

# Community Grant Program

## Overview

Total annual funding:	\$100,000
Individual award amounts:	\$2,000-\$15,000
Match:	50% of grant amount (includes volunteer hours, staff time, etc.)
Award period:	12 months
Eligible applicants:	Businesses Community & neighborhood groups Non-profit organizations Faith-based organizations Youth programs Schools, colleges & universities Institutions Individuals age 18 and over
Eligible projects:	<p><b>Waste prevention and reuse</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Don't buy/use it (e.g., food waste prevention, tool and tableware lending libraries, durable, returnable and reusable food service ware, toxics reduction)</li><li>- Fix it instead of replacing it (e.g., repair cafes)</li><li>- Donate it for someone else to use (e.g., food recovery, bikes)</li><li>- Onsite, closed-loop composting</li></ul> <p><i>Not eligible: recycling, off-site composting, disposal</i></p> <p><b><u>AND</u> at least one of the following:</b></p> <p><b>Innovative</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Start-up funds to pilot new ideas</li><li>- Bring new approaches to Seattle</li><li>- Expand innovative ideas to a larger audience</li></ul> <p><b>Extend our reach</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Underserved communities (people of color, immigrant &amp; refugee, low-income, differently-abled)</li><li>- Other communities where we want to extend our reach (youth, young adults, seniors, new residents)</li></ul> <p><b>Benefit vulnerable populations</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Provide free or low-cost resources (e.g., food recovery)</li><li>- Increase job skills or create jobs</li></ul>

## Feedback requested from SWAC

### Selection criteria

**Do you recommend any changes or additions to the following selection criteria categories?**

*Applicant must detail benefits of project during the grant period and the long-term sustainability of the project's impact post grant period.*

1. Waste prevention potential
2. Innovation
3. Potential for extending our reach
4. Benefits to the community
5. Capacity to complete the project
6. Accurate, reasonable and consistent budget

**Application rankings may be adjusted to ensure variety in:**

- Geographic distribution of projects
- Impacted communities
- Types of projects
- Customer sectors (commercial, multi-family, etc.)

### Advertising the grant

**What suggestions do you have for advertising the grant program to attract a wide range of applicants?**

1. Ideas on specific organizations, businesses or community partner networks to include in the advertisement list?
2. 2 pre-submittal grant workshops
  - a. 1 in South Seattle and 1 in North Seattle
  - b. Interpretation available

### Equitable access and outcomes

**Do you think the following strategies will be effective at helping us achieve equitable access and outcomes, so applicants who may struggle with written and English application processes will be able to successfully compete for funding? Do you have other suggestions?**

1. **Advertising the grant:**
  - a. In-language recruitment provided through separate consultant
  - b. In-language / multi-lingual announcement emailed or mailed to organizations

**2. Application process:**

- a. Translated guidelines and application
- b. Letter of interest, followed by invitation to submit a full application
- c. Letter and application may be submitted in-language and in print, video or audio format
- d. In-language support provided through separate consultant

**3. Selection process:**

- a. Selection panel consisting of 2 SPU solid waste staff, 1 staff from SPU’s Environmental Justice & Service Equity Division or the City’s Office of Civil Rights, 2 community representatives (paid stipends for participation)
- b. In-language interview option with interpreters

**Timeline**

Is the following timeline reasonable for the community? Specifically...

- 1. Is a December-January advertisement period reasonable for the community, with letters of interest due January 31?
- 2. Is one month a reasonable time to complete the application?

Council approval of budget	November
Advertise grant	December-January
Community workshops	January
Letter of interest due	January 31
Invitations to submit proposal sent out	February 16
Proposals due	March 16 (1 month after notified)
Interviews completed	April 13
Applicants notified of decision	May 11
Contracts complete and work is implemented	July 16-June 30 (cushion up to Dec)

## Grant program name

**1. What will the community find most recognizable?**

- Matching Grant
- Matching Fund

**2. What will the community find most recognizable?**

- Prevention
- Reduction

**3. Which of the following titles do you like best?**

- a. Community Waste *Reduction/Prevention* Matching...
- b. Communities Leading in Waste *Reduction/Prevention* Matching...
- c. Communities *Reducing/Preventing* Waste Matching...
- d. Waste-Free Communities Matching...
- e. Zero-Waste Communities Matching...
- f. Other ideas? \_\_\_\_\_