

INFO SESSION 2025 #2

September 15th, 2025

COLUMBUS

CITY COUNCIL

OFFICE OF COUNCILMEMBER LOURDESBARROSODEPADILLA



DEPARTMENT OF NEIGHBORHOODS

neighborhood DESIGNcenter





CREATE

Find Your Site

Develop an Idea

Promote Idea

Find Partners

Build Support





Application

(October 6)





KEY DATES TO KNOW

Application Period Opens | August 25, 2025

Submissions Due | October 6, 2025, 5PM

Jury Deliberation | Mid October 2025

Grant Announcement | Late October 2025

Grant Funds Available | November 2025

Project Implementation | Fall 2025-Summer 2026*

^{*}Projects must be complete by July 31, 2026

ELIGIBLE PROJECTS











CONSIDERATIONS

FOR THE COMMUNITY...

















...BY THE COMMUNITY

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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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 \$15,000 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 BEAGTIFUL

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 placebased, public-facing improvements achievable with \$15.000 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 July 7, 2025 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 \$15,000 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.

Download the application materials by visiting:

WWW.614BEAUTIFUL.ORG

Submissions Due By:

5PM Monday, October 6, 2025

Application Form

Project Site

Project Name

Primary Contact - Name, Organization, Email, Phone

Project Partners - Name & Outlining their Involvement

Project Category

Fiscal Agent

614 BEAUTIFUL	Application Form
Project Name	Project Location
Request Amount	
Primary Contact Information	
Name	Organization Represented (if applicable)
Email	Phone
Project Category Please check any of the following categories that Public Art Landscape Enhancements Wayfinding & Signage Façade Improvements Transit-Oriented Interventions/Streetscape	
Organization	Point of Contact
Email	Phone
Application Checklist Viewed the program information video (available) Application (This form) Slide Presentation (Up to 15-slides, PDF for Budget (Template provided) Statement of Community Support Statement from Property Owner or Proof of	ormat, 20 MB max. file size)

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
- 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

614 BEAUTIFUL

- How many individuals will It take to implement your idea?
 Are there any specific skillisets 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?

- quipment

 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?

 Have you considered how you'll get rid of waste from the site?

- 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
- Do you need time ahead of a volunteer day to prepare elements like assembling furniture or
- . Does your site have the necessary infrastructure to support implementation (i.e. water for

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?

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

- Do you have funds 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 upkee
 Does maintenance require any utilities on site?
 Is any storage required for seasonal items (i.e. umbrellas, sun sails)?
- How are you reducing littering opportunities when the site is in use?

- 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

- 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

- 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

Application

8 to 15-Slide Presentation

Detailed Budget*

Line items for all anticipated spending
Includes a 10% contingency built into ask

*A template is provided

PROJECT NAME		GRANTEE NAME			
614 Beautiful Grant Application Budg	et				
Expense		Cost	Quantity		Total Cost
Improvement (ex. Fence)					
Example: 2 cu. ft. black mulch	\$3.98	5	\$	19.90	
			\$	-	
				\$	-
				\$	-
				\$	-
				\$	-
				\$	-
				\$	-
				\$	-
				\$	-
				\$	-
Subtotal				\$	-
Contingency (10% of ask)			\$	-	
Project Total			\$	_	

Application

8 to 15-Slide Presentation

Detailed Budget

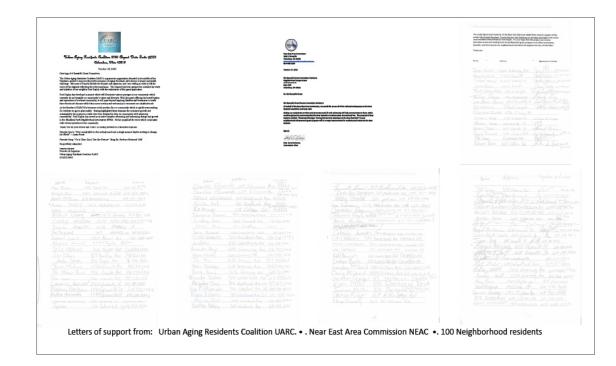
Letter of Support from the Community

Civic Association

Area Commission

Neighborhood Sign-Off Sheet

Community Organization(s)







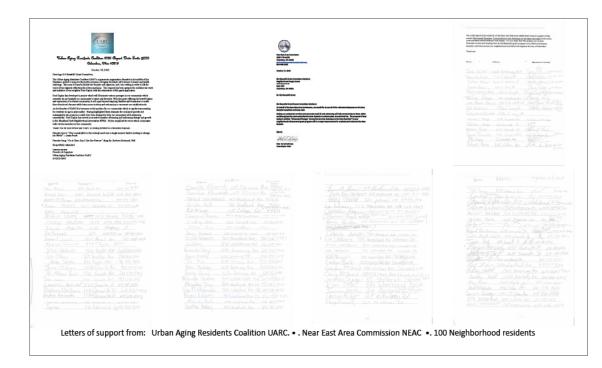
Application

8 to 15-Slide Presentation

Detailed Budget

Letter of Support from the Community

Proof of Ownership or Letter of Support from the Property Owner







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 capcity 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: Tara Smith, The Neighborhood Design Center



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programs@columbusndc.org
Subject: 614 BEAUTIFUL



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