

City of Springfield



GREAT
NEIGHBORHOODS

Great Neighborhoods Recognition Program

Intent to Participate

Submission Deadline: April 15, 2016

Award Date: December 2016, NOVA Ceremony

Funding: 2017-2018 Fiscal Budget

Purpose

The Great Neighborhoods Recognition Program was created to encourage clean, safe, and friendly neighborhoods through activities and programs that develop relationships between neighbors and with their neighborhood association. This is a voluntary program where Registered Neighborhoods can participate and earn points towards being designated a “City of Springfield Great Neighborhood”. Points can be earned in the three categories that promote the quality of a Great Neighborhood; Clean, Safe, & Friendly. Neighborhoods will be scored and ranked based on the information in this application as well as their effort to follow the four principles of the Great Neighborhoods Philosophy: Neighborhood residents must lead the process, have a long term commitment, must be inclusive of all interested in participating, and must have continual activities that engage everyone in the neighborhood.

Eligibility

The Great Neighborhoods recognition program is only open to Registered Neighborhood Associations in the City of Springfield. This application must be thoroughly completed and signed by the association President and another representative in order to be considered.

This application is intended to be a “working” document, which can be updated at any point, as new events are planned and organized. Neighborhoods will receive a preliminary approval on activity items but supporting information, such as flyers, sign-in sheets, reports, pictures, newspaper or newsletter articles are required to officially qualify the event and add the point(s) to their final score. City Neighborhoods staff will review events and activities for Great Neighborhoods Recognition based on the following criteria:

- Does the event or activity seek to increase or promote safe, clean and friendly neighborhoods?
- Does the event or activity promote interaction between neighborhood residents?
- Is the event or activity organized and facilitated primarily by neighborhood residents?
- Is the event a one-time event or is it part of a larger effort aimed at making the neighborhood clean, safe and friendly?
- Is the event open to all neighborhood residents, openly promoted and generally attended by neighborhood residents?
- Is the event or activity unique, new and not part of an otherwise regular board or membership meeting?

Neighborhood Organizations are encouraged to participate in as many events or activities as possible to earn extra points in each category. In addition to the attached list of suggested events and activities, “Wild Card” entries can be submitted for unique event(s) that encourage clean, safe and friendly neighborhoods and encourage resident interaction.

Application Final Review

Registered Neighborhoods seeking Great Neighborhoods Recognition can submit a new or updated application at any time during the year. Neighborhoods are encouraged to work towards logging and completing events, activities and participating in programs over the 12 month time period; the culmination of which will be evaluated annually on or near October 15. All events and activities occurring between October, 2015 and October 2016 are eligible to be included in the submission.

Great Neighborhoods Recognition will be awarded at the December 2016 **Neighborhood Organization Volunteer Awards** (NOVA) banquet, hosted and sponsored by CPO.

Receiving Neighborhood Recognition is a two year designation. Neighborhoods that are designated as a Great Neighborhood need not reapply for two years, but must maintain participation in the programs and continue to organize events and activities to maintain Great Neighborhoods designation.

Recognition Awards, Signs and Grants

Great Neighborhoods Recognition includes:

Recognition and promotion as a “City of Springfield - Great Neighborhood” at the annual NOVA awards and other City and CPO promotional venues and websites and installation of “City of Springfield - Great Neighborhood” signage.

Neighborhood Grants (Subject to approval by City Council and inclusion in the annual City of Springfield Budget):

- \$500 – 9 pts. (at least 3 pts. In each category)
- \$750 – 18 pts. (at least 6 pts. In each category)
- \$1,000* – 18 pts. (at least 6 pts. In each category) * requires a \$250 match

Neighborhood Grants will be awarded to Registered Neighborhoods in the form of a direct payment if your neighborhood has received 501(c)(3) tax designation from the IRS. If your neighborhood has not been designated as a 501(c)(3) the City will work with a community partner such as CPO or CFO to award direct funding to your neighborhood.



Intent to Participate Great Neighborhoods Recognition Grant Submission Deadline: April 15, 2016

Neighborhood Association: _____

* Contact: _____ Phone: _____
Email: _____
Signature: _____
* Must be a resident of the Neighborhood

* Alternate Contact: _____ Phone: _____
Email: _____
Signature: _____
* Must be a resident of the Neighborhood

The *Intent to Participate* provides the City's Neighborhoods Staff with an opportunity to plan and budget for Great Neighborhoods Recognition Grants in the upcoming budget.

Neighborhoods that do not submit this form on or before April 15, 2016, will not be eligible to receive Great Neighborhoods Recognition Grant funding in the 2017 – 2018 fiscal year.

The submission of this form does not guarantee grant approval, the score card and validation form(s) must be submitted on or before October 1, 2016 to qualify.