



District Improvement Program Application

Old Orchard Neighborhoods Association

Applicant - Community Group or Organization

Brent Lohmann

Project Contact Person

PO Box 2545, Toledo, Ohio 43606

Mailing Address

419-297-1550

Phone

brent@b-creativestudio.com

E-mail Address

Brick Pillars at Goddard Field

Project Name

Goddard Field

Project Location

\$134,624.99

Grant Request

\$134,624.99

Total Project Budget

1. Please provide a brief description of the Project

The Old Orchard Neighborhoods Association (OONA) has put considerable effort in enhancing the neighborhood. Countless hours have been spent over the past several years in planning, designing and meeting with neighborhood constituents in moving this vision forward.

In partnership with the University of Toledo, we would like to enhance the beauty and create a better “sense of place” for Goddard Field. Owned by the University of Toledo, the open space has served as a gathering space for years. The deteriorating sidewalks are creating a safety hazard and a significant number of the boulevard trees within the right-of-way need replacement. We would also like to grade the field and construct gateway pillars similar to those used by the University to designate the University and Old Orchard. These additions will create better cohesion with the nicely landscaped front yard of the University’s main campus.

- 2. Purpose and need** – State the goals and objectives of the proposed project. Identify the problems or needs which will be addressed. Identify the population that will benefit from this improvement.

The goals and objectives:

- To preserve the tree scape of Old Orchard and reverse the negative impact that years of tree removal without replacement has caused. Old Orchard is proud of its large population of old growth trees. Ongoing replacement is needed to prevent a noticeable depopulation of trees that can devalue properties.
- Improve pedestrian safety by replacing sidewalks.
- Promote identity through the addition of gateway columns.
- Continue the positive community building activities that utilize these green spaces (neighborhood social gatherings that utilize Goddard Field)

Benefiting Population:

Old Orchard residents, campus attendees, and the general Toledo population as a whole who will all be exposed to these improvements.

- 3. Project Location** – Describe in detail the location of the proposed project. Is this project in an area already targeted by the city of Toledo or any other state or federal agency for funding?

Open Field at Bancroft, Drummond & Goddard:

- No Federal funding has been allocated.
- The OONA board has met numerous times over the past 4 years with key University of Toledo contacts (Jason Toth, Daniel Klett, Bob Waddle, Nicole Baden) to present ideas and discuss project viability. A great relationship has been established. As a result, the removal and burial of utilities lines on the property, resulting in added safety for those using the field.
- The OONA board intends to foster this relationship with the University to continue enhancing this area.

4. **Support and Sustainability**— Identify plans for securing additional funding if needed to complete this project. Also identify plans to secure ongoing support and maintenance for this project.

Open Field at Bancroft, Drummond & Goddard Roads:

- Utilities pole removal and line burial has been provided by the University of Toledo
 - OONA is targeting to apply funds toward this projects as our budget will allow.
5. **Organizational Background** - Provide a brief background and history of the community group or organization applying for the grant. Include when and how it was established, its mission or purpose, accomplishments to date and a listing of all current programs and services.

The Old Orchard Neighborhoods Association (OONA) was established in 2016 and has an 8 person board of directors. Board meetings are held six times per year with a General meeting held once per year. Subcommittees meet regularly to keep projects progressing.

MISSION:

The Old Orchard Neighborhoods Association (OONA) is comprised of people who live in, and love the Old Orchard and Indian Hills neighborhoods. The organization promotes a safe and vibrant community by engaging with residents, the city and entities that impact the area. Our initiatives include: advocating for infrastructure improvement, supporting development that is consistent with the neighborhood's character and encouraging property upkeep to maintain the neighborhood's integrity.

SUBCOMMITTEES:

- Safety
- Beautification
- Garden Tour Event
- Gather on Goddard Event
- Membership

ACCOMPLISHMENTS:

- Established branding and membership marketing materials for the organization.
- Served as Old Orchard voice at city council meetings regarding the 2018 sale of the Notre Dame property at Secor and Monroe
- Conducted charette-style meetings for planning neighborhood improvements.

- Created design concept plans for Kenwood Boulevard and Goddard Field enhancements
- Plan yearly spring cleanup of Kenwood Boulevard and secure material donations.
- Established the Old Orchard Garden Tour annual event, showcasing beautifully landscaped properties. The 2023 event brought nearly 700 garden enthusiasts to the neighborhood. The 2024 tour is planned for Sunday, June 9, 2024. Visit oldorchardgardens.org.
- In 2022, OONA successfully held a celebration of the neighborhood's 100th Birthday. This casual outdoor event featured, music, food trucks and activities for kids and was attended by nearly 250 residents. It was funded by local business sponsors to keep the event free for neighbors. This event will continue in 2023 under the new name "Gather on Goddard".
- Completed website for OONA (oldorchardtoledo.org)

6. Organizational Structure – Provide a list of board members, principal staff, directors, trustees, or key decision makers inside your community group or organization.

OONA has an 8 person Board of Directors:

Billy Mann, President
Lynn Jensen, Vice President
Craig Jablonski, Treasurer
Kay Bennett, Secretary
Kevin Casper
Brent Lohmann
Matthew Reny
Mark Valdes-Depena

OONA is a 100% volunteer organization with no paid staff. We have applied for 501c3 status.