

RESOLUTION 2026-R-163

Authorizes the Submission of an Application for a Grant from the Outdoor Recreation Legacy Partnership Program

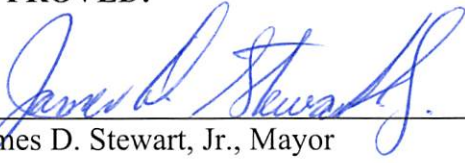
BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED by the City Council of the City of Irondale, Alabama, in regular meeting duly assembled, a quorum being present that Mayor James D. Stewart, Jr., or his designee, is hereby authorized to apply for a grant from the Outdoor Recreation Legacy Partnership Program administered through the Land and Water Conservation Fund and further authorizes the matching of any funds required should the grant be awarded to the City of Irondale.

ADOPTED & APPROVED: This 6th day of August, 2026.



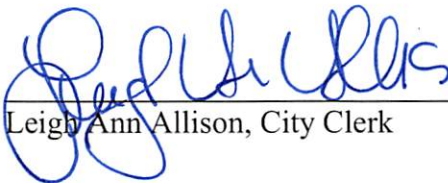
David Spivey, City Council President

APPROVED:



James D. Stewart, Jr., Mayor

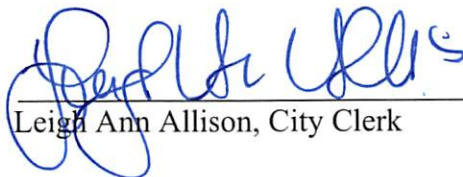
ATTESTED:



Leigh Ann Allison, City Clerk

CERTIFICATION

I, Leigh Ann Allison, the City Clerk of the City of Irondale, Alabama, hereby certify that the above to be a true and correct copy of a resolution adopted by the City Council of the City of Irondale at its regular meeting held on the 6th day of August 2026, as the same appears in the minutes of record of said meeting.



Leigh Ann Allison, City Clerk

**Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF)
Outdoor Recreation Legacy Partnership (ORLP)
Funding Opportunity**

In 2014, in coordination with Congress, the Secretary of the Interior, State lead agencies, and interest groups, the National Park Service (NPS) created the Outdoor Recreation Legacy Partnership (ORLP) Program, a competitive grant program administered under the authority of the Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) Act as a complement to the LWCF formula grant program.

ORLP Objective and Goals

The purpose of the ORLP Program is to 1) acquire land and water for parks and other outdoor recreation purposes in qualifying areas, and 2) develop new or renovate existing outdoor recreation facilities that provide outdoor recreation opportunities to the public in qualifying areas.

ORLP projects must be within a Qualifying Area, defined as:

- an urban area that has a population of 25,000 or more in the most recent census, or
- Two or more adjacent urban areas with a combined population of 25,000 or more in the most recent census; or
- an area administered by a federally recognized Indian Tribe or an Alaska Native or Native Hawaiian community organization.

In accordance with the EXPLORE Act, the ORLP Program will make selections based on the extent to which a project:

- provides recreation opportunities in low-income communities in which access to parks is not adequate to meet local needs;
- provides opportunities for outdoor recreation and public land volunteerism;
- supports innovative or cost-effective ways to enhance parks and other recreation opportunities or delivery of recreation services;
- supports park and recreation programming provided by local governments, including cooperative agreements with community-based eligible nonprofit organizations;
- develops Native American event sites and cultural gathering spaces;
- provides community and environmental benefits such as community resilience, reduction of urban heat islands, enhanced water or air quality, or habitat for fish or wildlife; and
- facilitates any combination of these goals.

The EXPLORE Act states that the Secretary of the U.S. Department of the Interior shall give priority to projects that:

- create or significantly enhance access to park and recreational opportunities in a qualifying area;
- engage and empower low-income communities and youth;
- provide employment or job training opportunities for youth or low-income communities;
- establish or expand public-private partnerships, with a focus on leveraging resources; and
- take advantage of coordination among various levels of government.

The Alabama Department of Economic and Community Affairs' (ADECA) Recreation Unit will be accepting applications for funding through 12:00 P.M. on Friday, September 11, 2026. It will be necessary to submit a notice of intent to apply for funding to ADECA no later than 12:00 P.M. on Tuesday, August 11, 2026.

Please note that this program is a completely separate program and application process from the annual Land and Water Conservation Fund State Assistance Program.

Eligible Applicants: State agencies, local units of government, special purpose districts (must be an entity created by a legislative authority with a stated mission that includes acquiring, developing, owning, and managing recreation areas and be able to demonstrate it can meet the perpetual protection requirement of the LWCF program), and federally recognized Indian Tribes

Eligible Projects: Acquisition and/or development of public parkland

Available Funds: Based on funds made available by Congress in current fiscal year

Grant Amount: Applicants can request between \$300,000 and \$15,000,000

Required Match: Grants require a minimum of 1:1 match (50%) from state, local, or private sources

Proposal Deadline: **12:00 P.M. on Friday, September 18, 2026**

Anticipated Award Date: May 2027

How to Apply: State ORLP Grant Application link can be found at <https://adeca.alabama.gov/lwcf/>

Questions: For more information, contact Mr. Jackson Baker, LWCF Program Specialist, by telephone at (334) 242-5612 or by email at jackson.Baker@adeca.alabama.gov

The Notice of Funding Opportunity can be viewed in its entirety on Grants.gov at [Outdoor Recreation Legacy Partnership \(ORLP\)](#).