



District Improvement Program

Toledo City Council established the District Improvement Program (“DIP”) in 2018 to enrich the quality of life for individuals, families and business owners throughout the City and empower community members to take steps toward long-term improvements. The purpose of the District Improvement Program is to give community members an opportunity to have direct input and influence into the improvement of their neighborhoods. The emphasis of the program is to help fund capital projects not currently planned by the City that have community-wide benefit.

The continuation of the program is subject to appropriation of funding by Toledo City Council. Applications will be approved for capital projects ONLY. The projects will remain under ownership of the city.

I. Application Process

Community groups and organizations that are interested in completing a DIP project should submit a proposal containing all of the documents required in Section IV herein to the Department of Economic Development.

The Department Economic Development will review the application with the applicant to assure the proposed project meets the minimum requirements of the DIP. If additional information is needed, the applicant will be notified and permitted to submit supplemental information.

Once the Department of Economic Development has determined that the application is complete and qualifies for the DIP, the application will be scheduled for review by the DIP Review Committee, which will review the application based on the criteria identified in Section V herein and make a recommendation on the application to City Council.

II. Eligible Applicants

Applications will be accepted from community-based groups and organizations. A community-based group or organization is one whose purpose, at least in part, is to improve the quality of life in an area. Groups may be formed solely for the purpose of completing a DIP project. This can include representatives from churches, schools, business associations, and other institutions operating in that neighborhood.

The following are not eligible for the DIP:

- Single Businesses
- Political Groups
- Individuals
- Organizations that discriminate on the basis of age, gender, race, ethnicity, sexual orientation, disability, national origin, political affiliation, or religious beliefs

III. Eligible Projects

Projects must be a capital project that would be eligible under the City of Toledo's Capital Improvement Program. "Capital Improvement" is defined in Toledo Municipal Code Section 1905.14 as the original construction and/or purchase of any property, asset, or improvement with an estimated life or usefulness of five years or more, including land and interests therein, and including reconstructions, enlargements, and extensions thereof having an estimated life or usefulness of five years or more. The project must have a public benefit. All DIP projects will remain the property of the City of Toledo.

IV. Contents of Proposal

The following information **must** be included in all proposals. Please pay close attention to the details of your application or the application may not be considered complete.

- **Completed Application Form (attached).** The application should include a thorough explanation of the following.
 - **Purpose and need**— Describe the proposed project. 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.
 - **Project Location** – Describe in detail the location of the proposed project. Identify the property owner and provide, as an attachment, proof of the owner's permission to complete the proposed project.
 - **Implementation**— Summarize the plans and timeframe for the implementation of this project. Identify the individual(s) who will be responsible for overseeing the project and briefly describe their qualifications.
 - **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.
 - **Organizational Background** - Provide a brief background and history of the community group or organization, including when and how it was established, its

mission or purpose, accomplishments to date and a listing of all current programs and services.

- **Organizational Structure**—Provide a list of board members, principal staff, directors, trustees, or key decision makers inside your community group or organization.
- **Project Budget Attachment**— Please attach a one-page project budget, which includes:
 - Projected income and expenses.
 - All sources of funding.
- **Written Estimates – FOR PROJECTS ESTIMATED TO BE UNDER \$40,000**
 - Submit written estimates from at least three (3) contractors or suppliers who are qualified to perform the work or provide the goods that will be required for the project. It is preferable that at least one estimate is obtained from a Minority Based Enterprise (MBE) or Women’s Based Enterprise (WBE) if possible.
 - Current lists of City of Toledo certified MBE/WBEs can be found at toledo.oh.gov/services/diversity-inclusion/mbewbe/
 - Projects involving personal services or labor estimated to be over \$10,000 are also subject to prevailing rates of wages in the Toledo area for the industry involved.
 - If you have questions about meeting these requirements, please contact the Department of Economic Development for assistance.
 - **PROJECTS OVER \$40,000 WILL BE REQUIRED TO GO THROUGH FORMAL COMPETITIVE BIDDING THROUGH THE CITY OF TOLEDO PURCHASING DEPARTMENT. THIS WILL BE DONE AFTER SUBMITTAL OF THE APPLICATION, BUT PRIOR TO REVIEW BY THE DIP REVIEW COMMITTEE.**

V. Review Criteria

The DIP Review Committee will review applications based on the following criteria:

- Feasibility of the project and the proposed budget.
- Compliance with City codes.
- Likelihood the project will address the needs of the neighborhood.
- Longevity of the project.
- Neighborhood involvement in the project.
- Community-wide benefit.

VI. Submission of Applications

Applications will be accepted on an ongoing basis and will be considered upon submittal. Awards are subject to funds available for the applicable Council District at the time of application.

Please submit the application and all attachments requested in Section IV to:

City of Toledo
Department of Economic Development
District Improvement Program
One Government Center, 2250
Toledo, Ohio 43604
419-245-1044



District Improvement Program Application

Urban Wholistics

Applicant - Community Group or Organization

Sonia Flunder-McNair

Project Contact Person

619 Woodland Ave Toledo, Ohio 4360

Mailing Address

567-249-6621

Phone

UrbanWholistics@gmail.com

E-mail Address

Tatum Park Neighborhood Safety and Monitoring

Project Name

1209 City Park Avenue and 619 Woodland Avenues

Project Location

\$ 15,000

Grant Request

\$ 15,000

Total Project Budget

1. Please provide a brief description of the Project

Urban Wholistics is proposing the installation of simple safety features to the corner of City Park and Woodland Avenues to assist Urban Wholistics in its efforts to provide the community, residents and program participants a safe, clean wholistic green space.

These safety features include:

- Installation of City of Toledo i2c Security Camera at the corners of Woodland Ave and City Park Avenue
- Crosswalk Painted on Woodland Avenue between Tatum Park/ Urban Wholistics Farms and 619 Woodland
- Street signage – Slow, Child/Pedestrian Crossing.

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 goal of this project is to deter criminal behavior while increasing the safety and security of those that utilize Tatum Park and adjacent parcels. Tatum Park and adjacent parcels (Urban Wholistic Farms) serve as a wholistic place for youth and their parents to learn gardening and urban farming. The land and the programs taught there are a model for how community can come together and work toward the growth of sustainable healthy foods in the middle of a food desert.

In the few years that the park and farm have existed, overall crime and traffic in the area has decreased, however our organization has been subject to vandalism, theft and harassment. While there has been a decrease in activity, there are still unsolved gun violence crimes that occurred on our block and within the vicinity, there is also an influx of transient traffic due to the plasma center located behind us. All these factors contribute to parents, participants and staff voicing concerns of safety.

By installing the monitored camera at this intersection, we believe that we will see an even greater reduction in the activity that we are experiencing. Police patrolling, visits from our community resource officer and knowing the area is monitoring acts as a huge deterrent to potential crime and vandalism. Placing a monitored camera at this location will assist in keeping our children and their families safe when they are visiting the site.

619 Woodland avenue serves as storage and a programming space for Tatum Park and Urban Wholistics farms. The house is located across Woodland Ave from the Farm. We would like to have a crosswalk painted and signage alerting drivers to slow down and watch for pedestrians in the crosswalk. This additional safety feature to the area will also increase community awareness of the programming area.

Overall the implementation of these features will benefit the youth and families that Urban Wholistics serve. Our demographics are low-mod income families, most live in areas that are considered food desserts in the City of Toledo and the Junction Neighborhood.

- 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 of federal agency for funding?

This project is in the Junction Neighborhood in Toledo, Ohio. This is a low-moderate income census tract.

- 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.

If additional funds are needed then, Urban Wholistics will work to secure through our annual fundraising campaigns.

- 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.

Urban Wholistics was established in June 2019 to educate, feed, & support urban communities in Toledo, Ohio. Urban Wholistics is a total health, community based, grassroots initiative created to beautify open land in neighborhoods that have been historically excluded from access to wholistic green spaces.

We are committed to making a strong contribution to an improved environment, job creation and giving back to our community through the development of green spaces, Urban Wholistics, can engage community through education, instruction, land development and the creation of economic opportunities.

Current Programs include:

- Urban South Youth Market
- Seed to Bloom Camps
- Farm to Product Course
- Intro to Herbalism
- Gardening 101
- Teen leadership development

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

Sonia Flunder-McNair – Founder, BOD

Mary Wakefield- BOD President

Zahra Collins- BOD Treasurer

Erica White- BOD Parliamentarian, Acting Secretary

Kevin Brown- BOD

Cindy Bench- BOD