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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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SUSTAINING URBANA NEIGHBORHOODS GRANT PROGRAM

In keeping with the City of Urbana goal for climate resiliency and sustainability the Urbana Grants Division – Community Development Services Department presents the Sustaining Urbana Neighborhoods (SUN) Grant Program, which will be open for grant application submissions beginning September 3, 2024.

"The Urbana City Council established this new grant program to enhance climate resiliency and sustainability through small-scale projects, with a focus on Community Development Target Areas. It encourages neighborhood-based projects and activities that build community and promote health and wellness," Mayor Diane Wolfe Marlin said.

Program overview

The SUN program provides funding to support programs, services, or small-scale improvement projects that improve one or more of the following:

- Promotes healthy, sustainable, community living
- Fosters creativity and collaboration to enhance climate resiliency
- Includes diverse, multi-generational Urbana residents in the process of creating climate related actions and strategies

The targeted grant amount is \$10,000 per project. The city will accept applications for larger projects on a case-by-case basis. The total grant program funding is \$100,000. Preference will be given to projects that are located in Urbana's Community Development Target Areas (See attached CDTA map).

In order to be eligible to receive funding through this program, applicants must be either:

- A public or private nonprofit entity, or
- An individual or neighborhood group that has a nonprofit sponsor. More information on nonprofit sponsors is included under Program Guidelines.

Applications will be accepted between September 3, 2024, and November 4, 2024. Final awards will be announced in late November, 2024.

Completed applications along with all required supporting documentation must be sent to grants@urbanaillinois.us. Incomplete application packets will not be considered for funding.

Specific program guidelines

Private nonprofit applicants must be registered with the State of Illinois, and must provide proof of good standing. Applicants that do not meet these criteria are ineligible for funding, unless an eligible nonprofit sponsor is identified in the application. Entities identified as the nonprofit sponsor will serve as the fiscal agent for the grant, and will be responsible for any funds awarded through this program.

Agencies funded by the City of Urbana shall not discriminate based on race, ethnicity, religion, sexual orientation, criminal conviction, familial status, personal appearance or any other protected class, as consistent with the provisions of the City of Urbana Human Rights Ordinance.

As a municipal entity, the City of Urbana is bound by the Constitution of the State of Illinois, including Article I and Article X. Accordingly, agencies or programs that are religiously based, exist for the advancement of religious doctrine, or require participants to engage in religious activities or religious programs as a condition of assistance, may not be eligible to funding.

Projects or programs that receive funding through this grant opportunity must be completed by September 30, 2025.

For more information about the City of Urbana, please visit www.urbanaillinois.us.

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Community Development Target Area

