

Gretna Gun Works Project Statement & Supplement information

Project Statement, Need, Purpose, Objective

Gretna Gun Works has been in operation since 1948 as an FFL and since 1980 as a gun range. In 2014 the current ownership acquired the entity from the original owners. Our shop focused on New/Used Guns, Merchandise/Accessories, Gunsmithing, and a full service public range. While the range is currently underground and useful, during the COVID timeframe, due to staffing shortages and inability to maintain the range, we effectively closed to the public. Conversely, the current range isn't handicap accessible, nor is it a public option at this time, due to lack of updating and current location (underground). Cleaning, maintaining, noise mitigating, and accessing our current range is simply no longer feasible to heavy public usage. It is only used for Gunsmith testing and a monthly Conceal/Carry class shooting .22LR. Gretna Gun Works has made a tough decision to close the public aspect of our current range due to the challenges of maintenance, cleanliness, and out-datedness on current equipment.

This grant will construct a new 1500 sq. ft range that can be built on existing land at the rear of our property and connected to our current 6000 sq ft existing structure, in a newly designed state of the art facility. This facility will better handle noise mitigation, lead remediation, and range accessibility; for the enjoyment and use of the public. With the help of our current Planning and Development Grant from the Wildlife and Fisheries, we have designed a new structure with 5 shooting lanes at 15 yards, which updates and modernizes the shooting experience offered today. Our work has garnered the support of the City of Gretna and the sport shooting public alike. Additionally, we have partnered with Range Systems to assist in designing a:

- 5 shooting stall X 15 yard range
- Range System Inc. ballistic rubber trap and ballistic rubber walls for multiple forms of active shooting in lane style shooting and 270 degree downrange shooting/training
- Carey's OSHA HVAC air recirculation system
- Firing Range Systems, Inc.- Lead Management System
- Current and new parking for 17 cars (1 handicap)
- New Male and Female Restroom
- Updates to our current 650 Sq. Ft training classroom
- Access to our current 3000 sq. ft. showroom of inventory
- A redesigned entrance from our current showroom into a waiting area for the range.

We anticipate this grant will assist us in allowing for a full service shooting experience; of rentals, sales, merchandising and gunsmithing for a large residential population over 4 parishes. We currently send shooters to other ranges for shooting. Furthermore, a fully handicap accessible range will allow a

current group of individuals to enjoy the shooting sport, including; training opportunities, competitions, as well as, hunter safety programs. Our prior underground public range had 6 shooting stalls, and the newly proposed range will have 5. Gretna Gun Works current geographic location services a multi parish public shooter/hunter population in our service area at 878,220 people:

Jefferson Parish population: 433,688 people (191,837 are on the Westbank)

Orleans Parish population: 376,971 (no FFL or shooting ranges in this parish)

Plaquemine Parish population: 23,303 (on the Westbank of the river)

St. Bernard Parish population: 44,258

Additionally, our location, staffing, and current operations will allow for mutual benefit of product and services going hand in hand with a new range for the public sport shooter and hunter alike. Our range partners (Range Systems, Inc.), will help us build and maintain this fully functional, modern amenity to support heavy public usage.

With the current funds from our Planning and Development Grant, we utilized the support from Mouton, Turner, and Long Architects to conceptualize a building with construction to be completed 1 year from award date. Our builder partner Centerline Development will monitor and complete the designed building inside of our planned 1 year development.

We plan to utilize matching funds in cash to help construct the project and minimize the long term risk to the program, illustrating the utmost stewardship in completing the development for long term public use.