application deadline.
- The applicant demonstrates how the project is one or more of the 12 eligible Transportation Enhancement activities or a sub-component of an eligible activity.
- Must demonstrate a relationship to surface transportation.
- The application demonstrates that the required 20% minimum local match is available to support the project.
- Written permission and/or support from property owners whose land or property is required to complete the project.
- The application includes a commitment for long-term maintenance of the completed project.
- The completed project is open to the general public and meets the accessibility standards of the Americans with Disabilities Act.
- The completed project meets applicable federal, state, and local requirements.
- The application demonstrates that the completed project fulfills a public need or benefit related to the State's transportation system.

Project sponsors are encouraged to submit their applications as soon as possible. Early application submission allows for the expeditious completion of the application evaluation process and provides an opportunity for the Region to resolve any issues discovered during their review.

Applicants must also meet the criteria specific to the CDOT Region in which your project is located. It is imperative you work directly with the Transportation Enhancement Program Manager within the Region. For example: 1) CDOT Region

6 requires applicants to work directly with the Denver Regional Council of Governments (DRCOG), and 2) Some projects may encompass two or more CDOT Regions. These projects are typically considered statewide projects and are coordinated through the Transportation Enhancement Program Manager at CDOT Headquarters.

## FEDERAL SOURCES

Most federal programs provide block grants directly to states through funding formulas. For example, if a Colorado community wants funding to support a transportation initiative, they would contact the Colorado Department of Transportation and not the US Department of Transportation to obtain a grant. Despite the fact that it is rare for a local community to obtain a funding grant directly from a federal agency, it is relevant to list the current status of federal programs and the amount of funding that is available to Arapahoe County through these programs.

### Surface Transportation Act (SAFETEA LU)

For the past 15 years, the Surface Transportation Act has been the largest single source of funding for the development of bicycle, pedestrian, trail and greenway projects. Prior to 1990, the nation, as a whole, spent approximately \$25 million on building community-based bicycle and pedestrian projects, with the vast majority of this money spent in one state. Since the passage of ISTEA, funding has been increased dramatically for bicycle, pedestrian and greenway projects, with total spending north of \$5 billion. SAFETEA-LU will more than double the total amount of funding for bicycle/pedestrian/trail projects as compared to its predecessor TEA-21, with approximately \$800 million available each year.

There are many programs within SAFETEA-LU that deserve mention. The authorizing legislation is complicated and robust. The following provides a summary of how this federal funding can be used to support the Arapahoe County Open Space Master Plan. All of the funding within these programs would be accessed through the Colorado Department of Transportation.

#### 1) Surface Transportation Program (STP)

This is the largest single program within the legislation from a funding point of view, with \$32.5 billion committed over the next five years. Of particular interest to greenway enthusiasts, 10 percent of the funding within this program is set aside for Transportation Enhancements (TE) activities. Historically, a little more than half of the TE funds have been used nationally to support bicycle/pedestrian/trail projects. So nationally, it is projected that \$1.625 billion will be spent on these projects under SAFETEA-LU.

#### 2) Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality (CMAQ)

Under SAFETEA-LU, approximately \$8.6 billion has been set aside. Historically, about five percent of these funds have been used to support bicycle/pedestrian/trail projects. This would equal about \$430 million under SAFETEA-LU.

### 3) Highway Safety Improvement Program (HSIP)

SAFETEA-LU funds this program at \$5 billion over four years. Historically, bicycle and pedestrian projects have accounted for one percent of this program, or about \$50 million under SAFETEA-LU. Some of the eligible uses of these funds would include traffic calming, bicycle and pedestrian safety improvements, and installation of crossing signs. This is not a huge source of funding, but one that could be used to fund elements of a project.

### 4) Recreational Trails Program (RTP)

The Recreational Trails Program is specifically set up to fund both motorized and non-motorized trail development. Under SAFTEA-LU funding is established at \$370 million for the five-year term of the legislation. At least 30% of these funds must be spent on non-motorized trails, or \$110 million. The Colorado State Trails Grant Program funds projects for trail planning and design, construction, maintenance, equipment, and special projects. The Colorado State Trails Committee is responsible for the review process for the trail grant applications and makes recommendations to the Colorado State Parks Board about funding for grants. This process may change every year when grant categories and policies are updated. For more information go to <http://parks.state.co.us/Trails/Grants>.

### 5) Scenic Byways

The National Scenic Byway program has not traditionally been a good source of funding for bicycle/pedestrian/trail projects. Colorado has one of the better scenic byway programs in the nation. The total amount of funding available nationally is \$175 million under SAFETA-LU. Historically only 2 percent of these funds have been used to support bicycle and pedestrian improvements. Applications are only accepted by CDOT from established scenic byways groups, but historically, byways groups have advanced proposals in partnership with other organizations – including cultural heritage tourism groups – in support of the byways' goals. The grants are limited to \$100,000. [www.coloradobyways.org](http://www.coloradobyways.org), [sally.pearce@dot.state.co.us](mailto:sally.pearce@dot.state.co.us)

### 6) Safe Routes to School Program (SR2S)

A new program under SAFETEA-LU is the Safe Routes to School (SR2S) program, with \$612 million in funding during the term of the legislation. This is an excellent new program to increase funding for access to the outdoors for children. Each state will receive no less than \$1 million in funding, with 10% to 30% of the funds allocated to non-infrastructure activities. The SR2S Program was established in August 2005 as part of the most recent federal transportation re-authorization legislation-SAFETEA-LU. This law provides multi-year funding for the surface transportation programs that guide spending of federal gas tax revenue. Section 1404 of this legislation provides funding (for the first time) for State Departments of Transportation to create and administer SR2S programs which allow communities to compete for funding for local SR2S projects.

The administration of section 1404 has been assigned to FHWA's Office of Safety, which is working in collaboration with FHWA's Offices of Planning and Environment (Bicycle and Pedestrian Program) and the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) to establish and guide the program.

## 7) High Priority Projects

Under SAFETEA-LU more than 5,091 transportation projects were earmarked by Congress for development, with a total value in excess of \$3 billion.

### **Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF)**

The Land and Water Conservation Fund is the largest source of federal money for park, wildlife, and open space land acquisition. The program's funding comes primarily from offshore oil and gas drilling receipts, with an authorized expenditure of \$900 million each year. However, Congress generally appropriates only a fraction of this amount. The program provides up to 50 percent of the cost of a project, with the balance of the funds paid by states or municipalities. These funds can be used for outdoor recreation projects, including acquisition, renovation, and development. Projects require a 50 percent match. This program is administered by the Colorado State Parks. <http://parks.state.co.us/Trails/LWCF/LWCFGrants>.

### **Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)**

The EPA funds a program that enables communities to clean up polluted properties. Funding for these programs is available directly from the EPA and is administered in the form of grants to localities.

### **Brownfields Revitalization Assessment and Cleanup Grant Funding**

- Needy communities fare better in competition
- High unemployment rates, high poverty rates, loss of jobs/population, minority or other sensitive populations. Include demographic statistics.
- Mention any unusually high health concerns in the area. Can any of these be tied to the site(s)?
- Present the environmental, economic, social and health impacts of brownfields on the community
- Environmental Justice concerns
- Focus on the environmental and health impacts of your project.

### **Community Block Development Grant Program (HUD-CBDG)**

The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) offers financial grants to communities for neighborhood revitalization, economic development, and improvements to community facilities and services, especially in low and moderate-income areas. Administered by the Department of Local Affairs, Community Development Block Grants can be spent on a wide variety of projects, including property acquisition, public or private building rehabilitation, construction of public works, public services, planning activities, assistance to nonprofit organizations and assistance to private, for-profit entities to carry out economic development. At least 70 percent of the funds must go to benefit low and moderate-income populations. The funds must go to a local government unit for disbursement. A detailed citizen participation plan is required. [www.hud.gov/offices/cpd/communitydevelopment/programs/index](http://www.hud.gov/offices/cpd/communitydevelopment/programs/index) and <http://dola.colorado.gov/dlg/fa/cdbg/index.html>

**Economic Development Administration**

Funding is available through this federal program in the form of several different grants. Two grants that may be applicable to cultural heritage tourism are the Economic Adjustment Assistance Grant (which helps communities develop comprehensive redevelopment efforts that could include cultural heritage tourism programs) and the Planning Program Grant (which helps planning organizations create comprehensive development strategies). Only governmental units are eligible. [www.eda.gov](http://www.eda.gov)

**Farm Service Administration**

Two Farm Service Administration (FSA) programs help to preserve sensitive farmland and grassland. The Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program is a land retirement program for ecologically sensitive land. The Grassland Reserve Program supports working grazing operations to maintain the land's grassland appearance and ecological function. The funds are available to private farmers and ranchers, although local governments, tribes and private groups can also solicit them. These funds are intended to be combined with other funding, but there is no set match requirement. [www.fsa.usda.gov](http://www.fsa.usda.gov)

**National Trust for Historic Preservation**

This endowment funds 14 different grants. The Preservation Funds Matching Grants and Intervention Funds assist nonprofit and public agencies with planning and educational projects or preservation emergencies, respectively. The Johanna Favrot Fund for Historic Preservation provides matching grants for nonprofit and public organizations whose projects contribute to preservation and/or recapturing an authentic sense of place. The Cynthia Woods Mitchell Fund for Historic Interiors provides grants for professional expertise, communications, materials and education programs. Individuals and for-profit groups may apply. The latter two grants only apply to National Historic Landmark sites. [www.nthp.org/funding](http://www.nthp.org/funding)

**National Endowment for the Arts**

The National Endowment for the Arts organizes its grants around artistic disciplines and fields such as "folk and traditional arts," "local arts agencies," "state and regional" and "museums." Within these categories, the applicable grants are listed. The grants provide funding for artistic endeavors, interpretation, marketing and planning. Not-for-profit 501(c)(3) organizations and units of state or local government, or a recognized tribal community are eligible. An organization must have a three-year history of programming prior to the application deadline. [www.nea.gov](http://www.nea.gov)

**National Endowment For The Humanities**

The National Endowment for the Humanities is a federal program that issues grants to fund high-quality humanities projects. Some grant categories that may be well suited to cultural heritage tourism are: grants to preserve and create access to humanities collections, interpreting America's historic places implementation and planning grants, museums and historical organizations implementation grants and preservation and access research and development projects grants. The grants go to organizations such as museums, libraries, archives, colleges, universities, public television, radio stations and to individual scholars. Matches are required and can

consist of cash, in-kind gifts or donated services. [www.neh.gov](http://www.neh.gov)

#### **Preserve America**

The Preserve America grants program funds “activities related to heritage tourism and innovative approaches to the use of historic properties as educational and economic assets.” Its five categories are: research and documentation, interpretation and education, planning, marketing, and training. The grant does not fund “bricks and mortar” rehabilitation or restoration. This grant is available to State Historic Preservation Officers (SHPOs), Tribal Historic Preservation Officers (THPOs), designated Preserve America communities and Certified Local Governments (CLGs) applying for designation as Preserve America Communities. Grants require a dollar-for-dollar nonfederal match in the form of cash or donated services. [www.preserveamerica.gov/federalsupport.html](http://www.preserveamerica.gov/federalsupport.html)

#### **Small Business Administration**

Many cultural heritage tourism businesses are small businesses. The Small Business Administration (SBA) does not itself loan money, but guarantees loans from banks or from specially chosen small business investment companies. These loans can be used for business expenses ranging from start-up costs to real estate purchases. Rural business investment companies target their funds toward companies located in rural areas. Eligible companies must be defined as “small” by the SBA. [www.sba.gov](http://www.sba.gov)

#### **USDA Community Facilities Grant Program**

The purpose of USDA Community Facilities Grants is to “... assist in the development of essential community facilities in rural areas and towns of up to 20,000 in population.” These funds can be used for facilities that house “... health care, public safety and community and public services.” As an example, New Athens, Ohio, used the funding to restore a museum. Grants are available to public entities such as municipalities, counties and special-purpose districts, as well as nonprofit corporations and tribal governments. [www.rurdev.usda.gov](http://www.rurdev.usda.gov)

#### **USDA Rural Development Co-Operative Service Grants**

These grants can be used to develop new co-ops and provide assistance to existing co-ops with the broad goal of improving rural economic conditions. The funds must be used for something co-op related, which limits their applicability to cultural heritage tourism, but as an example, a co-op farmer’s market was able to use these funds. Eligible recipients are not-for-profit 501(c)(3) corporations and institutes of higher education. Public bodies are not eligible. A 25-percent match is required. [www.rurdev.usda.gov](http://www.rurdev.usda.gov)

#### **USDA Farm and Ranch Lands Protection Program**

This USDA program is administered by the Natural Resource Conservation Service and provides funds for the purchase of conservation easements on working lands. It requires that a management plan be produced and that the land stay in use. The funds can go to landowners, government agencies and local non-government organizations such as land trusts. A 50 percent match is required. [www.nrcs.usda.gov/programs/frpp](http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/programs/frpp).

**U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service**

The U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service has a long list of grant programs that benefit the conservation or restoration of habitats. These include grants for private landowners to assist in protecting endangered species, grants to restore the sport fish population and grants for habitat conservation planning and land acquisition. The amount, matching requirements and eligibility for each grant vary. The website also provides practical information about successful projects and conserving specific habitats [www.fws.gov/grants](http://www.fws.gov/grants).

**FOUNDATIONS/PHILANTHROPIC SOURCES****American Greenways Eastman Kodak Awards**

The Conservation Fund's American Greenways Program has teamed with the Eastman Kodak Corporation and the National Geographic Society to award small grants (\$250 to \$2,000) to stimulate the planning, design and development of greenways. These grants can be used for activities such as mapping, conducting ecological assessments, surveying land, holding conferences, developing brochures, producing interpretive displays, incorporating land trusts, and building trails. Grants cannot be used for academic research, institutional support, lobbying or political activities. For more information visit the Conservation Fund website at <http://grants.conservaionfund.org/tcf/public/viewAwards.action>

**El Pomar Foundation**

The El Pomar Foundation supports Colorado projects related to health, human services, education, arts and humanities, and civic and community initiatives. Generally, El Pomar does not fund seasonal activities, travel or media projects, but their funding has supported other aspects of cultural heritage tourism, including regional planning and development. Recipients must be not-for-profit 501(c)(3) organizations. [www.elpomar.org](http://www.elpomar.org).

**Save America's Treasures**

The Save America's Treasures (SAT) Historic Preservation Grant funds preservation and conservation of nationally significant intellectual and cultural artifacts and historic structures and sites. Those eligible include federal agencies funded by the Department of the Interior, nonprofit 501(c) organizations, units of state or local government, recognized Indian tribes and active religious organizations that meet all other criteria. These grants require a dollar-for-dollar nonfederal match, which may be cash, services or equipment. Recipients must meet standards set out by SAT. [www.saveameericastreasures.org](http://www.saveameericastreasures.org).

**W. K. Kellogg Foundation**

The Kellogg Foundation provides grants in four interest areas. The Rural Development Interest Area is the most applicable to cultural heritage tourism. Grants in this area are to "... fund collaborative comprehensive and inclusive approaches to rural economic development." Many organizations are eligible, but the process is highly competitive. The process starts with the submission of a pre-proposal. Full proposals are then solicited. It is imperative that the grant proposal fall within the foundation's programmatic interests and guidelines. [www.wkkf.org](http://www.wkkf.org).