

NO: 7

COUNCIL DATE: 2014-09-23

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## FINANCE COMMITTEE

TO: Mayor & Council DATE: September 23, 2014

FROM: General Manager, Parks, Recreation & Culture FILE: 1850-01  
General Manager, Finance & Technology

SUBJECT: Community Enhancement Partnership (CEP) Program – Boulevard Planting  
Project at 124<sup>th</sup> Street and 68<sup>th</sup> Avenue – Funding Request

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## 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 \$500 for a boulevard planting project at 124<sup>th</sup> Street and 68<sup>th</sup> Avenue.

## 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 two (52) 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.

### **Boulevard Planting at 124<sup>th</sup> Street and 68<sup>th</sup> Avenue**

A property owner at 124<sup>th</sup> Street and 68<sup>th</sup> Avenue has applied for a grant to plant the city boulevard along their property. The site is shown in **Appendix II**. The owners have completed planting work along 68<sup>th</sup> Avenue and would like to continue their project along 124<sup>th</sup> Street.

The property owner has requested a grant of \$500 from the City to support this project. These funds will be used to purchase plant material, construct a planter box and purchase landscape supplies. The applicant has provided an estimate of 40 volunteer hours to complete the project. The property owner has recently completed a larger boulevard planting project along 68<sup>th</sup> Avenue, and the Engineering Department is prepared to let them proceed on the basis of the design and the work completed to date.

Based on a review of the proposed project against the CEP Program Guidelines, a grant of \$500 is recommended subject to a commitment by the applicants to maintain the boulevard. The group will be required to continue to co-ordinate with the City's Traffic Operations staff to ensure that sightlines are maintained along the road. 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 \$500 for a boulevard planting project at 124<sup>th</sup> Street and 68<sup>th</sup> Avenue.

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.

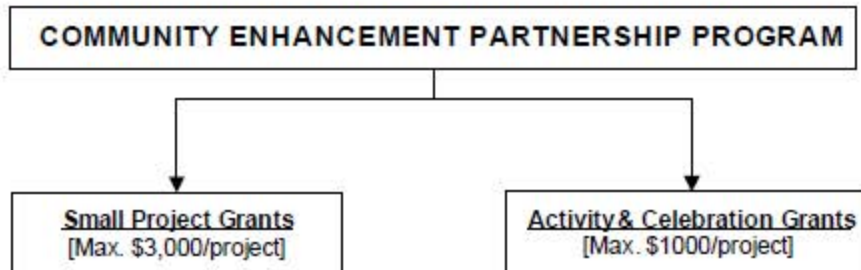
### FUNDING CRITERIA & ELIGIBILITY

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.

Boulevard Planting Project - 124<sup>th</sup> Street and 64<sup>th</sup> Avenue

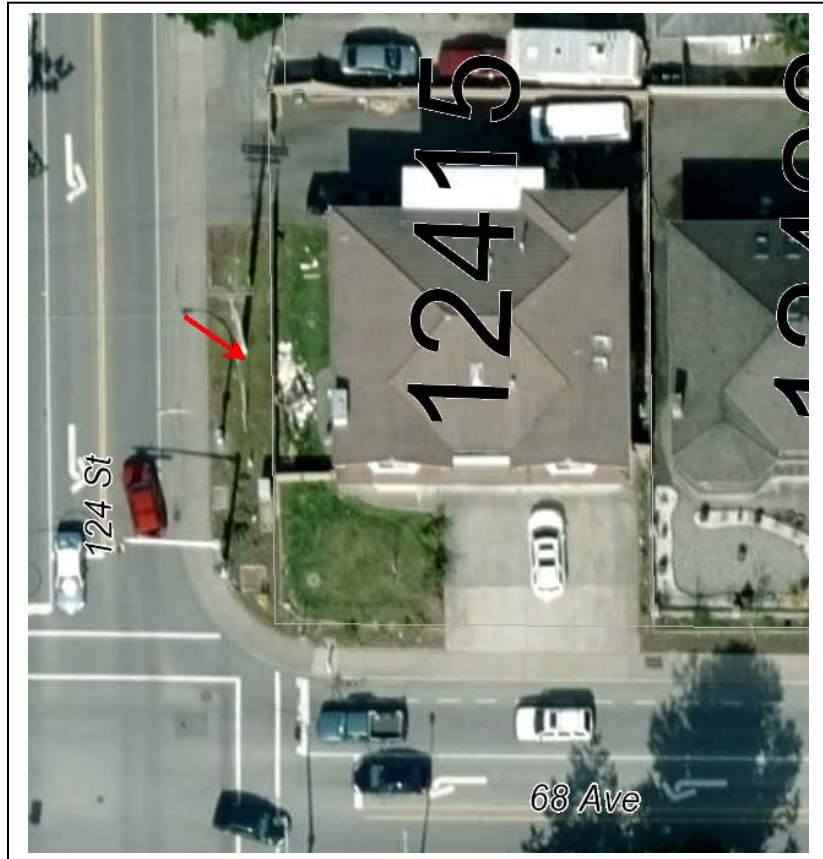


Photo of proposed phase 2 boulevard planting along 124<sup>th</sup> Street.



**2014 FINANCIAL PLAN**  
**COMMUNITY ENHANCEMENT PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM**

Description	Amount	Allocation to	
		Date	Remaining
<b>Carried Forward from Previous Years</b>		\$	38,037.42
<b>Grants awarded in 2012</b>			
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		
<b>Grants awarded in 2013</b>			
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. Middleglen 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		
<b>Grants awarded in 2014 (to date)</b>			
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	\$3,000		
53. 101A Ave Block Party (proposed)	\$400		
54. FACADE- 10768 King George Blvd Flamingo Hotel (proposed)	\$2,615		
55. 124th and 68th Ave boulevard planting (proposed)	\$500		
<b>Total allocations :</b>	\$ 52,857.60	\$	<b>90,895.02</b>
		\$	<b>63,554.98</b>