Neighborhood Improvement Program
NEIGHBORHOOD ENRICHMENT GRANT PROGRAM
FY22-23 FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

** Grant changes are effective beginning Fiscal Year 2022-2023 (July 1, 2022 through June 30, 2023) **

1. What happened to the Neighborhood Matching Grant?
   - The Neighborhood Enrichment Grant Program will be replacing the Neighborhood Matching Grant beginning in Fiscal Year 2022-2023. With the replacement of the Neighborhood Matching Grant with the new Neighborhood Enrichment Grant Program, there is no longer a required match for the grant.

2. What is a competitive grant?
   - Submission of an application does not guarantee approval for a grant award. Staff will judge applications and score them based on criteria outlined in the grant guidelines. Staff recommend quality applications for approval from County Council until grant funds are exhausted.

3. When is FY 2022-2023?
   - Fiscal Year (FY) 2022-2023 begins July 1st, 2022 and ends June 30th, 2023.

4. Where can I get an application?
   - Applications are available on the Neighborhood Planning website here and available for pick up at the Planning Counter on the 1st floor of the Richland County Administration Building (2020 Hampton Street).

5. We have more than one neighborhood organization in our neighborhood. Can we all submit an application?
   - No. Only one neighborhood can receive the grant for their given area.

6. How much money can we spend per project?
   - It is up to you. Your organization can allocate grant funds between projects how you see fit as long as the total amount requested does not exceed the maximum funding amount for which your organization is eligible.

7. When will I know if our application is approved?
   - Council decides on grant recipients during their June meeting. NIP Staff will send out approval or denial notices in July.

8. Can we spend our own neighborhood funds on the projects along with NEGP funding?
   - Yes. You can use your own funds to supplement grant funding for your projects.

9. How do I know if I qualify for Tier 1 or Tier 2 funding?
   - A significant amount (at least 25%) of the area within your neighborhood boundaries must be considered low-to-moderated income. This is represented by the blue area on the interactive map here.

10. For meeting minutes, can we submit an agenda instead?
    - Yes. The agenda or meeting minutes need to make note that your organization discussed the grant application and any related projects at your meeting.

11. The application has forms for three projects. Do we have to do three projects?

Richland County| Community Planning & Development| Neighborhood Improvement Program | Neighborhood Enrichment Grant FY22-23 | 1

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- No. You can use grant funding for less than three or more than three projects. If you want more than three projects and need additional forms, email NIP@richlandcountysc.gov
12. What is an enrichment resource?
    - An enrichment resource is a resource that can further enrich your events or disseminate helpful resources to your community. Examples are resources from Richland Library, signing up for voters registration, and representatives from the Richland Sheriff's Department Community Action Team (CAT TEAM).
13. Do I have to attend NEGP Training Sessions?
    - Attendance at an NEGP Training Session is not required, although it is recommended, as there are a number of new and important changes to the grant.
14. Can I get additional information or help with filling out my application?
    - Yes, feel free to contact NIP at (803) 576-2190 or NIP@richlandcountysc.gov for assistance with filling out the application.
15. If there is no match, why do we need to provide In-Kind Donation letters and Volunteer hours?
    - Given that the NEGP is a competitive grant, we encourage collaboration with outside organizations and volunteer participation in order to boost your application and help it stand out among the other submitted applications. In-Kind Donation letters and Volunteer Hours Form are not necessary and may not apply to all projects.
16. Where can I get a copy of my IRS W9 Form?
    - You can find the form here or on our website. You do not need to submit the completed form to the IRS. It is for our records.
17. What is an official vendor quote?
    - An official vendor quote contains costs for expenses, quantity of goods, description of goods, date, and vendor letterhead. A quote without the vendor's letterhead will be considered invalid. If you are working with a business that does not have a website, you can list quotes using a Telephonic Quote Form on our website here.
18. Can the neighborhood president be the point of contact?
    - Yes, but it is not recommended.
19. Can we use grant funding to reimburse funds already spent on a project?
    - Yes, as long as they are eligible expenses for a project listed on your application. The project must also have taken place within the current fiscal year.
20. Do I have to answer every question on the project description, even questions that do not apply to my project?
    - Yes. For any questions that do not apply to your project, please put N/A in the answer box. Do not leave any areas blank. We cannot accept blank forms.

Mailing Address:	Contact:	Physical Address:
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Richland County| Community Planning & Development| Neighborhood Improvement Program | Neighborhood Enrichment Grant FY22-23 | 3

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