



## 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/](http://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

Ottawa Jermain Park Board

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**Applicant - Community Group or Organization**

Michael Bowman

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**Project Contact Person**

4228 Jackman Road, Toledo, OH 43612

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**Mailing Address**

419-461-2681

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**Phone**

michaelpbowman@hotmail.com

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**E-mail Address**

Amphitheater Drainage Project

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**Project Name**

Ottawa Park

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**Project Location**

\$19,345.75

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**Grant Request**

\$96,728.75

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**Total Project Budget**

**1. Please provide a brief description of the Project**

The Ottawa Park Amphitheater has long had a drainage problem that negatively impacts use of the venue. Specifically, water pools on the landing just below the first set of stairs after even a minor rain event. These creates a pit of mud that makes it dangerous for visitors to the Amphitheater to safely navigate this area.

With \$77,383 from the Ohio Department of Natural Resources (ODNR), and the matching 25% requested through District Improvement Funds, this problem will be permanently fixed. There is also work planned to create more accessibility for physically challenged visitors.

- 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.

This project will correct a problem with the physical structure, and increase safe and enjoyable access for all visitors. Visitors include residents that rent the amphitheater space for weddings, and performances of all kinds. The amphitheater is also the site of an annual concert series offered free to the community that attracts thousands of attendees each summer.

- 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?

The amphitheater is located in Ottawa Park, off the Kenwood Blvd. entrance. The structure was built as a WPA project and has seen significant investment over the many years since its initial build. Most recently funds were used to create and install a sculpture and sidewalk from the parking lot back to the amphitheater, drawing more attention to its location.

- 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.

The ODNR funds make the project whole to this point. In the unlikely case that there are cost over-runs we could look to augment the project with other parks improvement dollars, or seek support from the Park Advisory Board.

- 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 Ottawa/Jermain Park Advisory Board was established in Chapter 174 of the Toledo municipal code in 1990. Board duties include guiding the redevelopment of

Ottawa and Jermain Parks, and to serve in an advisory capacity on matters concerning the parks. The Boards involvement over the years has been significant as they provide an important bridge between the community and the city administration. In fact, it was Board member Harry Ward who authored the grant that secured the ODNR funds we are about to use on this project.

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

Michael Bowman- (President)  
Jay Catlow  
Beth Estep  
Jenny Gagne  
Rita Jackson  
Michael W. Murnen (Mick)  
Ethel Parker  
Torio, Gino (Keeper of the Records)  
Harry Ward  
Robert Smith  
Joseph Martin  
Aaron Pugh  
Diana Lopez