

NO: **F034**

COUNCIL DATE: **SEPTEMBER 8, 2014**

FINANCE COMMITTEE

TO: **Mayor & Council**

DATE: **September 4, 2014**

FROM: **General Manager, Parks, Recreation & Culture**
General Manager, Finance & Technology

FILE: **1850-01**

SUBJECT: **Community Enhancement Partnership (CEP) Program – Spirit Garden**
Entrance Trellises – Funding Request

RECOMMENDATION

The Parks, Recreation & Culture Department and the Finance & Technology Department recommend that the Finance Committee recommend that Council approve a grant under the CEP Program in the amount of \$3,000 to Joan Mara and the Spirit Garden Group. The funds will support the construction of two entrance trellises to a City-owned detention pond garden at 2860 140th Street.

BACKGROUND

In January 2010, Council adopted the Community Enhancement Partnership (CEP) Program, which is intended to provide financial support for projects focussed on community engagement and neighbourhood beautification. Under the CEP Program, residents and community groups may apply to the City for a grant under either of two separate categories; these being:

- **Small Project Grants** - to support in planning, organizing and implementing projects intended to directly improve the physical aesthetic appeal of a neighbourhood; or
- **Partnership Grants** - to support projects that build community relationships through celebration and activity.

The CEP Program Guidelines are attached as **Appendix I**. The CEP Program has an annual budget of \$25,000.

A Grant Selections Committee has been established with representatives from various Departments and is responsible for assessing grant applications on an ongoing basis. Fifty one (51) CEP Program grants have been approved to date by City Council.

DISCUSSION

An application has been received for a Small Project Grant under the CEP Program. A description and an evaluation of the application in relation to the CEP Program Guidelines are contained in the following section of this report.

Spirit Garden Trellises

In 2009, Joan Mara and neighbours developed the Spirit Garden at 2860 140th Street located on City owned land shown in **Appendix II**. The group has been receiving material support (rocks, soil, plants) from Engineering Drainage since 2006 to develop and maintain a garden around the City owned detention pond. Local residents have been increasingly visiting the space and the Spirit Garden group would like to further enhance the garden by adding gateways to help to clearly identify the garden as a public space. The group has applied for a CEP Program Small Projects Grant to construct 2 entry way trellises.

Joan Mara and the Spirit Garden group have requested a grant of \$3,000 from the City to support this project. These funds will be used to construct the 2 entrance trellises. The applicants have provided an estimate of 100 volunteer hours to complete the project. Local residents will donate building materials and a large boulder with the words “Spirit Garden” sandblasted onto it. The group will contribute over \$1,100 in funding to pay for out of pocket material costs. The overall value of community contributions (volunteer labour, materials) is estimated at \$3,500.

Based on a review of the proposed project against the CEP Program Guidelines, a grant of \$3,000 is recommended subject to a commitment by the applicants, Spirit Garden Group, to maintain the trellis and garden. This project is a good example of resident lead beautification initiative and has been successfully ongoing for eight years. The group will be required to co-ordinate with the City’s Parks Operations team during the construction process to ensure that the trellises are built safely. Engineering Drainage will provide an information sign about the community led initiative. Photographs that act to document the progress and outcomes of the project will also be required upon project completion.

Funding

Appendix III provides information on the status of funding related to the Community Enhancement Partnership Program on an assumption that Council will approve the recommendations of this report.

SUSTAINABILITY CONSIDERATIONS

The CEP Program supports the goals of the City’s Sustainability Charter by encouraging social connections, volunteerism, community ownership and citizen engagement, in accordance with the Socio-Cultural Action items SC6, SC7, SC8 and SC13 of the City’s Sustainability Charter.

CONCLUSION

Based on the above discussion, it is recommended that the Finance Committee recommend that Council approve a grant under the CEP Program in the amount of \$3,000 to Joan Mara and the Spirit Garden Group. The funds will support the construction of two entrance trellises to a City owned detention pond garden at 2860 140th Street as generally described in this report.

Laurie Cavan
General Manager
Parks, Recreation & Culture

Vivienne Wilke, CGA
General Manager
Finance and Technology

Appendix I: CEP Program Overview and Guidelines

Appendix II: Site Location

Appendix III: Status of Community Enhancement Partnership Program funding



Community Enhancement Partnership Program (CEPP) Program Overview and Guidelines

The Community Enhancement Partnership Program (CEPP) is an initiative of Council to encourage neighbourhood projects and activities that beautify our streets and public spaces.

Through the Program, residents, groups and businesses can apply to the City for a grant to plan, organize and implement small beautification projects, activities and celebrations. Successful applicants match their requested grant amount with contributions of volunteer labour and services, donated materials, and/or cash. The Program is a partnership in which the applicant and the City contribute equally towards the applicants proposed project.

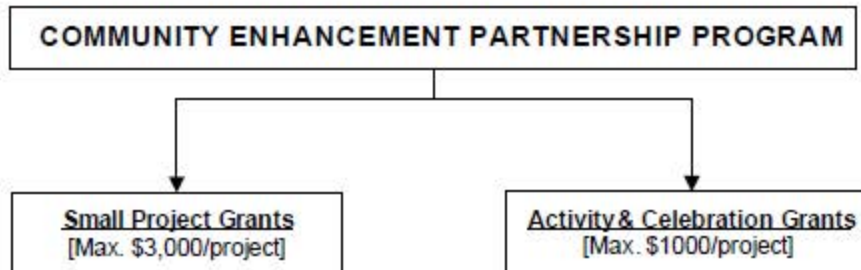
FUNDING CRITERIA & ELIGIBILITY

Grants are available to all Surrey residents, students, community groups, organizations or associations. Small businesses will also be considered for street or landscaping beautification projects. All applications must encourage neighbourhood participation without discrimination. Projects must be undertaken within the geographic boundaries of Surrey. All applicants must demonstrate their project or activity will:

- focus on “beautifying and celebrating Surrey”;
- generate a public benefit in an inclusive and cooperative manner;
- involve members of the community in the project;
- commit to overseeing the project and any resulting maintenance;
- have broad neighbourhood support; and
- fall within one of the Project Grant Types listed below.

PROJECT GRANT TYPES

The Program has two separate grant categories as illustrated below.



i) **Small Project Grants**

Small project grants have a maximum amount of \$3,000 per project. They are offered to support planning, organizing and implementing projects that physically improve the appearance of the City. As examples, a neighbourhood garden, boulevard landscaping, community pathway, floral tree plantings, decorative lighting display or a neighbourhood entrance feature would fall under this category. Creativity is encouraged.

Projects in this category must be completed within twelve (12) months of a grant being awarded.

ii) **Activity & Celebration Grants**

Activity and celebration grants have a maximum amount of \$1,000 per project. They are offered to support community activism and celebration. Projects should engage, educate and celebrate community members. As examples, a neighbourhood festival or block party, a street clean-up day, a property owner awards program or a neighbourhood improvement campaign would fall under this category.

Projects that create opportunities to develop neighbourhood organization and promote community leadership, such as citizen engagement workshops or anti-graffiti training seminars, are also encouraged.

Projects in this category must be completed within six (6) months of a grant being awarded.

PROJECT MANAGEMENT & RECOGNITION

For awarded projects, photos must be submitted to the City as a permanent record and for potential posting on the City's website and within local newspapers. All projects under the Program will be eligible for Civic Beautification Awards and/or plaque or site markers.

PLEASE NOTE:

- Awarded projects may be subject to inspection by City staff during project work and upon completion.
- Applicants that have failed to undertake projects, as outlined on submitted applications, may be eliminated from consideration for future grant opportunities.
- Applicants are required to abide by all Municipal, Provincial and Federal laws and regulations.
- The City of Surrey reserves the right to remove any physical installations or improvements on public land at any time.

APPLICATION REVIEW PROCESS

Each application will be evaluated by a grant evaluation committee using the following evaluation criteria and within available funding.

Evaluation Criteria

Overall Community Enhancement Program Objective

- Project corresponds with the objective to “beautify and celebrate Surrey”.

Project Proposal & Feasibility

- Provides a clear description of what the project is and why it is proposed.
- Provides a clear public benefit.
- Is well planned with a realistic timeline and a clear beginning and end.
- Has a reasonable budget.

Community Building

- Community contribution is documented, demonstrating broad community participation and support for the project.
- Encourages inclusive community participation and provides opportunity to bring people together.
- Encourages interaction between different groups, such as different ethnic groups, tenants, seniors and business owners.
- Encourages collaboration between all age groups, particularly youth and adults.

Outcomes

- There is a clear understanding of how the community will be improved as a result of the project, with anticipated outcomes clearly documented.
- Project is designed for low maintenance and the applicant and stakeholders commit to project maintenance, with the majority of maintenance undertaken by the applicant.

Grants will **NOT** be awarded to/for:

- The purpose of private gain.
- Government agencies, political or partisan groups, formal business associations, universities, exclusive clubs or associations, newspapers and non-Surrey-based organizations (based or originating).
- Applicants who have failed to document a community contribution.
- Applicants who have failed to successfully carry out or maintain a project for which a grant was previously awarded.

Grants must **NOT** be used to:

- Duplicate an existing public or private program.
- Support ongoing programs or services.
- Replace funding lost from other sources or provide gap funding.
- Pay for the applicants operating expenses that are not directly related to the project for which the grant is awarded.
- Purchase land or buildings.
- Pay for out of City travel expenses.
- Pay for expenditures or financial commitments made before the organization's grant application was submitted.

APPENDIX II

Location of Spirit Garden – 2860 140th Street

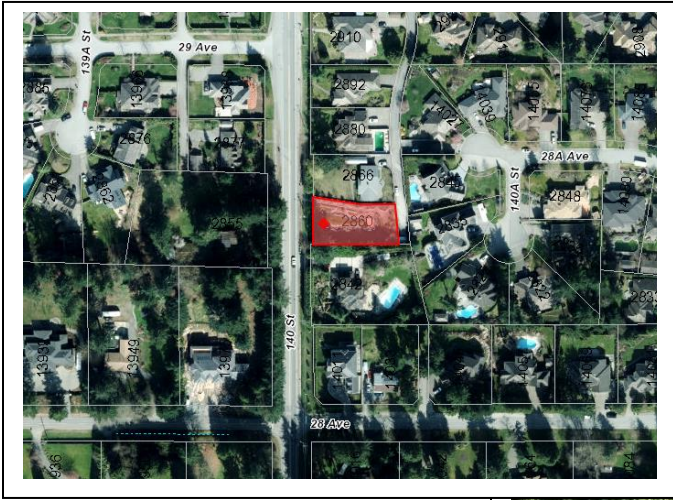


Photo of pathway locations for proposed trellis gateways.



2014 FINANCIAL PLAN
COMMUNITY ENHANCEMENT PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM

Description	Amount	Allocation to	
		Date	Remaining
Carried Forward from Previous Years		\$	38,037.42
Grants awarded in 2012			
24. Surrey Appreciates ME (SAME) Group	\$ 3,000.00		
25. Friends of Semiahmoo Bay Society, Little Campbell Watershed Society	\$ 3,000.00		
26. Bolivar Heights Community Association and James Ardiel Elementary School	\$ 527.60		
27. LA Matheson Secondary School	\$ 3,000.00		
28. Community Clean Landscapes- Cedar Hills Elementary	\$ 800.00		
29. East Panorama Community Celebration	\$ 500.00		
30. Royal Heights Fall Fest	\$ 1,000.00		
Grants awarded in 2013			
31. West Panorama Ratepayers	\$ 3,000.00		
32. Fun Fun Playground Project	\$ 1,000.00		
33. Hall's Prairie Earth Day Project	\$ 1,000.00		
34. Hillcrest Elementary Boulevard Landscape	\$ 2,860.00		
35. Alexandra Neighbourhood House Community Garden	\$ 3,000.00		
36. Blockwatch 3-230 Chimney Hill	\$ 300.00		
37. Port Kells Farmer's Market	\$ 2,000.00		
38. Middleleglen Place Block Clean-up and Celebration	\$ 795.00		
39. Panorama Neighbourhood Association	\$ 1,000.00		
40. Surrey Urban Mission	\$ 1,000.00		
41. Sources- Food For Thought	\$ 3,000.00		
42. FCA Swank Storyboard	\$ 3,000.00		
Grants awarded in 2014 (to date)			
43. West Panorama Ratepayers Delta View	\$3,000		
44. Friends of the Grove	\$1,000		
45. Keys Health- Street Sweepers Social Club	\$3,000		
46. Whalley's Corner Community Festival	\$1,000		
47. Fleetwood 84th Ave Café StreetFEST	\$1,000		
48. FACADE- 10729 King George Blvd- Yang Family	\$1,260		
49. East Panorama street clean up	\$300		
50. Panorama Neighbourhood Association	\$1,000		
51. Streetrich HipHop Society	\$1,000		
52. Spirit Garden Trellises (proposed)	\$3,000		
Total allocations :	\$ 49,342.60	\$	87,380.02
		\$	67,069.98