

DATE: April 17, 2024

TO: Council Neighborhoods Committee

FROM: Anna Reynoso, Housing Specialist II
Julie Barnard, Affordable Housing Manager
Wayne Chen, Housing Director

SUBJECT: Fiscal Year 2024-25 Neighborhood Grant Program Funding Recommendations

RECOMMENDATION

Approve \$40,000 in Neighborhood Grant funding as shown in Table 2 for Fiscal Year 2024-25.

BACKGROUND

The Neighborhood Grant Program was established to maintain and improve neighborhoods by supporting activities that bring neighbors together and encourage participation. The grants provide financial support to encourage groups to form new neighborhood associations and to support existing associations with funding for neighborhood events. This memorandum provides background and analysis of the applications received for the Fiscal Year 2024-25 Neighborhood Grant cycle and for the Council Neighborhoods Committee (CNC) to consider staff’s funding recommendations.

For Fiscal Year 2024-25, \$40,000 is budgeted for the Neighborhood Grant Program. Neighborhood grants may be awarded up to the maximum outlined in Table 1 based on the number of households covered by the neighborhood group. Groups applying for a Neighborhood Grant for the first time are eligible for a \$100 bonus. All grant funds must be used between July 1, 2024, and June 30, 2025. There is no carryover of funds not used within this time frame.

Table 1: Maximum Grant Awards by Tier

	Maximum Award
Tier A: <500 Households	\$1,333
Tier B: 501-1,000 Households	\$2,000
Tier C: 1,001-1,500 Households	\$2,667
Tier D: > 1,501 Households	\$3,333

Neighborhood Grant Application Process

The grant application period began March 1, 2024 and concluded March 31, 2024. The application and program guidelines were posted on the City's website at <https://www.mountainview.gov/our-city/departments/housing/programs-and-resources/neighborhood-programs/neighborhood-grant-program>. See Attachment 1 for the application and guidelines.

To facilitate access to the Neighborhood Grant Program, the following steps were taken:

- Notices about the program and grant funding availability were placed on the City's website, in the *Mountain View Voice* online, emailed to the CNC interest list, and advertised via the City's social media outlets.
- On March 13, 2024 and March 21, 2024, staff held grant application webinar calls via Zoom to guide potential applicants through the process demonstrating how to submit an application. Throughout the application period, staff was available to answer questions.
- The application, program guidelines, and grant reimbursement forms were translated into Spanish and Chinese. Additionally, both webinars included Spanish and Mandarin interpretation services.

ANALYSIS

The City received 29 grant applications requesting a total of \$59,962. Applicants included the following:

- Twenty-one (21) applicants are past recipients and/or existing neighborhood groups.
- Seven (7) applicants are first-time applicants and/or new neighborhood groups.
- One applicant was the Bonita Villa Homeowners Association (HOA). Per the program guidelines, HOAs are not eligible to receive funds; therefore, their application is ineligible.

As a result, there is a total of 28 eligible grant applications for a total of \$58,462. The complete grant applications from these groups are attached for the CNC's review (Attachment 2).

The following is a summary of the proposed activities:

- Variety of proposed events such as block parties, Halloween celebrations, story hours, ice cream socials, and holiday events.

- Fund ways to share information and promote participation, such as creating newsletters and neighborhood websites, purchasing A-frames, producing flyers, and paying for Zoom subscriptions.
- Create programs for leadership and volunteer opportunities, including for youth to help design websites, support events, and help with translation services.

Staff has determined that all proposed activities meet the grant eligibility requirements.

Funding Recommendations

The total funding request exceeds the \$40,000 available. The recommended grant amounts have been prorated to ensure the total grant amount is within the \$40,000 budget. Table 2 summarizes the funding requests and staff recommendations.

Table 2: Fiscal Year 2024-25 Neighborhood Grant Requests and Funding Recommendations*

	NEIGHBORHOOD GROUP	TIER AND MAXIMUM ELIGIBILITY	AMOUNT REQUESTED	NEW GROUP BONUS	REQUEST + NEW GROUP BONUS	RECOMMENDED AWARD
1	Loreto Street Neighborhood Groups	Tier A, \$1,333	\$ 1,300	\$ 100	\$ 1,400	\$ 950
2	Sahara Mobile Village Neighborhood Association	Tier A, \$1,333	1,300	100	1,400	\$950
3	VAB—Vincent and Beyond Neighborhood Association	Tier A, \$1,333	1,333	100	1,433	\$972
4	Eagle Park Youth Ultimate Frisbee Group	Tier B, \$2,000	1,800	100	1,900	\$1,289
5	Grupo de Embajadores de Mountain View	Tier B, \$2,000	2,200	100	2,100	\$1,425
6	Arts Mountain View	Tier D, \$3,333	3,333	100	3,433	\$2,329
7	CalTega	Tier D, \$3,333	3,333	100	3,433	\$2,329
8	Blossom Valley	Tier A, \$1,333	1,333	-0-	1,333	\$904

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	NEIGHBORHOOD GROUP	TIER AND MAXIMUM ELIGIBILITY	AMOUNT REQUESTED	NEW GROUP BONUS	REQUEST + NEW GROUP BONUS	RECOMMENDED AWARD
9	Dutch Haven Neighborhood Association	Tier A, \$1,333	1,333	-0-	1,333	\$904
10	Hedgerow Group	Tier A, \$1,333	1,333	-0-	1,333	\$904
11	Martens Carmelita Neighborhood	Tier A, \$1,333	1,333	-0-	1,333	\$904
12	Moorpark Mobile Home Parks	Tier A, \$1,333	1,333	-0-	1,333	\$904
13	Santiago Villa Neighborhood Association	Tier A, \$1,333	1,333	-0-	1,333	\$904
14	Springer Meadows Neighborhood Association	Tier A, \$1,333	1,333	-0-	1,333	\$904
15	Springer Tree Neighborhood Association	Tier A, \$1,333	1,333	-0-	1,333	\$904
16	Sunset Estates Mobilehome Owners Association	Tier A, \$1,333	1,333	-0-	1,333	\$904
17	Cooper Park Neighborhood Association	Tier B, \$2,000	2,000	-0-	2,000	\$1,357
18	Gemello	Tier B, \$2,000	2,000	-0-	2,000	\$1,357
19	North Whisman Neighborhood Association	Tier B, \$2,000	2,000	-0-	2,000	\$1,357
20	Rex Manor Neighborhood Association	Tier B, \$2,000	2,000	-0-	2,000	\$1,357
21	Varsity Park Neighborhood Association	Tier B, \$2,000	2,000	-0-	2,000	\$1,357
22	Monta Loma Neighborhood Association	Tier C, \$2,667	2,667	-0-	2,667	\$1,809
23	Wagon Wheel Neighborhood Association	Tier C, \$2,667	2,667	-0-	2,667	\$1,809

	NEIGHBORHOOD GROUP	TIER AND MAXIMUM ELIGIBILITY	AMOUNT REQUESTED	NEW GROUP BONUS	REQUEST + NEW GROUP BONUS	RECOMMENDED AWARD
24	Slater Neighborhood Association	Tier D, \$3,333	3,200	-0-	3,200	\$2,171
25	Community Action Team	Tier D, \$3,333	3,333	-0-	3,333	\$2,261
26	Cuesta Park Neighborhood Association	Tier D, \$3,333	3,333	-0-	3,333	\$2,261
27	Old Mountain View Neighborhood Association	Tier D, \$3,333	3,333	-0-	3,333	\$2,261
28	Shoreline West Association of Neighbors	Tier D, \$3,333	3,333	-0-	3,333	\$2,261

TOTALS			\$58,462	\$700	\$40,000	
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* Does not include Bonita Villa HOA as HOAs are not eligible to receive funds.

NOTE: Any funding requests that exceeded the Tier maximum eligibility amount have been adjusted.

NEXT STEPS

Upon approval by the CNC, all grant recipients will enter into an agreement with the City to spend funds as described in their applications. Funding will be available beginning July 1, 2024. All funds must be spent during Fiscal Year 2024-25. Recipients must submit reimbursement forms and receipts for grant activities by June 30, 2025. The reimbursement process helps ensure that grants are only used for eligible expenditures and not for personal benefit.

ALTERNATIVES

1. Provide other funding recommendations.
2. Increase the CNC budget to \$60,000 in order to fully fund all groups.
3. Provide other direction.

AR-JB-WC/4/HSN

844-04-17-24M-1

- Attachments:
1. Fiscal Year 2024-25 Neighborhood Grant Guidelines
 2. Fiscal Year 2024-25 Grant Applications