



THE NEIGHBORHOOD GRANT PROGRAM & APPLICATION

Updated May 27, 2022

Background and Overview

The Neighborhood Grant Program (TNGP) is open to all Appleton registered neighborhoods that participate in the City's Neighborhood Program. The grants assist in strengthening and sustaining the social network of the Appleton community and may be applied to projects that enhance cultural, beautification, recreation, education, neighborhood cleanup, neighborhood safety, and family/youth issues through resident-driven activities within each neighborhood. The grants encourage and support neighborhood groups to invest in and build on the existing strengths and assets of each neighborhood. Grants are intended to spur small, grassroots community efforts and improve the quality of life of each neighborhood through resident involvement. TNGP provides an opportunity for residents to partner with the City, promote the value of community, and support strong and stable neighborhoods throughout the City of Appleton.

How to Apply

Typically, the grant applications will be processed twice per year on August 1 and February 1. However, staff shall reserve the option, but not an obligation, to process applications at other times when warranted. Applications should be submitted to the Community and Economic Development Department (CEDD) by the target date, unless arrangements have been made with CEDD staff ahead of time. In the event a project takes more than six months to complete, the neighborhood will not have to re-apply unless substantial changes to the project are proposed. All grants will be subject to funding source(s) and availability.

Grant Requirements and Scoring Criteria

All grants will be subject to the requirements of the funding source (ex: Community Development Block Grant (CDBG), General Fund, partner businesses, etc.). The following are additional requirements and scoring criteria for award:

- Only registered neighborhoods will be considered for TNGP grants.
- Each application must have a minimum of three (3) households within the registered neighborhood “signed on” as supporters of the project. Preference will be given to those neighborhoods that have engaged a higher percentage of their residents.
- Preference will be given to neighborhoods that have actively participated in the programs offered by the City’s Neighborhood Program.
- Each grant will be reviewed against how well it would “assist in strengthening and sustaining the social network of the Appleton community.”
- Consideration to whether a neighborhood has received TNGP grants in the past and whether the project was completed as proposed will be given.
- Project cannot commence prior to approval of grant award.
- A pre-application meeting with CEDD staff is required.

Grant funds will not be provided directly to the neighborhood. Instead, funds will be paid to the provider of the service/materials directly upon submittal of the proper documentation to CEDD. The City of Appleton Procurement Policy applies to all CDBG and General Fund activities that involve the purchase of equipment, materials, supplies, and/or services. A copy of this policy will be distributed to all TNGP recipients.

Funding Sources

Funds available for TNGP are currently administered through two funding sources, the CDBG program and General Fund. The location and type of project may impact which source(s) could be utilized, as explained below.

Information Specific to the CDBG Program

Qualifying Projects: CDBG funds come with restriction of use area and use type. The attached low and moderate income (LMI) map indicates use areas. The following list is a summary of possible project types that could qualify.

In LMI Areas Only:

- Improvements to “Publically Accessible” property:
 - Publically accessible is typically a park, school, etc.
 - Examples: benches, lighting, signage, artwork, play equipment, plantings
- Projects that qualify as an “Area Benefit” to all residents of an LMI area:
 - Infrastructure

- Paving of streets/curb & gutter
- Neighborhood facilities
- Commercial facade improvements in primarily residential areas

Spot Blight Removal (does not have to be in LMI area):

- Spot blight removal includes:
 - Demolition of vacant/deteriorated and abandoned building(s)
 - Physical removal of environmental contaminants
 - Movement of structures to other sites
 - Rehabilitation, only to the extent necessary for safety
 - Historical preservation

***Eligibility for spot blight removal will be considered on a case by case basis. ***

Review Process: CEDD staff will perform a review of each application, in accordance with the rules and regulations of the funding source, and offer an analysis to be considered by Community & Economic Development Committee and Common Council. The Community & Economic Development Committee makes a recommendation to the Common Council who makes the final decision on the matter.

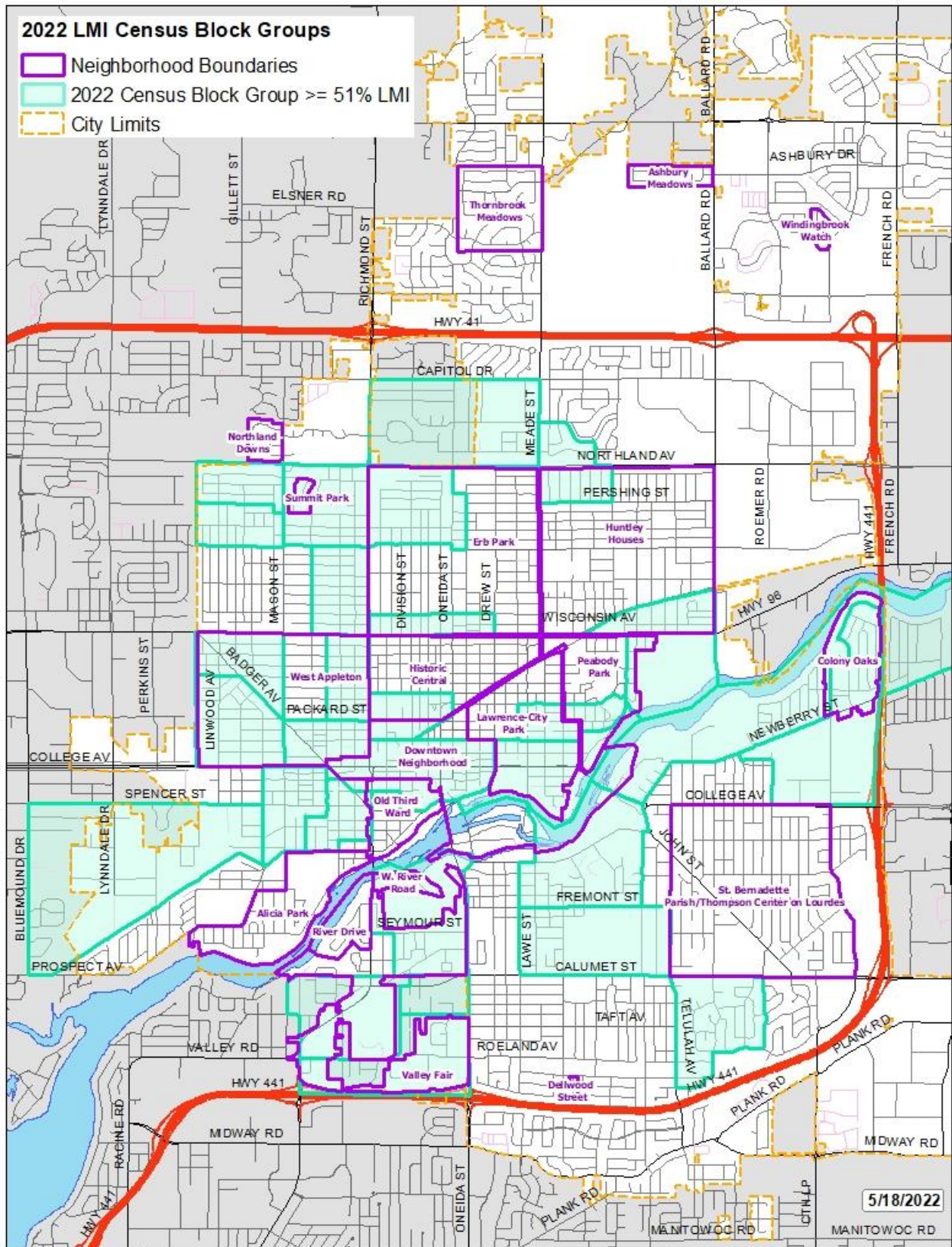
Information Specific to the General Fund

Qualifying Projects: Funding from the General Fund is available to all registered neighborhoods, not just those that meet restrictive CDBG criteria. To truly strengthen our entire City, neighborhoods need the tools to connect with their neighbors. Eligible projects could be:

- Polls/surveys of the neighborhood
- Community gatherings
- Other opportunities to promote communication and identify needs

Review Process: Applications will be administratively reviewed by CEDD staff, based on the criteria described above.

ATTACHMENT: Map detailing low and moderate income (LMI) areas.





Questions and completed applications can be directed to:

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Community & Economic
Development Department
100 N. Appleton Street
Appleton, WI 54911
(920) 832-6463
matthew.rehbein@appleton.org

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NEIGHBORHOOD GRANT PROGRAM APPLICATION

A pre-application meeting with CEDD staff is required.

- 1) Name of Registered Neighborhood:

Historic Central Neighborhood, Appleton

- 2) Applicant Name, Phone, E-Mail:

Brianne Connelly
918 625 5895
b.connelly26@gmail.com

- 3) Anticipated funding source(s):

CDBG: \$80,000
General Fund: \$0

- 4) Please list any Neighborhood Program activities in which representatives of this neighborhood have participated in:

Neighborhood Meetings (most recent May 22, 2023 meeting included 7 HCN residents of the total 12 attendees present)

Approximately 5 meetings to discuss the Neighborhood Program and how HCN can access the benefits of it by Brianne Connelly from State St. over the past year.

- 5) Describe, in detail, what your proposed project entails (provide map or sketch as appropriate):

See Appendix A for Columbus Renovation Image

Narrative Description: We are seeking to meet student and neighborhood needs through enhancement of the Columbus Elementary School Playground. This renovation includes (Area 1) the removal of asphalt, extension of wood chips,

installation of 3 bays of swings (6 swings), installation of a shade structure over an existing bench, addition of play equipment designated for 2 year olds and up, (Area 2) removal of one play structure, installation of an asphalt path from the asphalt yard to the northwest set of double doors directly off of the current wood-chipped play structure area, (Area 3) removal of asphalt, planting of grass seed and/or sod, removal of boulders currently making up outdoor classroom, removal of funnel ball topper, removal of one basketball pole, hoop and backboard, replacement of dead tree, (Area 4) installation of two new varying height basketball poles, hoops and backboards, and traction-enhanced painting on the asphalt.

List Description:

Remove asphalt in ~area 1
Install additional wood chips in ~area 1
Install swings in ~area 1
Install shade cover over bench in ~area 1
Install play equipment appropriate for kids ages 2 and up in ~area 1
Remove small playground in ~area 2
Lay new path to back doors in ~area 2
Remove asphalt in ~area 3
Plant grass and section off for approximately 1 year while the grass gets established in ~area 1
Remove and replace dead tree in ~area 3
Remove boulders in ~area 3
Remove funnel ball in ~area 3
Install 2 basketball poles, hoops, and backboards in ~area 4
Paint traction-enhanced maze/mural/visual design on asphalt in ~area 4

- 6) What is the project's anticipated "service area" (area that will benefit from the project)?

See Appendix B for three slightly different, yet overlapping service areas for consideration.

This project's service area includes the Historic Central Neighborhood, surrounding neighborhoods and the students, staff, and families at Columbus Elementary School and Appleton Bilingual School.

- 7) Describe how this project would assist in strengthening and sustaining the social network of the Appleton community:

The Columbus Elementary playground is a unique space utilized by the school and surrounding neighborhood. We are seeking to make the playground safer, utilize the space more fully, and create a community gathering space for the neighborhood.

The Columbus playground is regularly used by neighborhood residents on the weekends and after-school hours. It is used multiple hours of the day on school days by PreK-5th graders who attend Columbus and K-5th graders who attend school across the street at Appleton Bilingual School. Columbus serves a population that has a 78% free or reduced lunch rate. Appleton Bilingual School serves a population that has a 51% free or reduced lunch rate.

As the playground is currently majority asphalt, Columbus staff members report significant rates of student injury. Grass will provide students with a safe space to practice new gross motor skills, as well as increased water drainage for the site. Staff also report higher levels of student behavioral issues in Area 3 and 4 because there is little engagement for students in that area.

We are also seeking to enhance the suitability of the playground for all ages and abilities. An asphalt path to the back doors is necessary for accessibility.

Currently, that door is blocked by woodchips, yet used as a secondary entry for lunchtime and during inclement weather in the mornings. Columbus hosts a 3K program and there are currently no structures rated for pre-K. The addition of the Wobbly Web, Gaga Pit, other play structures and swings will give these young classes more opportunity to play and learn. Multiple varying height basketball hoops as well is suitable for all players, including disabled participants.

Finally, the playground additions and enhancements will further provide a gathering place for community members. The playground is a high-traffic neighborhood area for both hosted events and impromptu meet ups because it is more accessible and functional than the neighborhood park, Arbutus Park. The shade structure will be an asset to caregivers and the entire renovation will energize the community.

- 8) What is the estimated total cost of the project? How much is the neighborhood looking for from TNGP? Are there any funding sources other than TNGP? If so, please list other participating individuals/agencies.

The estimated total cost of the budget is \$80,000. HCN is asking for \$80,000 from TNGP. Other funding sources include labor and time from AASD staff and potential funding from Appleton Education Foundation.

- 9) Please include an itemized budget (attach price quotes as necessary).

Area 1

*Rip up asphalt by Davis Bacon contractor..... \$12,000
Additional wood chips....\$10,000
Installation of wood chips.....\$0

Shade cover over bench..... \$7,200
Installation of shade cover over bench....\$0
Wobbly Web.....\$8,582
Installation of Wobbly Web....\$0
3 bays of swings (6 swings).....\$4,600
Gaga Pit.....\$1,100
Installation of Gaga Pit....\$0
Additional play equipment....\$10,018
Installation of additional play equipment.....\$0
Total.....\$53,500
Total grant request.....\$53,500

*This amount includes bringing topsoil back in and rough grading it

Area 2

Removal of small playground....\$0
Asphalt and **district-contracted-out installation of new path to back
doors.....\$7,500
Total....\$7,500
Total grant request.....\$0

** This cost is not included in the grant request

Area 3

*Rip up asphalt by Davis Bacon contractor.....\$15,000
Removal of basketball pole, hoop, and backboard....\$0
Removal of dead tree.....\$0
Removal of boulders.....\$0
Removal of funnel ball.....\$0
Installation of new tree....\$0
New tree....\$500
Sod.....\$4,000
**District-contracted-out laying of sod.....\$4,000
Total.....\$23,500
Total grant request....\$19,500

*This amount includes bringing topsoil back in and rough grading it

** This cost is not included in the grant request

Area 4

2 new basketball poles and hoops.....\$6,000
Installation of 2 new basketball poles and hoops....\$0
Asphalt paint for mural/maze/etc.....\$1,000
Total....\$7,000
Total grant request.....\$7,000

Grand Total.....\$80,000

***If an amount of \$0 is indicated, it can be assumed that AASD staff will be supplying the contribution

10) Estimated start and completion dates:

Estimated Start Date: June 8, 2024

Estimated Completion Date: July 31, 2024

11) Please list residents by name/address that support this project (minimum three households must be represented, feel free to attach sheet with more):

Brianne Connelly and James Bacon, 1120 N. State St

Oliver and Rebecca Zornow, 1009 N. Oneida St.

Sandy and Richard Gibson, 808 N. Superior St.

Charisse Sylvester, 819 N. State St.

Amy Olson, 814 N. Superior St.

Keara Kelly and Woden Kusner, 809 N. Oneida St.

Anne Hemstock, 1115 N. Appleton St.

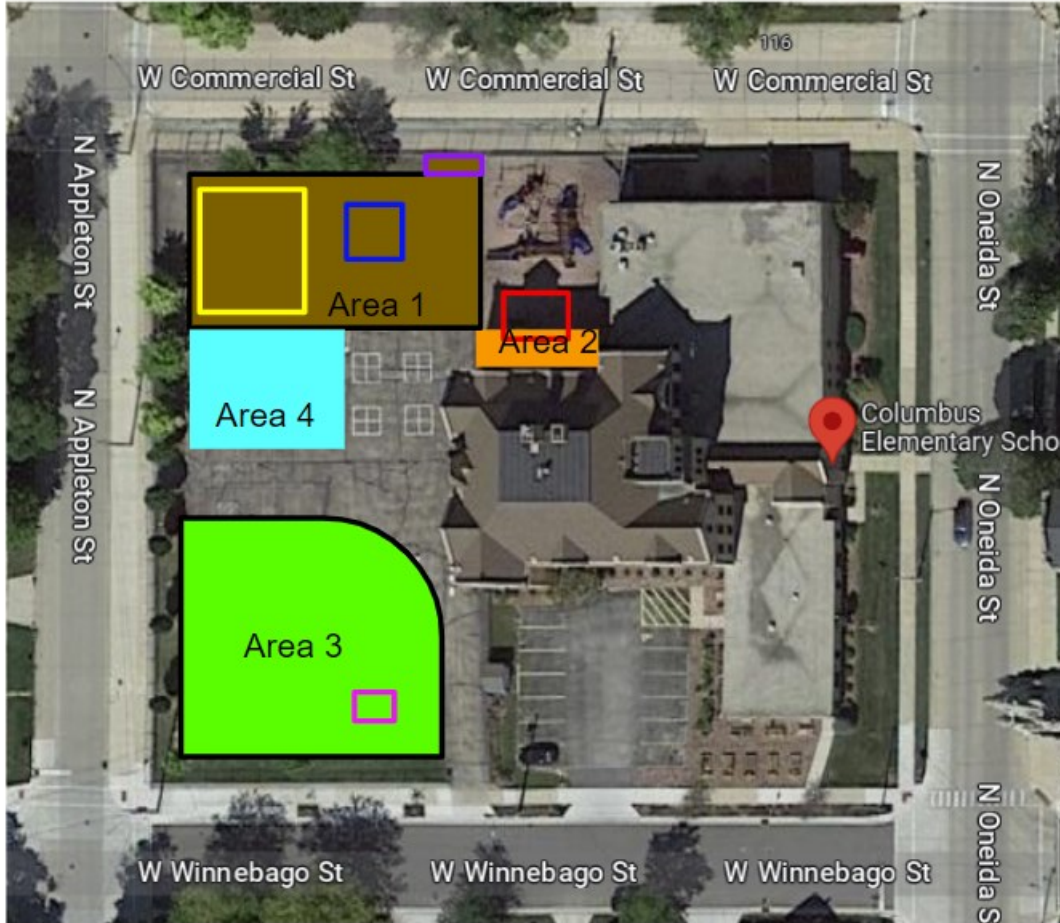
Cindy Carter, 1102 N. Superior St.

Traci Schultz, 123 E. Commercial St.

Brianne Connelly, July 14, 2023

Signature (s)

Date:



Proposed Layout

- Black outlines indicates asphalt removal
- Yellow outline indicates swings
- Purple outline indicates shade structure
- Blue outline indicates location of Wobbly Web
- Brown area indicates additional wood chips needed
- Green area indicates new grass area
- Red outline indicates small playground to be removed
- Pink outline indicates dead tree to be replaced

**Area 1 - play equipment*

**Area 2 - asphalt path to back doors*

**Area 3 - grass field*

**Area 4 - basketball*