

614 BEAUTIFUL

INFO SESSION 2026

THE CITY OF
COLUMBUS
CITY COUNCIL
OFFICE OF COUNCILMEMBER
LOURDES BARROSO DE PADILLA



THE CITY OF
COLUMBUS
ANDREW J. GINTHER, MAYOR
DEPARTMENT OF
NEIGHBORHOODS

neighborhood
DESIGNcenter

PROGRAM PROCESS



PROGRAM PROCESS



CREATE

Find Your Site
Develop an Idea



PROGRAM PROCESS



CREATE



ENGAGE

Promote Idea
Find Partners
Build Support



PROGRAM PROCESS



CREATE



ENGAGE



APPLY

Complete
Application
(November 2)



PROGRAM PROCESS



CREATE



ENGAGE



APPLY



BUILD

Permits/Approvals
Implement



CELEBRATE

PROGRAM PROCESS



CREATE



ENGAGE



APPLY



BUILD



CELEBRATE

Project Unveiling
Programming

KEY DATES TO KNOW

Application Period Opens | **October 5, 2026**

Submissions Due | **November 2, 5PM**

Jury Deliberation | **Week of November 16**

Grant Announcement | **Friday November 20**

Grant Funds Available | **December 1, 2026**

Project Implementation | **December 1, 2026 - November 30, 2027**

**Projects must be complete by November 30, 2027*

ELIGIBLE PROJECTS

PUBLIC ART





Nature's Grace
Storybook Trail

Welcome to Nature's Grace Storybook Trail!
Continue your children's literacy journey with this interactive trail. Along the way, you'll find 12 storybook characters and their homes. Each stop features a storybook illustration, a QR code, and a short story. The trail is designed for children ages 5 and up. The trail is open from 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM, Monday through Friday. For more information, visit www.naturesgrace.org.

Featured Story:
LARRY ROBERT BARNES
Larry Robert Barnes is a local author and illustrator. He has written and illustrated several children's books, including "The Little Red Hen" and "The Little Red Hen and the Little Red Hen's Little Red Hen". He lives in a small house in the middle of the city.

LANDSCAPE ENHANCEMENTS



WAYFINDING & SIGNAGE



FACADE IMPROVEMENTS | URBAN DESIGN



TRANSIT-ORIENTED / STREETSCAPE

CONSIDERATIONS

FOR THE COMMUNITY...



...BY THE COMMUNITY

ADDITIONAL ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

Site must be in **city of Columbus corporation limits***

*Additional consideration will be given to project sites in opportunity neighborhoods

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Primary applicant must be **18 years or older**.

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Teams should have appropriate **insurance** and/or **waivers** for implementation and use of site.

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Site must be in **city of Columbus corporation limits***.

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Primary applicant must be **18 years or older**.

Teams should have appropriate **insurance** and/or **waivers** for implementation and use of site.

Organizations must be **able to receive grant funds** - either directly or through a fiscal agent.

WHAT CAN FUNDING SUPPORT

Grants of up to **\$10,000** are available to selected awardees.

Permit + Application Fees

Examples include: permits, Site Compliance Reviews, Variances, etc.

Supplies + Equipment Rental

Examples include: plant material, furnishings, scaffolding, power washers, etc.

Vendor + Contractor Payments

Examples include: muralist fees, electrician, general contractor, sign vendors, etc.

Food + Water for Volunteers

No more than \$500 can be spent to support volunteers

APPLICATION

PROGRAM BRIEF

614 BEAUTIFUL

www.614beautiful.org

OVERVIEW:

The Neighborhood Design Center (NDC), in partnership with Councilmember Lourdes Barroso de Padilla and the City of Columbus Department of Neighborhoods, invites teams of neighborhood residents and community organizations to submit proposals for inclusive placemaking opportunities to celebrate neighborhoods across the city. 614 Beautiful is a program aimed at beautifying and unifying Columbus communities through place-based, public-facing improvements achievable with \$10,000 of project support.

Beautification projects may include, but are not limited to: public art, landscape enhancements, wayfinding & signage, facade improvements, and/or transit-oriented interventions/streetscape improvements, and must be located within City of Columbus corporation limits. 614 Beautiful proposals should engage nearby residents, neighborhood businesses, and organizations, address environmental justice concerns, and create safe and equitable spaces. A jury consisting of project stakeholders and design professionals will review submissions and select winners to implement proposals.

Submission Deadline: Monday, November 2, 2026 by 5:00 PM EDT (no late applications will be accepted)
Program Website: www.614beautiful.org

ABOUT THE PROGRAM:

614 Beautiful seeks to beautify communities through vibrant, neighborhood-driven solutions that address issues of equity and enable greater connectivity within the neighborhood. In addition to activating spaces and places, the program aims to encourage dialogue amongst neighbors, local businesses, and organizations, and promotes creativity and ingenuity in strategies that support all. Applicants should consider the following:

- Grants of up to \$10,000 will be awarded to selected proposals.
- Projects must be located within the City of Columbus corporation limits. While project sites are open citywide, additional consideration will be given to those in identified [opportunity neighborhoods](#).
- Proposals may include but are not limited to public art, landscape enhancements, wayfinding & signage, facade improvements, and/or transit-oriented interventions/streetscape improvements (see examples on the program website). The proposals cannot be solely used for community gardens, but may enhance an existing garden or community space for better public access/activation.
- Proposals must be in publicly accessible locations within the community.
- Implementation of the proposal, including the purchase of materials, payments to vendors, and acquisition of appropriate permits, are the responsibility of the applicant. Project implementation must involve the community (concept approval, volunteering, neighborhood contractors).
- Applicants are responsible for community buy-in and should consult with appropriate neighborhood stakeholder groups representing the community regarding final design considerations.

** Please note public right of way improvements will require coordination and approval from the Public Service Division of the City of Columbus. You are expected to have begun the process of coordinating and acquiring approval when you submit your application.*

Additionally, the program encourages proposals that:

- Utilize matching funds to increase the impact of their final projects
- Accommodate as many users as possible
- Build upon existing City initiatives that benefit the quality of life for all Columbus residents

The NDC may advise entrants with navigating the City review process, upon request. Applicants are encouraged to view the program information video online and contact the NDC.

Access the digital application at:

WWW.614BEAUTIFUL.ORG

Submissions Due By:

5PM Monday, November 2, 2026

WHAT NEEDS TO BE SUBMITTED?

Digital Application

Project Name

Project Location

Primary Contact - Name, Organization, Email, Phone

Project Partners - Name & Outlining their Involvement

Project Category

Fiscal Agent - Organization, Point of Contact, Email, Phone

Uploaded Materials:

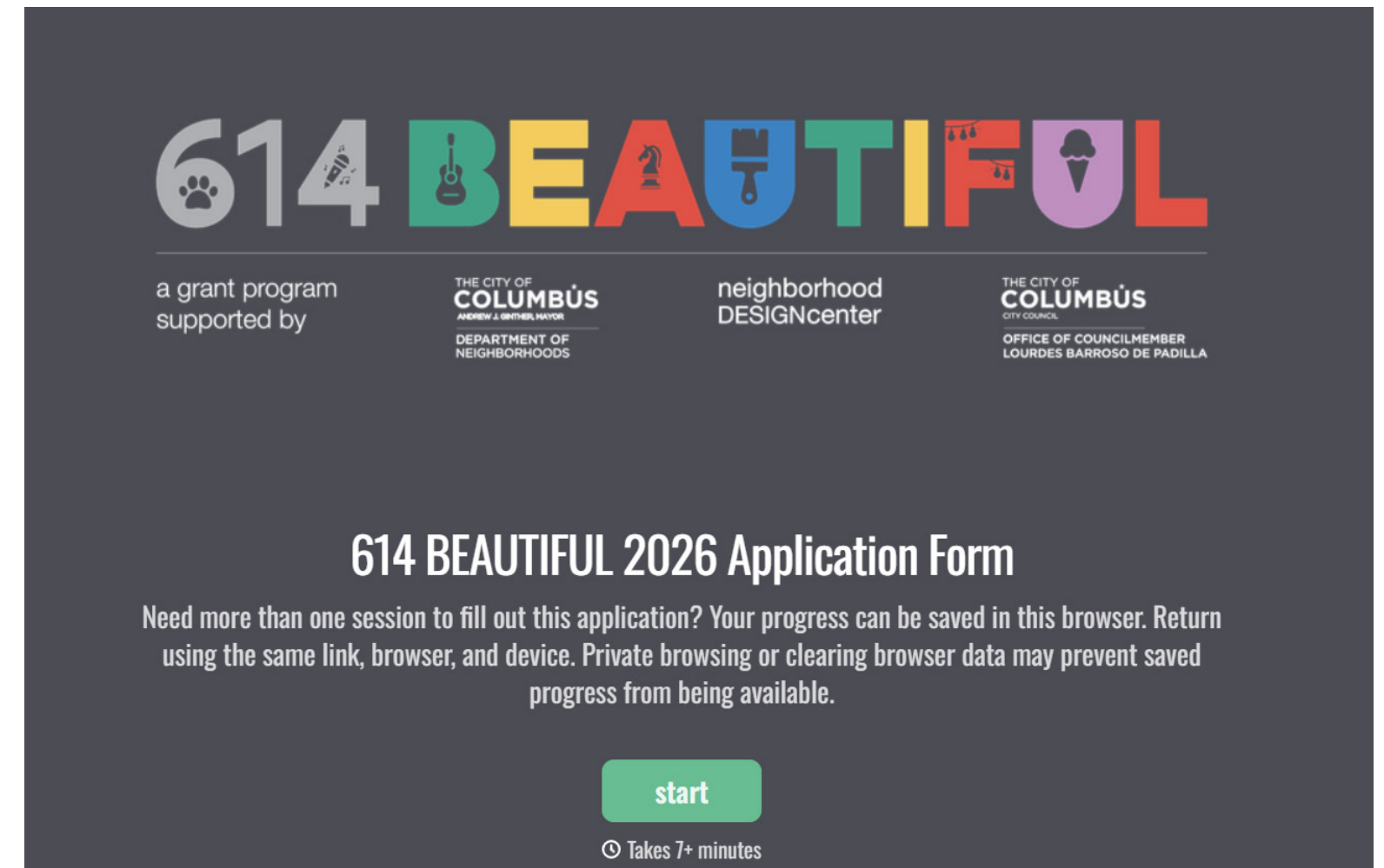
Slide Presentation

Budget (use template provided)

Optional Budget Narrative (500 word limit)

Statement of Community Support

Statement from Property Owner or Proof of Ownership



WHAT NEEDS TO UPLOADED IN THE APPLICATION?

Application

8 to 15-Slide Presentation

At a minimum, presentations must include:

- 1 slide of your project team/partners
- 1 slide showing the site's existing conditions
- 1 slide of your proposed idea/visioning: clearly articulates improvements
- 1 slide outlining your volunteer base & community engagement
- 2 slides detailing your implementation plan & timeline
- 1 slide detailing your maintenance plan
- 1 slide illustrating how the site will be used by the community


www.614beautiful.org

Implementation Considerations:

To ensure that your project lasts beyond your opening day, please review the following considerations for successful implementation, and respond to the questions below.

People

- How are you reaching out to the community for volunteers?
- How many individuals will it take to implement your idea?
- Are there any specific skillsets needed (i.e. electrician, carpenter, excavation, etc.)?
- Have you considered partnerships with organizations to help with implementation?
- Do you have a plan for how to organize individuals on volunteer days?

Equipment

- What equipment do you need to complete your project, and where are you sourcing it from?
- Do you need any special equipment to complete the project?

Permissions

- Is your project located in the public right of way? If so, have you reached out to the Department of Public Service to confirm the project is possible within the 614 Beautiful timeline?
- What permits or approvals will you need to complete your project?

Time

- How long do you anticipate needing, from start to finish, to implement the project?
- How much time do you need to get approvals from local civic associations, area commissions, city building & zoning, public service, or any other regulatory agency, if necessary?
- How much time do you need to prepare the site (consider: site cleanup, prepping a wall for a mural)?
- Do you need time ahead of a volunteer day to prepare elements like assembling furniture or finishing furniture?
- Does your site have the necessary infrastructure to support implementation (i.e. water for plants, electricity for tools, etc.)?

Additional Things to Consider

- What is your anticipated project start date?
- What is your anticipated project end date?
- How many volunteers do you need?
- What is the approach to implementing the project?


www.614beautiful.org

Maintenance Consideration:

To ensure that your project lasts beyond your opening day, please review the following considerations for ongoing maintenance, and respond to the questions below.

Upkeep

- Do you have plans to replace or repair elements of your project (i.e. replanting flowers, repairing a bench, tagging murals, etc.)?
- Do you have funds to rent special equipment for maintenance?
- How frequently do you plan to assess site conditions for necessary upkeep?
- Does maintenance require any utilities on site?
- Is any storage required for seasonal items (i.e. umbrellas, sun sails)?
- How will you store these materials?
- How are you reducing littering opportunities when the site is in use?

People

- Do you have a dedicated volunteer staff to assist with ongoing site maintenance?
- Do you have partnerships with other organizations to help with maintenance and volunteer opportunities?

Programming

- Do you have programming in place to activate the space?
- Have you considered how other organizations may use the space?
- What rules are in place for events on-site?
- What channels will you use to promote the site and amenities to the community?

Additional Things to Consider

- Who will be the primary organization maintaining the site and what tasks will they oversee?
- Do you need to establish an MOU (memorandum of understanding) with the primary organization maintaining the site?
- What is the frequency of maintenance tasks for the year (i.e. monthly, quarterly, annually)?
- Does the organization have the capacity to maintain the site based on anticipated timeline and activities?

WHAT NEEDS TO BE UPLOADED?

Application

8 to 15-Slide Presentation

Detailed Budget

Use the budget template provided on the 614 Beautiful website.

Create line items for all anticipated spending. We encourage you to develop a detailed budget, but to create inclusive categories in your budget that allows for maximum flexibility in your spending.

Includes a 10% contingency built into the budget

	B	C	D	E
1	PROJECT NAME		GRANTEE NAME	
2				
3	614 Beautiful Grant Application Budget			
4				
5	<i>Expense Description</i>			<i>Total Cost</i>
6	Beautification: raised beds, seed mix, paint for planters			\$ 981.97
7	Seating: Porch/sing/structure, landscape stakes			\$ 620.00
8	Lighting: solar lights, lumber, concrete slab			\$ 372.44
9	Platform Stage			\$ 1,000.00
10	Animal Amenities: dog aste bags, water fountain			\$ 1,566.00
11	Totem Creation: supplies, labor, install			\$ 3,050.50
12	Community engagement: community incentives, facilitation supplies			\$ 1,500.00
13				
14				\$ -
15				\$ -
16	Subtotal			\$ 9,090.91
17	Contingency (10% of ask)			\$ 909.09
18	Project Total			\$ 10,000.00

Application

Detailed Budget

Community Organization(s)





1186 West Broad Street
Columbus Ohio 43222

Victoria Bates-Frye
Chair
victoriafryeghac@gmail.com

614 Beautiful
Attn: Jurors

June 12, 2024

Re: Letter of Support

Dear 614Beautiful Jurors,

On Tuesday, June 4, 2024, Hilltop Arts Collective (HAC) presented its plan to apply for the 614 Beautiful Grant to the GHAC during its Full Commission Meeting. Hilltop Arts Collective outlined its plans to further beautify our Hilltop Neighborhood.

The Commission voted unanimously to support Hilltop Arts Collective and the outlined project on Tuesday, June 4, 2024.

Sincerely,

Victoria Bates-Frye
Chair

Officer's	Victoria Bates-Frye Chairperson	Dan Fagan Vice Chairperson	Joe Argiro Secretary Secretary	Dean Smith Treasurer	
Commissioners	Nick Bates Simon Dallas	Jennie Keplar Adhanet Kille	Josh Muddus Ashley Montana	Malik Moore Keith Neal	Andrew Striker Rachel Wenning



MICHAEL H. STEVENS
Director

THE CITY OF
COLUMBUS
AMERICA'S GROWING HEART®

DEPARTMENT OF
DEVELOPMENT

November 4, 2022

Lisa Snyder, Director of Community Programs
Neighborhood Design Center
1445 Summit Street
Suite 300
Columbus, Ohio 43201

Office of the Director
111 North Front Street, 8th Floor
Columbus, OH 43215
614.645.7795
614.645.6812 (TDD)

Economic Development Division
111 North Front Street, 8th Floor
Columbus, OH 43215
614.645.8112
614.645.6813 (TDD)

Planning Division
111 North Front Street, 3rd Floor
Columbus, OH 43215
614.645.8112
614.645.6813 (TDD)

Planning Division
111 North Front Street, 3rd Floor
Columbus, OH 43215
614.645.8664
614.645.6813 (TDD)

Division of Land Redevelopment
945 Patena Avenue
Columbus, OH 43216
614.645.5243
614.645.6813 (TDD)

RE: 614 Beautiful Grant for 1536 & 1548 Oak St.

Please accept this letter of support for the Growing Hearts & Hands Legacy Garden's 614 Beautiful Grant Application. Richard & Joyce Harris will be partnering with Central Community House's Transit Arts program to bring in participation of youth & artists. They will also be reaching out to the neighborhood schools.

The grant request will fund improvements that will directly help these activities that benefit the entire community.

Thank you,

John Turner
Administrator
Division of Land Redevelopment

Application

Detailed Budget

Proof of Ownership or Letter of Support from the Property Owner




1186 West Broad Street
Columbus Ohio 43222

Victoria Bates-Frye
Chair
victoriafryeghac@gmail.com

614 Beautiful
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THE CITY OF
COLUMBUS
A DIVISION OF THE OHIO DEPARTMENT OF DEVELOPMENT

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November 4, 2022

Lisa Snyder, Director of Community Programs
Neighborhood Design Center
1445 Summit Street
Suite 300
Columbus, Ohio 43201

Office of the Director
115 North Front Street, 8th Floor
Columbus, OH 43215
(614) 465-7795
(614) 465-6675 (TDD)

Economic Development Division
115 North Front Street, 8th Floor
Columbus, OH 43215
(614) 465-6833
(614) 465-6875 (TDD)

Neighborhood Division
115 North Front Street, 8th Floor
Columbus, OH 43215
(614) 465-6876
(614) 465-6875 (TDD)

Planning Division
115 North Front Street, 8th Floor
Columbus, OH 43215
(614) 465-2664
(614) 465-6875 (TDD)

Division of Land Redevelopment
943 Parsons Avenue
Columbus, OH 43206
(614) 465-5263
(614) 465-6875 (TDD)

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John Turner
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Division of Land Redevelopment

EVALUATION CRITERIA

A jury of program stakeholders and design professionals will evaluate on the following criteria:

Project Feasibility [30 PTS]

With the process outlined, does the project have the capacity to implement the idea?

Is the timeline to execute the project fair and reasonable?

Is the project within budget, or able to secure additional funds/donations to complete?

Does the organization show ability to maintain the project once complete?

EVALUATION CRITERIA

A jury of program stakeholders and design professionals will evaluate on the following criteria:

Project Feasibility [30 PTS]

Community Benefit + Activation [40 PTS]

Is the idea supported by the community?

Is the project inclusive of the target audience and/or neighborhood?

Is the project site in an opportunity neighborhood?

Is the community involved in the implementation of the project?

EVALUATION CRITERIA

A jury of program stakeholders and design professionals will evaluate on the following criteria:

Project Feasibility [30 PTS]

Community Benefit + Activation [40 PTS]

Creativity [30 PTS]

Is the idea innovative in the idea, strategy, and/or ecologically?

Is the proposal layering improvements for broader impact?

Is the project unique to the community?

WWW.614BEAUTIFUL.ORG

QUESTIONS?

CONTACT: Maria Ramirez, The Neighborhood Design Center



614-221-5001



programs@columbusndc.org
Subject: **614 BEAUTIFUL**



1445 Summit St.
Suite 300
Columbus, OH 43201