Please familiarize yourself with the [Loess Hills Missouri River Region Parks to People Plan](http://www.goldenhillsrcd.org/lhmrr.html) and Prioritization Criteria before completing the following information. Applications will be accepted on a rolling basis and reviewed at least quarterly. Eligible Projects must have a start date no sooner than September 11, 2017 and must be ready for fund allocation by December of 2020.

Submit completed application via mail or in person to Michelle Wodtke Franks, 712 S Hwy 6, Oakland, IA 51560 or via email to michelle@goldenhillsrcd.org. Please contact Michelle at 712-482-3029 with any questions.

Criteria of personal interest to the LHMRR are as follows:

1. **Regional Impact –** Viable projects that address the whole region directly (as do many of the touring initiatives, for example) or are easily replicable through the region.
2. **Promotes regional culture and historical significance –** The heritage features within this region are rich but unsung. Artists and artisans finding homes in the area are looking to join forces for regional impact and should be supported.
3. **Educational –** While educational features can certainly serve as tourism attractors, it is just as important to identify the means to help residents understand their region’s many unique assets.
4. **Sustainable –** As the natural resources of the region support the livelihoods of so many and prompt a long-term future in economic development and tourism, those resources’ value must be maintained through restoration or preservation and protection.
5. **Marketable –** Leverage the region’s location as a Midwestern hub, nestled among Des Moines and Omaha, Kansas City and Sioux City, and along I-80 and I-29. This criteria gets to the recognition of the tourism potential (external and internal) of the region.
6. **Has demonstrated community buy-in, public support, volunteerism –** This region will only pursue efforts that have community support. We won’t be successful if residents aren’t willing to engage.
7. **Has access to resources/funding –** Assessment of initiatives includes likely access to resources to make a project happen.
8. **Positively impacts diverse users –** This reflects the increasing diversity of the region and the capacity for successful tourism with improved understanding of the needs of diverse audiences.
9. **Enhances current facilities and programs –** Developed programs and facilities are working in concert with the existing infrastructure and amenities that the region already employs.
10. **Celebrates our public park system –** All projects focus on getting people connected with their environment through the existing network of state, county, and city parks.
11. **Distinctive Character –** Projects that are attractive, unique, and iconic.
12. **Shovel-Ready –** Projects that are already planned out and ready for implementation.
13. **Addresses Strategic Directions –** Aligns with the approved Plan.

No point system has been assigned to the criteria. The Board will work on the basis of consensus, taking into account the previously-identified criteria, and reach a collective understanding of the opportunities and challenges inherent in the proposed projects. ***Funding pledged by the LHMRR Board must be matched 5:1 by public, private and in-kind sources for your project.***

***Link to the Plan and more information @*** [***www.goldenhillsrcd.org/lhmrr***](http://www.goldenhillsrcd.org/lhmrr)

**Applicant Organization:**

**Address: County:**

**Phone: Website**

**Contact Person: Email:**

**Type of Organization: Federal TIN:**

**Project Title:**

**Project Location:**

**Project Description** *(Limit to 200 words)***:**

**With which of the following LHMRR Priority Initiatives does this project align?**

⬜ Loess Discovery Web ⬜ Frontier Iowa Trails ⬜ Loess Art & Nature Loop ⬜ Rivers& Ridges: Explore

**Please write a brief description of how your project fits into the initiative area for each that is applicable. Who are the beneficiaries or users of the proposed project?** *(Limit to 200 words)***.**

**Summarize Project Timeline** *(i.e., Funding campaign begins, construction begins, project completion, etc.)***:**

**Proposed Budget:**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Expense** | **Description** | **Amount** |
| *Construction* |  |  |
| *Labor* |  |  |
| *Materials* |  |  |
| *Consultant fees* |  |  |
| *Other* |  |  |
| **TOTAL** |  |

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Revenue** | **Source** | **Secured?** | **Amount** |
| *Public Funding* |  |  |  |
| *Private Funding* |  |  |  |
| *In-kind Labor* |  |  |  |
| *In-kind materials/equipment* |  |  |  |
| ***Amount requested from LHMRR*** |  |
| **TOTAL** |  |  |

You are encouraged to attach additional documents or samples from other proposals which you feel will be of use to the Loess Hills Missouri River Region Board when considering your application.

If selected for funding commitment, the applicant must comply with all match requirements, publicity terms and additional terms set forth by the Loess Hills Missouri River Region Board, Iowa Parks Foundation and MidAmerican Energy Foundation.

**5:1 Match Requirements**

Grantee shall match all grant funds received under an approved Agreement on a five (5) to one (1) basis, including private sector cash raised. in-kind volunteer time match, in-kind donated materials or land match, and other sources. The match shall be determined as follows:

1. Private Sector Cash Raised. Private sector cash accumulation starts on the date the Project is first approved by IPF. This private sector cash accumulation includes non-governmental cash in US Dollars, whether it is contributed by an individual, foundation, corporation or other private entity, *totaling at least* 16.67% of the total value of the Project. The private sector cash accumulation may include funds that are simultaneously used to satisfy any match requirements related to private foundation grants or governmental grants for the Project.
2. In-kind Volunteer Labor. Accumulation of In-kind volunteer time starts on the date the Project is first approved by IPF. These individual hours must be recorded and maintained, by person, hours, date and general activity. All such volunteer time is deemed valued according to then applicable Financial Accounting Standards Board guidelines, up to a *maximum* of a *combined* 16.67% (with in-kind donated materials and land) of the total value of the Project. Such volunteer time includes, but is not limited to time spend on project coordination, implementation, construction and professional services. In-Kind volunteer labor currently calculated at $21.75 per hour and in-kind donated professional services, land or other capital assets calculated at local fair-market value.
3. In-kind Donated Materials and Land. Accumulation of in-kind donations of *land or a permanent conservation easement* for the Project starts within two (2) years of the date the Grantee Project was approved. Accumulation of in-kind donations of *materials* for the Project starts on the date the Grantee Project was approved. All such In-kind donations of materials, permanent conservation easements and land is deemed valued according to then applicable Financial Accounting Standards Board guidelines, up to a *maximum* of a *combined* 16.67% (with in-kind volunteer time) of the total value of the Project.
4. Other Sources, Including Public Sector Grants. Accumulation of other sources, such as additional private sector cash, city, county, state, federal or other governmental grants, starts on the date the Project is first approved by LHMRR. Other sources (such as city, county, state, federal or other governmental grants) accumulated include governmental cash in US Dollars, totaling a *maximum* of 66.67% of the total value of the Project.

On behalf of the applicant organization, I certify that to the best of my knowledge the information contained in this application is correct and complete, and that I am authorized to sign on behalf of the organization.

**Signature & Title of Authorized Representative Date**