

VIII. Funding Analysis

A. General

The Funding Analysis component includes comparison information from the *Municipal and County Recreation Services Study* prepared by Western Kentucky University along with a resource guide for federal and state funding and other funding mechanisms along with special incentives. The resources listed are not all inclusive. Funds could be available for specific projects. The programs listed are for general recreation projects.

B. Community Comparison

The *Municipal and County Recreation Services Study*, Appendix C, provides information on parks and recreation departments operating budget sources of revenue and funding sources for capital improvements.

1. Sources of Revenue

The study provides information on operating budgets with a breakdown of sources--general fund, charges and fees, other funding and description. Table 24 compares selected communities.

Table 24
Sources of Revenue
For Selected Parks & Recreation Departments

Department	General Fund (000)	Charges & Fees (000)	Other Funding (000)	Source	Total Budget (000)
Frankfort	1,269	590	90	Elec/Water Board	1,949
Georgetown	790	214	25	General Fund	1,029
Lebanon	343	—	113	Donation	371
Nicholasville	360	140	—	—	500
Richmond	1,124	—	—	—	1,124
Russellville	564	280	—	—	844
Shelby Co.	283	484	—	—	766
Versailles	380	155	—	—	535
Winchester	278	10	—	—	288

Of the selected communities, Winchester's budget is the lowest in revenue from both, general fund and charges and fees.

2. Section IB of Appendix C identifies capital improvements. Twenty-four of the 37 departments listed capital improvements for fiscal year 1999. Winchester-Clark County was not identified as having capital improvements for that year. The total amount of capital improvements varied from \$8,000 in Russellville for playground to \$5.1 million for a family activity center in Shelby County. Most funding sources were from general fund with other sources identified as follows.

- General Fund
- Special Appropriations
- Local Grants
- Kentucky Heritage Conservation Fund
- ISTE A - (now TEA-21)
- Bonds
- Donations
- CDBG

C. Federal Funding

1. Land & Water Conservation Fund - For many years since the mid 1960's, the Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) program provided funds for outdoor recreation acquisition and development. Examples in Winchester-Clark County include the swimming pool and College Park. However, over the last few years the funding has been extremely limited to non-existent. With the passage of the Conservation and Reinvestment Act (CARA) in

- October, 2000 funds are again available for acquisition and development of open space for at least a six-year period. For FY 2000 approximately \$1.3 million will be available for the LWCF program for statewide competition. This amount represents the greatest amount ever through LWCF. The deadline for FY 2002 applications is expected to be March 1, 2002. The program is administered through the Kentucky Department for Local Government.
2. **TEA-21** - The program was previously called ISTEA and is related to transportation activities. The activities funded through the program are property acquisition, development of trails including hiking and biking, landscaping including trees, signage, and restoration of historic structures. It is expected that the deadline for the next round of funding will be early 2002. This program is administered through the Kentucky Transportation Cabinet.
 3. **Rehabilitation Service Programs** - This program is available through the US Department of Education, Office of Special Education and Rehabilitative Services. The intent of the program is to provide individuals with disabilities with recreational activities and related experiences that can be expected to aid in their employment, mobility, socialization, independence, and community integration. Specific project activities may include: swimming, wheelchair basketball, camping, hiking, water skiing, hiking, camping, horseback riding, arts, and sports. Historically, applications are due in September of each year.
 4. **National Recreational Trails Program** - The program initiates through the TEA-21 legislation. Funds are awarded for the construction of trails and support facilities. Emphasis is for the construction of multi-use trails such as biking, hiking, equestrian, motorized, etc. The program is administered through the Kentucky Department for Local Government. It is expected that the next round of funding will be early 2002.
 5. **Community Development Block Grant** - Although the program funds housing, public facilities, economic development and community projects, recreation could be a minor component of the project. For example, a mini-park could be constructed on land purchased through the housing project which services primarily low to moderate income individuals. The program is administered through the Kentucky Department for Local Government. Applications will be accepted starting April 2001 through February 2002.
 6. **Youthbuild** - Discretionary funds are available for recreation projects. An average request is \$150,000. Typically, applications are due each spring.

D. State Funding

1. **Heritage Land Conservation Fund** - Funds are available for the acquisition of environmentally sensitive property and limited development activities. The program is administered by a board with assistance through the Kentucky Department of Resources. Applications are due each quarter.
2. **Heritage Council** - The Kentucky Heritage Council provides sub-grants of state and federal funds for preservation projects. A limited amount of funds are available; however, the CARA legislation will provide additional funds for the program. Eligible projects include historic building restoration, archaeological investigations, educational and promotional programs. Typically, program funds are available in the spring and fall.
3. **Area Development Fund** - A limited amount of funds are appropriated by the Kentucky Legislature for capital improvement projects. The projects are submitted locally to the area development districts who approve the projects, assist with application preparation, and work in cooperation with the Kentucky Department for Local Government for the successful completion of projects.
4. **Urban Forestry Program** - Funds are available for purchase and planting

- of trees in public spaces. Parks and scenic corridors are included. To qualify for funding a local tree board must be in place. The funds are administered through the Kentucky Division of Forestry.
5. **Fish and Wildlife Resources** - State and federal funds are available through the Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife Resources. Typically, the program funds opportunities for fishing including the development of lakes, boat ramps and support facilities.
 6. **Kentucky Nature Conservancy** - The Kentucky Chapter of the national organization is located in Lexington. The Conservancy has mechanisms to purchase selected properties which are environmentally sensitive. The properties allow for limited development such as trails and picnicking.
 7. **Rivers and Streams Program** - The program focuses on building an effective, broad-based and lasting protection program which would strengthen local involvement and responsibility and develop cooperative ties between public agencies and citizens. The program provides for limited development and focuses on management planning and education. It is administered through the Department for Local Government.
 8. **Resource Conservation and Development Projects** - The purpose of this program is to accelerate resource programs in multi-county areas as a base for urban and rural economic development. Goals of the program include the expansion and enhancement of open space recreational facilities. The RC&D boundaries are coterminous with the area development district boundaries.
 9. **Kentucky Humanities Council** - The program has funds available for educational programs directed at adults. These funds could be used for recreational programming opportunities.

E. Other Funding Mechanisms

1. **General** - The primary source of local governments' recreation budgets as noted in the *Municipal and County Recreation Services Study* is through the general fund. The next source of revenue is from user charges and fees. Item B, Community Comparison, in this section provides further information. Local sources noted were the following sources:
 - Special appropriations
 - Local grants
 - Bonds
 - Donations
2. **Fundraising** - Local fundraising is a mechanism that has worked effectively for Winchester-Clark County in the development of College Park. Although a vast amount of local effort is involved, this mechanism typically generates a vast amount of support and publicity. Local businesses, organizations, and private individuals can pledge funding over a specific period of time.
3. **Foundations** - A search can be done for foundations which give for recreation and related activities. Initial efforts should be on Kentucky based foundations. The *Kentucky Foundation Directory* is a good resource which lists about 180 foundations and charitable trusts in the state with sample grants to illustrate fields of interest. After a link has been established to national foundations, a good base of support should be developed to request funds. Books such as *National Data Book of Foundations*, the *Foundation Directory* and the *Foundation Directory, Part 2* are generally located in the public library. These are good resources for private community and corporate foundations in the nation. The *National Directory of Corporate Giving* is a guide to about 1,500 foundations funded primarily by corporations and 598 giving programs funded directly by companies.

F. Special Incentives

1. **Rails to Trails** - The Kentucky General Assembly recently passed legislation which will provide for staffing to develop a statewide data base and assistance.

- Initially, an assessment of all abandoned and proposed for abandonment rail road beds will be completed. The project will initiate at the Department for Local Government.
2. **Bicycle and Bikeways Program** - In 1992, the Kentucky General Assembly enacted legislation directing the Transportation Cabinet to “develop and coordinate a statewide bicycle and bikeways program” as the focal point for state and local efforts to plan and promote bikeways and bicycling. The overall goal of the program is to maximize the use of roads, streets, parks and other publicly owned lands, abandoned road beds, and other resources for the development of bikeways as an adjunct to other transportation facilities.
 3. **Kentucky Tourism Cabinet** - The Department for Travel Development provides communities with promotional opportunities. Special events and facilities can be listed in statewide publications.
 4. **Cultural Heritage Tourism** - A plan was recently completed discussing the importance of cultural heritage tourism. The plan states that funding could be provided to projects which have established cultural heritage corridors. The Lexington Convention and Visitors Bureau is developing a local plan including the surrounding communities which would ultimately establish a cultural heritage corridor identifying the various attributes of the area.