

# NDA Grant Program Revisions

- Program's evolution from 1998 to today
- How well is the program currently working? What we learned.
- Steps the city is taking for program efficiencies and cost savings to free up resources for NDAs
- Proposed revisions and benefits of each
- Next steps



# NDA Matching Grant Program (1998-2010)

- Resolution 9-1998 established program, which expanded the resources available to the NDAs to build community.
- Categories of projects available for funding included the following, which still applies today:
  - Neighborhood Organizing/Organizational Development
  - Neighborhood Physical Improvements
  - Neighborhood Preservation
  - Neighborhood Cultural, Social, or Recreational Initiatives
- Application process required for each grant including a matching contribution of equal or greater value than the amount requested. Match could come from:
  - Volunteer Labor (At least 25%)
  - Cash
  - Cash value of donated supplies, equipment, space, or professional services



# NDA Grant Program (2010-present)

- **Program revised:**
  - Reduce amount of staff time to administer
  - Allow NDAs easier access to funds
- 7 NDAs now given a lump sum of \$4,000 annually after completion of Annual NDA Grant Report
- **Key points about current version:**
  - Categories of projects eligible same as original
  - NDA Grants Policy updated annually
  - NDAs develop, approve, and use the funding for their own projects
  - Community partners can apply directly to NDAs for funding



# One Survey and Two NDA Leadership Meetings – What we learned

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## **NDA Goal setting:**

- Most NDAs have annual goals that don't change
- Not a lot of bandwidth for new goals, need to be realistic with available financial resources and volunteers

## **Funding:**

- NDAs unsure about how large bank accounts should grow. What is the right “scale” for an NDA?
- Some NDAs think that there isn't enough funding coming from the city for NDA led projects, but some have enough.
- NDAs that would like more funding could use \$1,500 to \$2,000 more each year
- Some have tried fundraising on own with some success, but others haven't tried
- Many NDAs can't do own events in order to grant requests to others
- NDAs sometimes have to deny or reduce grant requests to afford own events

## **Current NDA Grant Categories (Established in 1998):**

- Are unclear/outdated
- Term “grant” is confusing – some “grants within grants”
- Make purpose clearer





# What we learned

- **Applications from non-profits/community groups:**
  - NDAs value the ability to provide small grants to community partners and would like to retain the ability to do so
  - NDAs have different processes for awarding grants to others
  - Applicants don't know if their project qualifies and are confused by the process.
  - Applicants don't know what amount is reasonable to ask for from the NDAs.



## NDA Program – Annual Report Balances (Prior to annual \$4,000 deposit)

NDA	June 30, 2023	June 30, 2022	June 30, 2021	June 30, 2020	June 30, 2019
Ardenwald- Johnson Creek	\$5,743	\$5,801	\$2,301	\$2,474	\$509
Hector Campbell	\$3,383	\$3,954	\$3,812	\$4,589	\$3,937
Historic Milwaukie	\$3,964	\$2,888	\$2,918	\$7,318	\$6,801
Island Station	\$14,298	\$15,434	\$13,659	\$14,858	\$15,352
Lake Road	\$8,696	\$9,688	\$2,092	\$10,593	\$9,285
Lewelling	\$5,775	\$7,108	\$4,308	\$4,632	\$5,969
Linwood	\$11,395	\$9,717	\$8,838	\$9,362	\$7,471
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$53,254</b>	<b>\$54,590</b>	<b>\$37,928</b>	<b>\$53,826</b>	<b>\$49,324</b>
<b>Median</b>	<b>\$5,775</b>	<b>\$7,108</b>	<b>\$3,812</b>	<b>\$7,318</b>	<b>\$6,801</b>



## NDA Insurance Policies (Renewed each July)

NDA	2023	2022	2021	2020	2019
Ardenwald-Johnson Creek	\$711	\$710	\$615	\$525	\$605
Hector Campbell	\$751	\$757	\$700	\$700	\$700
Historic Milwaukie	\$525	\$665	\$600	\$465	\$580
Island Station	\$525	\$520	\$520	\$520	\$540
Lake Road	\$525	\$520	\$520	\$465	\$555
Lewelling	\$555	\$835	\$805	\$465	\$740
Linwood	\$560	\$495	\$495	\$465	\$770
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$4,152</b>	<b>\$4,502</b>	<b>\$4,255</b>	<b>\$3,605</b>	<b>\$4,490</b>
<b>Median</b>	<b>\$555.47</b>	<b>\$665</b>	<b>\$600</b>	<b>\$465</b>	<b>\$605</b>



# Maximizing program efficiencies & cost savings

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- FY 2024-25 will include more support for multicultural events, which should reduce the need for event coordinators to ask for NDA funding. That support includes:
  - More city support for Pride and Juneteenth
  - The creation of a new program with a total of \$10,000 available for multicultural events. This is meant to further support the City Council Goal of Equity, Inclusion, and Justice.
- City is exploring ideas for providing insurance to the NDAs through the city's current provider, which could reduce costs.





# Proposed changes to NDA Grant Program

## New Name

- NDA Grant Program to **Milwaukie Neighborhood Enhancement Program (MNEP)**

## Eligibility/Fund Availability

- Recommendation is to keep it the same. Annual disbursement to NDAs after final report submitted and approved in April/May.

## Distribution of Funding – Two Ways

1. NDA led projects – No change to title.
2. **Community Connection Grants – NEW TITLE!**
  - Continue to be reviewed and approved by NDAs
  - Non-profits/community groups can apply for **up to \$500 per fiscal year from each NDA.**
  - **New application form that is clearer about process.**
  - **Must illustrate direct benefit within NDA boundaries.**
  - All recipients of funding **must complete a report and come back to NDA to report on results.**



# Revised Categories

**Currently – Neighborhood Organizing/Organizational Development:** Activities, services and materials that generate new neighborhood membership, grow the organization to educate neighborhood leadership toward the organization's development and continued operation.



1. **NEW: Neighborhood Capacity Building Initiatives:** Activities, services, and materials that create, diversify, and increase participation in the NDA and support and educate leadership toward the NDA's development and continued operation.

- **Allowable expenses:**
  - Administrative expenses
  - Equipment or services to hold in-person meetings with a virtual option
  - Marketing and outreach costs
  - Food and refreshments for meetings
  - Facility use fees for meetings/events



# Revised categories

**Currently** - Materials and services that promote diversity, family literacy programs, neighborhood computer labs, after school enrichment programs, youth athletic leagues, career preparation, services for the needy, disabled or elderly and cultural activities such as music, dance, or art programs.

**2. Neighborhood Cultural, Social and Recreational Initiatives: NEW:** Activities, services and materials that bring people together, build community, and promote diversity, equity and inclusion within the neighborhood.

- **Examples of past projects:**
  - Concerts in parks
  - Movies in parks
  - Neighborhood picnics
  - Intersection paintings as approved by the city
  - Little free libraries
  - Litter cleanup volunteer events





## Revised categories

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**Currently** – Materials and services to be used toward playgrounds, minor park improvements, community gardens and other facilities, neighborhood markers, identity signs, banners, trash cans, benches, etc.

**3. Neighborhood Physical Improvements:** **NEW:** Materials and services to be used toward minor physical improvements approved by the city (or other appropriate public entity) on publicly owned land.

- **Examples of past projects:**
  - Neighborhood entrance/welcome signs
  - Playground improvements
  - Minor park improvements
  - Community garden improvements
  - And similar projects





# Revised categories

**Currently – Neighborhood Preservation:** Materials and services that sustain or enhance the health, public safety and welfare of the neighborhood such as crime watch, traffic management, or home weatherization programs; or contribute positively to the neighborhood aesthetic quality such as design guideline development, community property maintenance programs or beautification programs.

**4. NEW: Neighborhood Sustainability, Resilience, and Safety:** Activities, materials and services that support the neighborhood's ecological health and vitality and/or ability to prevent, withstand and recover from the harmful impacts of natural hazards.

- **Examples of past projects:**
  - Cleanup and beautification events
  - Tree planting events and projects
  - Community garden improvements
  - Seed sharing initiatives
  - Support of Community Emergency Response Teams (CERT)
  - And others



# Revised project criteria and reporting

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- **Program Criteria**

- **Project must provide a direct public benefit within the NDA's boundaries.** (NOTE: This has always been included in the NDA Grant Program, but not consistently required.)
- Projects designated to receive funding for a particular purpose (i.e. earmarked, set aside, allocated to, etc.) must be **achieved in two years or less**.

- **Reporting**

- NDA's with gross bank account **balances exceeding \$15,000 will not be eligible to receive the next allotment of MNEP funding until the gross balance falls below \$15,000** and it can be shown on a bank statement.

- **Community Connection Grants**

- Grant recipients are not eligible for future grants until they have **closed the loop with the NDA and provided a final report to the NDA**, preferably in person at a regular NDA meeting if possible.



## Next Steps

- Complete all proposed revisions to the program including:
  - Revised Program Policy and Criteria
  - Revised application material
  - Revised Reporting Forms
- Bring a new resolution to council to finalize the revisions
- Implement the newly revised program at the start of Fiscal Year 2024-2025 (July 1, 2024)
  - Program will operate as is until the end of the current Fiscal Year (June 30, 2024)





# QUESTIONS

