



Jackson County Tourism Development Authority
Tourism Capital Project Fund request
Town of Sylva

Project Name: Bridge Park Improvements

Amount requested: \$367,757

Amount Approved by JCTDA: \$367,757

Narrative: Bridge Park, a key gathering spot in Sylva that hosts numerous annual events, is set for major improvements as per the Scott's Creek Watershed Action Plan prepared by Equinox Environmental. This renovation project aims to enhance the park's stormwater system, adding new filtering technology and a "Trash Trout" to improve Scott's Creek water quality and make the creek more accessible for recreation.

The revamped park will include 57 parking spaces, two ADA-accessible spots, bioretention areas, footbridges, a viewing platform over Scotts Creek, and an entrance arch. Also, the plan includes areas for food trucks, community activities, exhibits, entertainment, as well as updated plantings and landscaping to enhance the park's overall aesthetic appeal.

The improved park is expected to serve as a vital green space, helping to alleviate Main Street congestion and providing a communal space for residents and visitors. It will also add extra capacity for the Jackson County Farmers Market. Funded partially by ARPA funds from the Town of Sylva, the renovated park will cater to the pandemic's aftereffects and future requirements for outdoor assemblies.

The project aims to attract more visitors for overnight stays by offering a wider range of events and enhancing the visitor experience, leading to increased tax revenue, and spending in Sylva/Jackson County. Residents, with increased access to the enhanced park facilities, are expected to invite friends and family, thereby bolstering tourism. The project is shovel-ready, having completed all the necessary documentation in 2021, and is projected to yield significant long-term benefits for both Sylva and Jackson County.



Concept Description

Concept A includes 57 parking spaces, 2 of which are ADA-accessible spaces, with a one-way traffic flow. Parallel spaces are given to accommodate parking for city work trucks observed on-site. The bioretention area is a strong, central feature with an outfall into a quiet rain garden in the north-east corner of the space. Weirs double as safe passage across and engagement opportunities with the bioretention. An entry arch is proposed on the pedestrian entry to the space, which is repeated to the west at the existing pathway to unite the two sides of the park. A simple granite fines path follows the lot edge and continues through a spacious picnic area before connecting to the existing sidewalk at the pavilion. A side path leads to a viewing platform nestled between the existing trees over Scott Creek. Food trucks would be accommodated in the west-most parking bay, which could be easily closed off to create a true court, with a flex event/dining space immediately to the north. This space could be filled with movable furniture for daily use but also host a food truck or vendor during festivals and events. The central location and scale of the food truck court would activate the entire park and unite the east and west sides.

Example Imagery



Summary

- Maximizes parking
- Allows for flexibles zones for use
- Stormwater
- Keeps truck parking

Concept

Transforming Sylva's Bridge Park with Green Infrastructure Timeline

September 1, 2023	Begin bid solicitation
October 10-11, 2023	Selection of bid winner
October 23-27	Enter into contract with general contractor/Begin permitting process
November 6-10, 2023	Ground breaking
March 11, 2024	Project completion
April 5, 2024	Ribbon cutting

Sources and Uses Budget - Town of Sylva Bridge Park

Use	Jackson TDA	Town of Sylva	Total
Design and Project Management Costs			
Design	\$13,650.00		\$13,650.00
Consulting Fees	\$400.00	\$67,500.00	\$67,900.00
Facility Hard Construction Costs			
Site Grading and Preparation	\$47,934.00		\$47,934.00
Paving and Circulation	\$13,295.00	\$311,400.00	\$324,695.00
Infrastructure and Equipment Costs			
Site Elements & Materials	\$43,300.00		\$43,300.00
Stormwater Elements	\$83,290.00		\$83,290.00
Planting	\$35,245.00		\$35,245.00
Additional Park Elements	\$68,250.00		\$68,250.00
Contingencies	\$62,393.00	\$39,100.00	\$101,493.00
Total Amount	\$367,757.00	\$418,000.00	\$785,757.00