

Neighborhood Improvement Grant Criteria and Eligible Projects and Activities

Neighborhood Improvement Grant Criteria

Every neighborhood is eligible to apply for Neighborhood Improvement Grant assistance. Any proposed project or activity must meet the following criteria:

1. The grant will provide an area-wide benefit to the general neighborhood. Ideally, this would encompass an entire neighborhood or subdivision, *but it can be as small as one block*.
2. There is demonstrated support for the improvement or activity by a majority of the neighborhood.
3. The grant cannot be used to install an improvement that is a developer obligation.
4. The project should be completed either in its entirety at once or in well-defined phases shortly after the funding award. No work should have started before obtaining approval and direction from the city.
5. The project adds value to the area that would be difficult to accomplish without the funding assistance.
6. The project includes a contribution from the local community. This can be with matching funds, in-kind support, volunteer labor, technical assistance, or other forms of community service aimed at improving the area, be it a park or other public space in need of assistance.
7. Geographic location and community need will be considered. The project is not intended for commercial or industrial areas.

Eligible projects and Activities

The following activities and projects are provided as examples. Be creative! If you do not see your idea listed and think it meets the program criteria, give us a call to see if it might be eligible.

- A. Neighborhood activities
 - a. Block party supplies (\$100 gift card used for paper products, refreshments, etc)* There is also a block party trailer available for check-out that can be used in conjunction with the gift card
 - b. Clean-up crew supplies (\$100 gift card for purchase of trash bags, roll off container, refreshments, etc)

- c. Special event (\$100 gift card to sponsor a Bike-to-Work station in the neighborhood, holiday open house, veteran welcome home, etc)

B. Permanent Improvements

- a. Walking paths
- b. Entry or area interpretive signs
- c. Landscaping/tree planting (tree trimming is not an eligible expense)
- d. Fencing
- e. Alley paving
- f. Bike racks
- g. Recycling or trash containers
- h. Blue security light post
- i. Historic property plaques (put on pedestals or monuments by sidewalk/street, not mounted on building)
- j. Benches
- k. Public art
- l. Gazebos, shelter
- m. Traffic calming
- n. Dog waste dispensers
- o. Handicap sidewalks/ramps
- p. Playground equipment
- q. Lights
- r. Bus shelter
- s. Bike path
- t. Community garden
- u. Shade shelter
- v. Newspaper corrals... and more.