

Attachment 2

2015 Neighborhood Matching Grant Program
Project Descriptions (Alphabetical by Neighborhood)

Bigelow Neighborhood Association – Bigelow Springs Park Landscaping

Project Ranking: 3
Grant Requested: \$1,300
Grant Recommended: \$1,300
Partners/Contractors: City of Olympia Public Works Water Resources and Parks,
Arts & Recreation Department

The neighborhood is requesting funding to complete the work they began with a 2014 matching grant to make landscape improvements at Bigelow Springs Park. Proposed work includes planting two gardens near the springs and adding ornamental glass chips. Because the site is a City-owned park and a designated critical area, Parks, Arts and Recreation and Public Works Water Resources staff will work closely with the community to ensure that the project is in line with City policy and other regulations. The project is intended to engage the community in caring for this neighborhood park and increase the enjoyment of all park users.

Bigelow Neighborhood Association – Bigelow House Orchard and Tree Repository

Project Ranking: 12
Grant Requested: \$1,418
Grant Recommended: \$1,418
Partners/Contractors: Edible Forest Gardens, the Goat Lady, Burnt Ridge Nursery

This project is intended to create an orchard on land north of Bigelow House using varieties which were grown in Western Washington during the era the house was constructed. Neighborhood association volunteers will be responsible for ongoing maintenance of the orchard. Because the national and local significance of Bigelow House – listed on the National Register of Historic Places, Washington Register of Historic Places, and Olympia Heritage Register – and the lack of historical evidence provided in the application that would meet minimum documentation standards for a bona fide cultural landscape restoration, staff recommends refraining from referring to the project as an “heirloom orchard” to avoid raising project costs. The property is owned by Olympia Historical Society and Bigelow House Museum; their agreement to the project and its scope will be required. The neighborhood hopes this orchard will contribute to visitors’ experience of the Bigelow House.

Bigelow Neighborhood Association – Street Mural

Project Ranking: 21
Grant Requested: \$1,500

Attachment 2

Grant Recommended: \$0
Partners/Contractors: Ion Ecobuilding

This street mural is intended to beautify the street, highlight the historical identity of the neighborhood, and reduce traffic speed. It would engage the community in the process of choosing the design and engage a contractor who is experienced in mandala creation. Based on its application review ranking, this project is not recommended for funding.

Bigelow Highlands Neighborhood Association – Top Bar Beehive Making

Project Ranking: 1
Grant Requested: \$900
Grant Recommended: \$900
Partners/Contractors: Edible Forest Gardens, Urban Evergreen Bee Sanctuary

The aim of this project is to bring together resident to build 50 top bar beehives. While five of the beehives paid for by the grant will be located in the Bigelow Highlands neighborhood, the impact of this work should impact the wider community by distributing beehives elsewhere. Because bees go out a five-mile radius to pollinate gardens, the long-term goal of the project is to enhance the food security and resiliency of the Olympia community. This project will be part of the Olympia Village Building Convergence in August 2015.

Bigelow Highlands Neighborhood Association – Fruit Trees at Capital Vision Community Garden

Project Ranking: 10
Grant Requested: \$350
Grant Recommended: \$350
Partners/Contractors: Edible Forest Gardens

Following up their successful planting of fruit and nut trees in this community garden with a 2014 matching grant, the neighborhood hopes to greater enhance the boundary definition at this dog park while providing food for the community. Community engagement in the planting, care, and harvesting of the trees is another important goal of the project. The trees and the fruit they produce will be accessible to all.

Bigelow Highlands Neighborhood Association – Communication and Outreach Tools

Project Ranking: 19
Grant Requested: \$2,700
Grant Recommended: \$0
Partners/Contractors: To be determined

Attachment 2

This project is aimed at improving the neighborhood association's effectiveness in engaging the people of Bigelow Highlands. They intend to hire a consultant who specializes in communications and community engagement to assess the work they are currently doing and propose new ways of reaching out to the neighborhood's diverse population. The grant would involve purchasing additional sandwich board signs the neighborhood association currently uses to get the word out on community meetings and activities. Based on its application review ranking, this project is not recommended for funding.

Carlyon/North Neighborhood Association – Hawthorne Crossroads Pathway

Project Ranking:	9
Grant Requested:	\$3,900
Grant Recommended:	\$3,700
Partners/Contractors:	Olympia School District, Olympic High School Site Council, Edible Forest Gardens, Ion Ecobuilding, Olympia Village Builders, and Lukens Tree Preservation

To help make this existing pathway between the neighborhood and high school a safer and more appealing space, the neighborhood proposes creating a community gathering space with landscape improvements, a new mandala, and installation of a community bulletin board. Project development and implementation will help create a greater sense of community and engagement for residents on Hawthorne Place, Mountain View Place, and surrounding streets. Staff recommends reducing the requested amount by \$200 to remove a line item which did not define how those City funds would be spent. This project will be part of the Olympia Village Building Convergence in August 2015.

Cooper Crest Neighborhood Association – Drought Resistant Planting in Soil Vegetation Protection Areas (SVPAs)

Project Ranking:	16
Grant Requested:	\$3,229 or \$2,000
Grant Recommended:	\$0
Partners/Contractors:	To be determined

Continuing the work they started with a 2014 matching grant, the neighborhood intends to further their restoration efforts in their SVPAs and convert their common area to drought tolerant vegetation. Based on its application review ranking, this project is not recommended for funding.

Downtown Neighborhood Association – Fertile Ground Crossroads

Project Ranking:	11
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Attachment 2

Grant Requested: \$3,120
Grant Recommended: \$2,920
Partners/Contractors: Commons at Fertile Ground, Ion Ecobuilding, Evergreen State College Students, Derek Rose, and Olympia Village Builders

This project will make improvements to the existing Fertile Ground Crossroads at 9th Avenue SE and Adams Street SE. These include repainting the mandala, installing a neighborhood bulletin board, improving landscaping, and updating the chessboard. Because the Downtown Neighborhood Association is newly reformed, these activities are intended to create a greater sense of community between downtown residents and help build neighborhood association membership. Staff recommends reducing the requested amount by \$200 to remove a line item which did not define how those City funds would be spent. This project will be part of the Olympia Village Building Convergence in August 2015.

Eastside Neighborhood Association – Traffic Calming Improvements

Project Ranking: 7
Grant Requested: \$500
Grant Recommended: \$500
Partners/Contractors: Eastside Urban Farm & Garden

Using a roundabout near Lions Park as a model, the neighborhood would like to beautify the existing traffic calming devices in the area, such as traffic circles. They intend to clean up and add to the existing plantings, adding mulch or other weed-prevention measures. The community will be engaged in ongoing maintenance of these areas after project completion. In addition to making the neighborhood more attractive, the neighborhood association hopes that the experience of tending to these traffic circles and other features will help invest people in their neighborhood and develop their sense of place.

Eastside Neighborhood Association – Annual Summer Picnic

Project Ranking: 18 (tied)
Grant Requested: \$1,480
Grant Recommended: \$0
Partners/Contractors: To be determined

By leveraging what the neighborhood association has been doing well for over ten years for their annual neighborhood picnic, they hope to expand the event, adding live music and bounce houses (inflatables). City funds will pay for the bounce houses, the band,

Attachment 2

and additional food. Based on its application review ranking, this project is not recommended for funding.

Goldcrest Neighborhood Association – Ivy Hill Replanting on Goldcrest Drive NW

Project Ranking: 15
Grant Requested: \$4,000
Grant Recommended: \$3,000
Partners/Contractors: City of Olympia Public Works Transportation Services Department and Sage Landscape Maintenance

Following the completion of a Public Works drainage project, the neighborhood plans to replace the invasive ivy and other species along a section of Goldcrest Drive with native plants. The goals of the project are to reduce the damage of invasive species and beautify this area, which is near the main entrance to the neighborhood. Based on its application review ranking, this is the last project to be recommended for funding, provided that the amount of the grant be reduced by \$1,000.

Merryman Place Neighborhood Association – Retention Pond and Tree Improvements

Project Ranking: 8
Grant Requested: \$1,350
Grant Recommended: \$1,350
Partners/Contractors: City of Olympia Public Works Water Resources Department, Public Works Transportation Services Department, and the City's Urban Forester, and Southgate Fence, Inc.

The two phases of this project will make improvements to the area's main retention pond and tree plantings along parking strips in the neighborhood. Some of the issues to be addressed include the rotting fence and diseased trees around the retention pond as well as the tree-ring plantings which have outlived their purpose now that the trees have grown. Recommendation of this project assumes it will not be in conflict with the stormwater maintenance agreement for the retention pond, which is currently being researched by staff.

Northeast Neighborhood Association – Fruit and Nut Trees at Roosevelt Elementary and Reeves Middle Schools

Project Ranking: 4
Grant Requested: \$1,660
Grant Recommended: \$1,660
Partners/Contractors: Olympia School District and Edible Forest Gardens

Attachment 2

Fruit and nut trees will be planted by students at each of the schools, to include English walnut, hazelnut, apple, pear, cherry, and plum trees. Planting and care of the trees will include neighborhood volunteers. This project will support the neighborhood's goal of increasing the availability of fresh garden produce in public places within the neighborhood. The public will have access to the fruit and nuts.

Northeast Neighborhood Association – Mission Creek Watershed Forum

Project Ranking: 5
Grant Requested: \$200
Grant Recommended: \$200
Partners/Contractors: Wendy Gerstel and Tom Badger

Building on the success of the first Mission Creek Watershed Forum in 2014, the neighborhood will host a second forum in 2015. The goals of the event are to increase residents' awareness of watershed issues, develop a sense of place for residents within the watershed, and highlight some of the actions being taken to improve the health of local watersheds. The event will bring together a variety of non-profit and for-profit organizations and agencies working on stormwater management and other watershed enhancing issues. City funds will pay for refreshments and facility rental.

Northeast Neighborhood Association – Neighborhood Meeting Signs

Project Ranking: 13
Grant Requested: \$750
Grant Recommended: \$414
Partners/Contractors: Brown & Balsey Sign Co.

Community participation is very important to the Northeast Neighborhood Association. The purchase of five temporary, non-commercial signs is intended to help spread the word to community members about upcoming events. Staff recommends approval of this project provided the signs will be used according to Olympia Municipal Code. Since the neighborhood proposes to contribute a \$414 match, the recommended grant amount reflects the 50/50 match requirement and is reduced in kind.

Northeast Neighborhood Association – Love Our Local Festival

Project Ranking: 14
Grant Requested: \$1,390
Grant Recommended: \$1,057
Partners/Contractors: Trillium Power Productions

As in previous years, this festival will be a free, one-day event which celebrates the creativity of local artisans, artists, musicians, non-profit organizations, and the people of

Attachment 2

Olympia. The neighborhood received a matching grant in 2014 to help support the event. Last year, the neighborhood was informed that the existing mandala at the intersection of Bethel Street and San Francisco Avenue does not meet the minimum program requirements due to high traffic volumes and that future repainting of the mandala would not be approved. As a result, City staff recommends removing funding for this portion of the project proposal.

Northwest Olympia Neighborhood Association – Annual Summer Fun Fest

Project Ranking: 17
Grant Requested: \$2,000 or \$4,000
Grant Recommended: \$0
Partners/Contractors: Olympia Food Coop

This will be the neighborhood’s third annual Summer Fun Fest, which brings families and friends from the Northwest and surrounding neighborhoods to come together. The goals are to share the creative energies of everyone who lives in the neighborhood. The event is held at the Garfield Elementary School ballfield. City funding is proposed to pay salaries/wages to the project team/volunteers and cover contracted services. Based on its application review ranking, this project is not recommended for funding.

Redwood Estates Neighborhood Association – Neighborhood Entrance Sign Improvements

Project Ranking: 18 (tied)
Grant Requested: \$3,151
Grant Recommended: \$0
Partners/Contractors: Puget Sound Energy, Hired Hands Electrical, SouthGate Fencing, and HD Supply

The project will provide a new entrance sign to the neighborhood, which has been in place for over 20 years. The sign itself will be redesigned, new landscaping added, and utilities repositioned. This will not only provide location information for visitors but also encourage pride of ownership in residents while engaging neighbors in the work project. Based on its application review ranking, this project is not recommended for funding.

South Capitol Neighborhood Association – Nut Trees at Lincoln Elementary School

Project Ranking: 2
Grant Requested: \$227
Grant Recommended: \$227
Partners/Contractors: Olympia School District and Edible Forest Gardens

Attachment 2

As with other similar projects, this neighborhood wishes to involve the students at Lincoln Elementary School in planting nut trees at the school, including English walnuts and hazelnuts. Neighborhood volunteers will help with the planting and care of the trees. This project will support the neighborhood's goal of increasing the availability of fresh garden produce in public places within the neighborhood. The public will have access to the fruit and nuts.

Upper Eastside Neighborhood Association – State Avenue Beautification

Project Ranking: 6
Grant Requested: \$4,000
Grant Recommended: \$4,000
Partners/Contractors: City of Olympia Public Works Transportation Services Department, Eastside Urban Farm & Garden, Growing Veterans (Washington Department of Veteran Affairs), Olympia Village Builders

Working with a variety of partners, the neighborhood plans to improve public accessibility and experience of this unimproved public right-of-way, building a path, edible hedge, benches, and information boards. The City's Public Works Transportation Services Department will work closely with the community to modify the scope to ensure that the path and other improvements in the public right-of-way meet required safety standards and regulations, including ADA compliance. This project will be part of the Olympia Village Building Convergence in August 2015.

Wilderness Neighborhood Association – Neighborhood Sign Replacement

Project Ranking: 20
Grant Requested: \$2,071
Grant Recommended: \$0
Partners/Contractors: To be determined

Olympia's newest Recognized Neighborhood Association is requesting funds to replace their existing sign, which is not only rotting but difficult to see at its present height. They intend to use recycled or green materials for the new sign. The goal of the project is to make the subdivision entrance easier for the public to find. This neighborhood association is located in the Urban Growth Area and their recognition by the City is permitted by Olympia Municipal Code. Based on its application review ranking, this project is not recommended for funding.