Minneapolis Climate Action and Racial Equity Fund

The Minneapolis Climate Action and Racial Equity Fund is a partnership between the City of Minneapolis, The Minneapolis Foundation, and the McKnight Foundation.

Purpose

The Minneapolis Climate Action and Racial Equity Fund offers grants for place-based, community-driven initiatives and projects that result in a demonstrable reduction in local greenhouse gas emissions, align with the goals of the Minneapolis Climate Action Plan, and with strong preference to further the goals of the Minneapolis Strategic Racial Equity Plan.

Minneapolis Climate Action Plan

Projects should further one or more of the four key goals of the Minneapolis Climate Action Plan related to reducing greenhouse gas emissions. These goals include:

1) **Energy Efficiency:** Significantly improve the energy efficiency of our commercial, residential, and public buildings.

2) **Renewable Energy:** Increase our use of local, renewable energy.

3) **Reduction in Vehicle Miles Traveled:** Reduce vehicle miles traveled in Minneapolis.

4) **Reduce, Reuse, Recycle:** Shrink our waste stream by reducing waste, encouraging reuse, and increasing recycling of both organic and inorganic material.

Minneapolis Strategic Racial Equity Action Plan

The City of Minneapolis defines racial equity as the development of policies, practices, and strategic investments to reverse racial disparity trends, eliminate institutional racism, and improve outcomes and opportunities for all people.

The Strategic and Racial Equity Action Plan is a four-year plan that will embed racial equity principles into the goals, operations, programs, services, and policies of the City. With the elimination of racial disparities as the primary aim, the plan provides City leaders with a common focus and direction for prioritizing work and resources. The City of Minneapolis recently completed racial equity planning and goal setting around four racial equity areas related to workforce, spend, racially disaggregated data, and community engagement. You can find more information about the City's work here: http://www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us/coordinator/Equity/sreap/index.htm

Projects should encompass the following racial equity focus areas:[1]

1) **Workforce/Team Structure:** Assess organizational workforce and/or project team composition to ensure it reflects the diversity of the community your proposed project aims to benefit. Describe the current make-up of your team/organization focused on this project and efforts. If your current team does not reflect the racial and ethnic make-up of the community your project will serve, describe the strategies you will implement to address that gap.

2) **Spend:** A key mechanism to advance racial equity is through spending organizational funds with businesses owned by Black, Indigenous, People of Color and/or immigrants, particularly in industries where these businesses are underutilized. Describe your current organizational/team philosophy and experience supporting businesses of this nature and your commitment to do so with funds acquired through the Climate Action and Racial Equity Fund.

3) **Racially Disaggregated Data:** It is inherently impossible to address issues of racial inequity without first naming the nature of disparity through the use of data that is disaggregated by race. Community-level data disaggregated by race in housing, health, education, sustainability, employment, and more is available. Where it isn't available, organizations and individuals need a strategy to capture this data through community engagement, particularly with communities most impacted by systemic and institutional racism. Please describe how you are using racially disaggregated data in defining your planning project proposal, establishing success factors and assessing impact of the work.

4) **Community Engagement:** Initiatives focused on reducing and/or eliminating racial disparities are only effective when they are informed by the communities they are designed to benefit. Describe the means by which you will implement community engagement through the life of your project. Whether you are conducting the engagement yourself or through trusted partners, how will you ensure these engagements are culturally-responsive. Based on the International Association of Public Participation's Spectrum, which category or categories will your engagement with Black, Indigenous, People of Color and/or immigrant communities fall into?

Green Zones

Low-income communities, Indigenous communities and communities of color in Minneapolis experience unequal health, wealth, employment, and education outcomes, and also are overburdened by environmental conditions such as traffic and stationary pollution sources, brownfield sites, blight and substandard housing. The City of Minneapolis has designated portions of the city as "Green Zones." A Green Zone is a place-based policy initiative aimed at improving health and supporting

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[1] These focus areas are recommended by the [Government Alliance on Race and Equity](#) recommends in projects to address racial equity.

economic development using environmentally conscious efforts in communities that face the cumulative effects of environmental pollution, as well as social, political and economic vulnerability. The idea for developing a Minneapolis Green Zones initiative came from the Minneapolis Climate Action Plan Environmental Justice Working Group.

Priority will be given to projects that serve residents within designated Green Zones in the City of Minneapolis. You can find a map of the Green Zones here: http://www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us/www/groups/public/@citycoordinator/documents/webcontent/wcmsp-208430.pdf

Eligibility

This funding opportunity is open to 501c3 nonprofits, schools, churches, neighborhood organizations, business associations, and charitable/grassroots organizations with a fiscal agent. If you are an individual or business in need of a fiscal agent or sponsor, please contact Erin Heelan at 612-310-3715 or erin@erinhconsulting.com. This fund supports projects within the City of Minneapolis.

How to Apply

Applications must be submitted online through The Minneapolis Foundation's application portal, GranteeView. To get started, go to www.minneapolisfoundation.org/climate-action.

2019 Funding Availability and Grantmaking Timeline

The fund has $100,000 available for grants in 2019. There will be two rounds of funding in 2019:

Spring Deadline: 4 p.m. on May 30, 2019
Spring Award Notification: July 15, 2019
Fall Deadline: 4:30 p.m. on September 16, 2019
Fall Award Notification: November 1, 2019

Fund Contact

Questions about this funding opportunity? Contact Erin Jerabek Heelan at erin@erinhconsulting.com.

Need help registering as a grant applicant or navigating The Minneapolis Foundation's online application system? Contact the foundation's grants administration team at grantsupport@mplsfoundation.org or 612-672-8665.

Quick Guide to Climate Action and Equity Grants

Grant Type	Planning Grant	Implementation Grant
Description	To create a plan for a project	To implement a project
Eligible Applicants	501c3 nonprofits, schools, churches, neighborhood organizations, business associations, charitable/grassroots organizations with a fiscal agent	501c3 nonprofits, schools, churches, neighborhood organizations, business associations, charitable/grassroots organizations with a fiscal agent
Eligible Locations	All project must happen within the City of Minneapolis; preference given to projects serving Green Zone residents	
Total Funding Available	$100,000 ($50,000 per grant round)	
Grant Size	$2,500 to $10,000	$5,000 to $25,000
2019 Application Deadlines	Spring Deadline: May 30, 2019 Fall Deadline: September 16, 2019	
Eligible Uses	- Project planning - Consultant fees related to research, planning, etc. - Design fees - Outreach and engagement related to project design - Community engagement - Translation, interpretation services - Staffing (project-related salaries)	- Outreach and engagement related to project implementation - Consultant fees related to implementation of projects - Educational materials (design, printing, etc.) - Stipends to resident ambassadors - Community engagement - Translation, interpretation services - Staffing (project-related salaries)

Ineligible Uses	• Equipment • Capital costs • City staff or city government costs • Activities that occur prior to or after grant execution and expiration	• Equipment • Capital costs • City staff or city government costs • Activities that occur prior to or after grant execution and expiration
Grant Term	1 year	1-2 years
Reporting Requirements	Report via Minneapolis Foundation's online application system; include project photos, budgeted vs. actual expenses, expense receipts, and a written description of deliverables, outcomes, and lessons learned as listed in grant agreement.	

Evaluation Criteria	Total Points

Project alignment with the City of Minneapolis Climate Action Plan:
 	
   1) Demonstrable reduction in greenhouse gas emissions related to:
      a. Improving the energy efficiency of commercial or residential buildings
      b. Increasing the use of local, renewable energy
      c. Reducing vehicle miles traveled in Minneapolis
      d. Shrinking the waste stream through efforts to reduce, reuse, or recycle
 	
* Higher points are awarded to climate change strategies with a greater overall impact on greenhouse gas emissions.
   2) Ability of project to meaningfully engage local residents/organizations to increase their sense of ownership of climate solutions and strengthen social connections among individuals and networks.
	40

Project alignment with racial equity focus areas: Workforce/Team Structure, Spend, Racially Disaggregated Data, Community Engagement	30

Project Need:
 	
   1) Demonstrated need for the project to happen
   2) Demonstrated resident/community engagement with the concept
   3) Ability of project to engage with individuals or communities who have been historically overburdened by environmental conditions and/or underserved by climate change programs (low-income
	10

communities, Indigenous communities, and communities of color, renters).	
Project is located in a City of Minneapolis designated Green Zone	10
Project Readiness: Work can be completed within the term of the grant; applicant has a detailed work plan, clear outcomes, and established partnerships.	10
Total Points Available	100

Application Questions (Preview Worksheet)

All applications must be submitted online, but applicants are encouraged to use this worksheet to preview and draft application questions.

Organization Information
Organization address:
Organization website:
Organization phone number:
Head of organization name:
Head of organization title:
Head of organization email:
Head of organization phone:

Project Information:
Name:
Project name:
Contact person (from your group/organization):
Contact address (include suite #):
Contact city, state, and ZIP code:
Contact phone number:
Contact e-mail address:
Group/organization website (if applicable):
Exact (or nearest) address where project will occur:
Neighborhood:
Is the project located in a designated City of Minneapolis Green Zone?

Are you applying for a planning or an implementation project?
Amount you are requesting ($X,000-$XX,000):

Project Narrative

1) **Project Description:** Include a short description of the project, the need for it, existing conditions that affect it, key partners or collaborators, desired results and outcomes, and who will benefit or be burdened by it.

2) **Project Goals:** How does your project reduce local greenhouse gas emissions and align with the goals of the City of Minneapolis' Climate Action Plan? Does this project align with the racial equity focus areas? If so, how?

3) **Key Strategies:** Describe the specific climate action strategies, planning, or outreach components that funds will be used for. Does your project leverage existing climate change programs or initiatives? If so, please explain. What are your strategies for advancing racial equity and/or mitigating unintended consequences?

4) **Community Engagement and Decision-Making:** How is racial equity embedded in the decision-making, design, and implementation of this project? How have you engaged the people who will benefit from this project in its design? What is their role in evaluating its success? How will the project drive equitable outcomes and/or engage new constituencies?

5) **Project Readiness:** Use the table below to create a project timeline of activities and outcomes that includes:

All activities <u>completed</u> to prepare for this project. Examples: bids received, contracts signed, community outreach.

<u>Future activities.</u> Examples: organizing, engagement, planning, implementation, education.

A list of project <u>outcomes</u>. Examples: education, policy-change, regulatory decision, constituency engaged.

Any <u>quantifiable long-term impacts</u> your effort aims to achieve, if applicable. Examples: number of pounds of carbon dioxide reduced, number of participants, number of volunteer hours, pre- and post-project energy use, jobs created/retained, number of attendees at events, number of flyers distributed, number of energy audits, number of specific activities.

For assistance in calculating the potential impact your project will have on greenhouse gas emissions, please contact Mr. Kim Havey at the City of Minneapolis' Sustainability Office at Kim.Harvey@minneapolismn.gov.

Start Date	End Date	Major Activity and Related Outcome
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6) Accountability and Communication: How will you share any accomplishments, lessons learned, and best practices (with whom, when, and how)? How will you ensure accountability, communicate, and evaluate results? Be specific.

Attachments:
- Project budget: What is the overall budget for the project? Include all funding sources and uses beyond those coming from the Minneapolis Climate Action Fund. Include in-kind services like volunteer time.
- 2018 financial statements (P&L, balance sheet)
- 2019 organizational budget to actual
- Fiscal sponsor recognition letter
- Letters of support from named partners
- Optional: photos or images that help to describe the project.