

NO: R129

COUNCIL DATE: June 24, 2019

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## REGULAR COUNCIL

TO: **Mayor & Council** DATE: **June 19, 2019**

FROM: **General Manager, Parks, Recreation & Culture** FILE: **1850-01**  
**General Manager, Finance**

SUBJECT: **Community Enhancement Partnership Program Grant Application – Growing Together**

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## RECOMMENDATION

The Parks, Recreation & Culture Department and the Finance Department recommend that Council approve a grant under the Community Enhancement Partnership (“CEP”) Program of \$3,000 to the Growing Together project located on 10662 King George Boulevard.

## INTENT

The intent of this report is to recommend Council award a CEP grant to support the Growing Together Project to build a community garden by 55 tenants located in the new modular housing in Whalley town centre.

## BACKGROUND

In January 2010, Council adopted the CEP Program, which is intended to provide financial support for projects focussed on community engagement and neighbourhood enhancement. Under the CEP Program, residents, businesses and community groups may apply to the City for a grant under three separate categories; these being:

- **Small Project Grants** - to support in planning, organizing and implementing projects intended to directly improve the physical aesthetic appeal of a neighbourhood.
- **Partnership Grants** - to support projects that build community relationships through celebration and activity.
- **Façade Grants** – enable small businesses or commercial property owners to apply for funding to renovate or improve their building facades.

The CEP Program Guidelines are attached as Appendix “I”.

The community has been notified of this program through stakeholder mail-outs, newspaper ads, press releases, promotional posters at civic facilities and on the City's website and social media channels. A Grant Selections Committee has been established with representatives from various departments and is responsible for assessing grant applications that are received under the CEP Program. Nineteen (19) CEP Program grants have been approved in 2019.

The following sections of this report provide a description and evaluation of the application for a grant under the CEP Program that was recently received by the City.

## **DISCUSSION**

### **Growing Together Project**

In June 2018, the City of Surrey, B.C. Housing and Fraser Health worked together to build a strategy to house people living on the streets in shelters into temporary modular housing units in the City Centre area. This year, Surrey-Whalley's Lookout Society would like to propose a project that would further help the current 55 tenants residing in Whalley's modular housing as shown in Appendix "II", by proposing a project that will support the tenants in learning life skills through building a community garden.

The Surrey-Whalley Lookout Society focuses on engaging tenants in peer programs, social enterprises and activity and life skill programs to assist tenants with increasing their self-care, socialization and pre-employment skills. The proposed project aims to fulfill these goals by engaging in a three-phase long-term project. The first phase will consist of work such as: building planter boxes, purchasing supplies like soil, seeds, flowers and preparing soil. The second phase of the project will include planting and completing the aesthetics of the garden. The third phase will include watering and growing the community garden with a maintained schedule. This phase will remain continuous. The project provides members living in modular housing essential life skills, but also, an opportunity to get to know their neighbours. This will ultimately build a stronger sense of community while the tenants are participating in a therapeutic and healing project.

The purpose of this project is to beautify the neighbourhood and to work towards reducing the stigma towards the tenants living in the Surrey-Whalley's modular housing. Having the surrounding community witness the great work the Surrey-Walley's Lookout Society's tenants are doing, it will help build a greater sense of inclusion.

Based on a review of the project according to the CEP Program criteria, a grant of up to \$3,000 to the Growing Together Project is considered reasonable, subject to the group submitting photographs documenting the progress and outcomes of the project.

At a future date, when the temporary modular housing units are removed, the garden will be decommissioned, and resources will be repurposed to support other community gardens in the City.

## FUNDING

The 2019 CEP Program has a budget of \$45,000. Appendix “III” provides information on the status of funding related to the Community Enhancement Partnership Program based on an assumption that Council will approve the recommendation of this report.

## SUSTAINABILITY CONSIDERATIONS

The CEP Program supports the objectives of the City’s Sustainability Charter 2.0. In particular, this work relates to Sustainability Charter 2.0 themes of Inclusion and Public Safety. Specifically this project supports the following Desired Outcomes (“DO”) and Strategic Directions (“SD”):

- Community Pride and Engagement DO 20: Surrey residents are proud of their community.
- Community Pride and Engagement SD15: Work at the neighbourhood level to empower local clubs, groups, individuals and agencies to contribute to a vibrant community.

## CONCLUSION

Based on the above discussion, it is recommended that Council approve a CEP Program grant of up to \$3,000 to the Growing Together Project located on 10662 King George Boulevard.

Laurie Cavan  
General Manager  
Parks, Recreation and Culture

Kam Grewal, CPA, CMA  
General Manager  
Finance

Appendix “I”: CEP Program Overview and Guidelines

Appendix “II”: Project Details and Location

Appendix “III”: Status of Community Enhancement Partnership Program Funding



## Community Enhancement Partnership Program (CEPP) Program Overview and Guidelines

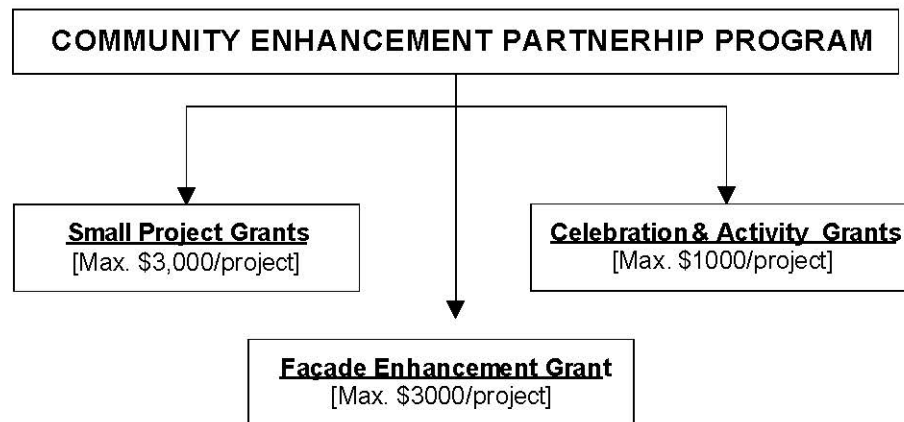
The Community Enhancement Partnership Program (CEPP) is an initiative of Council to encourage neighbourhood projects and activities that beautify our streets and public spaces. Through the Program, residents, groups and businesses can apply to the City for a grant to plan, organize and implement small beautification and place-making projects, activities and celebrations. Successful applicants match their requested grant amount with contributions of volunteer labour and services, donated materials, and/or cash. The Grant program is a partnership in which the applicant and the City contribute towards the applicants proposed project. Projects must be completed within twelve (12) months of a grant being awarded.

### FUNDING CRITERIA & ELIGIBILITY

Grants are available to all Surrey residents, students, community groups, organizations or associations. Small businesses will also be considered for building or landscaping beautification projects in targeted areas. All applications must encourage inclusive neighbourhood participation. Projects must be undertaken within the geographic boundaries of Surrey. All applicants must demonstrate their project or activity will:

- focus on beautifying, celebrating and creating engaging places in Surrey;
- generate a public benefit in an inclusive and cooperative manner;
- involve members of the community in the project;
- commit to overseeing the project and any resulting maintenance;
- have broad neighbourhood support.
- improve the look and feel of City streets

### PROJECT GRANT CATEGORIES



**i) Small Project Grants**

Small project grants have a maximum amount of \$3,000 per project. They are offered to support planning, organizing and implementing projects that physically improve the appearance of the City. As examples, a neighbourhood garden, boulevard landscaping, community pathway, floral tree plantings, decorative lighting display or a neighbourhood entrance feature would fall under this category.

**ii) Celebration & Activity Grants**

Celebration & Activity grants have a maximum amount of \$1,000 per project. They are offered to support community activism and celebration. As examples, a neighbourhood festival or block party or a neighbourhood improvement campaign would fall under this category. Projects that create opportunities to develop neighbourhood organization and promote community leadership are encouraged. Ideally, the community celebration will ultimately encourage people to get involved in improving their neighbourhood for the long term.

**iii) Facade Enhancement Grants**

Facade Enhancement Grants help to encourage commercial property owners and businesses to invest in their buildings and storefronts through facade renovations. Property owners are urged to renovate, building facades through grants, matching up to 30% of the eligible costs to a maximum of \$3,000. Through the Facade Enhancement Grant Program, property owners and businesses will help to improve the streetscape of the local community, attracting residents, businesses and customers to the area. Facade grants are targeted towards different areas around the City each year.

**PROJECT MANAGEMENT & RECOGNITION**

For awarded projects, photos must be submitted to the City as a permanent record and for potential posting on the City's website and within local newspapers.

Awarded projects may be subject to inspection by City staff. Annual inspections may be undertaken to monitor maintenance and upkeep of projects.

- Applicants that have failed to undertake or maintain projects, as outlined on submitted applications, may be eliminated from consideration for future City grant opportunities.
- Applicants are required to abide by all Municipal, Provincial and Federal laws and regulations.
- The City of Surrey reserves the right to remove any physical installations or improvements on public land at any time.

## APPLICATION REVIEW PROCESS

Each application will be evaluated by a grant evaluation committee using the following evaluation criteria and within available funding.

### Evaluation Criteria

#### Overall Community Enhancement Program Objective

- Project corresponds with the objective to “beautify, animate and celebrate Surrey”.

#### Project Proposal & Feasibility

- Provides a clear description of what the project is and why it is proposed.
- Provides a clear public benefit.
- Is well planned with a realistic timeline and a clear beginning and end.
- Has a reasonable budget.

#### Community Building

- Community contribution is documented, demonstrating broad community participation and support for the project.
- Encourages inclusive community participation and provides opportunity to bring people together.
- Encourages interaction between different groups, such as different cultural groups, tenants, seniors and business owners.
- Encourages collaboration between all age groups, particularly youth and adults.

#### Outcomes

- There is a clear understanding of how the community will be improved as a result of the project, with anticipated outcomes clearly documented.
- Project is designed for low maintenance and the applicant and stakeholders commit to project maintenance, with the majority of maintenance undertaken by the applicant.

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#### Grants will NOT be awarded to/for:

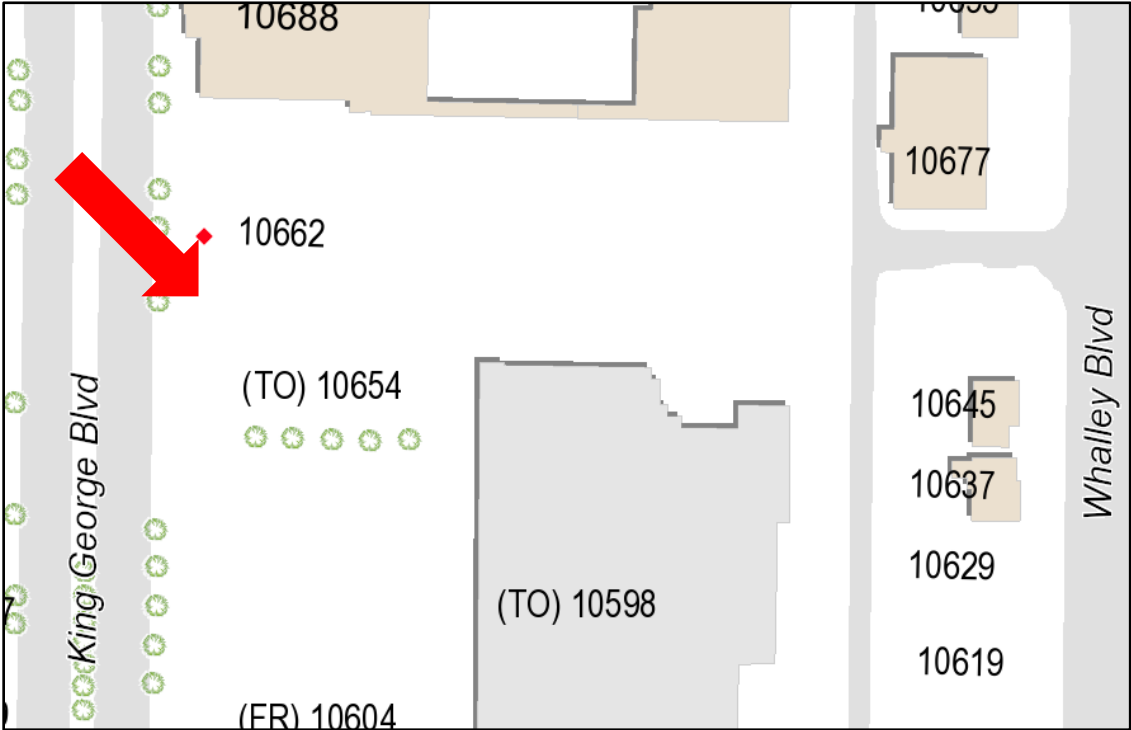
- The purpose of private gain.
- Government agencies, political or partisan groups, formal business associations, universities, exclusive clubs or associations, newspapers and non-Surrey-based organizations (based or originating).
- Applicants who have failed to document a community contribution.
- Applicants who have failed to successfully carry out or maintain a project for which a grant was previously awarded.

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#### Grants must NOT be used to:

- Duplicate an existing public or private program.
  - Support ongoing programs or services.
  - Replace funding lost from other sources or provide gap funding.
  - Pay for the applicants operating expenses that are not directly related to the project for which the grant is awarded.
  - Purchase land or buildings.
  - Pay for out of City travel expenses.
  - Pay for expenditures or financial commitments made *before* the organization’s grant application was submitted.
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Project Location - 10662 King George Blvd.



## APPENDIX “III”

### Status of Community Enhancement Partnership Program Funding



**2019 FINANCIAL PLAN  
COMMUNITY ENHANCEMENT PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM**

Description	Amount	Allocation to date	Remaining
Carried Forward from Prior Year	\$ 51,341		
<b>2019 Adopted Budget</b>	<u>\$ 45,000</u>		<b>\$ 96,341</b>
<b>Grants Awarded in 2019 (to date)</b>			
1. Cloverdale Block Party		\$ 500	
2. 78 Avenue Block Party		\$ 500	
3. Annual Easter Egg Hunt		\$ 500	
4. Gardiner Street Block Party		\$ 369	
5. Dufferin Park Butterflyway Project		\$ 1,750	
6. Rosewood Park Block Party		\$ 500	
7. 129A Street Block Party		\$ 500	
8. 141 Street Block Party		\$ 489	
9. Whalley's Corners Community Festival		\$ 1,000	
10. Superhero Day		\$ 500	
11. Family Photo Project		\$ 500	
<b>12. Growing Together (Proposed)</b>		<b>\$ 3,000</b>	
13. 153A Street Block Party		\$ 500	
14. Summer Solstice Mardi Gras 2019		\$ 500	
15. Harvest Wynde Block Party		\$ 500	
16. Hycroft Block Party		\$ 500	
17. 195A Street Block Party		\$ 500	
18. Provincetown Block Party		\$ 500	
19. National Indigenous People's Day		\$ 1,000	
<b>Allocations for 2019</b>		<u><b>\$ 14,108</b></u>	<u><b>\$ 82,233</b></u>