

Minneapolis Climate Action and Racial Equity Fund

2024 Grant Guidelines and Application Preview Worksheet

Grant Guidelines

Purpose

The Minneapolis Climate Action and Racial Equity Fund offers grants for place-based, community-driven initiatives and projects that contribute to a reduction in local greenhouse gas emissions and increase the livability and resilience of local communities.

Minneapolis Climate Equity Plan

<https://www2.minneapolismn.gov/government/programs-initiatives/climate-equity/climate-equity-plan/>

Climate equity ensures that all people share the benefits of climate protection efforts. Achieving equity means that all people—regardless of their race, color, gender, age, sexuality, national origin, ability, or income—live in safe and healthy communities.

The Minneapolis Climate Equity Goal: Achieve net-zero greenhouse gas emissions by 2050 following the Race to Zero accelerated action path—and not exceed the total citywide cumulative carbon budget through 2050.

Priorities for Funding

Projects should further one or more of the goals of the Minneapolis Climate Equity Plan related to reducing greenhouse gas emissions **and** the priorities of Minneapolis Green Zones.

Green House Emissions

- Energy Efficiency: Significantly improve the energy efficiency of our commercial, residential, and public buildings.
- Renewable Energy: Increase our use of local, renewable energy.
- Reduction in Vehicle Miles Traveled: Reduce vehicle miles traveled in Minneapolis.
- Reduce, Reuse, Recycle: Shrink our waste stream by reducing waste, encouraging reuse, and increasing recycling of both organic and inorganic materials.

Green Zone Priorities

- Air, Water, Land: Clean up soil and water contamination. Improve air quality, livability, and environmental quality in business and transport. Decrease transportation and related pollution to improve neighborhood health and safety. Reduce cumulative pollution and health impacts.

- Green Workforce: Increase investments in green jobs and career opportunities.
- Energy, Housing, and Anti-Displacement: Increase high-quality and affordable environmental housing.
- Residents and Small Business: Reduce the costs of electric and heating utilities.
- Healthy Food Access: Invest in and increase access to affordable and healthy foods by supporting local food growers, production, and distribution.
- Environmental Education: Support community organizing and advance environmental education in communities and schools.
- Emergency Preparedness: Support community organizations that increase the emergency preparedness of households and community space for extreme heat, cold, and weather events.

Minneapolis Strategic Racial Equity Action Plan

Projects should also advance the 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 embeds 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 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:

<https://www2.minneapolismn.gov/government/departments/racial-equity/what-we-do/strategic-racial-equity-action-plan/>

Projects should encompass the following racial equity focus areas:

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 the team/organization that will be focused on this project. If your current team does not reflect the racial and ethnic makeup of the community your project will serve, describe the strategies you will implement to address that gap.

Spend: A key mechanism to advance racial equity is through spending organizational funds with businesses owned by Black or Indigenous communities, 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 doing so with funds acquired through the Climate Action and Racial Equity Fund.

Racially Disaggregated Data: It is 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 of this nature is available from many sources to describe the disparities that exist in housing, health, education, sustainability, employment, and more. Where it is not available, organizations and individuals need a strategy to capture this data through community engagement, particularly with the 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 the impact of your work.

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 BIPOC and/or immigrant communities fall into?

Priority will be given to projects that serve residents within designated Green Zones in the City of Minneapolis.

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." These zones were defined by a place-based policy initiative aimed at improving health and supporting 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.

You can find a map of the Green Zones here:

<https://www2.minneapolismn.gov/government/departments/health/sustainability-homes-environment/sustainability/green-zones/map/>

Green Zone Plans

Southside Green Zone

Northside Green Zone

Quick Guide to Climate Action and Racial Equity Grants		
Grant Type	Planning Grant or General Operating Grant	Implementation Grant
Description	To create a plan for a project or general operating support	To implement a project
Eligible Applicants	Nonprofits, schools, churches, neighborhood organizations, business associations, charitable/grassroots organizations with a fiscal agent	
Eligible Locations	All projects must happen within the City of Minneapolis; preference given to projects serving Green Zone residents	
Grant Size	Up to \$15,000	Up to \$50,000
Eligible Uses	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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) • General operations 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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) • Capital costs
Ineligible Uses	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Equipment • Capital costs • City staff or city government costs • Activities that occur prior to or after grant execution and expiration 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Equipment • City staff or city government costs • Activities that occur prior to or after grant execution and expiration
Grant Deadline	March 14, 2024 at 1 p.m.	
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.
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Evaluation Criteria	Points
<p>1. Project alignment with the City of Minneapolis Climate Equity Plan. Demonstrable reduction in greenhouse gas emissions related to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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. 	10
<p>2. Project alignment with Green Zone Plans:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Air, Water, Land: Cleaning up soil and water contamination. Improving air quality, livability, and environmental quality in business and transport. Decreasing transportation and related pollution to improve neighborhood health and safety. Reducing cumulative pollution and health impacts. b. Green Workforce: Increasing investments in green jobs and career opportunities. c. Energy, Housing, and Anti-Displacement: Increasing high-quality and affordable environmental housing. d. Residents and Small Business: Reducing the costs of electric and heating utilities. e. Healthy Food Access: Investing in and increasing access to affordable and healthy foods by supporting local food growers, production, and distribution. f. Environmental Education: Supporting community organizing and advancing environmental education in communities and schools. g. Emergency Preparedness: Supporting community organizations that increase the emergency preparedness of households and community space for extreme heat, cold, and weather events. 	10
<p>3. Ability of project to meaningfully engage local residents/organizations to increase:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Their sense of ownership of climate solutions. b. Social connections among individuals and networks. c. The strategic capacity of individuals or organizations engaged in the project. 	20
<p>4. Project alignment with racial equity focus areas: Workforce/Team Structure, Spend, Racially Disaggregated Data, Community Engagement</p>	30

5. Project Need: a. Demonstrated need for the project to happen. b. Demonstrated resident/community engagement with the concept. c. Ability of the project to engage with individuals or communities who have been historically overburdened by environmental conditions and/or underserved by climate change programs (low-income communities, Indigenous communities, communities of color, renters).	10
6. Project is located in a City of Minneapolis-designated Green Zone	10
7. Project Readiness: a. Work can be completed within the grant term; the applicant has a detailed work plan, clear outcomes, and established partnerships.	10
Total Points	100

Application Preview Worksheet

All applications must be submitted online. Applicants are encouraged to use the worksheet below to preview and draft application questions.

Name of the Project:

Organization Information

Organization address:

Organization website:

EIN:

Head of organization name:

Head of organization title:

Head of organization email:

Head of organization phone:

Head of organization cell phone:

Annual operating budget:

Type of organization:

Contact Information

Contact person (from your group/organization):

Contact title:

Contact e-mail address:
 Contact phone number:
 Contact cell number:
 Contact pronouns:

Organization Senior Leadership Composition

Total number of senior leaders in the organization:

Number of senior leaders by race/ethnicity:

American Indian or Native American
Asian
Black or African American
Hispanic or Latinx
Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander
White. Caucasian/European
More than one race/ethnicity
Identify in another way
Prefer not to answer

Number of senior leaders by gender:

Female
Male
Identify in another way
Prefer not to answer
Information not available

Number of senior leaders by age:

40 and younger
41 and older
Prefer not to answer
Information not available

Population Served

Which race or ethnic populations will be primarily served by this grant? Please share only self-reported information and select all that apply.

- African
- American Indian/Native American
- Asian
- Black/African American
- Hispanic/Latinx
- Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander
- White, Caucasian/European

- More than one race/ethnicity
- Prefer not to answer
- Identify in another way (open ended)
- Information not available

What age groups will be served by this grant? Please only share self-reported information and select all that apply.

- Younger than 18
- 18-24 years
- 25-34 years
- 34-44 years
- 45-54 years
- 55-64 years
- 65 years and older
- Multi-generational approach
- Information not available

Project Information

Exact (or nearest) address where project will occur:

Neighborhood:

Is the project located in a designated City of Minneapolis Green Zone?

You can find a map of the Green Zones here:

<https://www2.minneapolismn.gov/government/departments/health/sustainability-homes-environment/sustainability/green-zones/map/>

Yes/No

If Yes, select Northside Green Zone/Southside Green Zone

Select which type of grant you are applying for:

Planning/Implementation

Amount you are requesting (\$X,000-\$XX,000):

Term of grant (1 or 2 years):

Please select how your project best aligns with the City of Minneapolis Climate Equity Plan in demonstrating reduction in greenhouse gas emissions.

- 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
- e) Other (describe in 300 words or less)

Please select how your project best aligns with Green Zone priorities.

- a) Air, Water, Land: Cleaning up soil and water contamination. Improving air quality, livability, and environmental quality in business and transport. Decreasing transportation and related pollution to improve neighborhood health and safety. Reducing cumulative pollution and health impacts.
- b) Green Workforce: Increasing investments in green jobs and career opportunities.
- c) Energy, Housing, and Anti-Displacement: Increasing high-quality and affordable environmental housing.
- d) Residents and Small Business: Reducing the costs of electric and heating utilities.
- e) Healthy Food Access: Investing in and increasing access to affordable and healthy foods by supporting local food growers, production, and distribution.
- f) Environmental Education: Supporting community organizing and advancing environmental education in communities and schools.
- g) Emergency Preparedness: Supporting community organizations that increase the emergency preparedness of households and community space for extreme heat, cold, and weather events.
- h) Other (describe in 300 words or less)

If you received a Climate Action and Racial Equity grant in the previous grant round, please give an overview of current programming:

Are there volunteer opportunities at your organization?

May we share this information with interested participants?

Please briefly describe what the volunteer opportunities/duties would be.

Proposal Narrative

1. **Project Description:** Include a brief 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. (Up to 2,000 characters)
2. **Project Goals:** How does your project reduce local greenhouse gas emissions and align with the goals of the City of Minneapolis' Climate Equity Plan? How does this align with priorities of the Green Zone you selected? How does this project promote racial equity, environmental justice, and align with the City Racial Equity Focus Areas? <https://www2.minneapolismn.gov/government/departments/racial-equity/what-we-do/strategic-racial-equity-action-plan/> (Up to 1,500 characters)
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? (Up to 2,000 characters)
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?
(Up to 2,000 characters)

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

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

Future activities. Examples: organizing, engagement, planning, implementation, education.

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

Any quantifiable impacts 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 energy audits, number of specific activities.

Start Date	End Date	Major Activity and Related Outcome
Click here to enter text	Click here to enter text	Click here to enter text
Click here to enter text	Click here to enter text	Click here to enter text
Click here to enter text	Click here to enter text	Click here to enter text
Click here to enter text	Click here to enter text	Click here to enter text
Click here to enter text	Click here to enter text	Click here to enter text
Click here to enter text	Click here to enter text	Click here to enter text

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.
(Up to 1,200 characters)

Review and Submit Application - Signature Attachments to Upload

- Project budget: What is the overall budget for the project? Include all funding sources and uses beyond those coming from the Minneapolis Climate Action and Racial Equity Fund. Include in-kind services like volunteer time.
- 2022/2023 financial statements (profit and loss, balance sheet)
- 2023 organizational budget to actual
- Fiscal sponsor recognition letter
- Letters of support from named partners
- Optional: photos or images that help to describe the project