

2026 Neighborhood Matching Grant Allocation

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2026 Neighborhood Matching Grant: **About the Program**



The Neighborhood Matching Grant (NMG) program has been awarding funds for over 25 years!

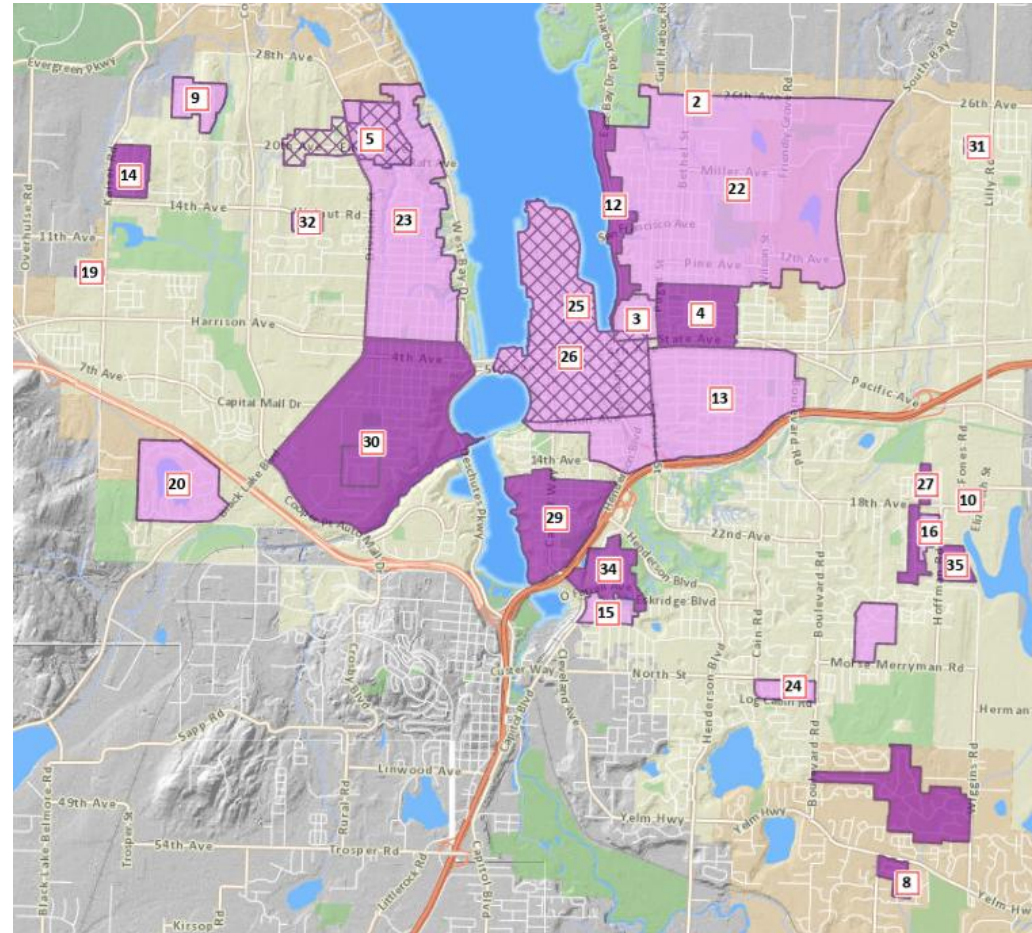


- Applicants can request from \$500 up to \$5,000
- Reimbursement-based
- 50 % match required
- Program budget for 2026 is \$33,000

2026 Neighborhood Matching Grant: Neighborhood Associations



- Recognized Neighborhood Association (RNA) programming began in 1989
- Neighborhoods voluntarily register in the program
 - Requires formal bylaws and board structure with elected officers
 - Recognition comes with benefits
 - Annual update required for active status
- **26 Active RNAs** this year



2025 Neighborhood Matching Grant: Completed Project Recap



10 Projects were awarded a total of \$32,480.36

- Total Reimbursements: \$25,270
- Volunteer Hours: 2,103 (\$84,712)
- Total Donations: \$17,683
- **Total Project Value: \$160,145**



2025 Neighborhood Matching Grant: Program Opportunities



Equitable Access

- Only Recognized Neighborhood Associations (RNAs) were eligible to apply
- Project approaches and public outreach varies per RNA

Transparency

- Scoring criteria and funding decision making was unclear to applicants

Financial Requirements

- New City financial requirements became required for applicants to receive funds
- Financial scales and capabilities vary between RNAs

Neighborhood Needs

- Timeline- Grant funds could not be spent in early months due to program cycle
- Program goals were not aligned to current RNA goals

2026 Neighborhood Matching Grant: Program Updates



Equitable Access

- Eligibility includes Informal Neighborhood Groups
- New program goals and review criteria guide projects toward equity and inclusion

Transparency

- Scoring criteria and funding decision making process included in program materials
- Program materials updated to provide clarity and definitions

Financial Requirements

- Provided an Employer Identification Number (EIN) workshop for applicants
- Scoring criteria encourages RNA fiscal independence

Neighborhood Needs

- Timeline options have expanded to include Track A (standard) and Track B (full year spending window)
- Outreach and engagement to RNAs for new grant goals

2026 Neighborhood Matching Grant: Grant Applicants



- **13 applications received** from 11 RNAs and two (2) Informal Neighborhood Groups for a total ask of \$42,244
 - One (1) RNA application withdrew (\$5,000 request)
 - One (1) Informal Neighborhood Group application deemed ineligible (\$600 request)
 - Grant panel reviewed requests totaling \$36,644
- Applicant proposals utilize updates to program goals
 - **New project categories-** Emergency management and neighborhood preparedness
 - **New applicant pool**
- Neighborhood interest, outreach, and engagement is increasing
 - Council of Neighborhood Associations (CNA) hosted public **community forum on neighborhood priorities** in January
 - Approximate **30% growth** is shown in this cycle's proposed volunteer hours and project values





11 Projects recommended for funding:

- 2026 Approved Budget: \$33,000
- Recommended awards including admin fees: **\$33,097**
- Volunteer Hours: 3,000
- Total Match Provided: \$143,850
- Total Project Value: **\$176,946**

2026 Recommendations for Funding

Neighborhood Association	Project Description	Recommended Award	Project Value (Award + Match)
LBA Informal Neighborhood Group*	Construct 2 Little Free Libraries	\$300	\$1,267
Bigelow Highlands Neighborhood Association (BHNA)	Annual Block Party/National Night Out	\$1,500	\$5,211
South West Olympia Neighborhood Association (SWONA)	Emergency Preparedness, Community Engagement, Neighborhood Food Access	\$5,000	\$38,236
Olympia Downtown Alliance (ODA)	Love Oly Microgrants	\$2,000	\$7,251
Bigelow Neighborhood Association (BNA)	Emergency Preparedness Zine, Newsletter, Block Party Signage	\$1,462	\$4,133
Briarwood Neighborhood Association	Community Picnic, Beautification Landscaping	\$1,900	\$4,402
South Capitol Neighborhood Association (SCNA)	Annual Picnic/Community Services Fair, Forums on Resilience	\$5,000	\$14,091
Council of Neighborhood Associations (CNA)	Community Engagement, Priority Implementation	\$3,000	\$63,965
Downtown Neighbor's Association (DNA)	Neighbor Block Parties (4 events), Outreach Mailer	\$5,000	\$14,841
Eastside Neighborhood Association	Outreach, Annual picnic and Other Community Events, Emergency Preparedness Trainings (CPR & AED)	\$5,000	\$16,601
Wilderness Property Owners Association (WPOA)	Walking Path Improvements	\$2,382	\$6,397
	SUBTOTALS:	\$32,544	\$176,394
PROGRAM TOTALS:	Plus \$553 Submittable Platform Fee:	\$33,097	\$ 176,946.50

*First Time Applicants