



## Neighborhood Council Seeks Grant Applications From Local Organizations to Benefit the Community

The Neighborhood Council of Westchester/Playa is encouraging community organizations to complete the Neighborhood Purposes Grant (NPG) application that can be found on-line at [www.ncwpdr.org](http://www.ncwpdr.org).

This grant program was approved by the City of Los Angeles to provide Neighborhood Councils with greater flexibility in spending their allocated funds and form partnerships with 501(c)(3) nonprofit organizations and public schools in their communities. Please note that according to the ordinance, grants cannot be issued to religious organizations or to private schools.

Any grant issued by the Neighborhood Council must be for a public purpose. In short, applicants should consider how the grant will help our community? Projects may encompass a wide range and can include, but are not limited to the arts, beautification, community support, education and community improvements. The Department of Neighborhood Empowerment has the final discretion to determine whether or not the proposed project is clearly beneficial to the community.

A project may be submitted that is part of a larger project, but if so, consider carefully whether it can be completed independently of the larger project and regardless of whether other funding needs to be secured.

### Considerations:

- The budget is realistic and supported with documentation.
- The organization or individual is capable of completing the project.
- The work plan is detailed, specific, and feasible.
- The project is supported by the community.
- The number of stakeholders that will benefit from this project is significant.

- The project implementation process will build community.
- The complete project will enhance the community.

The Neighborhood Council will also carefully evaluate your organization to be certain that it is capable of completing the proposed project. The following items will be considered:

- **Credibility.** Does your organization know what it wants to accomplish? What evidence proves that the organization is currently achieving its goals? What kind of reputation does the group enjoy within its community and beyond?
- **Capability.** What skills does your organization's staff and/or board bring to the project? Are they relevant to the project's aims? Has your organization succeeded in similar endeavors of equal size and scale to what you are now proposing?
- **Feasibility.** The Neighborhood Council must determine whether the proposal is advancing a worthwhile project built upon a good idea that can be successfully implemented. Is the budget allocated sufficiently to execute the various tasks and strategies described in the proposal?
- **Importance.** Should it be done? Is the project significant? Is there evidence that the proposal will trigger action or work that the community wants? Will it make a difference in the community it purports to aid or resolve the issue it addresses?

The city ordinance also provides a framework for eligibility for certain kinds of projects. Factors to consider include the following:

- Is this a capital improvement project?
  - It should be on public property within the Neighborhood Council's boundaries.
  - There must be coordination with appropriate City agencies (i.e., Street Services, LAPD, LAFD, Rec & Parks, etc.).
  - Appropriate permits need to be in place.
- Is this for program services (i.e. after school program, graffiti removal, etc.)?
  - The applicant must create a fair selection process to establish participants.
- Is this for equipment and supplies?
  - Purchases for schools or 501(c)(3) organizations need to ultimately benefit the local community.
- Is this an event?
  - Events must be open and advertised to the public.
  - Discuss appropriate liability issues.

501(c)(3) nonprofit organizations and public schools must complete the Application for a Neighborhood Purposes Grant, which can be found on-line and submit it to the Neighborhood Council of Westchester/Playa. The Neighborhood Council will then evaluate all grant applications in a public meeting, deciding whether to approve or disapprove the proposed grant. If the application is approved, it must then be forwarded to the Department of Neighborhood Empowerment. If all documents are in compliance, the project coordinator will forward the application to the Neighborhood Council Funding Unit who will then process a check to the grant recipient.

If you meet the criteria as explained above, please fill out an application and submit it today. If you have any questions please contact Rodger Shimatsu of the Neighborhood Council Funding Program at (213) 473-5383 or by email at [Rodger.shimatsu@lacity.org](mailto:Rodger.shimatsu@lacity.org).

## Attend NCWP Committee Meetings

The Neighborhood Council of Westchester/Playa has eight standing committees that discuss various topics of interest to our community. To learn about these issues in more depth, please take the time to attend our committee meetings and let your voice be heard.

	<u>Meeting Time/Date</u>	<u>Meeting Location</u>
Airport Relations	Third Wednesday at 6:30 p.m.	Clifton Moore Administration Building, LAX
Budget and Finance	First Tuesday at 5:30 p.m.	7166 W Manchester Ave., Community Room
Education	Fourth Tuesday at 6:30 p.m.	Westchester Loyola Village Library
Government Affairs/City Services	As needed – please check website for time and location	
Homelessness & Vehicular Living	As needed – please check website for time and location	
Outreach	As needed – please check website for time and location	
Planning & Land Use	Second Tuesday at 6:30 p.m.	8020 Alverstone Ave. (YMCA Annex)
Public Safety	As needed – please check website for time and location	