

Mayor Stothert's 2016 Neighborhood Grants Program Overview

Overview

Mayor Stothert's 2016 Neighborhood Grants Program will fund project proposals up to \$5,000 per Neighborhood Association. The Neighborhood Grants program funding is provided to improve a neighborhood's quality of life, increase public safety, and help prevent crime in our neighborhoods. Program funding should support and strengthen neighborhood projects that will improve the neighborhood's appearance, impact the environment, and increase the livability of the neighborhood. Successful grant proposals will have a sustained positive impact on Omaha's neighborhoods.

Eligibility

- Neighborhood organizations must be registered and listed in the City of Omaha's Neighborhood Association Directory:
www.cityofomaha.org/planning/hcd/neighborhood-associations
- If your organization received funding from the 2015 Mayor's Neighborhood Grant, a final program report must have been submitted.
- If your organization received funding from the 2015 Mayor's Neighborhood Grant and requested an extension, you will be ineligible for 2016 funding.
- Multi-year project proposals may be funded for a maximum of two (2) years. There is no guarantee for second year funding.
- A match is required. The match can be in the form of volunteer labor, in-kind contributions, or cash and does not need to be equivalent to the grant amount requested. The required Neighborhood match should demonstrate buy-in and commitment for the project.
 - Please note that applying another Neighborhood Association's 2016 Neighborhood Grant request toward your organization's match contribution is not allowable.

Program Requirements

- Applications must be typed; hand-written applications will not be accepted.
- Grants can only be made for public purposes and cannot result in any benefit or improvement to individual citizens or privately owned property.
- If a proposed project requires a permit or City Department approval, contact should be made with the appropriate Department prior to submission. Please provide the Department contact in the application narrative so follow up questions may be addressed if necessary.
- Proposed projects must have prior approval from the Neighborhood Association's Board of Directors.
- All grant funds must be expended by December 31, 2016.
- A final program report must be submitted to the Mayor's Office by January 31, 2017. Failure to submit your organization's final report will impact future grant eligibility.
- It is encouraged that Neighborhood Associations participate in the renovated Place Game Workshop provided by Omaha by Design. Contact: 402-554-4010

Unallowable Costs

Unallowable costs include but are not limited to:

- Weapons and high-tech alarms
- Decorative, and/or way-finding signs
- Food and beverages

Award Amounts

Applicants should carefully consider the resources needed to successfully implement the proposed project and present a realistic budget that accurately reflects project costs. Awards will be made up to \$5,000 per Neighborhood Association.

How to Apply

The Mayor's 2016 Neighborhood Grants application will be released on Wednesday, February 10, 2016. The application will be available on Mayor Stothert's website at <http://mayors-office.cityofomaha.org/neighborhoods> beginning Wednesday, February 10, 2016.

All components of the application must be completed: Neighborhood Organization Overview, Project Overview, Organization Information, Proposal Request Narrative, Itemized Budget.

Applications can be submitted:

1. Electronically to neighborhoodgrants@cityofomaha.org; or
2. Mailed to Neighborhood Grants Program, Office of the Mayor, 1819 Farnam Street, Suite 300, Omaha, NE 68183

Submission Deadline

Applications are due Friday April 1, 2016 by 4:00pm. Late applications will not be considered.

Grant Awards Selection

The City of Omaha Grants Review Committee will evaluate all applications and submit final recommendations to Mayor Stothert.

Contact Information

If you have questions, please call the Neighborhood Grants Program at 402-444-5546, or email neighborhoodgrants@cityofomaha.org for assistance.

Program Timeline	
<i>Friday</i> February 5, 2016	Notice of application release sent to Neighborhood Associations/ Organizations <i>Letters & Emails to Neighborhood Directory List</i>
<i>Wednesday</i> February 10, 2016	Release of 2016 Neighborhood Grants application <i>Mayor Stothert's Website</i>
<i>Wednesday</i> March 9, 2016: 6:00 – 8:00 p.m.	Mayor's Neighborhood Grants Q&A Open House <i>UNO Barbara Weitz Community Engagement Center, Room 230/231 (OPPD Community Dialogue Rooms)</i>
<i>Friday</i> April 1, 2016: 4:00 p.m.	Neighborhood Grant application deadline
Early May 2016	Award Notifications sent to grantees <i>Letters & Emails</i>