



THE FANTASTIC WORLD OF GRANTS: AN OVERVIEW REPORT

Office of the City Manager

Park and Recreation Commission
September 15, 2025

GRANTS BY DESIGN



1. Large projects may need multiple funding sources.
2. Great projects/programs may not get funded under tight local budgets.
3. Partnerships between the City and Grantors are important.
4. Allows for Innovation and/or “Niche” Programs.
5. Can support some Administrative Capacity.
6. Money that your normal budget doesn't otherwise have.

BIG PICTURE

CITY OF RIVERSIDE (2024)

- \$39,507,854 Competitive Awards
- \$3,664,250 Appropriations
- \$8,630,149 Entitlements

\$51,802,253 Total

CITY'S LARGER GRANTS ECOSYSTEM

University of California, Riverside

Cal Baptist University

La Sierra University

Riverside Community College

Riverside Unified School District

Alvord Unified School District

Cal School for the Deaf

Riverside Community Health Foundation

United Way

Riverside Transit Authority

and many more...



GREAT WORK BY PRCS STAFF

1.	Low Carbon Transit Operation Program (LCTOP) Caltrans	\$40,000	Y	PRCSD	Citywide
2.	Section 5307 Funds Bus Replacement Federal Transit Administration (FTA)	\$2,022,967	Y	PRCSD	Citywide
3.	SB 125 Funds Zero Emissions Infrastructure California State Transportation Agency	\$5,392,073	Y	PRCSD	Citywide
4.	STA Funds Radio Communications Replacement State Transit Assistance	\$800,000	Y	PRCSD	Citywide
5.	STA Funds Transit Computer Replacement State Transit Assistance	\$20,000	Y	PRCSD	Citywide
6.	STA & SGR Funds Capitalized Preventive Maintenance FY24/25 State Transit Assistance & State of Good Repair	\$600,000	Y	PRCSD	Citywide

7.	Local Transportation Fund (LTF) Operating FY24/25	\$4,902,802	Y	PRCSD	Citywide
8.	California Coastal Conservancy – River District	\$200,000	Y	PRCSD	1, 3, 7
9.	Federal Community Project Funds – Fairmount Armory	\$2,500,000	Y	PRCSD	1
10.	Operation Splash FY 2024/25-2025/26 – Kaiser Permanente Foundation	\$85,000	Y	PRCSD	Citywide
11.	Supporting Healthy Aging through Parks and Recreation - National Recreation and Parks Association	\$3,000	Y	PRCSD	5
12.	Aquatics Programming – LA84 Foundation	\$24,500	Y	PRCSD	Citywide

PRCS: \$16,590,342



COMPETITIVE GRANTS BY THE NUMBERS

- **65** competitive grant applications submitted Citywide and **50** awards = **77% Success Rate**
- Competitive grant awards received Citywide = **\$39,507,854**

Over

12,445

residents offered swimming lessons or swim passes.

Special Transportation services to medical appointments, workshops, places of employment, shopping trips, and

restaurants, for **22,944** people with disabilities and

34,192 seniors over 60.

Over **1,000** local seniors attended Walk with Ease program.



ADDITIONAL IMPACT

Comparisons to the municipal General Fund:

- Estimated General fund (FY 2023/24) approximately \$367 million
 - Competitive grant work alone would be 12% of the General fund.
 - All grant work (competitive, earmark, & entitlement) would be 14% of the estimated General Fund total.

Grant writing makes a substantial additional impact to the funded operations of municipal programs and projects.

PARKS FUNDING LANDSCAPE

- Federal Department of Interior
- Department of Transportation (FTA)
- State Parks Department
- State Bonds
- City General and Special Funding (Measure Z)
- Riverside Community Services Foundation
- Private Foundations

Applications need to be nimble, timely, responsive, and practical.

THE (NEAR?) FUTURE

Challenges Abound!



But Opportunities
Still Exist...

Questions?



Thanks!

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