



September 27, 2019 - Competitive Robotics Hubs Update

Hello *FIRST* Robotics Competition Community,

We're sure you're curious about what is happening on our CRH project – more than 50 interested individuals signed up to get updates!

Our focus over the last several weeks since the initial community conference call has been to work with the State of Minnesota to finalize our contract for the CRH grant. Based on the current status of these conversations, we believe we'll have a signed agreement by the end of October. At that time, we'll be able to announce the criteria and schedule for grant proposals.

A common question we've been getting is what can be counted as the 50% match. Here's what we know so far:

- Match must be spent **after** the date that we make grant awards.
- Cash expenditures can be counted as match. We're 95% certain that donated goods with retail value can also be counted.

We'll have firm answers on these questions when we have the signed contract.

Interested in helping pick the hub locations? We're looking for volunteers to be on the committee to evaluate submissions. Volunteers **must not** have had any involvement with a group making a proposal; will need to sign a nondisclosure agreement that applies during the selection process, and will help explain the results of selection to the FRC community. Please indicate your interest to be an evaluator [via this form](#).

Thanks again for your interest in the project. We're excited to work with you to create this new resource in Minnesota.

Gene Jasper, Board member and Lead of the Competitive Robotics Hubs Project  
Steve Peterson, Laurie Shimizu, Mark Lawrence, and Rachel Earl, CRH committee members, *FIRST* in Upper Midwest