

Bell Built Grant Application

CONTACT INFORMATION

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Applicant organization Flag Velo, Inc., dba Flagstaff Biking Organization

PROJECT INFORMATION

Project name Ft. Tuthill County Park Bike Park

Project type Pump Track/Bike Park

Detailed project description

We will be partnering with Coconino County in the construction of a fully-featured mountain bike skills park at Ft. Tuthill County Park located in Flagstaff, Arizona. The proposed skills park will contain a full array of progressive features to appeal to all levels of bike riders. The park will be free and open to the public, and potentially available for competitive events and skills clinics. The funds from this grant will be used to implement the first phases of the plan to be produced soon by IMBA Trail Solutions staff with public input. IMBA staff, Coconino County Parks and Recreation staff and FBO will work together to conduct public participation during the planning stages. The request for funding in this proposal will be based on the outcome of the Trails Solutions Plan and resulting design. The proposed budget will be scalable and dependent on the plan and design alternatives.

How will this project benefit the local mountain bike community?

This mountain bike skills park will be the first such facility in Northern Arizona. Since it will incorporate features for a broad array of skill levels, it will appeal to a diverse number of riders. Easy features will help to draw new riders into the sport of mountain biking. Intermediate and advanced features will provide a safe and sustainable place for more advanced riders.

The bike park's placement at Ft. Tuthill, (a 413-acre regional park facility), will be highly visible to other park users as well. This visibility can help raise the profile of mountain biking within our community, hopefully drawing new riders and awareness to the sport.

The Coconino County Fair, with attendance of approximately 45,000 people each year, is held in immediate proximity to this bike park, which could afford opportunities for mountain bike exhibitions during the fair.

This park will also help to draw illegal construction off of the nearby National Forest. This will not only have positive environmental and viewshed effects, but will help further establish the mountain bike community's place as responsible public lands stewards.

The Luke Air Force Base Recreation Area at Ft. Tuthill is in very close proximity to the bike park, which would afford another great recreational facility to military service members and their families while vacationing at this facility. <http://www.forttuthill.com/>

Ft. Tuthill County Park is also home to many other existing and planned recreation facilities and events including assorted equestrian facilities, the Ft. Tuthill Military Museum, the Pepsi Amphitheater (largest concert venue in Northern Arizona), Flagstaff Extreme Treetop Adventure Course, campground, the annual Demolition Derby, a disc golf course, a playground, a snowplay area, multi-use non-motorized trail system and more.

Site location (city/county, state)

Ft. Tuthill County Park, Flagstaff, AZ. 7000 ASL, spring/summer/fall use.

Land owner/manager

Coconino County/Coconino County Parks and Recreation

What is the size and shape of the area available for development?

Roughly rectangular, 5-7 acres

Does the site already have parking, restrooms, signs, other trails, etc?

Yes for parking, restrooms, other trails, (Soldiers Trail, Flagstaff Urban Trail, Flagstaff Loop Trail, as well as other County and USFS system trails.)

Signage for Bike Park will be part of bike park site-specific plan.

Is there a water source at the site?

Nearby. Bike Park site-specific plan to include construction of pipe and hose bibs.

IMPLEMENTATION

Has a building permit or other explicit approval been granted by the land owner/manager? Please describe the status of the project's approval.

Coconino County Board of Supervisors has approved the Ft. Tuthill County Park Master Plan, which includes a 5-7 acre plot that is allocated to be used as a mountain bike skills park.

We are currently working with IMBA Southwest Regional Director Patrick Kell and Director of Consulting Services Chris Bernhardt to schedule an IMBA Trail Solutions visit, tentatively late March, to develop the site-specific bike park plan that will then be phased in as money and in-kind services and materials are obtained.

We are finalizing an MOU to outline the specifics of construction and maintenance of this facility. This MOU will be in addition too, and potentially supplemental to, our existing MOU with the County, the City of Flagstaff and the Coconino National Forest.

This planning and permitting is imminent and we expect to be completely shovel ready for the first phases of implementation before this grant would be awarded.

What funding or other resources are available to ensure the successful implementation of the project?

There are various grant sources from Flagstaff Community Foundation, State administered RTP, Trust for Public Lands, the Arizona We Want Institute, and other private donors locally.

We also intend to seek out in-kind donations of materials.

Please describe the resources that are available for on-going maintenance of the project. How do you plan to care for the site once it is developed?

We will be coordinating with Coconino County Parks and Recreation will be responsible for the maintenance of this Park after construction. Flagstaff Biking Organization will seek funding sources to offset the cost of this maintenance.

ORGANIZATION INFORMATION

Is your project supported by an organization?

Yes. Flag Velo Inc., dba Flagstaff Biking Organization, has been "promoting bicycling as a safe and attractive means of transportation and recreation in Northern Arizona" since 2002. For more information on Flagstaff biking Organization, please see: <http://flagstaffbiking.org/about-fbo/>

How long has your organization been in existence?

12 years

Is your organization an IMBA club or chapter?

We are an IMBA Club

Does your organization have an MOU (or similar agreement) with the land owner/manager?

Yes. Please see: <http://flagstaffbiking.org/wp-content/uploads/2013/01/MOUFBOCNFCCCOF.pdf>

We are working on the details on a site-specific cooperative agreement for the implementation and maintenance of this bike park.

Please describe other projects completed by your organization that are relevant to this project.

One of our flagship projects, the Flagstaff Loop Trail, intersects the Flagstaff Urban Trail System as it passes just north of this bike park. <http://flagstaffbiking.org/loop-trail/>

We were a stakeholder and instrumental in the development of the Ft. Tuthill Master Plan.

We have a 12 year history maintaining, designing and building trails in the Flagstaff area with the Coconino National Forest and Coconino County. We are leaders in the trail user community and have helped to draw other trail user groups to the table. Our efforts have lead to tens of thousands of hours of volunteer time and tens of thousands of dollars committed to trails.

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION

Please include the following resources to help us evaluate your proposal. These supporting documents are not required but they will substantially enhance your chances of getting selected:

Maps of the area

Videos, photographs, and/or sketches of what is proposed, including features, trail alignments, site layout, etc.

Attached.

Video overview of Flagstaff Biking Organization:

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1Q_1IIRYDVM

Video overview of bike park location:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YR62Hz-8fZE>

Letters of support from local cycling groups and individual supporters

Attached.

Additional documentation of support from public agencies, schools, businesses, community and neighborhood organizations, etc.

Attached.

MORE INFO

Winners of the grant will be named, interviewed and featured in Bell and IMBA promotional media, and the project must be made accessible for photo/video shoots and open to access by Bell athletes/staff and IMBA staff for promotional purposes during all stages of construction.

Grant winners must be willing to partner with IMBA and its staff, local affiliates, and members on all aspects of development including but not limited to trail design and construction, funding and volunteer development, opening event organization, promotions.

The winning project must be open to the public, although it is acceptable to have a fee for use, such as at a ski resort.