
GREAT NEIGHBORHOODS PROGRAM

The Great Neighborhoods Program is designed to enhance the image, market, and physical conditions of recognized Neighborhood Associations in the City of Oshkosh. The program provides residents the opportunity to originate projects that enhance quality of life through strategic improvements to the public realm. Working in collaboration with City staff, residents initiate, plan, and implement projects and activities in the pursuit of Healthy Neighborhoods of choice in Oshkosh. The Great Neighborhoods Program is funded by the City's Capital Improvement Program and is intended to strengthen neighborhoods in Oshkosh.

ELIGIBLE PROJECTS

Eligible projects must support capital improvements to the public realm; which includes: City-owned property/buildings, parks, and public streets. Applicants are strongly encouraged to work with City staff on project phasing for projects that cannot be implemented within 12 months of Common Council approval. Eligible applicants with complex projects may be advised to apply to support project planning rather than implementation. Preference will be given to projects that further implementation of an approved City of Oshkosh Plan or enhance a capital improvement project that has been identified within the City's 5-Year Capital Improvement Program.

It is common for complex projects to be broken into phases in order to accomplish tasks in the most efficient order. Each phase of a project may take longer than one year to complete, which can end up overlapping into the following program cycle year. In the past, we have allowed applicants to apply for the next phase of the project before the previous phase has been completed. This does not help projects get completed faster. In an effort to improve the program, projects that are part of a greater project occurring in phases will not be eligible if the preceding phase has not yet been completed. Phased projects must be completed in order before moving on to the next phase.

Applicants can apply for funding to support *conceptual project planning* or *project implementation*.

| <u>CONCEPTUAL PROJECT PLANNING</u> | <u>PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION</u> |
|---|---|
| Concept Design Plans Corridor Plans Streetscape Plans Engineering/Construction Plans | Placemaking Public Art Community Gardens Pedestrian Safety Streetscape and Gateway Improvements Public Property Enhancements Historic Markers |

ELIGIBLE APPLICANTS

Recognized Neighborhood Associations

- A neighborhood association is a voluntary organization officially recognized by the City of Oshkosh.

Groups working to support Healthy Neighborhoods in Oshkosh

- Applicants in this category must be working to meet the requirements identified within the City of Oshkosh Neighborhood Association Recognition Policy OR an official City Board/Commission. If a project is located within a recognized neighborhood association area, a letter of support must be obtained from the neighborhood association.

APPLICATION REVIEW PROCESS

- ✓ Pre-application meeting is scheduled with the City of Oshkosh Planning Services.
- ✓ Applicant submits a written proposal to the City of Oshkosh Planning Services Division. Please use the scoring matrix found on the next page to guide you.
- ✓ A copy of the meeting minutes where the project was approved by the neighborhood association Board of Directors/Steering Committee/General Membership.
- ✓ Proposals are reviewed by Great Neighborhoods Program Scoring Team and City staff to determine if it meets the program criteria.
- ✓ Proposals meeting the program criteria will be submitted to the Common Council for consideration. Applicants may be present at the Common Council meeting to answer questions.
- ✓ If Common Council approves the funding request, project implementation will be coordinated by the applicant and City staff.
- ✓ Approval is subject to fund availability and will be allocated on a competitive basis.

HOW TO APPLY

A pre-application meeting is required before submitting a request for funding. To schedule a meeting please contact the Planning Services Division at 920-236-5059. The attached application must be completed and returned to the City of Oshkosh Planning Services Division – 215 Church Avenue, Room 204, Oshkosh, WI, 54901. Proposals will not be accepted later than July 18, 2025.

PAST PROJECT SUCCESSES

TEICHMILLER PARK BUTTERFLY GARDEN

Installation of a native plant garden intended to attract butterflies while also being used as a community building and engagement opportunity and educational tool.

WILLIAM WATERS PLAZA & GAZEBO

Multiyear project to enhance the design and use of a plaza dedicated to well-known architect Williams Waters.

MIDDLE VILLAGE COMMUNITY GREEN SPACE

After the removal of two blighted homes, a pedestrian path and landscaping was installed providing two safe community gathering spaces.

TREAGER INCLUSIVE PLAYGROUND

Improvements to the playground located on the Traeger Elementary School.

STEVENS PARK IMPROVEMENTS

Improvements to Stevens Park include a new playground equipment, tennis courts, basketball hoops, community garden, trash receptacles and benches.

MIDTOWN UTILITY BOX ART

Installation of two artistic utility box wraps on utility boxes to provide placemaking within the neighborhood.

MENOMINEE PARK OUTDOOR EXERCISE EQUIPMENT

Installation of outdoor exercise equipment next to the trail following Hazel Street.

BENT WOODS VACANT LOT IMPROVEMENTS

A pedestrian path, benches, picnic table, and landscaping improvements to a vacant lot located within the neighborhood.

**This program is made possible through funding support from the
PROPOSAL DEADLINE IS July 18, 2025**

