

# 5 Things to Know: FY 2025 Neighborhood Community Engagement Grants

The City of Bend operates on a biennial budget broken into two fiscal years (FY) which run from July 1 to June 30. Each June, the City reviews and adjusts its budget. This year's budget review has resulted in an adjustment to the amount of neighborhood Community Engagement Grant funding available for the coming FY 2025.

Here are five things to know about the budget adjustment:

1. **Bend Municipal Code Chapter 1.70** states that the City may provide (but is not required to provide) grants and other assistance to recognized neighborhood districts as determined through the City's budget process. If grant funding is provided, it is provided to neighborhoods in good standing according to the code, allocated based on size and distributed through the Community Engagement Grant program.
2. For the coming FY, the City has adjusted the amount of grant funding provided to the neighborhoods to meet the average use over the past five years. This adjustment will lower Community Engagement Grant funding by 40%. The new funding total to be divided among neighborhoods for FY 2025 will be \$55,800 (previously \$93,000).
3. This adjustment is the result of an assessment of the neighborhood program that was completed as part of 2021-2023 Council Goals. The assessment included a review of neighborhood funding use. On average, and with consideration of the COVID-19 pandemic, data showed that neighborhoods use approximately 60% of their budget each year. You can view historical funding use on the City's **Funding the Associations webpage**.
4. The assessment also led to the provision of new non-monetary support intended to help neighborhoods meet new and existing code requirements such as expanding the eligible use of grant funds to include community engagement activities, providing free access to a survey tool and the implementation of the Bend Block Party program.
5. The 40% of funding that is coming out of the Community Engagement Grant program (or \$37,200) will be reallocated to the **City's Sponsorship Program** to support additional community engagement opportunities. Neighborhoods who meet the Sponsorship Program criteria can apply for additional funding through this program. For neighborhoods who are not formally registered as a nonprofit or business – the Sponsorship Program requires a W9 and bank account to receive funds. This is because funding is received upfront rather than in a reimbursement model.





**Accommodation Information for People with Disabilities** To obtain this information in an alternate format such as Braille, large print, electronic formats, etc., please contact René Mitchell at [rmitchell@bendoregon.gov](mailto:rmitchell@bendoregon.gov) or 541-323-8571. Relay Users Dial 7-1-1.