



CITY OF DURHAM
Office of Public Affairs
101 CITY HALL PLAZA
DURHAM, NC 27701

News Release

News Media Contact:

Amy Blalock
Public Affairs Manager
(919) 560-4123 x 11253
(919) 475-7735 (mobile)
Amy.Blalock@DurhamNC.gov
<http://Facebook.com/CityofDurhamNC>
<http://Twitter.com/CityofDurhamNC>
<http://Instagram.com/CityofDurhamNC>
<http://YouTube.com/CityofDurhamNC>

For Immediate Release: December 15, 2017

Share! Applications due Jan. 31 for #Durham neighborhood matching grants: <http://bit.ly/2AS9CbA>

Durham Seeks Neighborhoods for Matching Grants Program

Project Applications Due January 31; Grant Assistance Available

DURHAM, N.C. – Durham neighborhood groups seeking to make their community a better place to live, work, play, and shop can now apply for the next round of City of Durham grant funding for neighborhood engagement projects.

The City's Neighborhood Improvement Services Department is seeking applications for its [Neighborhood Matching Grants Program](#), which provides grants up to \$2,500 to neighborhood associations, homeowner associations, community watch groups, and resident groups for projects that benefit a neighborhood's quality of life.

Examples of projects to be considered for funding include physical improvement projects such as community gardens and murals; neighborhood pride projects such as newsletters or special events; education and training projects such as walking programs and housing workshops; and public safety projects such as crime prevention programs. Selected projects must provide a one-to-one match for City funds awarded. There are several types of contributions eligible for meeting the match requirements including volunteer labor, donated professional services, donated materials, and cash donations.

Neighborhood groups interested in learning more about the program are encouraged to complete the interest form on the [Neighborhood Matching Grants Program](#) webpage. New for this round of funding, the department will also be helping neighborhood groups with no experience applying for grants partner with others, who have successfully won grant funding, to

help them through the application process. Groups can also visit the department's [webpage](#) to review the complete application guidelines, which are provided in English and Spanish. Applications are due January 31, and grants will be awarded in late February. Projects will be implemented April through June 2018.

For additional information, visit the department's [webpage](#) or contact a member of the department's Community Engagement team at (919) 560-1647 or by [email](#).

About the City of Durham Neighborhood Improvement Services Department

The [Neighborhood Improvement Services Department](#) works to preserve and improve quality of life conditions for Durham residents, and to encourage active participation in neighborhood redevelopment and public policy and decision making dialogue. The department is responsible for enforcement of quality of life ordinances and state statutes including the City's Fair Housing Ordinance; Minimum Housing Code; Nonresidential Code; Weedy Lot, Abandoned & Junk Vehicle ordinances; and the State of North Carolina's Unsafe Building Statute. The department's rapid responders, known as the Impact Team, remediate non-compliant housing properties; abate public nuisances, such as graffiti, illegal dumping, and abandoned shopping carts; and conduct neighborhood service projects. The department's Community Engagement staff provides outreach and education to Durham residents and community organizations. Guided by the City's [Strategic Plan](#), the department helps ensure that Durham has thriving, livable neighborhoods by providing the highest quality of services to engage and educate the community, eradicating blight, ensuring safer neighborhoods and enhancing neighborhood revitalization.

###