

CITY OF BAYTOWN

NEIGHBORHOOD EMPOWERMENT
GRANT PROGRAM



ABOUT THE GRANTS

The City of Baytown has developed the Neighborhood Empowerment Grant Program to support the city's strategic goal of improving Neighborhood Quality.

This program provides grants to neighborhood groups interested in building strong relationships around a community-driven improvement project.

Neighborhoods are eligible for funding for 3 consecutive years. After 3 years of funding, the neighborhood will not be eligible for a 4th year of funding and will need to wait one year before applying again.

Grants can range from a minimum of \$500 to a maximum of \$8,000.



ELIGIBILITY

Eligible projects must support neighborhood goals under one of the following categories:

- **Beautification**
- **Connecting Neighbors**
- **Neighborhood Safety**



To be eligible projects must:

- ✓ Have a clear and significant community benefit
- ✓ Be submitted by a local group such as a neighborhood association, non-profit, or other community organization
- ✓ Enlist community participation and demonstrate neighborhood support
- ✓ Be within the City Limits of Baytown

TYPES OF PROJECTS

Projects must be in the public way or be highly visible from the public way. Projects on City-owned property or right-of-way will be given preference.

- Neighborhood Block Party
- Neighborhood Sign Toppers
- Neighborhood Association Support
- Minor Park Enhancements: for example benches, trail markers, bike racks, bike repair stations, etc.
- Public Art: for example murals, street art, crosswalks, traffic cabinet art, etc.



OTHER PROJECTS

Have a project you don't see listed? Reach out to us! We would love to talk through your project with your BEFORE you submit the application. It is important to consider the feasibility and eligibility of the projects with city staff before taking the time to complete the application.

We're always excited to collaborate with a neighborhood to bring a community project to life that is unique to your neighborhood!



What is Not Allowed?

- Individual residents or businesses are not eligible to apply for funding through this program.
- Applications that benefit only a small percentage of the residents of a neighborhood or do not demonstrate widespread support among the neighborhood's residents are not eligible.
- Funds that would typically appear in the operating budget of a homeowner's association or individual homeowner's maintenance budget are not eligible for funding. This includes, but is not limited to, grounds keeping, common area and equipment upkeep, tools and equipment required for maintaining neighborhood features, and repairs or improvements to private property.
- Social or cultural events that allow alcohol are not eligible for funding.
- Proposals must comply with applicable City of Baytown codes and ordinances, along with applicable federal, state, and local laws. Projects cannot create a public safety hazard or conflict with existing or approved municipal projects. Project implementation may require coordination with various City Departments such as Planning & Development, Public Works and Engineering, Parks and Recreation, Community Engagement, etc.

What if our Neighborhood has Larger Needs?

As neighborhood groups work together to identify improvements or enhancements to in their neighborhood, they may discover needs that are too large for the Neighborhood Empowerment Grant Program to address. The City still want to know about these needs. Getting this information directly from the people who are most impacted is crucial for good decision making and future planning. We have included a section on the application for applicants to identify other ideas the group has for making their neighborhood a better place to live.