

Military Enhancement Fund Grant Award Letter



March 27, 2026

Deron McCormick
Sumter City Manager
P O Box 1449
Sumter, SC 29151

Re: Award of Military Enhancement Fund Grant

Dear Mr. McCormick,

The South Carolina Department of Veterans' Affairs (SCDVA) is pleased to inform you that a Military Enhancement Fund Grant has been approved in the amount of \$2,000,000 for the Shaw Sumter Buffer Property Dam Project.

This letter and the attached Agreement contain the terms and conditions of accepting our Grant. Please read the Agreement carefully, sign, and return no later than April 30, 2026. After we receive your signed Agreement, SCDVA will disburse your Grant funds via SCEIS. Please contact SCDVA if you require assistance in registering as a vendor in SCEIS.

The Grant funds must be used specifically for the Shaw Sumter Buffer Property Dam Project. You may submit a written request to change the scope of the Grant as described in the Agreement. Unexpended funds must be returned to the Military Enhancement Fund. You must file the attached Quarterly Accounting Report with SCDVA until all Grant funds are exhausted. If you delegate any requirements to a subawardee, you remain responsible for assuring they are completed.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact Sandy Claypoole at 803-683-1361 or sandy.claypoole@scdva.sc.gov.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Todd B. McCaffrey', is positioned above the typed name.

Todd B. McCaffrey
Major General, U.S. Army (Ret)
Secretary, South Carolina Department of Veterans' Affairs

Military Enhancement Fund Grant Award Agreement



This Grant Award Agreement (Agreement) is made and entered into as of **March 27, 2026**, by and between the South Carolina Department of Veterans' Affairs (SCDVA) and Sumter (County).

1. Grant Amount

SCDVA agrees to grant to the County and the County agrees to accept from SCDVA a grant in the amount of **\$2,000,000** from the Military Enhancement Fund.

2. Purpose of Grant

The purpose of this Grant is for the **Shaw Sumter Buffer Property Dam Project**.

3. Disbursement of Grant Funds

SCDVA will disburse the total funds of **\$2,000,000** to the County via SCEIS following the signing of this agreement.

4. Use of Grant Funds

The County shall use the Grant funds solely for the purpose of the **Shaw Sumter Buffer Property Dam Project**. The County shall not use the Grant funds for any other purpose. If the funds are disbursed to a subawardee, the County remains responsible for ensuring the funds are used for **Shaw Sumter Buffer Property Dam Project**. Failure to do so may result in recoupment of the grant amount, disqualification from future Grant applications, or both.

5. Reporting Requirements

The County shall submit to SCDVA quarterly progress reports on the designated Quarterly Accounting Form. The County shall submit the Quarterly Accounting Form until such time as the Grant funds are exhausted. If the funds are disbursed to a subawardee, the County remains responsible for ensuring the Quarterly Accounting Form is submitted. Failure to do so may result in disqualification from future Grant applications.

6. Audit and Inspection Requirements

The County shall allow SCDVA, the State Auditor's Office, or any designee to audit the use of the Grant funds at any time until the Grant funds are exhausted and for a period of three years thereafter. If the funds are disbursed to a subawardee, the County remains responsible for ensuring the records are maintained. The County shall also allow SCDVA or its designee to conduct inspections of the project.

7. Grant Amendment

Awards may be amended in scope. The County must return unexpended funds resulting from any amendment to SCDVA. SCDVA will not approve increases to the Grant amount.

8. Unexpended Funds

Any unexpended Grant funds remaining after the **Shaw Sumter Buffer Property Dam Project** shall be returned to the Military Enhancement Fund. If the funds are disbursed to a subawardee, the County remains responsible for the return of unexpended funds.

9. Delegation

If Grant funds are passed through to a subawardee, you remain responsible for assuring requirements in this Agreement are met.

10. Termination

SCDVA may terminate this Grant and request the return of unspent funds if the County fails to comply with any of the terms of this Agreement, or funds are not used in the timely manner stated in the proposal.

11. Publicity

The County may publicize the Grant in recognition of Military Enhancement Fund support. SCDVA and the County may each disclose the other party's name and the amount of the Grant in internal and external communications. Neither party may use any other public communications related to the Grant without the prior written consent of the other party.

12. Governing Law

This Agreement shall be governed by and construed in accordance with the laws of the State of South Carolina.

13. Scope of Agreement

This agreement governs only the award of the Grant under the Military Enhancement Fund. This agreement does not govern any other relationships between SCDVA and the County.

14. Entire Agreement

This Agreement constitutes the entire agreement between the parties and supersedes all prior agreements, representations, and understandings between the parties, whether written or oral.

15. Severability

If any provision of this Agreement is held to be invalid or unenforceable, such provision shall be struck from this Agreement and the remaining provisions shall remain in full force and effect.

16. Waiver

No waiver of any provision of this Agreement shall be effective unless in writing and signed by both parties.

17. Notices

All notices and other communications under this Agreement shall be in writing and shall be delivered via email.

If to SCDVA: Sandy Claypoole sandy.claypoole@scdva.sc.gov

If to the County: [Name] City of Sumter
[Email Address] howens@sumtersc.gov

or to such other email address as either party may designate in writing from time to time.

18. Headings

The headings in this Agreement are for convenience only and shall not affect its interpretation.

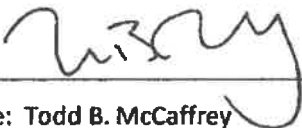
19. Counterparts

This Agreement may be executed in one or more counterparts, each of which shall be deemed an original, but all of which together shall constitute one and the same instrument.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties have executed this Agreement as of the Effective Date.

For SCDVA:

Signature



Printed Name: Todd B. McCaffrey

Title: Secretary, South Carolina Department of Veterans' Affairs

For the County:

Signature



Printed Name: Deron L. McCormick

Title: City Manager

\$ 2,000,000



February 23, 2026

Ms. Sandy Claypoole
Director, Military Affairs
South Carolina Department of Veterans' Affairs
1800 St. Julian Place, Suite 305
Columbia, SC 29204
sandy.claypoole@scdva.sc.gov

RE: Shaw Sumter Buffer Property Dam Project

Dear Ms. Claypoole,

I am writing to formally request funding in the amount of \$2,000,000 to complete Phase I engineering and permitting and partially fund Phase 2 construction for critical repairs to the dam located on the Shaw Sumter Buffer Property. This dam plays a vital role in managing stormwater runoff from Shaw Air Force Base, which is contiguous with the buffer property. The damage sustained from the 2015 flood left the spillway and gating system completely inoperable, taking away our ability to control water levels during storm events, which we have continued to see since the flood of 2015.

Completion of Phase I and advancement into Phase 2 will address key engineering, permitting, and initial site stabilization efforts necessary to move forward with the full restoration of the dam. The successful completion of this project is critical not only for our property but also for the surrounding area, including Shaw Air Force Base. Properly managing water levels will help mitigate storm-related risks and ensure compliance with South Carolina Department of Environmental Services (SC DES) standards for a low-hazard dam.

While this funding will allow substantial progress toward restoring the dam, additional funding will be required to complete Phase 2 and fully finish the project.

For a detailed breakdown of the scope and cost estimates for both Phase I and the full project, please refer to the attached third-party estimates.

As you know, Shaw Air Force Base is home to the 20th Fighter Wing, the United States Air Force's largest F-16 combat wing. They provide combat ready airpower and Airmen, to meet any challenge, anytime, anywhere. The wing is capable of meeting all operational requirements worldwide, maintains a state of combat readiness and operates as the host unit at Shaw. Shaw is also home to 9th Air Force (Air Forces Central), 3rd Army (U.S. Army Central), and 15th Air Force. Knowing the importance of Shaw Air Force Base, the Sumter Community purchased this property to buffer Shaw Air Force Base in 2008 from residential growth. Since that time, we have seen continued mission expansion. Shaw's overall annual economic impact to Sumter has grown to \$2.4 billion, and Sumter is home to over 16,000 veterans.

We appreciate your consideration of this request and the opportunity to take this vital first step in restoring the dam, as this property is held not only for Base Protection, but also for Base Expansion. The Shaw Sumter Buffer Property is ready to be transferred to the United States of America/Department of Defense when needed. Please feel free to contact me at (803) 436-2570 or dmccormick@sumtersc.gov for any additional information.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Deron L. McCormick". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, sweeping flourish at the end.

Deron L. McCormick
City Manager



DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE
20th FIGHTER WING (ACC)
SHAW AIR FORCE BASE SOUTH CAROLINA

Colonel Kevin D. Hicok
Commander, 20th Fighter Wing
517 Lance Avenue, Suite 128
Shaw AFB, South Carolina 29152-5041

February 18, 2026

Ms. Sandy Claypoole
Director, Military Affairs
South Carolina Department of Veterans' Affairs
1800 St. Julian Place, Suite 305
Columbia, SC 29204
sandy.claypoole@scdva.sc.gov

Dear Ms. Claypoole,

I am writing this letter to support the City of Sumter's ongoing efforts to repair the dam on their property, known as the Shaw Sumter Farm, The Shaw Sumter Farm borders our installation. Based on the information provided, the 2015 flood left the dam's spillway in an uncontrollable and hazardous state. We have partnered with the city of Sumter to help reduce flooding on or near the installation and ensure we can support current water reclamation projects. Proper repairs will improve safety, allow for better water level management ahead of storms, and mitigate potential property damage from excessive stormwater at our facilities near the Shaw Sumter Farm, to include the Security Forces Firing Range, a key readiness facility.

Given the importance of this project to both the City of Sumter and the surrounding properties, including our installation, we encourage your favorable consideration of these efforts.

Thank you for your time and attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

HICOK.KEVIN. Digitally signed by
HICOK.KEVIN.D 1140609974
Date: 2026.02 18 20:00:07
+0500
D.1140609974

KEVIN D. HICOK, Colonel, USAF
Commander, 20th Fighter Wing

Victory By Valor

Military Enhancement Fund Grant Proposal

Detailed Summary:

The proposed grant request will allow the City of Sumter to complete Phase 1 engineering and permitting and partially fund Phase 2 construction for critical repairs to the dam located on the Buffer Property. This dam plays a vital role in managing stormwater runoff from Shaw Air Force Base, which is contiguous with the buffer property.

Phase 1 includes engineering, design, permitting, and bid preparation necessary to advance the project to construction. Phase 2 includes construction activities to repair and restore the dam and spillway system to ensure reliable water control.

Successful completion of these phases is critical not only for the Buffer Property but also for the surrounding area, including Shaw Air Force Base. Proper water level management will help mitigate storm-related risks and support compliance with South Carolina Department of Environmental Services (SC DES) standards for a low-hazard dam.

Due to the program's \$2,000,000 maximum award limit per funding cycle, this request will advance Phase 1 and initiate Phase 2 construction. The City anticipates submitting a subsequent funding request in the next funding cycle to secure the remaining funds needed. If both funding requests are awarded, the project can be fully completed.

Timeline:

Upon receipt of grant funding, Phase 1 and the initial portion of Phase 2 are anticipated to take approximately 15 months to complete. If additional funding is secured during the next funding cycle, the remaining Phase 2 work can be completed within this same timeframe.

Detailed Explanation of How Grant Funds Will Be Spent:

Grant funds will be used to complete Phase 1 engineering and permitting and to initiate Phase 2 construction necessary to restore proper water control and dam functionality.

Funding Sources:

Funding sources in addition to this grant include local funding from the City of Sumter. The City anticipates seeking additional grant funding in the next funding cycle to complete Phase 2 and finalize the project.

Objectives & Goals:

- Complete engineering, design, and permitting.
- Prepare construction documents and bidding.
- Initiate dam and spillway construction repairs.
- Advance Phase 2 toward full project completion.

Metrics:

- Engineering and permitting completed.
- Construction phase initiated.
- Measurable progress toward restoring water control functionality.

Contact Information:

Deron L. McCormick, City Manager

dmccormick@sumtersc.gov

(803) 968-2970

Howie J. Owens, Assistant City Manager

howens@sumtersc.gov

(803) 607-8222

Shaw Sumter Farm Pond Dam
 SC DAM D1985
Dam Repairs - Round 1 Funding Activities

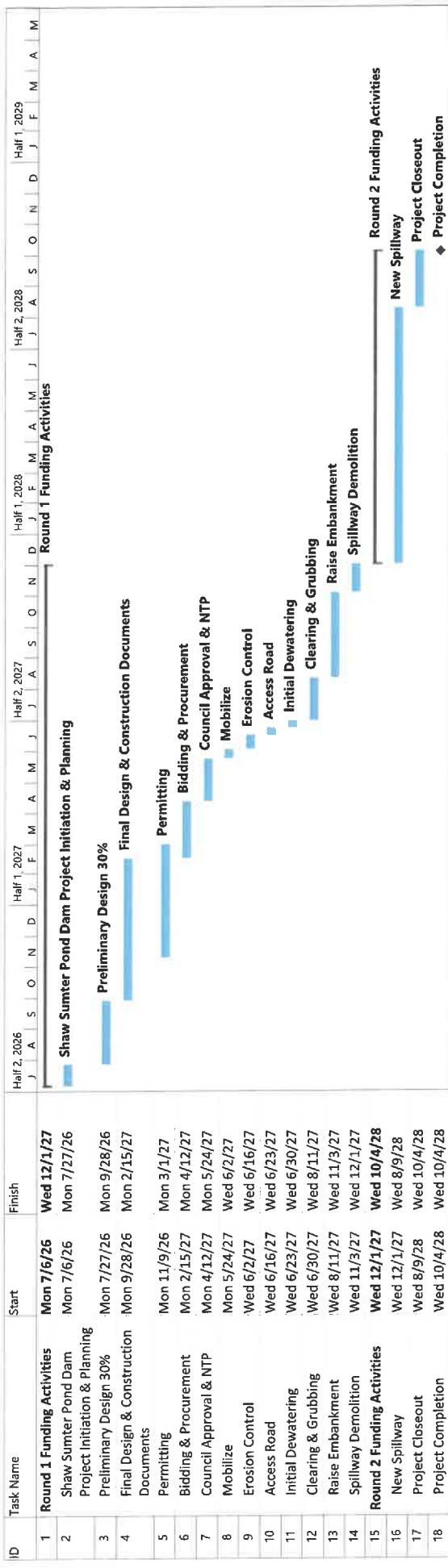
Item Number	Description	Estimated Quantity	Unit of Measure	Unit Price	Extended Cost
Phase 1 - Engineering					
1	Design Engineering	1	LS	\$ 160,000.00	\$ 160,000
2	Permitting	1	LS	\$ 30,000.00	\$ 30,000
3	Bidding	1	LS	\$ 10,000.00	\$ 10,000
Estimated Engineering Costs					\$ 200,000
Phase 2 - Construction					
1	Mobilization	1	LS	\$ 148,000.00	\$ 148,000
2	Erosion and Sediment Control Measures	1	LS	\$ 127,270.00	\$ 127,270
3	Cofferdam Port-a-Dam	1	LS	\$ 137,930.00	\$ 137,930
4	Intial Work Area Dewatering	1	LS	\$ 66,250.00	\$ 66,250
5	Maintenance of Bypass Flow	1	LS	\$ 53,703.00	\$ 53,703
6	Groundwater and Dewatering	1	LS	\$ 172,923.00	\$ 172,923
7	Principal Spillway Demolition	1	LS	\$ 46,380.00	\$ 46,380
8	Auxillary Spillway Demolition	1	LS	\$ 13,250.00	\$ 13,250
9	Culvert Demolition	1	LS	\$ 1,750.00	\$ 1,750
10	Clearing and Grubbing & Tree Removal	1	LS	\$ 94,700.00	\$ 94,700
11	Principal Spillway Unreinforced Mass Concrete	1	LS	\$ -	\$ -
12	Principal Spillway Reinforced Concrete	1	LS	\$ -	\$ -
13	Principal Spillway Riprap	1	LS	\$ -	\$ -
14	Excavation/Haul Off	1	LS	\$ 7,000.00	\$ 7,000
15	Controlled Fill Import from Offsite	1	LS	\$ 290,000.00	\$ 290,000
16	Excavation/Stockpile	1	LS	\$ 14,000.00	\$ 14,000
17	Controlled Fill from Stockpile	1	LS	\$ 20,000.00	\$ 20,000
18	Topsoil	1	LS	\$ 205,200.00	\$ 205,200
19	Seed and Mulch	1	LS	\$ 67,200.00	\$ 67,200
20	Matting	1	LS	\$ 50,400.00	\$ 50,400
21	GAB Access Road	1	LS	\$ 55,200.00	\$ 55,200
Subtotal					\$ 1,571,156
Contingency					\$ 162,298.00
Estimated Construction Costs					\$ 1,733,454
Estimated Construction Oversight					\$ 24,486
Estimated Construction Administration					\$ 23,367
Estimated Construction QAQC					\$ 18,693
Estimated Construction Total					\$ 1,800,000
Round 1 Funding Request					\$ 2,000,000.00

Military Enhancement Fund Grant Proposal

Shaw Sumter Pond Dam Project

Spending Schedule - Round 1 Activities

Pay Application Month -Year	Amount Requested
Jul-26	\$10,000.00
Aug-26	\$15,000.00
Sep-26	\$20,000.00
Oct-26	\$30,000.00
Nov-26	\$40,000.00
Dec-26	\$35,000.00
Jan-27	\$25,000.00
Feb-27	\$15,000.00
Mar-27	\$10,000.00
Apr-27	\$5,000.00
May-27	\$2,500.00
Jun-27	\$10,000.00
Jul-27	\$107,500.00
Aug-27	\$175,000.00
Sep-27	\$200,000.00
Oct-27	\$250,000.00
Nov-27	\$275,000.00
Dec-27	\$300,000.00
Jan-28	\$275,000.00
Feb-28	\$200,000.00



Shaw Sumter Dam Schedule
Wed 3/4/26



**Booths Farm Pond Dam
SC DAM 1985
Dam Repairs
Preliminary Opinion of Probable Construction Cost Reduced**

February 26, 2026

Phase I Engineering

Task No.	Description	Total
1	Design Engineering	\$160,000.00
2	Permitting	\$30,000.00
3	Bidding	\$10,000.00
Subtotal:		\$200,000.00

Phase II Construction

Item No.	Qty.	Unit	Description	Unit Price	Total
1	1	LS	Mobilization (approx. 5%)	\$ 148,000.00	\$148,000.00
2	1	LS	Erosion and Sediment Control Measures	\$ 127,270.00	\$127,270.00
3	1	LS	Cofferdam Port-a-Dam	\$ 137,930.00	\$137,930.00
4	1	LS	Initial Work Area Dewatering	\$ 66,250.00	\$66,250.00
5	1	LS	Maintenance of Bypass Flow	\$ 179,010.00	\$179,010.00
6	1	LS	Groundwater and Dewatering	\$ 576,410.00	\$576,410.00
7	1	LS	Principal Spillway Demolition	\$ 46,380.00	\$46,380.00
8	1	LS	Auxiliary Spillway Demolition	\$ 13,250.00	\$13,250.00
9	25	LF	Culvert Demolition	\$ 70.00	\$1,750.00
10	2	AC	Clearing and Grubbing & Tree Removal	\$ 47,350.00	\$94,700.00
11	600	CY	Principal Spillway Unreinforced Mass Concrete	\$ 560.00	\$336,000.00
12	350	CY	Principal Spillway Reinforced Concrete	\$ 1,190.00	\$416,500.00
13	900	TON	Principal Spillway Riprap	\$ 150.00	\$135,000.00
14	100	CY	Excavation/Haul Off	\$ 70.00	\$7,000.00
15	2900	CY	Controlled Fill Import from Offsite	\$ 100.00	\$290,000.00
16	200	CY	Excavation/Stockpile	\$ 70.00	\$14,000.00
17	200	CY	Controlled Fill from Stockpile	\$ 100.00	\$20,000.00
18	1900	CY	Topsoil	\$ 120.00	\$228,000.00
19	16800	SY	Seed and Mulch	\$ 10.00	\$168,000.00
20	16800	SY	Matting	\$ 3.00	\$50,400.00
21	400	CY	GAB Access Road	\$ 138.00	\$55,200.00
Subtotal:					\$3,111,050.00
Contingency (15%):					\$466,660.00
Bidding Contingency (0%):					\$0.00
Total Estimated Construction Cost:					\$3,577,710.00
Construction Oversight					\$81,620.00
Construction Administration					\$77,890.00
Construction QA/QC					\$62,310.00
Total Estimated with CA/CO Cost:					\$3,799,530.00
Overall Total Estimated Project Cost w/Engineering					\$3,999,530.00

Notes:

- This opinion of probable construction cost is based on a level 4 engineer's estimate
- The permitting assumes that only a SCEDS land disturbance and dam alteration permit. All other permitting is excluded.
- This opinion of probable construction cost is only an estimate of possible construction cost for budgeting purposes. This estimate is limited to the condition existing at the issuance and is not a guarantee of actual price or cost. Uncertain market conditions such as, but not limited to; local labor or contractor availability, wages, other work, material market fluctuations, price escalations, force majeure events and developing bidding conditions, etc. may affect the accuracy of this estimate. AECOM is not responsible for any variance from this Opinion of Probable Construction Cost or actual prices and conditions obtained.

EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

The City of Sumter provides equal opportunity to all applicants for employment and administers hiring, conditions, and privileges of employment, compensation, training, promotions, transfers, and discipline without discrimination because of race, color, gender, religion, disability, age, or national origin. Any employee who believes that he or she has been discriminated against in violation of this policy should promptly report the matter to the Human Resources Director.

Military Enhancement Fund Grant Proposals

Effective 1 Jul 25

For fiscal year 1 Jul 25 – 30 Jun 26



The South Carolina Department of Veterans' Affairs (SCDVA) administers the Military Enhancement Plan as directed in Budget Provisos which state, "Funds appropriated to the department for the Military Enhancement Plan may be allocated to items including, but not limited to, land acquisition, recreational purposes, educational purposes, and facilities for military personnel. **Eligible recipients are counties and municipalities with federal military installations.**"

Federal military installations, as defined in South Carolina Code 6-29-1625 (A), include Fort Jackson, Shaw Air Force Base, McEntire Joint National Guard Base, Joint Base Charleston, Marine Corps Air Station Beaufort, Beaufort Naval Hospital, Marine Corps Recruit Depot Parris Island, Charleston Naval Weapons Station, and Fort Gordon, GA. For the purposes of this program, US Coast Guard installations in South Carolina are also considered federal military installations, as are any subordinate federal installations of those named above.

Section One - Eligibility Criteria

The grant applicant must be one of the following counties or municipal government agencies with a federal military installation, as defined above, within or adjacent to your jurisdictional boundaries:

Richland, Sumter, Charleston, Berkeley, Dorchester, Georgetown, Beaufort, Orangeburg, Aiken, or Edgefield.

The maximum grant amount is \$2,000,000.

Deadlines for proposals to be accepted for review are 1 March and 1 September.

Section Two – Application Requirements

To be considered for a grant under this program, your proposal must include the following documents and information in the order it is listed below. A proposal which does not meet any of the requirements below will not be considered.

- A. Cover letter on the letterhead of your county or municipality with a reference line including the project name and amount requested. The letter should give a brief description of the scope of the proposal, the military installation(s) it will benefit, and whether there will be a financial match from the applicant.
- B. Signed letter of support by the local installation commander(s) stating how the military installation will benefit from the proposal.
- C. Detailed explanation of the proposal, and how it will enhance military value, installation resilience, or military family quality of life at the supported military installation(s) or community.
- D. Detailed budget for the proposal, to include a spending timeline.
- E. List of specific project objectives and how they will be achieved.
- F. Timeline for completing the project to include start dates, milestones, and completion dates.
- G. Independent, third-party estimate of the cost of the proposal, prepared by a qualified entity. If property is being purchased, a fair market appraisal must be included in the proposal.
- H. Detailed account of any other funding source you intend to apply for in conjunction with this grant, to include source and dollar amount (if, for example, your grant proposal covers only a sub-project as part of a larger project).
- I. Copy of the anti-discrimination policy of the applying county or municipality.
- J. Most recent operating financial statement of the applying county or municipality.

List the name, email and phone contact information for the primary and alternate personnel overseeing the project.

Deron L. McCormick, dmccormick@sumtersc.gov, (803) 968-2970
Primary point of contact

Howie J. Owens, howens@sumtersc.gov, (803) 607-8222
Alternate point of contact

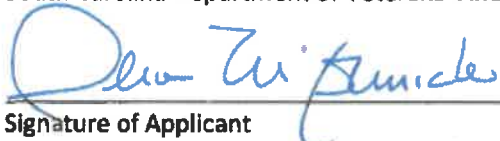
Section Three - Evaluation Criteria

Eligible grant proposals will be evaluated based on 1) its effect on mission readiness; 2) its effect on military quality of life, 3) its effect on the surrounding community; 4) its timeliness; and 5) the degree to which the costs of the project(s) are shared with other funding sources. The score sheet used for evaluating proposals, as well as this document can be found on our website at <https://scdva.sc.gov/military-enhancement-fund-grants-proposals>.

The Department makes every effort to fund grants at the amount requested. However, the Secretary may adjust award amounts based on the availability of funds and other considerations. Final decision authority for awarding grants under this program rests with the Secretary of Veterans' Affairs.

Section Four - Agreement Statement

If awarded a grant, I agree to provide to the South Carolina Department of Veterans' Affairs quarterly reports, detailing how all grant funds were spent to date and the progress on achieving the objectives defined in the grant proposal. I am aware the information provided in my report will be reviewed by the Senate Finance Committee and the House Ways and Means Committee and is subject to audit by the State Auditor. Additionally, I agree to provide the South Carolina Department of Veterans' Affairs additional reports and supporting documents as may be required, and to allow the South Carolina Department of Veterans' Affairs or its designee to conduct inspections of the project.


Signature of Applicant

2/27/2026
Date

Deron L. McCormick / City of Sumter
Name of Applicant

\$2,000,000
Amount of Proposal Request

City Manager
Title of Applicant

dmccormick@sumtersc.gov
Email Address

Section Five - Administrative Instructions

Send completed proposals to MEF@scdva.sc.gov no later than the application closing date. If you have not received a confirmation of receipt of your application within 3 business days, contact Sandy Claypoole at 803-683-1361 or Jason Fowler at 803-683-0242.