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Anthony, Sunland Park get outdoor recreation grants

Posted Thursday, October 5, 2023 1:03 pm

Bulletin report

The southern Doña Ana County cities of Anthony and Sunland Park will receive almost \$600,000 in Outdoor Recreation Trails+ from the New Mexico Economic Development Department's Outdoor Recreation Division (ORD).

Anthony received \$375,000 for Dos Lagos, a city-led master planned 107-acre development, ORD said in a news release.

"The City of Anthony has planned and designed a unique placemaking colored-concrete, multi-use trail for non-motorized use," the news release said. "The trail will connect walkers, joggers, strollers, bicycles and other non-motorized transportation to the development, while promoting outdoor activities."

Sunland Park received \$224,000 for the region's Rio Grande Trail (RGT), which is currently in development and will extend from Racetrack Drive north past Sunland Park Drive, ORD said.

"This initial phase will include the preliminary and final design of five miles along RGT through the city with new trail bridges, wayfinding, trailhead connections, points of interest, facility vehicular access and parking," the news release said.

RGT is a project of the New Mexico State Parks Division of the state Energy, Minerals and Natural Resources Department. The RGT Commission was established in 2015 to oversee development of the 500-mile trail, which stretches the entire north-south length of the state, beginning in Doña Ana County. Visit www.emnrd.nm.gov/riograndetrailcommission.

ORD awarded more than \$2.36 million to 20 Trails+ projects in 12 New Mexico counties, including Doña Ana County. Matching funds provided by the projects total almost \$2 million, ORD said.

ORD said there is an additional \$7.6 million in funding available for Trails+ projects, with the application open until FY24 funding is expended.

Organizations can apply for competitive grants at https://edd.newmexico.gov/wp-content/uploads/2023/06/2023-Outdoor-Recreation-Trails-Grant-Guide.pdf.

Also visit www.nmoutside.com/outdoor-grants-equity-fund and scroll down to "The Outdoor Recreation Trails+ Grant."

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