

NO: **F004**

COUNCIL DATE: **JANUARY 12, 2015**

FINANCE COMMITTEE

TO: **Mayor & Council** DATE: **January 5, 2015**

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

SUBJECT: **Community Enhancement Partnership (CEP) Program Grant Applications – Friends of the Grove**

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 of up to \$1,000 to Friends of the Grove, to support a community gathering in the Grove in Newton.

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.

The community has been notified of this program through stakeholder mail-outs, newspaper ads, press releases, promotional posters at civic facilities and on the City's website. A Grant Selections Committee has been established with representatives from various departments and is responsible for assessing grant applications that are received under the Program. Fifty seven (57) CEP Program grants have been approved to date by City Council.

The following sections of this report provide a description and evaluation of an application for a grant under the CEP Program that was recently received by the City.

DISCUSSION

Gathering in the Grove: Grassroots Place-making in Newton

The Friends of the Grove have applied for a CEP Activity and Celebration Grant for \$1,000 to support a grassroots community poetry celebration in the grove of trees on City property just east of the Newton Wave Pool. Since March 2014, members of the group have become stewards of this area, helping to reduce litter, vandalism and vagrancy in the space through active programming and engagement. The proposed poetry celebration will be held to mark National Poetry Writing Month (NaPoWriMo) in April. At least one additional event will also be held in February on Valentine's Day in the lead up to NaPoWriMo.

The poetry events are intended to create opportunities for residents in Newton to engage with each other and further strengthen the emerging community hub at the Grove. The grassroots events help to further connect and empower residents, creating an inclusive and safe community atmosphere.

The Friends of the Grove have asked for \$1,000 in funding for basic materials for the poetry events. The funding will be used for refreshments (\$300), art and construction supplies (\$450), advertising and printing costs (\$250). The group regularly dedicates 15 hours per week in planning meetings and organizing events. A number of community members and businesses will be donating supplies for the NaPoWriMo.

Based on a review of the project against the CEP Program criteria, a grant of up to \$1,000 to the Friends of the Grove is considered reasonable, subject to the following conditions:

- the Friends of the Grove work with the Parks Recreation and Culture, Special Projects Manager and Community and Recreation Services Manager in Newton to ensure insurance and permission are obtained;
- submit receipts for the poetry month events; and
- submit photographs to the City that act to document this community project.

Funding

Appendix II provides information on the status of funding related to the Community Enhancement Partnership Program based 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 Sustainability Charter Goals SC 6, 7, 8 and 13.

CONCLUSION

Based on the above discussion, it is recommended that the Finance Committee recommend that Council approve a grant under the CEP Program of up to \$1,000 to Friends of the Grove to support a community gathering in the Grove in Newton.

Laurie Cavan
General Manager
Parks, Recreation and Culture

Vivienne Wilke, CGA
General Manager
Finance and Technology

Appendix I: CEPP Program Overview and Guidelines

Appendix II: Status of Community Enhancement Partnership Program Funding

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APPENDIX I - CEPP Program Overview and Guidelines



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.

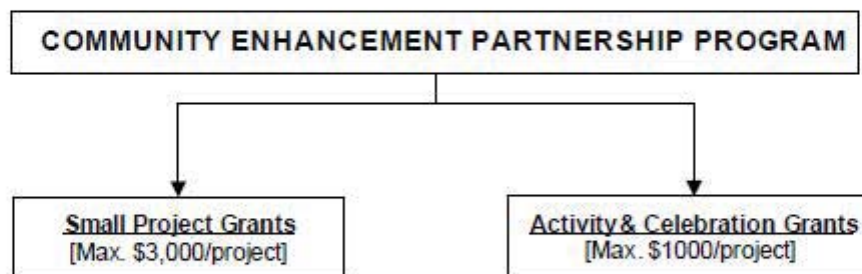
FUNDING CRITERIA & ELIGIBILITY

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 - Status of Community Enhancement Partnership Program Funding



**2014 FINANCIAL PLAN
COMMUNITY ENHANCEMENT PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM**

Description	Amount	Remaining
2009 Budget Allocation	\$ 25,000.00	
2010 Budget Allocation	\$ 25,000.00	
2011 Budget Allocation	\$ 25,000.00	
2012 Budget Allocation	\$ 25,000.00	
2013 Budget Allocation	\$ 25,000.00	
2014 Budget Allocation	\$ 25,000.00	
2015 Budget Allocation	\$ 25,000.00	\$ 175,000.00
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	\$ 550.00	
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. Middlelegn 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		
43. West Panorama Ratepayers Delta View	\$ 3,000.00	
44. Friends of the Grove	\$ 1,000.00	
45. Keys Health- Street Sweepers Social Club	\$ 3,000.00	
46. Whalley's Corner Community Festival	\$ 1,000.00	
47. Fleetwood 84th Ave Café StreetFEST	\$ 1,000.00	
48. FAÇADE- 10729 King George Blvd- Yang Family	\$ 1,260.00	
49. East Panorama street clean up	\$ 300.00	
50. Panorama Neighbourhood Association	\$ 1,000.00	
51. Streetrich HipHop Society	\$ -	
52. Spirit Garden Trellises	\$ 3,000.00	
53. 101A Ave Block Party	\$ 400.00	
54. FAÇADE- 10768 King George Blvd Flamingo Hotel	\$ 2,615.00	
55. 124th and 68th Ave boulevard planting	\$ 500.00	
56. FAÇADE- 7 Days Grocery	\$ 3,000.00	
57. Ocean Park Community Association Winter Wonderland	\$ 900.00	
Grants awarded in 2015		
58. Friends of the Grove (proposed)	\$ 1,000.00	
Total allocations :	\$ 95,280.00	\$ 24,176.00