



Pandemic Response Match Relief for 2020



WASHINGTON STATE
Recreation and Conservation
Funding Board

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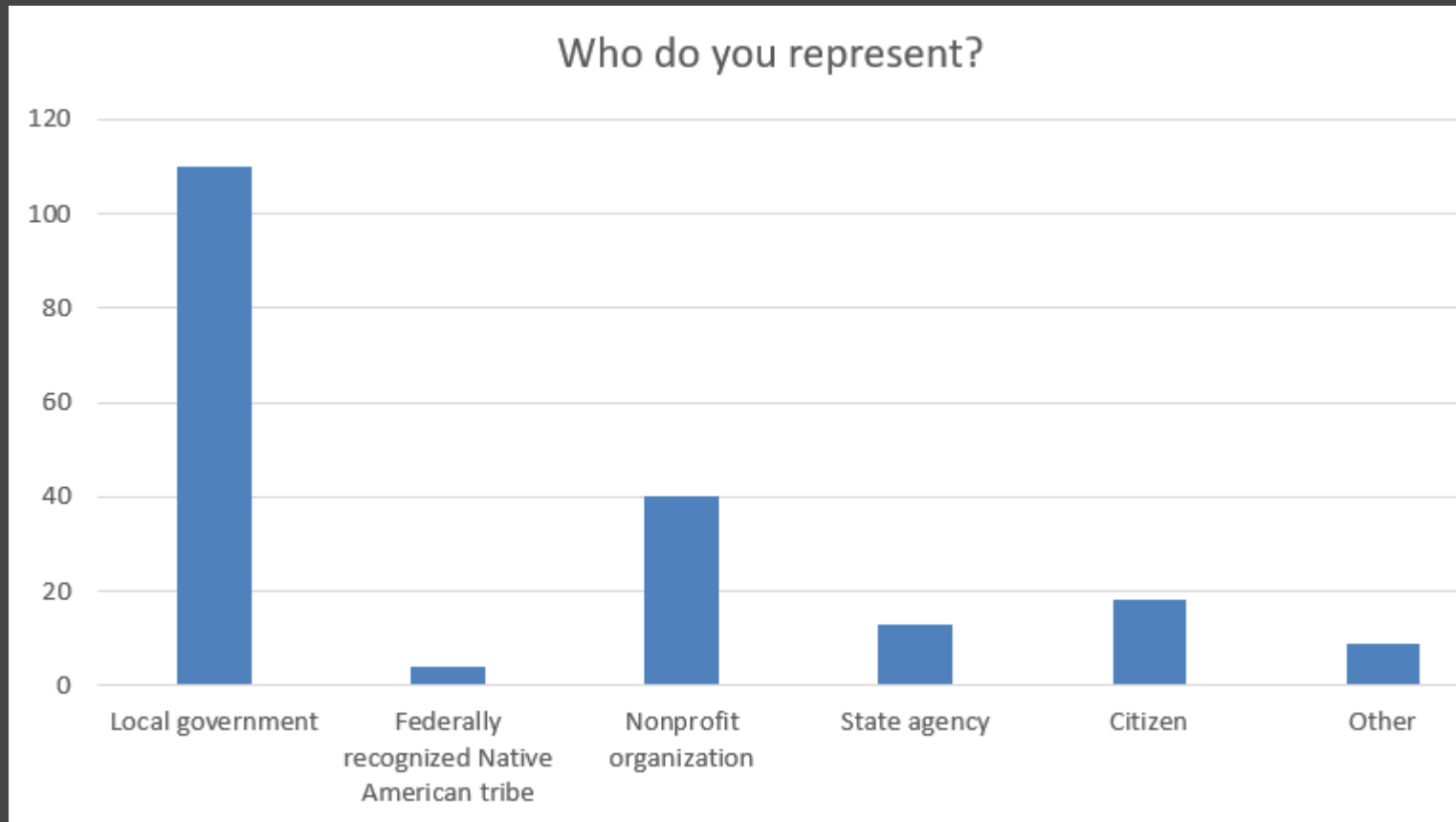
Item 6

Decision Item

- Emergent policy (not on work plan)
- Applicant concerns:
 - Staff Capacity, Deadlines, Funding Constraints
- Internal discussions, what can we do?
- Current grant round: have flexibility to reduce match:
 - WWRP Local Parks, Trails, Water Access
 - Aquatic Lands Enhancement Account
 - Youth Athletic Facilities
- Fall grant round to be considered at July meeting.

Stakeholder Survey

- 200 Responses



Survey Responses

1. Has the pandemic reduced resources for investments: Yes.
2. Will reduced match assist with investments: Yes
3. Do you anticipate fewer or no applications: Yes (30%)
4. Will your projects be smaller: Yes (40%)
5. Nearly 400 Comments.

Survey Comment Summary

- Construction has been interrupted.
- Experiencing reduced revenues (fees, leases, etc.)
- REET, property taxes, impact fees will fall going forward.
- Applicants with levies and parks districts can better weather this storm.
- Reduced match will improve support for parks and recreation investments with leaders when competition for limited resources exist.
- Policy may result in funding fewer projects.

Advisory Committees' Feedback

- Near Unanimous support
- May result in fewer projects potentially funded.
- Benefits small to midsized projects and communities.
- Strong support for state helping jurisdictions and state agencies.

Parks Directors' Conference Calls

- Good that state is considering this issue.
- Operational changes and flexibility with application and planning deadlines welcome.
- Policy supports medium to small agencies and those with small projects.

Policy Summary

Current Grant Programs: Reduce Match from 50% to 25% for All Sponsors in the following programs/categories:

- Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program categories – Local Parks, Trails, Water Access (WWRP)
- Youth Athletic Facilities Program (YAF)
- Aquatic Lands Enhancement Account (ALEA)

WWRP

- Local Parks

- Local Governments Only
- \$500,000 maximum grant request (\$1 Million Acquisition or Combination Projects)
- Match 50% (reduce to 25%)

- Trails and Water Access

- No grant maximum
- Development, Acquisition, Combination Projects
- Local Governments, Match 50% (reduce to 25%)
- State Governments, No Match Required (no change)

Youth Athletic Facilities

- Local Governments
- Non-profits
- Project Types: Development, Renovation, Combination Acquisition and Development
- Large Projects
 - Grant Limit: \$350,000
- Small Projects
 - Grant Limit: \$75,000 (total project cost not to exceed \$150,000)
- Match 50% (reduce to 25%)

ALEA

- Projects along navigable water ways
- Local Governments
- State Agencies
- Project Types: Development, Renovation, Restoration, Acquisition, Combination
- \$500,000 or \$1 Million Maximum Grant Request
- Match 50% for all applicants (**reduce to 25%**)

Caveats

- Existing match reduction unchanged. “Distressed” communities may still qualify for minimum 10% match.
- 10% non-state/non-federal match requirement eliminated.
- Benefits limited to two per applicant per program.
- WWRP Trails and Water Access: Maximum reduced match not exceed \$500,000 per project.

Expected Outcomes

- Strong List of Potential Investments
- Relief to Applicants
- Continued Utilization of Existing Match Reduction for Distressed Communities
- Modeling results for 2018 List...
 - No Change to WWRP Local Parks Projects Funded
 - Few less in WWRP Trails, Water Access where there is no grant limit
 - Few less projects funded in YAF, ALEA
 - Course analysis, hard to forecast prospectively.

Questions?



- Decision: Adopt a Resolution
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