



# COMMUNITY IMPACT PROGRAM

Great Outdoors Colorado's (GOCO) Community Impact Program seeks to enhance a community's quality of life and access to the outdoors through investments in capital infrastructure projects and the community-driven processes that inform them. We believe when partners work together with community members in project visioning and design, and when processes elevate unheard voices, outdoor connections are more impactful and communities become more cohesive and inclusive.

People and communities experience a multitude of benefits from an increased connectedness to the outdoors ranging from improvement to physical and psychological health, to diversified local economies, to educational impacts and more. Funding for the outdoors can also be a meaningful equity lever in Colorado – and a means to address issues of disparity and disproportionality. When developing local projects, we ask partners to consider the multi-faceted benefits of outdoor recreation and outdoor education and advance the most needed and urgent projects that will serve the highest and best interests of their communities.

Through this program, GOCO invites partners to apply for funding to develop and revitalize parks, trails, school yards, fairgrounds, environmental education facilities, and other outdoor projects as identified and prioritized by the communities they serve. To facilitate project outcomes, applicants may request funding, as needed, for the following components:

- Local capacity building through investments in existing staff, community members, and/or consultants
- Community planning, organizing and collaboration to identify existing barriers to outdoor experiences and solutions for overcoming them
- Land acquisitions
- Site-specific, community-centered design
- Storytelling, project communications, and celebrations

Proposed projects must reflect one or more of GOCO's program values as identified in our [2020 strategic plan](#) and outlined later in this document. These values are intentionally open to interpretation and definition by our partners; how they are or could be reflected in each community is unique. And not every project will integrate multiple values. Projects that demonstrate several values, as well as projects that embody a singular value, can have



meaningful impacts and significant merit.

GOCO regional program officers look forward to working with partners on project visioning and development to ensure your valuable time is spent on projects that will compete well in this program. Please connect with us early so that we can provide guidance on competitive proposals, review our concepting to application framework, and have our team provide feedback on draft materials. We know the community needs of our statewide network are vast and we look forward to hearing your ideas and working with you to advance projects throughout Colorado.

**ABOUT US:** GOCO invests a portion of Colorado Lottery proceeds to help preserve and enhance the state's parks, trails, wildlife, rivers, and open spaces. Our independent board awards competitive grants to local governments and land trusts and makes investments through Colorado Parks and Wildlife. Created by voters in 1992, GOCO has committed more than \$1.3 billion in lottery proceeds to more than 5,300 projects in all 64 counties without any tax dollar support. For more information, please visit [www.GOCO.org](http://www.GOCO.org).

## General Guidance and Grant Information

**BEFORE YOU BEGIN:** Contact your GOCO regional program officer to discuss your project in detail using the contact information on our staff [webpage](#). Together, you will determine whether your vision will compete well in the Community Impact Program.

**APPLICANT ELIGIBILITY:** This program is open to entities eligible to receive GOCO local government and open space funds as listed below. Ineligible entities can partner with an eligible entity to apply. As always, GOCO strongly encourages partnerships.

- a. Colorado municipality or county
- b. Title 32 special district eligible to receive distributions from the Conservation Trust Fund
- c. Political subdivision of the State of Colorado that includes in its mission the identification, acquisition, or management of open space and natural areas
- d. 501(c)(3) non-profit land conservation organization that includes in its mission the identification, acquisition, or management of open space and natural areas, e.g., land trusts
- e. Colorado Parks and Wildlife

**APPLYING:** Applicants should work with their regional officer through a concepting process, which can take several months or longer depending on the proposal. GOCO will accept draft concept papers on a rolling basis and can provide feedback. As part of an iterative process, staff



will reflect on the readiness and competitiveness of a proposal and make recommendations regarding a concept paper submission. Staff collectively considers all concept papers submitted in a cycle and will invite the most competitive projects to submit a full application.

GOCO may ask clarifying questions of applicants at the concept or application stage to better understand your project. Staff may coordinate site visits to learn more about the opportunities in a community and hear more from the residents and stakeholders involved in planning processes. We may also seek additional written information for certain proposals. The content of conversations and any additional information submitted become part of the concept or application and open for discussion during staff or peer review as a means of vetting the merit of individual projects. All application materials and related communications may be subject to Colorado Open Records Act requests.

**PROGRAM VALUES:** Projects should encompass one or more of GOCO's program values as identified in our [2020 strategic plan](#):

*Resource conservation* | We value strategic land conservation and resource protection work.

*Outdoor stewardship* | We support sustainability of and improvements to the state's natural and recreational resources.

*Community vitality* | We invest in conservation and outdoor recreation efforts that support communities and quality of life.

*Equitable access* | We partner with communities to break down barriers to the outdoors.

*Youth connections* | We believe children and their families deserve opportunities to get outside and experience all the benefits of doing so.

**GRANT AMOUNT AND MATCH REQUIREMENTS:** GOCO will consider grant requests between \$100,000 and \$1,000,000, with consideration for requests outside that range on a case-by-case basis. Please remember that GOCO serves communities throughout Colorado and appreciates applicants keeping requests reasonable and reflective of expected outcomes. Applicants will work with their GOCO regional program officer to customize a match amount for your project based on your community's ability to match and to identify expenses eligible as match.

**TIMELINE FOR COMPLETION:** Applicants will work with their GOCO regional program officer to customize a timeline for your project based on the various deliverables. GOCO will prioritize projects that will begin immediately upon notice of award or execution of a grant agreement.



**PROPERTY OWNERSHIP:** The applicant or partner entity must own or have control over the property upon which the proposed project will take place. GOCO requires a formal agreement between parties when the applicant is not the owner or controlling entity. Applicants seeking funding for projects involving federal land must discuss the proposal with GOCO staff prior to submitting a concept paper or application. GOCO cannot fund the recreational development of a property that a government entity condemned specifically for that recreational development. GOCO may consider participating in recreational development on lands previously acquired through condemnation for a purpose *other* than recreational development.

**PUBLIC ACCESS:** The public must have reasonable public access to any project funded by GOCO.

**WILDLIFE REVIEW:** Applicants should work with their GOCO regional program officer and the local CPW Area Wildlife Manager (AWM) to understand, document, and mitigate any impacts to wildlife habitat. Concept papers invited to application will be required to submit the wildlife review form as part of the application packet. We ask that you contact the AWM well in advance of the application deadline.

**SITE VISITS:** GOCO staff may conduct site visits scheduled in collaboration with the project leads identified in the concept paper or application.

**ELIGIBLE COSTS AND MATCH:** The following table, though not comprehensive, outlines specific eligible costs for this program. Please discuss any potential project expenses with GOCO to determine the eligibility of those expenses prior to applying.

ELIGIBLE COSTS
Costs associated with project planning/coordination/implementation/communications/celebration
Staff expenses incurred by the applicant and any contracted service providers for professional services directly related to project outcomes and administration.
Costs of surveys, engineering, design, GIS/mapping, land acquisition due diligence costs, etc.
Costs associated with volunteer engagement and retention, e.g., prizes, awards, food, etc.

**PROPOSAL REVIEW:** The guidelines and criteria that inform GOCO’s project review and decision-making process is available on our [website](#). GOCO strives to support applicants through the application process with feedback and guidance to minimize the investment of partner time and resources on concepts and applications deemed less competitive. GOCO is committed to a fair, equitable, and efficient review process from concept papers to applications and will use a



consensus-based process to arrive at funding recommendations. GOCO relies upon the collective wisdom of reviewers rather than vesting power or authority in individual reviewers.

GOCO staff will review concept papers on a rolling basis, prior to the concept paper submission deadline for the concurrent grant cycle. The concepting stage is an iterative process between GOCO's regional program officers and partners to generate the best possible proposal for any given grant round. GOCO staff will evaluate the merit of each proposal and assess the project's relative potential to help advance one or more of GOCO's program values. The review is comprehensive across GOCO's four base programs – Community Impact, Stewardship Impact, Planning & Capacity, and Land Acquisition. GOCO staff will invite successful concept paper applicants to submit a full application and will provide feedback to unsuccessful applicants.

Invited applications submitted by the due date are subject to a formal peer review process where GOCO will convene a group of peer reviewers to evaluate project merit. Reviewers will assess each application, including any additional supplemental or clarifying information submitted. As with the concept paper review, GOCO will provide feedback to unsuccessful applicants.

## **Grant Administration Information**

If a grant is awarded, GOCO will assign a Grants Officer to work with the project lead on all aspects of grant administration including execution of a grant agreement, due diligence items, reporting criteria, grant payment options, and signage requirements.

GOCO prefers to disburse funds on a reimbursement basis with a single payment occurring when the project is completed. However, grantees can request one progress payment of up to 75% of the grant amount prior to project completion with the remaining 25% paid upon project completion. Should either reimbursement option create barriers for project completion, please discuss available alternatives with your regional program officer.

Please contact a Grants Officer now if additional grant administration information is a necessary consideration prior to application. You can find relevant contact information at the link below.

## **Contact**

Our Grant Programs team is available to discuss your project and proposal so feel free to reach out using the contact information found on our staff [webpage](#). We look forward to working with you!



COMMUNITY IMPACT PROGRAM  
**CONCEPT PAPER**

## Project Summary Information

Project Title:

Applicant Organization(s):

Applicant Name(s):

Partner Organization (if applicable):

Partner Name (if applicable):

Amount Requested:

Estimated Total Project Cost:

Estimated Grant Period (years):

Brief Project Description (limit to space provided without expanding the text box; use 10 pt font)



Please use the summary information sheet above as the cover sheet for the concept paper. Refrain from using letterhead or logos as part of materials and limit submissions to the following documents.

A concise narrative should address the following prompts. Responses need not follow the formatting below but should answer all considerations put forth. Please limit narrative responses to 2 pages using 11 pt font or larger and 1-inch margins for formatting:

- Describe the proposed project and the community need it will address related to outdoor recreation and/or outdoor education. Discuss the multi-faceted benefits of this project and how it will enhance your community's quality of life.
- Reflect on the community-driven nature of this project and what that means for your community. Discuss efforts to date or any anticipated work to involve community members in project visioning and design and to elevate unheard voices in your community.
- Reflect on the intended outcomes of your project and the multiple benefits it will provide for your community and discuss the partnerships you have or will pursue to achieve those benefits. Discuss the nature of each partnership and what it will bring to the table.

## **Budget**

Please review the budget instructions and use the GOCO Budget Form provided on the [program page](#). The budget instructions outline the option to include a budget narrative if helpful to further provide context about your proposal.

## **Additional Attachments**

- Up to two maps (a context map and/or a detailed/schematic map; highly recommended to provide a sense of location, community assets, and scope of work)
- Up to two pages of photos

While not requested at the concept paper phase, those invited to application will be asked to provide the wildlife review form, resolution from the governing body of each applicant organization, and evidence of community support as part of the application packet.

The project offers exciting opportunities for youth and families to become healthier, engage in the outdoors, and develop a more resilient community. Creating safe and inclusive spaces for individuals will contribute to their overall well-being and increase protective factors. There are not any gyms or recreation centers in Dolores and exercise is pivotal to individual and community health. Currently, Montezuma County youth experience high levels of risk factors that can hinder healthy development. 60% of the MC youth are eligible for the free and reduced lunch programs, 29% live in poverty compared to the state average of 12%, and more than 3/10 teens get pregnant. They also face a high poverty level (20%), and only 64% of high school students feel they belong in school. Numbers are even more alarming for Native Students (42%) and LGBTQ+ students (31%), as reported by Healthy Kids Colorado. When youth are involved in pro-social activities they are less likely to be involved in substance use and delinquency. So, increasing these opportunities are key to lowering risk factors. Last year, the county went to a 4 day school week and, now that the school week is shorter, there is a gap in places for youth to recreate safely. This problem is magnified in historically marginalized populations that experience higher levels of negative social determinants of health. In Dolores, there is a lack of youth resources to support the extra out-of-school time. The Montezuma Inspire Coalition (MIC) and TeamUp found that Dolores has one of the lowest number of resources for youth. MIC also found that 69-88% of respondents want to spend more time outdoors, but face barriers such as cost and transportation. The Safe Spaces action team meets monthly to create more areas where youth feel safe. By continuing to partner with these organizations, the team can create a comprehensive network of safe and accessible recreational areas that benefit the entire community.

The project also has the potential to attract visitors interested in outdoor recreation. By enhancing the park, Dolores can extend the length of stay for tourists, boost local businesses, and contribute to the economy. The bike park/ skate park/ pump track, tentatively named The Lost Canyon Action Sports Park (LCASP), will be **the first hybrid park of its kind in the entire region** and the 8th hybrid park in the country. The American Planning Association finds that, in many communities, “parks drive the tourism industry.” This is due to the fact that parks can hold events, have unique activities that engage tourists, and hold sports tournaments. The project aligns with GOCO's values of community vitality and resource conservation by supporting efforts to strengthen the local economy through sustainable outdoor recreation opportunities. The proposed project also aligns with the nation's, state's and county's economic development frameworks. The EPA notes that “promoting outdoor recreation can help foster community revitalization, protect air and water quality, create jobs, support economic growth and diversification, and offer new opportunities for people to connect with the natural world.” According to the State Rural Development Blueprint, the following activities are fiscal priorities: 1) Leverage the Unique Assets of Rural Colorado 2) Make Critical Investment in Community Infrastructure 3) Build on Successful Economic Development Programs and 4) Community Identified Priorities. The Region 9's Economic Development plan further highlights “access to recreation” and “leveraging the unique assets of the area” as two of the priority goals (2021). The revitalization project will address the priority areas at both the state and county level by providing an accessible point of entry into biking (there are over 200 miles of trails in the county) and will encourage youth and adults to exercise and spend more time together in the beautiful outdoor assets of our community.

The revamping of Joe Rowell Park is a community-driven project, shaped by the voices and needs of the residents. To ensure the project meets community expectations, the team conducted extensive surveys and



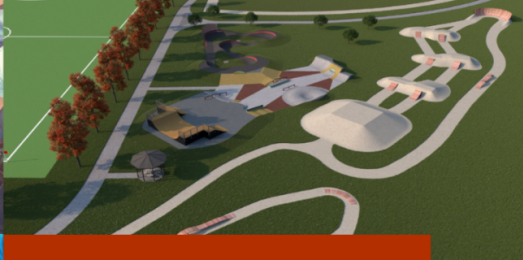
engaged with residents through town hall meetings, focus groups, and online platforms. This input informed the design and features of The Lost Canyon Park; the outdoor exercise equipment, and the community gathering space, ensuring they align with the desires and preferences of the community. The town survey demonstrated that 82% of people were interested in using a new larger picnic area seasonally or daily; 74.6% would use the outdoor exercise equipment; and 66% for the bike features. The locals who are interested in The Lost Canyon Action Sports Park formed a committee with 15 active members composed of both youth and adults. At their presentation to the Town Council, the mayor said the meeting had the highest attendance she had ever seen.. The committee created an Instagram and Facebook account with over 600 followers and a full website dedicated to the project. They raised over 30k in a couple of months and got a 501(c)3 status. After tabling at a bike race in the community, the committee received over 100 responses on their survey about what specific features youth and adults want to see in the area. The American Ramp Company held a local event where community members could vote on which features they wanted to see. Based on this information, ARC created a park design.. In addition, The Montezuma County Community Values Survey and the Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (SCORP) Report about recreation and conservation find that skating, parks, and biking are among the top rated activities in the county. They found that major obstacles to these activities include the cost of activity and equipment, limited access to the outdoors, and overcrowding in parks. This project would address these findings by building a new space for people to recreate and come together while also partnering with organizations who will address the cost barriers.

Collaborative partnerships are an integral part of the Revamp. The team has forged partnerships with various stakeholders to maximize the project's impact and ensure inclusivity. These include 1) **Ute Mountain Ute Tribe:** Collaborating with the Ute Mountain Ute Tribe, we aim to incorporate their cultural perspectives and wisdom into the project, respecting and honoring their heritage and enhancing cross-cultural understanding. The director of the recreation center in Towaoc, K'ia Whiteskunk, has expressed interest in the project because of the large number of Native youth who skate. The team will also be working with the Forest Service and tribal members to create a land acknowledgement sign in honor of the stolen lands the park will be built on. 2) **Latinx Population:** By engaging with the Spanish-speaking population through translated surveys and outreach materials, we strive to ensure that language is not a barrier and that the project is accessible and inclusive to all community members. 3) **Montezuma County Queer Club:** Partnering with the Montezuma County Queer Club and the Queer Bike Brigade, we will offer the park as a safe and sober space for LGBTQ+ individuals and allies to gather, promoting social support and well-being. 4) **Gear Lending Library:** This project, managed by MIC, lends outdoor gear to MoCo organizations and individuals that take children, youth, and families on outdoor trips. We will partner with them to provide bikes and skateboards to people who may face obstacles to procuring these on their own. 5) **High Desert Devo:** Partnering with HDD, a youth cycling program based in the county, we hope to provide the confidence, compassion, and perseverance that kids can carry into their lives and their interactions with their community. In addition to building basic biking skills, this partnership will also bring a sense of community among the youth teams who can use the bike park and pump track to build their skills and to foster a love for the outdoors. 6) **Skate Club:** Connections have already been established with the Skate Club, a safe haven for dozens of youth with a wide range of experience levels. The club is a weekend outlet for students outside of school hours, providing a safe place for aspiring skaters during the non-winter months. The club coach and riders provided their feedback on the design of the park and are excited about the prospect of increasing their skills.





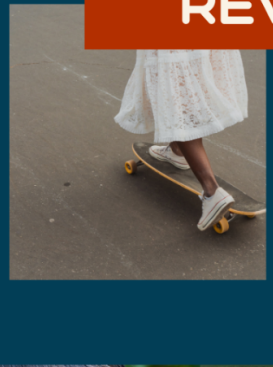
Donated and Painted Decks for Auction



# JOE ROWELL REVAMP



↑ Lost Canyon Committee



Connection



Photo of the Dolores River Fest, one of the many well-attended tourist events at the park  
→



# YOUTH VOICE

↔



Community



## **GOCO Concept Paper Budget Narrative**

### **Pending Funding Sources**

#### **Capital**

##### **1 Contingency**

- i. Uncertainty expenses for the cost of materials and labor for the pedestrian pavements, shelters and site furnishing, exercise equipment. Contingency also includes an allowance to hold during construction for unforeseen conditions and change orders.

##### **2 Pending Funding Sources**

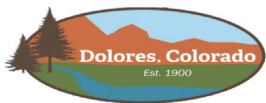
- i. The town will seek funding from for Pet Smart Charities, Parks Foundation, Maddies To help with the dog park.
- ii. CPW The town will seek funding from the CPW for help with the trails portion of the project.
- iii. The town will request funds from the Colorado Garden Foundation for help with the trees and irrigation.
- iv. The Lost Canyon Bike and Skate Park committee is prepared to seek funding for the All Wheels Park. There are various foundations including the Skatepark Project, the Virga Foundation, local businesses, and private donors on the list.

##### **3. In-kind**

- i. Town staff and volunteers will construct the bike park portion of the project. The estimated value is \$150,000.

##### **4. Matching Funds**

- i. The town has acquired funds from the CPW Fishing is Fun grant program. With matching funds, the total cost of the project is \$80,000. The project will improve fishing habitat and angler access in and along the Dolores River near Joe Rowell Park.
- ii. The town hired Logan Simpson to develop the park master plan: \$25,000
- iii. The Lost Canyon Bike organization raised the \$30,000 for the park design costs.
- iv. The town purchased two pieces of outdoor fitness equipment for the park.



# JOE ROWELL PARK - MASTER PLAN CONCEPT 2



NORTH  
SCALE: 1" = 50'-0"  
DATE: 07.01.2022

## PROJECT BUDGET & DETAILS

### APPLICATION SCOPE OF WORK

Source of Funds (CASH)	Date Secured	GOCO Funds	Matching Funds	
		\$765,713.00		
Town of Dolores-Fishing is Fun, American Ramp Co Design, Adult Ex Eq, Logan Simpson Park Master Plan	Various 2022&2023		\$147,000.00	
CO Parks and Wildlife	Pending		\$52,300.00	
Pet Smart Charities, Parks Foundation, Maddies	Pending		\$40,000.00	
Skatepark Project, Virga Fdn, Individuals,	Pending		\$200,000.00	
CO Garden Fdn	Pending		\$7,200.00	
Source of Funds (IN-KIND)				
[Applicant] & Volunteers			\$159,000.00	
[Partner Source]				
	<i>subtotal</i>	\$765,713.00	\$605,500.00	
TOTAL SOURCE OF FUNDS			<b>\$1,371,213.00</b>	
Use of Funds (CASH)	Description	GOCO Funds	Matching Funds	Total Funding
<b>Bike Park/Skate Park/Pump Track</b>	Mobilization, dirt work, construction, utilities	\$400,000.00	\$200,000.00	\$600,000.00
<i>American Ramp Co</i>				
Bike Park/Skate Park/Pump Track Design	Design of Lost Canyon All Wheels Park-completed		\$30,000.00	\$30,000.00
<i>American Ramp Co</i>				
<b>Category</b>	Outdoor adult exercise equipment (3 new; 2 purchased in 2022))	\$25,000.00	\$12,000.00	\$37,000.00
<i>Paris</i>				\$0.00
				\$0.00
<b>Category</b>	Fishing is Fun CPW project-committed		\$80,000.00	\$80,000.00
<i>TBD</i>				
<b>Category</b>	2- Shade Structures, 8 benches, 3 picnic tables	\$73,500.00		\$73,500.00
<i>TBD</i>				\$0.00
<b>Category</b>	36-shade trees w/ irrigation	\$7,200.00	\$7,200.00	\$14,400.00
<i>TBD</i>				\$0.00
<b>Category</b>	Dog Park-fencing and gates, utilities, shade structure		\$40,000.00	\$40,000.00
<i>TBD</i>				\$0.00
<b>Category</b>	Stabilized Crusher gravel walks	\$52,300.00	\$52,300.00	\$104,600.00
<i>TBD</i>				
<b>Category</b>	Land Acknowledgement Plaque	\$5,000.00		\$5,000.00
<i>Category</i>	Joe Rowell Park Master Plan-completed		\$25,000.00	\$25,000.00
<i>Contingency 15%</i>	Uncertainty expenses for the project	\$157,181.00		\$157,181.00

Design/Permitting/Geotech 10%			\$45,532.00		\$45,531.00
		subtotal	\$765,713.00	\$446,500.00	\$1,212,212.00

Use of Funds (IN-KIND)	Description	Matching Funds
Bike Park/Skate Park	Construct the bike park portion of the park. Includes materials, equipment and labor.	\$150,000.00
Town Staff Volunteers/Local Businesses		
Category		
American Ramp Co/Sean Gregory	Logo design, website development	\$9,000.00
Category		
vendor/service provider		\$0.00
Category		
vendor/service provider		\$0.00
	subtotal	\$159,000.00
	subtotal	\$765,713.00
		\$605,500.00
<b>TOTAL USE OF FUNDS*</b>		<b>\$1,371,213.00</b>

\* The Total Use of Funds must equal the Total Source of Funds in the section above.

### OTHER LEVERAGED RESOURCES (OPTIONAL)

CASH OR IN-KIND	Description	Total Funding
Category		
vendor/service provider		\$0.00
Category		
vendor/service provider		\$0.00
Category		
vendor/service provider		\$0.00
Category		
vendor/service provider		\$0.00
Category		
vendor/service provider		\$0.00
	subtotal	\$0.00

<b>TOTAL PROJECT VALUE</b>		<b>\$1,371,213.00</b>
	GOCO % of project cost	56%
	GOCO % of project value	56%