

Last month Chou & Sherril attended the neighborhood grant program workshop at Renton City Hall. We watched a video of past neighborhood projects that were done thru the program. Now that our neighborhood is part of the City of Renton, we too can apply for a grant. We are past the March 13th deadline for this cycle but we have plenty of time to get organized for the next cycle. We just need someone to volunteer to head up the project. To learn more about the grant program see the link to the city of Renton's website at the bottom of the page, or attend the next HOA board meeting, which is held the first Monday of each month.

Neighborhood Grant Program

Grants are available to residents who have organized to plan and implement projects for the purpose of improving the viability and livability of their neighborhoods. The Neighborhood Grant Program provides matching funds to organized neighborhood associations that draw membership from a commonly recognized geographic neighborhood in Renton or ad hoc groups of neighbors who form an organization to work on a specific project. Since 1999, the City has awarded 141 neighborhood grants to 46 different neighborhoods.

The City Council has dedicated \$50,000 a year for neighborhood projects. There is no limit on the amount of matching grant funds available per grant project. Upon receipt, grant projects are evaluated and selected based on a series of criteria including planning, neighborhood support, "sweat equity," need, final project maintenance, and benefit to the general public. The amount of matching grant funds allocated to a neighborhood is based on a project's worthiness.

Each year, there are two grant cycles, one in the spring and the other in the fall. If you are interested in applying for a grant for your neighborhood project, check the deadline on the application form to see if one is approaching or has just passed.

For more information please call 425.430.6595 or email the Neighborhood Program Coordinator, Norma McQuiller or the Neighborhood Program Assistant, Wendy Kirchner at 425.430.6594.

Web Site: <http://rentonwa.gov/living/default.aspx?id=2234>