

# CITY OF MAYWOOD COMMUNITY BENEFIT FUND GUIDELINES AND PROCEDURES

## I. BACKGROUND

The City of Maywood has established a "Community Benefit Fund" to support community based programs and activities.

## II. PURPOSE

The purpose of this policy is to provide guidelines and procedures for the distribution of public funds, which will in turn fund community programs, activities and educational activities conducted by Eligible Organizations that meet the requirements and guidelines set forth by the City Council in this policy.

## III. ELIGIBILITY AND POLICY

A. Eligible Organizations. The requesting organization must be: (1) a non-profit agency as defined by the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) with a tax exempt status of 501(c)(3) and is in good standing in the State of California based in the City or provides programs or services to residents of the City; a school or school-based/affiliated organization located in the City; or other City-based organization such as athletic organizations or community groups (collectively called "Eligible Organizations"); (2) must be in existence prior to submittal of an application; and (3) must have a record of successfully providing the type of service, activity or program for which funding is requested.

B. Eligible Services and Activities. To apply for a grant under the City Community Benefit Fund, the Eligible Organization must provide a program, service, activity, event or other similar activities that have a benefit to the residents of the City of Maywood or the specified target group within the City by: (i) enhancing the quality of life or the delivery of services in the City; or (ii) providing educational opportunities for the residents or students of the City. Categories of services and activities eligible for grants include but are not limited to educational programs, cultural activities (i.e. music, art, dance, recreation), youth athletics, civic projects, health and safety programs, services sponsored by Maywood community organizations and public services (i.e. senior services, youth programs, health services). If the request relates to a community event, the event must be advertised and open to the public. Grants will be awarded in maximum amounts of no more than \$5,000.

C. Restrictions and Ineligible Organizations.

1. Grants shall not be used for religious activities or political campaigning purposes or activities.

2. A non-profit entity, a school or school-based/affiliated organization or other City-based organizations such as athletic organizations or community groups that have as a member of their board or executive leadership a City employee, a City elected or

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appointed official or members of their family, are not eligible to apply for a Community Benefit Fund grant. Family members include spouse or domestic partner, child, parent, grandparent, grandchild, cousin, aunt, uncle, sibling, niece, nephew, parent-in-law, brother-in-law or sister-in-law, as well as all step relationships.

D. City Projects. This policy does not preclude the City from undertaking and funding projects on its own initiative that would be a benefit to the community.

**IV. APPLICATION PROCEDURES**

A. Submittal of an Application. Applicants must use the Community Benefit Fund application form. Forms are available on the City website at [www.cityofmaywood.org](http://www.cityofmaywood.org) and at Maywood City Hall at 4319 E. Slauson Avenue, Maywood, CA 90270. Applications may be requested by email at [veronica.alvarez@cityofmaywood.org](mailto:veronica.alvarez@cityofmaywood.org).

B. Application Deadline. The City Council will have quarterly application cycles available to consider requests contingent upon monies being available under the program. The application cycles and deadlines are as follows:

<u>Application Cycle</u>	<u>Application Deadline</u>
Quarter 1: July 1 - September 30	June 1
Quarter 2: October 1 - December 31	September 1
Quarter 3: January 1 - March 30	December 1
Quarter 4: April 1 - June 30	March 1

The application must be submitted by 5:00 p.m. on the applicable deadline date addressed to: City of Maywood, Attention: Community Benefit Fund via City Manager's Office, 4319 E. Slauson Avenue, Maywood, CA 90270.

C. General Information.

1. Applicants may apply for funds during any application cycle. Notwithstanding, funds must be requested and spent during the same fiscal year in which the award was approved by the City Council.

2. Organizations may submit only one application per fiscal year.

3. Funding to an Eligible Organization will not constitute a precedent for contributions in subsequent fiscal years.

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**V. EVALUATION OF APPLICATION AND SELECTION PROCESS**

A. Review of Applications. Following the application deadline, City Staff will review the applications. Applicants may be contacted if further information is requested, to answer questions, clarify their application, etc. All applications will be evaluated to ensure that the applicant is an “Eligible Organization” and that purpose for which the grant is sought is consistent with this policy. Applications and recommendations of Staff, if any, will be presented to the City Council during a regular scheduled City Council meeting for the Council’s consideration and approval.

B. City Council Action. The City Council will take final action on award of all grants and maintains the discretion to fund in whole or in part any request or not to fund any or all requests during the Application Cycle. Alternatively, the City Council may hold-over any application into the next Application Cycle. In the case of multiple applications that are competing for limited available funds, consideration may be given to applications based on the following criteria: (i) the number of residents who are expected to benefit, participate in or be positively impacted by the program; (ii) the performance of the applicant in prior years, including demonstrated fiscal responsibility and compliance with applicable requirements; (iv) the amount of funding previously award to the applicant or the program or event in prior years; and (v) the total amount of funding requested as a proportion of the total available funds for the applicable fiscal year.

**VI. POST AWARD REQUIREMENTS**

A. Agreement. All Eligible Organizations elected to receive funds will be required to sign and execute an agreement with the City of Maywood.

B. Reporting. Eligible Organizations must complete a report, within 45 days of fund expenditure, describing the use of the grant and amount expended, the number of participants in the event or program, copies of any publicity of the event or program, and a narrative regarding the benefit to the City of Maywood. The City reserves the right to conduct an audit and/or require additional back-up information to substantiate how funds received from the City were expended. Failure to submit this required report will make the Eligible Organization ineligible for allocation of future funds until the required report is submitted. These reports will be reviewed and taken into account for evaluating subsequent funding proposals from that entity.

C. Request for Funds. The Eligible Organization receiving the funds is responsible for submitting a funds request to the City’s Finance Director and shall allow the City up to 30 days to process the request. If a third-party vendor is the recipient of the funds (i.e. bus company used for field trip), then the request shall include the information regarding that vendor including their Tax Identification Number and the check shall be made

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payable to that vendor. If the grant is to be used to purchase tangible goods or services, the City has the discretion to purchase the goods or services directly and pass-through the goods or services to the Eligible Organization rather than provide the funding.

D. Return of Funds to the City. Unexpended funds must be returned to the City at the end of the fiscal year. Funds must also be returned to the City if the City determines that the applicant has not performed in accordance with the approved application listing the use of the funds.

E. Failure to Abide by Policy. The failure of an Eligible Organization to abide by this Policy will result in the Eligible Organization being denied for funding in the future.